



BUZZ POINTS



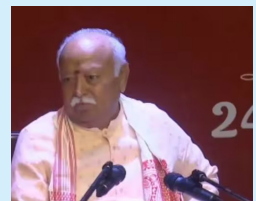
BJP Leaders Praise Dharmendra Pradhan's Service After Resignation From Union Cabinet

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Wangchuk Welcomes Pradhan's Resignation

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Bhagwat Stresses Consensus Over Orders

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CJP Founder Celebrates Pradhan's Resignation

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Centre Proposes Tougher Law Against Exam Malpractices

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The Leak That Shook India's Education System

Ravi Podili

The controversy surrounding the NEET question paper leak has escalated into a major political and social flashpoint, placing the NDA government led by Narendra Modi under intense pressure. What initially appeared to be a contained issue following the re-conduct of examinations and seat allotments has resurfaced dramatically, sparking widespread protests and policy scrutiny.

A significant development in the agitation has been the emergence of the so-called "Cockroach Janata Party" (CJP), a social media-driven youth movement. What began as a satirical online expression quickly transformed into a nationwide mobilisation effort, particularly among Gen-Z participants. The movement called for a "Chalo Parliament" march, demanding accountability for the NEET leak and seeking the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

The protests also expressed solidarity with activist Sonam Wangchuk, who had undertaken an indefinite hunger strike. Demonstrations spread across multiple states, with opposition parties including Congress and Left groups extending support to the agitation.



However, the movement has also been mired in controversy. Reports and intelligence inputs suggested the possible presence of disruptive elements attempting to exploit the protests. Allegations surfaced regarding inflammatory slogans and threats during demonstrations, while unverified claims circulated about foreign-linked individuals, including Gurbatwant Singh Pannun, attempting to extend financial support. These developments raised concerns within security agencies about the potential misuse of the protests.

Despite these concerns, the core issue of examination integrity and its impact on stu-

dents remained central. Protesters accused authorities of underestimating the gravity of the leak and criticised the initial police response, which included dispersal measures at Jantar Mantar. These actions, including reported use of force, further intensified public sentiment and drew broader participation.

Amid mounting pressure, Union Ministers JP Nadda and Jitendra Singh held discussions with protest representatives. The government agreed to key demands, including withdrawal of cases against protesters and compensation for families of students who reportedly died by suicide due to stress linked to the examina-

tion controversy.

The turning point came with the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan, who stepped down from his post following sustained demands from protesters. While CJP representatives welcomed the move, they asserted that their agitation would continue until comprehensive reforms are implemented and accountability is fixed. Meanwhile, the Supreme Court of India has taken a firm stance on the issue. A Bench comprising P L Narasimha and Alok Aradhe criticised the reliance on temporary measures and directed the Centre to submit a detailed report on long-term systemic reforms.

The Court also instructed the National Testing Agency to file an affidavit outlining improvements in examination infrastructure, security protocols and administrative oversight. Expressing dissatisfaction with the existing submissions, the Bench made it clear that it would continue to monitor the implementation of reforms to safeguard students' futures.

With political accountability, administrative reforms and judicial oversight converging, the NEET leak controversy has evolved into a defining issue in India's education governance landscape.



Dharmendra Pradhan Exits Over NEET Controversy

Centre Accepts Key CJP Demands, A Rare Political Challenge for Modi Government

New Delhi, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has resigned from the Union Council of Ministers amid nationwide protests over the NEET examination controversy. President Droupadi Murmu accepted his resignation with immediate effect on the advice of Prime Minister Narendra Modi under Article 75(2) of the Constitution.

The development followed weeks of protests led by youth groups demanding accountability over alleged examination irregularities and the NEET question-paper leak.

The resignation of the Education Minister was one of the key demands raised by protesters under the banner of the "Cockroach Janata Party" (CJP), a movement that gained momentum through social media and later expanded into a nationwide youth agitation.

In what is being considered a rare challenge faced by the Narendra Modi government since it came to power in 2014, the Centre accepted several major demands raised by the protesters. These included examination reforms, withdrawal of cases filed against demonstrators and compensation for families affected by the examination crisis.

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CJP-Centre Understanding Brings End to NEET Protest

Centre Assures Reforms, Case Withdrawal As CJP Calls Off NEET Protest

New Delhi, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The protest led by the CJP over the NEET paper leak issue was officially called off on Saturday after the Centre agreed to a series of demands, including the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and assurances of systemic reforms in the examination process.

Following Pradhan's resignation, CJP leaders entered into detailed discussions with the Centre. Representatives of the organisation later addressed the media alongside Union Ministers JP Nadda and Jitendra Singh, outlining the outcomes of the talks.

CJP leaders stated that they had urged the Centre to with-



draw cases filed against protesters across the country, not limited to Delhi. "The Centre has assured us that all such cases will be withdrawn within four days. It has also clarified that there will be no harassment through legal proceedings in the future," they said.

They further added that the Centre has agreed to provide compensation to the families of students who died by suicide in

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AP's Seed Ball Mission Aims to Restore Degraded Forests

Banavath Uday Gopi Naik

The state government has launched an ambitious green revival initiative using seed balls to restore degraded forest areas and expand forest cover across the state. As part of the mission, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Forest and Environment Pawan Kalyan has directed Forest Department officials to accelerate seed ball distribution and focus on protecting the saplings that emerge from the programme.

Pawan Kalyan reviewed the district-wise progress of seed ball preparation, dispersal and drone operations with senior Forest Department officials on Saturday. He stressed the need to monitor rainfall and soil moisture conditions and increase the use of drones to cover remote forest areas that are difficult for personnel to access.

Officials informed him that more than three crore seed balls had been prepared across the state. So far, over 63 lakh



seed balls have been dispersed across nearly 6,500 hectares. Of these, 59 lakh were scattered manually across about 6,000 hectares, while drones were used for the first time to cover remote forest valleys and approximately 1,000 acres.

The Rajamahendravaram Circle recorded the highest dispersal, with nearly 28 lakh seed balls, including 2.26 lakh through drones. The Visakhapatnam forest division dispersed 7.50 lakh seed balls, while 8.67 lakh were covered in the Kurnool forest region.

Drone-based dispersal is continuing in the Chinturu, P.T. Atmakuru, Giddalur, Markapuram and YSR Kadapa divisions, depending on weather conditions. Pawan Kalyan said

El Niño-related

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Elite Cricket League Season 2 Begins in Visakhapatnam

Visakhapatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The second season of the Elite Cricket League (ECL) began on Saturday at the Visakhapatnam International Cricket Stadium, featuring six teams comprising film and television actors, politicians and doctors. Popular actors includ-

ing Srikanth, Tarun, Sudhir Babu and Omkar are participating in the tournament.

In the opening match, Sriin-fo Missiles defeated Andhra Government Lions by 21 runs. In the second match, Bullitera Rangers secured a five-run victory over Ayushman Avengers. The third match was played between Tollywood

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APCPDCL Integrates 180 MW Rooftop Solar Capacity into Grid

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Corporation Limited (APCPDCL) has achieved a major milestone under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana by synchronising 50,114 rooftop

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Sanjeevani to Transform Healthcare Delivery Says, CM Naidu

Kurnool, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday announced that the Sanjeevani public health programme, aimed at safeguarding the health of every citizen, will be implemented across Andhra Pradesh from August.

Addressing a public meeting at Aspari in Alur Assembly constituency, the Chief Minister said the technology-driven initiative was designed to transform healthcare delivery and reduce the financial burden on families. He noted that education and healthcare are among the biggest expenses for households



and said Sanjeevani would address these concerns through a comprehensive healthcare approach.

Under the programme, eve-

ry citizen will receive a Digital Health Profile, while family members will be issued ABHA Health IDs. Health records from Primary

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Week-Long Events Ahead of Bhogapuram Airport Inauguration

Visakhapatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The newly constructed Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 1, Department of Information and Public Relations (I&PR) Director K.S. Viswanathan said. The historic occasion will be marked by a week-long campaign, "Uttarandhra Kalalaku Rekkalu" (Wings to Uttarandhra's Dreams), from July 25 to August 1 across six North Andhra districts.

The campaign, organised by the I&PR Department in coordination with district administrations, will cover Vizianagara m, S r i k a k u l a m, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitarama Raju, Anakapalli and Visakhapatnam. Digital countdown screens have been installed at key locations to build public enthusiasm.

Students will participate in quiz, drawing and essay competitions under "My District Takes Off", with winners getting VIP seating at the inaugu-



ral programme. Special prayers and rituals will also be conducted at prominent temples.

The Girijan Cooperative Corporation will showcase tribal products, including Araku Coffee and Araku Turmeric, which will be presented to the Prime Minister. Tourism awareness programmes, homestay registration drives, women's Rangoli competitions, cricket and beach volleyball events are also planned.

The district-wise schedule includes an industrial confer-

ence in Srikakulam, an Araku Turmeric kiosk and MSME Park Expo in Parvathipuram Manyam, a coffee farmers' conference in Alluri Sitarama Raju district, an NRI and industrialists' meet in Anakapalli and an IT Career Expo in Visakhapatnam.

On July 31, Visakhapatnam will host a 5K/10K marathon, cyclathon, flash mobs and a grand drone show at RK Beach Road. Government officials across North Andhra will also be illuminated as part of the celebrations.

CM Seeks Permanent Solution to Tobacco Farmers' Issues

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu urged the Centre and tobacco buyers to work together to protect farmers from recurring market problems and find a permanent solution to the sector's difficulties.

Following his continuous consultations with the Central Government, Union Ministry of Commerce Additional Secretary Nitin Kumar Yadav and Director Mounika Gaur visited the state and met Chandrababu. Union Minister Pemasani Chandra Sekhar, Ministers Gottipati Ravi Kumar and DBV Swamy, Agriculture Department and MARKFED officials, and Tobacco Board representatives



attended the meeting. Three proposals were discussed to support tobacco farmers — interest-free working capital loans, incentives and compensation for price deficits. Chandrababu stressed that any decision must ensure farmers do not suffer losses. He directed officials to formulate short-, medium- and long-term strategies instead of relying on temporary relief. The Chief Minister said farmers, buyers, the

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Nandyal Strengthens Water Security Under Catch The Rain Campaign

K Kalyan Krishna Kumar

The Catch the Rain Campaign (July 4–August 4, 2026) is being implemented extensively across Nandyal district with a focus on conserving every drop of rainwater through restoration of traditional water bodies, desilting of feeder channels, revival of tank systems, and creation of additional storage capacity. The initiative fol-

lows the principle of "Catch the Rain, Where it Falls, When it Falls," combining scientific planning with community participation.

Authorities have undertaken detailed planning across all 489 Gram Panchayats through field surveys, mapping of priority water bodies, feeder channels and watershed areas, along with

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Naidu Welcomes Approval of Guntakal-Ballari Railway Lines

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for the Union Cabinet's approval of the third and fourth railway lines between Guntakal and Ballari.

Naidu said the strategic project would strengthen the East-West rail corridor and improve connectivity between Rayalaseema, North Karnataka and Goa. He said the additional lines would ease congestion on the existing network, improve logis-

tics and enable faster movement of passengers and freight.

The project, estimated to cost 1,264 crore, includes nearly 600 crore of investment in Andhra Pradesh. Naidu said it would support industrial growth, improve connectivity to Krishnapatnam and the upcoming Ramayapatnam Port, create economic opportunities and benefit people across Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also said the Cabinet approval would strengthen connectivity and logistics between Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Pawan Kalyan Expresses Solidarity with Assam Flood Victims

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed deep concern over the devastating floods in Assam and extended solidarity to the people affected by the disaster.

In a post on X, Pawan Kalyan said his heart went out to families facing immense loss and hardship due to the floods. He described every life lost as an irreplaceable tragedy and expressed heartfelt condolences to those who had lost their loved ones.

Pawan Kalyan said the people of Andhra Pradesh stood in solidarity with their brothers and sisters in Assam during the dif-

ficult situation. He expressed confidence that the Government of India, in coordination with the Government of Assam, would continue rescue, relief and rehabilitation efforts for affected families.

He also prayed for the safety, strength and resilience of the people of Assam and the well-being of personnel involved in rescue and relief operations.

Pawan Kalyan's message was addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, the PMO, Assam CMO and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), among others.

Durgesh Pushes Flood Relief, Better Anganwadi Facilities

Nidadavolu, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The coalition government is taking steps towards finding a permanent solution to the long-pending Errakalava flooding issue affecting farmers in Nidadavolu constituency, Minister Kandula Durgesh said on Saturday.

The minister inspected newly installed flap shutters on Errakalava at Singavaram village under Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) works completed at a cost of 51 lakh. He said the shutters would prevent floodwater from entering agricultural fields and benefit around 2,400 acres of ayacut in Singavaram, Tallapalem and Shettipeta areas.

Durgesh said the shutters were installed at channel points of 26.05 km and 27.575 km with estimated costs of 19 lakh and 32 lakh respectively. He added that a comprehensive action plan worth 295 crore has been prepared for a permanent solution to the flooding problem and the issue has been brought to the notice of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

He further said works worth 1.8 crore for strengthening canal bunds, closing breaches and carrying out repairs have already commenced. Farmers thanked the



minister for initiating measures to address their long-standing concern.

Meanwhile, Durgesh highlighted the government's focus on strengthening Anganwadi centres and improving facilities for children. Participating in an ICDS constituency-level programme at his camp office in Nidadavolu, he distributed kitchen kits and new uniforms to Anganwadi teachers and helpers from 211 centres in the constituency.

He said each centre was provided with an induction stove and cooking utensils to reduce the workload of workers, speed up cooking and save gas. The kits were distributed to 83 centres in Nidadavolu mandal, 65 in Peravali and 63 in Undrajavaram.

The minister said the government is prioritising nutritious food, quality education and better facilities for children from economically weaker sections.

VRA Association Seeks Salary Hike to ₹21,500



Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The Village Revenue Assistants (VRA) Association of AP has demanded an increase in the honorarium of village revenue assistants from 11,000 to 21,500, stating that families are struggling to manage with the existing income.

At a state executive meeting held at Revenue Bhavan in Vijayawada on Saturday, the association discussed various issues concerning VRAs. State President Garikapati Brahmaya presided over the meeting. APRSA State President Bopparaju Venkateswarlu, State Secretary Ponnuru Vijayalakshmi, NTR District Revenue Services Association President Battina Ramakrishna and other

leaders participated.

Bopparaju said village revenue assistants play a crucial role in the revenue administration system and assured that APRSA would continue to support their demands, including salary hikes and promotions.

The association decided to conduct elections for the new state executive committee on August 8, 2026. APRSA State General Secretary Ramisetty Venkata Rajesh was appointed as election officer and Battina Ramakrishna as assistant election officer.

The meeting also passed resolutions seeking an increase in promotion quotas for eligible VRAs, higher gratuity benefits and a group insurance cover of at least 2 lakh.

AP Eyes Chittoor Gold Mines With 2.2 MT Of Ore Reserves

K Kalyan Krishna Kumar



Chittoor: The state government is exploring another major mining opportunity with significant gold deposits identified at the Chigurugunta-B. Sanantham gold mines in Gudipalli Mandal of Chittoor district. The Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) is taking steps to acquire the mines and begin gold extraction operations.

The Chigurugunta-B. Sanantham mines are estimated to have around 2.2 million tonnes of gold-bearing ore. According to preliminary assessments, one tonne of ore can yield up to 5.64 grams of gold, indicating a potential recovery of nearly 12,500 kilograms of gold from the deposits.

The APMDC is planning to participate in the e-auction process for acquiring the mines and has reportedly prepared a bank guarantee of 37 crore. The corporation is also exploring the possibility of requesting the Central Government to allocate the mines directly to APMDC, without going through the auction process.

Earlier, ore from these mines was processed partially before being transported to Kolar Gold

Fields in Karnataka for final refining. However, mining activities were stopped in 2000 due to declining gold prices and rising extraction and transportation costs. Though NMDC acquired the mines during an auction in 2018, operations could not progress due to legal issues. Despite a favourable court order in 2022, NMDC later withdrew from the project.

With gold mining operations recently commencing at Jonnagiri in Kurnool district, the State government has renewed its focus on other potential gold reserves. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has directed APMDC to explore opportunities

for acquiring and developing gold mines in the State. Apart from Chigurugunta-B. Sanantham, APMDC is also focusing on gold-bearing areas such as Javakula, Ramagiri and Boksampalli. The State government plans to seek the Centre's support for allocation of these mines to APMDC, citing previous instances where certain mineral resources were allotted to public sector undertakings without auctions.

