

APSCHE Workshop To Promote Design Thinking In Higher Education Leadership

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE), in collaboration with Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, and sponsored by RUSA 2.0, is conducting a two-day workshop on “Design Thinking in Higher Education for Vice-Chancellors of Andhra Pradesh” at Fortune Murali Park, Vijayawada, on July 29-30, 2026.

The workshop brings together Vice-Chancellors of 30 State Universities and senior APSCHE officials for collaborative activities focused on institutional innovation and problem-solving. Organised under the guidance of Prof. K. Madhu Murthy, Chairman, APSCHE, the programme aims to equip university leaders with Design Thinking methodologies to improve governance, teaching-learning, research, innovation and student engagement.

Sessions are being conducted by Dr. Mohan Kancharla, an internationally certified Design Thinking expert. The workshop covers the five stages of Design Thinking—Empathy, Define, Ideate, Prototype and Test—through practical exercises on governance, digital transformation, industry collaboration and student success.

Aligned with NEP 2020, APSCHE said the initiative will strengthen leadership capacity and promote innovation-driven governance across higher education institutions in Andhra Pradesh.



State Prepares Action Plan To Control Zoonotic Diseases

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh government has initiated steps to prepare a State Action Plan to identify and control zoonotic diseases, which spread from animals to humans. The plan will focus on high-risk diseases and strengthen prevention, surveillance, testing and emergency response systems.

A three-day workshop on ‘One Health: Prioritization of Zoonotic Diseases and Development of State Action Plan’ began in Vijayawada under the State Health and Family Welfare Department in collaboration with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) under the Union Ministry of Health. Technical support is being provided by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with Jhpiego assisting the programme.

Officials from Health, Animal Husbandry, Forest, Environ-

ment, Agriculture and Fisheries departments, along with medical and veterinary experts, reviewed a preliminary list of 45 diseases, including scrub typhus, anthrax, dengue, Zika, COVID-19 and rabies.

Experts suggested improving surveillance, testing facilities, emergency response, information sharing, training and public awareness.

The workshop was attended by Dr. Damodar Naidu, Director, Animal Husbandry Department, Dr. Sukarma S.S. Tanwar, Dr. Jitesh Kuvatada, Assistant Director, NCDC, Dr. Ravinder Pal Singh, Public Health Specialist, Dr. Prashanthi, HOD of Microbiology, Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, Professor Anand of Veterinary University and others.

Dr. Subrahmanyeswari, Additional Director of the Disease Control Programme, stressed the importance of inter-departmental coordination in preventing zoonotic diseases.



New CEDM Office Building To Be Inaugurated

Mangalagiri: Minister for Minority Welfare and Law N.M.D. Farooq will inaugurate the new office building of the Centre for Educational Development of Minorities (CEDM)-AP at Vaddeswaram under the Mangalagiri-Tadepalli Municipal Corporation limits on Wednesday. Established at Osmania University in 1994, CEDM-AP has developed into a modern institution with smart classrooms, a digital library, studio facilities and a dedicated app. The centre provides free coaching for UPSC, APPSC, DSC and NEET examinations. Recently, 152 candidates cleared the DSC examination, while several others succeeded in APPSC, Police recruitment and TET exams. The institution also recorded an 87% pass rate in 2025-26 SSC Urdu medium examinations. CEDM aims to support minority youth in achieving their career goals.

APGEA Seeks Resolution Of Employee Concerns

Amaravati: Representatives of the Andhra Pradesh Government Employees Association (APGEA) met PR&RD Commissioner V.R. Krishna Teja Mylavaram and discussed various issues faced by employees in the Panchayat Raj Department. APGEA State President K.R. Suryanarayana and Panchayat Raj Wing State Chairman Nagineni Srinivasa Rao met the Commissioner and brought employee concerns to his notice, seeking appropriate measures for their resolution. Later, the representatives presented a sapling to the Commissioner and conveyed their wishes. APGEA-Panchayat Raj Wing expressed gratitude to the Commissioner for responding positively to the issues raised by employees.

Pawan Kalyan Seeks Action Over Quality Issues In Pedapenki Works

Parvathipuram Manyam, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan expressed dissatisfaction over quality issues identified in development works at Pedapenki village in Parvathipuram Manyam district and ordered action against the contractor based on the Quality Control officers' report.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed the District Collector and Panchayat Raj Engineering Department officials to stop processing bills related to the concerned road works. The action follows complaints over cracks appearing in newly constructed



cement concrete roads in the village.

Following the issue, the State-level Chief Quality Control Officer conducted a field inspection at Pedapenki. The inspection revealed quality defects in five CC road works. Based on the report, Pawan Kalyan instructed officials to initiate necessary action against

the contractor responsible for the works.

He held a review meeting with the Parvathipuram Manyam District Collector and Panchayat Raj Engineering Department officials on the progress of development works in the village. He directed officials to speed up the completion of road works and 'Magic Drain' construction.

Pawan Kalyan said negligence in providing quality infrastructure would not be tolerated and instructed officials to strictly maintain quality standards in all development projects. He also suggested that the local MLA supervise the ongoing development works in Pedapenki.

CPI Demands Withdrawal Of Student Cases

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

CPI National Secretary K. Ramakrishna criticised the felicitation of former Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in Parliament, stating that it was shameful after his resignation following nationwide student protests over NEET issues.

Addressing a press conference at Dasari Bhavan in Vijayawada, Ramakrishna demanded immediate withdrawal of cases filed against students and called for the abolition of the National Testing



Agency (NTA) and withdrawal of the National Education Policy 2020. He alleged that the education system was being weakened through corporatisation and commercialisation.

He also demanded action against BJP MP Visweswar Reddy

Farmers Advised To Grow Fodder Crops Amid El Niño Concerns

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Animal Husbandry Department has advised livestock farmers in Andhra Pradesh to take preventive measures against possible fodder shortages due to anticipated El Niño conditions and below-normal rainfall forecasts.

The Department encouraged farmers with assured irrigation and water resources to cultivate high-yielding fodder crops instead of water-intensive crops like paddy. It advised farmers to adopt intensive livestock management practices to maintain animal

productivity.

As part of the action plan, the Department will conduct awareness programmes on cultivation of fodder crops including Maize, Fodder Sorghum, Bajra, Napier-Bajra Hybrid (CO-4/CO-5), Guinea Grass and Hedge Lucerne. It will also ensure timely supply of fodder seeds and organise training programmes on preparation and storage of Silage and Hay.

Farmers have been advised to allocate a portion of their agricultural land for fodder cultivation, preserve surplus fodder and use stored feed during summer and drought conditions. The Depart-

ment also suggested maintaining animal health through proper shade, clean drinking water and ventilation. The Department highlighted that PMDS (Pre-Monsoon Dry Sowing) fodder crops can serve as nutritious livestock feed and reduce feeding costs. Quality fodder supply can improve milk production, animal health and farmers' income.

Director of Animal Husbandry Dr. T. Damodara Naidu said farmers should strictly follow the advisory to ensure sustainable livestock production and stable incomes even during adverse climatic conditions.

Skill Education To Be Expanded In AP Government Schools: Samagra Shiksha

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Samagra Shiksha State Project Director B. Srinivasa Rao said the primary objective is to ensure that every student in government schools acquires at least one employable vocational skill before completing school education.

Addressing the inaugural session of a three-day State-Level Key Resource Persons (KRP) Training Programme at YES-J Centre for Excellence, Loyola

Campus, Vijayawada, he said skill education is being implemented for Classes VI to XII students in 1,599 government schools across Andhra Pradesh during the 2026-27 academic year.

The programme is being organised by Samagra Shiksha, Andhra Pradesh, in collaboration with Lend A Hand India, Pune. Srinivasa Rao said the 'Kaushal Bodh' curriculum developed by NCERT is being implemented as a pre-vocational education programme for Classes VI to VIII in

line with NEP 2020 and NCF-SE 2023.

He announced that the honorarium period for Vocational Trainers and Vocational Coordinators has been extended from 10 months to 12 months. The government is also providing skill laboratories, equipment, textbooks and pre-vocational kits.

The training is attended by 28 DIET faculty members and 56 Vocational Trainers. State GCDO V.S.N. Murthy and other officials participated.

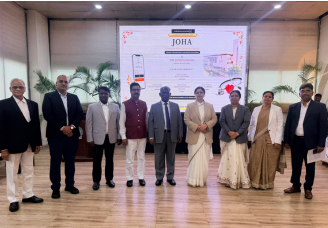
HC Launches ‘JOHA’ App For Cashless Medical Services

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The High Court of Andhra Pradesh has launched 'JOHA', a special application developed for providing cashless medical services to judicial officers, marking the first such initiative in the country.

Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh Justice Lisa Gill inaugurated the application at the High Court premises on Tuesday. She said the initiative would greatly benefit judicial officers who are continuously working in the service of justice.

Justice Lisa Gill said the scheme



was formulated in accordance with the Supreme Court judgment in the All India Judges Association case, with the support of the State Government, to provide cashless healthcare facilities to judicial officers.

Justice Battu Devanand, Judge of the High Court and Chairman of the High Court Judges' Commit-

tee constituted for the welfare of district-level judicial officers, said serving judicial officers, retired judicial officers and their dependent family members would be able to conveniently access cashless medical services through the application. He appreciated the support extended by NTR Health Trust and government officials in developing the application.

The programme was attended by Justice B.V.L.N. Chakravarti, Justice Dr. Venkata Jyothirmas Pratapa, Justice T.C.D. Sekhar, other High Court Judges, Law Secretary, Finance Secretary, Chairman of NTR Health Trust and other dignitaries.

CPI Seeks Measures To Support Farmers Amid El Niño Conditions

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

CPI National Secretary K. Ramakrishna urged Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu to take immediate steps to support farmers facing rainfall deficit due to El Niño conditions.

Ramakrishna met the Chief Minister at the State Secretariat on Tuesday and submitted a representation seeking measures for promoting alternative



crop cultivation. He said 21 districts in Andhra Pradesh recorded a 54% rainfall deficit, while 249 mandals were facing severe rain-deficit conditions, causing distress among farmers.

He also requested the government to prevent drinking water shortages in affected areas. Responding to the concerns, Chief Minister Chandrababu said the government was already focusing on El Niño-related issues and would conduct awareness programmes across the state from August 3.

The Chief Minister assured that necessary steps would be taken to address the issues raised.

Panel To Make Efforts To Save ₹2000 Cr Land In Gajuwaka

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Petitions K. Raghu Ramakrishna Raju said efforts would be made to protect 174.43 acres of land in Gajuwaka constituency of Visakhapatnam district, valued at around 2,000 crore, from attachment by banks.

Addressing the media at the Assembly on Tuesday after a meeting of the Committee on Petitions, K. Raghu Ramakrishna Raju said the state government had originally allotted the land to AP Refractories for establishing an industry. However, following the company's bankruptcy, the land is now facing the risk of attachment.

He said the committee discussed issues related to AP Refractories land and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant rehabilitation cards (R-cards). A meeting with senior officials and bankers would be conducted in the first week of August to explore solu-



tions and resolve the matter.

MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao, a member of the Assembly Committee on Petitions, said the bankruptcy of AP Refractories had created a threat to valuable land located along National Highway-16. He objected to the process of confiscating land originally allotted for industrial development.

Srinivasa Rao also highlighted that regularisation of R-cards issued to people who surrendered their lands for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was pending for 1,203 beneficiaries. He urged officials to take steps to regularise the cases.

Committee members and MLAs Konathala Ramakrishna, Gurajala Jagan Mohan and Vishnu Kumar Raju participated in the meeting.

Seed Access Road Steel Bridge Works Progressing Rapidly

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Construction works on Phases 2 and 3 of the Seed Access Road, a key connectivity route to the capital city Amaravati, are progressing at a rapid pace. Amaravati Development Corporation (ADC) Chairperson and Managing Director D. Lakshmi Parthasarathi inspected the ongoing works on Tuesday and reviewed the progress of major infrastructure projects.

During the inspection, Lakshmi Parthasarathi directed representatives of the construction firm to speed up works on the 110-metre-long and 18-metre-wide steel bridge being constructed across Buckingham Canal at Undavalli. She also inspected the steel bridge works over Kondaveeti Vagu, which has a length of 284 metres and a width of 12 metres.

She instructed officials to complete the approach road works for the Kondaveeti Vagu bridge within the stipulated timeline. ADC Chief Engineer T. Moses Kumar was directed to accelerate Phase-2 works of the



Seed Access Road, particularly the stretch from Mantena Satyanarayana Raju Ashram to the Kondaveeti Vagu steel bridge.

Lakshmi Parthasarathi also instructed Horticulture Department officials to prepare plans for developing a 15-metre-wide green buffer zone along the road. Horticulture Department Deputy Director B. Srinivasulu was asked to plant flowering trees, including Spathodea and Cassia fistula varieties, in seven buffer areas on both sides of the Undavalli steel bridge.

ADC Superintending Engineer T. Vaikuntha Rao, Executive Engineer M. Sridhar Reddy, DEE Y. Appaji and Horticulture Senior Consultant Viswa Prasad participated in the inspection.

NHAI Steps Up Measures To Control Stray Animals On Highways

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU), Amaravati, of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has intensified measures to prevent stray animal movement on National Highways and improve commuter safety.

As part of its road safety initiatives, NHAI is continuously monitoring four vulnerable locations and three accident black spots on the Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada section of NH-16. Regular stray animal removal drives are also being conducted on the Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada section of NH-16, Chilakaluripet Bypass, Vijayawada Bypass and Giddalur-Vinukonda section of NH-544D.

Incident Management Teams, supported by Route Patrol Vehicles (RPVs), are carrying out round-the-clock patrolling in three shifts to identify and safely remove stray animals from highways. Wherever possible, the ani-

mals are returned to their owners.

The Incident Management Manager and Route Patrol Teams are conducting awareness programmes in nearby villages, advising livestock owners not to allow animals onto highways. NHAI is also coordinating with the Police Department, Municipal Authorities and Village Panchayats to strengthen preventive measures.

NHAI officials said most stray animals found on highways belong to nearby villagers and are usually allowed to graze openly along highway corridors. The authority urged livestock owners to prevent animals from entering National Highways.

Motorists have been advised to drive cautiously, follow speed limits and report stray animals or emergencies by dialling the 24x7 National Highway Emergency Helpline 1033. NHAI said continuous monitoring, public awareness and coordinated action will continue to enhance road safety.

Aryaman Vikram Birla Meets Minister Nara Lokesh

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Aryaman Vikram Birla from the Aditya Birla Group met HRD and IT Minister Nara Lokesh in Amaravati and held discussions on investment opportunities and industrial growth prospects in Andhra Pradesh. Lokesh said, "We exchanged ideas on Andhra Pradesh's vision to become a leading destination for manufacturing, clean energy, and high-value industry." He stated that the Aditya Birla Group



has already established a strong presence in the state and expressed optimism about exploring new avenues of partnership to accelerate Andhra Pradesh's growth journey.



Latur Delegation Visits Ambedkar Smriti Vanam

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

A delegation from Latur Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra, led by Mayor Balachandra Kamble, visited Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Smriti Vanam and Ambedkar Kalavedika in Vijayawada as part of a study tour on Tuesday.

The delegation, comprising corporators and officials, inspected the 210-foot statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at Smriti Vanam and reviewed its advanced facilities, including the experience theatre, landscaping, fountains, mural art, seminar hall, digital displays, and exhibitions highlighting Ambedkar's life and contributions. The team also enquired about the technology used in the construction of the statue.

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha explained the unique features, technical as-

pects, and public benefits of the Smriti Vanam and Ambedkar Kalavedika through a detailed presentation. He said Vijayawada represents modern development and highlighted that the Kalavedika showcases Andhra Pradesh's culture, history, and artistic heritage.

Mayor Balachandra Kamble appreciated the facilities and technical standards of the projects and invited Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha to the foundation ceremony of an upcoming Ambedkar statue project in Latur.

Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha presented replicas of the Ambedkar statue as mementoes to the Latur delegation. Several Vijayawada Municipal Corporation officials and representatives participated in the programme.



Insurance Cheque Handed Over to Family of Deceased Police Constable

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Police Commissioner S.V. Raja Sekhara Babu handed over an insurance cheque of Rs. 20.40 lakh to the family of Head Constable Mogili Prabhukumar, who died in a road accident.

As part of the Andhra Pradesh Police Department's welfare initiatives, a Group Personal Accident Insurance policy was arranged for police personnel through The New India Assurance Company Limited. The ini-

tiative aims to provide financial support to the families of police personnel who dedicate their services to public safety. Head Constable Mogili Prabhukumar (HC 4242), attached to Veerulapadu Police Station, lost his life in a road accident on April 26, 2026, while returning home after duty. The insurance cheque was presented to his son Mogili Akhil Babu at the Police Commissioner's office.

Admin DCP, K.G.V. Saritha, M. Somaya, President of NTR District Police Association, S.V. Subbarao, and other officials participated in the programme.



Annamayya Sankeertana Training Camp Concludes Today

Vijayawada: The concluding ceremony of the free Annamayya Sankeertana training camp will be held today at 6 PM at KBN College, Vijayawada. Organised from July 16 by the Department of Language and Culture, KBN College and Annamacharya Bhavanavahini under the supervision of Padma Shri awardee Dr. Sobha Raju, the camp trained around 200 participants. The concluding programme, titled 'Jagadguru Annamayya', will feature a collective performance of Annamayya's Sankeertanas by the trainees. Former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Minister for Culture Kandula Durgesh, NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha and State Creativity and Culture Commission Chairperson Podapati Tejaswi are expected to attend.

ECI Reviews ECINet Portal For Teachers' Election

Vijayawada: ECI Under Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh said ECINet is a unified digital platform integrating election-related services and stressed the need for officials to understand its features. During preparations for the Krishna-Guntur Teachers' Constituency election, the ECI team held a meeting at the NTR District Collectorate with District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha, EROs and AEROs. ECI IT Division consultant S.V. Mallikarjun explained ECINet features and electoral roll preparation procedures. Rajesh Kumar Singh stressed accurate voter lists and adherence to ECI guidelines. DRO M. Lakshminarasimham and RDOs participated.

Maruti Suzuki New Brezza Unveiled at Jayabheri Automotives

Guntur, July 28 | TPN Bureau
The new Maruti Suzuki Brezza, equipped with advanced technology, stylish design, and enhanced safety features, was unveiled at the Gorantla Jayabheri Automotives showroom on Tuesday. Prathipadu MLA Burla Ramanjaneyu-

lu, along with Mandal Party President Kalluri Srinivas and former ward corporator Balaji, launched the new model.

MLA Ramanjaneyulu praised Maruti Suzuki for its reliability, mileage, and customer-focused approach. He highlighted that the New Brezza

achieved a 5-star safety rating in Adult Occupant Protection and Child Occupant Protection categories under Bharat NCAP tests.

Maruti Suzuki Territory Manager Karthikeya Sharma and Jayabheri Automotives General Manager Vijay Kumar Reddy explained the ve-

hicle's features, including six airbags, Electronic Stability Program, Hill Hold Assist, Blind Spot Warning, 360-degree camera, TPMS, and advanced safety technologies. Jayabheri Automotives CEO Sunny and other staff participated in the event.

Kondapalli Toys Get Export Promotion Support Under Centre's DEH Initiative

New Delhi, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Centre has taken steps to promote export growth by making every district an active partner through the 'Districts as Export Hubs' (DEH) initiative. Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada informed Parliament that District Export Promotion Committees (DEPCs) have been established across states and Union Territories to identify export



potential products and services.

The export potential of G-tagged Kondapalli wooden toys from NTR District was assessed through DEPC consultations. The District Export Action Plan focuses on raw material availa-

bility, design development, quality certification, packaging, logistics, and market linkages.

Responding to a question raised by MP Kesineni Chinni regarding support for Kondapalli toy artisans, the Minister said the cluster has been approved under the MSME Ministry's SFURTI scheme. The initiative provides support for common facilities, production infrastructure, skill development, toolkits, and market linkages to strengthen artisans and boost exports.

VMC Conducts Surprise Fire Safety Inspections Across City

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) conducted surprise fire safety inspections across the city to ensure public safety and compliance with fire prevention standards. The inspections were carried out under the supervision of Regional Fire Officer Ratna Babu, covering shopping malls, commercial complexes, office buildings, hospitals, educational institutions, hotels, and other high-footfall establishments.

As part of the drive, VMC fire personnel inspected Chen-



nai Shopping Mall on M.G. Road and examined fire safety equipment, alarm systems, smoke detectors, sprinklers, emergency exits, signage, and electrical safety arrangements.

Regional Fire Officer Ratna Babu directed building management to strictly follow fire

safety regulations, keep equipment ready for emergencies, and ensure evacuation routes remain clear. He advised regular maintenance of safety systems and training of staff on fire response measures.

Officials identified deficiencies during inspections and instructed managements to rectify them immediately. Warning that action would be taken against violations, VMC officials stated that fire safety inspections would continue across Vijayawada. Station Fire Officer Naresh and other fire department personnel participated.

Collector Directs Officials to Ensure Uninterrupted Drinking Water Supply

Machilipatnam, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Krishna District Collector DK Balaji directed officials to ensure uninterrupted drinking water supply in rural areas and complete Anganwadi infrastructure works on priority. He also stressed the need for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to improve competitiveness through quality standards, technology adoption and better market access.

Focus On Drinking Water And Rural Works

During a review meeting at the Collectorate with officials from Rural Water Supply (RWS), ICDS, District Panchayat and other departments, the Collector instructed officials to prepare action plans considering possible water scarcity due to deficient rainfall.

He directed officials to regularly monitor canal water flow and



keep alternative arrangements such as motors, pumps and tankers ready wherever required. Reviewing Individual Household Latrine (IHHL) works, DK Balaji ordered speedy completion of pending projects and construction of toilet facilities at Anganwadi centres. He advised departments to utilise Gram Panchayat funds if necessary to prevent delays.

RWS SE Somashekhar, EE Nataraj, ICDS PD MN Rani, DPO M Dhanalakshmi and other officials attended the meeting.

MSME Competitiveness To Be Strengthened

Later, the Collector inaugurated a two-day Vendor Development Program at Vijaya Sri Function Hall, Machilipatnam. The programme was organised under the RAMP scheme by MSME Tool Room-CITD, Hyderabad, in association with Andhra Pradesh MSME Development Corporation.

DK Balaji highlighted opportunities in imitation jewellery and Kalamkari sectors, identified under the One District-One Product (ODOP) initiative for Krishna district. He encouraged entrepreneurs to utilise government schemes, financial assistance, skill development programmes and export opportunities.

He urged MSMEs to participate in buyer-seller meets and establish direct connections with major organisations. Officials from MSME departments, KVIC, NSIC, AP Chambers, BEL and representatives from various business sectors participated.

Collector Inspects EVM, VVPAT Warehouse At Gollapudi

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha directed officials to maintain strict security and continuous monitoring at the EVM and VVPAT warehouse located at Gollapudi.

EVM, VVPAT Warehouse Inspection

As part of the monthly inspection process under Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines, Collector Lakshmisha inspected the warehouse on Tuesday along with representatives of recognised political parties. He checked CCTV cameras, fire safety systems and electrical equipment before signing the monitoring register.

The Collector said regular inspections of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)



units are being conducted as per ECI instructions. He directed security personnel to remain alert and ensure continuous surveillance.

DRO M. Lakshminarasimha and political party representatives, including Yedupati Ramayya (TDP), P. Suresh Babu (BJP), Y. Anjaneya Reddy (YSRCP), Muralikrishna (INC), Jagagam Srinivasa Rao (Jana Sena Party) and Pawan Karthik (BSP), participated.

Science Kits For Government Schools

Collector Lakshmisha distributed 'Science Genie Box' kits to

100 government schools at CVR Municipal High School, Vijayawada Urban. He said the kits would promote scientific thinking and experiential learning among students.

APCOST Member Secretary Dr. K. Sarath Kumar said the kits enable students to conduct 40 experiments and develop curiosity and innovation.

Farmer Welfare Measures

At DCC and DLRC meetings, the Collector directed officials and bankers to ensure 100% enrollment of farmers under PM Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) to protect crops from possible losses due to El Niño conditions.

He also reviewed tenant farmer CCRC cards, bank loans, housing progress and the annual credit plan. He advised farmers to adopt alternative crops and instructed banks to support agriculture and self-employment initiatives.

Ratan Tata Innovation Hub Launches AI Centre Of Excellence

Amaravati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Ratan Tata Innovation Hub (RTIH) has launched an Artificial Intelligence Centre of Excellence (AI CoE) to promote AI and DeepTech innovation in Andhra Pradesh.

Speaking at the inauguration, P. Dhatri Reddy, CEO of RTIH and Andhra Pradesh Innovation Society (APIS), said the AI Centres of Excellence at Amaravati and Visakhapatnam, supported by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the state ITE&C Department, will help establish Andhra Pradesh as a major AI innovation hub. The centres will provide

startups with advanced infrastructure, mentorship, technology commercialisation support, market access and industry-academia collaboration opportunities.

Ananth Kumar of SRM University stressed the importance of connecting research with commercialisation, while C. Aarthi Ram of Tamil Nadu AI Association highlighted customer-focused innovation. Krishna Priya Akella, Founder and CEO of Starbuzz.ai, explained startup benefits through GPU computing, API access and investor networks.

VIT-AP University's Ganesh Reddy Karri and RTIH Head of Incubation Tarun also participated in the programme.

Dr. NTR UHS Announces First Inter-Collegiate Cultural Meet-2026

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences (Dr. NTR UHS), Vijayawada, announced the first-ever 'Inter-Collegiate Cultural Meet-2026' aimed at promoting creativity, leadership, and overall personality development among future doctors. The curtain-raiser event was inaugurated at the university on Tuesday by Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Chandrasekhar and Registrar Dr. T. Sai Sudheer.

Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. Chandrasekhar said the university is focusing not only on academic excellence but also on encouraging students' artistic abilities, teamwork, leadership skills, and cultural interests. He stated that the event would provide a platform for students from affiliated medical and dental colleges across the state to showcase their talents and develop healthy com-



petitive spirit.

Registrar Dr. T. Sai Sudheer said participation in cultural activities improves confidence, communication skills, and team spirit among students.

The three-day state-level cultural festival will be held from August 12 to 14 at NRI Medical College, Chinakakani, Guntur district. Competitions including singing, classical dance, group dance, instrumental music, mono-acting, quiz, and yoga asanas will be conducted. University officials and NRI Medical College representatives participated in the programme.

Andhra Loyola College Seminar Highlights Airport Operations

Vijayawada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Department of BBA Aviation Management at Andhra Loyola College organised a seminar on "Travel Formalities and Airport Essentials: International Passenger Journey from Documentation to Destination," providing students insights into airport operations.

Vice Principal Fr. M. Arul Jothi inaugurated the programme and stressed the importance of industry-oriented learning for aviation professionals.

Resource person Waheed Shaikh, Duty Supervisor, Air India, and an alumnus of Andhra Loyola College, explained passenger procedures including documentation, check-in, baggage handling, immigration, customs and boarding. He shared practical experiences from airport operations.

Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Management, Dr. N. A. Francis Xavier, highlighted industry interaction, while Dr. P. Vasavi, Head of the BBA Aviation Management Department, said the seminar aimed to prepare students for aviation careers.

DYFI Announces Chalo Vijayawada Protest

Kakinada, July 28 | TPN Bureau

DYFI State Secretary G. Rammanna warned that unemployed youth will organize a 'Chalo Vijayawada' protest on July 30 if the state government fails to increase police constable recruitment posts to at least 10,000.

On Tuesday, DYFI-led unemployed aspirants staged a road protest in front of the Kakinada Collectorate, demanding a notification for the previously announced 11,639 police constable posts. The protesters alleged that the government's plan to issue no-

tification for only 2,500 posts ignores existing vacancies and the concerns of unemployed youth.

They demanded raising the upper age limit to 35 years, citing the absence of recruitment notifications for seven years. DYFI leaders said the Home Minister had earlier stated that nearly 19,999 vacancies existed, while the recruitment board had sought approval for 11,639 posts.

The protesters warned that unemployment issues would lead to a statewide movement if their demands were not addressed. DYFI and SFI leaders participated in the protest.

AP Urdu Academy Board Approves Key Development Initiatives

Mangalagiri, July 27 | TPN Bureau

The 22nd Board of Governors meeting of the Andhra Pradesh State Urdu Academy was held at the academy headquarters in Mangalagiri under the chairmanship of Honorary Urdu Academy Chairman Farooq Shibli. All agenda items were discussed and unanimously approved by the board members.

The meeting approved resolutions related to Urdu language development, skill enhancement programmes for minority youth, strengthening computer training centres, de-

velopment of Urdu libraries, service rules, compassionate appointments, literary publications, and implementation of central government schemes.

The board decided to submit proposals to the government for amendments to existing G.O.s to improve management of Urdu Ghar-cum-Shadikhana, preserve assets, increase revenue, and ensure better services.

It also decided to begin ADCA and Multi Language DTP courses from August 15, 2026, in all 36 computer training centres across the state. Officials were directed to implement the decisions promptly.

Kapu Politics Heat Up In Andhra Pradesh

TDP Faces Internal Debate Over Bonda Uma Remarks

Ravi Podili

The political temperature in Andhra Pradesh has risen around the Kapu community, with the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) facing internal discussions after remarks made by Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao at a memorial meeting held for former minister Mudragada Padmanabha Reddy. The event, organised under the banner of Kapu Aikya Vedika (Kapu United Forum), saw leaders from different political parties sharing the stage, including Bonda Umamaheswara Rao and former YSRCP minister Ambati Rambabu.

Bonda's comments at the meeting triggered a political debate after he stated that the agitation led by Mudragada Padmanabha Reddy had played a crucial role in the change of government in Andhra Pradesh in

2019. His remarks that the Kapu community was once again experiencing dissatisfaction and unrest drew attention within political circles, particularly in the TDP.

Following the widespread circulation of videos showing Bonda sharing the stage with Ambati Rambabu and his remarks going viral on social media, the TDP leadership stepped in. The party issued a show-cause notice to Bonda seeking an explanation for his comments and constituted a three-member committee comprising TDP State President Palla Srinivasa Rao, Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, and Kiluru Rajesh to examine the issue.

Bonda appeared before the committee and submitted his explanation. Responding to the controversy, he said his remarks were deliberately distorted by some sections and maintained that he had not violated party



discipline. He stated that he had only highlighted the ground realities and would meet Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu if required to explain the facts.

Former YSRCP minister Ambati Rambabu also reacted to the controversy, criticising the TDP's stand. He remarked that the party's disciplinary rules appeared to apply only to leaders like Bonda, while questioning whether similar standards were followed by Chandrababu Naidu.

Recalling Chandrababu's interaction with the media alongside Vijayasai Reddy during actor Tarakaratna's illness, Ambati said political differences should not be projected against Bonda.

Meanwhile, Kapu leaders from different parties have continued their participation in community programmes. Vangaveeti Radha and Jyothula Nehru recently attended Kapu JAC events in the Godavari region, following which Bonda's supporters questioned on social media whether such participation was different from his appearance at the memorial meeting.

The developments have created speculation over possible disciplinary action against Bonda. However, the Vijayawada Central MLA has maintained that he did not cross the party line. The issue gained further significance after Chandrababu Naidu

held a teleconference with ministers, MLAs, and senior party leaders, directing them not to share platforms with YSRCP leaders and warning of disciplinary action for violating party instructions.

The controversy has also highlighted concerns among some Kapu leaders within the TDP over political representation and prominence. Leaders from the YSRCP have alleged that the TDP leadership is targeting Bonda due to his remarks on Kapu issues, while claiming that former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy had given greater importance to the community during his tenure.

