



BUZZ POINTS



Security Move
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BJP Demands Proof
for MLA Poaching
Claims

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Bengal Announces
₹5 Lakh Aid for Rath
Yatra Committees

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Search Continues
for Four Missing
Boys in Yamuna

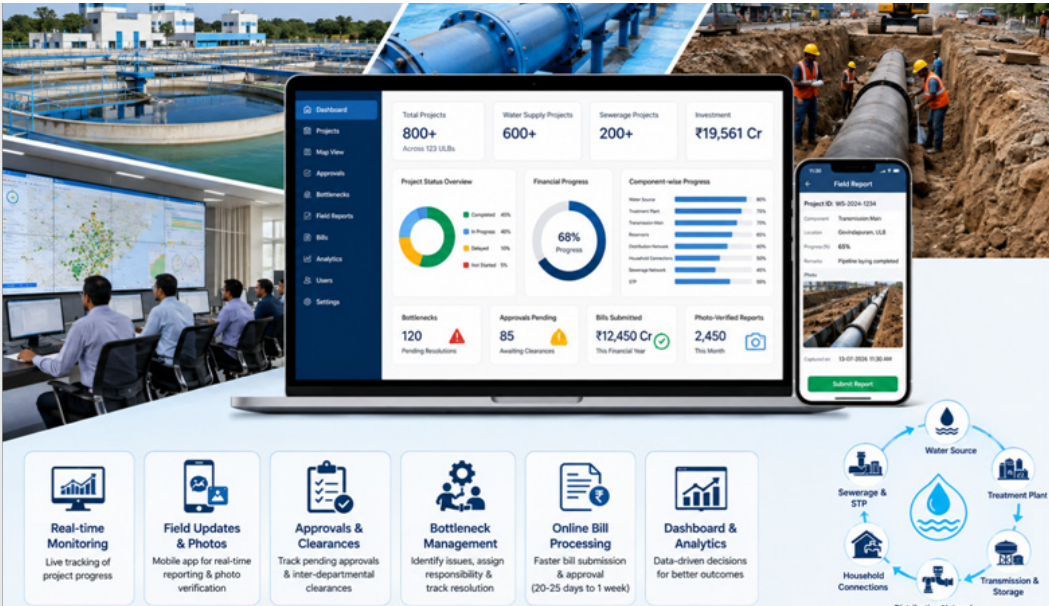
Digital Monitoring System to Track 800+ Urban Water Projects

K Kalyan Krishna Kumar

The state government has introduced a comprehensive On-line Works Monitoring System (OWMS) to track urban water supply and sewerage projects across the State, aiming to ensure faster execution, transparency and improved service delivery. The digital platform will monitor more than 800 projects being implemented in 123 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

The initiative, taken up by the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department, integrates project progress, field-level updates, approvals, bottlenecks and bill processing on a single platform. It enables officials to monitor every stage of infrastructure development, from water sources and treatment plants to pipelines, reservoirs, household connections and sewerage systems.

Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department S. Suresh Kumar said urban wa-



ter security cannot be achieved only by sanctioning projects but requires every component of the system to function together.

“Urban water security cannot be achieved merely by sanctioning projects or creat-

ing isolated assets. Every component—from the source to the household connection—must function as one integrated system. Our focus is on converting every rupee of public investment into reliable and measurable service delivery,” he said.

The State is implementing over 800 water supply and sewerage projects with an investment of approximately 19,561 crore under programmes including AMRUT 2.0, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)-assisted

AP Launches AI-Powered Digital Education Initiative in Govt Schools

K Kalyan Krishna Kumar

The state government has launched an initiative to introduce international-standard digital education in government schools through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and modern learning technologies. K. Srinivasa Rao, State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, said the programme aims to equip students with advanced digital skills and prepare them for future opportunities.

He said the government is transforming government



schools into digital learning hubs by introducing state-of-the-art Google Gemini AI-powered Chromebooks while ensuring transparency, legal compliance and efficient use of public funds.Srinivasa Rao stated that the procurement process was conducted through

Samagra Shiksha following Central Government guidelines, including General Financial Rules (GFR)-2017, Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order-2017, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) guidelines and Government e-Marketplace (GeM) regulations.He said no compromise was made on eligibility criteria such as past performance, annual turnover and solvency requirements. The tender process maintained equal opportunity, competition and quality standards, he

added.

The Chromebook package includes Google Gemini Enterprise for Education AI licence, Chrome Education Upgrade, three years of device management, installation and commissioning in 3,459 government schools across 26 districts, LEAP branding, teacher training, warranty and technical support.He explained that the 70:30 supply distribution model was adopted to prevent supply disruptions and over-dependence on a single vendor. Srinivasa Rao said Gemini

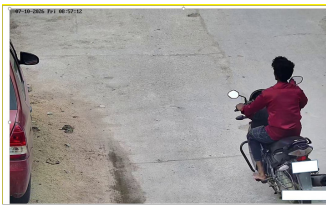
AI would help students through personalised learning, multilingual support and simplified explanations of complex subjects, while assisting teachers in preparing lesson plans, worksheets and digital content.He added that Chromebooks offer low maintenance costs, better security, centralised monitoring and improved learning outcomes. The initiative is expected to strengthen digital education and enhance students’ knowledge, skills and future employment prospects.

RTGS CCTV360 Proves to Be a Game Changer in Crime Detection

Harsitha Vipparla

Amaravati: The state government’s AI-powered RTGS CCTV360 platform is emerging as a powerful tool in crime detection, helping police recover stolen vehicles, trace missing persons and speed up investigations across the State.

The Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) has integrated over 14,750 CCTV cameras into the CCTV360 platform, ena-



bling Artificial Intelligence to analyse vehicle movements, identify travel patterns and generate real-time alerts for police. The system **p3**

AP Govt Steps Up Support After Vietnam Boat Tragedy

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh government has intensified efforts to ensure dignified repatriation of victims and provide comprehensive support to families following the tragic boat accident near Phu Quoc Island in Vietnam that claimed 15 Indian lives, including three from the State.

The mortal remains of all victims were flown to India and are expected to reach Mumbai before being transported to their respective



hometowns after completion of formalities.

Under the directions of Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, the AP Bhavan team in New Delhi has been coordinating

closely with the Ministry of External Affairs, the Indian Embassy in Vietnam and other agencies to ensure smooth arrangements.

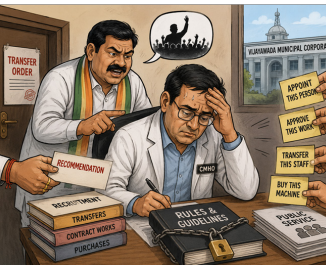
Officials said special arrangements have been made to transport the mortal remains of Andhra Pradesh victims from Mumbai to Hyderabad, where State Minister Kondapalli Srinivas will receive them before their final journey to native places.

The accident occurred when a speedboat carrying 32 Indian tourists capsized due **p3**

Political Pressure Behind CMHO Transfer?

Sreeja Rachabathuni

Vijayawada: The transfer of the Chief Medical & Health Officer (CMHO) from the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) has once again brought the issue of political interference in administration into the spotlight. Senior official Dr. K. Arjuna Rao was relieved of his responsibilities on Monday.According to sources, a local MLA reportedly wrote to the authorities seeking his transfer. It is also being



said that Arjun Rao himself had become frustrated with continuous political pressure and requested to be relieved of his post.

The incident has triggered discussions within the VMC regarding the increasing involvement of public representatives in the day-to-day functioning of the civic body.Many employees reportedly feel that senior officials are unwilling to protect their staff from political pressure, leaving honest officers with little choice but to seek transfers. Officials who insist on following government rules and established guidelines allegedly find it **p3**



Drone Technology Deployed for First-Ever Seed Ball Dispersal

Sravani Badugu

Chinturu: The Forest Department has launched the state’s first-ever drone-based seed ball dispersal programme in the Chinturu forest range as part of a large-scale afforestation initiative spearheaded by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan.

The programme follows Pawan Kalyan’s call on World Environment Day, June 5, to restore degraded forests and increase green cover across the state through the production and distribution of seed balls containing indigenous tree species. The Forest Department had initially targeted the production of 2.5 crore seed balls but, with public par-

ticipation, exceeded the goal by producing 3.80 crore seed balls.

According to officials, nearly 90 lakh seed balls have already been dispersed manually across suitable forest areas. Drone-assisted dispersal commenced on Monday in the Chinturu forest region, marking the first use of drone technology for this purpose in Andhra Pradesh.

Within the Chinturu forest range, five lakh seed balls were prepared, of which 2.71 lakh were distributed manually. The remaining seed balls are being dispersed using drones in remote and inaccessible forest areas where manual operations **p3**



Barrage Modernisation to Secure Godavari Delta Future: CM

CM inaugurates works for installing 117 new gates at Dowleswaram barrage

Kothapeta/Atreyapuram, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said the NDA coalition government has initiated measures to provide permanent protection to the Godavari Delta by modernising the historic Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram. He inaugurated works for replacing 117 barrage gates at an estimated cost of Rs. 152.95 crore and unveiled the foundation plaque on Monday.

The Chief Minister inspected water flow at the barrage and reviewed the progress of works with irrigation officials. He directed officials to complete the gate replacement by June next year, ahead of the Godavari Pushkaralu.

Officials informed him that around 27,000 cusecs of water is currently flowing into the sea, while 14,700 cusecs are being released through the canal system. He instructed officials and public representatives to ensure regular **p3**

AP Gets 325 More Govt MBBS Seats

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The state government has secured approval for 175 additional MBBS seats in two government medical colleges, taking the total number of new seats added in government medical colleges during the current academic year to 325. The National Medical Commission (NMC) has approved 100 seats for Government Medical

College, Piduguralla and 75 additional seats for Government Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada from the 2026-27 academic year.The NMC had earlier approved 75 additional seats for Kadapa Government Medical College, 25 seats for Nellore ACSR Government Medical College and 50 seats for Paderu Government Medical College. With these approvals, **p3**



CM Says Godavari Waters Will Reach Anakapalli on August 14

Polavaram, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday announced that Godavari waters would be welcomed through a ‘Jalaharathi’ programme at Anakapalli on August 14 and reiterated that the Polavaram

Project would be completed by March 2027.

After inspecting the project, the Chief Minister held a detailed review meeting with officials, public representatives and contracting agencies at the site. Officials informed him that 89 per cent

CS Reviews Preparations for Second Phase Job Calendar

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Chief Secretary G. Sai Prasad on Monday reviewed preparations for the second phase of the direct recruitment job calendar at a meeting held at the AP Secretariat with secretaries and Heads of Departments (HoDs).

The meeting discussed key issues, including notifications for posts under the second phase job calendar, completion of e-HRM processes, local cadre organisation, post allocation in new local cadres, prepara-



tion of seniority lists for priority categories, personnel allotment, opening of rosters and submission of indents to the APPSC and other recruitment agencies.The Chief Secretary directed officials



Fadnavis Visits Pawan Kalyan

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis visited Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan at Mumbai’s Kokilaben Hospital on Monday evening following the latter’s right shoulder surgery. He inquired about Pawan Kalyan’s health and wished him a speedy recovery.

“No Need to Fear Hindu Rashtra”: Ramdev, Sparks Political Row

New Delhi, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Yoga guru Baba Ramdev has sparked a fresh political controversy by stating that there is “no need for anyone to fear the idea of a Hindu Rashtra,” asserting that Muslims and Christians are safe in India.

Speaking at a public event, Ramdev said that despite following different religions, Indians share common ancestry. Recalling his visit to the Darul Uloom Deoband seminary in



2009, he said he had conveyed that India’s diversity should not create fear about the concept of a Hindu Rashtra.

He further claimed that the ancestors of all Indians be-

longed to the Sanatani tradition and urged people to preserve these values while continuing to practice their respective religions.

The remarks triggered sharp reactions from opposition leaders, who accused him of making statements that could deepen social and political divisions. Several leaders asserted that India is a secular republic governed by the Constitution and said discussions about altering its identity were inappropriate. **p3**

Durgesh Seeks Full Use of Pichchukalanka Tourism Land

Rajamahendravaram, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Minister Kandula Durgesh on Monday urged Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to amend the existing government order to enable the Tourism Department to fully utilise 62 acres of land at Pichchukalanka near Dhavaleswaram for tourism development.

Durgesh made the request while participating in the foundation stone-laying ceremony for the restoration of gates at the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage in Dhavaleswaram. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the 151-crore project for replacing 117 barrage gates in the presence of Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, Municipal Administration Minister P. Narayana, Labour Minister Vasamsetti Subash and local public representatives.

Addressing the gathering, Durgesh said the project reflected the coalition government's commitment to strengthening irrigation infrastructure and farmers' welfare. He alleged that



the previous YSRCP government had neglected the barrage, recalling that 58 gates were repaired during the 2014-19 period. He said the ongoing modernisation would ensure long-term benefits for the Godavari Delta.

Highlighting the Pichchukalanka proposal, Durgesh said the existing government order permits the Tourism Department to utilise only 20 per cent of the available land. He appealed to the Chief Minister to amend the order so that the entire land parcel could be used for tourism projects, unlocking the area's full development potential. He also thanked the Chief Minister on behalf of the Jana Sena Party and the ruling coalition for initiating major development works in the Godavari region.

IIT Kharagpur Team Visits Amaravati Projects

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

A team from IIT Kharagpur visited the Amaravati capital region on Monday to study the infrastructure development works being carried out by the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA).

IIT Kharagpur Professor M. Amaranatha Reddy and Associate Professor (Transportation Engineering) Dr. Kranti Kumar Kuna held discussions with engineering officials at the ADCL headquarters in Rayapudi. Later, they visited LPS Zones 12, 10, 9 and 5C, which are being developed for farmers who contributed their lands for the capital project.

During the visit, the team in-



spected the road construction methods being followed in the LPS zones. APCRDA engineering officials explained the technical approaches adopted in Amaravati's development works and briefed them on the infrastructure facilities being created in the respective zones.

The visit was aimed at understanding the planning and execution methods followed in the capital region development projects.

Justice Sunitha Ghandam Felicitated

East Godavari, July 13 | TPN Bureau

AP High Court Judge Justice Sunitha Ghandam received a warm farewell and felicitation from judicial employees of the erstwhile East Godavari district on Monday. The event was held at the conference hall of the multi-storied court complex amid emotional moments.

Justice Sunitha Ghandam was honoured for her services as the Chief Judge of the erstwhile East Godavari district before being elevated to the High Court. Judicial employees praised her efforts in resolving staff issues, completing promotions, transfers, probation and regularisation processes.

Judicial Employees Association State Working President A.B. Janardhan Rao said Justice Sunitha had ensured 100 per cent pro-



motions for eligible employees and took employee-friendly decisions.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Sunitha Ghandam said her three years and two months of service in East Godavari had been highly satisfying. She recalled her strong bond with the Godavari region and urged staff to continue working with dedication to uphold the dignity of the judiciary.

Judicial officers and staff from various parts of the district participated in the farewell programme.