Officials believe that successful acquisition and development of these gold mines could boost mineral-based industries, generate employment opportunities and contribute to the state's economic growth.

Sanjeevani to Deliver Free Health Screening at Doorsteps

Kurnool, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Saturday launched the Sanjeevani programme at a public meeting held in Aspari, Kurnool district, marking a shift in the State's healthcare approach from treatment-based services to preventive and continuous health management. Speaking on the occasion, Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav said the initiative aims to ensure early detection of diseases, timely intervention and comprehensive healthcare support for citizens.

The minister said the initiative, designed under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, will take healthcare services closer to people's homes through mobile medical units. Under Sanjeevani, citizens will receive free health check-ups near their residences, including 41 types of diagnostic



tests that could cost around 3,000 if conducted privately. Satyakumar Yadav explained that the programme will focus on early identification of diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cancer and other chronic health conditions. Based on medical test results, individuals will be classified into different risk categories and provided appropriate consultations, medicines, referrals to higher hospitals and continuous follow-up support.

The minister said Sanjeevani will not stop with diagnosis or referral but will ensure complete healthcare support until patients recover. A digital health record system will be created for every citizen, enabling doctors across village health centres, hospitals and teaching institutions to access patient history and provide uninterrupted treatment.

He added that the programme will also cover children from Anganwadi centres to Class 12 students, helping detect congenital problems, nutritional deficiencies, diseases and developmental issues at an early stage.

Initially, around 35,000 people under the Aspari Primary Health Centre limits will benefit from Sanjeevani. The minister said the initiative aims to establish a preventive healthcare model that could become an example for the country.

AP Voter List Records Over 4.16 Crore Electors

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The total number of voters in Andhra Pradesh has been recorded at 4,16,27,694, State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vivek Yadav said.

As part of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) process of electoral rolls, the CEO official-

ly released the details of voters across the state. He stated that 44,89,488 voters had incorrect or unavailable addresses, making it the highest category among the identified changes.

According to the data released by the CEO, 15,22,174 voters were found to be deceased, while 14,43,886 voters had shifted to other locations. The num-

ber of voters who were newly registered in other areas stood at 7,37,216.

The electoral roll revision process aims to ensure accuracy and update voter details across Andhra Pradesh. Officials have been taking steps to identify and rectify discrepancies in the voter database as part of the revision exercise.

Pawan Kalyan Instructs Probe into FO's Role in Red Sanders Smuggling

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Forest and Environment Pawan Kalyan warned that strict action would be taken against anyone found assisting red sandalwood smuggling gangs. He directed officials to strengthen measures against the illegal trade and said he would regularly review the progress of Operation Aranya.

Pawan Kalyan reviewed the seizure of 78 red sandalwood logs worth 1.5 crore near Jyothi Temple close to Varikuntla village in Avadhutha Kashinayana mandal of Kadapa district. Officials briefed him on the arrest of two inter-state smugglers and a Forest Beat Officer Mallikarjunudu allegedly involved in facilitating the smuggling.

Acting on credible information from the Red Sandalwood Anti-Smuggling Task Force and State Intelligence teams, police and forest officials conducted vehicle checks near Varikuntla in the early hours of Saturday. They intercepted a Bolero Max truck in which the smugglers allegedly con-



cealed red sandalwood logs under the guise of transporting household goods.

The two Haryana-based accused, identified as Sunny and Ramesh, were arrested and the vehicle and 78 logs were seized. During the investigation, officials found that Mallikarjun, a Forest Beat Officer attached to Jyothi Forest Beat, was allegedly colluding with the smugglers. He was arrested and is being interrogated.

Officials further informed Pawan Kalyan that key master-

minds operating from Bengaluru, Haryana and Kolkata had been identified. The Deputy Chief Minister directed authorities to constitute special teams to apprehend them.

He also ordered a comprehensive investigation into Mallikarjun's alleged role and instructed officials to submit a detailed report. Pawan Kalyan made it clear that stronger measures would be implemented to curb red sandalwood smuggling and protect the state's forest resources.



Governor Urges ANGRAU to Promote Drought-Resistant Crops

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Governor and Chancellor of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU) S. Abdul Nazeer stressed the need for agricultural universities to help farmers tackle climate challenges by promoting drought-resistant crops and efficient water management.

Addressing the 58th Annual Convocation of ANGRAU at the University Auditorium in Bapatla on Saturday, Abdul Nazeer said the university should closely monitor weather anomalies caused by El Niño, advise the government on contingency measures and guide farmers on suitable drought-resistant crops. He said erratic weather patterns were severely affecting water-intensive Kharif crops such as rice, maize and pulses.

The Governor said sustainable agriculture was essential for securing the future of humanity and urged farmers to optimise groundwater use. He highlighted Andhra Pradesh's leadership in natural farming, noting that its women-led agro-ecology programme had empowered more than 1.8 million farmers while promoting eco-friendly practices using natural inputs such as Jeevamrutha and Beejamrutha.

Abdul Nazeer appreciated ANGRAU's research and its efforts to supply quality seeds to farmers. He congratulated retired Cotton Breeder K. Ravindranath on receiving the Honoris Causa and praised the university for the national recognition received by its research centres.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, attended as chief guest, while ANGRAU Vice-Chancellor Dr. P.V. Satyanarayana presented the annual report. The Governor congratulated graduates and research scholars who received degrees and medals.

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80 Government Hospitals to Get Sewage Treatment Plants

Amaravati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The AP Govt has decided to establish sewage treatment plants (STPs) in 80 government hospitals at an estimated cost of 83 crore to improve sanitation and strengthen biomedical waste management.

The decision was taken during a review meeting chaired by Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav with senior officials and experts. The minister directed hospitals to strictly follow legal and environmental guidelines in biomedical waste disposal and wastewater treatment.

Officials informed that gov-

ernment teaching hospitals generate nearly 13 lakh kg of biomedical waste annually, requiring proper segregation, collection and disposal. The minister instructed authorities to introduce CCTV monitoring and barcode-based tracking systems for effective waste management.

STPs will be set up in 17 teaching and super-speciality hospitals and 63 district and area hospitals within 10 months. The minister also directed hospitals to regulate visitor movement in ICUs and wards to reduce infection risks. Pilot projects will begin at teaching hospitals in Anantapur, Vijayawada and Srikakulam.

TTD Invites Applications from Dasa Sahitya Singers

Tirupati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has invited online applications from talented and eligible music artists for performing Dasa Sahitya devotional songs at various temple services.

The opportunity is available for singing during the daily Sri Venkateswara Swamy Sahasra Deepalankara Seva at Tirumala and Dasa Sahitya Sankirtanas at Sri Govindaraja Swamy Temple in Tirupati.

TTD officials said auditions for selected applicants will be

conducted for six days from November 27 to December 2, 2026, at Mahathi Auditorium in Tirupati. Interested candidates can submit their applications online through the official portal from August 1 to August 20, 2026.

Details regarding eligibility criteria, audition process, required certificates, guidelines and other conditions are available on the TTD official website. TTD clarified that no agents, intermediaries or representatives have been appointed for the audition process and advised candidates to apply only through the official online portal.

TTD to Conduct E-Auction of Mixed Rice on August 6

Tirupati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) will conduct an e-auction of mixed rice offered by devotees through hundis at the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Tirumala and other affiliated temples on August 6.

According to TTD officials, around 7,938 kilograms of mixed rice will be offered for sale through 20 lots in the auction. Interested participants must pay an Earnest Money

Deposit (EMD) of 50,000 online through the Konugolu portal before 5 pm on August 5 to take part in the auction.

Officials stated that further details can be obtained from the TTD Marketing Office in Tirupati during working hours. Participants can also visit the official Konugolu website for more information.

TTD advised interested bidders to complete the registration and payment process within the stipulated time to participate in the e-auction.

Industrialization: South Coastal Andhra's Journey Towards a Value-Added Economy



Agriculture produces food. Aquaculture earns valuable foreign exchange. Ports connect the region to global markets. Energy powers industries. Yet, for a regional economy to achieve sustainable long-term growth, industrialization that transforms raw materials into value-added products is indispensable. South Coastal Andhra is now moving steadily in that direction. Across the Kakinada-Krishna-Amaravati-Nellore corridor, food processing, seafood processing, petrochemicals, logistics, warehousing and industrial parks are increasingly becoming interconnected. Ports are strengthening exports, natural gas is supporting industries, highways are improving supply chains, and educational institutions are creating a skilled workforce. For this transformation to succeed, however, large industries alone will not be sufficient. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) must also become active participants in this development chain. Only when farmers, fishermen and local entrepreneurs become stakeholders in value-added production can development become truly inclusive. The future of South Coastal Andhra, therefore, lies not merely in increasing production, but in building industries that create greater value.



the development trajectory of many advanced regions across the world. South Coastal Andhra now stands at this important turning point. The emergence of leading educational institutions around Amaravati—including SRM University-AP, VIT-AP University, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, the National Institute of Design (NID-AP), and AIIMS Mangalagiri—along with the proposed Quantum Valley initiative and increasing emphasis on deep technologies, artificial intelligence, semiconductors and data-driven industries, all indicate that the region is gradually transitioning from a traditional economy to a knowledge economy. One important distinction must be understood. A knowledge economy is not simply about attracting IT companies. It becomes sustainable only when research, innovation, skill development, startups and strong partnerships between universities and industries work together as an integrated ecosystem. Therefore, Amaravati's future depends not merely on its govern-

ment's role in creating opportunities for local youth? Have industries generated new opportunities for small businesses? Have quality education and healthcare become more accessible to ordinary families? Only when these questions receive positive answers can development be regarded as truly meaningful. Encouraging signs of such transformation are already visible across South Coastal Andhra. Agriculture, aquaculture, industry and the service sector are increasingly reinforcing one another, while better educational opportunities, improved healthcare, urbanization and enhanced transport connectivity are contributing to a higher quality of life. Yet another challenge remains. Are the benefits of development reaching all regions and all sections of society equally? Are districts such as Prakasam progressing at the same pace as the more developed parts of South Coastal Andhra? Finding answers to these questions is not merely the responsibility of governments—it is equally important for society as a

whole. For this reason, the true measure of development is not the number of projects completed, but the number of lives transformed. South Coastal Andhra's Development: What Comes Next? The development story of South Coastal Andhra cannot be viewed merely as a success story of agriculture, aquaculture or ports. Each of these sectors has strengthened the others, together laying the foundation for an entirely new economic structure. Once, the rivers sustained agriculture. Later, the same waters fuelled the growth of the aquaculture economy. The coastline connected the region to global markets. Today, these very strengths are supporting the emergence of modern industries, advanced services, technology-driven enterprises and a knowledge economy. To understand the future of South Coastal Andhra, attention must therefore focus on five key pillars: Ports, Energy corridors, Industrialization, The knowledge economy, Improvements in people's quality of life. Only when these five elements function together can the region achieve sustainable long-term development. South Coastal Andhra's Development Story Is Still Unfolding The development journey of South Coastal Andhra is a remarkable story of transformation. The Krishna and Godavari rivers gave the region its agricultural strength. The same water resources laid the foundation for a thriving aqua-

culture economy. Its coastline connected the region to global markets. Ports, energy corridors and industrialization have opened new growth opportunities. Amaravati is pointing the way toward a future driven not only by governance but also by a knowledge-based economy. Yet this story is far from complete. Balanced regional development, sustainable industrialization, quality education and healthcare, skill development, local employment and environmental protection must all advance together if the region is to realise its full potential. From Prakasam district to the Godavari Delta, from Amaravati to Krishnapatnam, and from the farmer's field to the global marketplace, this entire economic chain must grow stronger before South Coastal Andhra can truly emerge as a major economic powerhouse. The development of South Coastal Andhra is therefore not merely the story of a single region. It is a lesson in how natural resources, infrastructure, knowledge and people's participation can together transform an entire economy. Having examined the development landscape of North Coastal Andhra and South Coastal Andhra, we now turn to the next chapter of the Andhra Pradesh Development Audit: 2014-2026. In the forthcoming articles, we will explore Rayalaseema and examine the factors that are shaping its growth and development in the years ahead.

Dharmendra Pradhan Exits Over NEET Controversy

continued

The agitation gradually expanded beyond the NEET issue and became a wider movement demanding transparency in competitive examinations, student rights and accountability in the education system. Following discussions with the government, CJP announced the withdrawal of its protest after receiving assurances on key demands. After Pradhan's resignation, President Murmu,

again on the Prime Minister's advice, assigned Cabinet Minister Pralhad Joshi the additional charge of the Ministry of Education while allowing him to continue his existing portfolio. The episode has renewed focus on examination security, institutional accountability and reforms in India's competitive examination system. It is being viewed as one of the significant instances of public pressure influencing government action during the Modi era.

CJP-Centre Understanding Brings End to NEET Protest

continued

connection with the NEET controversy. In addition, the government has committed to implementing comprehensive reforms in the education system to ensure transparency and fairness in national-level examinations. Confirming the assurances, JP Nadda said that cases registered against protesters in Delhi and BJP-ruled states would be withdrawn. "We have already announced that we will bring about radical changes in the education system and examination processes. There will be no harassment through legal cases in the future, and we will stand by the

affected families," he stated. Jitendra Singh also reiterated the Centre's commitment to restoring public confidence in the examination system through structural reforms and strict monitoring mechanisms. In view of these developments, CJP leaders announced the withdrawal of their protest and appealed to demonstrators to disperse peacefully and return home safely. The resolution marks a significant step in addressing concerns raised over the NEET paper leak and signals the Centre's intent to undertake corrective measures in the education sector.

Sanjeevani to Transform Healthcare Delivery Says, CM Naidu

continued

Health Centres to State-level institutions will be integrated into a single digital platform, enabling seamless access to medical information and coordinated treatment. Chandrababu Naidu said Sanjeevani would focus not only on treatment but also on disease prediction and prevention through early detection. Referring to reports that nearly 80 lakh people in the State are suffering from serious illnesses, he said the programme would help reduce the disease burden through proactive healthcare measures. He added that the system would include AI-based medical assistance, telemedicine, remote healthcare, predictive analytics and digital nerve centres. Through the Sanjeevani Citizen Wellness App, people can book doctor appointments and access their medical records anytime. Emphasising preventive healthcare, the Chief Minister urged citizens to adopt nutritious food habits, yoga, meditation and regular exercise. He said the government was giving equal importance to public welfare and healthcare initiatives. Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav said Sanjeevani would focus on early identification of diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cancer and other chronic conditions. Based on health risks, citizens will be provided consultations, medicines, referrals and con-

tinuous follow-up support. He added that digital health records would ensure uninterrupted treatment, while children from Anganwadi centres to Class 12 would also be screened for health and developmental issues. Referring to the ongoing land resurvey, Chandrababu Naidu said land records were being secured using blockchain technology. Pattadar Passbooks are being issued on the 9th of every month, and the resurvey is expected to be completed across the State by March next year. The Chief Minister also announced that production at the Kadapa Steel Plant is targeted to begin by 2028. He said Rayalaseema would be developed as a horticulture and industrial hub with 1 lakh crore investments and welcomed the Centre's approval for the Kurnool-Ballari railway line. In view of reduced rainfall due to the El Niño effect, he advised farmers to use water judiciously. He said the Jala Dhara programme was being implemented to improve groundwater levels and assured that the Vedavathi Lift Irrigation Scheme, estimated at 1,768 crore, would be completed. After the meeting, the Chief Minister reviewed district administration performance and appreciated officials. He reiterated that a Chief Minister should remain connected with people, regularly understand their problems and frame policies accordingly.

Kollu Ravindra Slams Jagan Over BC Welfare Claims

Machilipatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Minister Kollu Ravindra on Saturday launched a sharp attack on former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, questioning the YSRCP's call for a "BC Garjana" after what he described as the previous government's failure to safeguard the interests of Backward Classes (BCs). Addressing the media, the Minister alleged that the YSRCP government diverted BC welfare funds and discontinued 34 welfare schemes meant for the community. He also accused the previous administration of weakening the political representation of BCs by reducing reservation in local bodies from 34 per cent to 24 per cent. Ravindra claimed that the Alliance government had accorded top priority to BC welfare by al-

locating 50,000 crore within its first two years in office. He added that the government had prepared a comprehensive 1.5 lakh crore plan for BC development over the next five years. The Minister said the government had introduced several initiatives aimed at strengthening the economic, social and political status of BC communities. These include measures related to residential educational institutions, reservations and welfare programmes for handloom weavers, fishermen and toddy tappers. Alleging that the proposed "BC Garjana" was an attempt to mislead the public, Ravindra asserted that the Alliance government remains firmly committed to the welfare and empowerment of Backward Classes across Andhra Pradesh.