With Kapu politics once again becoming a key factor in Andhra Pradesh, all eyes are now on how the TDP leadership manages the internal concerns and political reactions surrounding the issue.

Rammohan Naidu Reviews PM Visit Arrangements

Bhogapuram, July 28| TPN Bureau



Union Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu reviewed the arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to inaugurate the newly constructed Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram on August 1. After arriving from Delhi, the Union Minister inspected the airport facilities and later participated in a review meeting chaired by Minister Nara Lokesh along with state ministers, officials, and GMR representatives.

During the meeting, officials presented updates on road works, parking arrangements, bus routes, the main event stage, public galleries, emergency medical services, catering facilities, and cultural programs. The ministers suggested measures for the smooth conduct of the event and instructed officials to en-

sure that all buses reach designated parking areas by 9 AM. Detailed discussions were also held on food distribution arrangements for the participants. Union Minister Rammohan Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh directed all departments, officials, MLAs, and public representatives to coordinate effectively and work collectively for the successful completion of the Prime Minister's visit.

State Ministers Anitha, Atchannaidu, and Anagani Satya Prasad, along with MLAs, GMR representatives, and district officials, participated in the review meeting

Gottipati Ravi Directs Officials To Improve Power Services

Vizianagaram, July 28 | TPN Bureau



Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar directed Electricity Department officials to improve public confidence in the power sector by ensuring quality services and resolving complaints promptly. He instructed officials to speed up power infrastructure projects in Vizianagaram district and complete them within deadlines.

During a review meeting with Electricity Department officials and EPDCL representatives on Tuesday, the Minister reviewed development works, including new substations, feeder expan-

sion, transformer upgrades, and power distribution system modernisation.

Gottipati Ravi Kumar asked officials to coordinate with contractors for timely completion of sanctioned projects and ensure uninterrupted power supply. He stressed the need for preventive measures to avoid low voltage and frequent outages,

especially in rural areas.

"There should be no complaints from the public regarding the Electricity Department. If any issues arise, they must be resolved immediately. Consumer satisfaction should be the benchmark for the department's performance," he said.

The Minister directed officials to promote renewable energy projects, particularly solar power initiatives, and clear pending agricultural power connection applications to support farmers. He advised officials to focus on improving service quality, accelerating development works, and ensuring better power facilities for consumers.

Horticulture Incentives Can Help Farmers: MP Mahesh

Delhi, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Eluru MP Putta Mahesh Kumar urged farmers to adopt horticultural crops and modern cultivation techniques to overcome rainfall deficit conditions. Raising the issue in the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon Session, he sought details of incentives provided by the Centre for horticulture development.

Responding to the query, Union Minister of State for Agriculture Ramnath Thakur said financial assistance and technical support are being provided under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and other schemes. He said farmers receive support for protected cultivation, micro-irrigation and advanced technologies through State Horticulture Missions,

ICAR institutes, agricultural universities and other agencies. The Minister added that assistance is available for polyhouses, shade-net houses, tunnels and other protected cultivation structures.

Putta Mahesh Kumar advised farmers to utilise government subsidies and adopt drip irrigation, sprinklers and water-saving technologies to improve productivity.

bird species.

Officials were directed to strengthen healthcare schemes, reduce maternal and infant mortality, improve school infrastructure, prevent dropouts, and complete drinking water projects under Jal Jeevan Mission and AMRUT schemes.

Lanka Dinakar said effective implementation of welfare and development programmes would help achieve the goals of Viksit Bharat @2047 and Swarna Andhra @2047. He emphasized developing Kolleru Bird Sanctuary as a world-class eco-tourism destination.

Kolleru, Education and Healthcare Top Eluru Priorities

Eluru, July 28 | TPN Bureau



Twenty Point Programme Implementation Chairman Lanka Dinakar directed officials to transform Eluru district into a model district by focusing on Kolleru Lake conservation, quality education, healthcare, safe drinking water, and rural infrastructure development.

A review meeting on Central and State government flagship programmes was held at the Eluru District Collectorate in the presence of District Collector Vetri Selvi, Joint Collector

Abhishek, officials, and legislators. Kolleru Lake conservation was a major focus, with officials instructed to prevent encroachments, protect biodiversity, and implement court directions. Measures were suggested to promote fisheries, eco-tourism, and protect the habitat of 189

Kurnool On Development Path, Says Minister TG Bharat

Kurnool, July 28 | TPN Bureau



Minister for Industries, Commerce, and Food Processing TG Bharat Gupta stated that Andhra Pradesh has been brought back on the path of development under the two-year rule of the alliance government. He made these remarks while conducting a door-to-door campaign in the 49th Ward (NR Peta) of Kurnool city on Tuesday.

During the campaign, TG Bharat interacted with residents and explained the welfare and development initiatives implemented by the government. He alleged

that the previous YSRCP government caused severe damage to the state and said the alliance government is working to correct past decisions and rebuild the state.

The Minister said welfare schemes are being implemented despite financial challenges and highlighted the Taliliki Vandanam

scheme as a major support system for poor families. He added that efforts are underway to bring more industries to Kurnool district, creating employment opportunities for local youth. He said investments of over 10,000 crore are being made at Orvakal Industrial Park and that the Reliance project works have been completed.

KUDA Chairman Somishetty Venkateswarlu, senior leader Akepogu Prabhakar, City President Korakanchi Ravi, Ward In-charge Kaushik, and other leaders participated in the programme.

the night and inspected its condition. He photographed the statue and shared the details with concerned officials, directing immediate corrective measures.

Speaking with the Superintending Engineer (SE) of the Irrigation Department, Minister Durgesh highlighted the significance of the Vashishta branch of the Godavari River, named after Sage Vashishta, one of the Saptarishis and a revered figure known for his penance. He stated that the

statue represents Sanatana Dharma, cultural heritage, and the spiritual importance of the Godavari region.

The Minister instructed officials to repair the tilted structure, reinstall the statue securely at its original location, and ensure regular monitoring and maintenance. Irrigation officials assured that restoration works would be completed promptly. Kandula Durgesh appealed for collective efforts to protect the sanctity of the historic spiritual site.

PIN POINT

ICOP Exhibition and Media Workshop to Be Held Today

Visakhapatnam: An ICOP Exhibition and Vartalap Media Workshop for journalists will be organized today at Hotel Ambica Sea Green, Beach Road, Visakhapatnam. The programme aims to provide media representatives with insights into government initiatives, development activities, and communication strategies. Health, Family Welfare and Medical Education Minister Satya Kumar Yadav will attend the event as the chief guest and inaugurate the proceedings. The workshop will provide an opportunity for journalists to interact, exchange views, and understand various aspects related to public welfare programmes and government initiatives. The event is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM, followed by lunch. Programme coordinator K. Solman Raju informed that journalists are invited to participate in the workshop. The venue for the programme is Hotel Ambica Sea Green, located on Beach Road, Visakhapatnam.

YS Jagan To Visit Former Minister Seediri Appalaraju At Srikakulam Jail

Tadepalli, July 28 | TPN Bureau

YSR Congress Party President and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will visit Srikakulam district on Thursday, July 30, 2026, to meet former Minister and YSRCP leader Dr. Seediri Appalaraju. According to a statement from the party, YS Jagan will meet Dr. Seediri Appalaraju during mulaqat at Ampolu District Jail near Srikakulam, where he is currently under remand following his arrest in an alleged illegal case. YSRCP said YS Jagan's visit is aimed at extending support and solidarity to Dr. Seediri Appalaraju and assuring him and his family members that the party stands firmly with leaders facing what it described as illegal cases and political harassment. The party stated that YS Jagan will convey the YSRCP's support to the former Minister during the meeting.

Head Constable Sentenced In ACB Bribery Case

Kurnool: The Special Judge for ACB cases, Kurnool, convicted Head Constable Sreepathi Devadanam in a corruption case registered by ACB, Kadapa, and sentenced him to seven years' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of 3 lakh. Devadanam, currently working at Talla Proddutur Police Station in YSR Kadapa district, was found guilty under Sections 7 and 13(2) read with 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. ACB said he demanded 9,000 from Bathala Padmavathi in 2018 for providing documents related to her son's death case. The court directed payment of the fine amount as compensation to the complainant. ACB urged citizens to report corruption through 1064.

Shakti Team Creates Awareness On Cybercrimes And Drugs

Chirala, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Shakti Team conducted an awareness seminar on cybercrimes, drug abuse, and women's safety at Government Women's Degree College, Chirala. The programme was organised under the directions of Bapatla District SP B. Uma Maheswar and guidance of Chirala One-Town CI Somashekhar. Shakti Team in-charge Haribabu and Constable K. Subbarao advised students to use the Shakti App and remain alert against cyber fraud. They cautioned students against sharing personal details, photos, and bank OTPs online. The team also explained the harmful effects of drugs and urged students to report harassment by contacting 112 or the Shakti Team. College faculty and students participated.



Kandula Durgesh stated that the Rajavaram Pyramid Centre, surrounded by the Godavari River and Konaseema's natural beauty, has the potential to attract international tourists. He announced plans to develop a Konaseema Tourism Circuit connecting Godavari water sports, Rajavaram Pyramid, Vadapalli and Ryali temples, and natural attractions. A DPR will be prepared and submitted to the Union Tourism Ministry for funds.

CBC to Hold Government Achievements Photo Expo

Visakhapatnam, July 27 | TPN Bureau

The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), under the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, will organize a two-day special photo exhibition on "12 Years of Progress and Development Achievements of the NDA Government at the Centre" from July 29 near Y MCA, Beach Road, Visakhapatnam.

State Minister for Medical and Health Y. Satya Kumar will inaugurate the exhibition, which aims to create awareness among the public about govern-

ment welfare schemes and development initiatives. Following the inauguration, the minister will launch the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign to encourage citizens to hoist the national flag at their homes.

NCC cadets from schools and colleges will participate in a march-past carrying a 200-foot-long national flag. A media workshop will also be conducted, highlighting Central and State government achievements. Officials from South Coast Railway Zone, Visakhapatnam Port, Indian Navy, and other departments will participate.

Padmavati Launches 77.20 Lakh Development Works

Narsipatnam, July 28 | TPN Bureau



The 'Intintiki Telugu Desam' programme was conducted in Sarada Nagar of the 16th Ward of Narsipatnam Municipality on Tuesday. Chintakayala Padmavati, wife of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker Chintakayala Ayyanna Patrudu, participated in the programme and interacted with residents.

Padmavati visited households, explained the development and welfare initiatives of the Alliance government, and received grievances from local people. She unveiled plaques for 16 completed development works worth 77.20 lakh and laid foundation stones for two CC roads costing 5 lakh under VMRDA Phase-3.

The completed works include CC roads, drains, and

culverts executed under the 15th Finance Commission and VMRDA phases. Speaking on the occasion, Padmavati said development is possible through visionary leadership and highlighted the government's efforts in securing funds for Narsipatnam.

She stated that 32 crore was sanctioned for development across 28 wards and 180 crore allocated for household drinking water connections. Ward in-charge Nagendra Raju and other TDP leaders, officials, and residents participated in the programme.

Collector Reviews Sanitation and Healthcare Services in Kurnool

Kurnool, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Dr. A. Siri directed officials to strengthen sanitation and healthcare services across the district through regular field monitoring and improved public service delivery. During a review meeting with Deputy MPDOs and Panchayat officials at the Collectorate, she instructed officials to achieve 100% door-to-door garbage collection and ensure scientific waste disposal at Solid Waste Processing Centres (SWPCs).

The Collector ordered officials to address infrastructure issues, including shortages of e-autos, pushcarts, electricity facilities, and road connectivity, within 10 to 15 days. She emphasized frequent village visits, field inspections, and awareness programmes to improve cleanliness and public satisfaction.

In a separate video conference with Medical and Health Department officials, Dr. Siri



reviewed healthcare services at Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres, and Government General Hospitals. She instructed doctors to provide patient-friendly services, maintain cleanliness, ensure availability of essential medicines, and prevent illegal collections from patients.

She directed officials to arrange substitute doctors during leave periods and improve key health indicators such as outpatient services, institutional deliveries, and disease screening. The Collector stressed the need to build public confidence in government hospitals by ensuring quality and accessible medical services for all.

Somireddy Criticises Kakani, Highlights Development

Manubolu, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Sarvepalli MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy on Tuesday said the Coalition Government is giving top priority to the welfare and development of poor tribal families in the constituency. Participating in the "Two Years of Trust – Development and Welfare" door-to-door campaign at Padamata Tribal Colony in Manubolu mandal, he said development works in tribal areas are being carried out by combining government schemes with CSR support from industries.

The MLA said a new SC Girls' Hostel building is under construction in Manubolu at a cost of 3 crore, while solar streetlights are being installed with the support of the SEIL organisation. He added that a 1.12 crore water tank has been completed, with another 15 lakh sanctioned



for additional development works. He also highlighted the inauguration of the BC Residential Junior College at Golagamudi and said the new government engineering college at Vikrama Simhapuri University would benefit students from Sarvepalli.

Criticising YSRCP leaders, Somireddy accused them of opposing teacher recruitment and alleged that former Minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy had no moral authority to criticise Education Minister Nara Lokesh. He said the public would deliver an appropriate verdict on such policies.

Pournami Garuda Seva at Tirumala on July 29

Tirumala, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The sacred Pournami Garuda Seva will be held at Tirumala on Wednesday, July 29, as part of the monthly full moon celebrations. On this auspicious occasion, Lord Malayappa Swamy, adorned with grand ornaments, will be taken in a majestic procession on the golden Garuda Vahanam.

The divine procession will move through the four Mada streets of Tirumala from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Thousands of

devotees are expected to gather to witness the spiritual event and seek the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) has made extensive arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Garuda Seva. Officials are taking necessary measures to provide facilities and ensure a hassle-free experience for devotees participating in the grand religious celebration. The monthly Pournami Garuda Seva holds special significance among devotees visiting Tirumala.



Collector Stresses Data-Driven Development Planning

Chittoor, July 28 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Sumit Kumar on Tuesday said capacity-building programmes play a key role in strengthening development planning and achieving the goals of the Swarnandhra Pradesh Vision-2047. Speaking at the valedictory session of training programmes organised by the District Planning Department in association with the Palle India Foundation (PIF), he stressed the importance of data-driven governance.

The Collector said Andhra Pradesh aims to become a 308 lakh crore economy with a per capita income of 55 lakh by 2047, requiring sustained annual economic growth of around 15 per-

cent. He noted that officials were trained from July 13 to 28 on scientific economic planning, efficient use of local resources, sector-wise development opportunities and data-based decision-making.

Sumit Kumar directed officials to improve the quality of district, constituency and mandal-level data and explore a pilot project to calculate Gross Value Added (GVA) in selected villages. He also explained the Production, Income and Expenditure approaches for calculating economic statistics and urged officials to ensure accurate data collection. The Collector later felicitated master trainers and unveiled a Fasal Bima Yojana poster.

Lokesh Asks Tirupati In-Charge To Focus On Development

Tirupati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Tirupati constituency in-charge JB Srinivas met State Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics Nara Lokesh at his Tadepalli residence on Tuesday as part of a courtesy visit. Srinivas was accompanied by his family members during the meeting.

JB Srinivas thanked Nara Lokesh for entrusting him with the responsibility of strengthening the party in the Tirupati constituency. He assured that he would work with dedication to uphold the confidence placed in him by the party leadership, strengthen the party organization, and remain committed to the welfare of party workers. Congratulating JB Srinivas



on his new responsibility, Minister Nara Lokesh advised him to take the party's ideology and government welfare programmes closer to the people. He emphasized the importance of maintaining coordination with party workers, resolving public issues, and enhancing public trust.

During the meeting, discussions were held on strengthen-

ing the party base in Tirupati, addressing public grievances, ensuring effective implementation of development and welfare initiatives, and preparing for upcoming local body elections.