PIN POINT

YS Jagan to Visit Visakhapatnam, Console Boat Tragedy Victims

Tadepalli: Former Chief Minister and YSRCP President Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy will visit Visakhapatnam on July 14 to console the families of fishermen who went missing in the recent boat tragedy and assure them of the party's support. He will meet the bereaved families at Jabbar Thota and later visit Kari Chinna, the lone survivor, to enquire about his health. Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Botsa Satyanarayana said YSRCP leaders have been assisting the affected families since the tragedy and demanded adequate compensation from the government. He also called for a permanent safety mechanism for fishermen and alleged that the coalition government had failed to respond adequately. Jagan is scheduled to return to Tadepalli later in the day.

DPH Releases Provisional Seniority List of Medical Officers

Amaravati : The Directorate of Public Health and Family Welfare (DPH), Andhra Pradesh, has released the provisional seniority list of Civil Assistant Surgeons (CAS) and Dental Assistant Surgeons (DAS) on its official website. Medical officers serving in Primary Health Centres, medical colleges under the Directorate of Medical Education, on deputation under the Directorate of Secondary Health, the National Health Mission, and other departments have been asked to verify their details. Director of Public Health and Family Welfare K. Padmavathi urged officers to check their service records and submit objections, if any, with supporting documents by 5 PM on July 16, 2026. The final seniority list will be issued after examining all objections.

AP Health Team Studies Odisha Drug Supply Model

Bhubaneswar, July 13 | TPN Bureau

A special committee of the Andhra Pradesh Health Department visited Bhubaneswar on Monday to study the medicine procurement and distribution system followed in Odisha for government hospitals.

The visit was undertaken on the directions of Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav. The delegation, led by Additional Director of Medical Education Dr. Radhika Reddy, held discussions with Odisha Medical Services Corporation Managing Director Dr. Pomatudu and other officials at the corporation's office.

Officials informed the committee that the corporation procures medicines worth around 750 crore annually. They said 30 per cent of medicines for teaching hospitals



and 10 per cent for other government hospitals are purchased locally. Payments to medicine suppliers are generally cleared within one to two months.

The committee also visited the Government Capital Hospital and the central drug warehouse in Bhubaneswar to study storage and distribution prac-

tices. The delegation included senior Health Department official Ganapati Rao, Guntur Government General Hospital Superintendent Durga Prasad, APSMIDC Drug Wing In-charge Sadhu Srinivas Rao, Pharmacy Officers Y. Padma Meenakshi and Srinivas, and APSMIDC Senior Project Manager Aswini.

Gurukul Expansion Planned for Students

Ongole, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Minister Savitha on Monday said the coalition government is expanding educational opportunities for students from weaker sections through new Gurukul institutions and welfare initiatives.

During her visit to Singarayakonda in Kondepi constituency, the minister inaugurated a 65-lakh BT road and inspected the site for the permanent campus of the MJP Girls Gurukul School at Tangutur along with



Social Welfare Minister Dola Bala Veeranjaneeya Swamy.

Speaking on the occasion, Savitha said the government had sanctioned 45 crore for the school building and would gradually replace hostels with Gu-

Fix Subsidy Power Issues, Demands BJP Chief PVN Madhav

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

PVN Madhav has urged the government to take immediate steps to ensure proper implementation of subsidised electricity schemes, stating that thousands of eligible poor and middle-class families are losing benefits due to Aadhaar linking errors.

Madhav said complaints received through the BJP's "Janata Varadhi" programme revealed that multiple electricity service connections were wrongly linked



to a single Aadhaar number, depriving genuine beneficiaries of welfare schemes, social security pensions and subsidised power.

He criticised the practice of asking affected consumers to provide

Aadhaar details of unrelated persons to correct the errors, saying the responsibility lies with the department. He said inadequate staffing in Electrical Revenue Office (ERO) centres was delaying corrections and grievance redressal.

Madhav demanded a statewide data audit, special drives to rectify Aadhaar-service linkage issues, filling of vacant ERO posts and temporary protection of welfare benefits until the problems are resolved.

Pattabhiram Instructs Auto Nagar Waste Clearance

Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman Kommareddy Pattabhiram on Monday directed officials to identify a suitable site for establishing a Garbage Transfer Station in Auto Nagar and clear nearly 2,000 metric tonnes of accumulated waste within 10 days.

Reviewing municipal solid waste management at the APIIC zonal office, Pattabhiram instructed APIIC and Industrial



Area Local Authority (IALA) officials to prepare a proposal for the project with technical support from the Swachh Andhra Corporation. The proposed facility will serve as a temporary waste collection and segregation centre, with compactors transporting the

waste to the Jindal Waste Processing Plant for scientific disposal.

Officials said waste had piled up after the Guntur processing plant was temporarily shut for maintenance. Pattabhiram directed Tadigadapa Municipal Commissioner Nazir and Compactor Maintenance Team In-charge Nuthakki Rammohan to prepare an action plan and remove the accumulated waste by July 23. He also suggested introducing electric vehicles to improve the efficiency of door-to-door waste collection across the industrial area.

Minister TG Bharat Inaugurates Homes for Poor

Kurnool, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Minister T.G. Bharat on Monday inaugurated newly constructed houses for two poor beneficiaries at Dabara in Kurnool city's 11th ward.

Telugu Desam Party leaders Khan Brothers built the houses for Parvathamamma and Raju, who were living in severely damaged homes. The houses were constructed with their own funds of 36 lakh to sup-



port the two destitute beneficiaries.

After inaugurating the houses by cutting the ribbon, Minister T.G. Bharat appreciated the service initiative taken by

Khan Brothers and said such humanitarian efforts would inspire others to come forward and help the needy.

Parvathamamma expressed happiness and gratitude, stating that she would always remember the support extended by Khan Brothers during difficult times. Later, Mehaboob Khan said they were following the path of service shown by Minister T.G. Bharat and would continue such welfare activities.

Short Hajj Option Introduced for 2027 Pilgrimage

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Minister NMD Farook on Monday announced that the Hajj Committee of India has introduced a "Short Hajj" facility for Hajj-2027, allowing pilgrims to complete the pilgrimage within a reduced period of around 20 days.

Farook said the option would benefit those who prefer a shorter stay and advised eligible pilgrims to select the Short Hajj option while submitting their applica-

tions online. The package includes a two- or three-day stay in Madinah, with no difference in cost compared to the regular 35-45 day Hajj package.

The minister said the facility would be available to a maximum of 10,000 pilgrims across the country through a selection process. Pilgrims opting for Short Hajj cannot change the package after submitting the application. If selected for Hajj but not shortlisted for the Short Hajj option, applicants will automatically be considered un-

der the regular package.

He said Short Hajj services will operate from Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Kolkata and Ahmedabad. The minister urged pilgrims to submit applications before the July 20 deadline and avail the facility. He also asked Andhra Pradesh pilgrims choosing Vijayawada embarkation centre to utilise the government's 1 lakh financial assistance scheme for Hajj travel through Gannavaram Airport.

Amaravati Championship 2.0 to Begin on July 15



Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Sports Authority (SAAP) on Monday unveiled the poster for Amaravati Championship 2.0, a state-wide sporting event aimed at identifying and nurturing young talent from schools to universities. SAAP Chairman Animini Ravi Naidu, Vice Chairman and Managing Director S. Bharani, international chess player Koneru Humpy, and double Olympian Rajani launched the poster at the SAAP office in Labbipet.

Ravi Naidu said the championship will begin on July 15 and feature competitions in 12 sports under the Under-17 and Under-23 categories. Selections will be held across 175 Assembly constituencies from July 15 to

24, followed by district-level events from August 1 to 15 and state-level competitions from August 20 to 25. Winners will receive cash prizes totalling 94 lakh on National Sports Day, August 29.

He said the championship aims to discover hidden sporting talent, with a target of attracting three lakh participants. Bharani described the event as a valuable platform for students and young athletes to showcase their abilities. Koneru Humpy and Rajani urged students and parents to actively embrace sports, highlighting their role in building confidence, discipline, and physical and mental strength. The event was also attended by SAAP Administrative Officer Ramavath Venkata Ramana Nayak, international athletes, and SAAP staff.

APCRDA Receives 52 Grievances From Capital Region Farmers

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) conducted its weekly Grievance Day programme at its headquarters in Rayapudi on Monday, receiving 52 petitions from Capital Region farmers, agricultural labourers and village residents.

APCRDA Commissioner V. Vijaya Rama Raju reviewed departmental activities with officials and Special Deputy Collectors, directing them to complete assigned tasks within the stipulated timelines. Additional Commissioners A. Bhargava Teja, Kollabathula Karthik and T. Rahul Kumar Reddy received petitions and assured the applicants of early resolution.

Officials informed that grievances can be submitted on all working days at the Citizen Grievance Centre, while the



weekly Grievance Day is held every Monday from 10 AM to 1 PM.

APCRDA also operated a Help Desk to resolve NPCI and bank linkage issues of farmers, helping them complete the process for crediting annual lease payments. GRM Nodal Officer P. Jayasri, Engineer-in-Chief R. Gopal Krishna Reddy, Group Director Social Development V. Ramulu, Group Director Accounts & Finance K. Paleswar Rao, Director Lands B.L. Chennakesava Rao, Director Human Resources B. Mallikarjuna Reddy and other officials participated.

Sanskrit Academy Plans Wider Outreach

Vaddeswaram, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Sanskrit Academy Chairman R.D. Wilson, also known as Sharath Chandra, on Monday said the academy aims to make Sanskrit accessible to everyone by dispelling the misconception that only scholars can study the language.

Addressing a conclave of Sanskrit scholars at the Telugu and Sanskrit Academy in Vaddeswaram, he said Sanskrit has the potential to unite people across caste and religious divisions. He stressed that the language, once the foundation of India's knowledge tradition, should not be viewed as being confined only to religious studies. Scholars suggested organising a statewide Sanskrit Week,



publishing simple books with moral stories and patriotic themes for students, and using digital platforms to promote the language. Acharya Deekshitulu described Telugu and Sanskrit as closely related, while Acharya Dorbala Prabhakar Sharma highlighted Sanskrit's antiquity. Acharya Ramana Sastry proposed orientation programmes for teachers. Deputy Director Koteswari, Dr. S.V.T. Rajyalakshmi, Dr. Glory Satyavani and several Sanskrit scholars participated in the meeting.

Relief Released for 1.34 Lakh Fishermen Families

Amaravati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The state government has released a new Government Order (GO) for providing marine fishing ban relief under the "Matsyakaarula Sevalo" programme for the year 2026-27.

As part of the scheme, the government sanctioned 11.82 crore in the second phase for 5,910 remaining beneficiaries who were left out due to technical and other reasons. Earlier, 256.776 crore was released in the first phase for 1,28,388 fishermen families. With this, fi-

nancial assistance will be provided to a total of 1,34,298 fishermen families affected during the marine fishing ban period.

Officials said the relief aims to support fishermen families who lose their livelihood during the fishing restriction period and prevent financial hardships. The coalition government is giving priority to fishermen welfare and has taken this decision as part of measures to strengthen livelihood security and provide timely assistance to the fishing community.

Kanaka Durga Temple Tops AP Survey in Devotee Satisfaction

Sreeja Rachabathuni

Vijayawada: The Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam, popularly known as Goddess Kanaka Durga Temple, located on the historic Indrakeeladri hill in Vijayawada, has secured the top position among major temples in Andhra Pradesh in a recent state government survey. The recognition highlights the temple administration's efforts towards improving devotee facilities, strengthening services and adopting modern management practices.

The survey assessed several aspects of temple functioning, including the quality of darshan arrangements, cleanliness, prasadam distribution, infrastructure facilities, digital services and crowd management. The feedback collected from devotees indicated a positive response towards the steps taken by the temple



Devotee Satisfaction Survey

Category	June 2026	July 2026
Darshan Experience	75.3%	73.5%
Quality of Facilities	66.3%	67.3%
Prasadam Quality	79.5%	75.9%
Cleanliness/Hygiene	70.8%	66.6%
Overall Satisfaction	72.5%	70.7%

authorities to provide a better spiritual experience.

Over the past year, the temple administration has focused on improving facilities for the increasing number of

pilgrims visiting the shrine. Better coordination in crowd regulation, technology-based services and faster response to devotee grievances have contributed to improving the

overall experience at the temple.

Temple Executive Officer (EO) V.K. Seena Naik said the achievement was the result of the combined efforts of temple employees and officials. He stated that the administration's priority has always been to provide devotees with a comfortable and peaceful atmosphere while visiting the shrine.

The temple has introduced several modernization measures, including digital services aimed at making pilgrim services more accessible and efficient. A three-tier security system has also been implemented to manage the large flow of devotees and ensure safety within the temple premises.

The administration has also taken steps towards greater transparency by displaying details related to temple assets and land holdings. Officials said such measures are

aimed at strengthening public confidence and ensuring better accountability in temple management.

According to the survey data, the temple received an overall satisfaction score of 70.7 per cent in July 2026. The satisfaction level for darshan experience stood at 73.5 per cent, while facilities received 67.3 per cent positive feedback. Prasadam quality recorded 75.9 per cent satisfaction, and cleanliness received 66.6 per cent positive feedback.

The Kanaka Durga Temple, one of the most visited spiritual centres in Andhra Pradesh, attracts lakhs of devotees throughout the year, particularly during the Dasara celebrations. Temple officials said efforts would continue to enhance facilities, improve services and make Indrakeeladri a more convenient and devotee-friendly pilgrimage destination.



International Telugu Women Writers' Conference Concludes

Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The third International Telugu Women Writers' Conference concluded on a grand note at KBN College in Vijayawada, with writers, scholars and literary enthusiasts from India and abroad stressing the need to preserve Telugu language, literature and cultural heritage.

The conference was organised as part of the birth centenary celebrations of Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao at the Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani auditorium. MLA Mandali Budha Prasad, scholar Yarlalagadda Lakshmi Prasad and Andhra Pradesh Women's Commission Chairperson Dr. Rayapati Shailaja attended the valedictory session.

Writers from Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Chennai, Bengaluru, Odisha, Hyderabad, Nellore and Guntur highlighted the importance of promoting Telugu

among future generations. Telugu writer Sudha Chittapragada from Qatar urged families living abroad to continue speaking their mother tongue and preserve traditions.

At the education seminar, Dr. Darba Lakshmi Suhasini stressed the importance of quality education, while Vangari Triveni and Dr. Devulapalli Padmaja called for meaningful research in Telugu literature.

During the cultural session, Attaluri Vijayalakshmi and Joshyula Shyamala Devi encouraged children to develop interest in literature, theatre and libraries.

In the Telugu Language Movement seminar, Punugoti Saraswati advocated wider use of Telugu in government administration. Writers Lakshmi Pavan, Sagili Sudharani and Vedala Gayatri Devi also spoke on strengthening unity among Telugu-speaking communities worldwide.

Collector Urges Timely Voter Form Submission

Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha directed officials to resolve Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) petitions promptly and maintain public trust. During the PGRS programme at the Sri Pingali Venkayya Conference Hall in the Collectorate on Monday, the Collector, along with Joint Collector S. Ilakkiya and DRO M. Lakshminarasimham, received 237 petitions.

