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Kishan Reddy Clarifies Coal Gasification Support



New Delhi, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy has clarified the Centre's position on coal gasification projects while responding to questions raised by BRS Parliamentary Party Leader Vaddiraju Ravichandra in the Rajya Sabha. Ravichandra sought details on the financial implications of coal gasification for the government and asked whether the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) had approached the Centre for permission or financial assistance to establish a gasification plant. Responding to the questions, Kishan Reddy said coal gasification is an emerging sector requiring substantial capital investment and faces several feasibility-related challenges. However, considering its strategic importance, the Central Government is encouraging the development of such projects. The Minister stated that the government had approved two financial incentive schemes to promote coal gasification. The first, amounting to RS.8,500 crore, was approved on January 24, 2024, while a second scheme worth RS.37,500 crore was approved on May 13, 2026. Kishan Reddy explained that coal gasification plants require clearances from multiple Central and State

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Telangana Gets 736 KGBVs Under Samagra Shiksha

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Union Education Minister Pralhad Joshi said financial assistance is being extended to Telangana and other States and Union Territories for various educational interventions, including Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), under the Centrally Sponsored Samagra Shiksha scheme. Responding to a question raised by BJP MP M. Raghunandan Rao in the Lok Sabha on Monday, Joshi said States and UTs prepare their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) according to local requirements and priorities. These proposals are subsequently examined and approved by the Project Approval Board in consultation with the respective governments, subject to scheme guidelines and available funds. A total of 736 KGBVs have been approved for Telangana, including 26 schools in Medak district. The minister noted that education is a subject in the Concurrent List, with most schools functioning under

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Varuna Yagam Held for Abundant Rains

Nagarjuna Sagar, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A grand Varuna Yagam was conducted at the Vijay Vihar tourism guesthouse premises in Nagarjuna Sagar on Monday, seeking abundant rainfall and prosperity across Telangana.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and his wife participated in the Purnahuti, the concluding ritual of the ceremony. The Yagam was performed according to Vedic traditions with the participation of 108 Ritwiks (priests) and 11 Homa Kundams (sacrificial fire pits). Priests and Vedic scholars from the Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple supervised the religious ceremony. Special rituals and prayers were performed seeking the blessings of the rain deity for adequate and timely rainfall. The Varuna Yagam was organised with the objective of seeking plentiful rains in the Krishna and Godavari river basins, which are crucial to Telangana's irrigation needs. Adequate rainfall in the catchment areas is expected to improve river inflows and help replenish reservoirs and tanks across the state.



The ceremony also focused on the welfare of farmers and the successful cultivation of the monsoon crop. With agriculture heavily dependent on reliable water availability, the ritual sought favourable weather conditions and sufficient water resources for the farming community.

The participation of the Chief Minister and his wife marked the conclusion of the religious programme, which combined traditional Vedic rituals with prayers for rainfall, agricultural prosperity and the overall well-being of the people of Telangana.

Bhatti Woos Quantum Battery Investment



San Jose, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka visited the headquarters of battery technology company QuantumScape in San Jose during his ongoing US tour and held discussions on advanced battery technology, manufacturing and investment opportunities in Telangana. Bhatti Vikramarka met senior company executives, including President and CEO Dr. Siva Sivaram, and discussed developments in next-generation energy storage, global supply chains and opportunities for collaboration with Telangana.

During the meeting, QuantumScape officials explained the company's work on solid-state lithium-metal batteries. The technology is being developed as an alternative to conventional lithium-ion batteries and has the potential to offer improved safety, faster charging and higher energy density. The company also briefed the Deputy Chief Minister on the challenges involved in transitioning the technology from research and development to large-scale commercial manufacturing.

The discussions covered several aspects of the emerging battery ecosystem, including critical mineral supplies, advanced component manufacturing, battery-cell production and applications in electric vehicles. Both sides also examined global supply-chain trends and the potential for partnerships as advanced battery technologies gain wider commercial acceptance.

Bhatti Vikramarka highlighted Telangana's growing electric mobility ecosystem and its pool of skilled engineering and technical professionals. He said the state government was committed to promoting clean energy, advanced manufacturing and technology-driven industries.

The Deputy Chief Minister invited QuantumScape to explore investment opportunities in Telangana, particularly in research and development, component manufacturing and supply-chain partnerships. He emphasised the state's objective of creating an ecosystem that could help localise advanced battery technologies in India. The visit is part of Telangana's efforts to attract global technology companies and strengthen international industrial partnerships. The state government is seeking to leverage its engineering capabilities and emerging clean-energy ecosystem to expand opportunities in electric mobility and advanced manufacturing. The discussions with QuantumScape are expected to support Telangana's broader efforts to position itself as a destination for innovation, clean-energy technology and high-value manufacturing.

Skyroot Signs Three-Launch Deal with HEX20

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Indian space-tech company Skyroot Aerospace has entered into a multi-launch agreement with space technology firm HEX20 to deploy its Earth-observation satellite constellation and conduct in-orbit payload demonstration missions.

Under the agreement, HEX20 has reserved three dedicated launches aboard Skyroot's Vikram series of launch vehicles. The missions are scheduled to begin in the fourth quarter of 2027 and will carry HEX20 spacecraft, while also providing potential rideshare opportunities for satellites operated by other customers. The agreement was signed by Skyroot Aerospace co-founder and Chief Operating Officer Naga Bharath Daka and HEX20 co-founder and COO M.B. Aravind.

The partnership follows Skyroot's recent successful orbital mission of Vikram-1, described by the company as India's first privately developed orbital-class rocket. The successful flight has strengthened the company's confidence in scaling its launch operations and building a regular launch schedule.

Skyroot said it is working towards increasing its capacity to as many as 12 launches annually, as demand for dedicated



small-satellite launch services continue to grow globally. Daka said the company was pleased to partner with HEX20 and support its expanding satellite and Earth-observation programmes. He said the Vikram launch vehicle family was designed to provide reliable and flexible access to orbit for emerging space companies. HEX20 Chief Executive Officer Amal Chandran said the partnership combines

the capabilities of both companies and would create stronger routes to orbit for increasingly ambitious missions.

The agreement is expected to support the expansion of commercial satellite services while giving third-party spacecraft potential access to rideshare opportunities. The partnership also reflects the growing role of Indian private-sector companies in the global space-launch ecosystem.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign Gains Momentum

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign has gathered momentum across Telangana, with Union ministers, MPs, MLAs and BJP leaders joining the Independence Day initiative by hoisting the national flag at their residences.

The campaign follows Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to encourage citizens to display the Tricolour at their homes as part of the Independence Day celebrations. Several public representatives, accompanied by their family members, have participated in the programme and shared photographs and videos on social media to encourage wider public involvement.

Dr. Mekala Shilpa Reddy, working convener of the campaign in Telangana, said the initiative was receiving an enthusiastic response across the state. She appealed to citizens to participate irrespective of caste, religion or community and make the campaign a collective expression of patriotism.

The campaign is being promoted through residential flag hoisting and social media posts using the hashtag #HarGharTiranga. Citizens are also being encouraged to upload selfies and photographs of their participation through the official campaign platform.

Shilpa Reddy said the national flag represents India's unity, progress and collec-



tive identity. She added that this year's celebrations also carry special significance as the campaign commemorates 150 years of Vande Mataram.

As part of the wider celebrations, BJP workers have been asked to organise Tiranga rallies in villages, towns and mandals across Telangana. Special cleanliness drives will also be conducted at memorials and statues of freedom fighters from August 12 to 14. Party leaders have called upon citizens to actively participate in these programmes and use the occasion to remember the sacrifices of freedom fighters. The campaign is aimed at creating a widespread patriotic atmosphere across Telangana ahead of Independence Day on August 15.

Governor Offers Prayers

Varanasi, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, accompanied by his family members, visited the revered Shree Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi and offered prayers to Lord Shiva. During the visit, the Governor participated in the temple rituals and spent time in the spiritually significant surroundings of Kashi. He sought the blessings of Baba Vishwanath for the peace, prosperity and welfare of the people of Telangana as well as the nation. The visit reflected the Governor's spiritual engagement with one of India's most revered pilgrimage centres. Kashi, widely regarded as the abode of Lord Shiva, attracts devotees from across the country throughout the year. The Governor's family members also offered prayers at the historic temple and joined in the devotional proceedings.

The visit concluded with prayers for the well-being of citizens and the continued progress and prosperity of the country



and Telangana. The Governor's visit took place amid the sacred atmosphere of Varanasi, with devotees expressing reverence at the temple premises.

Telangana Prepares for Reform Utsav

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, along with senior officials, participated in a video conference chaired by Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan on Monday to discuss the Centre's proposed 'Reform Utsav' initiative.

According to an official statement, the nationwide programme is scheduled to begin in October and aims to place citizens at the centre of the reform process. The initiative will focus on collecting public suggestions, discussing them with stakeholders, converting viable ideas into actionable reforms and ensuring their implementation through a structured roadmap. The programme will be conducted in three phases. The preparatory phase, scheduled for August and September, will focus on creating governance mechanisms, sensitisation programmes and awareness campaigns. The main phase, from October to December, will include several components. Jan Manthan, from October 1 to 31, will focus on identifying issues and gathering suggestions. Vimarsh and Jan Samadhan, from October 10 to November 30, will involve discussions and implementation of immediate and medium-term reforms. Sankalp Siddhi, running from October 10 to December 20, will feature events at national and state levels to advance the reform agenda. The follow-up phase will begin from December 28 and concentrate on moni-



toring structural reforms and submitting progress reports.