Nara Lokesh expressed hope that collective efforts would contribute to the overall development of Tirumala and Tirupati

Centre Releases 25.48 Crore for AP RSETIs

Nellore, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Central Government has released 25.48 crore to Andhra Pradesh under the Rural Self-Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) scheme, Union Minister of State for Rural Development Kamlesh Paswan informed the Lok Sabha. The information was provided in response to questions raised by Nellore MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy.

The Minister stated that the funds were released towards reimbursement claims submitted by Andhra Pradesh for the years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Kotamreddy Takes Development Message Door to Door

Nellore, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Nellore Rural MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy on Tuesday participated in the "Two Years of Trust: Development and Welfare" door-to-door campaign in the Gilakabavi Sangham area of the 19th Division, highlighting the Coalition Government's achievements over the past two years. Visiting households, the MLA explained various development works and welfare schemes implemented in the constituency and interacted directly with residents. Speaking on the occasion,



Claims for the financial year 2025-26 are yet to be submitted by the state government.

He informed that 24 RSETI centres are currently functioning across 22 districts in Andhra Pradesh, offering skill development training, entrepreneurship programmes, and self-employment opportunities for unemployed rural youth.



Kotamreddy said the government is committed to the overall development of Nellore Rural by reviving projects that had remained neglected under the previous administration. He stated that the campaign aims

to ensure every household is informed about the benefits of government initiatives and welfare programmes.

The MLA also enquired about local issues, listened to public suggestions and assured residents that their grievances would be taken up with the concerned officials for early resolution. He reiterated that he would remain accessible to the people and continue working to address their needs promptly.

Telugu Desam Party leaders, party workers and local residents participated in the programme.

188 Crore Proposed for New Drainage System

Tirupati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivasulu on Tuesday said the NDA alliance government is committed to the city's all-round development, with proposals worth 188 crore prepared to replace the 35-year-old underground drainage (UGD) system. He added that a 135 crore loan for improving the storm-water drainage network is also expected to be sanctioned soon.

The MLA inaugurated a CC road built at a cost of 27 lakh in Subba Reddy Nagar (1st Division) and another CC road and drain constructed for 80 lakh in Poolavanigunta (2nd Division). He said infrastructure development remains the government's priority and noted that the ageing drainage system frequently causes leakag-



es, making its replacement essential. He also stressed the need to extend drainage facilities to newly developed areas on the city's outskirts.

Arani Srinivasulu credited Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for giving special importance to Tiru-

pati's development. Green and Beautification Corporation Chairperson Sugunamma, State Yadava Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav, State Nai Brahmin Corporation Chairman Rudrakoti Sadashivam, civic officials, and public representatives attended the programme.

YSRCP Holds Protest Over DSC Irregularities

Kadapa, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The YSRCP youth and student wings on Tuesday staged a rally in Kadapa, demanding a CBI inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the Mega DSC recruitment process and seeking the resignation of Education Minister Nara Lokesh. The rally began at the YSRCP district office and passed through Koti Reddy Circle, NTR Circle, Seven Roads Circle and YSR Circle before concluding at the Gandhi statue.

District YSRCP President P. Ravindranath Reddy, Badvel MLA Dasari Sudha, MLCs Ramachandra Reddy and Ramasubba Reddy, former Deputy Chief Minister S.B. Amjad Basha, CEC member K. Suresh Babu and other party leaders participated in the protest.



Addressing the gathering, Ravindranath Reddy alleged that the Mega DSC recruitment process was marred by serious irregularities and claimed deserving candidates had been denied opportunities. He demanded that the present recruitment process be cancelled, a fresh DSC examination be conducted,

and a CBI investigation ordered into the allegations. Warning of intensified protests, he said students and unemployed youth would continue their agitation if their demands were not addressed. Former public representatives, party leaders, activists and students also took part in the rally.

MLA Bojjala Criticizes YSRCP Over Mega DSC Allegations

Srikalahasti, July 28 | TPN Bureau

Srikalahasti MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy criticized YSRCP leaders for spreading false propaganda regarding the Mega DSC teacher recruitment process. Addressing the 'Intintiki Telugu Desam' programme on Tuesday, he stated that 16,347 teacher posts were filled transparently and that candidate details were made publicly available.

The MLA said all complaints received during the recruitment process were examined and addressed by the Education Department. He challenged YSRCP leaders to participate in a debate on the issue in the presence of national media, Education Minister Nara Lokesh, or even at Jagan's residence in Tadepalli if they had



evidence to support their allegations.

Bojjala praised the education reforms introduced by Nara Lokesh and highlighted the 'Talliki Vandanam' scheme, stating that more than one lakh students shifted from private schools to government schools this year. He warned that people would respond to YSRCP's actions in the coming days.

Collector Calls for 50% Green Cover in Nellore by 2047



Nellore, July 28 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Himanshu Shukla directed all government departments to work in coordination to achieve the target of 50% green cover in Nellore district by 2047. Chairing the District Forest Committee meeting at the Collectorate, he instructed officials to prepare department-wise action plans and ensure the effective implementation of various green initiatives.

Officials from the Forest, Horticulture, Agriculture, Panchayati Raj, Education, Industries, Irrigation, Fisheries, Roads and Buildings, and other departments attended the

meeting. The Collector stressed the need to implement programmes such as the Great Green Wall of Andhra Pradesh, School Nurseries Yojana, Namo Van-Nagar Van Yojana, palm gardens in every village, agro-forestry, seed ball dispersal, and the PM-RKVY Agro Forestry Scheme. Shukla directed departments to submit details of vacant government lands, roadsides, canals, schools and other suitable locations for plantations and nurseries to the Forest Department. He said coordinated efforts would help improve environmental protection, conserve biodiversity, enhance groundwater recharge and ensure sustainable development across the district.

Amaravati Championship Begins

Tirupati, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The Amaravati Championship-2026 constituency-level sports competitions began on Tuesday across seven constituencies in Tirupati district under the aegis of the Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh (SAAP). The event was inaugurated by MLA Arani Srinivasulu, State Yadav Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav, and former SAAP Board member Sridhar Varma.

Addressing the gathering, the dignitaries said the championship aims to identify talented athletes at the grassroots level and provide them with opportunities to excel at higher levels. Around 2,500 participants, including athletes, coaches, Physical Directors, Physical Education Teachers, and representatives of sports



associations, took part in the opening day's events.

Competitions in Yoga, Volleyball, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Chess, and Basketball were conducted, with winners qualifying for the district-level championship. Participants were also provided with mid-day meals. Events in Hockey, Archery, Athletics, Boxing, Weightlifting, and Badminton are scheduled for July 29. District Sports Development Officer N. Shashidhar said the list of winners in each discipline would be announced soon.



Door-to-Door Campaign Held

Chandragiri, July 28 | TPN Bureau

The "2 Years of Trust – Development & Welfare" door-to-door campaign was held on Tuesday at Oteru Panchayat in Tirupati Rural Mandal. The programme was led by Pulivarthi Sudha Reddy, wife of Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani, while Chandragiri constituency observer Panabaka Bhulakshmi attended as the chief guest. Local residents and women welcomed the leaders with Harathi and Tilak.

During the campaign, the leaders visited households and explained the development works and welfare schemes im-

plemented by the state government over the past two years. They interacted with beneficiaries to gather feedback on government programmes and discussed village development and infrastructure needs with residents.

People also brought local grievances to the leaders, who assured them that the issues would be taken up with MLA Pulivarthi Nani and the concerned officials for early resolution. Alliance party leaders, booth, unit, cluster and village committee members, women leaders, party workers and local residents participated in the programme.

Editorial

People Must Stand For Consumer Rights

The decision of Johnson & Johnson to agree to pay nearly Rs.52,000 crore to petitioners who alleged that the company's talcum powder caused ovarian cancer is a significant reminder of the power of consumer awareness and legal action. The dispute has continued for decades, with thousands of affected consumers approaching the courts seeking justice. Though the company initially maintained that its talcum powder contained no substances capable of causing cancer, it later changed its product formula in 2020 by replacing talc with corn starch. While the company has continued to deny wrongdoing, the change in formulation itself has kept public debate alive.

One of the major reasons behind the settlement is believed to be the enormous legal expenses involved in defending thousands of lawsuits over many years. Whatever the legal outcome, the case has highlighted the importance of consumers questioning the safety of products they use every day and demanding accountability from manufacturers.

Unfortunately, such consumer activism is rarely witnessed in India. While people readily use a wide range of cosmetic and household products, very few come forward to question their safety or seek legal remedies when they suspect harm. Consumer rights remain one of the least discussed public issues despite their direct impact on health and well-being.

Environmentalists, consumer rights organizations, and public health activists should take the lead in creating greater awareness about product safety, health risks, and the legal rights available to consumers. Educational campaigns can encourage people to report harmful products and pursue legal action wherever necessary. Regulatory authorities must also strengthen product safety standards and ensure strict monitoring of items sold in the market.

The Johnson & Johnson episode should serve as a wake-up call. Consumers must remain informed, vigilant, and prepared to protect their rights. A society that values consumer awareness is better equipped to safeguard public health and ensure that companies remain accountable for the products they place in the hands of millions.

Editor

The Perils of "Demo-Crazy"

Why We Need More Iron Fists and Fewer Roof Tiles

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Ram Kamal

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Social Engineer

The recent kerfuffle in Delhi is a heartwarming reminder of the good old days—specifically, the iron-fisted glory of Indira Gandhi. Ah, the Emergency! I remember it fondly as a seventh grader back in Kerala. Back then, school was merely a 70-day side hustle; the rest of the academic year was generously dedicated to the vibrant extracurricular activity of strikes.

The Communist School of Bus-Stoning and vandalisms

Back in those days, protests had standards. Communist labour workers would waltz into our school, command the Students Federation of India (SFI) members to halt all education by walking into a few classes and yell Sindabad. By that time, all students from all other classes would be out and their way home through the back gate of the school. These strikes only sent the poor kids into an existential dilemma. The teachers, absolutely thrilled at the prospect of a day off, would shoo their private tuition students home.

Then came the real vocational training: the comrades would dismantle the school's roof tiles, haul them to the front side MG Road boundary wall, and train toddlers in the ancient martial art of throwing masonry at passing buses. If the cops dared to intervene, the party bosses would pull some strings to keep the kids locked up just long enough to bail them out later, instantly transforming them into loyal, lifetime political goons with the Communist Party. In Kerala, both KSU, the Congress's student movement and AISF, the right-wing

communist gang and MSF, the Muslim League students' version. All these students' parties were made for this kind of STRIKE and Bandh games mentored by the trade union goons. That is how you build character for seasoned politicians those days!

Today's Incompetent Agitators

Fast forward to the recent Delhi episode. Today's so-called "students" agitating over NEET (who probably aren't even in the NEET age bracket) have absolutely no respect for these time-honoured traditions or the know-how. They lack the roof-tile training of the 70s. When someone makes a demand, they have the solution for the problem they are agitating. But these naive amateurs apparently do not have a solution for the NEET and other entrance examination corruption, and they have never taken such exams in their lives either. But they marched toward Parliament expecting the BJP government to roll out a red carpet, serve them tea, and politely hand over a cabinet minister's resignation letter. Instead, they found themselves trapped in a classic pincer movement. Police barricades blocked their front, while the real trained operatives of the opposition parties heroically hurled stones from behind them. Those visit this high-security area of Luten's Delhi can't find stones in the street for them to pick and throw. These seasoned players wearing backpacks pretending to be students carry stones and pepper sprays and bottles. Even a superintendent of police rescued



some of these students who got baffled seeing the violence, which was not in their script.

The Opposition's Grand Masterplan

You see, the opposition didn't just want a protest; they wanted a blockbuster tragedy. These masterminds boldly stepped to the front, pepper-spraying and beating the police. Their ultimate wish? To secure a dead body or two just to disrupt the parliament session and make India look like the chaotic streets of Nepal or Bangladesh. They were practically drooling at the thought of the Indian Prime Minister being manhandled like the Sri Lankan president. Naturally, the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) immediately crawled out of the woodwork to claim the government was destroying the youth, entirely ignoring the glorious history of the last ten years.

5D Chess and the Drone Armada

But the opposition severely underestimated the Supreme Leader. The Prime Minister wasn't just sitting there; he was exhibiting "greater patience" to execute a flawless masterstroke. He was simply baiting the puppet masters—the LoP, Kejriwal, and the so-called social activists- to step into the light. The game is simple now. This isn't the 1970s where you could just hide behind a communist or party labour union. No, we are in the era of satellites, drone surveillance, and Artificial Intelligence! Modiji, the very man who bravely eradicated foreign invaders with tit-for-tat strikes like Balakot and "Mission Sindoor," is currently booting up the AI to ensure these criminals pay a massive price. Even the guarantee given to protestors to end the CJP strike was no FIR against them does mean no FIR against the intruders. They will soon face the wrath of the new

Indian Nyaya Sanhita, which is vastly superior to those pesky, mad British rules. Footnote on the Real Enemy: Let us not forget that the true villains in all this are not the extremists or antinational elements. It is the entrance exam business mafia. I hope that if we can implement the majestic vision of the NEP 2020 and increase the number of professional institutions, we may find a solution for the entrance menace. Entrance question papers should be from the syllabus and should not be dictated by the coaching pundits. Do we need coaching or education? It is welcoming that the minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, resigned, showing the power of democratic values, and the invitation to Nandan Nilekani to reform the National Testing Agency and entrance exams is a step in the right direction. How long can lies get media space, and social media can play the DEMOCRAZY? Needs accountability and love for the nation.

Education Laws Need Implementation, Not Just Promises

The future of students depends on accountability, transparency and effective execution of reforms

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Dr M V Bramhananda Reddy

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President, APSTPIEA
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India's education system stands at a critical crossroads. Despite decades of reforms, constitutional provisions, and ambitious policies, the gap between promises and implementation continues to widen. While the country has introduced several laws and frameworks aimed at transforming education, the lack of accountability, transparency and effective execution remains a major challenge.

The question today is not about the number of laws we have, but about how effectively they are implemented. The future of millions of students depends not merely on policies written on paper, but on the seriousness with which they are executed on the ground.

Even after nearly 78 years of independence, the education sector continues to struggle with deep contradictions.

On one side, we have constitutional amendments, the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, and several commissions and reforms. On the other side, issues such as examination paper leaks, teacher absenteeism, rote learning and lack of quality education continue to affect students.

The reality remains clear: making a law is easy, but ensuring its implementation is the real challenge.

The uncertainty surrounding the future of our children is not merely an education issue; it directly impacts the future of the nation.

How Many Laws? How Much Implementation?

After independence, India introduced several important educational reforms through commissions such as the University Education Commission (1948-49), Secondary Education Commission (1952-53), Kothari Commission (1964-66), National Education Policies of 1968, 1986 (amended in 1992) and 2020. Constitutional measures such as the 86th Amendment (2002), the RTE Act 2009, and regulatory bodies like AICTE and NCTE were also introduced.

These measures helped increase enrolment levels. However, the larger question remains — has quality education reached every child?

Reports such as ASER and PISA have repeatedly highlighted learning challenges. Many students can memorise textbooks but struggle to understand concepts, apply knowledge and develop essential skills.

Today, examination irregularities and paper leaks, including incidents related to major national-level examinations, have emerged as serious concerns. Despite cyber security measures and institutions



like the National Testing Agency (NTA), such incidents continue to raise questions about accountability.

This is not merely a technical failure. It reflects deeper issues of negligence, corruption and interference. A single examination leak can destroy the dreams of thousands of students, pushing some into extreme distress.

Instead of only announcing new regulations, the system requires strict action against negligence, fast-track investi-

gations, and continuous monitoring mechanisms.

Systemic Challenges Remain

The education sector continues to face several structural issues:

- Teacher quality, attendance problems and non-transparent appointments
- Digital divide affecting rural areas, economically weaker sections and girls
- Increasing coaching culture, financial burden and student stress

Political interference in universities and declining research standards

Unemployment among graduates and increasing brain drain

As a result, education risks becoming a commercial activity rather than a powerful tool for social transformation.