AP's Seed Ball Mission Aims to Restore Degraded Forests

continued

rainfall deficits could pose challenges, but seed ball dispersal should continue wherever rainfall is received. He directed officials to increase the number of drones wherever necessary and complete the target of covering 30,000 hectares within the stipulated timeframe.

He emphasised that the programme should not stop with seed ball dispersal and instructed officials to take responsibility for protecting emerging saplings. He said the initiative was vital to the coalition government's goal of achieving 50 per cent green cover and restoring degraded forests.

Elite Cricket League Season 2 Begins in Visakhapatnam

continued

Thunders and Andhra Political Teams. TDP State President Palla Srinivasa Rao and BJP State President P.V.N. Madhav attended the inaugural programme

as special guests. A large number of fans gathered at the stadium to watch their favourite celebrities and enjoy the matches. The venue witnessed enthusiastic cheering as players struck boundaries and sixes.

APCPDCL Integrates 180 MW Rooftop Solar Capacity into Grid

continued

solar connections with a total capacity of 180 MW to the power grid. APCPDCL Chairman and Managing Director P. Pullareddy said only 6,489 connections had been completed by April 2025, while 43,625 additional connections were achieved over the past year. He credited officers, engineers, field staff and empanelled vendors for the rapid progress, supported by consumer awareness campaigns, application-to-synchronisation guidance and regular coordination. Daily review

meetings helped officials resolve issues and accelerate installations, he said. Pullareddy congratulated Director (Projects) T.V.S.N. Murthy, Projects Wing officials, Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers, Divisional Engineers, field staff and vendors for their contributions. He reiterated APCPDCL's commitment to expanding rooftop solar adoption, supporting Andhra Pradesh's renewable energy targets and helping consumers reduce electricity bills through clean and sustainable power.

CM Seeks Permanent Solution to Tobacco Farmers' Issues

continued

Tobacco Board, and Central and State governments were all stakeholders and called for collective responsibility. He also suggested examining the possibility of storing tobacco for one or two years and selling it when prices improve. Officials were asked to consult traders and prepare an action plan for marketing low-, medium- and high-grade tobacco.

After Chandrababu left for Kurnool, Pemmasani held a virtual meeting with tobacco buyers and Commerce Ministry representatives. He urged buyers to propose measures to protect farmers and agreed to hold another meeting on Monday. Ministers Atchannaidu and MPs Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu and Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy also participated virtually.

Nandyal Strengthens Water Security Under Catch The Rain Campaign

continued

technical assessments by concerned departments. Local consultations with communities and village elders have played a key role in identifying interventions based on traditional knowledge and ground-level needs. The proposed works were placed before Gram Sabhas to ensure transparency and public participation. Based on this approach, the district identified and grounded 2,103 water conservation works, achieving 100% execution at the initial stage. These works are strategically aimed at improving rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and storage capacity. As part of large-scale interventions, 2,691 kilometres of feeder and supply channels

have been desilted and restored, significantly improving water flow into tanks and reservoirs. Restoration works are being carried out in 251 Minor Irrigation Tanks, of which 225 have already been completed, while the remaining are in progress. In addition, the district has strengthened its network of 22,221 farm ponds, 2,221 check dams and 202 percolation tanks. These structures are expected to enhance water availability, improve groundwater recharge and ensure better utilisation of monsoon runoff across rural areas. According to technical estimates prepared by engineering departments, the restoration of feeder channels and water bodies is expected to revive 3.27 TMC of storage capacity, while newly created

structures are contributing an additional 0.03 TMC. This increase in storage capacity is expected to support agriculture, livelihoods and drinking water needs. Officials stated that the campaign is significantly improving the district's preparedness to capture and store rainwater. The integrated approach, combining scientific assessment and community involvement, is strengthening long-term water security and climate resilience. With large-scale desilting, restoration works and sustained public participation, Nandyal district is emerging as a model for effective implementation of the Catch the Rain Campaign, advancing sustainable water conservation practices across the region.

Sharmila Says Pradhan's Exit Reflects Strength of Student Movement

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Y.S. Sharmila Reddy on Saturday described the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan as a victory for students' united struggle and opposition parties, asserting that the development reflected growing public discontent against the BJP-led government.

Addressing the media in Vijayawada, Sharmila said the resignation was the outcome of sustained protests by students and youth, who, she claimed, continued their agitation despite threats, police action and legal cases. She also credited Congress leader Ra-



hul Gandhi with leading the campaign on the issue. Sharmila alleged that attempts were made to suppress protests and cover up the NEET paper leak controversy, but said the government was ultimately compelled to respond to public pressure. She described the Minister's resignation as the "first step" to-

wards the BJP's political decline.

The APCC chief further alleged that the BJP had attempted to silence dissent and undermine democratic rights. She said the resignation demonstrated that governments cannot ignore the concerns of students and young people. Reaffirming the Congress party's commitment to protecting students' interests, Sharmila said the party would continue to fight for democratic values, educational reforms and policies aimed at safeguarding the future of the country's youth. She maintained that any attempt to compromise students' future would be met with strong public resistance.

Jagan Questions Lokesh's Accountability Over DSC Irregularities

Tadepalli, July 25 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy questioned HRD Minister Nara Lokesh's accountability over alleged irregularities in the Andhra Pradesh DSC examination process involving around 3.5 lakh aspirants. In a social media post, Jag-

an referred to the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the NEET paper leak controversy and said it had set a benchmark for political accountability under the NDA Government. He asked whether Lokesh would accept moral responsibility for the alleged DSC irregularities and resign from his post. Jagan also questioned whether Chief

Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu would protect his son instead of upholding the accountability standards claimed by the NDA. He further said he had attached a letter submitted to Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding the DSC issue. The YSRCP chief's remarks come amid demands for an independent probe into the alleged examination irregularities.



Collector Reviews Voter Lists, Leads Swachh Andhra Drive

Machilipatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Krishna District Collector and District Election Officer D.K. Balaji on Saturday reviewed the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and participated in the ‘Operation Clean Sweep’ sanitation drive, urging citizens to support clean surroundings and an accurate voter list.

Addressing a press conference at the Collectorate, Balaji said the first phase of SIR was completed successfully. Of the district’s 15,43,242 registered voters, enumeration forms were received from 14,05,580 electors, while 1,37,662 forms were marked uncollectable due to reasons including death, migration, duplicate entries and non-availability of voters.

He clarified that the voter list to be released on July 31 would be a draft roll and advised citizens not to panic if their names were missing. Eligible voters can apply through Form-6, while claims and objections will be accepted until August 30. The final electoral roll will be published on October 3 after verification.

Balaji later met representatives of political parties and assured transparency in sharing information as per Election Commission guidelines. Earlier, he took part in the ‘Operation Clean Sweep’ drive by clearing roadside waste and travelled to the Collectorate on a bicycle to promote environmental protection and reduce pollution. He appealed to citizens and organisations to work towards a ‘Swar-na Andhra – Swachh Andhra’.

Krishna Launches Drive to Boost Open School Enrolments



Machilipatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Krishna District Revenue Officer (DRO) on Saturday called for coordinated efforts by government departments to make the district the top performer in Andhra Pradesh in enrolments for Andhra Pradesh Saraswatika Vidyapeetham Open School Class 10 and Intermediate courses for 2026-27. Chairing a review meeting at the Collectorate, the DRO said education is key to development and directed officials to identify school dropouts at the village level and bring them back into education through distance learning. He instructed officials to create awareness among MGN-REGS workers’ families, ICDS

beneficiaries and Self-Help Group members about admissions. Village Secretariat staff, ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, MGNREGS field assistants and other frontline personnel were asked to identify eligible candidates. The DRO directed the Education Department and Samagra Shiksha to prepare village-wise dropout lists for a special enrolment drive. He said open schooling would help improve literacy and support personal and economic development. The Open School helpline 8008403506 was launched for admission-related assistance. Officials also released posters and pamphlets promoting admissions.

PINPOINT

VIP Darshan Suspended at Durga Temple on Sunday

Vijayawada: The Kanaka Durga Temple administration has suspended protocol and VIP darshan from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday in view of the expected heavy rush of devotees at Indrakeeladri Temple Executive Officer V.K. Sheena Naik said the decision was taken anticipating a large number of devotees from Telangana arriving to offer Bonalu to Goddess Kanaka Durga, along with devotees presenting traditional ‘Sare’ offerings. The temple witnessed over 85,000 devotees last Sunday. The EO said private vehicle movement on Ghat Road would be regulated, while Devasthanam buses would operate at full capacity. He advised elderly devotees, differently-abled persons and mothers with infants to plan visits during less crowded hours. The temple administration appealed to devotees to cooperate with crowd management measures and follow traffic and temple guidelines for a smooth darshan experience.

Free Medical Camp Draws 126 Patients

Vijayawada: A free medical camp organised by Sujana Foundation under the initiative of Vijayawada West MLA Sujana Chowdary received a good response at Lotus Legend Apartments near Kummariapalem Centre in the city’s 38th Division on Saturday. The camp provided dental and eye check-ups, ECG, 2D Echo, X-ray, blood pressure and sugar tests, along with medical consultations. A team of specialist doctors examined 126 patients and distributed free medicines. Doctors from Vasan Eye Care and PVR Hospitals participated in the programme. Sujana Foundation volunteers and alliance leaders assisted in organising the camp.

Modern Tests Can Detect Hidden Heart Risks Early: Dr. Ramesh Babu

Sreeja Rachabathuni

Vijayawada: “Heart disease can no longer be identified only through symptoms like chest pain. Modern imaging and early screening are essential to detect hidden cardiovascular risks before they become life-threatening,” said Dr. Potineni Ramesh Babu, Chief Cardiologist and Managing Director of Aster Ramesh Hospitals.

He was delivering a keynote address at a Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme organised by the Andhra Pradesh Nursing Homes Association (APNA) for doctors working in nursing homes at Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, on Saturday. The programme focused on recent advancements in cardiac diagnosis, prevention and treatment strategies.

Dr. Ramesh Babu said cardiovascular disease is increasingly affecting younger people, including professionals and doctors, often without warning symptoms. He highlighted that Indians carry a higher risk of premature coronary artery disease due to genetic factors and lifestyle-related risks.

“Nearly 50 per cent of heart attack risk is linked to genetics. In many Indians, small dense LDL



cholesterol particles can penetrate artery walls more easily, leading to early plaque formation even when routine cholesterol levels appear moderate,” he said.

He explained that high-risk individuals should undergo advanced risk assessment and maintain strict LDL cholesterol control as advised by cardiologists. He recommended CT Coronary Angiography (CTCA) for selected individuals, especially those above 35 years with risk factors such as family history, diabetes, hypertension, obesity or smoking history.

Discussing newer diagnostic approaches, Dr. Ramesh Babu highlighted the role of CT-FFR (Fractional Flow Reserve derived from CT) and plaque analysis in evaluating coronary blockages without invasive procedures. These technologies help doctors understand whether a blockage is affecting

blood flow and identify vulnerable plaques that may lead to heart attacks. He said advanced imaging can help avoid unnecessary stenting in patients whose blockages do not significantly restrict blood flow, while enabling timely intervention for those at higher risk.

Explaining the concept of CT-guided Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), Dr. Ramesh Babu said detailed three-dimensional coronary mapping before procedures allows doctors to select the appropriate stent size and plan plaque modification strategies more accurately.

He also cautioned doctors against routine prescription of blood thinners and cholesterol-lowering medicines without proper assessment. “Treatment should be personalised based on evidence, imaging findings and individual risk profiles,” he said.

Dr. Ramesh Babu added that advancements in artificial intelligence, genomics and data-based research are opening new possibilities in predicting cardiovascular risks. He urged doctors and the public to focus on preventive healthcare, regular screening, healthy lifestyle practices and early medical consultation to reduce premature heart-related deaths.

Undavalli Caves Echo with the Glory of Telugu Culture

Sravani Badugu

Guntur: The two-day Telugu Mahotsavam, organised by the Andhra Pradesh State Creativity and Culture Commission to promote the uniqueness and cultural grandeur of Telugu among future generations, began on Saturday at the historic Undavalli Caves in Guntur district. The celebrations commenced at 6.30 a.m. with “Suryodaya Suprabhatam”, featuring devotional and literary Telugu songs by students of the Ghantasala Venkateswara Rao Government Music and Dance College, accompanied by classical musical performances atop the caves.

The inaugural ceremony began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by NTR District Collector Lakshmisha, former Zilla Parishad Chairperson Gadde Anuradha, APMSIDC Chairman Chillapalli Srinivas, Ghazal singer Ghazal Srinivas, NTR District DCP K.G.B. Saritha and Telugu Literature and Culture Academy Chairman MD Wilson (Sarath Chandra).



Lakshmisha said preserving the antiquity and centuries-old literary and cultural heritage of Telugu was the collective responsibility of society. He said the festival at the historic Undavalli Caves would inspire young people to develop love and pride for their mother tongue. Gadde Anuradha said bringing Telugu literature, arts, folk traditions and fine arts together on one platform was a welcome initiative.

The literary forum “Aame Maata-Akshara Baata” featured women writers Bhavani Devi, Mandalapu Haimavathi, Tella Aruna, Vasudha Rani, Sush-eelamma and Simhadri Jyothirmayi, who discussed the journey of women in Telugu literature from Molla to Volga.

The “Chettu Needana Chiru-

gali” poetry recital featured poets from across the State. Commission Chairperson Podapati Tejaswini presented certificates to participating poets. Retired All India Radio Director Munjaluri Krishnakumari engaged



children through Panchatantra and moral stories, encouraging creative storytelling. A shadow puppetry performance based on Sundarakanda also entertained the audience.

The day concluded with “Telugu Svarala Sangeeta Sambar-am”, featuring classic film songs, interactive singing, lyrical analysis and live musical performances. The first day was organised successfully under Tejaswini’s leadership with the cooperation of literary enthusiasts.

Kapu JAC to Hold State-Level Meeting in Vijayawada on August 16

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The State Kapu Joint Action Committee (JAC) has announced that a major Kapunadu meeting will be held in Vijayawada on August 16 to discuss issues concerning the Kapu and Balija communities and chart a future course of action.

Addressing a press conference at the Press Club in Gandhi Nagar on Saturday, State Kapu JAC President and Kapunadu National Honorary President Chandu Janardhan said the meeting, to be held at IV Palace, would deliberate on key demands, including BC reservation for Kapus, implementation of 5% reservation under the EWS quota, annual allocation of



3,000 crore to the Kapu Corporation, and construction of Kapu Kalyana Mandapams across the State under the Corporation.

Janardhan said leaders from all major political parties, representatives from various states and Kapu community organisations have been invited to participate. He added that the meeting would be restricted to invited delegates and would adopt resolutions on community

welfare and future programmes.

Following the meeting, memoranda containing the resolutions will be submitted to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, BJP leadership and YSRCP President Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Kapunadu National President Galla Subrahmanyam and State President Arja Ramakrishna said the meeting is not directed against any political party but aims to secure long-pending welfare measures and reservation-related demands for the Kapu community. They said a comprehensive action plan would be prepared based on suggestions received from community leaders and participants.

CREDAI Renovates Government School Under CSR Initiative

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Bellapu Sriramulu High School in Vijayawada has received a major facelift under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of the CREDAI Vijayawada Chapter. The renovated school building, refurbished with improved infrastructure and a modern colour scheme, was inaugurated on Friday in the presence of public representatives, CREDAI members, teachers, students, and parents.

Vijayawada East MLA Gadde Ramamohan Rao inaugurated the renovated campus and inspected the classrooms. Ad-



ressing the gathering, he appreciated CREDAI Vijayawada for partnering in the development of government education and providing students with a better learning environment. He said such initiatives complement the government’s efforts to strengthen public education.

CREDAI Vijayawada Chapter Chairman Ch. Satish Babu, President G.S.R. Mohan Rao,

General Secretary K. Raghuram, Treasurer Sri Sairam, and CSR Convener Sri T. Vamsi said the organisation remains committed to supporting government schools through infrastructure development. They also announced plans to expand their CSR activities in education, healthcare, and environmental conservation.

School management, teachers, students, parents, executive committee members, and local residents participated in the programme. CREDAI office-bearers thanked MLA Gadde Ramamohan Rao and everyone involved for extending their support and making the initiative a success.