The Cabinet Secretary asked states to ensure active participation in the initiative. Each state will establish a State Coordinative Committee headed by the Chief Secretary and appoint a State Nodal Officer. Similar coordination arrangements will be created at the district level. A dedicated Reform Utsav portal, including regional-language facilities, will be launched to enable public participation, collect suggestions and monitor implementation. The Telangana government said necessary coordination mechanisms would be established through departments and field-level authorities to ensure effective implementation of the programme.

High UEF Numbers Reported in Three Districts

Mancherla, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A significant number of Uncollectable Enumeration Forms (UEFs) were reported from Mancherla, Adilabad and Kumaram Bheem Asifabad districts during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, which concluded on

Monday.(Officials said UEFs cover voters who are deceased, untraceable or absent, have permanently shifted, or are already enrolled in another manner. The figures have drawn attention in several Assembly constituencies where the proportion of uncollectable forms was comparatively high.

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Har Ghar Tiranga Gathers Pace

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign has gained momentum across Telangana, with BJP leaders, elected representatives and party workers hoisting the national flag at their residences ahead of Independence Day. The campaign, launched in response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal, aims to encourage citizens to display the Tricolour at their homes and celebrate the spirit of patriotism. BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao hoisted the flag at his residence in Hyderabad along with youngsters from his neighbourhood and urged people across the

state to participate voluntarily.

Dr. Mekala Shilpa Reddy, State Convener of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga, Tiranga Yatra' and BJP Mahila Morcha State President, said the initiative was receiving an enthusiastic response across villages, mandals and districts.

Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar also participated by hoisting the Tricolour at their residences. Bandi Sanjay appealed to citizens, including students, to join the campaign without distinctions based on caste, religion or community. He also called for cleanliness drives at freedom fighters' statues and memorials from August 12 to

14, besides Tiranga rallies.

Other BJP leaders, including K. Laxman, Arvind Dharmapuri, D.K. Aruna, Katipally Venkata Ramana Reddy, Paidi Rakesh Reddy and Dhanpal Suryanarayana, joined the celebrations. Ramchander Rao announced a massive Tiranga Yatra at Hyderabad's Tank Bund on August 14 and appealed to citizens to participate beyond political and social differences. He said the rally would highlight national unity and the vision of a 'Viksit Bharat'. Shilpa Reddy urged people to share photographs and videos of their participation on social media using #HarGharTiranga.



Bandi Sanjay Calls for 'Har Ghar Tiranga'

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar called upon people across Telangana to participate in the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign and hoist the national flag at their homes as part of the Independence Day celebrations. Bandi Sanjay hoisted the Tricolour at his residence in Hyderabad on Monday before leaving for Delhi to attend the ongoing Parliament session. Speaking to the media, he urged BJP workers to make the campaign a wide-spread public movement and organise Tiranga Yatras across the state. The Union Minister appealed to citizens, including students, to voluntarily participate in the initiative irrespective of caste, religion or community. He said displaying the national flag at homes would be a fitting tribute to the sacrifices of free-



dom fighters and an expression of patriotism. Bandi Sanjay also asked party

cadres to undertake cleanliness drives at statues and memorials dedicated to

national leaders and freedom fighters from August 12 to 14. He called for Tiranga rallies, patriotic programmes and awareness campaigns to be organised in villages and at prominent junctions across Telangana. He said the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' initiative had grown into a major nationwide movement, encouraging citizens to express their connection with the country and the national flag. Describing the Tricolour as a symbol of India's unity, integrity and national identity, Bandi Sanjay urged every BJP worker to actively contribute to creating a patriotic atmosphere in their respective areas. He called for coordinated efforts to ensure that the national flag is displayed on every eligible household as part of the campaign and urged citizens to participate with pride ahead of Independence Day on August 15.

Maha Varuna Yagam



Nagarjuna Sagar, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A 'Maha Varuna Yagam' was conducted at Nagarjuna Sagar on Monday, seeking abundant rainfall, improved water inflows and the welfare of farmers across Telangana. Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government was closely monitoring rainfall and reservoir conditions amid concerns over the El Nino effect. The Minister said rainfall across Telangana had been below normal in recent months, with forecasts indicating continued uncertainty. He stressed that consistent rainfall during the crop season was more important for agriculture than isolated heavy showers, as prolonged dry spells could affect crop growth and irrigation requirements. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the state's water security depended not only on rainfall within Telangana but also on inflows from the upper catchment areas

of the Krishna and Godavari rivers in Karnataka and Maharashtra. He expressed hope that adequate rainfall in these regions would improve inflows into Nagarjuna Sagar and other reservoirs. He said the Irrigation Department was continuously monitoring reservoir storage, river inflows and ayacut requirements in coordination with the Agriculture Department. The government, he added, would utilise every available TMC of water responsibly to protect Vanakalam crops. The ritual was held at the Vijaya Vihar premises from 4 am to 4 pm under the auspices of the Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple. It involved 108 Ritwiks and 11 Homa Kundas in the presence of Vedic scholars. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was scheduled to participate in the Maha Purnahuti at 3.20 pm. The prayers sought abundant rainfall, full reservoirs and tanks, improved groundwater levels and prosperous crops for farmers.

Laxman Raises Telangana Power Concerns



New Delhi, August 10 | TPN Bureau

BJP Rajya Sabha member Dr. K. Laxman raised several concerns regarding Telangana's growing electricity requirements and the proposed National Electricity Policy-2026 in the Rajya Sabha. Laxman sought details on measures to strengthen transmission infrastructure and integrate increasing renewable energy capacity into the power grid. He highlighted Telangana's rapidly expanding industrial sector, data centres and urban infrastructure, which are expected to drive electricity demand, and sought assurances on maintaining a reliable 24x7 power supply. He also questioned how the proposed reforms would support decentralised solar power generation, battery energy storage systems and smart distribution networks in Telangana. At the same time, he sought clarification on measures to protect the financial sustainability of

state-owned distribution companies, or DISCOMs. Responding to the questions, Union Minister for Power Manohar Lal Khattar outlined various measures being undertaken by the Central government to strengthen the country's electricity sector and improve its capacity to meet future demand. The Minister reiterated the Centre's commitment to expanding renewable energy and improving the availability of affordable, reliable and quality electricity across the country. Khattar said the government was working towards achieving the objectives of Viksit Bharat@2047, with a focus on modernising the power sector and ensuring dependable electricity supply. The discussion highlighted the need for Telangana to strengthen its power infrastructure while preparing for rising demand and greater integration of renewable energy into the state's electricity network.

KGBV Building Inaugurated in Elkathurthy

Elkathurthy, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government is focusing on strengthening education infrastructure and providing quality schooling to children from poor and middle-class families, Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said on Monday. Ponguleti, along with Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar, inaugurated a new Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) building at Elkathurthy in Hanamkonda district, constructed at a cost of RS.3.25 crore. Ponguleti said the government was upgrading educational institutions to provide facilities and learning standards comparable to private and corporate institutions. He said diet charges in government institutions had been increased by 40 per cent and cosmetic charges for hostel students by 200 per cent. The government was also working to provide quality uniforms, textbooks and other essential materials shortly after the academic year began. He said RS.200 crore was being allocated for each Assembly constituency to establish integrated residential schools designed to accommodate around 3,500 students. One such institution is planned in every constituency, he added. Ponguleti described education and healthcare as crucial to improving the lives of economically weaker sections. Responding to concerns raised by the KGBV



principal, he directed officials to expedite safety measures, including installation of grills and construction of a compound wall. Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar said the government was undertaking reforms covering teaching quality, infrastructure, teacher recruitment, promotions and grievance redressal. He stressed that education should equip students with practical skills and employment opportunities rather than focusing solely on examination marks. Hanamkonda Collector Chahat Bajpai said additional classrooms, toilets and a kitchen shed had been constructed at the KGBV with NABARD support. She said efforts were underway to strengthen KGBVs and junior colleges across the district. The Ministers distributed blankets, trunk boxes and other essentials to girl students and felicitated students who achieved top marks. Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy, KUDA Chairman Inagala Venkatrami Reddy, officials, teachers, students and others attended the programme.

Uttam Calls for Prudent Water Management

Nagarjuna Sagar, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday said the Telangana government was combining traditional prayers with scientific planning to tackle the possibility of uneven rainfall due to El Nino conditions. Speaking during the Maha Varuna Yagam at Vijay Vihar on the banks of the Krishna River, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government was praying for abundant rainfall while simultaneously preparing to utilise available water resources carefully. He stressed that every drop of water in reservoirs, rivers and tanks must be conserved to protect farmers throughout the agricultural season. The Minister said sustained rainfall in the upper catchments of the Krishna and Godavari rivers, particularly in Karnataka and Maharashtra, was essential to improve inflows into Telangana's irrigation projects. He said officials were closely monitoring rainfall, river flows, reservoir storage and irrigation requirements to make decisions based on actual water availability. The Maha Varuna Yagam was conducted with 108 Ruthviks, Vedic scholars and priests under the guidance of scholars associated with the Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple. The day-long ritual began during the early morning hours with Chaturveda Pathanam, fol-



lowed by the consecration of the sacred fire and offerings at 11 Homa Kundas. The prayers sought widespread rainfall across Telangana, healthy flows in the Krishna and Godavari rivers, full reservoirs and tanks, improved groundwater levels and a successful Kharif season. The ceremony also carried historical significance, with priests highlighting the ancient association of Vijayapuri with Vedic traditions during the Ikshvaku period. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government's approach was to hope for a favourable monsoon while remaining prepared for difficult conditions. He urged farmers to consider rainfall patterns and water availability while selecting crops. The Maha Purnahuti was scheduled for 3.20 pm, with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy expected to participate in the concluding rituals.