The petitions included 70 Revenue, 62 Municipal and Urban Development, 26 Police, 22 Panchayat Raj, 13 Water Resources and 9 Electricity-related complaints. The Collector instructed officials to verify facts, examine grievances and inform petitioners about action taken.



Reviewing SIR-2026 voter registration, Dr. Lakshmisha urged voters to submit enumeration forms by July 14 for inclusion in the draft electoral roll to be published on July 21. He advised voters to approach Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and special help desks.

On fertilizer availability, the Collector said chemical fertilizers, including urea, and pesticides are sufficiently available in NTR district. He warned of strict action against those spreading rumours, illegally transporting fertilizers or creat-

ing artificial scarcity.

He said fertilizer distribution is being managed through the APAIMS app. The district currently has 17,425 metric tonnes of urea stock, while 22,616 farmers purchased 3,888 metric tonnes since June 8.

The Collector also approved the 2026 annual action plan of the District Youth Activities Co-ordination Committee, focusing on youth empowerment, skill development and "My Bharat" registrations. Officials informed that a 7.76 crore proposal was submitted for Vijayawada Youth Hostel redevelopment.

PGRS Nodal Officer G. Jyothi, District Agriculture Officer D.M.F. Vijaya Kumari, District Horticulture Officer P. Balaji Kumar, NTR District Youth Officer B. Pradeep Kumar and officials participated.

Durga Temple Ready for Ashada Sare Festival

Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam on Indrakeeladri has completed elaborate arrangements for the month-long Ashada Sare Samarpana festival, which will begin on July 15 and continue till August 12.

Temple Executive Officer V.K. Sheena Naik, accompanied by members of the Trust Board and officials, inspected the facilities on Monday and reviewed preparations to ensure a smooth and safe pilgrimage for devotees. He said special arrangements, including a cloak room, free foot wear stand and mobile phone deposit counters, have been set



up at Sri Kanaka Durga Nagar to manage the expected rush.

According to the temple administration, devotees offering sarees to Goddess Kanaka Durga must first register at Kanaka Durga Nagar before entering the queue for darshan. After offering prayers through the 100 Bhavani Anugraha Darshan queue, devotees will present their ceremo-

nial offering on the sixth floor of the Maha Mandapam and receive Ashirvachanam. Anna Prasadam will also be served.

Later in the day, the EO held a review meeting with senior city police officials, including DCP G. Ramakrishna, to finalise security, traffic management and crowd-control measures. Police assured full support for the smooth conduct of the festival.

Sthanacharya V. Siva Prasad Sharma said the first ceremonial Sare offering to the Goddess will be performed by the temple priests at 7.30 a.m. on July 15, marking the formal commencement of the festival.

Free Health Camps Held for Handloom Workers

Pedana, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Free medical camps for handloom and Kalamkari workers were organised at three locations in Pedana on Monday as part of the Andhra Pradesh State Handicrafts Festival to support the health and well-being of traditional artisans.

Pedana MLA Kagita Krishna Prasad inaugurated the camps conducted by the Handlooms and Textiles Department with support from the District Medical and Health Department, following the directions



of Deputy Chief Minister Konidela Pawan Kalyan and guidance of Krishna District Collector D.K. Balaji.

Camps were held at Veerabhadrapuram, Matham Street and Brah-

mapuram, where free eye check-ups, blood pressure and sugar tests were conducted. Medicines were distributed based on medical advice.

The MLA said handloom workers often face health issues due to long hours of weaving and assured that similar camps would be conducted in Guduru mandal. District Coordinator of NTR Vaidya Seva Dr. S. Satish Kumar, officials, doctors and medical staff participated.

Fire Guts Frozen Foods Unit in Kanuru

Vijayawada, July 13 | TPN Bureau

A major fire broke out at Sri Vijaya Durga Frozen Foods in New Auto Nagar, Kanuru, during the early hours of Monday, causing extensive damage to the industrial unit. No casualties were reported as the factory was vacant at the time.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel rushed to the spot



and brought the blaze under

control after an intensive operation. Preliminary investigation suggested a possible electrical short circuit as the cause, though officials are verifying the details.

Machinery, equipment, raw materials and other assets were destroyed, with the loss estimated at around 90 lakh. Police registered a case and launched an investigation.

AP Government Appoints New DMHOs in 12 Districts

Amaravati, July 12 | TPN Bureau

The state government on Monday appointed new District Medical and Health Officers (DMHOs) in 12 districts following promotions under the Civil Surgeon Specialist (General) category, with approval

from Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

Based on performance assessments, existing DMHOs of Anakapalli, Kakinada and Ananthapuram were transferred to other posts. New DMHOs have been posted in Man- yam, Srikakulam, Eluru,

Rajahmundry, Machilipatnam, Dr NTR, Chittoor, Kadapa and Bhimavaram districts.

Officials said the reshuffle aims to strengthen healthcare administration and improve service delivery across districts.

PIN POINT

YSRCP Doctors' Wing Welcomes Piduguralla MBBS Seat Approval

Vijayawada : The YSRCP NTR District Doctors' Wing on Monday welcomed the approval of 100 MBBS seats for Government Medical College, Piduguralla, calling it a major step in expanding medical education and healthcare facilities. In a statement, Dr. Ambati Naga Radhakrishna Yadav, Chairman of YSRCP NTR District Doctors' Wing, said the approval reflected former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's healthcare vision. He claimed that most infrastructure work was completed during the previous YSRCP government. He said admissions from the 2026-27 academic year would benefit students and improve healthcare access. The wing urged the government to speed up pending medical college projects across the State.

General Pool Counseling for ITI Seats on July 15

Vijayawada: General Pool Counseling will be conducted on July 15 to fill vacant seats in various trades at Vijayawada Government Industrial Training Institute (ITI), said M. Kanaka Rao, Principal and Convener, Government ITI, NTR District. He said candidates who applied for ITI courses but could not secure seats, along with those who missed earlier counseling sessions, can attend the counseling. Eligible candidates must report in person at the ITI premises at 8 am. Candidates should bring original certificates, including 10th marks memo, TC, caste certificate, EWS certificate, Aadhaar card and study certificates. A caution deposit fee of Rs. 60 is applicable for selected candidates except SC and ST categories. For details, candidates can contact 0866-2475575, 94906 39639 or 77804 29468.

CITU Seeks Release of Pending Salaries for VMC Contract Workers

Vijayawada: The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) on Monday demanded immediate release of four months' pending salaries for 43 contract workers of the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Engineering Department. A Municipal Workers' Union delegation submitted a representation to the Municipal Commissioner, who assured necessary action. Former CPM Floor Leader Boi Satyababu and Union Circle-1 Secretary V. Samulu alleged that contractors had failed to clear wages, causing financial difficulties for workers. They said employees were struggling to meet household expenses and warned of intensified protests if salaries were not released soon. Union leaders Durga Rao, Ramu, Ganga and contract workers participated.

Collector Stresses Timely Grievance Redressal



Machilipatnam, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Krishna District Collector D.K. Balaji on Monday directed officials to ensure that all public grievances are resolved within the stipulated time, asserting that there is no room for negligence in addressing citizens' complaints.

The Collector was speaking during the 'Meekosam' public grievance redressal programme held at the PGRS Meeting Hall in the Collectorate. He received petitions from the public along with Joint Collector M. Naveen, In-charge DRO P. Pothuraju, KRRC SDC P. Neelakanteswara Reddy and Chilakalapudi CI S.K. Abdul Nabi.

Balaji instructed officials to strictly follow procedures while processing petitions and uploading them to the online portal. He said recurring errors in endors-

ing petitions were leading to cases being reopened and directed officials to avoid such lapses. He clarified that the "Citizen Benefited" option should be selected only after a grievance is fully resolved, while cases requiring State Government intervention should be marked as "Citizen Yet to be Benefited."

Among the petitions received, residents of Ramannagudem village in Bapulapadu mandal sought an inquiry into alleged irregularities in the implementation of Employment Guarantee Scheme works. Another petitioner, Chittiprolu Rama Satyavathi of Odarevupalem, requested an increase in the disability pension for her bedridden daughter from 6,000 to 15,000, citing severe financial hardship.

Senior district officials from various departments participated in the programme.

Vijayawada Girl Wins Double Chess Medals

Machilipatnam, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Eight-year-old chess player Yerneni Raghvika from Vijayawada brought laurels to Andhra Pradesh by winning two medals at the Singapore FIDE Chess Tournament in the Under-8 Girls category.

Raghvika secured the silver medal in the Rapid event and the bronze medal in the Standard event, emerging as one of the promising young chess talents from the State. A Class III student of Next Gen School at Tulasi Nagar, Tadigadapa, near Vijayawada, she has been consistently excelling in national and international chess competitions. She received training under coaches Bandaru Mahalakshmi and Kanagarla Gunasekhar, whose guidance played a key role in her impressive performance on the international stage.

In recognition of her achievement, Krishna University Vice-Chancellor Prof. M.V. Basaveswara Rao felicitated Raghvika and her father, Yerneni



Ratna Prasad, at the Vice-Chancellor's chamber on Monday.

Congratulating the young chess player, Prof. Basaveswara Rao said winning two medals at an international tournament at such a young age was a remarkable accomplishment. He expressed confidence that her success would inspire many aspiring students and young sportspersons across the State to pursue excellence in chess.

He also appreciated the contribution of her coaches in nurturing young talent and wished Raghvika greater success in future national and international championships. University officials and faculty members joined in congratulating the young champion on her outstanding achievement.

Girls' Education Gets Priority Under Coalition Government

Singarayakonda, July 13 | TPN Bureau

The coalition government is giving high priority to girls' education and taking steps to strengthen educational facilities, Minister DSBV Swami said during his visit to Singaraya-konda in Prakasam district. Ministers DSBV Swami and Savita toured the area and inaugurated an approach road to the ST Colony constructed at a cost of Rs.60 lakh. They also inspected the site selected for the construction of the Jyotiba Phule Girls' School. Speaking on the occasion,



Minister DSBV Swami said promoting education among girls remains a key focus of the government. He highlighted the importance of providing better infrastructure and opportunities to encourage more girls to pursue education. The ministers reviewed local development works and interacted with officials during the visit.



Focus on Denduluru Development Plans

Eluru, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Denduluru MLA Chintamaneni Prabhakar on Monday said the coalition government is working with comprehensive plans to transform the constituency into a model region across all sectors. During the daily public grievance programme held at his camp office in Duggirala, the MLA received petitions from residents and directed officials concerned to resolve their issues at the earliest. Eluru District Chief Planning

Officer (CPO) K. Srinivas met Chintamaneni Prabhakar as a courtesy visit after recently assuming charge. The MLA congratulated Srinivas and discussed key development initiatives, fund allocation processes and future action plans for Denduluru constituency. Chintamaneni urged the planning department to extend full cooperation for implementing development works in the constituency. Several coalition leaders, officials from various departments and residents participated in the programme.



Badeti Chanti Joins CM's Polavaram Review

Eluru, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Eluru MLA and Eluru district Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president Badeti Radhakrishnaiah (Chanti) participated in Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's visit to the Polavaram project on Monday. The Chief Minister, who is also the national president of the Telugu Desam Party, visited the project site to inspect the ongoing works and review the progress of various components of the prestigious irrigation project.

Badeti Chanti accompanied the Chief Minister during the field visit and took part in the review programme. The MLA discussed district-related development issues and the importance of completing the Polavaram project at the earliest. Officials and TDP leaders were present during the inspection. The visit focused on assessing the current status of works, resolving pending issues and ensuring timely progress of the project, which is considered crucial for irrigation and water security in Andhra Pradesh.



Voter Revision Process Reviewed

Vizianagaram, July 13 | TPN Bureau

District Collector S. Ram-sundar Reddy directed officials to complete the Special Voter List Revision (SR) process within the stipulated deadline with transparency. During his visit to the Rajam Municipal Office on Monday, the Collector reviewed the progress of the voter list revision programme and issued instructions on house-to-house surveys, digitisation, and verification of applications. He stressed the need to ensure accuracy in the voter list and instructed officials to register the details of every eligible

voter. He also directed Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to work as per guidelines at the field level. Officials informed the Collector that around 94 percent of digitisation in Rajam Municipality has been completed. With only one day remaining for the deadline, he instructed officials to speed up the pending work and achieve the target. Vijayanagaram Municipal Corporation Commissioner B. Balaswami, Election Registration Officer (ERO) Venkat Reddy, Assistant Election Registration Officer (AERO), Rajam Municipal Commissioner Ramachandra Rao, supervisors, BLOs and other officials participated in the review.

SV Mettu Vendors Seek Immediate Relief

Tirupati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

CITU leaders and Sri Vari Mettu petty traders' union representatives on Monday appealed to TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu to resolve the issues faced by small vendors earning their livelihood near the Srivari Mettu pathway. CITU State Vice President Kandaarapu Murali and union leaders submitted a memorandum to the TTD Chairman at his office in Tirumala, stating that vendors had been conducting relay hunger protests for the past 692 days seeking a permanent



solution. The leaders said 32 families had lost their livelihood and were facing severe financial difficulties after their businesses were stopped citing tiger movement in the area. They said the

vendors had been selling drinking water, fruits, coconuts and snacks to devotees at affordable prices for nearly two to three decades. They urged TTD to provide alternative business spaces with proper safety arrangements or allow them to resume their activities. B.R. Naidu assured that the issue would be examined positively and discussed with officials for an early solution. CITU leaders Venu, Ravi, Suri, and union representatives Ganesh and Narasimha participated.

Ragvika Shines at Singapore Chess Event

Machilipatnam, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada chess prodigy Yerneni Ragvika won two medals at the Singapore FIDE Chess Tournament, bringing recognition to Andhra Pradesh at the international level. Competing in the Under-8 girls' category, Ragvika secured a silver medal in the rapid section and a bronze medal in the standard section. She is a third-grade student



of Next Gen School at Tadigadapa Tulasi Nagar near Vijayawada. Ragvika received chess training from coaches Bandaru Mahalakshmi and Kanagarla Gunasekhar. Appreciating her

New Principal Appointed to Eluru Degree College

Eluru, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao has taken charge as the new Principal of the Government Degree College, Eluru, following the recent general transfers in government degree colleges. Dr. Srinivasa Rao was transferred from the Government Degree College, Ravulapalem, and appointed to the Eluru college. His predecessor, Dr. Gutta Giribabu, was transferred to the



Government Degree College, Madanapalle, as part of the transfer process. After assuming charge, Dr. Srinivasa Rao interacted with the faculty members and re-

viewed the academic environment of the institution. The teaching staff welcomed the new Principal and conveyed their best wishes on his appointment. The faculty expressed confidence that under his leadership, the college would continue to improve academic standards and provide better opportunities for students. The appointment comes as part of routine administrative changes in government degree colleges across the state.