State Icons Awards to Spotlight Amaravati on National Stage

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Tourism, Cinematography and Culture Minister Kandula Durgesh on Saturday unveiled the poster for the State Icons Awards-2026, describing the event as a platform to highlight Amaravati’s growing importance and honour outstanding achievers.

The awards, organised by the Global Icons Forum Society, will be held on August 8 at Hyatt Place, Vijayawada. The event will recognise personalities who have made notable contributions to politics, cinema, medicine, education, industry, social service, arts and culture.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Durgesh said honouring talented personalities would inspire society and encourage the younger generation. He said hosting national-level events in Amaravati would strengthen its image and support the government’s vision of developing the capital as a



destination for business, culture and investment.

Global Icons Forum Society President Chaitanya Janga and General Secretary Jaya Pateria said the awards would recognise deserving personalities whose contributions had not received adequate attention.

Actress Naina Ganguly will be a special attraction. Former Union Minister Samudrala Venugopalachari, BJP leader Pathuri Nagabhushanam and TDP spokesperson Gottipati Venkata Ramakrishna Prasad are among the dignitaries expected to attend.

Aster Ramesh Hospital Teaches Students Life-Saving Skills

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Aster Ramesh Hospitals conducted a Basic Life Support (BLS) training programme for students of Sri Durga Malleswari Siddhartha Mahila Kalasala on MG Road, Vijayawada, to equip them with essential emergency response skills.

The training was led by Dr. M. Vinay Gandhi, Critical Care Specialist, and Dr. K. Lakshmi Sindhura, who demonstrated techniques to handle emergencies such as sudden cardiac arrest and respiratory failure. Students received hands-on training in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), chest compressions, rescue breathing and other first-response methods.

The doctors explained that timely first aid during the initial minutes of an emergency can greatly improve survival chances. The programme was part of the BLS awareness mission initiated by Dr. Pothineni Ramesh Babu, Chief Cardiologist and Managing Director of Aster Ramesh Hospitals.

Dr. Ramesh Babu said the hospital has trained over one lakh students, youth, and medical



and non-medical professionals in life-saving skills. “If this training helps save even a single life, it will be our greatest achievement,” he said.

College Principal Mrs. Siripurapu Padmaja, faculty members, students and Aster Ramesh Hospitals representatives Sai Krishna and Potluri Silpa participated.

Earlier, Ramesh Hospitals Learning Centre, under the Indian Society of Anaesthesiologists (ISA), Vijayawada City Branch, conducted a Basic Hands-on ECMO Workshop for 30 doctors from across Andhra Pradesh. Inaugurated by Dr. Pothineni Ramesh Babu, Managing Director of Ramesh Hospitals, the workshop provided practical training in ECMO management using simulators and machines under the guidance of critical care specialists and perfusionists.

Farmers Advised Five-Point Plan to Tackle El Niño Impact

Vijayawada, July 25 | TPN Bureau

District Horticulture Officer P. Balaji Kumar advised farmers to adopt a five-point scientific strategy to minimise the impact of El Niño on horticultural crops, warning of possible low rainfall, high temperatures and prolonged dry spells.

He suggested pre-monsoon dry sowing in mango orchards with limited water availability and delayed chilli cultivation areas. Growing pulses, oilseeds, cereals and green manure crops would help conserve soil moisture and

improve crop resilience, he said.

Balaji Kumar advised farmers to harvest rainwater and store borewell water in farm ponds for drip irrigation during dry periods. The Horticulture Department provides a 50 per cent subsidy for farm ponds, with a maximum project cost of 18,000.

He urged chilli farmers to enrol under PM Fasal Bima Yojana before July 31 by paying 1,800 per acre premium for 90,000 insurance coverage. Farmers can also avail subsidies for weed mats and micro-irrigation systems through the AP Micro Irrigation Project.

Krishna Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association Formed

Machilipatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The Krishna District Soldiers and Ex-Servicemen Welfare Sangham was constituted in Machilipatnam on Saturday to address the welfare issues of former defence personnel and support their families.

The organisers said the association aims to protect the rights and interests of ex-servicemen, create awareness about government benefits and provide a common platform to raise their concerns with authorities.

Speaking on the occasion, K. Varalakshmi said the organisation would work to ensure that retired defence personnel receive due recognition and welfare benefits. She called for unity among ex-servicemen and collective efforts for community welfare.

The meeting elected Abdul



Salam, Joint Secretary of Andhra Pradesh Ex-Servicemen League, as Organising Secretary of the district body. Abdul Raheem also attended the programme and extended support to the association.

The association will focus on pension issues, access to welfare schemes, support for veterans’ families and awareness programmes on available benefits. Ex-servicemen and supporters welcomed the initiative and expressed confidence that it would strengthen coordination among veterans in Krishna district.

Bapatla SP Welcomes Governor During District Visit

Bapatla, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla District SP B. Umamaheswar accorded a warm welcome to Governor S. Abdul Nazeer during his visit to Bapatla town on Saturday. The Governor visited the district as part of his tour to attend the 58th Convocation Ceremony of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University.

SP B. Umamaheswar met the Governor and extended greetings by presenting a flower plant as a gesture of welcome. District police made comprehensive security arrangements for the Governor's visit, deploying personnel at key locations and taking measures for traffic



management. The programme was conducted peacefully, with coordination among the police, the district administration, and university officials. Authorities ensured all necessary arrangements for the successful completion of the Governor's visit and convocation ceremony.



Jupudi Prabhakar Rao Meets Prakasam Collector

Ongole, July 25 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP State General Secretary, Jupudi Prabhakar Rao met Prakasam District Collector Raja Babu at the Collectorate on Saturday and held discussions on various public issues.

During the meeting, Jupudi Prabhakar Rao and the District Collector discussed several matters concerning the district. The meeting was described as a courtesy call, during which a

range of issues was brought to the Collector's attention. Bala Koti Reddy, Ramakrishna Reddy, Prabhakar and leaders of various Dalit organisations also participated in the meeting. The delegation discussed issues relating to public welfare and other matters of importance with the District Collector.

The meeting concluded after an exchange of views on the issues raised by the delegation.



Cyber Police Recover ₹48,000 Lost in PhonePe Transfer

Eluru: Cyber Crime Police recovered 48,000 that was mistakenly transferred to another person's account via PhonePe and returned the amount to the victim after swift action. According to police, Thandragani Ranganayakulu of Balaji Nagar, Eluru Rural, accidentally transferred the amount to a wrong bank account during an online payment. His son Rajesh lodged a complaint through the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal. Cyber Crime CI G. Dasu and his team traced the transaction, froze the recipient's account and recovered the amount. CI Dasu handed over the money to Rajesh and advised people to report cyber frauds immediately by calling 1930 or using the cybercrime portal.

MLA Launches CC Road and Drain Works

Chirala : MLA Madduluri Malakondaiah laid foundation stones for CC road and drainage works in Wards 10 and 21 of Chirala Municipality. The projects will be executed at a cost of 5lakh and 3.5lakh respectively. Malakondaiah said the coalition government was committed to improving civic infrastructure, with a focus on roads, drainage and drinking water facilities. He assured that more development works would be taken up to transform Chirala into a model town. Officials, leaders and residents participated.

ACB Searches Endowment Officer's House

Anantapur: ACB officials conducted searches at the residence of Assistant Commissioner, District Endowment Office, Anantapuramu, Ganji Mallikarjuna Prasad, in connection with a bribery case registered under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018.

The searches led to the recovery of 16.60 lakh cash, 400 grams of gold ornaments, promissory notes worth 5 lakh and household items valued at 2.20 lakh. Documents related to seven immovable properties were also seized. Further investigation is underway.

Mother, Son Killed in Granite Lorry Accident

Chimakurthy: A woman and her son were killed in a road accident near a PST gravel mill between Ramatheertham and Marrichetla Palem in Chimakurthy mandal of Prakasam district on Saturday. Police said the motorcycle they were travelling on reportedly skidded, causing them to fall onto the road and come under the wheels of a passing granite-laden lorry. Both died on the spot. Police reached the scene, registered a case and launched an investigation. CI Prasad is probing the accident, and efforts are on to establish the identities of the deceased.

Elaborate Arrangements for Simhachalam Giri Pradakshina

Visakhapatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha said elaborate arrangements are being made for the Simhachalam Giri Pradakshina on July 28 and 29, with 5 to 6 lakh devotees expected to participate. Speaking after a review meeting at the Collectorate, she said nearly 5,000 employees from various departments would be deployed to ensure a hassle-free experience.

Around 50 queue lines and 120 iron barricades will be arranged at Toli Pavancha, while 28 help centres and seven control rooms will operate along the 32-km



route. Thirty-one medical camps, 22 ambulances, 115 water points and 595 temporary toilets will be provided. Medical teams will also be deployed on the hill and along the stairway route.

For security, 2,700 police personnel will be deployed, with 70 temporary CCTV cameras in lower areas and 45 additional cameras on the hill. Fire safety units,

public address systems and RFID tagging facilities will also be arranged.

A special traffic plan will regulate heavy vehicles from July 28 morning until July 29 afternoon. Special arrangements will be made for devotees taking sea baths at Appughar and Jodugulapalem, with 90 expert swimmers deployed in three shifts.

A local holiday will be declared on July 28 for 221 schools in four mandals. MLAs Palla Srinivasa Rao and Vishnu Kumar Raju, District Collector M. Abhishikth Kishore, Police Commissioner Shankhabrata Bagchi and GVMC Commissioner Kethan Garg participated in the review.

Govt School Student Jessie Selected For 'Mission ShaktiSat' Felicitated By Minister Durgesh

Rajamahendravaram, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Kandula Durgesh on Saturday congratulated Kandula Jessie, a Class 10 student of Dhavaleswaram Girls' High School in East Godavari district, for being selected for the prestigious 'Mission ShaktiSat', a Government of India initiative promoting girls' participation in space science.

Jessie and her parents met the Minister at his camp office in Ra-

jamahendravaram, where he felicitated her and appreciated her achievement. He said Jessie was the only student selected from Andhra Pradesh among 21 girls chosen nationwide for the global all-girls lunar CubeSat mission.

The Minister said the selection of a government school student for a space research programme was a matter of pride for the State and would inspire many young students. He assured that free air tickets, a smartphone and accommodation arrangements would be provided for Jessie's

training and participation in the satellite design process.

Meanwhile, KUDA Chairman Talatam Satya presented Jessie with a laptop, space science books, a bag and chocolates to support her research journey. He said the initiative was inspired by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, who had earlier congratulated Jessie on her selection.

Pawan Kalyan appreciated Satya's gesture in encouraging the young student. Leaders of Jana Sena Party were also present during the programme.

Eluru MLA Launches Health Centres, Offers Prayers as Shakambari Devi

Eluru, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Eluru MLA Badeti Chanti participated in two programmes on Saturday, laying foundation stones for three Ayushman Arogya Mandirs and offering special prayers at Sri Vasavi Kanyaka Parameswari Ammavari Satram.

The three health centres will be constructed under the National Health Mission at MRC Colony in Satrampadu, New NTR Colony in Sanivarapupeta and Indiramma Colony in Madepalli, at a cost of 1 crore each. Eluru Mayor Shaikh



Noorjahan participated in the programme. Badeti Chanti said the coalition government led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu was committed to strengthening public healthcare through initiatives such as CMRF and NTR Vaidya Seva. Mayor Noorja-

han assured that the projects would be completed quickly.

Later, on Ashadha Shuddha Ekadashi, Vasavi Mata was decorated as Shakambari Devi at the satram in Peruguchettu Centre. Badeti Chanti and his wife Meena performed special prayers. The programme was organised by the Eluru Urban District Arya Vysya Sangham. AMC Chairman Mamillapalli Parthasarathi, Chaluvaadi Sivakrishna Brahmayya, Nanguluri Satyanarayana, Nunna Srinu and Kanigolla Rajesh participated.

Teacher Allegedly Drunk at School PTM

Paderu, July 25 | TPN Bureau

A Mega Parents-Teachers Meeting (PTM) at a Tribal Welfare Department Government School in Pinapadu village of Chintapalli mandal, Alluri Sitarama Raju district, was disrupted after a teacher allegedly attended the programme in an intoxicated condition.

LFL Headmaster K.V. Ramana reportedly arrived at the meeting under the influence of alcohol and was unable to conduct the proceedings. He allegedly stag-



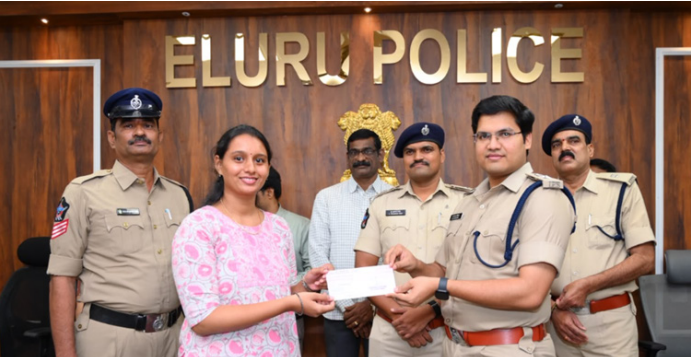
gered during the programme and later collapsed onto a bench, shocking parents and village elders. As the meeting could not proceed, Lothugedda School Complex CRP Ramu took charge and conducted the PTM. Parents demanded immediate disciplinary action against the teacher and urged the District Collector and Education Department to take strict action. Tribal Welfare Department officials have initiated an inquiry and said appropriate action would follow based on its findings.

Police Families' Students Get ₹9.58 Lakh Scholarships

Eluru, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Eluru district police distributed scholarships worth 9.58 lakh to 36 students from police families under the Merit and Meritorious Scholarship Scheme sanctioned by the Director General of Police (DGP) Office.

The scholarships were presented by SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore during a programme held at the District Police Headquarters Conference Hall on Saturday. Under the Meritorious Continuation category, eligible students received scholarships ranging from 50,000 to 1 lakh each, while students selected under the Merit category were awarded between 10,000 and 30,000. Speaking on the occasion, SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore said



children of police personnel are now excelling in competitive fields such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), medicine, UPSC and APPSC examinations. He said the government and the police department are giving high priority to the welfare of police families and as-

sured that more encouragement and support would be extended to them in the future.

Additional SPs Y. Prasad Rao and G. Muni Raja, District Police Officers' Association president R. Nageswara Rao and other police officials attended the programme.

EAGLE Team Spreads Anti-Drug Awareness in Village

Eluru, July 25 | TPN Bureau

As part of the EAGLE Palle Bata initiative, the EAGLE team conducted an awareness programme on the harmful effects of narcotic drugs at Koppaka village in Pedavegi mandal on Saturday. The programme was held under the directions of EAGLE IGP A.K. Ravi Krishna and SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore.

EAGLE Team Eluru RSI Uday Bhaskar explained to villagers and farmers the

health, social, economic and legal consequences of consuming and trafficking narcotic substances, including ganja. He urged people to remain alert and support efforts to prevent drug abuse.

Parents were advised to monitor behavioural changes among children and inform police about suspicious activities. Citizens were encouraged to share narcotic-related information through the EAGLE toll-free helpline 1972, with officials assuring confidentiality of informants.

60 Bags of Ration Rice Seized in Black Market Crackdown

Bapatla, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Authorities in Bapatla district seized 60 bags of ration rice being illegally transported for black market sale during inspection operations on Saturday.

The government distributes ration rice free of cost or at subsidised rates to support poor and needy families. However, some middlemen and illegal traders have been purchasing the rice from beneficiaries at low prices and selling it at higher rates in the black market.

Acting on credible information, officials intercepted a vehicle involved in the illegal transportation of public distribution rice and seized the 60 bags along with the vehicle. Cases have been registered against those involved in the illegal activity under relevant laws.

Officials warned that strict action would be taken against middlemen engaged in diverting government-supplied rice to the black market and against those supporting such illegal activities.

Boost for Medical Device Manufacturing

Delhi/Eluru, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The Central government is extending major incentives to promote domestic manufacturing of advanced medical equipment and reduce dependence on imports, Minister JP Nadda informed the Lok Sabha.

Responding to a question raised by MP Putta Mahesh Kumar, Nadda said the government has introduced three schemes — Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Medical Devices (PLI), Scheme for Promotion of Medical Device Parks and Scheme for Strengthening of Medical Device Industry (SMDI) — to encourage local production.

He said incentives are being provided in key sectors including cancer care, radiotherapy, radiology, imaging, anaesthesia, cardio-



respiratory, renal care devices and implants. The domestic production of MRI and CT scan machines, LINaCs, mammography systems, C-arms, ultrasound equipment, heart valves and stents has already begun.