Seethakka Inspects Medaram Arrangements



Mulugu, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka visited the sacred Sammakka-Saralamma temple at Medaram in Tadwai mandal on Monday and performed special prayers to the tribal deities. Following the prayers, the Minister inspected arrangements being made at the field level for the Chief Minister's proposed visit. She reviewed ongoing development works and assessed the facilities being created on the temple premises. Seethakka inspected PT beams, queue lines, media towers and granite works, besides reviewing arrangements for the proposed new queue line at the rear of the temple. She also visited the temple Executive Officer's office and offered several suggestions to officials to improve the arrangements and ensure smooth

management of devotees. The Minister directed officials to closely monitor the ongoing works and complete them as per the required standards. She emphasised the importance of providing adequate facilities and ensuring proper arrangements ahead of the Chief Minister's visit. District Additional Collectors CH Mahenderji and Sampath Rao, Library Corporation Chairman Banothu Ravichander, Market Committee Chairperson Rega Kalyani, DPO Venkaiah, Priests Association President Siddhaboina Jaggarao, the temple EO, district officials, local public representatives and others participated in the inspection. The Minister also reviewed coordination among various departments to ensure that the arrangements at the historic temple are completed efficiently.

Fishermen Get Accident Insurance Cover

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has approved the implementation of the Group Accident Insurance Scheme (GAIS) for 4,21,767 registered fishermen during the 2026-27 financial year, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries and Youth Services & Sports Minister Vakati Srihari said on Monday. The Minister said the scheme aims to strengthen the social security of fishermen and provide financial assistance to their families in cases of accidental death or disability. Fishermen aged between 18 and 70 years will be covered under the insurance programme. According to Srihari, the annual premium per beneficiary is RS.79.96, with the cost being shared by the Central and State governments in a 60:40 ratio. The Telangana government will contribute RS.21.34, 79,673 towards its share, ensuring that eligible fishermen do not have to pay the premium. Under the scheme, families will receive RS.5 lakh in the event of accidental death. A similar amount will be provided for permanent total disability, while permanent partial disability will attract compensation of RS.2.5 lakh. Beneficiaries will also be eligible for medical assistance of up to RS.25,000 for accidental hospitalisation.



Srihari said the Fisheries Department had taken steps to ensure uninterrupted insurance coverage for all eligible registered fishermen during the policy period beginning June 1, 2026. He said the government was committed to protecting the livelihoods and financial interests of the fishing community. The insurance scheme, he added, forms an important part of the government's broader welfare measures for fishermen and their families. The Minister assured that the government would continue strengthening social protection mechanisms and extending financial security to registered fishermen across Telangana.

Govt Pushes Land Rights, Housing and Farmer Welfare

Elkathurthy/Hanamkonda, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government is prioritising land security, housing for the poor and farmer welfare, Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said on Monday. At Elkathurthy, the Minister, along with Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar, laid the foundation stone for a new Tahsildar office estimated at RS.3.25 crore. Ponguleti said nearly RS.600 crore had been sanctioned for constructing about 180 Tahsildar and RDO offices across the state to improve access to administration. He said the government was implementing Bhu-Bharati to replace the earlier Dharani system and provide greater security over land ownership. A comprehensive survey has begun with 70 revenue villages selected in the first phase, with plans to survey every land parcel across Telangana within 18 to 24 months using modern technology and geo-referenced maps. In Kamalapur, the Minister distributed title deeds to beneficiaries receiving nearly 394 double-bedroom houses across three villages. He said the government was committed to fulfilling the housing aspirations of poor families through the Indiramma Houses scheme. Ponguleti said 4.5 lakh houses had been taken up in the first phase and another 2.5 lakh in the second, with subsequent phases planned to cover every eligible family. Around 35,000 incomplete houses left from previous programmes are also being completed, he said. The Minister said eligible beneficiaries would receive RS.5 lakh in construction



assistance directly into their bank accounts in stages, without contractors or middlemen. He added that drinking water, roads and electricity would also be provided in housing colonies. At a district-level Rythu Mela in Hanamkonda, Ponguleti said farmer welfare remained a key priority. He claimed the government was spending an average of RS.5,250 crore a month through various farmer-oriented schemes, compared with RS.2,500 crore under the previous administration. He said Bhu-Bharati would help provide permanent clarity over land ownership and prevent future disputes. He also acknowledged procurement and storage challenges and said measures were being taken to strengthen warehousing facilities. Ponguleti advised farmers to select crops according to rainfall and water availability, combining scientific recommendations with their traditional experience to improve agricultural returns.



KTR Seeks Probe into Mall Tender

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has alleged irregularities in the tender process for the proposed PM Ekta Mall project in Hyderabad and urged the Centre to cancel the tenders and order an independent inquiry. KTR wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, raising concerns over the proposed RS.2,059.81-crore project. He alleged that public land and government funds were being used in a manner that could disproportionately benefit a private developer. According to KTR, the project is planned on about 6.30 acres of public land in Rayadurg. He claimed the proposed arrangement would provide at least nine lakh square feet for government use while allowing a private developer to receive around 18 lakh square feet. KTR questioned the rationale behind what he described as a disproportionate allocation of built-up space to a private entity when the project involves public land and financial support from the government. He also alleged that around RS.202 crore in central assistance has been earmarked for the project. The BRS leader further claimed that the tender conditions were structured in a manner that could facilitate the transfer of a RS.200-crore interest-free loan under the Special Assistance for Capital Investment (SASCI) scheme to the private developer. KTR demanded that no public funds be released to private entities until the allegations are examined. He called for immediate cancellation of the tender, a comprehensive independent investigation and action against anyone found responsible for wrongdoing. He also questioned the Centre's response to complaints he said had previously been submitted with supporting evidence concerning alleged irregularities in other Telangana projects. KTR asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union ministers to take concrete action rather than limiting their criticism of alleged corruption in the Congress government to public statements. He said prompt intervention in the PM Ekta Mall matter would demonstrate the Centre's commitment to transparency and accountability in the use of public land and funds.

Niranjan Reddy Slams Centre Over Palamuru DPR

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy criticised the Centre for returning the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, describing the move as a setback to the state's irrigation interests. Niranjan Reddy attributed the development primarily to alleged negligence by the Congress government in Telangana. He accused the state government of failing to effectively protect Telangana's water rights and alleged that the interests of Andhra Pradesh were being prioritised. He questioned why objections were being raised over the Palamuru-Rangareddy project when similar concerns were not raised regarding projects such as Polavaram and Banakacharla. He also criticised the BJP and Congress MPs from Telangana for allegedly failing to raise the issue effectively in Parliament. According to Niranjan Reddy, most clearances for the project, except those related to hydrology, had been secured during the previous BRS government. He argued that returning the DPR at this stage was unjustified. He said the hydrology issue was linked to water allocations and was currently before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal. Telangana, he added, had already earmarked 90 TMC from its existing water share for the project. Niranjan Reddy urged the Centre to immediately approve the DPR and called upon the state government to send an all-party delegation to Delhi to pursue the matter. He further alleged that both the Congress and BJP were failing to adequately defend Telangana's irrigation interests. He warned that any further delay affecting farmers in the Palamuru region would have serious political consequences for the Congress government. He demanded coordinated action to secure approvals and safeguard the project's future.

BJP to Intensify Agitation Against Congress

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao on Monday warned that the party would intensify its agitation against what he termed the "anti-people policies" of the Congress government and raise issues affecting citizens across the state. Speaking to media representatives at the BJP state headquarters in Hyderabad, Rao alleged that the government had failed to fulfil several assurances made to the people even after nearly three years in office. He also criticised the administration over the functioning of HYDRAA and other departments. Rao alleged that the state government had failed to act despite observations and criticism from the High Court concerning certain administrative matters. He described the situation as an indication of administrative failure and accused the government of misleading



courts. The BJP state chief questioned why HYDRAA had allegedly not taken steps to recover more than 300 acres of gov-

ernment land said to have been encroached upon in Balapur and Nadergul. He said the BJP would continue to raise such issues and mobilise public support against policies it considers detrimental to citizens. On the E20 ethanol-blended petrol issue, Rao accused the Congress and its INDIA bloc allies of opposing measures taken in the national interest and spreading misinformation. He claimed that the use of ethanol-blended fuel had been recommended by the Congress-led government more than a decade ago and said the fuel had undergone extensive testing before being promoted. Rao reiterated that the BJP would continue its campaign on public issues and intensify protests in the coming days. BJP state general secretary Dr. N. Goutham Rao and chief official spokesperson and media in-charge N.V. Subhash were present at the interaction.

Harish Rao Pays Emotional Tribute to Peddi Sudarshan Reddy



Nallabelli, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Former minister and BRS MLA T. Harish Rao became emotional while attending the 10th-day memorial ceremony of former Narsampet MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy at Nallabelli on Monday. He recalled his nearly 25-year association with the late leader and paid tribute to his contribution to the Telangana movement and the development of the region. Harish Rao described Sudarshan Reddy as a selfless activist who participated in several struggles and by-elections during the Telangana movement. He said Sudarshan stood firmly against supporters of a united Andhra Pradesh and remained committed to the formation of Telangana despite facing pressure and personal difficulties. He credited Sudarshan Reddy with playing an important role in securing Devadula irrigation water for the Ramappa, Pakala and Laknavaram tanks. He also highlighted his efforts in bringing a medical college to Narsampet despite the constituency not being

a district headquarters. Recalling their final joint activity, Harish Rao said he never imagined that their protest against the proposed demolition of a historic temple would be their last programme together. He became tearful while recalling how Sudarshan Reddy had once helped save his life after he was injured during the Telangana movement, and how he later had to see his friend lying lifeless in the same hospital. Harish Rao said Sudarshan's commitment to Telangana and public welfare would remain an inspiration. He assured the bereaved family that BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao and the party would continue to support them and the people of Narsampet.