SMR Pedababu Offers Prayers at Arunachalam

Eluru, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Eluru Municipal Corporation Co-option Member and Prashanth Real Estates Chairman S.M.R. Pedababu visited the Arunachaleswara Temple at Arunachalam and offered special prayers on Monday. Pedababu visited the shrine on an auspicious occasion marked by the combination of Amavasya and Chaturdashi, Masa Shivaratri, Arudra Nakshatra, and Monday,



which is considered highly significant for Lord Shiva devotees. He performed special rituals and sought the blessings of Lord

Arunachaleswara. Following his visit to Arunachalam, Pedababu also had a darshan of Lord Sri Venkateswara at Tirumala. The spiritual tour was undertaken as part of his religious observances on the auspicious day. Temple authorities and devotees welcomed the visit. Pedababu expressed his devotion and prayed for the well-being and prosperity of the people. The visit concluded with prayers at both prominent temples.

RTI Implementation Reviewed in Palnadu

Narasaraopet, July 13 | TPN Bureau

State Information Commission officials inspected government offices in Palnadu district to review the implementation of the Right to Information Act-2005. State Information Rights Commission member Chavali Sunil Kumar conducted a surprise inspection at Narasaraopet 1 Town Police Station. State Chief Information Commissioner Vajja Srinivasa Rao, along with his office staff, inspected several offices including Sattanapalli Tahsildar Office, Police Station, Sub-Registrar Office, Krosuru Tahsildar Office, MPDO Office, Police Station, Pedakurapadu Tahsildar Office and Amaravati Tahsildar Office. Sattanapalli



RDO Gopalakrishna and RTI Secretary Padmavathi accompanied the team. Speaking during the inspections, Vajja Srinivasa Rao said there would be no compromise in implementing the RTI Act and protecting citizens' right to information. He expressed concern that several government offices were not fully following the provisions under Section 4(1)(b) of the Act. He said making information available voluntarily as per the Act would reduce appeals and complaints before the commission and minimise the need for citizens to file applications under Section 6(1). The Chief Information Commissioner issued notices to Public Information Officers who failed to properly implement RTI provisions and directed them to ensure immediate compliance. He made it clear that the commission would not accept excuses from offices that fail to maintain transparency. He also appealed to citizens to use the RTI Act only for public interest, transparent governance and accountability, stating that misuse of the law for personal disputes or harassment would not be tolerated.

Massive MDMA Seizure, Three Arrested in Anti-Drug Crackdown

Renigunta, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Renigunta police seized a large quantity of MDMA, a synthetic psychotropic drug, and arrested three persons involved in its illegal distribution as part of an intensified anti-drug drive in Tirupati district. Addressing a press conference, Renigunta DSP Srinivasa Rao said the accused—Gunasekhar, Ashwini Kumar and Rahul Yadav—were procuring MDMA from Bengaluru, repackaging it into small sachets and selling it to local youth. One of the accused is a B.Tech student at a prominent college, while the other two are resi-



dents of Tirupati. Police seized 62 grams of MDMA, four mobile phones, two digital weighing machines and two Royal Enfield motorcycles during the operation. The DSP said the drug, commonly known as 'XT', 'Molly', 'EXTC' or 'Mandy', causes hallucinations and is far more dangerous than marijuana. Srinivasa Rao said the opera-

tion was carried out under the directions of DGP Harish Kumar Gupta and the supervision of Tirupati District SP L. Subbarayudu as part of efforts to make the district free from narcotics. The raid was led by Renigunta CI Jayachandra, SI Srinivasulu and their team. Police are investigating the Bengaluru-based supply network and its wider links. The DSP said youth and students found using drugs would be identified, their parents counselled and, if necessary, referred to de-addiction centres at Ruia Hospital or SVIMS. He warned that stringent action would continue against drug traffickers and peddlers.



AP Nirudyoga JAC Hails Lokesh's Women Empowerment Initiatives

Visakhapatnam, July 14 | TPN Bureau

AP Nirudyoga JAC State President Samayam Hemantha Kumar organised a Palabhishekam in Visakhapatnam, appreciating Minister Nara Lokesh's initiatives towards women empowerment, employment generation and attracting investments to Andhra Pradesh. Hemantha Kumar said Lokesh had given priority to creating job opportunities for unemployed youth and empowering women, welcoming the investments secured from South Korea for these objectives. He raised slogans praising Lokesh's leadership and also demanded that Nara Brahmani, Executive Director of Heritage Foods and recipient of the National Award,

enter politics. He said the announcement of providing 33% tickets to women in the 2029 elections reflected Lokesh's commitment towards women's participation in politics. He also praised Nara Brahmani for her contribution to economic development through Heritage Foods and recalled her recognition with the "Most Powerful Lady Award" by Fortune India Summit. Hemantha Kumar said Brahmani had dedicated the award to farmers and employees and expressed hope that she would continue working for society. He also appealed against attempts to create caste and religious divisions, stating that India's unity lies in its diversity and harmony among different communities.



Bapatla Police Aid Home Guard's Family

Bapatla, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla District Superintendent of Police B. Uma Maheswar on Monday handed over cheques worth 40.25 lakh to the family of Home Guard K. Ashok Vardhan, who died in the line of duty. The financial assistance was provided through the Police Salary Package and insurance schemes. Ashok Vardhan, who was working at Vemuru Police Station, died after being hit by an unidentified two-wheeler while performing bandobust duties under Battiprolu Police Station limits on March 7. The SP said the sacrifices of

personnel who lose their lives while serving the public are invaluable and assured that the police department would always support their families. He said efforts were made to speed up the claim process to avoid hardship for the bereaved family. The family received 30 lakh under the Police Salary Package and 10.25 lakh under the DGP Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme. The SP also facilitated a government job under compassionate appointment for an eligible family member. AR DSP Krishnam Raju, Reserve Inspector Srikanth and other officials participated in the programme.

CITU Condemns Attack on Journalists

Tirupati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

CITU State Vice President Kandaarapu Murali on Monday condemned the alleged attack on journalists during a Telugu Desam Party meeting in Tirupati, calling the incident inhuman and undemocratic. Murali alleged that ruling party leaders attacked journalists in the presence of two ministers, resorting to physical assault and causing injuries. He said such incidents reflected a disregard for democratic values and demanded strict action

against those responsible. Reacting to the clash during the TDP Annamayya district Punganur constituency meeting, Murali said the manner in which leaders behaved was unacceptable. He questioned how a party in power could allow such an incident to occur during an official party gathering and urged authorities to take immediate steps. Murali appealed to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to respond responsibly and ensure stringent action against the persons involved in the attack.

Three Get Five-Year Jail Term in Red Sanders Case

Tirupati, July 13 | TPN Bureau

Three accused in a red sanders smuggling case registered at Bhakarapet Police Station limits have been sentenced to five years of rigorous imprisonment by the Tirupati RSS Additional District and Sessions Court. The court, presided over by Judge A. Narasimhamurthy, also imposed a fine of 3 lakh each on the accused—Gunishetti Puttalayya (38), Petluri Rajayya (30) and Gaddamvari Manikantha (27). The court ordered an additional three months of simple imprisonment if the fine is not paid. The case dates back to 2017 when the accused illegally entered the Seshachalam Reserve Forest area, cut red sanders trees and attempted illegal



transportation. They were arrested by then Bhakarapet SI G. Chandra Mohan and police personnel. Tirupati District SP L. Subbarayudu said the conviction was achieved through the "Good Trial Monitoring" system and strong evidence presented before the court. He appreciated the officers involved in the investigation and prosecution, including Chandragiri DSP Bethapudi Prasad, Special Public Prosecutor A. Amaranarayana and other police personnel.

Editorial

SIR Testing the Patience of Voters

The ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has begun testing the patience of voters instead of strengthening their confidence in the electoral process. While the Election Commission has every right and responsibility to ensure that electoral rolls are accurate and free from duplication, the procedure being followed is causing inconvenience to thousands of genuine voters.

One of the major concerns is the insistence on producing proof of inclusion in the 2002 electoral rolls, which were prepared when Andhra Pradesh was still a united state. After the bifurcation of the state in 2014, many people who had been residing in Hyderabad or other parts of present-day Telangana returned to Andhra Pradesh and have since become registered voters in their respective constituencies. Many of them have already exercised their franchise in the 2014, 2019, and 2024 elections without any objection. Yet, they are now being asked to establish that their names existed in the 2002 voters' list.

The problem becomes even more complicated when a person's name is not found in the old records. In such cases, voters are reportedly being asked to produce details of their parents' or even grandparents' names in the electoral rolls of that period. For many families, locating such decades-old records is a difficult, if not impossible, task. Instead of simplifying the verification process, the present exercise is creating confusion and frustration among genuine citizens.

The Election Commission should concentrate on identifying duplicate registrations and verifying the authenticity of existing voters through available records, including birth details and present electoral data. Burdening citizens with unnecessary documentation risks creating widespread resentment. If the process is not made more practical and citizen-friendly, it may generate avoidable negativity among the public, irrespective of their political affiliations. Electoral reforms should strengthen public trust, not test the patience of voters.

Editor

Salkam Cheruvu FTL Dispute Puts HYDRA's Lake Protection Drive Under Scrutiny

Court's remarks question demolition uniformity and record transparency

Chennu Peddi-raju



Senior Journalist

For the past few years, large-scale demolition drives have been carried out in Hyderabad in the name of protecting government lands, particularly for the rejuvenation and preservation of lakes. With the establishment of HYDRA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring and Protection Agency), the government machinery has demolished several structures allegedly built on lake lands and government properties.

However, the recent developments in the High Court regarding the buildings of Fatima Owaisi Educational Institutions within the periphery of Salkam Cheruvu have raised several questions. The controversy has also brought renewed attention to the functioning of HYDRA.

A report submitted to the High Court by the Revenue and Irrigation departments stated that the Owaisi Educational Institution buildings do not fall within the Full Tank Level (FTL) limits of Salkam Cheruvu. The report drew criticism over the government's approach, with the Telangana High Court expressing dissatisfaction over the findings.

While examining the maps, the court observed that the nature of the alleged encroachment was visible and questioned how the previously recorded FTL area of the lake could have reduced now. The court also raised concerns over whether certain structures were being treated differently based on the individuals associated with them.

The High Court's observations regarding Salkam Cheruvu and the reports submitted by government departments have drawn attention. The court also questioned why the Municipal Administration Department and HMDA (Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority) had not submitted their reports on the issue.

The court sought clarity on how only a few departments could determine the lake boundaries without comprehensive reports from all concerned authorities.

The observations have raised questions over the government's claim that HYDRA has been strictly enforcing lake protection measures without discrimination. The public is now seeking clarity on whether the same standards were followed in the Salkam Cheruvu case as in other demolition drives.

The High Court's remarks highlight the need for greater transparency in the government's approach. The same law must apply equally to everyone, and authorities must ensure that actions do not appear to vary based on political influence, social status, or personal connections.

The government should make available the original FTL maps of Salkam Cheruvu, previous survey records, current documents, satellite imagery, and reports from all concerned departments to establish the facts.

If the structure is not within the FTL limits, the reasons



should be clearly explained. If it falls within the FTL area, authorities must demonstrate that the law is being applied equally.

Protecting lakes should not mean taking action only against

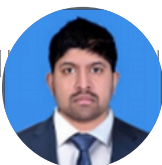
smaller or less influential structures. Uniform enforcement is essential to maintain public trust.

The Salkam Cheruvu issue has now gone beyond a dispute over a single building. It has become a

test of whether laws related to lake protection are being implemented equally for all sections of society.

Forgotten Economic History of Pre-Colonial India

Pranav Peyyala



Development Analyst

There is a growing and welcome curiosity among Indians today about our civilisational past, not just its temples, epics and philosophies, but its remarkable economic achievements. As the country rises again on the world stage, it is the perfect moment to revisit a story that has long been left in the archives. For much of recorded history, the Indian sub-continent was not a poor periphery of the world economy. It was, by many estimates, its centre of gravity.

The Workshop of the World, Before There Was One

The late British economist Angus Maddison, whose life-long project of reconstructing historical GDP figures remains the standard reference for economic historians, estimated that India accounted for roughly a quarter of the world's economic output around 1700, a share larger than all of Western Europe combined at the time. What did that prosperity look like on the ground? It looked like Dhaka muslin, so fine that a full sari could reportedly pass through a ring. It looked like the dye vats of Gujarat, the shipyards of the Coromandel coast, and the steel of Golconda, whose wootz ingots were prized from Damascus to Toledo. Indian calicoes and chintzes so dominated European markets in the seventeenth century that Britain and France passed protectionist laws banning their import, striking evidence of just how coveted Indian craftsmanship was across the world.

More Than Textiles: An Eco-

system of Commerce

Pre-colonial India was not merely a collection of skilled weavers. It possessed sophisticated commercial institutions of its own. The hundi system, indigenous bills of exchange, allowed merchants to move credit across thousands of kilometres without moving a single coin, centuries before modern banking networks. Financial houses such as the Jagat Seths of Bengal wielded influence that European trading companies both envied and courted; contemporary East India Company officials described them, without much exaggeration, as bankers to the empire of Bengal itself.

Village economies, meanwhile, were woven into wider circuits of trade through periodic markets, the great temple economies of the south, and port cities like Surat and Machilipatnam that connected the subcontinent to the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, and Southeast Asia. When European ships first appeared on Indian shores, they came not to teach commerce to a subsistence economy but to buy into a flourishing one, and, tellingly, they had to pay in silver, because Europe produced little that Indian consumers wanted.

Voices That Kept the Story Alive

We owe our knowledge of this era to pioneering Indian scholars who insisted on telling it. Dadabhai Naoroji, the "Grand Old Man" of Indian nationalism, documented in his 1901 work "Poverty and Un-British Rule in India" how colo-



onial-era policies transferred Indian wealth abroad. Romesh Chunder Dutt, a civil servant turned historian, deepened the record in his two-volume "Economic History of India," chronicling the decline of the textile towns that had once clothed the world. Modern scholarship has continued this recovery. The economist Utsa Patnaik, drawing on nearly two centuries of trade data, has estimated the

colonial-era drain of wealth at roughly 45 trillion dollars in today's terms, while historians such as Tirthankar Roy have enriched the debate with careful analysis of India's internal economic dynamics. Shashi Tharoor's "An Era of Darkness" brought these discussions to a wide readership. Together, these works establish a heartening truth: India's poverty at independence was a his-

torical episode, not a natural condition. Prosperity, not poverty, is our older inheritance.

A Legacy That Lights the Road Ahead

None of this is to romanticise the past, which had its own hardships and inequities. But the larger picture is one Indians can take genuine pride in: a civilisation that financed empires, ran continent-spanning

credit networks, and set global benchmarks in manufacturing and trade. That legacy feels newly relevant today. As India emerges as one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies, with its entrepreneurs, digital payment networks and manufacturing ambitions drawing global attention, the country is not venturing into unfamiliar territory. The instinct for enterprise, the genius for finance, the tradi-

tion of world-class craftsmanship, these are not imports. They are inheritances. Recovering this economic history, then, is not an exercise in grievance but in confidence. A nation that once stood at the centre of world commerce has every reason to believe it can do so again. India's current rise is best understood not as an arrival but as a return, and the journey home is always swifter when we remember the way.