What Does the Country Need Now?

Criticism alone cannot transform the system. The focus must shift towards mean-

ingful solutions:

1. Strong Accountability Mechanism:

Every education policy and law should have clear performance indicators, independent audits and strict action against failures. Examination systems should adopt advanced security measures, including AI-based monitoring, biometric verification and secure digital systems.

2. Effective Implementation of NEP 2020:

Teacher training, assess-

ment reforms and vocational education must reach rural areas to create meaningful opportunities for students.

3. Strengthening Teachers' Role:

Teachers must receive better salaries, continuous training and the respect required to shape future generations.

4. Transparency Through Technology:

Open data platforms, monitoring systems and independent regulatory mechanisms can improve trust in the education system.

5. Connecting Education With Life:

Education must be linked with employment, skills, innovation and civic responsibility while reducing the influence of money, politics and social divisions.

Introducing laws and announcing policies alone cannot transform education. Without implementation, accountability and responsibility, even the best reforms remain limited to documents.

The future of our children is the future of India. NEP 2020 provides a significant opportunity for change, but its success depends on honest implementation and collective responsibility.

The government, teachers, parents and students all have a role to play in rebuilding the education system.

Only by effectively harnessing the potential of India's youth can the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047" become a reality. Otherwise, even with more laws and policies, the outcome will remain unchanged

Anti-Paper Leak Bill Triggers Parliament Row PM Modi Assures Full Support To Assam

The Monsoon Session of Parliament witnessed heated exchanges between the government and opposition over the Anti-Paper Leak Bill, aimed at preventing malpractice in public examinations and ensuring greater transparency in the recruitment and education system.

The proposed legislation seeks to introduce stricter penalties for individuals and organisations involved in leaking question papers, using unfair methods and disrupting the examination process. The government said the Bill is necessary to protect the interests of millions of students who prepare for competitive examinations and to restore confidence in the system.

The Bill comes amid growing concerns over examination irregularities and allegations of paper leaks in major entrance and recruitment tests. Student groups and opposition parties have raised questions over the security of examination procedures and demanded stronger ac-



countability from agencies responsible for conducting these tests.

During the Parliament proceedings, opposition members demanded a detailed discussion on the issue and questioned the government's handling of student concerns. The issue led to repeated disruptions in both Houses, with ruling and opposition members engaging in sharp political exchanges.

The government defended the proposed measures, stating that strict

punishment and improved monitoring mechanisms would act as a deterrent against organised groups involved in examination fraud. Officials also stressed the need for stronger legal provisions to ensure that those responsible for damaging students' careers face serious consequences.

Opposition parties, however, argued that legal action alone cannot solve the problem and called for wider reforms in examination management, technology upgrades and greater transparency in the entire process. They also demanded protection and support for students affected by irregularities.

The controversy has turned the Anti-Paper Leak Bill into one of the major political issues of the parliamentary session. As discussions continue, the legislation is being closely watched as a significant step toward strengthening examination security and rebuilding trust among students across the country.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with Members of Parliament from Assam to review the ongoing flood situation in the state and assured that the Centre would extend all possible support for relief and rehabilitation efforts.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister discussed the challenges faced by flood-affected regions and highlighted the need for close coordination between the Central and Assam governments to ensure timely assistance to people impacted by the disaster. He expressed concern over the difficulties faced by residents and assured support for those affected.

Assam has been witnessing a severe flood situation, with several districts impacted by rising water levels. Relief operations are underway, with authorities providing essential supplies, including food, drinking water and medicines, to affected families. Rescue and rehabilitation efforts are also being carried out in flood-hit areas.



The Prime Minister assured Assam MPs that the Central government is working closely with the state administration to strengthen relief measures. The focus remains on providing immediate assistance to affected communities and ensuring faster restoration of normal life.

Union ministers and Assam leaders also discussed the need for effective disaster management strategies and long-term measures to address the recurring flood challenges faced by the state. Flood management, infrastructure strengthening and im-

proved preparedness remain key areas requiring sustained attention.

The Brahmaputra and its tributaries frequently cause flooding in Assam during the monsoon season, affecting villages, agriculture and public infrastructure. The recurring crisis has increased demands for permanent solutions, including improved river management and stronger flood-control mechanisms.

The Centre's assurance comes at a time when Assam continues to deal with the impact of widespread flooding. Officials from both governments are expected to continue monitoring the situation and coordinating relief activities.

The meeting highlighted the importance of Centre-state cooperation in handling natural disasters and providing timely support to people affected by floods. The government's focus remains on immediate relief measures as well as developing long-term strategies to reduce the impact of recurring floods in the state.

CJP Expands Reach, Focuses On Student Issues

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) protest movement, which began over alleged irregularities in competitive examinations, is now attempting to expand its presence across different states by focusing on broader student-related concerns. The organisation has started engaging with students in various regions to highlight issues related to education, examination reforms and accountability.

The movement initially gained attention through protests against alleged paper leaks and demands for reforms in the examination system. Over time, the agitation attracted support from students, activists and sections of civil society, turning into a wider discussion on transparency and fairness in competitive exams.

CJP representatives have indicated plans to strengthen their network beyond Delhi and connect with student communities across the country. The focus is expected to remain on issues such as exam security, education system reforms, student rights and greater accountability from institutions conducting major examinations.

The expansion strategy comes after the organisation's prolonged protest campaign, where students and supporters participated in demonstrations demanding action on examination-related concerns. The agitation also attracted political attention and triggered debates over the



government's response to student grievances.

Student issues have become a major point of public discussion, with demands ranging from transparent examination processes to stronger action against those responsible for malpractice. CJP leaders are now attempting to transform the protest movement into a broader platform addressing multiple challenges faced by young people. The organisation's growing outreach reflects a wider trend of youth-led movements using education-related issues to demand institutional reforms. Supporters view the movement as an important platform for raising student voices, while critics argue that such campaigns must focus on practical solutions and long-term improvements.

As CJP continues its expansion plans, its ability to build a nationwide student network and convert public attention into meaningful reforms will be closely watched. The movement's future direction could influence discussions around education policy, examination security and youth participation in public issues.

Mehbooba Apologises Over Militancy Remark



Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti has expressed regret over her recent remarks made during the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) protest at Jantar Mantar, after her comments on the use of force against protesters triggered political controversy.

Mehbooba Mufti had visited the protest venue to extend support to students raising concerns over alleged examination irregularities. During her interaction, she compared the police action against student protesters in Delhi with the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, stating that the circumstances were different due to the presence of militancy in the Valley. Her remarks led to criticism from political opponents.

Reacting to the controversy, Mehbooba clarified that her statement was misunderstood and said she intended to highlight how security concerns are often cited while dealing with situations in Jammu and Kashmir. She expressed regret if her

comments hurt people's sentiments and apologised for the remarks.

The controversy intensified after political leaders criticised her statement, accusing her of appearing to justify the use of force against people in the region. They said such remarks required greater sensitivity while discussing issues related to Kashmir and public protests.

The issue has once again highlighted political differences over the handling of security, protests and governance-related matters in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mehbooba's clarification comes amid a wider debate over the treatment of protesters, the role of security forces and the balance between maintaining law and order and protecting democratic rights.

The controversy has added another political flashpoint in Jammu and Kashmir, where discussions over civil liberties, security measures and public representation continue to remain sensitive issues.

Meta Apologises Over PM Modi Video Block



Social media giant Meta has apologised after a video posted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Facebook was briefly blocked, stating that the removal happened due to a technical error. The video was later restored on the platform.

The incident attracted attention after the video, in which Prime Minister Modi addressed youth regarding concerns over examination paper leaks, became temporarily unavailable on Facebook. Meta clarified that the content was removed mistakenly and that corrective measures were taken to restore it.

According to sources, the government took note of the issue and sought details about the circumstances that led to the temporary removal of the Prime Minister's video. Officials are examining the content moderation process and the reasons be-

hind the restriction.

The video featured Prime Minister Modi's message to Gen Z students, where he spoke about steps being taken to strengthen the examination system and prevent paper leaks. He assured students that measures would be introduced to protect their interests and ensure greater transparency in competitive examinations.

The temporary blocking of a high-profile political communication has raised broader questions about automated content moderation systems used by

global social media platforms. Experts have often highlighted the challenges technology companies face in managing sensitive content while ensuring accuracy and fairness.

Meta's explanation that the removal was caused by a technical mistake has brought the video back online. However, the incident has triggered discussions over transparency, accountability and the effectiveness of digital platform monitoring systems.

The episode comes at a time when social media companies worldwide are facing increasing scrutiny over their handling of political content, misinformation and public communication. The temporary restriction of the Prime Minister's video has once again highlighted the need for stronger review mechanisms and greater transparency from technology platforms.

Vijay Takes On Centre Over Mekedatu Dam



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has stepped up his opposition to the proposed Mekedatu dam project, urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Centre to protect the state's water rights and prevent any move that could impact Tamil Nadu's share of Cauvery river water.

The controversy intensified after the Centre's response in Parliament regarding the Mekedatu project triggered concerns in Tamil Nadu. Vijay argued that the position taken by the Union government ignored the interests of lower riparian states and raised questions over the future of Cauvery water management.

The Mekedatu project, proposed by Karnataka across the Cauvery river, has been a long-standing dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. While Karnataka has maintained that the reservoir would help meet Bengaluru's drinking water

needs and support power generation, Tamil Nadu has opposed the project, fearing it could affect the flow of water to its farmers and regions dependent on the river.

Vijay has demanded that the Centre ensure that no approvals are granted without considering Tamil Nadu's concerns. He has maintained that the state's farmers and their livelihoods depend heavily on Cauvery water and that existing legal arrangements must be respected.

The issue has also become a major political flashpoint in Tamil Nadu, with various parties and groups demanding a united stand to safeguard the state's interests. Leaders have called for

stronger political and legal action against any attempt to move forward with the project without consensus.

For Vijay, the Mekedatu dispute has emerged as one of the key issues involving Tamil Nadu's regional concerns. His stand against the project highlights the continuing political sensitivity surrounding interstate river water disputes.

The Cauvery issue has historically been one of the most debated water-sharing conflicts in southern India. With Karnataka pushing its plans and Tamil Nadu raising objections, the Centre faces the challenge of balancing the demands of both states while ensuring compliance with legal frameworks.

The latest developments indicate that the Mekedatu controversy is likely to remain a major political and administrative challenge, with both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu closely watching the Centre's next move.

India Targets Child Marriage-Free Nation By 2030



The Government of India has reaffirmed its commitment to eliminating child marriage by 2030, with Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development Savitri Thakur stating that the Centre and civil society organisations are working together to protect children and strengthen child rights across the country.

Speaking at the national consultation titled "Ensuring Child Rights, Potential and Prosperity" in New Delhi, the Minister highlighted the crucial role played by grassroots organisations in preventing child marriage, trafficking, exploitation and abuse. The four-day event brought together representatives from more than 250 partner organisations working across all 782 districts of India to strengthen child protection systems.

Thakur described child protection as one of the nation's biggest responsibilities and appreciated the efforts of frontline workers involved in rescuing children from dangerous situations. She said every child

saved from exploitation represents a significant achievement and praised volunteers working to protect vulnerable children.

The Minister said the Bal Vivah Mukht Bharat campaign, launched as part of the government's efforts to end child marriage, is gaining momentum across the country. She emphasised that achieving a child marriage-free India requires cooperation between government agencies, NGOs, communities and citizens.

Speaking at the event, Lavu Krishna Devarayalu, Convener of MPs for Children and Parliamentary Party Leader of the Telugu Desam Party in the Lok Sabha, said India's campaign against child marriage has become an example for the world. He highlighted the need for stronger safeguards to protect

children from emerging challenges, including risks associated with social media.

Founder of Just Rights for Children, Bhuwan Ribhu, said the movement has grown from a campaign against child marriage into a broader mission focused on child empowerment, justice, technology and leadership. He noted that collective efforts have helped prevent more than 5.5 lakh child marriages over the past three years.

The consultation highlighted the importance of collaboration between government institutions, civil society groups, communities and young people. Speakers stressed that preventing child marriage is not only about protecting children but also about ensuring their education, safety, dignity and future opportunities.

With continued focus on awareness, legal action and community participation, the government aims to build a stronger child protection framework and achieve the vision of a Child Marriage-Free India by 2030.

Rahul Gandhi Backs Ken-Betwa Protesters



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has extended support to protesters opposing the Ken-Betwa River Linking Project in Madhya Pradesh, demanding fair compensation, proper rehabilitation and justice for families affected by the project.

The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha raised concerns over the issues faced by tribal communities and villagers who claim that land acquisition for the project has affected their homes, livelihoods and traditional resources. He backed their demand for a transparent process and adequate rehabilitation measures.

The Ken-Betwa project has triggered protests in parts of Madhya Pradesh, particularly in the Chhatarpur region, where affected families have alleged concerns over compensation distribution, land surveys and rehabilitation efforts. Protesters have demanded better compensation packages, inclusion of all eligible families and a review of their grievances.

Several villagers have staged symbolic protests, including hunger strikes and other peaceful demonstrations, highlighting concerns over displacement and the loss of agricultural land and livelihoods. The agitation has drawn political attention, with opposition leaders questioning the handling of the issue by the state government.

Rahul Gandhi criticised the treatment of protesters and said the voices of affected communi-

ties should be heard. He emphasised that development projects must ensure justice for displaced families and that rehabilitation should be carried out in a fair and transparent manner.

The Madhya Pradesh government has maintained that complaints related to compensation and rehabilitation would be examined and assured that genuine concerns would be addressed. Officials have said the project is important for improving water availability and supporting development in the drought-prone Bundelkhand region.

The Ken-Betwa River Linking Project remains one of India's major water infrastructure initiatives, aimed at transferring water between river basins. However, concerns of communities affected by land acquisition and displacement have become a major point of debate.

The issue has now turned into a larger political discussion over balancing infrastructure development with environmental protection, rehabilitation rights and the welfare of local communities.

Kapil Sibal Backs CJP Legal Aid Drive



Senior advocate and Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal has announced a contribution of 1 crore towards a legal aid fund created by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) to support student protesters facing legal action after the recent Jantar Mantar agitation.

The move comes after CJP raised concerns over police cases and legal proceedings against students who participated in protests related to examination irregularities and paper leak allegations. The organisation said it would create a support system to help affected students access legal assistance.

Addressing the issue, Sibal said efforts would be made to identify legal cases registered against students and protesters across different states. He also appealed to lawyers to extend support and provide legal assistance wherever required.

The legal aid initiative is expected to include a platform that will collect details of students facing cases and connect them with lawyers willing to provide support. The aim is to ensure that protesters have access to proper legal representation during ongoing proceedings.

CJP representatives alleged that several students and protesters were facing legal challenges following the agita-

tion. They demanded that peaceful demonstrators should not be targeted and called for a review of cases registered during the protests.

The student-led movement gained attention over demands related to examination reforms, transparency and action against those responsible for alleged irregularities. The protests also triggered a wider debate over student rights, accountability and the government's response to youth-led movements.

Sibal's support has added a legal dimension to the ongoing issue, shifting the focus towards protecting protesters facing cases and ensuring access to legal remedies.

The development is expected to keep attention on examination reforms, student concerns and the broader debate over how authorities and institutions respond to youth movements demanding transparency and accountability.