KTR Pays Tribute to Peddi Sudarshan Reddy

Nallabelli, August 10 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) paid emotional tribute to former Narsampet MLA Peddi Sudarshan Reddy at a 10th-day memorial meeting in Nallabelli, describing him as a committed Telangana activist who earned a lasting place in the hearts of people through his struggles and public service. Accompanied by former minister T. Harish Rao, KTR garlanded Peddi Sudarshan Reddy's portrait and consoled his family members. He said the massive public participation in Peddi's final journey demonstrated the respect he commanded across the erstwhile Warangal district. KTR noted that thousands of people remained present for hours despite heavy rain, calling the tribute the highest honour that the land of the Telangana movement could give to one of its dedicated activists. He said Peddi had never held the posts of Chief Minister or minister and had served only one term as MLA, yet his commitment to public causes made him an influential leader. Recalling Peddi's contribution to Narsampet, KTR said he played a key role in securing piped gas connections for households and persuaded the then government to sanction a RS.100-crore special project benefiting farmers. He also recalled Peddi's efforts to secure Devadula irrigation water and his support for student protests and other public causes during his final days. KTR said the BRS would work to fulfil Peddi's vision for Narsampet and expressed confidence that KCR would return as Chief Minister in the next two years. He announced that the proposed Narsampet medical college would be named after Peddi Sudarshan Reddy. KTR assured Peddi's wife Swapna, children and family of continued support from KCR and the BRS.

Koushik Reddy Demands Basic Amenities

Kamalapur, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Huzurabad MLA Padi Koushik Reddy criticised Ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and Ponnam Prabhakar during the inauguration of double-bedroom houses in Kamalapur Mandal, asserting that the houses were constructed during the previous BRS government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao.

Koushik Reddy urged the ministers to avoid political statements and present facts to the public. He said the inauguration programme should also focus on addressing the problems faced by beneficiaries living in the newly occupied colonies. The MLA highlighted issues involving drainage, electricity and roads in the double-bedroom housing colonies. He said some houses and related works remained incomplete and demanded that the government release funds to complete them. He also sought RS.25,000 financial assistance for each beneficiary to undertake minor works inside their houses. Koushik Reddy further demanded that the Congress government fulfil its election promises, including financial assistance of RS.2,500 to women, enhanced benefits under Kalyana Lakshmi



and an increase in pensions. He also sought the creation of separate mandals for Uppal and Challur, stating that Uppal had the population and other requirements necessary for Mandal status. Regarding transport infrastructure, the MLA urged Minister Ponnam Prabhakar to allocate RS.2 crore for completing the Kamalapur bus stand, whose construction remains unfinished. Koushik Reddy said public representatives should concentrate on development rather than political disputes. He assured residents that he would continue raising their concerns and fight for solutions to issues affecting Kamalapur and the wider Huzurabad constituency.

Kishan Reddy Clarifies Coal Gasification Support

Continue

government agencies, particularly in areas concerning environmental protection, safety standards and statutory compliance. Regarding Singareni, the Union Minister said the Ministry of Coal had not received any proposal from SCCL seeking financial support for a coal gasification project. Consequently, no financial incentives had been sanctioned to the company for such an initiative. He clarified that the benefits available under the Centre's financial incentive schemes are open to all eligible applicants, including Central and State government entities as well as private sector companies. The Minister's response indicated that while the Centre is promoting coal gasification through financial incentives and policy support, assistance can be provided only after eligible entities submit proposals and fulfil the prescribed requirements. The clarification came amid growing interest in coal gasification as an alternative technology aimed at increasing the value and utilisation of domestic coal resources.

High UEF Numbers Reported in Three Districts

Continue

In Sirpur (T) Assembly constituency, 24,959 UEFs were recorded from 2,28,916 enumeration forms distributed, accounting for 10.90 per cent. Asifabad reported 23,201 UEFs from 2,26,680 forms, representing 10.24 per cent. Mancherial constituency recorded the highest proportion among the listed constituencies, with 65,660 UEFs out of 2,83,299 forms, accounting for 23.18 per cent. Boath reported 23,517 UEFs from 2,16,391 forms distributed. Officials and field-level personnel also faced challenges in reaching some remote communities. Kolam Adivasis, recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG), reportedly encountered difficulties in tracing their electoral details in the 2002 rolls and completing the enumeration process in interior areas of Boath constituency. Adilabad Assembly constituency recorded 39,893 UEFs out of 2,50,393 forms distributed. Across Adilabad district, the total number of UEFs stood at 63,417, against 4,66,784 enumeration forms distributed. The completion of the SIR exercise marks the end of the enumeration stage, with the reported figures expected to undergo further scrutiny as part of the electoral roll revision process.

Telangana Gets 736 KGBVs Under Samagra Shiksha

Continue

the administrative control of State and UT governments. Joshi also highlighted the implementation of the PM POSHAN scheme in Telangana. Under the programme, eligible students from Balvatika to Class VIII receive one hot cooked meal on every school working day. The Telangana government has introduced several measures to improve nutritional standards, including supplying fine rice, providing eggs three times a week and serving Ragi Java three times weekly. Officials at State, district and Mandal levels regularly conduct inspections and monitor food quality. The government is also undertaking food safety, hygiene and sanitation checks, along with training for cook-cum-helpers and timely distribution of food grains and cooking costs. Monitoring is carried out through the PM POSHAN Management Information System and field-level inspections.

Harish Rao Seeks Immediate Pumping



Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS MLA T. Harish Rao has urged Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy to immediately operate the Kaleshwaram project motors and fill key reservoirs, citing concerns among farmers over delayed irrigation water during the Vanakalam crop season. In a letter to the Minister, Harish Rao said farmers were facing uncertainty due to inadequate rainfall attributed to El Niño conditions and the delay in filling project reservoirs. He appealed to the government to keep political differences aside and give priority to farmers' interests. Harish Rao sought the activation of pumps at the Mid Manair Reservoir to utilise available water and

inflows from the Godavari following rains in upstream areas. He proposed filling Annapurna (Ananthagiri), Ranganayaka Sagar, Mallanna Sagar, Kondapochamma Sagar and Nrusimha (Baswapur) reservoirs, along with inter-connected tanks and check dams. He pointed out that Mid Manair has a storage capacity of 27 TMC and currently holds around 22 TMC. With further inflows expected, he said pumping should begin without delay to ensure irrigation for nearly four lakh acres under the project's command area. Harish Rao also highlighted the water position at Lower Manair Dam, which has a full capacity of 24 TMC but currently holds about 6.9 TMC. He urged authorities to transfer water from Mid Manair to LMD and supply it to the required ayacut under SRSP Stage-II. He said nearly four lakh acres had been cultivated under the ayacut of upstream Kaleshwaram reservoirs during the previous Yasangi season. Immediate pumping, he stressed, would help reduce farmers' anxiety and secure water for both the ongoing Vanakalam crop and the upcoming Yasangi season. He appealed to the government to act swiftly and ensure that available water resources are fully utilised for agriculture.

Dalit Christians Protest at Jantar Mantar



New Delhi, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A large protest was held at Jantar Mantar on Sunday demanding the repeal of the Presidential Order of 1950 and extension of Scheduled Caste (SC) status to Dalit Christians. The protest was organised by the Telangana Christian Joint Action Committee, with participants observing August 10 as a "Black Day," marking the date on which the Presidential Order was issued in 1950. BRS Parliamentary Deputy Leader Vaddiraju Ravichandra expressed solidarity with the protesters and said his party would continue supporting the demand. He recalled that during the previous BRS government, the Telangana Assembly had passed a resolution seeking SC status for Dalit Christians and that a report had also been submitted to the Justice Balakrishnan Commission. BRS General Secretary RS Praveen Kumar argued that conversion does not eliminate caste-based discrimination. He cited incidents involving Dalits who had

converted to Christianity and questioned why religious conversion should result in the loss of reservation benefits. Former Telangana Foods chairman Mede Rajiv Sagar demanded that Parliament introduce legislation granting SC status to Dalit Christians during the ongoing session. He described the existing restriction as discriminatory and said caste-based social disadvantage does not disappear with a change of religion. Professor Gali Vinod Kumar also called for immediate legislative action and vowed that the movement would continue until the demand was addressed. Speakers referred to the findings of the Sachar Committee and Ranganath Misra Commission, which examined the social and economic conditions of Dalits following religious conversion. They argued that discrimination and social exclusion continued despite conversion. Christian leaders and representatives of Dalit rights organisations participated in the protest and pledged to intensify the campaign for equal reservation rights.

Gorintaku Utsav Celebrated with Devotion



Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Gorintaku Utsav was celebrated with enthusiasm at Sri Vijaya Durga Devi Temple in Mata Maidan, Saidabad, as part of the Ashada month festivities. The programme was organised under the patronage of Sangeeta Reddy and Lakshmi, a member of Matrushakti Seva Sanstha. Local women, female teachers and students participated in the celebrations. The programme began with the lighting of a traditional lamp amid the chanting of devotional mantras. Lakshmi and the teachers later encouraged the children to sing patriotic songs. Sangeeta Reddy, teachers and local women applied henna to the students as part of the festivities. Sweets were also distributed among the children. Organisers said the event offered students a refreshing break from their regular academic routine and helped them participate in

traditional cultural activities. While speaking with True Point Reporter Sangeeta Reddy said the temple conducts Abhishekam, Lalita Sahasranama recitation and distribution of prasadam, and serves lunch to the devotees every Friday. She added that Chandhi Homam and satyanarayana vratam on every paurnami, Navratri celebrations and Bathukamma festivities would be organised on a grand scale during the year. Temple administrator Sunil Reddy said the shrine, which was rebuilt and developed under the initiative of former corporator late Singireddy Srinivas Reddy, would undergo further development this year. Lakshmi stressed the importance of introducing children to Indian traditions and cultural values from an early age. Local devotees said the temple attracts visitors from distant areas, as Sri Vijaya Durga Devi is widely revered as a powerful and wish-fulfilling deity.