BJP Demands Proof for MLA Poaching Claims

A fresh political confrontation has erupted in Jammu and Kashmir after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) issued a legal notice to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, demanding that he either substantiate his allegations of MLA poaching or withdraw them and apologise. The BJP has also warned of filing a 100-crore defamation suit if the claims are not backed by evidence.

The controversy began after Omar Abdullah alleged that attempts were being made to destabilise his government by enticing National Conference legislators with huge sums of money, ministerial positions, and promises related to the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. He claimed that certain MLAs had been approached with offers running into crores of rupees to switch political loyalties.

Rejecting the allegations, the BJP described the remarks as baseless and politically motivated. The party insisted that such serious accusations require credible proof and argued that making unverified claims damages its reputation. Through the legal notice, the BJP has asked the Chief Minister to present evidence or publicly retract his statements.

CBI Files Closure Report in Rau's IAS Tragedy

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a supplementary closure report before a Delhi court in connection with the 2024 Rau's IAS Study Circle tragedy, concluding that there is no evidence of criminal negligence against senior officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

The case relates to the tragic incident on July 27, 2024, when heavy rainfall caused severe flooding in the basement of Rau's IAS Study Circle in Delhi's Old Rajinder Nagar. Three UPSC aspirants lost their lives after becoming trapped in the waterlogged basement, sparking nationwide outrage over safety violations and civic negligence.

In its latest report, the CBI informed the court that its investigation did not find sufficient evidence to prosecute senior MCD officials. According to the agency, the records examined during the probe did not establish that these officers had committed any criminal lapse or negligence directly linked to the tragedy.

However, the investigation did identify negligence and dereliction of duty by certain officials in the MCD's Building Department. The agency stated that their failure to properly perform official responsibilities contributed to the continued unauthorised use of the basement, where coaching classes and a library were being operated despite building regulations.

The CBI also noted that departmental action has already been initiated against the officials found negligent. In addition, a junior engineer and several others had already been chargesheeted during the earlier stages of the investigation for their alleged roles in the incident.

The supplementary report was submitted following directions from the Delhi court to further examine whether senior civic officials had any role in allowing the basement to continue operating in violation of approved building norms.

The Delhi court will now consider the CBI's closure report before deciding whether to accept its findings or order any further investigation.

The tragedy had triggered widespread demands for stricter enforcement of building safety regulations at coaching centres and commercial establishments across Delhi. It also led to large-scale inspections of coaching institutes operating in basements and prompted authorities to tighten safety norms to prevent similar incidents in the future.



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SC Questions POCSO Use in Teen Relationships

The Supreme Court has once again expressed concern over the alleged misuse of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in cases involving teenage relationships. While hearing a case related to the privacy and welfare of adolescents, the court questioned whether every instance of teenagers eloping or entering into consensual relationships should automatically be treated as a criminal offence under the stringent law.

During the hearing, the bench observed that adoles-

cence, particularly between the ages of 15 and 18, is a period of emotional growth, experimentation, and personal development. The judges remarked that the POCSO Act was enacted to protect children from sexual assault and exploitation, not necessarily to criminalise every consensual relationship involving teenagers.

The court also noted that many criminal cases are initiated by parents after teenage couples elope, often due to concerns about family honour rather than genuine allegations of

Bengal Announces ₹5 Lakh Aid for Rath Yatra Committees

Ahead of the upcoming Rath Yatra celebrations, the West Bengal government has announced a financial grant of ₹5 lakh each for 60 Rath Yatra committees across the state. The move is aimed at supporting the smooth conduct of one of Bengal's most significant religious festivals and ensuring better arrangements for devotees.

According to the state government, the financial assistance will help organizers meet expenses related to security, crowd management, sanitation, lighting, drinking water, medical facilities, and other essential arrangements during the festival. Authorities said the initiative is intended to improve public convenience and ensure that celebrations are conducted in a safe and organized manner.

The announcement comes as preparations for Rath Yatra gather pace across West Bengal, where the festival attracts thousands of devotees every year. Several districts organize grand processions featuring elaborately decorated chariots carrying the idols of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra, and Goddess Subhadra.

State officials said the selected



committees were identified based on the scale of celebrations and the number of devotees expected to participate. Local administrations have also been instructed to coordinate with festival organizers to ensure smooth traffic management, security arrangements, emergency medical services, and disaster preparedness during the celebrations.

The decision has sparked political debate, with opposition parties questioning the use of public funds for religious events. They argued that government resources should be utilized carefully and sought greater transparency in the selection of beneficiary committees.

The ruling government, how-

ever, defended the initiative, stating that it reflects its commitment to supporting cultural and religious traditions while ensuring the safety and convenience of the public. Officials emphasized that similar assistance has been provided for various cultural and religious events in the past.

With thousands of devotees expected to take part in the festivities, authorities are making elaborate preparations to ensure that this year's Rath Yatra is conducted peacefully and without disruption. Security personnel, civic agencies, and emergency services will remain on high alert throughout the celebrations to manage crowds and maintain law and order.

Search Continues for Four Missing Boys in Yamuna

A massive search operation entered its second day in Delhi after four minors were feared drowned in the Yamuna River near Hiranki village in the Ali-pur area. The incident occurred when a group of five boys entered the river for a swim, but strong currents swept four of them away. One boy managed to escape and immediately alerted local residents and authorities, triggering a large-scale rescue effort.

Soon after receiving the information, teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Delhi Fire Services, Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), and local police rushed to the spot. Rescue personnel deployed boats and specialised equipment to search the river, but the operation was hampered by deep water, poor visibility, and strong currents. Despite continuous efforts, the missing boys had not been traced at the time of the latest update.

Officials said the search has been intensified, with multiple rescue teams covering a wider stretch of the river in the hope



of locating the missing children. Authorities are also using experienced divers and advanced rescue equipment to improve the chances of finding them.

The tragedy has left the victims' families devastated, with anxious relatives waiting along the riverbank as rescue teams continue their search. Residents have also gathered near the site, hoping for positive news while extending support to the affected families.

The incident has once again highlighted the dangers of entering rivers during the monsoon season. Rising water levels, fast-moving currents, and unpredictable conditions make rivers extremely hazardous, espe-

cially for children and inexperienced swimmers.

Officials have urged the public to avoid bathing or swimming in rivers during the rainy season and advised parents to ensure children stay away from dangerous water bodies. Authorities also stressed the importance of following safety guidelines issued by local administrations to prevent such tragedies.

As the rescue operation continues, the focus remains on locating the missing boys as quickly as possible. The heartbreaking incident has renewed concerns about water safety and the need for greater public awareness to prevent similar accidents in the future.

Major Breakthrough in Badrinath Donation Theft Probe

A major breakthrough has been reported in the Badrinath Temple donation theft case with the arrest of Pramod Nautiyal, a suspended employee of the Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee (BKTC). Investigators believe his arrest could help uncover the alleged misappropriation of devotees' offerings and reveal the extent of financial irregularities.

Nautiyal was arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) after an extensive search. He had been under suspicion since allegations emerged about the mis-handling of cash and valuables donated by pilgrims at the shrine.

The issue came to light after CCTV footage allegedly showed suspicious handling of donation



box collections. Following this, temple authorities suspended Nautiyal and a high-level probe was initiated by the Uttarakhand government.

Investigators are examining whether the alleged theft was an individual act or part of a larger network. They are tracing the

movement of cash and valuables to determine if the funds were diverted through organised channels. Nautiyal is currently being questioned, and officials are expected to confront him with CCTV evidence, documents, and financial records. Authorities believe the interrogation may reveal further involvement, if any. The incident has shocked devotees, raising concerns over transparency in temple administration. The government has assured a fair and thorough probe, stating that strict action will be taken against those found guilty.

The case has also renewed calls for stronger monitoring systems and transparent management of temple donations.



Security Move Triggers Airport Mosque Row

A controversy has erupted in West Bengal after authorities suspended entry passes for devotees visiting the historic Gauripur Jama Masjid (Bankra Mosque) located inside the operational area of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport in Kolkata. The decision has reignited the long-standing debate over security and the future of the 136-year-old mosque.

The mosque is situated close to one of the airport's runways, and for years worshippers were allowed to enter the restricted zone through special entry passes to offer prayers. Airport authorities have now stopped issuing these passes, citing heightened aviation and security concerns.

Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari supported the decision, stating that national security and aviation safety must remain the top priority. He said no compromise should be made on security in a sensitive airport operational area and backed the move to restrict public access.

The issue has also revived discussions about relocating the mosque to another site. Authorities have reportedly been considering such a proposal for several years, arguing that

the structure's location inside the airport premises creates operational and security challenges. However, no final decision has been announced on relocation.

The move has drawn criticism from some political leaders and members of the local community, who argue that the mosque has existed for over a century and that devotees should continue to be allowed access for prayers. They have sought a solution that balances religious rights with security requirements.

Airport officials, however, maintain that enhanced security measures are essential because the mosque lies within a highly sensitive operational zone. They have emphasized that the restrictions are aimed solely at strengthening airport security and ensuring safe aviation operations.

The controversy has sparked a wider political debate in the state, with both supporters and critics presenting differing views on the balance between public safety, religious access, and infrastructure security. As discussions continue, authorities are expected to review the situation while keeping security considerations at the forefront.



Supreme Court Stays Madras HC Cow Slaughter Order

In a significant legal relief for the Tamil Nadu government, the Supreme Court has stayed a Madras High Court order that directed the state to enforce a blanket ban on the slaughter of cows and calves, including during Bakrid and on all other days. The interim order came while hearing the state's appeal challenging the High Court's ruling.

A bench of the Supreme Court observed that the concluding portion of the High Court's order required further examination and issued notice on the Tamil Nadu government's petition. With the stay in place, the High Court's direction will remain suspended until further hearings.

The Tamil Nadu government argued that the High Court's directive was inconsistent with the Tamil Nadu Animal Preservation Act, 1958, which permits the slaughter of certain categories of cattle under specific conditions. According to the state, animals above a prescribed age and certified as unfit for breeding or agricultural work can legally be slaughtered in designated facilities after following the prescribed legal procedures.

The High Court had issued its order while hearing a petition related to the implementa-

tion of an older government directive concerning cow slaughter. However, the state contended that the court's blanket prohibition effectively overrode the provisions of the existing legislation enacted by the Assembly.

The Supreme Court's decision has temporarily restored the legal position under the state's current animal preservation law and provided immediate relief to the government. The ruling is also expected to have wider implications for the balance between judicial directions and statutory provisions governing animal preservation and religious practices. The case has generated considerable political attention, with supporters of the state government welcoming the order as a reaffirmation of legislative authority, while others continue to argue for stricter protection of cattle.

The matter will now be heard in detail before the Supreme Court, which will examine whether the High Court's directive was consistent with the provisions of the existing law. Until a final verdict is delivered, the interim stay will remain in force, allowing the existing legal framework under the Tamil Nadu Animal Preservation Act to continue operating.



Iranian Newspaper's 'Target List' Sparks Global Concern

Tensions in the Middle East have escalated after an Iranian state-affiliated newspaper published an infographic featuring 13 foreign leaders as alleged targets for retaliation following the death of former Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The publication has sparked international concern and renewed fears of further geopolitical instability.

The list reportedly includes US President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, French President Emmanuel Macron, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, along with several other senior Western political leaders. The infographic was published alongside a message attributed to Iran's Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, who vowed that those responsible for his father's death would face consequences.

According to the report, Mojtaba Khamenei declared that revenge was the will of the Iranian nation and warned that those named would not enjoy a peaceful end. The publication has been widely interpreted as a symbolic warning rather than an official government declaration, but it has nevertheless intensified concerns over regional security.

The development comes amid already strained relations between Iran, the United States, Israel, and several European na-

tions. Diplomatic ties have deteriorated sharply following recent military confrontations, with both sides exchanging strong rhetoric and military actions.

Security experts believe the publication is likely intended to project defiance and rally domestic support rather than signal an immediate operational threat. However, they caution that such messaging could further inflame tensions and complicate diplomatic efforts aimed at reducing hostilities.

Governments whose leaders were named are expected to closely monitor the situation, while intelligence and security agencies are likely to review protective measures for high-profile officials. Any indication of a credible threat could prompt enhanced security arrangements.

The publication has also drawn criticism from international observers, who warn that inflammatory rhetoric risks deepening an already volatile regional crisis. Many countries continue to call for restraint and renewed diplomatic engagement to prevent further escalation.

As geopolitical tensions remain high, the reported "kill list" has become the latest flashpoint in the ongoing confrontation involving Iran and Western nations, underscoring the fragile state of regional security and the challenges facing international diplomacy.



Gen Z Protests Challenge Nepal's Leadership

Nepal is witnessing a fresh wave of protests led largely by Generation Z, just months after many young voters helped bring Prime Minister Balen Shah to power. The demonstrations, centered in Kathmandu, have emerged as the first major political challenge for the youth-backed government.

The protests began over the government's drive to evict squatters and informal settlements in the capital. Demonstrators argue that families are being removed without proper rehabilitation or alternative housing, accusing the administration of ignoring the rights of vulnerable communities. Protesters have demanded an immediate halt to the eviction campaign until a comprehensive resettlement plan is put in place.

Public anger intensified following the death of a young ride-sharing worker who allegedly set himself on fire after an altercation with authorities over a traffic penalty. The incident triggered widespread outrage on social media and became a rallying point for youth groups, who are demanding accountability, justice, and reforms in law enforcement.

Thousands of protesters have taken to the streets carrying placards condemning what they describe as excessive use of force, illegal arrests, and human rights violations. Demonstrators say the government has failed to uphold the promises of transparency, fairness, and peo-

ple-centric governance that inspired many young voters during the elections.

Balen Shah, who rose to national prominence as Kathmandu's mayor before becoming prime minister, built his political image on anti-corruption reforms and youth-driven change. His popularity among first-time voters helped propel him to office, making the current protests particularly significant as they involve many of the same supporters who once backed his leadership.

Political analysts believe the unrest reflects broader frustration over governance, social justice, and economic inequality rather than opposition to a single policy. They warn that the government's response to the protests could shape public confidence in the months ahead.

The Nepalese government has launched an inquiry into the controversial death and appealed for calm, while security forces continue to monitor demonstrations across the capital. Authorities have also urged protesters to maintain peace and avoid violence.

As demonstrations continue, the crisis has become a crucial test for Prime Minister Balen Shah's administration. How the government balances development, law enforcement, and the welfare of vulnerable communities is likely to determine whether it can retain the trust of the young generation that played a decisive role in bringing it to power.

All Eyes on Mojtaba Khamenei at Iran Memorial

Iran is preparing for a high-profile memorial ceremony for former Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and growing attention is focused on whether his successor, Mojtaba Khamenei, will make his first major public appearance since assuming the country's top leadership. The memorial, scheduled to be held at Tehran's Mosalla Mosque, is expected to become a defining moment for Iran's political establishment.

Mojtaba Khamenei has remained largely out of public view in recent months, fueling speculation about his health, security, and leadership style. His absence from earlier funeral ceremonies prompted widespread discussion both inside Iran and internationally, with many questioning when he would publicly address the nation.