Trump-Macron Rift Deepens At UN

A fresh diplomatic clash has erupted between the United States and France, exposing growing tensions between U.S. President Donald Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron. The dispute escalated after American diplomats walked out of a United Nations Security Council meeting while France was criticising the Trump administration. The confrontation was linked to disagreements over the reappointment of UN human rights chief Volker Türk. The United States opposed extending his term, while France strongly supported the move. The issue triggered sharp exchanges between officials from both countries, with Washington accusing Paris of unfair criticism and France defending its position on human rights issues. The walkout marked a rare public diplomatic protest by the U.S. at the UN and highlighted the widening differences between two traditional allies. American officials argued that France's criticism represented political posturing, while French representatives maintained that discussions on human rights and international law remain essential at global forums. The latest dispute adds to a series of disagreements be-

tween Trump and Macron in recent years. Their relationship has been strained by differences over issues including NATO, European defence policies, trade disputes and approaches toward major international conflicts. Despite being long-standing allies, Washington and Paris have increasingly found themselves on opposite sides of key global debates. Macron has pushed for greater European strategic independence, while Trump has repeatedly emphasised an "America First" approach to foreign policy. Analysts say the growing friction reflects a broader shift in transatlantic relations, where European nations and the United States are increasingly divided over global leadership, security priorities and the role of international institutions. The UN episode is unlikely to completely damage the decades-old partnership between the two countries, but it signals deeper disagreements that could shape future cooperation. As global challenges involving security, human rights and geopolitical rivalries continue, the relationship between Washington and Paris is expected to remain under close international watch.



Thailand Eyes Record Indian Tourists

Thailand is expecting a major surge in Indian tourist arrivals after extending a 30-day visa-free entry facility for Indian travellers. The move is projected to significantly increase the number of Indian visitors in the coming years, supported by improved air connectivity and rising demand for international travel. The Tourism Authority of Thailand believes India will remain one of the country's most important tourism markets. Indian travellers have already emerged as a key source of international visitors, with Thailand witnessing strong growth from India in recent years. Thailand has recorded a steady rise in foreign tourist arrivals, with Indian visitors becoming one of the major contributors. Officials expect the visa-free policy, along with more flights connecting smaller Indian cities to Thailand, to further accelerate visitor numbers. The popularity of Thailand among Indian tourists is driven by affordable travel options, attractive beaches, cultural experiences, shopping destinations and strong connectivity. The country has become a preferred international holiday destination for families, young travellers, honeymooners and business groups from India. Tourism officials believe India's growing economy and expanding middle class will continue to boost outbound travel. Thailand expects India's international travel market to grow

significantly in the coming years, creating new opportunities for tourism, hospitality and aviation sectors. Air connectivity is expected to play a major role in achieving the ambitious growth targets. Airlines have been increasing services between India and Thailand, including routes connecting smaller Indian cities, making international travel more accessible for a wider section of travellers. However, officials acknowledge that factors such as currency fluctuations and rising travel costs could influence travel decisions among some middle-income tourists. Despite these challenges, Thailand remains confident about sustained demand from Indian visitors. The country is also focusing on targeted tourism campaigns through digital platforms, social media promotions and holiday-season marketing to attract more Indian travellers. Festivals and holiday periods are expected to play an important role in boosting travel bookings. With visa-free access, better flight options and growing interest among Indian tourists, Thailand is preparing for a new phase of tourism growth. The expected rise in arrivals could further strengthen economic ties between India and Thailand while benefiting airlines, hotels and local businesses across the Southeast Asian nation.

7.1 Quake Hits Japan, Tsunami Alert Issued

A powerful 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck Japan's southern Kumamoto region on Kyushu island, triggering a tsunami advisory and emergency alerts across several coastal areas. The Japan Meteorological Agency reported that the earthquake occurred at a depth of around 10 kilometres beneath the surface, causing strong tremors in the affected region. The quake prompted authorities to issue tsunami advisories for nearby coastal regions, warning residents to stay away from shorelines as waves of up to around one metre were possible. Emergency agencies immediately began monitoring coastal conditions and assessing the impact of the earthquake. The tremors were felt across parts of Kyushu, Japan's southwestern main island. Authorities issued emergency warnings for multiple prefectures, urging people to remain cautious due to the possibility of aftershocks. Initial reports indicated damage to buildings and infrastructure in some areas, while emergency teams were deployed to



assess the situation. Transportation services, including railway operations, were affected as authorities carried out safety checks following the strong earthquake. Japan's disaster management agencies moved quickly to gather information and coordinate rescue and relief operations. Officials also monitored nearby nuclear facilities, with authorities checking for any possible impact from the earthquake. The earthquake has renewed concerns in a country that frequently experiences seismic activity due to its location along the Pacific "Ring of Fire." Japan has some of the world's strictest earthquake preparedness systems, including ad-

vanced warning networks and strict building regulations designed to reduce damage during major tremors. Experts have warned residents in the affected areas to remain alert for aftershocks in the coming days. Authorities have advised people to follow official instructions, avoid coastal areas until advisories are lifted and stay prepared for further seismic activity. The full extent of the damage is still being assessed, while emergency teams continue inspections across the affected regions. The incident once again highlights Japan's ongoing challenge of managing natural disasters in one of the world's most earthquake-prone nations.

Oman Offers Hormuz Plan To Iran



Oman has presented a regional proposal to Iran aimed at creating a joint mechanism to manage the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, according to sources familiar with the discussions. The plan seeks to ensure safe navigation through the waterway while preventing any single country from exercising complete control over the route. The proposed mechanism is reportedly inspired by the management model of the Strait of Malacca, where users of the shipping route voluntarily contribute funds for navigation services, environmental protection and search-and-rescue operations. Under Oman's proposal, Iran would not have exclusive authority over the Strait of Hormuz. The move comes amid heightened tensions in the Gulf region following the recent conflict involving Iran and the United States. The Strait of Hormuz, one

of the world's most important energy routes, has faced disruptions, raising concerns over global oil and gas supplies. The waterway plays a crucial role in international energy trade. Oman's diplomatic initiative is aimed at finding a regional solution that balances security concerns and commercial interests. Gulf countries have shown interest in discussions around a framework that could improve maritime safety while maintaining freedom of navigation through the strategic passage. Iran has repeatedly stressed the importance of regional cooperation in managing security around the Strait, while also seeking a greater role in decisions related to maritime movement in the area. Iranian officials have held discussions with Oman and other regional partners regarding stability and future arrangements for the waterway. The Strait of Hormuz is a criti-

cal chokepoint connecting the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. Any prolonged disruption in shipping activity through the route could have major consequences for energy markets, global trade and fuel prices. Analysts believe Oman's proposal represents an attempt to reduce military tensions and encourage diplomatic engagement among regional powers. However, major challenges remain, including disagreements over control, security responsibilities and the legal framework governing maritime access. The outcome of these talks could play a significant role in shaping the future security architecture of the Gulf region. A successful agreement may help restore confidence among shipping nations, while failure to reach consensus could keep uncertainty high around one of the world's most vital maritime corridors.

Elon Musk's X Enters Banking Race

Elon Musk's social media platform X has taken a major step toward becoming an all-in-one digital ecosystem with the launch of X Money, a financial services platform that combines payments, banking features and everyday money management within the app. The move marks one of Musk's biggest attempts yet to transform X into an "everything app" similar to platforms that combine social networking, commerce and financial services. X Money allows users to hold deposits, send instant peer-to-peer payments, pay bills, transfer money and access digital payment features without leaving the X platform. The service is being introduced initially for select users, with plans to expand its reach over time. A key feature of the platform is the X Money Card, a digital payment solution that allows users to make transactions through a linked account. The service is expected to offer features such as digital wallet support, payment management tools and other financial benefits designed to make everyday transactions easier. However, X Money is not operating as a traditional bank. Customer funds are managed through partner financial institutions, while X provides the technology platform and user ex-



perience. This approach allows the company to offer banking-style services while working within existing financial regulations. The launch reflects Musk's long-term vision of turning X into a comprehensive digital platform where users can communicate, shop, make payments and manage financial activities from a single application. Musk has previously highlighted the success of super-app models, where multiple services are integrated into one ecosystem. The expansion into financial services also represents a return to Musk's early connection with the digital payments industry. Before becoming a major technology entrepreneur through companies such as Tesla and SpaceX, Musk was involved in the online

payments sector through X.com, which later became part of PayPal. Despite the ambitious plans, X Money faces several challenges, including regulatory approvals, competition from established payment platforms and the need to build user trust. Concerns over data security, consumer protection and financial reliability are also expected to remain important issues. If successful, X Money could reshape the way people use social media platforms by combining communication, commerce and finance into a single digital ecosystem. The move highlights a growing trend of technology companies entering financial services to create deeper user engagement and unlock new revenue opportunities.



Trump, Netanyahu Set For Key Talks

U.S. President Donald Trump is set to host Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House in their first face-to-face meeting since the recent Iran conflict, with regional security and Middle East stability expected to dominate the high-level discussions. The meeting comes at a crucial time as tensions in the region remain high following the Iran war. Both leaders are expected to review the security situation and discuss ways to prevent further escalation while strengthening strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel. Iran is expected to be the primary focus of the talks. The two leaders are likely to discuss Tehran's nuclear programme, regional security concerns and future diplomatic efforts aimed at preventing another military confrontation. They are also expected to assess the impact of the recent conflict on the broader Middle East. Apart from Iran, discussions are expected to cover the ongoing situation in Gaza, Israel's security operations in Lebanon, and efforts to expand the

Abraham Accords, which seek to normalize relations between Israel and Arab nations. Both sides are also expected to exchange views on strengthening regional alliances. The meeting carries political significance for both leaders. Netanyahu is facing domestic political challenges, while Trump continues to navigate international scrutiny over U.S. policy in the Middle East. Analysts believe the outcome of the talks could influence future diplomatic and security strategies in the region. The visit also provides an opportunity for both leaders to hold discussions on wider global issues and strengthen their long-standing partnership. The talks are expected to reaffirm cooperation between Washington and Jerusalem while addressing differences over future strategies toward Iran and other regional conflicts. Governments across the world are closely watching the meeting for signals on the next phase of U.S. policy in the Middle East. The outcome could have major implications for regional stability, diplomatic negotiations and security partnerships in the months ahead.



J&J Faces \$5.5 Billion Talc Settlement

Healthcare giant Johnson & Johnson (J&J) has agreed to a proposed settlement of up to \$5.5 billion to resolve thousands of lawsuits alleging that its talc-based products, including its popular baby powder, were linked to ovarian cancer. The agreement could bring an end to a decade-long legal battle that has created significant challenges for the company. The settlement is expected to cover a large number of remaining claims filed in the United States, with thousands of people alleging that long-term use of J&J's talc products contributed to cancer risks. The company has consistently denied the allegations, maintaining that its talc products are safe and do not contain harmful levels of asbestos. The legal dispute has been ongoing for more than a decade, involving multiple lawsuits across US courts. The controversy has placed pressure on one of the world's largest healthcare companies, leading to billions of dollars in legal costs, settlements and efforts to manage future liabilities. Under the proposed agreement, J&J plans to make payments over multiple years, with a significant portion expected to be paid in the initial phase. The settlement still re-

quires approval from a large majority of claimants before becoming final. J&J officials said the company decided to pursue the settlement to bring closure to the long-running litigation and allow the company to focus on its core healthcare businesses. The company continues to argue that scientific studies support the safety of its talc products and that the claims against it lack merit. The legal battle has also influenced the company's product strategy. Johnson & Johnson had already moved away from talc-based baby powder in several markets and shifted toward alternative formulations as consumer preferences and regulatory scrutiny changed. The settlement marks one of the biggest corporate resolutions involving consumer product litigation in recent years. While it could remove a major uncertainty for J&J, the company still faces scrutiny over remaining legal issues and the broader impact of product liability claims on large healthcare firms. The development is being closely watched by investors and the pharmaceutical industry, as the outcome could influence how major corporations handle large-scale litigation risks in the future.



Manipal Health IPO Opens Today

Manipal Health Enterprises, one of India's leading hospital chains, is set to launch its 9,275-crore Initial Public Offering (IPO) on July 29, with the issue expected to remain open for subscription until July 31. The IPO has generated strong interest among investors, while the grey market premium (GMP) indicates the possibility of modest listing gains.

The company has fixed the price band at 560-590 per share. Retail investors can apply for a minimum lot of 25 shares, requiring an investment of 14,750 at the upper end of the price band.

The IPO comprises a fresh issue of 8,000 crore and an Offer for Sale (OFS) worth 1,275 crore by existing shareholders. The proceeds from the fresh issue will primarily be used to reduce debt and support the company's future expansion plans.

According to market observers, the current grey market premium suggests that the stock could list at a moderate premium over its issue price. However, analysts caution that GMP is only an unofficial market indicator and should not be considered a guarantee of listing performance.

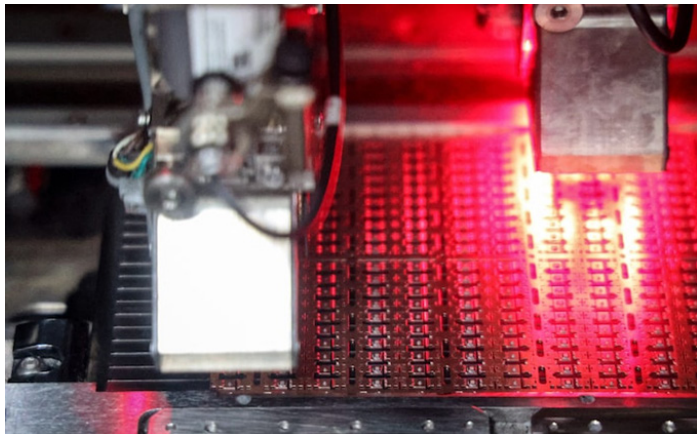
The basis of allotment is ex-

pected to be finalized on August 3, while successful applicants are likely to receive shares in their demat accounts on August 4. The company is scheduled to make its stock market debut on the BSE and NSE on August 5.

Manipal Health operates one of the country's largest healthcare networks, with hospitals spread across multiple cities. The company has built a strong presence in multi-specialty healthcare and has expanded significantly through acquisitions and capacity additions in recent years.

The IPO comes at a time when investor interest in the healthcare sector remains strong, supported by rising demand for quality medical services and long-term growth prospects. Market experts believe the company's established brand, extensive hospital network and expansion strategy make it an attractive long-term play, although investors should carefully evaluate the valuation and associated risks before investing.

With one of the biggest public issues of the year set to hit the market, all eyes will now be on investor response during the three-day subscription window and the stock's eventual market debut.



China's Chip Push Shakes Global Tech

China's growing progress in semiconductor manufacturing has sparked fresh concerns across the global technology industry after reports emerged that a state-backed company has begun producing home-grown immersion Deep Ultraviolet (DUV) lithography machines. The development triggered a sharp sell-off in semiconductor stocks worldwide, with investors reassessing the competitive landscape in the chip industry.

Lithography machines are among the most critical and sophisticated tools used in manufacturing semiconductors. For years, Dutch company ASML has dominated the market for advanced lithography equipment, making it an essential supplier for leading chipmakers across the world. China's latest breakthrough is being viewed as a major step toward reducing its dependence on foreign technology.

The reports also weighed heavily on shares of major semiconductor companies, including ASML, Nvidia, AMD, and Micron, as investors worried that China's progress could intensify competition and reshape the global chip supply chain. Companies involved in semiconductor equipment and AI hardware also came under pressure amid concerns over future market dynamics.

China has been accelerating efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in semiconductor manufacturing following years of ex-

port restrictions imposed by the United States and its allies. Developing domestic DUV lithography machines is considered a significant milestone because the technology can support the production of many advanced chips, even though it remains less sophisticated than the latest EUV systems manufactured by ASML.

Industry experts, however, caution that China's new machines are still in the early stages of commercial deployment. While they represent a strategic achievement, they are not yet expected to match the performance, reliability or production efficiency of ASML's established systems. Scaling up manufacturing and proving long-term reliability remain major challenges. Even so, the development signals that China is steadily narrowing the technology gap in one of the world's most complex industries. If domestic production continues to improve, Chinese chipmakers could become less dependent on imported manufacturing equipment, potentially reshaping global competition over the coming years.

For the semiconductor industry, the latest breakthrough highlights the growing technological rivalry between China and the West. While ASML and other global leaders continue to maintain a significant technological edge, China's rapid progress suggests that the race for semiconductor leadership is becoming increasingly competitive.

Markets End Flat Amid Volatility

Indian benchmark equity indices ended Tuesday's volatile trading session on a flat note as gains in information technology stocks were offset by weakness in banking and FMCG counters. Monthly derivatives expiry kept investors cautious throughout the day, resulting in range-bound trading.