The minister added that the Centre is providing up to 100 crore assistance for infrastructure development in each Med-Tech park. MedTech parks received 17,201 crore foreign direct investment between 2021-22 and 2025-26.

Illegal Gun Racket Busted, Five Arrested



Eluru, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Police foiled an alleged murder plot and busted an illegal country-made gun manufacturing racket in Chintalapudi, arresting five persons and seizing six firearms, ammunition and weapon-making equipment.

Police said Sandaka Saibabu of Bhattavarigudem and Thalam Veerababu allegedly planned to murder Palmati Mahesh over personal enmity. The duo was intercepted near Shadikhana during vehicle checks while allegedly carrying a country-made gun.

Based on the investigation, police arrested weapon manufacturer Yalagam Nageswara Rao, welding worker Thotakura Ramaraju and barrel maker Manthana Veerabhadrachari. Six guns, four live cartridges, explosive material, gun-making equipment, a welding machine, barrel pipes and a Hero Glamour motorcycle were seized.

The operation was led by CI T. Kranthikumar and SI K. Satish Kumar under DSP B.H. Venkateswarlu and Eluru SP K. Pratap Shiva Kishore, IPS. The SP congratulated the team for cracking the case.

Ferty9 Highlights IVF Advances on World IVF Day

Visakhapatnam, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Marking World IVF Day, Ferty9 Fertility Centre, Visakhapatnam, announced that its clinical team has gained international recognition by presenting research papers at leading global medical conferences. The research, based on five years of IUI treatment outcomes, highlighted delayed marriages, demanding work schedules, night shifts, declining sperm quality and increased DNA fragmentation as factors affecting fertility.

Ferty9 noted that India's Total Fertility Rate continues to decline, reaching 1.8 in Telangana and 1.7 in Andhra Pradesh. Dr Kavya Reddy Kumkala and Dr Pala Keerthi stressed the impor-



tance of early fertility awareness and timely specialist consultation.

The centre also launched Needle-Free IVF services across its 11 centres to reduce discomfort from daily injections. Ferty9 said it is using AI-based reproductive health research to improve IVF outcomes and plans to establish a Centre of Excellence to address recurrent miscarriages and implantation failures in the Telugu states.

BJP Bapatla Chief to Take Oath on July 27

Chirala, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The oath-taking ceremony of Muvvala Venkataramana Rao as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Bapatla district president will be held in Chirala on July 27. BJP president P. V. N. Madhav will attend the programme as the chief guest. Addressing a press conference on Saturday, Muvvala Venkataramana Rao, Parliament convenor Bandarupalli Hemanth Kumar and state leader Pothula Suresh said P. V. N. Madhav would be accorded a grand welcome at Mukkonam Park near Chirala Railway Station at 10 a.m.

A rally will proceed through Clock Tower, Vegetable Market, Tella Gandhi Bomma and Nalla Gandhi Bomma junctions before reaching The Kirana Merchant Association Hall, where the oath-taking ceremony and a public meeting will be held.

State general secretary Nagothu Ramesh Naidu, district in-charge Gajula Venkaiah Naidu, APSRTC Zonal Chairman Sannapareddy Suresh Reddy, Chirala MLA Madduluri Malakondaiah, MLC Pothula Sunitha, former MLC Annam Satish Prabhakar and other BJP leaders are expected to participate.

₹4.90 Crore Road Project Inaugurated

Nellore Rural, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Mandal Parishad President Budida Vijay Kumar inaugurated a 4.90-crore main road connecting Kalivelapalem village with Madarajugudur in the Nellore Rural constituency on Friday. TDP State Official Spokesperson Kotamreddy Giridhar Reddy attended the programme as chief guest.

Giridhar Reddy said development works worth 850 crore were being undertaken in the constituency since the alliance government assumed office under the leadership of MLA

Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy and with the support of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. He said 7.92 crore had been allocated to Kalivelapalem alone.

He stated that the alliance government was committed to public welfare and development and thanked Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Ministers Nara Lokesh and B.C. Janardhan Reddy, and MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy for supporting the project. ZP co-option member Allabakshu, MPP Vice-President Pallamreddy Ravindra Reddy, TDP leaders, local representatives and villagers attended.



78 Red Sanders Logs Worth ₹1.5 Crore Seized, Three Arrested

Tirupati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force (RSASTF) seized 78 red sanders logs worth approximately 1.5 crore and arrested three persons, including two interstate smugglers and a Forest Beat Officer, during a special operation in Kadapa district.

Acting on intelligence inputs, Task Force, State Intelligence and forest personnel conducted vehicle checks near Jyothi Temple-Varikunta village in Avadutha Kashinayana mandal on July 25. They intercepted a Bolero Maxi Truck allegedly transporting the logs

from the Seshachalam forests under the guise of household appliances. Haryana natives Sunny, 28, and Ramesh, 33, were arrested.

During the investigation, Forest Beat Officer Mallikarjunudu, 54, posted at Jyothi Forest Beat, was also arrested for allegedly colluding with smugglers. Officials said the network had links to Bengaluru, Haryana and Kolkata, with special teams formed to trace other accused. RSASTF Head SP L. Subbarayudu and officers commended the team. Authorities warned that stricter measures would be taken against red sanders smuggling.

Fruit Orchard Cultivation Launched Under VB-GRAM

Sullurpeta, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Fruit orchard cultivation on farmers' lands was formally launched at Tallampadu village in Doravarisatram mandal under the VB-GRAM (Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission-Grameen) programme of the Department of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development.

Sullurpeta MLA Dr. Nelavala Vijayasree attended the programme as chief guest and inaugurated the initiative by planting fruit saplings. She said VB-GRAM aims to provide 125 days of guaranteed employment to rural families while

increasing farmers' incomes, creating permanent assets and promoting greenery.

Vijayasree urged farmers to utilise the scheme and develop fruit orchards on their lands for long-term economic benefits. She said the government was giving priority to rural development under the leadership of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and guidance of Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development and Rural Water Supply Pawan Kalyan.

Public representatives, officials, farmers, women's groups, party leaders and villagers participated.

Collector Assures Development and Welfare Works Will Continue

Chittoor, July 25 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Sumit Kumar said development and welfare programmes were being implemented in Chittoor district in line with state government priorities. Speaking to the media after the Zilla Parishad general body meeting, he said ongoing works would be completed as funds had already been spent on them.

The Collector said works that were notified or halted would be reviewed based on Supreme Court orders and advice, with proposals sent to the Panchayat Raj Commissioner and Chief Secretary for necessary approvals. He clarified that public utility works such as Anganwadi centres, schools and drinking water projects were taken up transparently

after comprehensive surveys, without political considerations.

Chittoor, along with Anantapur, Sri Sathya Sai, Annamayya and Tirupati districts, has been identified as high-risk due to rainfall deficiency. Against the expected 40,000 hectares of cultivation, only around 20,000 hectares have been covered so far. The administration would assess damaged crops, consider declaring drought-affected mandals and provide compensation as per government rules.

He said preventing fodder shortages was another priority and special plans would be prepared for livestock protection. The district administration would focus on drinking water, farmer support and improving village infrastructure.

Narayana Orders Beautification of Muthukur Gate

Nellore, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development Dr. Ponguru Narayana inspected the Sarvepalli Canal area at Muthukur Gate Centre on Saturday and directed officials to take up beautification works to improve the city's appearance. He also reviewed arrangements for a bicycle distribution programme at VRC Grounds.

Later, Narayana inaugurated a 3.5 lakh RO water plant at



Arani Kandappa Mestri Satram in Santhapeta. The plant can supply 1,000 litres of purified water per hour and up to 5,000 litres a day, benefiting pedestrians, traders, students and patients visiting St. Joseph's

Hospital.

The Minister appreciated the Satram's charitable activities, including scholarships, blanket distribution and food donation programmes. He said the government was implementing drinking water projects worth 14,000 crore and Jal Jeevan Mission works worth 28,000 crore across the state, to provide tap connections to every household within two years.

Mayor Devarakonda Sujatha, Commissioner Nandan, Deputy Mayor Rupkumar Yadav and others participated.

Faculty Leadership Skills Key to Excellence in Higher Education

Chittoor, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Faculty leadership development is essential for improving the quality of higher education, said Sivaramakrishnan Venkateswaran, CEO, Apollo Knowledge. He was speaking virtually at a Faculty Leadership Workshop organised by the Medical Education Unit (MEU) of Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (AIMSR) at the Dr. Prathap C. Reddy Knowledge Centre Auditorium on Saturday.

Sivaramakrishnan stressed the need for faculty to continu-



ously upgrade their knowledge and professional skills to meet changing academic, technological and societal requirements. Former Vice Chancellor Dr. H. Vinod Bhat said leadership was not determined by designation but by the ability to inspire and influence others.

Collector Anand Warns Farmers Over El Niño Impact

Anantapur, July 25 | TPN Bureau

District Collector O. Anand advised farmers to plan their 2026 Kharif crops carefully in view of the possible impact of El Niño and rainfall deficiency. He reviewed agricultural preparedness with Joint Collector Vishnu Charan and officials from various departments at the Collectorate.

The Collector warned that the district could face severe rainfall shortages and suggested farmers opt for low-water crops instead of paddy. He recommended crops such as maize, jowar, red gram, horse gram, green gram, black gram and fox-tail millet. Farmers were also advised to enrol in crop insurance schemes before July 31 to protect against possible losses. As drinking water would be given priority, Anand said irriga-



tion water availability could be affected. He directed officials to promote micro-irrigation methods, including drip and sprinkler systems, automation and fertigation. Officials were also asked to ensure cattle fodder availability, encourage sericulture and natural farming, and organise training programmes for farmers.

Collector Calls for Drug-Free Anantapur

District Collector O. Anand called for collective efforts to make Anantapur a drug-free dis-

trict and stressed the importance of creating awareness among students. In a review meeting with SP P. Jagadeesh, he directed education officials to conduct weekly awareness programmes in schools and colleges on the harmful effects of drugs and marijuana.

He instructed institutions to upload details of awareness programmes and submit information on Eagle Clubs in private schools. Officials were directed to identify and clear drug hot-spots, prevent cannabis cultivation and take strict action against the sale of tobacco, cannabis and banned substances near educational institutions.

SP Jagadeesh urged educational institutions to cooperate with police and Eagle Cell initiatives to create drug-free campuses. Senior officials from various departments participated in the meeting.

MLA Sudheer Reddy Addresses Hostel Students' Needs

Srikalahasti, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Srikalahasti MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy visited the Government Social Welfare Girls' Hostel on Saturday and interacted with students about their needs and facilities. On behalf of the Alliance government, he distributed free bed-

sheets and shoes to the students.

The MLA enquired about the quality of food and other amenities being provided at the hostel. When students brought to his notice the shortage of old fans and blackboards, he immediately responded and arranged for the required facilities.

Sudheer Reddy said provid-

ing a safe and conducive environment for poor students staying in hostels was a priority of the government. He assured that necessary steps would be taken to address students' concerns and improve hostel facilities. Youth leaders Khadar and Prasad, the hostel warden and others participated in the programme.

All Set for Agnigunda Pravesham During Brahmotsavams

Srikalahasti, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Temple Chairman K. Sai Prasad and Executive Officer (EO) B.K. Venkatesulu inspected arrangements for the 'Agnigunda Pravesham' (fire-walking ritual) scheduled for Sunday as part of the Brahmotsavams of Sri Draupadi Sametha Dharmaraja Swamy. The officials inspected the



queue lines, barricades and security arrangements and directed staff to allow devotees

entry through a rotation system to prevent inconvenience and ensure smooth movement.

They said elaborate security arrangements had been made with personnel deployed from four police stations. The officials urged devotees to cooperate with the authorities, maintain discipline and follow the instructions while participating in the ritual.

TTD EO Ravichandra Visits Srikalahasti Temple

Tirupati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer Muddada Ravichandra visited the Srikalahastiswara Swamy Temple on Saturday. Temple officials welcomed him with traditional honours.

Ravichandra offered prayers to Lord Srikalahastiswara and Goddess Gnanaprasunambika



and received special blessings. Later, Vedic scholars offered blessings at the shrine of Sri Guru Dakshinamurthy. He was

presented with Theertha-Prasadam and a portrait of the presiding deities.

Temple EO B.K. Venkateshulu, Temple Board members K. Sai Prasad, Gurappa Setty, Murali, Kusuma Kumari, Nagaraju and P. Lokesh Babu, Protocol AEO Vidyasagar Reddy, Temple AEO C. Nagabhushanam Yadav, Temple Supervisor Ravi, APRO and other officials participated in the visit.

Car Stolen After Miscreants Pose as Passengers

Anantapur Urban, July 25 | TPN Bureau

A car was allegedly stolen in Anantapur after three unidentified persons posing as passengers hired the vehicle for a trip to Bengaluru on Saturday. The incident has raised concerns among drivers providing transport services at Saptagiri Circle.



According to the complaint, the three men, who reportedly spoke with a Telangana accent, hired an Etios car bearing registration number AP 31 TP 2556 around noon. They agreed to pay 4,000 for a non-AC trip to a location near Electronic City in Bengaluru. During the journey, they allegedly asked the driver to stop at Raptadu to purchase beer.

Later, the passengers stopped at Somandepalli for food and persuaded driver Sambasiva to join them. They reportedly told him that they would pay for keeping the vehicle's AC running. When the driver stepped out after switching on the ignition, the three men allegedly entered the car and drove away.

The vehicle owner and Sambasiva subsequently lodged a complaint at Somandepalli Police Sta-

tion. Photographs and facial images of the suspects were reportedly captured while they were arranging the vehicle at Saptagiri Circle.

Police have been urged to identify and apprehend the suspects at the earliest. The incident has also highlighted the need for transport operators and drivers to exercise caution while accepting unfamiliar passengers, particularly during long-distance trips. Authorities are expected to investigate whether the suspects were involved in similar incidents elsewhere.

TTD Employee Suspended for Allegedly Demanding Money from Devotees

Tirumala, July 25 | TPN Bureau

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) on Saturday suspended N. Sarath Babu, an office subordinate working in the GNC area of Tirumala, following allegations of misconduct involving devotees.

TTD initiated an inquiry after reports appeared in various newspapers and a video circulated widely on social media, allegedly showing Sarath Babu demanding money from devotees.

Following a preliminary examination of the matter, TTD

authorities determined that the employee's alleged conduct amounted to a violation of service rules. As a disciplinary measure, the temple administration issued orders placing him under immediate suspension.

TTD officials said the inquiry process would examine the allegations and relevant evidence in accordance with the applicable rules. The action comes amid efforts to maintain discipline and ensure that devotees visiting Tirumala receive services without harassment or improper demands from employees.



Sunitha Highlights Thalliki Vandanam Benefits

Raptadu, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Raptadu MLA Paritala Sunitha said the 'Thalliki Vandanam' scheme was bringing happiness to students' families by providing financial assistance to all eligible children. She inaugurated a CC road in K.G. Kunta village of Ramagiri mandal, constructed at a cost of 20 lakh under Employment Guarantee Scheme funds.

Later, Sunitha interacted with beneficiaries of the scheme in Venkatapuram and enquired about the number of children in

their families and the benefits received. Beneficiaries said they had received 13,000 per eligible child, with families having two, three and four children receiving 26,000, 39,000 and 52,000 respectively.

Sunitha said the Alliance government was simultaneously focusing on welfare and development and assured that schemes were being implemented without political discrimination. She said road development had reached record levels in Raptadu constituency and maintained that the government was fulfilling its election promises.

Praja Darbar Held to Resolve Public Grievances

Tirupati, July 25 | TPN Bureau

Tirupati constituency in-charge JB Srinivas held his first 'Praja Darbar' (public grievance forum) at the Tirupati Parliamentary office on Saturday, receiving a strong response from residents. He directly interacted with petitioners and received representations concerning drainage, drinking water, electricity, streetlights, CC roads and sanitation issues across various divisions.

Srinivas spoke to officials over the phone and instructed them to take immediate steps to resolve the grievances. He

assured residents that he would remain accessible and work to address their concerns.

He said the opportunity provided by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh was intended to serve the public. Srinivas said his priority was to ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive all government welfare schemes at their doorstep.

TDP State Secretary Kumaramma, Tataayagunta Temple Chairman Mahesh Yadav, cluster in-charges Dampuri Bhaskar Yadav, Sridhar Varma and Munishkekhar Royal, among others, participated in the programme.