According to reports, the upcoming memorial could provide the first opportunity for Mojtaba to appear before a large public gathering. Such an appearance would be viewed as a significant political signal, reinforcing his authority at a time when Iran continues to face internal challenges and regional tensions. Security is expected to be extremely tight during the



event. Iranian authorities are reportedly taking extensive precautions because of concerns over potential threats, making the memorial one of the country's most closely watched public events in recent years.

Political observers believe the ceremony will be about more than paying tribute to the late leader. They say it will also serve as an opportunity for Iran's leadership to project unity and stability amid ongoing geopolitical uncertainty and heightened tensions in the Middle East. If Mojtaba Khamenei addresses the gathering, analysts will closely examine his remarks for clues about Iran's future domestic policies, regional strategy, and approach to relations with Western nations. Any

public statement is expected to attract significant international attention. At the same time, some analysts caution that even if Mojtaba does not appear publicly, it should not automatically be interpreted as a sign of political weakness. They note that security considerations may continue to influence decisions regarding his public engagements.

The memorial ceremony has therefore become more than a remembrance event. It is being viewed as a potential turning point in Iran's post-transition leadership, with the world watching closely for indications of how Mojtaba Khamenei intends to shape the country's future and establish his public leadership.

Lindsey Graham's Death Reshapes South Carolina Senate Race

The sudden death of veteran Republican Senator Lindsey Graham has dramatically changed the political landscape in South Carolina, creating uncertainty ahead of the upcoming November Senate election and triggering a race to fill one of the Republican Party's most influential seats in Congress.

Graham, a four-term senator and one of former US President Donald Trump's closest allies in the Senate, passed away while campaigning for another term. His death has left the Republican Party without one of its most prominent voices on national security, foreign policy, and fiscal matters.

Under South Carolina law, Governor Henry McMaster will appoint a temporary senator to serve until a permanent successor is chosen. The state will then conduct a special election process, including a Republican primary and, if required, a runoff before voters elect a new senator in November.

Several prominent Republicans are already being discussed as potential contenders for the seat, including members of Congress and senior state leaders. The governor's interim



appointment is expected to influence the political contest, although it will not automatically determine the eventual Republican nominee.

On the Democratic side, pediatrician Dr. Annie Andrews, who had already secured her party's nomination, is expected to continue her campaign and hopes to capitalize on the unexpected political opening created by Graham's passing.

Beyond South Carolina, Graham's death is also expected to affect Washington politics. As chairman of the Senate Budget Committee and a senior member of key committees, he played an important role in shaping Republican priorities on defense, foreign policy, and

economic legislation. His absence could complicate the party's legislative agenda in the months ahead.

Political analysts believe Republicans remain favorites to retain the seat because of South Carolina's long-standing Republican dominance. However, Graham's sudden death has injected fresh uncertainty into the race and intensified interest in who will emerge as the party's next leader in the state.

With the appointment process and election campaign set to unfold over the coming months, South Carolina's Senate contest is now expected to become one of the most closely watched political races in the United States.

Deadly Fire Rips Through Bangkok Pub

A devastating fire at a crowded pub in Bangkok, Thailand, has claimed the lives of at least 27 people and left more than 60 others injured, making it one of the country's deadliest entertainment venue disasters in recent years. The blaze broke out late at night while the pub was packed with customers, triggering panic as thick smoke rapidly engulfed the building.

Survivors described scenes of chaos as the lights went out following a loud explosion, leaving people struggling to find exits in near-total darkness. Many patrons became trapped inside as dense smoke spread through the venue within minutes, making escape extremely difficult. Several victims were later found near restrooms and blocked escape routes.

Preliminary investigations suggest the fire may have started after an electrical fault near the stage area, possibly involving an air-conditioning system or circuit breaker. Investigators are also examining whether highly flammable interior decorations helped the flames spread quickly throughout the building.

Authorities are investigating reports that some emergency exits may have been locked or obstructed by furniture and stored items, prevent-



ing people from escaping safely. Rescue teams said these obstacles significantly hampered evacuation efforts and may have contributed to the high death toll.

Firefighters battled heavy smoke and intense heat before bringing the blaze under control. Emergency responders rushed dozens of injured people to nearby hospitals, with several victims reported to be in critical condition. Families gathered outside hospitals and emergency centres as officials worked to identify those killed and injured.

Thai authorities, including senior government officials, have visited the site and ordered a full investigation into the incident. Police are examining whether negligence, fire

safety violations, or building code lapses played a role in the tragedy. Officials have promised strict action if any violations are confirmed.

The disaster has once again raised serious concerns about fire safety standards at entertainment venues across Thailand. Previous nightclub fires in the country have exposed similar issues involving inadequate emergency exits, flammable building materials, and poor enforcement of safety regulations.

As investigations continue, the tragedy has prompted renewed calls for stricter safety inspections, improved emergency preparedness, and stronger enforcement of fire regulations to prevent similar disasters in the future.



Iran Says US Strikes Hurt Diplomacy

Iran has strongly condemned fresh US airstrikes on its territory, accusing Washington of undermining diplomatic efforts and escalating tensions in the region. The latest attacks reportedly killed at least one person, prompting a sharp response from Tehran, which described the strikes as a direct blow to ongoing diplomatic initiatives.

Iranian officials said the attacks have made meaningful dialogue increasingly difficult, arguing that military action cannot coexist with genuine diplomatic engagement. They accused the United States of sending contradictory signals by advocating negotiations while continuing military operations.

According to Iranian authorities, the strikes targeted locations linked to the country's military infrastructure. Officials vowed that Iran would defend its sovereignty and respond appropriately to any further aggression, while emphasizing that external pressure would not force the country to alter its strategic policies.

The latest escalation comes amid heightened tensions between the two countries, with repeated military confrontations and growing concerns over regional security. Analysts believe the renewed strikes could further complicate efforts to reduce hostilities and revive diplomatic channels.

The United States has main-

tained that its military actions are aimed at protecting its forces and interests in the region, particularly in response to threats posed by Iran-backed groups. Washington has repeatedly stated that it does not seek a broader conflict but will take action if its personnel or allies are threatened.

Meanwhile, the international community has expressed concern over the rising tensions, urging both sides to exercise restraint and avoid steps that could trigger a wider regional conflict. Several countries have called for renewed diplomatic engagement to prevent further instability in the Middle East.

Security experts warn that continued military exchanges between the United States and Iran could have far-reaching consequences, including disruptions to regional stability, global energy markets, and international trade routes.

Despite the latest confrontation, diplomatic observers believe communication channels between the two sides remain important to avoid further escalation. However, Iran's latest remarks suggest that rebuilding trust will become increasingly difficult if military operations continue.

As tensions remain high, the world will be closely watching the next moves from both Washington and Tehran, with hopes that diplomacy can eventually prevail over confrontation and prevent the crisis from deepening further.

Russia's Secret Spy Unit Faces Fresh Scrutiny

Russia's military intelligence agency is once again under global scrutiny following reports about a highly secretive espionage network known as the 20th Directorate, a unit believed to be at the centre of Moscow's efforts to acquire sensitive foreign technology and bypass international sanctions imposed after the war in Ukraine.

According to intelligence assessments, the unit is responsible for identifying and obtaining advanced technologies that can support Russia's defence and military-industrial sectors. Its operations reportedly focus on acquiring restricted components, electronics, semiconductor technology, and dual-use equipment that have become difficult for Russia to access because of Western export controls.

Investigators believe the network has relied on covert procurement channels, front companies, intermediaries, and overseas operatives to source critical technology from foreign markets. Japan has emerged as one of the countries where authorities have intensified investigations into suspected attempts to illegally obtain advanced technological equipment.

Security officials say the intelligence unit plays a crucial role in helping Russia reduce the impact of sanctions by maintaining access to sophisticated technologies needed for defence production. These efforts are believed to have increased significantly since the start of the Ukraine conflict, as Moscow seeks alternative supply routes for critical components.

Authorities in several countries have stepped up surveillance and counterintelligence operations to identify suspected espionage activities linked to Russian intelligence agencies. Governments are also



strengthening export control mechanisms and cooperating more closely to prevent sensitive technologies from reaching sanctioned entities.

Analysts believe the activities of the 20th Directorate reflect the growing importance of technology in modern geopolitical competition. Access to advanced electronics, artificial intelligence, communications systems, and precision manufacturing equipment has become a strategic priority for nations involved in prolonged military conflicts. The revelations have further heightened concerns among Western allies and their partners about industrial espionage and the protection of sensitive technologies. Intelligence agencies continue to warn companies involved in high-tech manufacturing to strengthen cybersecurity measures and carefully monitor supply chains for potential infiltration attempts.

As geopolitical tensions remain high, the alleged activities of Russia's secret intelligence unit highlight the expanding role of economic security and technology protection in international relations. Experts believe efforts to prevent the transfer of sensitive technologies will remain a key priority for governments seeking to enforce sanctions and safeguard national security.

Sensex, Nifty End Flat After Sharp Recovery Goldman Sachs Sees Banks Leading Market Rally

Indian equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty ended almost unchanged after staging a strong recovery from the day's lows in a volatile trading session. Early selling pressure gave way to steady buying in the second half, helping the indices erase most of their losses before the closing bell.

The market opened on a weak note amid cautious global cues and profit booking. However, investors returned to select sectors during the afternoon session, resulting in a sharp rebound. Despite the recovery, both benchmark indices finished the day with only marginal changes, reflecting the mixed sentiment prevailing in the market.

The IT and media sectors emerged as the biggest gainers, attracting strong buying interest. Technology stocks recovered on optimism surrounding upcoming earnings and improving investor sentiment, while media shares also witnessed healthy gains. Several mid-cap and small-cap stocks outperformed the broader market, indicating selective buying



despite the volatile session.

On the other hand, weakness persisted in a few sectors, including banking, financial services, and energy stocks, which limited the market's overall gains. Investors remained cautious due to concerns over global economic developments and geopolitical uncertainties.

Market breadth remained positive, with advancing stocks outnumbering declining ones on the BSE. More than 180 stocks touched their 52-week highs, highlighting continued investor interest in quality companies de-

spite broader market volatility. This reflected the resilience of domestic equities even as benchmark indices traded within a narrow range.

Analysts noted that the recovery from intraday lows indicates buying support at lower levels. However, they also cautioned that investors are likely to remain selective ahead of key corporate earnings announcements and global economic developments. Any major movement in crude oil prices, foreign institutional investor activity, or international markets could influence the near-

term direction of Indian equities.

The strong performance of the IT sector has also raised hopes that technology stocks could continue to support the market if quarterly earnings meet expectations. Investors will closely monitor management commentaries from leading companies for signs of improving business conditions.

Market experts believe the broader trend remains constructive despite short-term volatility. They advise investors to focus on fundamentally strong companies instead of reacting to daily market swings.

With the earnings season gathering pace and several major companies scheduled to announce their quarterly results in the coming days, market participants expect stock-specific action to dominate trading. While global uncertainties may continue to create volatility, the day's smart recovery demonstrated that buying interest remains intact whenever valuations become attractive.

Global investment bank Goldman Sachs believes the next phase of India's stock market rally is likely to be driven by banking stocks, large-cap companies, and sectors linked to domestic economic growth. The brokerage believes improving macroeconomic conditions and attractive valuations could gradually bring foreign investors back into Indian equities.

According to the report, global investors have remained significantly underweight on Indian stocks after heavy selling earlier this year. However, with economic conditions stabilising and valuations becoming more reasonable in several sectors, the investment bank expects investor sentiment to improve over the coming months.

Rather than predicting a broad-based rally across all sectors, Goldman Sachs expects market leadership to shift towards quality large-cap stocks, particularly banks and companies that benefit from India's domestic growth story. Financial institutions are expected to gain from improving credit demand, stable asset quality, and supportive policy measures.



spending, healthy economic activity, and resilient domestic demand.

Goldman Sachs noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs), who have largely stayed on the sidelines in recent months, could gradually increase their exposure to Indian equities if macroeconomic conditions continue to improve. A stable currency, moderating inflation, and healthy corporate earnings could further strengthen investor confidence.

The report comes after a challenging first half for Indian equities, during which global uncertainties and profit booking weighed on market performance. Despite the volatility, the brokerage believes the market is now entering a new phase where stock selection will become more important than broad market movements.

Goldman Sachs also highlighted that valuation gaps have narrowed, making several high-

quality companies more attractive than they were earlier. As a result, investors may increasingly focus on businesses with strong fundamentals, sustainable earnings growth, and healthy balance sheets.

Market experts believe the brokerage's outlook reflects confidence in India's long-term economic prospects rather than expectations of a rapid market-wide rally. They suggest investors should focus on sectors supported by structural growth drivers instead of chasing short-term momentum.

With corporate earnings, policy support, and domestic economic strength expected to remain key themes in the months ahead, Goldman Sachs believes India's next market uptrend is likely to be led by large-cap banks and companies closely linked to the country's expanding economy, offering selective opportunities for long-term investors.

All Eyes on Kusumgar IPO Allotment

Investor interest in the Kusumgar IPO remains exceptionally strong, with the company's share allotment set to be finalized today. The issue has attracted overwhelming demand across investor categories, while the grey market premium (GMP) continues to indicate the possibility of a strong stock market debut.

The latest grey market premium is hovering around 160 per share, implying a potential listing gain of nearly 38% over the IPO's upper price band. While the GMP reflects strong market sentiment, it is an unofficial indicator and does not guarantee the actual listing performance.

The IPO received an overwhelming response from investors, with subscriptions exceeding 128 times the shares on offer. Strong participation from qualified institutional buyers, non-institutional investors, and retail applicants reflects broad



confidence in the company's business prospects and growth potential.

With such heavy oversubscription, the chances of receiving an allotment are relatively low, particularly for retail investors. The basis of allotment is being finalized according to SEBI guidelines and the registrar's allocation process.

Successful applicants are expected to receive shares in their

demat accounts soon after the allotment process is completed, while refunds or the release of blocked funds for unsuccessful applicants will also be processed. The company's shares are scheduled to make their stock market debut shortly after the allotment.

Investors can check their allotment status through the IPO registrar's website or on the BSE and NSE IPO portals by entering details such as their

PAN, application number, or demat account information once the allotment process is completed. Market experts note that the robust subscription figures and healthy grey market premium indicate positive investor sentiment. However, they also caution that grey market trends are unofficial and listing-day performance may differ depending on overall market conditions and investor participation.

The strong response to the Kusumgar IPO reflects continued enthusiasm in India's primary market, where quality companies with solid business fundamentals continue to attract significant investor interest. With allotment being finalized and listing just around the corner, investors will now closely watch whether the stock lives up to the high expectations reflected in the grey market and delivers the anticipated listing gains.

TCS Boosts IT Stocks With Strong Performance

Shares of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) extended their winning streak, gaining nearly 7% over two trading sessions as investors cheered the company's better-than-expected quarterly performance and improved business outlook. The sharp rally also lifted sentiment across the broader IT sector, making technology stocks among the top performers in the market.