The Sensex and Nifty 50 witnessed sharp intraday swings before closing with marginal changes. IT stocks emerged as the biggest support for the market, while banking and consumer goods stocks remained under pressure, limiting the overall gains. Market experts said the indices continue to trade within a narrow range, reflecting investor indecision ahead of key domestic and global triggers.

Among corporate developments, Hindustan Unilever Ltd. (HUL) remained in focus after reporting a decline in its first-quarter profit, leading to weakness in the stock. On the other hand, several companies announced their quarterly earnings, with mixed performances influencing sector-specific movements.

City Union Bank posted healthy growth in quarterly profit along with an improvement in asset quality, while Coal



India reported higher revenue and a modest rise in profit. Ambuja Cements reported a decline in profit despite continued business growth, and Pine Labs posted a sharp jump in quarterly earnings with improved operating margins. These earnings announcements kept stock-specific action active throughout the session.

The Indian rupee erased most of its early gains to end almost unchanged against the US dollar, reflecting cautious sentiment in the currency market. Meanwhile, investors also tracked global developments, including mixed cues from international markets and movements in crude oil prices.

Market analysts believe the

Nifty continues to face strong resistance around the 24,050 level, while immediate support is seen near 23,920. A decisive move beyond either level is expected to determine the market's next direction. Until then, traders are likely to witness continued consolidation with stock-specific opportunities dominating the market.

Despite the lack of a strong directional move, the session highlighted the resilience of Indian equities, with buying in IT stocks preventing a deeper correction. Investors are now expected to closely monitor upcoming corporate earnings, global market trends and macroeconomic developments for fresh trading cues.

Aventus Turns Bullish On Flexi-Cap Funds

Aventus Wealth has upgraded its outlook on flexi-cap mutual funds to 'overweight', citing attractive valuations after the recent correction in the equity markets. At the same time, the wealth management firm has raised its stance on mid-cap and small-cap stocks from 'underweight' to 'neutral', indicating improving opportunities for investors.

According to Aventus, the sharp market correction has brought valuations to more reasonable levels, particularly in large-cap stocks. As a result, it believes flexi-cap funds, which have the flexibility to invest across large-, mid-, and small-cap segments, are well-positioned to navigate current market conditions.

The firm continues to prefer large-cap stocks over mid- and small-caps but believes the recent decline has reduced valuation concerns in the broader market. Flexi-cap funds remain its preferred investment choice because fund managers can dynamically adjust allocations based on changing market conditions and emerging opportunities.

From a sectoral perspective, Aventus remains optimistic about banking and financial



services (BFSI) and manufacturing, identifying them as long-term structural growth themes. It also sees selective opportunities in auto ancillaries, chemicals, logistics, discretionary consumption, telecom, capital goods, defence, healthcare, and quality IT companies with strong execution capabilities.

The wealth manager has also upgraded its outlook on gold, silver, REITs and InvITs to neutral after recent price corrections. However, it has downgraded high-yield credit from overweight to neutral, citing concerns that higher inflation and interest rates could affect returns in that segment.

Aventus believes India's macroeconomic fundamentals re-

main supportive, backed by healthy corporate balance sheets, improving liquidity and continued government capital expenditure. However, it cautioned that global risks, especially fluctuations in crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions, could influence market sentiment in the near term.

Overall, the firm expects investors to benefit from a diversified investment approach through flexi-cap funds while maintaining a selective stance across sectors. It believes the recent market correction has created attractive long-term investment opportunities for disciplined investors willing to stay invested through market volatility.

IT Stocks Stage Strong Comeback

India's information technology (IT) sector witnessed a sharp rebound, with the Nifty IT index surging nearly 3% in a single trading session, outperforming the broader market despite weakness in several other sectors. The rally has sparked fresh optimism among investors, raising hopes that the worst of the correction in IT stocks may be over.

The recovery was led by frontline IT companies, including TCS, Infosys, HCLTech and Tech Mahindra, while mid-tier firms such as Coforge and Mphasis also posted strong gains. Positive quarterly earnings, improving investor sentiment and attractive valuations after the recent correction helped drive buying interest across the sector.

According to technical analysts, the Nifty IT index has bounced from key support levels, indicating renewed buying momentum. However, they caution that the index needs to sustain above important resistance zones before confirming a broader trend reversal.

Market experts believe investors should closely watch the 39,000-39,500 range on the Nifty IT index as a crucial resistance area. A decisive breakout above these levels could pave the way for further upside, while failure to hold recent gains may result in another phase of consolidation.

Among individual stocks,



analysts remain constructive on TCS, Infosys, HCLTech and Tech Mahindra, citing improving technical charts and better risk-reward opportunities after the recent decline. Several brokerages also believe the correction has made valuations more attractive for long-term investors.

The rally comes even as global technology stocks remain under pressure due to concerns over artificial intelligence spending, semiconductor developments and global economic uncertainties. Despite these challenges, Indian IT companies have benefited from bargain hunting and expectations that demand for dig-

ital transformation services will remain resilient.

Analysts advise investors to remain selective and focus on quality IT companies with strong balance sheets, healthy order books and consistent earnings growth. While near-term volatility may continue, the latest rebound suggests that investor confidence in the sector is gradually improving.

The coming weeks will be crucial for the IT sector, with upcoming corporate earnings, global economic data and management commentary likely to determine whether the current rally develops into a sustained recovery or remains a short-term bounce.



Invesco Launches Two New ETFs

Invesco Mutual Fund has launched two new passive investment schemes—the Invesco India BSE Sensex ETF and the Invesco India Nifty Bank ETF—offering investors an opportunity to gain exposure to India's benchmark equity index and the banking sector through exchange-traded funds. The New Fund Offers (NFOs) opened on July 28 and will remain open for subscription until August 11.

Both schemes are designed to replicate the performance of their respective benchmark indices as closely as possible, subject to tracking error. The Sensex ETF aims to mirror the performance of the BSE Sensex, while the Nifty Bank ETF will track the Nifty Bank Index, which comprises leading banking stocks in the country.

The funds will be managed by Abhisek Bahinipati, who will oversee the portfolios with the objective of delivering returns that closely match the underlying indices. As passive investment products, the ETFs are expected to have relatively lower costs compared to actively managed equity funds, making them attractive for long-term investors seeking market-linked returns.

The launch comes at a time when passive investing continues to gain popularity among Indian investors due to its simplicity, transparency and cost efficiency. Exchange-traded funds also offer the flexibility of being bought and sold on stock exchanges like regular shares, providing liquidity and ease of trading.

The Sensex ETF is aimed at investors looking for broad exposure to India's largest and most established companies across various sectors. Meanwhile, the Nifty Bank ETF is targeted at those who want to participate in the performance of the country's banking sector, one of the key drivers of the Indian economy.

According to the fund house, both ETFs are suitable for investors with a long-term investment horizon who are comfortable with market-linked risks. Since these are passive products, their returns will depend on the performance of the underlying indices rather than active stock selection.

With these launches, Invesco Mutual Fund has expanded its passive investment offerings, giving investors additional options to build diversified portfolios through low-cost, index-based investment products.



Kotak Sees Earnings Momentum Intact

India Inc.'s stronger-than-expected first-quarter earnings have provided confidence despite growing macroeconomic concerns such as rising crude oil prices, geopolitical tensions and a weaker-than-expected monsoon, according to Kotak Institutional Equities.

The brokerage noted that the robust earnings season has created a positive contrast with the challenging macro environment. While global uncertainties have resurfaced due to geopolitical developments and higher energy prices, it believes India's economic outlook remains resilient unless these risks intensify significantly.

Based on the June quarter results announced so far, Nifty 50 companies have delivered better-than-expected earnings growth. The brokerage expects this momentum to continue over the next two financial years, supported by improving business activity, a favourable base effect in several sectors and stronger commodity prices.

Kotak also pointed to encouraging high-frequency economic indicators, which suggest that the Indian economy continues to remain on a stable footing. Healthy credit growth, improving investment activity and sustained govern-

ment support for manufacturing and infrastructure are expected to drive corporate earnings in the coming years.

On valuations, the brokerage believes the overall market appears reasonably priced, mainly due to the correction witnessed in banking and information technology stocks. However, it cautioned that valuations in several other sectors remain elevated following the sharp rally in mid- and small-cap shares over recent months.

Kotak has retained its FY2027 GDP growth forecast at 6.5% and expects corporate earnings to remain on a healthy growth trajectory. It also revised its large-cap model portfolio by increasing exposure to select companies that offer attractive long-term growth potential following recent corrections in their share prices.

Despite near-term macroeconomic risks, the brokerage remains optimistic about India's long-term growth story. It believes strong corporate earnings, healthy domestic demand and continued investment activity will help the market navigate external challenges, although investors should remain watchful of developments related to crude oil prices, monsoon progress and global geopolitical conditions.

Jadeja Returns For Sri Lanka Tests

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced India's squad for the upcoming two-match Test series against Sri Lanka, with veteran all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja making a welcome return to the red-ball setup. His comeback is expected to strengthen India's balance with both bat and ball as the team prepares for an important overseas assignment.

The squad will continue to be

led by Shubman Gill, while experienced batter KL Rahul has been named vice-captain. The selectors have retained the core of the Test side, blending experienced campaigners with promising young talent for the series beginning in Galle.

One of the biggest talking points is the maiden Test call-up for Saransh Jain, the 33-year-old off-spin all-rounder from Madhya Pradesh. After years of con-

sistent performances in domestic cricket, Jain has finally earned an opportunity at the highest level, making his selection one of the highlights of the squad announcement.

Speedster Jasprit Bumrah has also been included in the squad, although his participation will depend on his fitness clearance. The team management is expected to take a cautious approach with the pace spearhead to en-

sure he is fully fit before returning to competitive Test cricket.

The batting unit features familiar names, including Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sai Sudharsan, KL Rahul, Dhruv Jurel, and captain Shubman Gill, providing India with a strong mix of youth and experience. Jadeja's return also boosts the spin department, where he is expected to play a crucial role alongside the other specialist spinners.

The two-match series will be an important part of India's preparations in the ongoing World Test Championship cycle. With challenging conditions expected in Sri Lanka, the selectors have opted for a balanced squad capable of adapting to spin-friendly surfaces while maintaining depth in both the batting and bowling departments.

India will be aiming for a



strong start to the series, with the return of Ravindra Jadeja and the inclusion of fresh talent expected to add greater strength

and flexibility to the squad as they look to continue their impressive performances in the longest format of the game.



India-Bangladesh Series Awaits Government Clearance

India's proposed white-ball tour of Bangladesh is likely to take place in the first half of September, but the series is still awaiting approval from the Government of India before it can be officially confirmed.

According to reports, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) are working closely to finalise the schedule and logistics. However, the tour can proceed only after receiving the necessary clearance from the government.

The proposed tour is expected to feature three One-Day Internationals (ODIs) and three Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is), marking the resumption of bilateral cricket between the two neighbouring nations after a prolonged gap.

Reports suggest that if the Bangladesh tour is approved, India's scheduled T20I series against Afghanistan could be postponed to create a two-week window in September. The move would help accommodate the Bangladesh series without disrupting the team's international calendar.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board has reportedly kept its venues available during the proposed period, while the BCCI is believed to be considering Dhaka and Chattogram as the primary venues for the matches.

The series carries added significance as cricketing ties between the two countries had been affected by scheduling issues and regional developments in recent times. Officials from both boards are now working to ensure that all arrangements are in place once the required approvals are received.

Although discussions have progressed positively, no official schedule has been announced yet. The final decision will depend on the Indian government's clearance, after which both cricket boards are expected to release the complete itinerary.

If approved, the six-match white-ball series will provide valuable match practice for both teams and strengthen bilateral cricketing relations between India and Bangladesh ahead of future international assignments.



Greaves Creates Historic Test Bowling Record

West Indies all-rounder Justin Greaves etched his name into the record books with a sensational bowling spell against Pakistan, producing one of the most remarkable performances in Test cricket history.

Playing in the first Test, Greaves ripped through the Pakistan batting line-up by claiming five wickets without conceding a single run during an extraordinary spell. Even more impressively, he delivered five consecutive wicket maidens, a feat never before achieved in the 149-year history of Test cricket.

Pakistan appeared to be in a commanding position after reaching 244 for 3, but Greaves completely turned the match on its head. Bowling with exceptional accuracy and movement, he triggered a dramatic collapse as Pakistan lost their remaining wickets in quick succession to be bowled out for 282.

Greaves finished with outstanding figures of 5 for 27, playing the decisive role in ensuring that the West Indies se-

cured a valuable first-innings lead. His relentless line and length gave the Pakistan batters no room to score, while his consistency forced a string of crucial breakthroughs.

The record-breaking spell has earned widespread praise from former cricketers and fans around the world. Delivering five successive wicket maidens in a Test match is considered one of the rarest achievements in cricket, underlining Greaves' remarkable control, patience and skill.

The performance also marked a significant milestone for West Indies cricket, with Greaves becoming the first bowler in Test history to achieve this unprecedented feat. His heroics not only shifted the momentum of the match but also placed him among the game's record holders.

With his unforgettable spell, Justin Greaves has produced one of the finest bowling displays in recent Test cricket, proving once again that a single inspired performance can completely transform the course of a match.

Sanju Opens Up On Kohli's Advice

Indian wicketkeeper-batter Sanju Samson has revealed that he once tried to follow Virat Kohli's disciplined lifestyle but eventually realised it was not something he could sustain. While acknowledging Kohli's incredible commitment to fitness and professionalism, Samson said he chose to find his own path instead of trying to imitate someone else's routine.

Recalling a conversation with Kohli during a gym session, Samson said the former India captain spoke to him about the importance of discipline, fitness and maintaining a consistent lifestyle. Inspired by the advice, Samson decided to adopt a similar approach in his own career.

According to Samson, he followed Kohli's strict routine for nearly a year. However, he later realised that the lifestyle did not suit his personality and natural way of living. He admitted that while Kohli's methods had played a huge role in making him one of the world's best cricketers, he needed to discover a routine that worked for him.

Samson stressed that every



player is different and that success cannot always be achieved by copying someone else's habits. He believes that understanding one's own strengths and staying true to oneself is equally important in building a successful career.

The Kerala batter also said he has decided to stay away from the "rat race" of constantly trying to meet other people's expectations. Instead, he now wants to play cricket on his own terms, trusting his instincts and enjoying the game without being influenced by outside opinions.

Samson explained that this change in mindset has given



him greater confidence and clarity. Rather than worrying about criticism or comparisons, he is focused on expressing himself freely on the field and making decisions that suit his style of play.

The wicketkeeper-batter's candid remarks have resonated with cricket fans, many of whom appreciated his honesty about balancing inspiration with individuality. While he continues to hold Virat Kohli in the highest regard, Samson believes the key to long-term success lies in creating a personal approach rather than trying to replicate another player's journey.

Raina Credits India's Fielding Revolution



Raina also spoke about the influence of players like Mohammad Kaif, whose athleticism and commitment inspired an entire generation of Indian cricketers. Watching teammates dive, chase every ball and convert half-chances into wickets motivated others to raise their own standards and helped create one of India's best fielding units.

Recalling memorable moments from his career, Raina said fielding often demanded complete commitment, even if it meant risking injury while attempting spectacular catches or saving crucial runs. He believes that this fearless attitude made India one of the strongest fielding sides in world cricket during that era.

Known as one of India's great-

est fielders, Raina earned a reputation for his sharp reflexes, safe hands and lightning-quick throws. His performances inside the 30-yard circle and in the outfield frequently turned matches in India's favour, making him an integral part of the team's success across formats.

Raina believes that India's rise as a world-class fielding side was not the result of individual brilliance but a collective mindset built on discipline, hard work and mutual inspiration. According to him, the culture established during those years continues to influence the next generation of Indian cricketers, ensuring that fielding remains one of the team's biggest strengths.