Editorial

Fight For A Right Cause Always Wins

The resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan marks a significant development in the prolonged agitation led by the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP). More importantly, it reinforces a timeless democratic principle: when people consistently fight for a just cause with determination and patience, positive results eventually follow. Along with the Minister's resignation, the Union Government has also responded positively to two other key demands raised by the protesters, demonstrating that sustained public pressure can compel governments to act.

The agitation has also highlighted the growing influence of social media in mobilizing the youth. Contrary to the common perception that social media is only a platform for misinformation and polarization, this movement proved that it can unite students and young people around a genuine public issue. The widespread anger over the alleged NEET paper leak resonated across the country, drawing unprecedented support from students whose futures were directly affected. Their participation reflected frustration over the issue rather than hostility toward the NDA Government. It would be incorrect to interpret the movement solely as an anti-government campaign.

However, one disturbing aspect of the episode deserves serious attention. A section of social media attempted to malign the protesters by branding them as traitors. Such a narrative is not only unfair but also dangerous for democracy. In a democratic society, every citizen has the right to question the government and demand accountability. One may disagree with the protesters' demands or criticize their methods, speeches, or strategies, but labelling them as anti-national merely because they protested is unacceptable. Such tactics weaken democratic discourse instead of strengthening it.

Governments, irrespective of political affiliation, must remain sensitive to public sentiment. Delayed responses to genuine grievances often intensify public anger and lead to larger agitations. Timely action, transparency, and accountability can prevent such confrontations. Democracy flourishes not by silencing dissent but by listening to it. When governments respond with sincerity and citizens raise their voices responsibly, both governance and democracy emerge stronger.

Editor

Mammootty: The Infinite Grammar of Acting



Some actors perform. Some stars entertain. And then some rare artists transcend both categories and become institutions unto themselves. Mammootty belongs to that exceptional lineage.

For over five decades, he has remained a commanding presence in Indian cinema not merely through longevity, popularity, or an impressive body of work, but through an unwavering commitment to the art of transformation. His career is not a succession of roles. It is an ongoing exploration of human nature.

The true measure of Mammootty's greatness lies neither in the number of films he has completed nor in the awards that adorn his career. It lies in his extraordinary ability to disappear.

When Mammootty enters a character, he leaves Mammootty behind.

A great actor does not imitate life; he reimagines it. Mammootty approaches every role as an act of discovery. One senses the invisible labour behind each performance—the study of social realities, the understanding of psychological complexities, the excavation of emotional histories. Whether he portrays Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, a feudal patriarch, a police officer, a lawyer, a communist leader, a school-teacher, or an anonymous villager, he creates an entire inner universe for the character.

The result is remarkable: the audience never watches an actor performing a role. They encounter a living human being.

This ability to dissolve into a character is increasingly rare in contemporary cinema, where image often overshadows substance. Mammootty has consistently resisted that temptation. He has never allowed stardom to imprison his artistry.

Cinema, at its highest level, is a language of images, silences, gestures, and glances. Many actors depend heavily on dialogue to communicate emotion. Mammootty understands that the most profound truths often exist beyond words.

A flicker in the eyes.

A pause before a sentence.

A tightening of the jaw.

A gaze fixed upon an unseen horizon.

These seemingly small details become emotional landscapes in his performances. In films such as

Mathilukal, Vidheyan, and Peranbu, silence speaks louder than speech. His characters reveal themselves not through exposition but through presence.

Few actors in Indian cinema possess a voice as expressive as Mammootty's. His voice carries authority without arrogance, tenderness without sentimentality, anger without excess, and irony without theatricality. Every word is measured. Every pause is meaningful. Dialogue in his hands becomes sculpture.

He does not speak lines; he inhabits them.

This mastery is evident across generations of performances. In Peranbu, he portrays a father whose life revolves around the care of his differently-abled daughter; embodying unconditional love with heartbreaking restraint. In Nanpaka Nerathu Mayakkam, he becomes an enigmatic figure suspended between identities and realities. In Bramayugam, he transforms into a dark and unsettling metaphysical presence. In Kaathal – The Core, he delivers one of the most nuanced portrayals of inner conflict and emotional truth in recent Indian cinema.

Each role expands the boundaries of his art.

What makes Mammootty particularly remarkable is his refusal to settle into comfort. Many actors become guardians of their own image. Mammootty remains a student of cinema. Even in his seventies, he continues to collaborate with younger filmmakers, embrace unconventional narratives, and challenge audience expectations.

This relentless self-renewal has kept his artistry alive and relevant.

His body language deserves special attention. Mammootty treats the body as an instrument of storytelling. The way a character walks, sits, looks, waits, or occupies space becomes part of the narrative. Sometimes a single gesture conveys what pages of dialogue cannot.

In an era where intensity is often mistaken for loudness, Mammootty demonstrates that restraint can be more powerful than explosion. His performances remind us that true emotional force emerges not from exaggeration but from control.

Indian cinema has produced



many celebrated stars and accomplished actors. Yet only a handful have matured with time, continually reinventing themselves while deepening their craft. Mammootty belongs to that rare fraternity.

When we watch him in Mathilukal as the imprisoned Basheer, in Vidheyan as the domineering master, in Peranbu as a devoted father, or in Nanpaka Nerathu Mayakkam as a man caught between worlds, we are not merely witnessing acting.

We are witnessing life itself. For what is acting, ultimately?

It is the art of welcoming another life into one's own.

It is the courage to lend one's body, voice, and soul to another human experience.

It is the ability to transform imagination into emotional truth.

That is Mammootty's gift.

And that is why he remains not merely a great actor, but one of the finest screen artists of our age.

Mathilukal: A Love Story Beyond Sight

Among the many films that define Mammootty's artistic legacy, Mathilukal occupies a special



place. The world's greatest love stories are rarely alike. Some begin with a glance, some with touch, some with letters, and some with a smile. Yet it is difficult to think of another love story that begins with a voice, unfolds across a prison wall, and remains forever etched in memory.

VAIKOM MUHAMMAD BASHEER'S MATHILUKAL (THE WALLS) IS ONE SUCH MIRACLE.

It is not merely a love story; it is a celebration of longing, imagination, and human connection.

When Adoor Gopalakrishnan adapted the novella into cinema in 1989, he achieved something extraordinary. Adapting literature is never easy, particularly a work like Mathilukal. The lovers never meet. The heroine is never seen. Love exists only through conversation, waiting, silence, and hope.

Yet Adoor transformed these apparent limitations into artistic strengths.

In the film, Narayani remains invisible. She exists only as a voice. But that voice becomes a face, a presence, a world.

And at the centre of that world stands Mammootty.

As Basheer, he does not perform; he becomes.

The anticipation in his eyes, the tenderness in his voice, the quiet ecstasy of companionship, and the profound sadness that settles upon him when freedom arrives unexpectedly—all these moments combine to create one of the most unforgettable performances in Indian cinema.

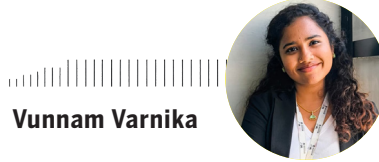
The irony is devastating: prison had given Basheer love; freedom takes it away.

Through Mammootty's performance, this emotional paradox acquires extraordinary depth.

What Basheer achieved through words, Adoor recreated through images. And what both artists imagined, Mammootty brought to life with astonishing sensitivity.

That is why Mathilukal remains one of the greatest literary adaptations in Indian cinema.

And that is why Mammootty continues to stand among the towering artistic figures of world cinema—a performer who reminds us that acting, at its finest, is not imitation but revelation.



Student, Woxen University

Madhuraapuri Sadana revolves around a middle-class family's dream of building their own home and the emotional struggles, conflicts and sacrifices that come with that ambition. The film explores family relationships, aspirations and the challenges faced by ordinary people while trying to achieve stability.

Director Sai Tarun Reddy focuses on a realistic family drama, highlighting everyday emotions rather than relying on commercial elements. The film attempts to connect with audiences through relatable situations and human relationships.

Bharath Sainath Varma brings sincerity to his role and effectively portrays the emotions of a youngster caught between personal ambitions and family responsibilities.

The core strength of the film

is its subject. For many middle-class families, a house is not just a physical structure but a symbol of security, dreams, hard work and emotional attachment. The film successfully captures these feelings and connects with viewers who understand the importance of family aspirations.

The story revolves around a young man caught between his own ambitions and his responsibility towards fulfilling his parents' dreams. Director Sai Tarun Reddy chooses a realistic approach, focusing more on everyday emotions and family bonds rather than commercial elements.

Bharath Sainath Varma delivers a sincere performance as a youngster facing personal and family pressures. He effectively portrays the emotional struggles of his character, while Yashu Mashetty pro-

vides good support. DD Srinivas and Neela Priya also contribute to the family atmosphere of the film.

However, the film's biggest limitation is its treatment. While the theme has strong emotional potential, the screenplay follows a familiar pattern. Some sequences move slowly, and sharper editing could have made the narrative more engaging. Certain emotional moments fail to create the expected impact due to predictable writing. The title Madhuraapuri Sadana creates an expectation of a deeper emotional or romantic drama, but the film mainly focuses on family struggles and middle-class dreams. The intention of the makers is honest, though the presentation occasionally feels stretched. Technically, the film is decent. The cinematography and background score support the mood and emotions of the story, but they do not provide any major cinematic surprises. The production limitations are visible in some portions, but the makers try to overcome them through emotional story-



Title: Madhuraapuri Sadana
Director: Sai Tarun Reddy
Cast: Bharath Sainath Varma
Yashu Mashetty
DD Srinivas
Neela Priya
Streaming on: ETV Win
(Author's opinion only)

telling and relatable situations.

Overall, Madhuraapuri Sadana is a sincere family drama that highlights middle-class

values, sacrifices and dreams. It succeeds in creating emotional moments and portraying the importance of family relationships. However, a rou-

tine screenplay and uneven pacing prevent it from becoming a memorable cinematic experience. The film may appeal to audiences who enjoy simple,

realistic family stories with emotional themes. Viewers looking for a fresh narrative or high-intensity drama may find it less engaging.

BJP Leaders Praise Dharmendra Pradhan's Service After Resignation From Union Cabinet

New Delhi, July 25:

BJP leaders have praised Dharmendra Pradhan's contribution to the Union Government and supported his decision to resign from the Union Cabinet, describing his tenure as a period of dedicated public service, policy reforms and institutional strengthening.

Following his resignation as Union Education Minister, Pradhan said his decision was guided by the principle of "nation before self". He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP leadership for providing him an opportunity to serve the country. He said his tenure in the Education Ministry focused on reforms, innovation and strengthening the overall education ecosystem.

BJP president Nitin Nabin backed Pradhan's decision and said the party respected his commitment to public service. He stated that Pradhan had always placed national interest above positions and responsibilities. Appreciating his role as Education Minister, Nabin



said Pradhan played a significant role in transforming India's education sector and implementing major reforms, particularly the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju also praised Pradhan's efforts, stating that he had closely observed his dedication towards improving the education system. He appreciated Pradhan's initiatives aimed at bringing reforms and modernising the country's learning framework.

During his tenure as Education Minister, Pradhan focused on implementing NEP 2020, promoting skill-based education, expanding digital learning opportunities and strengthening

higher education institutions. He was also involved in overseeing reforms related to educational governance and national-level entrance examinations.

BJP leaders highlighted that Pradhan's contribution extended beyond the Education Ministry. Over the years, he handled several key portfolios,

including Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development. He emerged as one of the party's prominent leaders and played important roles in organisational activities and policy decisions.

Nitin Nabin said the BJP would continue to stand with Pradhan and acknowledged his years of service to the nation and the party. He described Pradhan's journey as an example of dedication and selfless work.

Pradhan's resignation has led to discussions in political circles regarding possible changes in the Union Cabinet. Attention is now focused on the government's next decisions regarding ministerial responsibilities and future appointments.

Meanwhile, BJP leaders continued to underline Pradhan's role in shaping key policy initiatives and strengthening various sectors during his years in government. They said his commitment to public service and organisational responsibilities remained an important part of his political journey.



Wangchuk Welcomes Pradhan's Resignation

Climate activist and educationist Sonam Wangchuk has welcomed the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, describing the development as a victory for democracy and peaceful public action.

In his first reaction after Pradhan stepped down, Wangchuk thanked citizens for overcoming fear and participating in the movement. He said the development reflected the power of patience, perseverance and democratic expression.

Wangchuk congratulated the young protesters and supporters who participated in the campaign and said that the focus should now shift from demanding accountability to bringing meaningful reforms in the education sector.

The activist had earlier participated in a hunger strike as part of protests, raising concerns over issues related to the education system, examination processes and the need for greater transparency. His involvement drew attention from students, civil society groups and political observers.

Dharmendra Pradhan announced his resignation from the post of Education Minister, stating that his decision was taken keeping larger interests in mind. His exit came after a period of public debate and criticism over concerns surrounding education reforms and examination-related issues.

Following the resignation, Wangchuk said the next priority should be ensuring reforms that improve the credibility, transparency and fairness of the education system. He emphasised that peaceful democratic movements can play an important role in highlighting public concerns and encouraging change.

The resignation has triggered reactions across political and social circles. While supporters of the protests described it as a significant moment, BJP leaders highlighted Dharmendra Pradhan's contributions during his tenure as Education Minister, including efforts towards implementing education reforms.

The focus now shifts to the government's next steps, including possible changes in the Education Ministry and measures to address concerns raised during the protests.

CJP Withdraws Agitation After Government Assurance

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) has announced the withdrawal of its agitation with immediate effect after the central government agreed to address several demands raised by the protesters. The decision came after discussions between CJP representatives and government officials, bringing an end to the protest.

The protest group, which had been demanding accountability over issues related to the education system and examination irregularities, said it was calling off the agitation following assurances given by the government. CJP leaders asked their supporters gathered at Jantar Mantar in Delhi to return home peacefully.

The government and CJP representatives held discussions over the group's list of demands. Following the talks, assurances were given on several issues, including steps to address concerns raised by students and protesters. The Centre also indicated that the demands would be examined through appropriate channels.

The agitation had gained attention after CJP raised concerns over alleged irregularities in competitive examinations and demanded greater transparency and



accountability in the education system. The movement intensified with protests in Delhi and calls for reforms.

CJP leaders said the decision to withdraw the protest was taken after considering the government's response. However, they clarified that they would continue to monitor the implementation of the assurances given during the discussions. The development comes shortly after Dharmendra



Centre Proposes Tougher Law Against Exam Malpractices

The Central government has approved a major amendment to strengthen laws against examination malpractices, including paper leaks, cheating and organised unfair practices in public examinations. The proposed Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 aims to introduce stricter punishments and faster legal action against those involved in compromising the integrity of exams.

Under the proposed changes, individuals involved in question paper leaks and other unfair practices could face imprisonment ranging from five years to 10 years, along with heavy fines. For organised groups, institutions or networks involved in large-scale examination fraud, the punishment could become more severe, with longer jail terms and fines reaching up to 10 crore.

The amendment comes amid growing concerns over repeated incidents of paper leaks and irregularities in major competitive examinations. The government has stated that the objective of the legislation is to protect the credibility of public examinations and ensure fairness for millions of students appearing for these tests.

The proposed bill also includes provisions for special task forces to investigate cases related to exam fraud. Investigations will be required to be completed within a fixed timeline, while special fast-track courts will be established to ensure speedy trials and prevent unnecessary legal delays.

The law will cover examinations conducted by major public recruitment and testing bodies, including the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Board (RRB), Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) and the National Testing Agency (NTA).

The move comes at a time when student protests have intensified over examination transparency and accountability. The government believes that tougher penalties, strict monitoring and faster investigations will act as a strong deterrent against organised paper leak networks.

The proposed reforms are aimed at restoring confidence in India's examination system and ensuring that candidates get a fair opportunity based on merit rather than malpractice.



CJP Founder Celebrates Pradhan's Resignation

Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke reacted after Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan resigned, saying that he would now take some rest after the movement achieved a major milestone.

Soon after Pradhan announced his resignation, Dipke expressed happiness over the development and said it was an important moment for the protesters who had been demanding accountability and reforms in the education system.

The CJP leader, who had been leading the student-focused agitation, said he was exhausted after weeks of protests and efforts. In a lighter remark, he said he was planning to take a nap after the major development, reflecting the intense phase of the campaign and the emotional response following the announcement.

The Cockroach Janta Party movement gained attention after raising concerns over alleged irregularities in competitive examinations and demanding greater transparency in the education system. The protest gradually developed into a broader campaign involving students and young citizens seeking reforms and accountability.