The biggest trigger behind the rally was TCS's strong June quarter results. The company reported a healthy increase in net profit and delivered revenue that exceeded market expectations, driven by higher spending from banking clients and the positive impact of a weaker rupee. Management also expressed confidence that demand would improve further in the coming quarters.

Another key factor supporting the stock was the company's optimistic commentary on future business prospects. TCS management indicated that clients continue to have a significant technology investment pipeline, which could translate into stronger deal execution and revenue growth as the year progresses.

Investor confidence also received a boost after leading brokerage firms maintained a positive outlook on the company. Several institutional investors continued to back TCS, citing its



strong fundamentals, resilient business model, and long-term growth potential.

The rally was further supported by improving sentiment towards the global IT sector. Expectations of continued spending on artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and digital transformation encouraged investors to return to quality technology stocks after months of weakness.

Another positive trigger came from TCS's expanding AI strategy and major technology partnerships, reinforcing confidence that the company is well positioned to benefit from the growing adoption of artificial intelligence across industries. These developments strengthened expectations for sustained long-term growth.

The broader Nifty IT index also witnessed strong buying, with several leading technology companies posting healthy gains alongside TCS. The sector's re-

covery suggested that investors are gradually becoming more optimistic about earnings growth despite global economic uncertainties. Market experts believe the sharp rebound reflects renewed confidence in India's largest IT services company rather than short-term speculative buying. They expect future stock movement to depend on continued deal wins, improving global demand, and sustained earnings performance.

While analysts remain optimistic, they also caution that global macroeconomic conditions, client spending patterns, and developments in key overseas markets will continue to influence the IT sector in the coming months. For now, TCS's strong quarterly performance and positive management outlook have successfully restored investor confidence, making it one of the standout performers in the market.

Alpine Texworld IPO Opens for Subscription

Textile manufacturer Alpine Texworld is set to launch its Initial Public Offering (IPO) on July 14, with the issue remaining open for subscription until July 16. The company aims to raise 126.25 crore through a fresh issue of 1.20 crore equity shares, with no offer-for-sale component.

The IPO has been priced in the 100-105 per share band. Investors can bid for a minimum lot of 142 shares, requiring an investment of 14,910 at the upper end of the price band. The shares are proposed to be listed on both the BSE and the NSE.

According to grey market trends, the IPO is currently commanding a Grey Market Premium (GMP) of around 2 per share, indicating an estimated listing gain of nearly 2% over the upper price band. However, market experts caution that GMP is an unofficial



indicator and should not be considered a guarantee of listing performance.

Alpine Texworld is engaged in the dyeing and processing of fabrics, supplying high-quality textile products to garment manufacturers and traders. The company operates two manufacturing facilities equipped with specialised dyeing and finishing units, enabling it to produce a wide range of textile products.

The company plans to utilise the IPO proceeds primarily for capital expenditure, working capital requirements, and general corporate purposes. The fundraise is expected to strengthen its manufacturing capabilities and support future business expansion.

The textile sector has witnessed steady demand in recent years, driven by growth in domestic consumption and exports. Alpine Texworld is look-

ing to capitalise on these opportunities by expanding its production capacity and improving operational efficiency. Market analysts believe the IPO offers investors exposure to a growing textile company with an established presence in fabric processing. However, they advise investors to evaluate the company's financial performance, valuation, industry outlook, and risk factors before making an investment decision.

Following the closure of the issue on July 16, the basis of allotment is expected to be finalised shortly thereafter, while the company's shares are likely to debut on the stock exchanges soon after. Investors will now closely watch the subscription numbers over the next few days to gauge market interest and assess the IPO's listing prospects.

Markets Rebound Despite Global Tensions

Indian stock markets witnessed a sharp recovery despite rising geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran, raising hopes that the recent correction in equities may be nearing an end. After opening under pressure, both the Sensex and Nifty rebounded strongly as buying emerged across several sectors, helping the benchmark indices erase most of their losses.

The recovery surprised many market participants, as concerns over global uncertainty and geopolitical risks had weighed heavily on investor sentiment in recent sessions. However, strong domestic buying and selective interest in heavyweight stocks helped markets regain momentum.

According to market analysts, the sharp rebound sug-

gests that investors are finding value at lower levels. They believe the recent correction has made valuations more attractive, encouraging fresh buying from both institutional and retail investors.

Experts, however, remain divided on whether the latest rally marks the beginning of a sustained uptrend or merely a short-term pullback. While some believe the market may have formed a near-term bottom, others advise caution, pointing out that global uncertainties and geopolitical developments could continue to trigger volatility.

Technical analysts noted that the benchmark indices managed to hold key support levels before staging the recovery. This has improved the short-term technical outlook, although confirmation of a sustained trend reversal



would require the indices to break above important resistance levels in the coming sessions.

The rebound was supported by buying in sectors such as information technology, media, and select large-cap stocks, while banking and financial shares also recovered from intraday lows. Broader market participation improved, with several mid-cap and small-cap stocks ending the session in positive territory.

Market experts believe domestic factors such as healthy corporate earnings, resilient economic growth, and continued investor confidence remain supportive for Indian equities. However, they caution that global factors, including crude oil prices, foreign institutional investor flows, inflation trends, and

geopolitical developments, will continue to influence market direction.

Investors are also closely watching the ongoing earnings season, as quarterly results from major companies are expected to provide fresh cues for market movement. Strong corporate performance could strengthen investor confidence and support further gains.

For now, analysts suggest maintaining a balanced investment approach and focusing on fundamentally strong companies instead of reacting to short-term market swings. While the latest recovery has improved sentiment, they believe sustained buying over the next few sessions will be crucial in confirming whether the recent lows have indeed marked a short-term bottom for the Indian stock market.

Ex-Microsoft Employee Calls Quitting Job His Biggest Mistake

Walking away from a high-paying corporate job to chase a dream sounds inspiring, but one former Microsoft employee says the reality was far more difficult than he had imagined. Christian Harms, who quit his job in Switzerland earning nearly \$200,000 (around Rs 1.9 crore) annually, has described the decision as "the dumbest thing I've ever done" — not because he regrets following his passion, but because he underestimated the challenges that came with it.

At the age of 26, Harms left Microsoft's Switzerland office and relocated to Australia with

the ambition of becoming an entrepreneur and content creator. He believed that building something of his own would offer greater freedom and purpose than a corporate career. However, he soon realized that passion alone wasn't enough to guarantee success.

Sharing his experience through a viral Instagram series titled "Museum of Failures," Harms openly admitted that he had no detailed plan when he made the move. He gave himself just five months to turn his online business into a sustainable source of income. As the deadline ap-

proached, the pressure intensified.

According to Harms, he earned his first dollar online only a week before his scheduled flight back home. Looking back, he says the looming deadline pushed him into taking action, revealing a personal habit of delaying execution until circumstances became critical. The entrepreneur also reflected on another mistake—spending too much time planning instead of actually building his business. He believes many aspiring entrepreneurs fall into the trap of overthinking rather than taking consist-

ent action. While careful planning has its place, Harms says real progress comes only through execution.

Despite describing the decision as one of the biggest mistakes of his life, Harms clarified that he doesn't regret leaving Microsoft entirely. Instead, he regrets the lack of preparation and unrealistic expectations he had before leaping. His experience taught him that courage does not eliminate fear or self-doubt, and that building a business often requires far more patience and resilience than social media success stories

suggest.

His candid reflections have resonated with thousands online. Many praised his honesty for discussing failure rather than portraying entrepreneurship as an easy path to success. Others shared similar stories of leaving secure careers in pursuit of dreams, highlighting that while the journey can be rewarding, it is rarely straightforward. Harms' story serves as a reminder that taking risks can be worthwhile, but success rarely comes from bold decisions alone. Careful planning, disciplined execution, adaptability, and persis-



Image Credit: channescapes/Instagram

Daughter Takes Mother to Workplace, Wins Hearts Online

For many parents, watching their children succeed is the greatest reward. But for one Bengaluru woman, bringing her mother to her Amazon workplace turned into a deeply emotional milestone that has now touched thousands of people online.

Amazon employee Suparna Paul recently shared a heartfelt Instagram post after taking her mother to her office for the very first time. The visit, she said, meant far more to her than any promotion, salary hike, or professional achievement she had ever received.

Along with a series of photographs taken inside the Amazon office, Suparna reflected on her personal and professional journey. She described how, as a little girl, she had always dreamed of making her mother proud. Years later, that dream became a reality when she finally got the opportunity to show her mother the place where she works.

In her emotional note, Suparna



na recalled the countless sacrifices and unwavering support her mother had offered throughout her life. From preparing her for interviews to encouraging her during failures and disappointments, her mother stood beside her through every challenge without expecting anything in return.

She wrote that behind every interview she cleared, every sleepless night she endured, every rejection she overcame, and every milestone she achieved, her mother's silent

prayers and constant belief had always given her the strength to move forward. Even during moments when she doubted herself, her mother never stopped believing in her abilities.

The visit to the Amazon office, Suparna explained, was therefore much more than a simple office tour. It symbolized years of hard work, sacrifice, determination, and a daughter's gratitude toward the woman who helped shape her future.

She ended her post with a touching message, saying that

while the world celebrates her achievements, she only sees the woman who made them possible. According to her, the dream was never hers alone—it belonged to both of them.

The emotional post quickly gained widespread attention on social media, with thousands of users praising the beautiful bond between mother and daughter. Many people shared similar stories of introducing their parents to their workplaces, saying such moments are often more valuable than promotions or awards.

Others commented that every working professional dreams of one day making their parents proud and showing them the fruits of years of dedication and perseverance.

The story has resonated with people across the internet, serving as a powerful reminder that behind many successful careers are parents whose love, sacrifices, and unwavering faith quietly lay the foundation for every achievement.

Shillong Homestay Alleges Vandalism, Assault by Guests

A newly opened Airbnb homestay in Shillong has sparked widespread outrage after its owners accused a group of guests of vandalising the property, assaulting a caretaker, and threatening staff during their stay. The allegations, shared through a viral social media post, have triggered discussions about responsible tourism and respect for hospitality businesses.

The incident took place at The Oakwood, a homestay located in Shillong's Risa Colony. The owners posted before-and-after videos showing what they claimed was the condition of the property before the guests checked in and after they left. The footage allegedly revealed damaged furniture, scattered trash, broken interiors, and other signs of destruction.

According to the hosts, the guests violated several house rules during their stay. They alleged that the group brought unauthorised visitors onto the premises, consumed alcohol, smoked inside rooms despite a strict no-smoking policy, and engaged in unruly behaviour that disrupted the peaceful environment of the homestay.

The situation reportedly escalated when the owners asked the guests to vacate the property. The hosts claimed that the group became aggressive, threatened both the caretaker and the owners, and even physically assaulted the caretaker. They also alleged that the guests



intimidated them with the help of an armed security guard who was accompanying the group.

Expressing disappointment, the owners said they had invested months of hard work into building a welcoming space for travellers, only to see it badly damaged in a matter of days. In their social media post, they criticised the guests for displaying what they described as "zero civic sense" and urged travellers to treat homestays with greater respect.

The hosts further claimed that one of the guests denied responsibility for the damage, insisting that the property had already been in the same condition before their arrival. The owners rejected the allegation, pointing to their before-and-after videos as evidence.

In an unusual move, the homestay owners publicly identified the guests in their post and appealed to other homestay operators across Shillong and

Meghalaya to exercise caution before accepting bookings from them. They argued that while hosts go the extra mile to ensure visitors have a comfortable stay, they should not have to face vandalism, abuse, or intimidation in return.

The post has since gone viral, with many social media users expressing support for the homestay owners and condemning the alleged behaviour. Several users said tourists have a responsibility to respect the places they stay and the people who manage them. Others called for stricter action against guests who damage private property or mistreat staff.

The incident has once again highlighted the importance of responsible travel, reminding visitors that maintaining civic sense, following house rules, and treating accommodation with respect are essential to preserving trust between hosts and guests.

Puja on Train Sparks Debate, Railways Issue Clarification

A video showing a religious ceremony being performed inside a moving train has gone viral on social media, triggering widespread debate over whether such activities are permitted on Indian Railways. The unusual scene prompted Northern Railway to issue an official clarification after many users questioned how the event was allowed.

The viral clip showed a priest conducting a puja inside a train coach while several devotees, most of them dressed in white, participated in the rituals. The ceremony appeared to be taking place while the train was in motion, leading many social media users to express concerns about safety and railway regulations.

As the video spread rapidly online, speculation grew that the rituals had been conducted inside a regular passenger coach. Responding to the controversy, Northern Railway clarified that the ceremony did not take place in an ordinary coach used by



passengers.

According to the railway authorities, the puja was conducted inside a privately booked saloon coach, which had been hired through the proper commercial booking process. Officials explained that the special coach had been legally reserved by a private party and attached to the Paschim Express for the journey.

The Railways further stated that the saloon coach had been booked after payment of the required commercial charges, reportedly exceeding Rs 3 lakh.

Since the coach was reserved exclusively for private use, the ceremony did not violate rules applicable to regular passenger coaches.

A saloon coach is a special railway coach designed for private bookings and is often used by senior railway officials, dignitaries, or individuals who reserve it for personal travel. Unlike regular coaches, these compartments offer greater privacy and can be booked for special occasions subject to railway guidelines.

The clarification came amid

growing online discussions, with many users initially believing that religious gatherings inside moving trains were generally prohibited. Railway officials emphasized that the viral video presented an incomplete picture, as it did not reveal that the coach had been privately chartered.

The incident has once again highlighted how short video clips on social media can sometimes create misunderstandings when viewed without proper context. Many users welcomed the Railways' clarification, while others pointed out that verifying facts before reacting online is becoming increasingly important.

The episode has also drawn attention to the little-known facility of privately bookable saloon coaches offered by Indian Railways. It serves as a reminder that while unusual events may appear controversial at first glance, understanding the complete circumstances is essential before reaching conclusions.

Wide-Leg Zara Pants Become Internet Talking Point

A trendy pair of wide-leg trousers from fashion retailer Zara has unexpectedly become the center of an online safety debate after dozens of shoppers claimed the stylish pants caused them to trip, fall, and suffer minor injuries. The viral trend has sparked humorous reactions on social media, with many users jokingly referring to them as the "deadly Zara pants."

The controversy began when TikTok users started sharing videos of themselves stumbling while wearing the popular flowy trousers. Many clips showed people losing their balance while walking, with some ending up on the ground after stepping on the extra-long fabric.

Several users posted pictures and videos of scraped knees, bruised hands, and torn clothing, claiming the trousers had caused embarrassing falls in public places. One woman said she nearly injured her neck after tripping, while another shared footage from her home security camera showing her falling as she walked out of her garage.

The trousers have become so widely discussed online that many users have started using hashtags dedicated to the garment. While some posts were lighthearted and humorous, others urged shoppers to exercise caution before wearing the pants outdoors.

Many fashion enthusiasts believe the problem is caused by the combination of the



trousers' extremely wide legs, long length, and lightweight fabric. According to several users, the loose material can easily get caught under shoes, particularly open-toed footwear, increasing the risk of tripping.