Usman Tariq Hits Back At Critics



maintained that if officials have any doubts, they have the authority to report a bowler for testing under the established regulations.

The 31-year-old also recalled a previous incident in the International League T20, where England batter Tom Banton questioned his action. Tariq said he made his feelings clear after dismissing Banton, adding that he prefers to let his performances answer his critics.

Tariq's bowling action has attracted attention because of its unique pause in the deliv-

ery stride and unconventional release. However, he has consistently maintained that his action is legal and has previously undergone the required assessments.

Despite the ongoing scrutiny, the Pakistan spinner remains focused on his cricket and believes repeated questioning by opposition players is both frustrating and unnecessary. He hopes that match officials will deal with such situations appropriately so that players can concentrate on the game rather than engaging in on-field controversies.

Rinku Wins Laxman's Attitude Award

India's dominant 3-0 T20I series sweep over Zimbabwe ended on a high note, with middle-order batter Rinku Singh receiving the 'Best Attitude of the Match' award, an initiative introduced by head coach VVS Laxman to recognize players who display exceptional commitment, discipline and team spirit.

The unique award has become a special feature of India's dressing room during the Zimbabwe tour. Unlike traditional awards based solely on runs or wickets, the honour celebrates players who consistently demonstrate the right attitude, professionalism and dedication both on and off the field.

While announcing the winner, India's Strength and Conditioning Coach A.I. Harsha praised Rinku Singh for his unwavering commitment and ability to thrive under pressure. He highlighted that the left-handed batter remained consistent in his approach throughout the series, sticking to his routines and maintaining the same level of intensity regardless of the match situation.

Harsha said the coaching staff unanimously agreed that Rinku deserved the recognition because of his relentless effort, positive mindset and willingness to contribute to the team's success in every possible way. According to him, handling pressure with confidence is what separates good players from great ones.



Receiving the medal, Rinku thanked the coaching staff and his teammates for their support. He credited the entire squad for India's unbeaten run in the series and said every player contributed to the clean sweep, making the award even more special.

The award has now become an important part of the team's culture under Laxman's leadership. Earlier in the series, other players were also honoured for their commitment and positive attitude, with Rinku becoming the latest recipient of the recognition.

India's impressive performances throughout the tour showcased not only their cricketing talent but also the emphasis on teamwork, discipline and a winning mindset. With the introduction of the Best Attitude Award, the coaching staff has reinforced the message that character, commitment and professionalism are just as valuable as individual statistics in building a successful team.

Father's Note Inspired Saransh's Dream



India's newest Test cricketer Saransh Jain has finally realised his long-cherished dream of representing the country, but behind his inspiring journey lies an emotional story of courage, sacrifice and a father's unwavering belief.

The 33-year-old all-rounder from Madhya Pradesh recently earned his maiden Test call-up for India's upcoming series against Sri Lanka after years of consistent performances in domestic cricket. His selection marks the culmination of more than a decade of perseverance and determination.

Saransh's biggest source of inspiration came during one of the most difficult phases of his life. In 2014, while he was touring Australia with a club team, his family hid the fact that his father, Subodh Jain, had been diagnosed with oral cancer. They feared the news would affect his focus and confidence while pursuing his cricketing dream.

Whenever Saransh called home asking to speak to his father, family members told him he was busy. Only after returning to India did he discover the painful truth. Following surgery, his father was unable to speak because of severe swelling caused by the treatment.

Unable to communicate verbally, Subodh wrote an emotional note to his son that would become

the turning point in Saransh's career. The handwritten message read: "Son, the better you perform, the sooner I will recover."

Those simple words became a lifelong source of motivation. Instead of allowing the difficult circumstances to break his spirit, Saransh used them as fuel to work harder and continue chasing his dream of playing for India.

Interestingly, Saransh learned about his maiden Test selection while visiting a Hanuman temple in Indore. Since he was inside the temple offering prayers, he missed several phone calls. It was only after stepping outside that he discovered he had been selected for the national team.

For his father, the achievement carries even greater emotional value. A former off-spinner himself, Subodh had once dreamed of representing India but could not fulfil that ambition. Watching his son wear the national colours has now turned his own unfulfilled dream into reality.

Saransh Jain's remarkable journey is more than just a story of sporting success. It is a testament to resilience, family support and the power of hope. His father's handwritten message continues to stand as a symbol of determination, proving that even during life's toughest battles, faith and perseverance can lead to extraordinary achievements.

Katrina Not Part Of Prabhas' Spirit

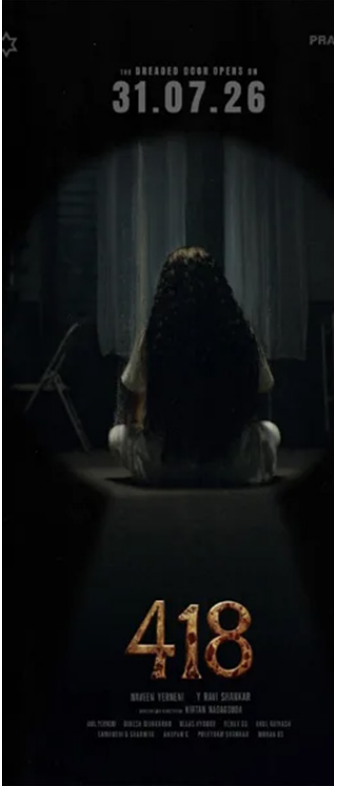
Speculation surrounding Bollywood star Katrina Kaif joining Prabhas in director Sandeep Reddy Vanga's much-awaited action film Spirit has been put to rest. Despite widespread rumours on social media, there is currently no official confirmation that the actress is part of the project. The buzz began after reports claimed Katrina had been approached for a key cameo or extended special appearance following casting changes in the film. The rumours quickly gained momentum, with fans believing the actress could make her return to Telugu cinema after nearly two decades. However, fresh reports indicate that these claims are inaccurate. Sources close to the production have clarified that Katrina has not been finalised for the film and that no official announcement has been made regarding her involvement.



Spirit remains one of the most anticipated Telugu films, marking the first collaboration between Prabhas and director Sandeep Reddy Vanga. The film features Triptii Dimri as the female lead and is expected to be a high-octane cop action drama. The project has attracted enormous attention ever since its announcement, making every casting rumour a major talking point.

'418' Trailer Release Officially Postponed

The makers of the upcoming Telugu horror thriller 418, presented by acclaimed filmmaker Prashanth Neel, have officially postponed the release of the film's trailer. The announcement came as a surprise to fans, who had been eagerly waiting for a glimpse of the much-anticipated horror entertainer. Sharing the update on social media, the team said the trailer would not be released as originally scheduled. In a cryptic message, the makers hinted that "some doors are better opened at the right time," assuring audiences that the wait would be worthwhile. However, they did not reveal the reason behind the postponement or announce a new trailer release date. Directed by Kirtan Nadagouda, 418 marks his feature directorial debut. He previously worked as an assistant and co-director to Prashanth Neel. The film is presented by Prashanth Neel and produced by Mythri Movie Makers, making it the production house's first venture into the horror genre. The film stars Surya Raj, Charan Lakkaraju, and Preethi Pagadala in the lead roles. Although the makers have kept the storyline under wraps, the project is being promoted as a mystery horror thriller packed with suspense and spine-chilling moments. Despite the trailer delay, the film's theatrical release remains scheduled as planned. Fans are hopeful that the postponed trailer will further raise expectations and offer a better look at the film's eerie atmosphere and intriguing narrative. With Prashanth Neel's name attached to the project and Mythri Movie Makers backing it, 418 has generated significant buzz among movie lovers. The makers have urged fans to stay tuned for the revised trailer launch date, promising that the wait will be rewarded with a memorable cinematic experience.



Anna Requests Fans To Use Married Name

Anna, the wife of actor and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, has made a heartfelt appeal to fans and the media, requesting everyone to address her by her married name, Anna Konidala, instead of her maiden name, Anna Lezhneva. The emotional message, shared on social media ahead of her birthday, has received an overwhelming response from admirers. In her note, Anna explained that a person's name is deeply personal and carries emotional significance. She revealed that she had wanted to make this request ever since she joined Instagram but struggled to find the right words to express her feelings. Anna recalled that most people came to know her as Anna Lezhneva when news of her marriage to Pawan Kalyan became public. However, she pointed out that the surname "Lezhneva" appeared only on the last official document before her marriage. After tying the knot with Pawan Kalyan in 2013, she officially adopted



his family name and became Anna Konidala. She said that "Anna Konidala" is the name she truly identifies with and feels most connected to. Concluding her message, she made a simple request to everyone: "Please call me Anna Konidala," adding that it would mean a great deal to her if people respected her choice. Anna also shared a nostalgic photograph taken during her first trip to Saint Petersburg, Russia, with Pawan Kalyan. The throwback picture added a personal touch to her emotional post and quickly attracted attention from fans. The post soon went viral across social media, with many supporters appreciating her honesty and respecting her decision to embrace her married identity. Fans flooded the comments section with messages of support, saying they would gladly honour her request and refer to her as Anna Konidala from now on. Anna's message has resonated with many people, highlighting how a name is not just an identity but also a reflection of one's personal journey, relationships and sense of belonging. Her heartfelt appeal has been widely appreciated for its sincerity, simplicity and emotional honesty.

Mahesh Babu Blesses Jaya Krishna's Debut

Superstar Mahesh Babu has once again extended his support to the Ghattamaneni family by meeting his nephew Ghattamaneni Jaya Krishna ahead of the release of his debut film, Srinivasa Mangapuram. The actor's warm gesture has delighted fans and further increased anticipation for the upcoming Telugu film. Mahesh Babu recently met Jaya Krishna and the film's director Ajay Bhupathi, conveying his best wishes to the entire team. Pictures from the meeting have surfaced on social media, showing the trio posing together with smiles. The images have quickly gone viral, with fans appreciating Mahesh's encouragement for the young actor. Srinivasa Mangapuram marks the acting debut of Ghattamaneni Jaya Krishna, the son of late actor Ramesh Babu and grandson of legendary superstar



Krishna. The film is considered an important milestone for the Ghattamaneni family as another member steps into Telugu cinema. Directed by Ajay Bhupathi, the film features Rasha Thadani as the female lead, while veteran actor Mohan Babu plays a key role. It is presented by veteran producer Ashwini Dutt and produced by P. Kiran under the Chandamama Kathalu banner. The music has been composed by G.V. Prakash Kumar, whose songs have already generated positive buzz among movie lovers.

Mahesh Babu has been actively supporting his nephew's launch. Earlier, he released a special video message wishing Jaya Krishna and the entire team success. He praised the teaser, trailer and songs, describing the newcomers as promising talents and expressing confidence that audiences would appreciate the film. Fans have welcomed Mahesh's continuous encouragement, calling it a reflection of the strong bond within the Ghattamaneni family. His latest meeting with Jaya Krishna has further boosted excitement for the film's theatrical release. With positive promotional buzz, strong backing from the Ghattamaneni family and the support of leading names in the Telugu film industry, Srinivasa Mangapuram is gearing up for its big-screen release amid high expectations from fans and movie enthusiasts.



Rana Daggubati To Play Ashwatthama? Ranbir Excited For Yash Face-Off



Director Prasanth Varma is moving ahead with his ambitious mythological film Jai Hanuman, the much-awaited sequel to the blockbuster HanuMan. While Rishab Shetty is set to headline the film as Lord Hanuman, the latest buzz from the industry is that Rana Daggubati has been approached to portray the powerful character of Ashwatthama. According to industry reports, Rana is being considered for the pivotal role, which is said to have immense importance in the film's narrative. Although there has been no official confirmation from the makers, the speculation has

already generated significant excitement among movie lovers. If the reports prove true, Rana's addition could further elevate the scale of the project. Known for his commanding screen presence and powerful performances in films such as Baahubali, Rana is considered a perfect fit for larger-than-life mythological characters. His portrayal of Ashwatthama is expected to add greater depth and intensity to the story. Jai Hanuman is one of the most anticipated films in the Prasanth Varma Cinematic Universe (PVCU). Following the massive success of HanuMan, expectations are sky-high for the sequel, which promises a grand blend of mythology, fantasy and high-end visual effects. The film is being jointly produced by Mythri Movie Makers and T-Series on a lavish budget, with the makers aiming to deliver a pan-India cinematic spectacle. Work on the project is progressing steadily, though the official release date is yet to be announced. Fans are eagerly waiting for more updates regarding the cast and storyline. If Rana Daggubati officially joins the project, Jai Hanuman is expected to become an even bigger attraction, bringing together an impressive cast for one of Telugu cinema's most ambitious mythological films. For now, the makers have remained silent on the speculation, leaving fans eagerly awaiting an official announcement. Until then, Rana Daggubati's involvement as Ashwatthama remains an exciting industry buzz.



Bollywood star Ranbir Kapoor has shared his excitement about working with Yash in the highly anticipated mythological epic Ramayana, revealing that the two actors are yet to film their much-awaited confrontation scenes. His comments have further raised expectations among fans eagerly waiting to witness the epic battle between Lord Rama and Ravana on the big screen. Speaking during a promotional interaction, Ranbir said he has not yet shot any scenes with Yash. He added that he is eagerly looking forward to sharing screen space with the KGF star, describing him as an actor with remarkable charisma and screen presence. Ranbir praised Yash's personality, saying he brings a unique aura and intensity that perfectly suits the role of Ravana. He expressed confidence that audiences would enjoy watching their on-screen rivalry once filming of the crucial sequences begins. The actor also spoke about the responsibility of portraying Lord Rama, calling it one of the biggest opportunities of his career. He said playing such an iconic character comes with immense responsibility and has inspired him to approach the role with sincerity and dedication. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, Ramayana features a stellar cast, including Sai Pallavi as Sita, Yash as Ravana, Sunny Deol as Hanuman and Ravi Dubey as Lakshmana. The film is one of the most ambitious projects in Indian cinema and is being mounted on a grand scale with cutting-edge visual effects. Ever since the film was announced, fans have been eagerly waiting to see the face-off between Ranbir Kapoor and Yash, two of Indian cinema's biggest stars. Although the filming of their confrontation is still pending, anticipation continues to grow with every update from the makers. With production progressing steadily, Ramayana remains one of the most awaited films in the country. Fans are now looking forward to more behind-the-scenes updates and, most importantly, the powerful on-screen clash between Ranbir Kapoor's Lord Rama and Yash's Ravana.



Dhanush's 'OM' Release Faces Uncertainty

The release plans for Dhanush's highly anticipated action drama OM have reportedly hit a hurdle, with industry buzz suggesting that the film's scheduled theatrical release may undergo a change. Although the makers have not made any official announcement, speculation surrounding the project has intensified in recent days. According to reports, OM is currently slated for release on October 16, 2026, the same date as Rajinikanth's Jailer 2. With two major films expected to clash at the box office, there are indications that the makers of OM are exploring the possibility of shifting the release to avoid direct competition. The situation has reportedly become more complicated because the film's post-theatrical streaming agreement with Netflix was structured around the original release schedule. Any change in the theatrical release date could require revisions to the existing digital rights agreement. Industry sources suggest that Dhanush and members of the production team are likely to hold discussions with Netflix officials in Mumbai to renegotiate the release and streaming timeline. If both parties reach an agreement, the makers are reportedly considering a Diwali 2026 release window. If the negotiations do not lead to a revised deal, the film may continue with its originally announced October release. Directed by Rajkumar Periasamy, OM boasts a star-studded cast featuring Dhanush, Mammootty, Sai Pallavi, Sreelatha, Naseeruddin Shah, and Chaitu Jonnalagadda in key roles. The film is jointly produced by Wunderbar Films and RTake Studios. The project has generated tremendous excitement ever since its announcement, and fans are eagerly waiting for clarity regarding its release plans. While the reports have fueled speculation, the makers are yet to issue an official statement on whether the film's release date will be changed. Until then, movie lovers will have to wait for an official update to know whether OM will stick to its scheduled release or arrive later during the festive season.