Following Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation, CJP announced that it would withdraw its agitation, stating that several key demands had been addressed. Supporters of the movement described the development as a major achievement.

The resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan has triggered reactions across political and social circles. While CJP supporters viewed it as a result of public pressure and democratic protest, BJP leaders highlighted Pradhan's contributions during his tenure as Education Minister.

With the agitation coming to an end, attention now shifts towards the government's next steps in addressing education-related concerns and implementing reforms expected by students and protesters.

RaGa Backs Student Demands Over Education Row

Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi has backed the demands of protesting students and said that shifting Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan to another ministry would not resolve the issue. He said students were demanding the minister's removal from the Cabinet rather than just a change in portfolio.

After meeting student representatives, Rahul Gandhi said the government should not attempt to address the issue through a simple reshuffle. He claimed that moving Pradhan to another department would not satisfy the concerns raised by students and that accountability was the main demand.

Rahul said students had raised three major demands and described them as serious concerns. According to him, the key demand was the removal of Dharmendra Pradhan from the Union Cabinet over alleged failures related to the education system and controversies surrounding examinations.

The Congress leader also extended support to students protesting against alleged paper leaks and irregularities in competitive examinations. He said young aspirants were fighting for transparency, fairness and



a reliable examination system. The protests, led by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), gained attention after students raised concerns over examination-related issues and demanded reforms. The movement included demonstrations in Delhi and calls for stronger accountability mechanisms to protect the interests of candidates.

Rahul Gandhi criticised the government's approach towards student protests and said young people raising concerns about their future should be heard. He argued that issues related to paper leaks and examination failures impact millions of students preparing for competitive exams.

The BJP leadership, meanwhile, has defended Dharmendra Pradhan's contribution as Education Minister and highlighted reforms introduced during his tenure. The party has praised his role in implementing changes in the education sector.

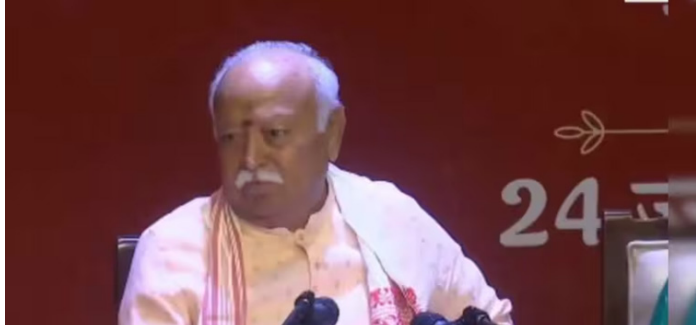
The issue has now turned into a major political debate, with opposition parties supporting student demands and the government facing pressure to strengthen examination systems, improve transparency and restore confidence among aspirants.

Bhagwat Stresses Consensus Over Orders

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has stressed the importance of consensus-based decision-making, saying that society should move forward through discussions and mutual understanding rather than through orders or force. His remarks came at a time when protests over examination-related issues continued to draw attention across the country.

Speaking at an event, Bhagwat highlighted the need for dialogue and cooperation in resolving differences. He said that lasting solutions emerge when people work together and build agreement instead of relying only on authority or instructions.

Although Bhagwat did not directly refer to the ongoing Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) protests over alleged examination irregularities,



his comments came amid a period of intense debate over student concerns, paper leaks and demands for reforms in the education system.

The CJP-led agitation gained momentum after students raised concerns over the credibility of competitive examinations and demanded greater transparency and accountability. The protests attracted wider attention as opposition leaders and civil society groups joined discussions around examination reforms.

The movement also saw demands for accountability from the government over issues related to exam management and alleged irregularities.

ties. After sustained protests, discussions were held between representatives of the group and government officials regarding their concerns.

Bhagwat's remarks on consensus have gained attention due to the timing, with political and social debates intensifying around the role of public participation and institutional accountability. His comments highlighted the importance of dialogue between authorities and citizens during periods of disagreement.

Meanwhile, attention remains focused on the government's response to student concerns, proposed reforms in examination systems and measures aimed at restoring confidence among millions of aspirants preparing for competitive examinations.

One Kitchen One Family, A Unique Bond of Unity



Sreeja Rachabathuni

In an age where nuclear families have become the norm and even small disagreements often lead to property disputes, the Nagappa family of Kurlapalli village in Kalyandurgam mandal of Anantapur district stands as a rare symbol of unity. With 83 members spanning six generations, this extraordinary joint family continues to live together under one roof of values, affection and mutual respect.

What started generations ago as a small family of two households has grown into a large yet closely connected clan. Guided by elders Mutyalappa and Hanumantharayulu, the family follows a simple principle — respect for elders and unity among members. Their decisions are collectively accepted, which the family believes is the secret behind maintaining harmony for decades.

The family includes 43 registered voters, 20 sons and daughters-in-law, and children from different generations. Though the members live in four nearby buildings, they remain connected through a single common kitchen. Every day, women of the household work together,

preparing traditional food on firewood stoves. Ragi sangati, jonna rotte and other local dishes remain part of their regular meals.

Special dietary requirements of elderly members and those with health conditions are separately managed, but the family mostly eats the same food together. During festivals, the scale of cooking increases enormously, with large quantities of meat prepared to serve the entire family.

Agriculture is the foundation of the Nagappa family's livelihood. The members collectively cultivate around 120 acres using three tractors and grow crops such as groundnut, tomato, brinjal, chilli and paddy. Their agricultural assets also include around 1,000 sheep, 70 buffaloes and five bulls.

Despite their economic strength, the family follows a simple lifestyle. Children are educated in local government schools and hostels, while younger members have taken responsibility for managing modern-day requirements.

Mahesh, a fourth-generation member, handles the family's administrative and financial responsibilities, including purchasing provisions, education expenses, medical needs, banking work and vehicle maintenance.

Speaking to True Point Mahesh said, "Managing a family of 83 members is a responsibility, but it is also a blessing. Our real wealth is not the land we own but the bond we share. We may buy more property in the future, but we will never allow our family to divide." He believes the strength of the family lies in the emotional connection between generations. "Our daughters-in-law are not outsiders. They are like our own sisters, and the affection among all members keeps this family together," he added. Remarkably, daughters-in-law who entered this large household from different backgrounds describe their experience as comforting rather than challenging. They consider their sisters-in-law as their own siblings and value the support system within the family. The Nagappa family's story is not merely about numbers or shared property; it is about preserving relationships in a rapidly changing world. Their journey proves that when love, respect and understanding become the foundation of a family, unity can survive across generations.



Harshitha Vipparla

Some writers create literature to entertain, while others use their words to question society, inspire minds and bring meaningful change. Chitikena Kiran Kumar belongs to the rare category of writers who view literature as a social responsibility. A noted Telugu litterateur, poet, essayist, literary critic and social commentator, he has earned a distinct place in contemporary Telugu literature through his writings on society, culture, education, politics and human values. Born in Sircilla of Rajana Sircilla district in Telangana, Kiran Kumar developed an interest in literature at an early age. Inspired by great writers and driven by a desire to connect literature with social realities, he chose writing as a lifelong mission. For him, the pen became a medium to spread awareness and highlight issues affecting society. "Literature should not remain confined to imagination alone; it must reflect society, address people's concerns and inspire meaningful change," Kiran Kumar believes.



gana Today, Vaartha and True Point. Covering Telugu literature, education, youth issues, technology, politics, culture and social transformation, his writings are recognised for research-based analysis and social relevance. As a literary critic, he has contributed through objective reviews and analytical studies that encourage meaningful discussions among readers and writers. A significant milestone in his career was the publication of "Chaitanya Spoorthi - Chitikena Vyasaalu", an essay collection released under the auspices of the Telangana Sahitya Akademi. The book reflects his views on literature, society, politics and culture. His creative talent also extends to visual storytelling. The short film "O Tandri Teerpu", for which he provided the story and screenplay, received recognition at the IFMA Film Festival and Pin TV Film Festival.

Kiran Kumar has received several honours, including the Dr. Vaddepalli Krishna National First Literary Award, C. Narayana Reddy (CINaRe) Literary Award, Telangana Sahitya Ratna, National Sahitya Seva Ratna and Gidugu Ramamurthy Pantulu Bhasha Seva Puraskaram. He has also received the Excellence Award, Global Human Excellence Award and recognition from UNICDDR.

His contributions have been appreciated by former Chief Ministers Konijeti Rosaiah and Nandendla Bhaskara Rao, former Governor C. H. Vidyasagar Rao and Haryana Governor



nor Bandaru Dattatreya. Beyond literature, Kiran Kumar participated in international literary, cultural and humanitarian programmes in South Korea, Japan and Sri Lanka. His involvement in peace initiatives organised by HWPL (Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light), Seoul, South Korea, reflects his humanitarian commitment.



Speaking with True Point, Kiran Kumar said, "The true success of a writer lies not only in receiving recognition but in creating awareness, preserving values and leaving a positive impact on society." Advising young writers, he said, "Writing is a responsibility towards society. Writers should read extensively, think deeply and write honestly. Works based on truth, values and commitment will continue to inspire generations." Through his journey as a poet, critic and social observer, Chitikena Kiran Kumar continues to prove that literature can become a powerful instrument for intellectual awakening and social transformation. His writings reflect changing times, human values and the responsibilities of a conscious writer.

Sixth-Class Genius Who Became a Lifesaver for Generations

Sravani Badugu

In a world where heroes are often recognised through awards and public attention, the story of G. Satti Raju from Tirupatipuram in Attili Mandal of the erstwhile West Godavari district stands apart.



Without holding any official position or seeking recognition, he became the person villagers depended on during emergencies and technical problems. His life reflects courage, innovation and selfless service.

Born into a humble family, Satti Raju had limited formal education and studied only up to the sixth or seventh standard. However, his curiosity, intelligence and practical skills made him a respected figure in the village. People considered him their own engineer and technician, as he could repair everything from household items to complex mechanical equipment and vehicle engines.

His greatest contribution was his commitment to saving lives. Whenever children accidentally fell into open wells, villagers rushed to Satti Raju for help. Without fear, he entered dangerous wells and rescued them. He

also risked his life during fire accidents by entering burning houses to save people trapped inside. These acts of bravery made him a symbol of courage in Tirupatipuram.

Speaking to True Point, Village elder Ch. Chanti said, "Satti Raju is a gifted technician who can repair anything from a sewing machine to a tractor with ease. His practical skills are exceptional."

Another village elder, Ch. Kasigaruvu, said, "Satti Raju is not only a technology expert of Tirupatipuram but also a saviour who rescued many children from wells and saved lives."

Industrialist Ch. Kasivisweswara Rao told True Point, "I have never seen anyone with talents like Guttikonda Satti Raju. He can design, develop and repair various mechanical items effortlessly."

Recalling the seven-gear bicycle, Rao said, "The bicycle he developed decades ago still runs smoothly and can travel up to 40 kilometres. Even today, Satti Raju travels long distances by cycle."

Siddhani Ramalingam said, "I consider Satti Raju my Guru in technology. Whenever I face a technical problem, I seek his guidance."

Speaking about his brother's skills, G. Satyanarayana, a Mechanical Marine Engineer from Andhra University Engineering College and AMIE (London), who served as a Chief Engineer in foreign shipping companies, admired Satti Raju's natural talent and practical innovations despite his own global experience in marine technology. GK (Dr. G. Kondala Rao) said, "My father proved that knowledge is not limited to formal education. His courage, creativity and willingness to serve society should inspire future generations," he told True Point.

Satti Raju passed away in 2021 after more than eight decades of life, leaving behind a legacy of innovation, humanity and service. His journey reminds us that true heroes often live quietly among ordinary people, changing lives through extraordinary deeds.





Laxman Starts New Recognition Tradition

Former India batting great VVS Laxman has introduced a new recognition award for the Indian cricket team following their convincing victory over Zimbabwe in the first T20I. The initiative aims to honour players who make exceptional contributions beyond just runs and wickets.

Unlike the traditional "Player of the Match" award, the newly introduced team medal is designed to recognize qualities such as commitment, selflessness, teamwork and overall impact on the game. The move reflects the team management's focus on celebrating efforts that often go unnoticed on the scorecard.

Following India's seven-wicket win in Harare, Tilak Varma was named the first recipient of the special medal. Although he did not produce the biggest statistical performance of the match, the management appreciated his all-round contribution, positive attitude and role in helping the team secure a comfortable victory.

The medal was presented inside the dressing room by VVS Laxman, who is accompanying the Indian team during the Zimbabwe tour. Players ap-

plauded the initiative, with many welcoming the concept of rewarding dedication, discipline and team-first performances.

The dressing-room ceremony added another memorable moment to India's successful outing, which also saw teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi script history with a blistering half-century and Mayank Yadav make a successful comeback with an impressive spell of fast bowling.

The introduction of the medal is expected to motivate players to value every contribution, whether it comes through batting, bowling, fielding or supporting teammates. Team management believes such recognition helps build a stronger dressing-room culture where collective success is valued above individual achievements.

India currently lead the three-match T20I series 1-0, and the players will look to carry the winning momentum into the remaining matches. Alongside the on-field success, the new medal tradition has already become a talking point, with fans praising the effort to acknowledge the unsung heroes of the team.



Communication Error Costs Jhandu Kumar Commonwealth Gold

India's para powerlifter Jhandu Kumar came agonisingly close to winning the Commonwealth Games 2026 gold medal, but a crucial miscommunication during his final attempt proved costly, according to his coach.

Jhandu eventually settled for the bronze medal in the men's heavyweight para powerlifting event, earning India its first medal of the Games. However, the result could have been even better had the team executed its final strategy perfectly.

Coach Jitender Pal Singh revealed that Jhandu was firmly in contention for the gold medal after his successful lifts. The team had planned their final attempt carefully, but a communication error regarding the weight selection and competition situation affected their strategy at a decisive moment.

According to the coach, the support staff believed a particular lift would be enough to secure the top position. However, developments in the competition meant a different approach was required. By the time the confusion was cleared, the opportunity to challenge for gold had slipped away. Jhandu successfully lifted 190kg in his second attempt and then went for 196kg in pursuit of the title. Unfortunately, he could not complete the lift, finishing with the bronze medal after an impressive perfor-

mance throughout the event.

Despite the disappointment, Coach Jitender Pal Singh praised Jhandu's effort and described para powerlifting as one of the toughest disciplines in para sports. He said winning a medal at the Commonwealth Games itself is a remarkable achievement and reflects an athlete's ability to compete with the world's best.

The coach also pointed out that the Indian camp had high expectations because para powerlifters have consistently delivered medals for the country at previous Commonwealth Games. While missing out on gold was frustrating, he expressed pride in Jhandu's resilience and fighting spirit.

Jhandu's journey to the podium has been nothing short of inspirational. Hailing from Bihar, he overcame polio, financial hardships and years of struggle, including selling vegetables and driving an e-rickshaw to support himself while pursuing his sporting dreams.

Although the bronze medal came with a sense of missed opportunity, Jhandu's performance has established him as one of India's leading para powerlifters. Both the athlete and his coach remain optimistic that the experience will serve as valuable motivation as they now set their sights on future international competitions and an even bigger prize on the world stage.

Gambhir Faces Criticism Over Vaibhav's Exclusion

India head coach Gautam Gambhir has come under intense criticism following the team's handling of teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi during the recent T20I series. Several former cricketers have questioned the frequent changes in the playing XI, arguing that the young batter has not been given enough opportunities to settle at the international level.

The debate began after India shuffled its opening combination multiple times during the series. Vaibhav, who was handed an opportunity after Sanju Samson was left out, featured in a few matches before being dropped again, prompting questions about the team's selection strategy.

Former India captain Kris Srikkanth strongly criticized the decision-making, asking what mistake the 15-year-old had made to deserve such treatment. He argued that young cricketers need a longer run to build confidence and prove themselves at the highest level, rather than being judged after only a handful of innings.

Former India batter Mohammad Kaif also voiced his concerns, describing the handling



of both Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Sanju Samson as "unprofessional." According to Kaif, constant chopping and changing can hurt a player's confidence and create uncertainty within the dressing room.

Adding to the criticism, former wicketkeeper Parthiv Patel questioned whether the decision to pick Vaibhav ahead of Samson was based more on emotion than cricketing logic. He felt the team management needed a clearer long-term plan while grooming young talent.

Despite the criticism, Gambhir has defended the team's approach. The India coach said selections are made purely on the basis of team combination and current form, emphasizing that international cricket is

about producing results rather than guaranteeing places to individual players. He also maintained that every player must earn the right to represent the country.