Some customers attempted to solve the problem by getting the trousers shortened. However, even after hemming the pants, a few users claimed they continued to experience difficulties because of the garment's wide design. This led many to conclude that the issue is not just the length but the overall cut and flow of the fabric. Despite the complaints, the trousers remain highly popular among shoppers.

Many users praised their comfortable fit, elastic waistband, practical pockets, and fashionable appearance. Several ad-

mitted they would continue wearing them despite the risks, saying the style was simply too appealing to give up.

The viral discussion has also reignited conversations about balancing fashion with practicality. While oversized and wide-leg clothing continues to dominate fashion trends worldwide, many consumers say designers should also consider everyday comfort and safety.

Although the online reactions have been largely humorous, the incident serves as a reminder that fashionable clothing should also allow ease of movement. As the videos continue to circulate, shoppers are being encouraged to take extra care when wearing oversized garments, especially on uneven surfaces or while walking quickly.

Indian Woman Praises New Zealand's Work Culture

An Indian woman working in New Zealand has gone viral after sharing her experience of the country's workplace culture, describing it as a "culture shock" compared to what she was used to in India. Her observations about employee appreciation, healthy work-life balance, and supportive managers have resonated with thousands of social media users.

In a video posted on Instagram, Yamika Gandhi shared a glimpse of her office at around 4 p.m. on a Friday. She pointed out that the workplace was almost empty because many employees preferred working from home on Fridays or had already finished their workday.

She recalled recently completing an important assignment and receiving a message from a colleague thanking her for her efforts. According to Yamika, such appreciation is common in New Zealand workplaces, where even small achievements are acknowledged and employees are regularly encouraged for their contributions.



She admitted that receiving compliments for routine work initially felt unusual because she was not accustomed to such positive reinforcement. She described it as a genuine culture shock and said she is still learning how to respond to frequent words of appreciation from colleagues.

Yamika also highlighted the country's strong emphasis on maintaining a healthy work-life balance. She explained that whenever she stayed late to finish a deadline, her co-workers would encourage her to leave on

time instead of continuing to work extra hours.

One of the biggest surprises, she said, came from her manager during the early days of her job. The manager clearly instructed her not to work more than 40 hours a week. If she happened to work longer on a particular day, she was advised to take time off later to balance those extra hours.

According to Yamika, the biggest difference lies in how productivity is measured. While many Indian workplaces often associate dedication with long

working hours and weekend availability, New Zealand companies focus more on the quality of work rather than the number of hours spent at the office.

She added that employees are treated as individuals, not just workers. If someone appears stressed or overwhelmed, managers check on their well-being and offer support instead of expecting them to continue working under pressure.

Her video has struck a chord with social media users, many of whom praised New Zealand's employee-friendly work culture. Others shared their own experiences of working abroad, saying respect, appreciation, and personal well-being often receive greater importance than overtime in several countries.

The viral post has sparked fresh conversations about workplace culture, reminding professionals that productivity is not always measured by longer hours, but by efficiency, mutual respect, and maintaining a healthy balance between work and personal life.

As Argentina continues its World Cup campaign, every major refereeing decision involving the team is likely to come under intense scrutiny. Whether the criticism is justified or simply a reaction to the defending champions' success remains a matter of opinion, but the debate has once again highlighted how VAR continues to divide football fans around the world.



Chiranjeevi Congratulates Akhil on Lenin's Success

Megastar Chiranjeevi has extended his heartfelt congratulations to Akhil Akkineni following the impressive success of his latest film Lenin. His warm message has delighted fans of both stars and added to the celebrations surrounding the film's positive box office run.

Taking to social media, Chiranjeevi praised Akhil for delivering a remarkable performance and appreciated the entire team behind the film. He expressed happiness over the movie receiving an encouraging response from audiences and wished everyone associated with the project continued success.

In his message, Chiranjeevi said he was thrilled to see Akhil earn appreciation for his hard work and dedication. He added that the positive reports about Lenin had increased his curiosity and that he was eagerly looking forward to watching the film at the earliest.

The Megastar also congratulated director Murali Kishor Abburu, the producers, technicians, and the rest of the cast for creating a film that has connected well with audiences. His encouraging words quickly went viral, with



fans appreciating the camaraderie and mutual respect shared among Telugu cinema's leading actors.

Akhil responded to Chiranjeevi's message with gratitude, thanking the veteran actor for his blessings and kind words. Fans flooded social media with comments, calling the exchange a heartwarming moment between two generations of Telugu cinema.

Lenin has emerged as an important film in Akhil's career, earning positive word of mouth for its emotional storytelling, engaging action sequences, and Akhil's performance. The film has also been performing well at the box office, further strength-

ening the actor's position in the industry. The appreciation from Chiranjeevi follows praise from several celebrities and members of the film fraternity who have applauded Akhil's performance. Their support has further boosted the film's popularity and reinforced the positive buzz surrounding it.

With audiences continuing to flock to theatres and appreciation pouring in from all quarters, Lenin is enjoying a successful run. Chiranjeevi's heartfelt message has become another memorable highlight in the film's journey, making the celebrations even more special for Akhil and the entire team behind the movie.



NBK111 Shoot Gains Pace as Sanjay Dutt Joins

The shooting of Nandamuri Balakrishna's highly anticipated film NBK111 is progressing at a brisk pace, with the makers currently filming a major schedule in Hyderabad. Adding more excitement to the project, Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt has now joined the latest schedule, marking another significant milestone in the film's production.

Sanjay Dutt is expected to play a powerful antagonist in the film. The actor has already made a strong impression in several South Indian films with his intense villain roles, and his addition to NBK111 is expected to elevate the film's action-packed narrative.

himanyu Singh, Upendra Limaye, Manish Wadhwa, and Swasika are also part of the ensemble cast.

Music for the film is being composed by S. Thaman, while cinematography is handled by Arvind S. Kashyap, who is expected to give the film a rich visual appeal. The project is being produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru under the Vriddhi Cinemas banner as a prestigious pan-India venture. Ever since the makers unveiled the first glimpse titled "Entry of an Era" on Balakrishna's birthday, expectations surrounding the film have grown significantly. The teaser showcased Balakrishna in a stylish and intense avatar, promising a fresh and powerful screen presence.

The Hyderabad schedule will feature several important sequences involving Balakrishna and Sanjay Dutt. The makers are reportedly filming high-voltage action scenes and crucial dramatic moments that are expected to become major highlights of the movie.

Directed by Gopichand Malineni, the film marks his second collaboration with Balakrishna after the blockbuster success of Veera Simha Reddy. The director is said to be mounting the project on a much larger scale, with a story that blends powerful emotions, action, and grand visuals.

The film boasts a star-studded cast. Nayanthara and Kajal Aggarwal play the female leads, while Samuthirakani, Manchu Manoj, R. Sarathkumar, Ab-

his message to audiences is simple—wait for the complete story before concluding, as several key revelations and character arcs are yet to unfold.

As shooting continues at a steady pace, the makers are aiming to deliver one of the biggest action entertainers in Balakrishna's career. With an impressive cast, experienced technical crew, and a grand scale of production, NBK111 has already emerged as one of the most awaited Telugu films in the coming months.

Bommarillu Bhaskar Likely to Direct Nagarjuna's 101st Film

A fresh buzz from Tollywood has caught the attention of movie lovers, with reports suggesting that Bommarillu Bhaskar is likely to direct Akkineni Nagarjuna's landmark 101st film. Though the project has not been officially announced, the reported collaboration has already generated considerable excitement among fans.

Bommarillu Bhaskar, best known for directing memorable films like Bommarillu, Parugu, and Most Eligible Bachelor, is reportedly working on a script tailored for Nagarjuna. Despite his recent film Jack failing to impress at the box office, the director continues to be admired for his emotional storytelling and family-oriented narratives.

Nagarjuna is currently busy



shooting his milestone 100th film, which is being directed by R. Karthik. Industry buzz suggests that the veteran actor is expected to finalize his next project only after completing the ongoing film. This has further fueled specula-

tion that Bhaskar's project could become his prestigious 101st outing.

The rumoured collaboration is creating curiosity because Nagarjuna has often encouraged filmmakers with unique storytelling

styles. Over the years, he has balanced commercial entertainers with content-driven films, giving opportunities to directors with fresh ideas. Many believe that Bhaskar's strength in blending emotions with engaging narratives could complement Nagarjuna's versatile screen presence.

If the project materialises, it could also mark an important comeback for Bommarillu Bhaskar. After experiencing mixed fortunes in recent years, directing a senior star like Nagarjuna would offer him an opportunity to return with a strong and memorable film.

Fans have already started discussing the possible genre of the movie, with many hoping to see Nagarjuna in a refreshing role

that combines family emotions, romance, and entertainment—elements that have become Bhaskar's trademark over the years.

As of now, neither Nagarjuna nor Bommarillu Bhaskar has officially confirmed the collaboration. Therefore, the project remains an industry rumour rather than a confirmed announcement.

Even so, the possibility of Nagarjuna teaming up with the acclaimed filmmaker has generated significant anticipation across Tollywood. If the collaboration becomes official, it could emerge as one of the most exciting combinations in Telugu cinema, bringing together an experienced star and a director known for delivering emotionally engaging and family-friendly entertainers.

Don't Judge Karna Yet, Says Nag Ashwin

Director Nag Ashwin has responded to criticism surrounding the portrayal of Karna in Kalki 2898 AD, asking audiences not to judge the story until the release of Part 2. His comments came after social media discussions questioned certain creative choices and the film's interpretation of characters from the Mahabharata.

The debate began after several users expressed concerns about the film's climax and

Karna's characterization. Responding to one such discussion on social media, Nag Ashwin confidently defended his vision, stating, "I know what I'm doing. Wait for Part 2."

The filmmaker explained that Kalki 2898 AD is only the first chapter of a much larger narrative and that many unanswered questions will be addressed in the sequel. He emphasized that the complete arc of Karna and other key charac-

ters has been carefully planned, urging viewers to wait until the entire story unfolds.

Nag Ashwin also pointed out that his interpretation draws inspiration from various versions and translations of the Mahabharata. According to him, the sequel will provide greater clarity about the motivations and significance of Karna's role in the overall storyline.

His response quickly gained

attention across social media, with many fans supporting the director's confidence and asking others to reserve judgment until the second installment is released. Others appreciated that he directly engaged with the criticism instead of remaining silent.

Kalki 2898 AD, starring Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, and Deepika Padukone, created a massive cinematic universe by blending my-

thology with futuristic science fiction. The film's climax left several storylines open, making the sequel one of the most anticipated Indian films currently in production.

The discussion surrounding Karna's character has further increased curiosity about the sequel, with fans eager to see how Nag Ashwin connects the mythological elements with the futuristic world established in the first film.



With Kalki Part 2 expected to continue the epic saga on a much grander scale, Nag Ashwin's confident response has only strengthened anticipation.

His message to audiences is simple—wait for the complete story before concluding, as several key revelations and character arcs are yet to unfold.

Don't Trouble the Trouble Teaser Sparks Curiosity

The teaser of Don't Trouble the Trouble, starring versatile actor Fahadh Faasil, has been unveiled, offering audiences an intriguing blend of fantasy, mystery, and comedy. Packed with quirky visuals and an unusual narrative style, the teaser has immediately grabbed the attention of movie lovers and sparked curiosity about the film.

Directed by Shashank Yelleti, the film promises a fresh cinematic experience that combines supernatural elements with humour and suspense. Known for his unique storytelling, the filmmaker appears to have crafted an imaginative world filled with unexpected twists and entertaining characters.

The teaser introduces Fahadh Faasil in a completely different avatar, hinting at a mysterious journey filled with bizarre situations and thrilling adventures. Without revealing much about the plot, the makers have focused on creating intrigue through visually rich sequences, witty moments, and an engaging background score.

One of the biggest highlights of the teaser is its fantasy setting, which is rarely explored in mainstream Telugu cinema. The visuals, combined with an



air of mystery, suggest that the film will offer audiences a refreshing departure from conventional commercial entertainers.

Fahadh Faasil, who has earned widespread acclaim for his exceptional performances across multiple languages, appears perfectly suited for the film's unconventional tone. His expressive screen presence and effortless acting have already generated excitement among fans, who are eager to see him headline another content-driven entertainer.

The film is being produced by S. S. Karthikeya, while the music is composed by Kaala Bhairava, whose background score adds depth and excitement to the teaser. The technical quality and production values show-

cased in the promotional video have also received positive reactions.

Soon after its release, the teaser began trending across social media platforms, with fans praising its originality and unique presentation. Many viewers appreciated the decision to avoid revealing major plot points, saying it has only increased their curiosity about the film.

With its mix of fantasy, comedy, mystery, and adventure, Don't Trouble the Trouble is shaping up to be a distinctive addition to Fahadh Faasil's impressive filmography. The teaser suggests that audiences can expect an entertaining ride filled with surprises, making the film one of the most eagerly awaited releases in the coming months.

Srinivasa Mangapuram Trailer Raises Expectations

The theatrical trailer of Srinivasa Mangapuram has been unveiled, offering an exciting glimpse into director Ajay Bhupathi's latest romantic action entertainer. Blending romance, emotion, action, and family drama, the trailer has generated considerable buzz ahead of the film's theatrical release on July 30, 2026.

The trailer opens with the innocent love story of Srinu and Manga, set against the picturesque backdrop of Tirupati. Their youthful romance is presented with light-hearted moments and emotional chemistry, creating an engaging beginning before the narrative shifts into a more intense and action-packed zone.

The story takes a dramatic turn with the entry of Mohan Babu, who plays the powerful Venkatappaya Naidu. His commanding screen presence immediately raises the stakes, setting up a fierce conflict that drives the rest of the narrative. The trailer hints at a gripping battle between the protagonist and the formidable antagonist without revealing the film's major twists.

Making his acting debut, Jaya Krishna Ghattamaneni appears confident in both romantic and action sequences.

His performance suggests a promising start to his film career. Rasha Thadani, making her Telugu debut, also leaves a positive impression with her expressive performance and natural screen presence.

Director Ajay Bhupathi, known for films like RX 100 and Mangalavaaram, appears to have retained his signature intensity while presenting a story filled with



emotional depth and commercial appeal. The trailer balances romance, family sentiment, and action without giving away too much of the plot, successfully creating curiosity among audiences.

Technically, the film looks impressive. The cinematography beautifully captures the scenic beauty of Tirupati while also enhancing the action sequences with stylish



visuals. G.V. Prakash Kumar's powerful background score adds energy and emotion, making several moments in the trailer more impactful.

Presented by C. Ashwini Dutt and produced by P. Kiran under the Chandamama Kathalu banner, the film promises a blend of commercial entertainment and emotional storytelling. The production values showcased in the trailer have also received

positive appreciation from viewers.

Overall, the trailer delivers an engaging mix of romance, action, family emotions, and suspense, raising expectations for the film. With a fresh lead pair, a strong supporting cast led by Mohan Babu, and Ajay Bhupathi's trademark storytelling, Srinivasa Mangapuram is shaping up to be one of the notable Telugu releases of the month.