Krishank Alleges Land Scam

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Former Corporation Chairman Manne Krishank levelled a series of allegations against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over land allocations linked to the proposed Fourth City project, calling for a comprehensive inquiry into the matter. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Krishank alleged that the Chief Minister had failed to deliver on his promises and claimed that the Fourth City initiative was being used to facilitate a large-scale land scam. He alleged that government land worth hundreds of crores was being allotted at significantly lower prices. Krishank also raised questions over a company named Trezaract Advance Systems Private Limited, which he claimed was established by Anumula Kondal Reddy. He alleged that the company had a capital of only ₹1 lakh, operated from a small residential premises and had no employees. He further claimed that the company did not possess the mandatory licence required for manufacturing aerospace and defence systems. Krishank alleged that five acres in the Fourth City project had been allotted to a company associated with the Chief Minister's younger brother. He also alleged a conspiracy to route unaccounted money abroad and bring it back as legitimate funds, though he did not provide evidence during the press conference. Krishank demanded cancellation of the land allocation and a full-scale investigation into the allegations. He questioned the silence of BJP leaders and the Central government on the issue. He called on Revanth Reddy to resign as Chief Minister and make way for an impartial inquiry.

Rakesh Reddy Hits Out at Adi Srinivas

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

BJP Armoor MLA Paidi Rakesh Reddy criticised Government Whip Adi Srinivas over his remarks concerning Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar, accusing the Congress government of favouring minority festivals in the allocation of public funds. Rakesh Reddy questioned the government's spending priorities and asked whether ₹33 crore had been allocated for Ramadan celebrations while only ₹20 crore was provided for Bonalu. He alleged that Hindu festivals were not receiving funding proportionate to the state's population. The BJP MLA challenged the Congress government to release a white paper detailing expenditure on Hindu and Muslim festivals and allow the public to compare the allocations. Rakesh Reddy further alleged that the Congress government was pursuing minority-appeasement policies and referred to remarks attributed to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy regarding the relationship between Congress and Muslims. He questioned why Adi Srinivas objected to Bandi Sanjay raising concerns over the issue and said the Government Whip had no moral basis to criticise the Union Minister. Rakesh Reddy urged Srinivas, if he considered himself committed to Hindu interests, to press the Chief Minister to ensure adequate funding for Hindu festivals based on population demographics. He advised Adi Srinivas to avoid what he termed publicity-driven criticism and instead focus on demanding equitable allocation of government funds for festivals across communities.

Fake Treasure Gang Busted

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The Shamshabad Zone Task Force, in coordination with Rajendranagar police, has busted a gang allegedly cheating people by claiming that hidden treasure was buried beneath their houses. Four persons have been taken into custody and are being questioned, police said. According to K. Ravi, Inspector of the Hyderabad City Shamshabad Zone Task Force, several vehicles and other materials allegedly used in the fraud were seized from the accused. The prime accused, Mohammed Munawar, a Hyderabad native, had previously faced a fraud case at Begum Bazar Police Station. Police said Munawar had worked in car denting and painting after completing his education but later turned to fraud to earn quick money.

Investigators said Munawar, along with Syed Ali Ashraf, Mohammed Haji and Mohammed Salman, devised a plan to exploit people's belief in hidden treasure. The gang allegedly approached victims claiming to possess special powers to identify treasure buried under houses. After persuading victims to dig pits at selected locations, the accused allegedly concealed bags containing charcoal and counterfeit gold coins in the pits. They then performed rituals and told the victims that the charcoal would eventually turn into gold, giving themselves time to leave the scene. Police suspect that the gang targeted around 11 people at different locations and collected nearly ₹1 crore from them. A case has been registered at Rajendranagar Police Station under Crime No. 916/2026 under Sections 318(4), 351(2) and 61(2) read with



3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Police said further investigation is underway.

Adivasi Song Calls for Unity

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A new song highlighting Adivasi history, identity and rights was launched at Osmania University Arts College on Monday as part of World Tribal Day observances. Titled "Adivasi Yodhu llara", the song seeks to highlight the community's struggles for land, forests, water, dignity and constitutional rights. The song was written and performed by Dr. Naliganti Sarath Chamar, founder-president of DBSA and Bhim Drum, with music composed by Bharat Mekala. Srikanth handled cinematog-

raphy and editing, while Varshit Bamar designed the poster. Speaking at the event, Dr. Sarath Chamar said Adivasi communities had maintained a close relationship with forests, hills and rivers for generations. He recalled the sacrifices of Adivasi warriors who fought for their land, resources and identity, and stressed the need to preserve this history for future generations. He said the song was intended to serve not merely as a musical work but also as a medium to promote awareness of Adivasi culture, self-respect and rights. He called for pro-

tection of forests, water resources and traditional lands along with constitutional safeguards for tribal communities. Osmania University student leaders urged students, writers, poets, intellectuals and social activists to engage in wider discussions on Adivasi issues and help preserve their history and cultural heritage. Professor Apka Nageswara Rao, Surya Kiran, Jangili Darshan, R.L. Murthy, Dr. Kommu Shekhar Madiga, Dr. Valigonda Narasimha, Ajay, Sarath Naik and several others attended the programme. Adivasi students, research scholars, poets and social activists also participated.



Questions Over Shed Construction at Jeedimetla

Thulasi Naveen Kumar

The construction and subsequent use of a large industrial shed at the SV Co-operative Industrial Estate in Jeedimetla have triggered questions over regulatory compliance and the alleged inaction of officials. The controversy centres on Plot No. 2A, reportedly belonging to Varsh Techno Indo-Equip Pvt. Ltd. According to allegations, the structure was constructed in violation of prescribed norms. Though concerns were reportedly raised while construction was in progress, officials are alleged to have failed to take effective enforcement action. With the shed now completed and industrial activities reportedly underway, questions have emerged over whether the facility possesses all mandatory approvals, including an Occupancy Certificate (OC). Under applicable industrial and building regulations, completed structures are generally required to secure relevant permissions and clearances before being put into use. If an OC



was granted, questions are being raised over how approval was issued if the construction dif-

fered from sanctioned plans. Conversely, if no OC was issued, concerns arise over how opera-

tions are continuing. The alleged lack of action has also prompted questions about the role of officials responsible for monitoring construction and enforcing regulations within the industrial estate. Industrial stakeholders have expressed concern that failure to act against alleged violations could encourage similar practices elsewhere. Local residents and members of the industrial community are seeking transparency from SV Co-operative authorities and the concerned government departments. They have called for the disclosure of sanctioned plans, inspection reports, approvals and the OC, if issued. The allegations have yet to be independently established, and the concerned authorities are expected to clarify the status of the construction and permissions. Stakeholders say a transparent examination of the records would help determine whether the shed complies with applicable regulations and whether any violations occurred during its construction or subsequent operation.

SFI Calls Statewide Protests Over Fee Dues

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The Students' Federation of India (SFI) Telangana has announced statewide protests on August 13, demanding the immediate release of ₹10,814 crore in pending scholarships and fee reimbursement dues. Demonstrations will be held at district collectorate across the state. SFI Telangana State Secretary T. Nagaraju said the prolonged

delay in releasing funds was placing an undue financial burden on students and their parents. He alleged that despite assurances from the Congress government to clear pending scholarship and fee reimbursement dues, students were still awaiting payments. Nagaraju also demanded stringent action against private educational institutions allegedly withholding students' original certificates, Transfer Certificates, mark

memos and other academic documents over unpaid fees. He said students should not be penalised for delays in government reimbursements. The SFI leader urged the government to immediately direct colleges to return certificates without imposing conditions and take action against institutions that had allegedly collected amounts from students in violation of norms. He warned that continued delays could force students, particu-



larly those from economically weaker and middle-class families, to discontinue higher education. Nagaraju called for a permanent funding mecha-

nism to ensure scholarships and fee reimbursements are released at the beginning of every academic year. He unveiled the protest poster

along with SFI state and Hyderabad district leaders and appealed to students to participate in large numbers in the August 13 demonstrations.

Minister Visits Priyanka's Family



Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Minister Vakuti Srihari and former MLA and AICC Secretary Sampath Kumar paid their respects to the mortal remains of medical student Priyanka at the Gandhi Hospital mortuary on Monday. Srihari met Priyanka's father and offered his condolences

and reassurance to the grieving family. Describing the incident as deeply unfortunate, the Minister said those responsible for Priyanka's death must face stringent punishment. Srihari said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had responded promptly to the incident and issued necessary directions to the concerned authorities. He stressed the need for

strong preventive measures to ensure that similar incidents do not recur. The Minister assured the family that the state government would extend all necessary support during the difficult period. He also maintained that the law must be enforced firmly and that those responsible should not be allowed to evade justice by taking advantage of legal loopholes. Srihari direct-

ed officials to ensure that the investigation and subsequent legal proceedings are handled appropriately. He reiterated the government's commitment to protecting citizens and ensuring accountability in cases involving serious offences. The Minister expressed solidarity with Priyanka's family and assured them that the government would stand by them.