The controversy has triggered widespread debate among cricket experts and fans. While many believe young players should be backed with consistent opportunities, others feel team management must retain the flexibility to make tactical changes based on match conditions and performance.

As discussions continue, the spotlight remains firmly on India's selection policy and the manner in which the next generation of cricketers is being nurtured at the international level.



Shreyas Iyer Gets First Win as T20I Captain

India's emphatic victory over Zimbabwe in the first T20I has not only ended a long wait for Shreyas Iyer's maiden win as T20I captain but has also drawn praise from former cricketers, who believe the breakthrough victory could transform the team's confidence.

Former India opener Aakash Chopra used a unique analogy to describe the importance of the win. He remarked that when someone has been waiting for success for a long time, even "leftover food tastes like a wedding feast." The comment reflected how significant the victory was for Iyer after enduring a difficult start to his captaincy.

Shreyas Iyer had gone through seven T20 International without registering a win as captain, making the triumph over Zimbabwe a major relief. Under his leadership, India produced a dominant all-round performance, comfortably chasing down the target after the bowlers restricted the hosts to a modest total.

Aakash Chopra pointed out that the first victory often removes immense pressure from a captain's shoulders. According to him, once a captain gets that breakthrough win, decision-making becomes easier and the team starts playing with greater freedom and confidence.

The former batter also praised India's overall performance, highlighting the contributions

from both the bowling and batting units. He felt the victory showcased the depth of India's young squad and reflected the team's ability to bounce back strongly after recent setbacks.

One of the biggest positives from the match was the performance of teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, whose fearless batting impressed cricket fans and experts alike. The youngster's confident approach added momentum to India's chase and strengthened the belief that the next generation is ready to make its mark at the international level.

Shreyas Iyer, meanwhile, expressed happiness after finally registering his first victory as India's T20I captain. He credited the bowlers for setting up the match and appreciated the team's collective effort in securing a comfortable win.

The result has injected fresh confidence into the Indian camp ahead of the remaining matches of the series. Cricket experts believe the victory could mark the beginning of a successful captaincy stint for Iyer, who will now look to build momentum and guide the team to a series win.

With pressure finally lifted, all eyes will now be on Shreyas Iyer as he aims to carry forward the winning momentum and establish himself as a dependable leader for India's young T20 side.



Mayank Advised to Leave Lucknow Super Giants

India's express pacer Mayank Yadav has received some surprising advice following his impressive comeback in the first T20I against Zimbabwe. Former India cricketer Atul Wassen believes the young speedster should consider leaving Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) to join a franchise where he can play more regularly in the IPL.

Mayank marked his return to international cricket in style after a long injury layoff. Bowling with his trademark pace, he picked up 2 wickets for 18 runs and was named Player of the Match, reminding everyone why he is regarded as one of India's fastest bowlers.

Impressed by the performance, Wassen said Mayank's biggest priority should now be getting consistent game time. He argued that spending long periods on the bench could hamper the development of a fast bowler who needs regular match practice to improve rhythm, fitness and confidence.

According to Wassen, Mayank has the ability to become one of India's premier fast bowlers, but only if he is given enough opportunities to bowl in competitive matches. He suggested that a move to another IPL franchise could provide the youngster with a bigger role and help him grow into a complete international bowler.

Mayank's IPL career has been interrupted by recurring inju-

ries, limiting his appearances over the past two seasons. However, his return against Zimbabwe showed encouraging signs, as he consistently bowled at high pace while maintaining accuracy and control throughout his spell.

The Delhi pacer later admitted that his two-year injury break was the toughest phase of his career. He said the dream of representing India kept him motivated during rehabilitation and helped him overcome the mental challenges of repeated setbacks.

India's team management has also expressed confidence in Mayank's abilities, with captain Shreyas Iyer backing the young pacer and giving him the freedom to execute his plans during the Zimbabwe match.

With India's pace attack undergoing a transition, Mayank is seen as one of the country's brightest fast-bowling prospects. If he can remain injury-free and continue receiving regular opportunities, experts believe he has the potential to become a key member of India's bowling unit across formats.

For now, the focus remains on managing his workload carefully while ensuring he gets enough competitive cricket to fulfil his immense potential. The debate over whether he should continue with Lucknow Super Giants or seek a fresh start elsewhere is likely to continue in the coming months.

Ashwin Doubts Shami's 2027 World Cup Chances

Veteran Indian fast bowler Mohammed Shami's chances of playing the 2027 ODI World Cup have become a major talking point, with former India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin expressing doubts over the pacer's return to the 50-over setup.

Ashwin believes Shami's omission from recent ODI squads was not surprising and suggested that the selectors are already looking ahead to the next generation of fast bowlers. According to him, the key concern is whether Shami can maintain the pace, rhythm and workload required to remain effective until the 2027 World Cup. The former off-spinner pointed out that fast bowlers face a much greater physical challenge than batters. While senior batters can extend their careers with experience and technique, pacers have to consistently handle heavy workloads, making long-term planning much more difficult.

Ashwin also noted that the selectors appear to be building a pace attack around Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana and other emerging bowlers. In his view, India's management is investing in players who are expected to peak by the time the



2027 World Cup arrives.

Shami has been one of India's finest ODI bowlers over the past decade. He was the highest wicket-taker in the 2023 ODI World Cup, playing a crucial role in India's run to the final. However, injuries have limited his international appearances in recent seasons, forcing him to spend significant time away from the national team.

Despite performing well in domestic cricket and continuing to prove his fitness, Shami has struggled to regain a regular place in India's ODI squad. His exclusion has sparked debate among fans and former cricketers, many of whom believe his experience could still

be valuable in major ICC tournaments. Ashwin, however, feels the selectors are thinking beyond immediate performances and are focused on preparing a squad capable of competing in the next World Cup cycle. According to him, the decision is based more on long-term planning than on Shami's individual ability.

Although Shami has not announced any plans to retire from international cricket, his road back to India's ODI team appears increasingly challenging. Whether the experienced pacer can force his way back into contention will depend on his fitness, form and the opportunities he receives over the next year.

Brazil Set for Blockbuster Football Friendly in Kolkata

Football fans in India could soon witness one of the biggest international sporting events ever held in the country, with Brazil reportedly in advanced talks to play an international friendly in Kolkata later this year.

According to reports, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) is close to finalising an agreement with Indian organisers for a high-profile match during the FIFA international window in early October 2026. Only the final contractual formalities are said to be pending before an official announcement is made.

Kolkata has emerged as the frontrunner to host the blockbuster fixture, adding another memorable chapter to the city's rich footballing history. If confirmed, it would mark one of the most significant appearances by the Brazilian national team on Indian soil.

Reports suggest that organisers from Bangladesh, Singapore and Qatar had also expressed interest in hosting Brazil during the same international window. However, negotiations with Indian organisers progressed the furthest, with Brazil reportedly preferring a single additional match to avoid excessive travel for the squad.



One key detail is yet to be finalised—the identity of Brazil's opponent. While speculation is rife that India could face the five-time FIFA World Cup champions, there has been no official confirmation regarding the opposing team.

The proposed visit comes after Brazil's campaign at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, where the team was eliminated in the Round of 16. The friendly is expected to be part of Brazil's preparations for upcoming international competitions under head coach Carlo Ancelotti.

The decision to play in India is also believed to have been influenced by the tremendous support Brazil received from Indian football fans during the World Cup. Images and videos of thousands of supporters wearing Brazil jer-

seys and celebrating the Seleção went viral on social media, highlighting the country's massive fan following in India.

For Kolkata, the match would revive its long-standing connection with Brazilian football. The city has shared a special bond with the South American giants ever since Pelé visited in 1977 to play an exhibition match against Mohun Bagan, making Brazil one of the most passionately supported international teams in the region.

If the agreement is finalised, the match is expected to attract thousands of fans from across the country and could become one of the biggest football spectacles ever staged in India, further boosting the sport's popularity and global profile.



Sai Pallavi in Talks for Kishore Tirumala's Next

Director Kishore Tirumala is reportedly planning an exciting new project, and if everything falls into place, Sai Pallavi could headline the film. According to industry buzz, the filmmaker has prepared a woman-centric story and is keen to cast the National Award-winning actress in the lead role.

Kishore Tirumala, known for blending strong emotions with engaging storytelling, is said to have narrated the concept to Sai Pallavi. While there has been no official confirmation from the actress or the makers, discussions are reportedly underway, and the team is optimistic about taking the project forward if schedules align.

Sai Pallavi has built a reputation for choosing performance-oriented roles over conventional commercial entertainers. Her preference for content-driven cinema makes her a fitting choice for a female-led story, and fans are already expressing excitement over the possible collaboration. The proposed film is expected to revolve around a powerful female protagonist, with the script focusing on emotions and meaningful storytelling rather than routine commercial elements. If Sai Pallavi gives her nod, the project is likely to generate significant buzz among audiences.

Meanwhile, Kishore Tirumala recently directed Bhartha Mahasayulaku Wignyaipathi, and reports suggest he has already begun developing his next venture. Bringing Sai Pallavi on board is said to be one of his top priorities.

As of now, no official announcement has been made regarding the cast, production banner, shooting schedule or release date. Fans will have to wait for confirmation from the makers to know whether this much-talked-about collaboration becomes a reality.



'Konchem Konchem' From Nenu Ready Out

The makers of Nenu Ready have kick-started the film's musical promotions by releasing the first single, "Konchem Konchem," a breezy romantic track that is already grabbing attention for its catchy tune, sizzling visuals and glamorous presentation.

Featuring Havish and Kavya Thapar, the song showcases the romantic chemistry between the lead pair through stylish visuals and an upbeat melody. Adding to the excitement is Bollywood actress Nargis Fakhri, who makes her Telugu debut with a special appearance in the song. Her glamorous dance performance has emerged as one of the biggest highlights, enhancing the song's visual appeal.

Music director Mickey J Meyer has composed an easy-on-the-ears romantic number with a youthful vibe. Penned by Ramajogayya Sastry and sung by Sameera Bharadwaj, the track blends melody with playful romance, making it an

instant favourite among music lovers.

Directed by Trinadha Rao Nakkina, Nenu Ready is positioned as a wholesome commercial entertainer. The film stars Havish and Kavya Thapar in the lead roles, while Brahmanandam, Vennela Kishore, Murali Sharma, Sriakashmi and several others play important supporting characters.

The promotional content released so far has generated positive buzz, and the release of "Konchem Konchem" has further raised expectations for the film's soundtrack. With its catchy composition, glamorous visuals and energetic choreography, the song is expected to become a popular chartbuster.

As the promotional campaign gathers momentum, the makers are expected to announce the film's theatrical release date soon. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the remaining songs, trailer and other promotional material from Nenu Ready.

Nara Rohith's Next Titled Sound Engineer

Actor Nara Rohith is all set to entertain audiences with a fresh and unique project. On the occasion of his birthday, the makers officially unveiled the film's title and first-look poster, revealing that the movie has been titled "Sound Engineer."

The first-look poster features Nara Rohith in the role of a sound engineer, hinting at a content-driven story set against the backdrop of the audio recording world. The interesting title and intriguing poster have already generated curiosity among movie lovers.

Adding to the excitement, acclaimed music composer Yuvan Shankar Raja has been roped in to score the soundtrack and background music. His association with the project has significantly raised expectations, as



fans anticipate a memorable musical experience.

The film is being directed by Satish Vegesna, who is known for delivering family-oriented entertainers with strong emotional content. The makers believe that the fresh concept, combined with Nara Rohith's performance and Yuvan Shankar Raja's music, will offer audiences a distinctive cinematic experience.

The project is currently in the production stage, and the

team is expected to announce the remaining cast, teaser, and release date in the coming months.

After making a successful comeback with recent projects, Nara Rohith appears to be focusing on scripts that offer unconventional characters. With "Sound Engineer," the actor is once again stepping into a role that promises something different from routine commercial entertainers.

The combination of an intriguing premise, an experienced director, and Yuvan Shankar Raja's chartbuster music has already made the film one of the most talked-about upcoming Telugu projects. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the teaser to get a glimpse of what the makers have in store.

Ranabaali Eyes Festival Release

Vijay Deverakonda's much-awaited period action drama Ranabaali is reportedly set for a grand release during one of the biggest festival seasons if the current schedule undergoes changes.

According to industry reports, the makers are evaluating the film's release strategy to ensure it reaches audiences during a festive holiday period, allowing it to capitalize on extended weekends and higher footfalls at theatres. While the film is presently scheduled to hit the big screens on September 11, 2026, discussions are said to be underway regarding alternative festival release windows if required.

Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, Ranabaali is one of the most ambitious films in Vijay Deverakonda's career. The period drama is set against the backdrop



of British rule in India and promises a powerful story packed with action, emotion and historical elements.

The film reunites Vijay Deverakonda with actress Rash screen chemistry has already won audiences' appreciation in previous films. International actor Arnold Vosloo plays the primary antagonist, while the music is composed by

the celebrated duo Ajay-Atul.

Backed by Mythri Movie Makers and presented by T-Series, the film has generated significant buzz ever since its title and first glimpse were unveiled. The makers are reportedly keen to ensure the film gets the best possible release window to maximize its box-office potential.

Although no official announcement has been made regarding a change in release date, fans are eagerly awaiting clarity from the production house. Whether Ranabaali arrives as scheduled or shifts to a major festival season, expectations surrounding the film remain exceptionally high.

With its large-scale production, period setting and star-studded cast, Ranabaali is shaping up to be one of the biggest Telugu releases of the year.

Venky Atluri Credits Jyothika for Script Inputs

Suriya's upcoming family entertainer Viswanath & Sons has already generated strong expectations, and now an interesting behind-the-scenes revelation has added to the excitement.

Director Venky Atluri recently revealed that actress Jyothika, who is also Suriya's wife, listened to the script and offered valuable suggestions during the development stage. According to the director, her feedback proved extremely useful in refining the film.

Venky Atluri shared that Jyothika particularly enjoyed the first half of the story and appreciated its emotional depth. After hearing the narration, she suggested a few changes that the team found constructive. However, the director chose not to reveal what those suggestions were, saying he would discuss them only after the film's release to avoid revealing key plot details.

The revelation has sparked



curiosity among fans, as Jyothika is widely known for her strong script selection and cinematic understanding. Many believe her creative inputs could have further strengthened the emotional impact of the film.

Viswanath & Sons stars Suriya in the lead role, with Mamitha Baiju playing the female lead. The film also features Radhika Sarathkumar and Raveena Tandon in pivotal roles. Directed by Venky Atluri, the movie is produced by Sithara



Ramayana Gears Up for Global Release

Director Nitesh Tiwari's magnum opus Ramayana is already one of the most talked-about Indian films ever made, and now its promotional campaign is creating headlines even before the movie reaches theatres.

According to the latest industry reports, the makers have earmarked nearly USD 40 million (around 350 crore) exclusively for the film's global marketing and promotional activities. The enormous promotional budget reflects the team's ambition to position Ramayana as a worldwide cinematic event rather than just another Indian release.

The film recently made a grand appearance at San Diego Comic-Con, where the cast and crew unveiled exclusive footage and interacted with fans from across the globe. The international launch is seen as the first major step in an extensive worldwide promotional campaign aimed at building anticipation among global audiences.

Starring Ranbir Kapoor as

Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita and Yash as Ravana, Ramayana is being mounted on a massive scale with cutting-edge visual effects and international production standards. The film also features Sunny Deol as Hanuman in a pivotal role.

Produced by Namit Malhotra's Prime Focus Studios in association with Monster Mind Creations, the mythological epic is planned as a two-part franchise. The first installment is scheduled for release during Diwali 2026, while the second part is expected to arrive in Diwali 2027.

With a record-breaking promotional budget, a star-studded cast and an ambitious global marketing strategy, Ramayana is shaping up to be one of the biggest cinematic events in the history of Indian cinema. Industry observers believe the unprecedented promotional campaign could help the film reach audiences far beyond the traditional Indian market.



the film.

Industry observers feel that Anirudh's background score could play a crucial role in enhancing the film's emotional and action sequences on the big screen. His collaborations with leading filmmakers have consistently produced memorable soundtracks, and expectations are equally high for DC.

The film stars Lokesh Kanagaraj in the lead role alongside Wamiqa Gabbi, with

Sanjana Krishnamoorthy playing another important character. Directed by Arun Matheswaran and produced by Sun Pictures, DC promises an action-packed cinematic experience.

With the music already receiving a positive response, fans are now eagerly waiting to see whether Anirudh's soundtrack becomes one of the biggest highlights of the film when DC arrives in theatres.