Mahesh Goud Calls for Vigilance on SIR

Hyderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud on Monday directed Congress leaders and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to remain highly vigilant during the second phase of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Mahesh Kumar Goud held a Zoom meeting with party leaders as constituency-wise reviews began. Meetings were conducted for the Adilabad, Peddapalli, Karimnagar and Nizamabad parliamentary constituencies, with MPs, MLAs, constituency in-charges and SIR coordinators participating. He said the first phase of the SIR process had concluded and the second phase would begin on Tuesday. He urged party functionaries to give particular attention to the list of discrepancies and carefully verify voter details to ensure that no eligible voter

was excluded. Mahesh Kumar Goud stressed that BLAs have a crucial responsibility in protecting the interests of genuine voters. Referring to developments in West Bengal, he alleged that attempts could be made to remove voters perceived to be supportive of the Congress and warned party workers against complacency. He instructed BLAs to closely examine voter lists, identify discrepancies and promptly bring irregularities to the notice of party leadership. The TPCC president said negligence at any stage could adversely affect the party and insisted that BLAs discharge their responsibilities actively and responsibly. He also directed constituency-level leaders to replace BLAs who were found to be inactive or indifferent with committed workers capable of effectively monitoring the SIR process.

Jagga Reddy Alleges Political Vendetta

Sangareddy, August 10 | TPN Bureau

TPCC Working President Jagga Reddy has alleged that a political conspiracy was launched against him following the success of Rahul Gandhi's public meeting in Sangareddy in 2017. Speaking at the concluding meeting of Congress Booth Level Agents (BLAs), he claimed that attempts were made to invoke the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against him and politically isolate him.

Jagga Reddy alleged that the then BRS leadership was unhappy with the success of Rahul Gandhi's meeting, which he said drew nearly three lakh people. He claimed he had incurred debts of around ₹6.5 crore to organise the event and subsequently faced investigations into his assets and land dealings.

According to him, police and vigilance officials conducted inquiries into allegations of disproportionate assets and land



transactions, but failed to establish any wrongdoing. He also alleged that efforts were made to implicate him in cases relating to land dealings in Patancheru.

Jagga Reddy further claimed that plans were made to file multiple complaints against him and detain him under the PD Act for a year. He alleged that BRS lead-

ers attempted to persuade people who had lent him money to lodge complaints, but those efforts did not succeed.

He said a discussion was held with the then Home Minister Mahmood Ali regarding the proposed PD Act action, but police reportedly indicated that such a case could not be sustained. He was subsequently arrested in connection with a passport-related case, he claimed. Recalling his earlier efforts to secure a medical college for Sangareddy, Jagga Reddy alleged that the project was shifted to Siddipet during the previous regime. He said he had kept the alleged developments private for years but was now disclosing them so that Congress workers and the public could know his version of events.

He added that he did not believe in revenge politics and said he held no personal grudge against Harish Rao.

Laws Burned in Farmers' Protest

Karimnagar, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Copies of laws and policies described as anti-farmer and anti-worker were burnt at Kaman Crossroads in Karimnagar on Monday as part of a nationwide protest call by farmers' and labour organisations. The demonstration was organised under the banner of AITUC, TUCI and various farmers' and agricultural labour unions. Addressing the gathering, AITUC State Secretary Tekumalla Sammayya, TUCI District General Secretary Jindam Prasad and Agricultural Labour Union District Secretary Koyada Srujana Kumar alleged that the NDA government was pursuing policies favouring corporate interests in the agricultural sector.

The leaders criticised the government for failing to ensure remunerative prices for farm produce, affordable credit and reasonably priced agricultural inputs. They pointed to rising seed and fertiliser costs, including higher urea prices, as major concerns for farmers.

They also opposed proposed changes to the rural employment guarantee programme, demanding that employment coverage be expanded from 100 to 200 days and daily wages raised to ₹700. The leaders alleged that replacing the existing employment guarantee framework with the proposed "Ramji Scheme" would adversely affect rural workers and demanded its withdrawal. The protesters called for repeal of the



Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2025, enactment of legislation guaranteeing remunerative crop prices, loan waivers, effective crop insurance and withdrawal of the four labour codes. They warned that a nationwide agitation

would be intensified if their demands were not addressed. AITUC District President Katika Reddy, Buchanna Yadav, CPI City Assistant Secretary Paidipalli Raju and other union leaders participated.

SP Calls for Efficient Policing



Adilabad, August 10 | Adilabad District Akhil Mahajan (IPS) TPN Bureau Superintendent of Police directed police personnel

to discharge their duties with discipline, accountability and commitment while ensuring prompt and courteous services to the public. The SP conducted a surprise inspection of Bazarhatnoor Police Station on Monday and reviewed station records, pending cases and vehicles. He interacted with personnel and issued instructions to improve policing and maintain proper records. Akhil Mahajan stressed the effective implementation of the Village Police Officer (VPO) system and

called on personnel to visit villages regularly. He said police should conduct awareness programmes on laws, crime prevention and public safety while developing a strong local information network. The SP directed officers to keep a close watch on anti-social activities and take firm action against the illegal trade of ganja, narcotics and illicitly distilled liquor. He also ordered strict measures against gambling and Matka activities in the mandal. He instructed staff to implement the police station's vertical system effectively, update records regularly and work

CPM, CITU Hold 'Jail Bharo' Protest



Mahabubabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A 'Jail Bharo' protest organised by the CPM and CITU was held at the Bayyaram mandal headquarters in Mahabubabad district on Monday, with workers, farmers and agricultural labourers participating in large numbers. Addressing the gathering, CPM District Secretariat member Kunta Upender alleged that the BJP-led Central government was pursuing policies favouring corporate interests while neglecting workers, farmers and the general public. He called for resistance to such policies, invoking the spirit of the Quit India movement.

Participants, including farmers, agricultural labourers, Hamali workers, Gram

Panchayat staff, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, auto and tractor drivers and street vendors, took out a rally from Vejella Saidulu Rao Bhavan to the bus stand, where they staged a road blockade.

Speakers criticised the consolidation of existing labour laws into four labour codes, alleging that the changes would weaken workers' rights.

They also opposed agricultural policies affecting rural labourers and demanded cancellation of import agreements for cotton and maize and a legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Leaders warned of intensified protests if their demands were not addressed. Several activists and leaders participating in the road blockade were subsequently taken into custody by police.

Fatal Two-Wheeler Collision

Medak, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A 40-year-old man died after two motorcycles collided head-on on the outskirts of Yusufpet village in Papannapet mandal on Monday. The deceased was identified as Akula Krishna of Papannapet. According to local residents, Krishna was travelling as a pillion rider with his brother-in-law Venkat on a motorcycle from Kothapalli towards Papannapet. Meanwhile, two men from Muslapur were reportedly heading towards Medak on another motorcycle. The vehicles collided, throwing Krishna onto the road. He sustained severe head injuries and

suffered heavy bleeding. After noticing the accident, locals immediately alerted the 108 emergency service and Papannapet police. Police personnel reached the spot and arranged for Krishna to be shifted to the Medak Area Hospital. However, doctors confirmed that he had died while being transported to the hospital.

Krishna is survived by his wife and a daughter. The Papannapet police registered a case and launched an investigation into the circumstances leading to the accident. Authorities are gathering details regarding the vehicles and those involved in the collision.

Gorintaku Festivities Held



Nalgonda, August 10 | TPN Bureau

The traditional Gorintaku celebrations associated with the Ashadha month were held with enthusiasm at Sri Abhayanjaneya Swamy Temple in Hanuman Nagar, Old Town, Nalgonda, on Monday.

The programme was organised under the leadership of BJP District Mahila Morcha President Ravilla Kashamma. Women devotees began the celebrations with special prayers at the temple, fol-

lowed by recitation of the Hanuman Chalisa.

Later, participants applied henna to each other's hands, marking the traditional festivities and creating a lively atmosphere at the temple.

BJP Mahila Morcha State Vice-President Kondeti Saritha, State Leader Kuthuru Vijaya and Mann Ki Baat Convener Neeraja attended the programme as chief guests. Women devotees and party members actively participated in the celebrations.

Inspector Felicitated on Transfer

Secunderabad, August 10 | TPN Bureau

Osmania University (OU) Police Inspector Mahesh Goud was accorded a warm farewell and felicitation by OU reporters following his transfer to a new posting. OUPAC Jagan also participated in the programme.

During the event, the reporters honoured Mahesh Goud with a shawl and presented him with a memento in recognition of his services during his tenure at the OU Police Station. The reporters appreciated his professional approach and his efforts to address issues concerning students, university staff and the general public within the police station's jurisdiction. They also praised his accessible and cooperative manner while handling public grievances.

Speakers noted that Mahesh Goud maintained cordial relations with members of the media throughout his tenure, facilitating smooth communication between the police department and journalists.



Wishing him success in his new assignment, the reporters expressed hope that he would continue to discharge his responsibilities with the same dedication

and commitment to public service. Several journalists attended the felicitation programme, including Harish, Vijay, Ravi, Shravan, Jeevan, Vinay, Dasu Gan

esh, Narasimha Raju, Kiran Kumar, Jeevan Reddy, Vishwam Goud, Thirumal Reddy and Phanindra Chari, among others.

CPI Launches Praja Chaitanya Yatra

Peddapalli, August 10 | TPN Bureau

CPI District Secretary Tandara Sadanandam called for a united struggle to defeat what he described as the anti-people policies of the BJP-led Central government. He made the remarks while launching the CPI's Praja Chaitanya Yatra in Sultanabad, Kalva Srirampur and Odela on Monday.

AITUC District General Secretary Kadari Sunil and CPI State Secretariat member Kalaveni Shankar participated in the programme. Addressing gatherings during the march, Sadanandam alleged that the BJP government was harming students' interests and promoting communal divisions among people. He announced that a major public meeting would be held at Ramlila



Maidan in New Delhi on September 1 under the slogan "BJP Hatao, Desh Ko Bachao". He said the nationwide awareness campaign was being organised to mobilise people and ensure the success of the proposed meeting. Speaking at Odela, Shankar alleged that constitutional values had been weakened under the BJP government. He said the party was using the campaign to explain what he described as the failures of the Centre and

mobilise public opinion. The yatra covered Pothkapalli, Kanagarthi and Odela villages, where CPI leaders addressed local gatherings. Shankar said Communist parties should work towards greater unity and intensify efforts to defeat what he termed a communal political regime. Several CPI, AITUC and Praja Natya Mandali leaders and activists participated in the programme and expressed support for the campaign.

Junior Doctor Dies in Road Accident

Mahabubnagar, August 10 | TPN Bureau

A 24-year-old junior doctor died after suffering critical injuries in a road accident in Mahabubnagar town while returning after his night shift. The incident occurred around midnight on Sunday on the Appannapalli bridge. The deceased, Dandigi Akshay Kumar, was a resident of Dhanwada and had joined a private hospital in Palamuru, Mahabubnagar, about six months ago. According to reports, Akshay completed his night duty around 1 a.m. and left on his two-wheeler towards Jadcherla to have tea. While travelling on the Appannapalli flyover, he reportedly lost control of the vehicle and collided with a road-side planter. Patrolling police personnel noticed the injured doctor and immediately shifted him to a private hospital in the city. Akshay was unconscious when brought to the hospital and had sustained severe head injuries. Despite efforts by doctors to save him, his condition remained critical. He was declared brain-dead and died while undergoing treatment on Monday afternoon. Akshay was the younger of two sons and was unmarried. His father runs a private school in Dhanwada. The sudden death of the young doctor, who had recently begun his medical career, left his parents and family members devastated. Mahabubnagar rural police registered a case based on a complaint from the family. Officials are investigating the circumstances surrounding the accident.

Drivers' Conference on August 13



Nacharam, August 10 | TPN Bureau

BRTU Auto Union State President Vemula Marayya has called upon auto, cab and school van drivers across Telangana to participate in the state-level conference scheduled for August 13 and make it a success.

Speaking at his office in Nacharam on Monday, Marayya said the conference is being organised under the Telangana Auto, Cab and App-Based Drivers Associations Joint Action Committee to discuss the problems and demands faced by drivers across the state. The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in Hyderabad. He

urged auto, cab and school van drivers to attend in large numbers and strengthen the collective effort to secure their legitimate rights. Marayya also appealed to drivers to extend their support to the proposed statewide bandh on August 24. He said united action was necessary to draw the government's attention to the difficulties confronting drivers and press for appropriate solutions. He called for solidarity among all sections of the driving community and urged them to participate actively in both programmes. Marayya expressed confidence that a strong and organised movement would help place their demands firmly before the government.

Editorial

From Faction Formula to Global Strategy

In parts of Rayalaseema, factional politics once followed a ruthless but calculated formula: weaken the opponent not through direct confrontation, but by targeting economic roots-land, assets, and income. The idea was simple: damage wealth, and you damage power, pride, and influence. A similar doctrine now appears to echo in global geopolitics. Recent signals from U.S. President Donald Trump suggest a calibrated shift in dealing with Iran-not through immediate military escalation, but through sustained economic pressure. He has emphasized imposing "economic pain" while keeping military engagement limited, indicating a strategy that relies on financial strain to achieve political outcomes. This approach aligns with ongoing sanctions aimed at restricting Iran's oil revenues, a key pillar of its economy.

This is not new to American policy. The United States has long used economic pressure as a strategic tool. Decades-long sanctions on Iran have targeted its banking systems and oil exports. Similarly, sweeping restrictions were imposed on Russia following the Ukraine conflict, while countries like Cuba and North Korea have faced prolonged economic embargoes. These measures aim to weaken national economies, trigger inflation, and create internal pressure on governments.

Research and global experience show that such sanctions can significantly disrupt economies, affecting growth, employment, and currency stability. However, their political effectiveness remains a subject of debate.

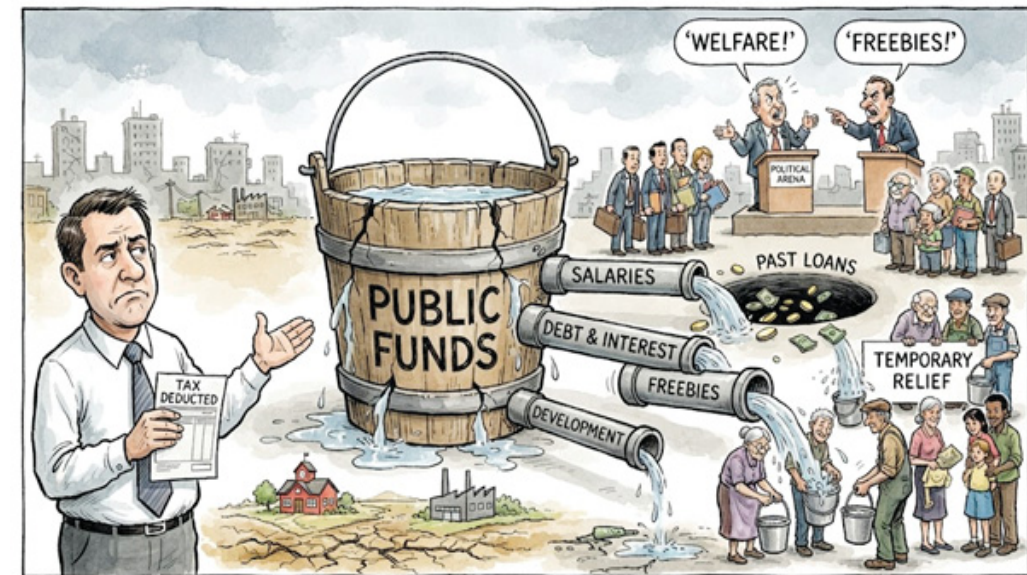
The emerging approach toward Iran reflects a familiar logic: weaken the adversary's financial foundation to reduce its ability to project power. It mirrors, on a global scale, the factional belief that power collapses when economic strength erodes.

Yet, history offers a caution. Economic warfare, like factional strategies, rarely produces clean outcomes. It can prolong tensions, deepen divisions, and often places the greatest burden on ordinary citizens rather than political leadership.

Editor

Vote for What... Freebies vs. Genuine Welfare

Is Public Money Meant Only for Today's Relief-or Also for Tomorrow's Economic Strength?



How much of a state's monthly revenue goes towards public welfare? How much is spent on running the government? How much is consumed by the burden of past debts? And how much is ultimately left for development? These questions are no longer confined to discussions among economists. There is now a wider debate over government freebies, welfare schemes, their financial burden, the pressure they place on taxpayers, and the long-term fiscal sustainability of states. At an earlier India Today Conclave, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed concern over the state's financial situation. He has reiterated similar concerns recently. According to the figures available to him, he said the state receives around RS18,500 crore a month, of which approximately 76,500 crore goes towards salaries, another 76,500 crore towards debt and interest payments, leaving only about 75,000 crore for welfare and development. Rather than viewing these figures merely as a political statement, they need

to be examined as part of a larger challenge confronting a state's financial system.

Does Free Mean Welfare?

There is nothing wrong with the government providing financial assistance to poor families. Supporting farmers with investment assistance, providing pensions to the elderly, ensuring education for disadvantaged students, and offering healthcare protection to vulnerable families are all legitimate responsibilities of the state. But can every free scheme be placed in the same category and called welfare? Or should there be a distinction between schemes that provide immediate relief and investments that enhance productivity and economic capacity over the long term? That is at the heart of the debate over "Freebies vs. Genuine Welfare."

The Supreme Court, while examining the issue in 2022, also recognised that governments have a constitutional responsibility to undertake welfare measures for the poor, while pointing to the need to consider the financial sustain-

ability of states as well.

The Question Being Asked by the Middle Class

Another section of society cannot be ignored in this debate: the middle class and lower-middle class. Although many in this group may not directly benefit from government welfare schemes, they contribute significantly to government revenues through taxes. For salaried employees in particular, tax is deducted at source. They do not have the option of deciding to pay tax after receiving their income; the tax reaches the government before the income reaches their hands. This is why a growing question is being heard among this section: "We are paying taxes. In return, to what extent are we receiving quality education, healthcare, transportation, infrastructure, security and employment opportunities?" This is not merely a question about the tax burden. It is a question about the social contract between taxpayers and the government. At the same time, there are allegations and perceptions in society that

some individuals or businesses earning substantial incomes evade taxes. Ultimately, what matters is whether every taxpayer fulfils their legal tax obligations fairly and fully.

Not Just Telangana-Andhra Pradesh Faces the Same Question

This is not a problem confined to Telangana. Andhra Pradesh faces a similar political and economic reality. Once a government introduces a welfare scheme, it is not easy for a subsequent government to discontinue it completely. Once a scheme becomes part of the lives of millions of families, removing it is no longer merely an economic decision; it becomes a social and political decision as well. As a result, even when governments change, there is considerable pressure to continue welfare programmes. This is not a problem belonging to any one political party. It is a larger question about how welfare politics operates in a democracy.

Every Free Scheme Must Have a Purpose

Whenever a government introduces a scheme, it should be able to answer four fundamental questions: Who is the scheme intended to benefit? What problem is it designed to solve? How will its effectiveness be measured? And is it financially sustainable in the long run? Only when these questions have clear answers can such programmes genuinely be considered schemes that strengthen the system rather than merely provide temporary relief. Whether in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh or any other state, providing relief to people

is a responsibility of government. But maintaining the financial strength of the state is equally important. The government must protect the poor, keep the tax burden on the middle class fair, prevent tax evasion, improve the efficiency of public expenditure, direct borrowing towards productive sectors and increase investment in education, healthcare, skills, industries, irrigation and infrastructure. Only then can welfare become a foundation for future development. Otherwise, today's relief in the name of freebies could end up consuming tomorrow's development resources.

In the End, There Is Only One Question

What should a government give its people? Freebies? Welfare? Or the opportunity to become economically self-reliant? The answer does not lie in choosing just one of these. There must be social protection where it is necessary. There must be targeted welfare where it is justified. At the same time, there must be productive investments that increase the state's future revenues and economic capacity. Because the greatest welfare a government can provide is not merely depositing money into people's accounts today. It is creating the capacity in their hands to earn tomorrow, so that they do not have to depend on that money in the future. That is also what can sustain the state's economic future. Freebies may need limits. Welfare must have a purpose. Development investment must have a vision for the future. That is the true meaning of public money.

Re-engineering Classroom Dynamics for Tribal Students

A Success Story of Culturally Responsive Pedagogy



Zilla Parishad school in Hiwali has set an example for building a 21st-century student in the remote tribal village of Hiwali in Trimbakeshwar Taluka of Nashik District, Maharashtra. One of the most remarkable features of the school is that it remains active throughout the year. Learning continues 365 days a year, ensuring that students receive continuous academic support, personality development, and opportunities to explore their talents. The school has become a best home for many tribal children, offering them a safe, engaging, and inspiring environment every day. These practical abilities go beyond the curriculum to help young children handle everyday challenges and prepare for the real world. Mr. Keshav Gavit, an educational practitioner, is the backbone of designing and implementing these innovative teaching-learning strategies to develop cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal abilities, along with critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication that allow individuals to solve unstructured problems and continuously adapt to an ever-changing landscape.

How it is different from routine:

The school, through vision, dedication, and innovative teaching practices, has been transformed into a unique centre of learning where education extends far beyond the classroom. His mission is to provide quality education while equipping tribal children with practical life skills, confidence, and values that prepare them for a successful future. Mr. Keshav Gavit, an in-house educational innovator, firmly believes that education should develop both the mind and the hands. Along with academic excellence, students must actively participate in various agricultural and vocational activities. The school has established a model



of organic farming to teach sustainable agricultural practices and environmental conservation. Students cultivate organic vegetables, gaining first-hand experience in healthy food production and responsible farming.

Harvesting Independence

The campus also includes a fruit orchard, where students learn about horticulture, plant care, seasonal cultivation, and biodiversity. They understand the importance of trees, nutrition, and environmental protection through practical experience beyond their curriculum and textbooks.

The school maintains a vermicompost unit, where students learn how biodegradable waste is converted into nutrient-rich organic manure using earthworms. This activity teaches scientific thinking, waste management, and eco-friendly agricultural practices. The school also provides practical exposure to poultry farming, helping students understand bird management, nutrition, hygiene, and small-scale entrepreneurship, along with fish farming (aquaculture), including techniques of



indigenous knowledge while encouraging respect for nature.

Narrative Pedagogy:

Students develop strong mathematical abilities by mastering multiplication tables, improve their language and creative writing skills, learn important provisions of the Constitution of India, and actively participate in debates, storytelling, public speaking, and cultural programmes through various plays and games. These activities strengthen communication skills, confidence, leadership, and critical thinking to nurture 21st-century students.



pond management, fish breeding, and sustainable food production.

Abstract academic concepts:

Another unique initiative at this school is cattle rearing, where students learn about animal care, dairy management, and the importance of livestock in rural livelihoods. These experiences help inculcate responsibility and compassion while promoting experiential learning. Recognizing the importance of traditional healthcare, the school has developed a medicinal plant garden. Students identify and learn about various medicinal herbs, their uses, and their importance in traditional and modern healthcare systems. This initiative helps preserve

Techno-pedagogy

Technology, innovation, and activity-based learning are integral parts of Mr. Gavit's educational philosophy, which has created this laboratory of experience in the region and has been popularised across the country. Students are motivated to think independently and become lifelong learners rather than merely memorizing textbook content as part of their learning journey. The school's achievements have earned appreciation from education experts, government officials, and the media.

Beyond the Classroom

The school works closely with parents and the local community to strengthen children's educational journey. His belief that education is a shared responsibility has significantly improved school attendance, parental involvement, and students' overall development. It proves that a school can become much more than a place for academic learning.

Key Insights:

The school is transforming tribal education through innovative and experiential teaching and learning processes. These strategies are very important for addressing students from diverse backgrounds, especially in tribal geographies. It provides significant scope for gaining knowledge beyond the curriculum and sets an example for teachers to focus on continuous professional development, innovation, and child-centric pedagogy. Combined with compassion, sustainability, and practical learning, it has the power to transform individuals, communities, and future generations.

How a Newspaper Report Paved Way For Amaravati's Seed Access Road

At a time when concerns are often raised about declining journalistic standards and the waning responsiveness of governments to media



reports, an episode from the early years of Amaravati's development offers a compelling counterpoint. This is the story of how a report published in Deccan Chronicle in 2015 contributed to the conceptualisation of what is now known as the Seed Access Road - the principal arterial link to Andhra Pradesh's capital city.

In July 2015, the Government of Singapore unveiled the Amaravati Master Plan. Notably, the blueprint did not include what today is the Seed Access Road. Instead, it proposed the "Amaravati Gateway" near Ibrahimpatnam in the then Krishna district as the primary access point to the capital.

On July 24, 2015, while serving as Principal Correspondent of Deccan Chronicle, I authored a report titled "No East Entrance for Amaravati Capital." The article underscored the absence of a major eastern approach road and argued for the strategic necessity of such a link.

The report pointed out that the Chennai-Howrah National Highway lay to the east of the proposed capital region and emphasised that direct connectivity between this highway and Amaravati would significantly improve access from Vijayawada and Guntur. It further noted that such infrastructure would not only ease movement but also accelerate the region's development. In the longer term, the report envisioned Amaravati, Vijayawada and Guntur evolving into an integrated metropolitan cluster, akin to the Hyderabad-Secunderabad model. The article also examined the issue from a Vastu perspective - a subject of considerable public interest at the time, given Amaravati's positioning along the northward-flowing Krishna River. To lend depth to this aspect, expert opinions were sought from H.V. Subrahmanya Sharma of Sri Gayatri Prabhava Jyotishya Kendram and Karuparti Nagamalleswara Rao, known for

his association with actor and MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna. Both highlighted the significance of an eastern access route, which was reflected in the report.

The government's response was swift. Within four days of the report's publication, a review was initiated with subject experts. Three days later - just a week after the article appeared - the government announced plans to establish a major eastern road connectivity to Amaravati. At the time, the development was reported as a routine follow-up story. However, in retrospect, it remains one of the most professionally fulfilling moments in a 25-year career in journalism.

Today, while the Seed Access Road is yet to achieve full connectivity with the Chennai-Howrah National Highway, its first phase - extending up to the Madras Grand Trunk Road near Prakasam Barrage - has been completed and is scheduled for inauguration on the 13th of this month.

This milestone offers an opportunity to reflect on the journey of an idea - from a newspaper column to a tangible infrastructure project. It underscores the enduring relevance of journalism when it informs, influences and, ultimately, contributes to the public good. I remain grateful to Ms. A.T. Jayanthi, then Editor of Deccan Chronicle, for her encouragement and for providing the space to pursue impactful stories. I also acknowledge Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, whose responsiveness to issues highlighted in the media has, on several occasions, translated into administrative action. Some of the most meaningful moments in journalism arise not merely from publication, but from seeing ideas take shape on the ground. For me, this is one such moment.

(The author is a well-known journalist in Andhra Pradesh, who has served with various national English dailies and is currently serving as the General Secretary of the Amaravati Journalists' Housing Society.)

Tribunals Moving Towards Genuine Autonomy



N. Venkataraman
Additional Solicitor
General of India

A Long-Running Constitutional DebateFew areas of public law have undergone as much scrutiny as India's tribunal system. From the S.P. Sampath Kumar judgment in 1987 to the series of rulings involving the Madras Bar Association, the Supreme Court has repeatedly examined the structure, functioning and independence of tribunals. Several laws have subsequently required reconsideration. The recurring litigation points to a fundamental problem that successive reforms have struggled to resolve. The Tribunals Reforms Bill is significant because it appears to address this structural weakness rather than merely its symptoms.### Lessons From Abroad and IndiaIndia is not alone in confronting questions of tribunal independence. In the United Kingdom, Sir Andrew Leggatt's 2001 review found that more than 700 tribunals were being administered by government departments whose decisions they were required to adjudicate. He identified this dependence as the central weakness and recommended separating tribunals from their parent departments and placing their administration under a unified service. The reforms that followed were structural, addressing institutional dependence rather than simply changing tenure or qualifications.India's tribunal system has also produced notable successes. The Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, established in 1941, remains an important example of specialised adjudication. The system was later expanded through Articles 323A and 323B of the Constitution and the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, partly to reduce the burden on High Courts. Yet the courts have repeatedly highlighted the continuing dependence of tribunals on the executive.### Why Earlier Reforms Fell ShortPrevious reform attempts largely focused on questions such as whether tenure should be three, four or five years, whether there should be a minimum age requirement, or whether selection panels should recommend one candidate or two. While these issues matter, they do not resolve the fundamental question of independence. Independence cannot be reduced to arithmetic. Tenure, age and selection procedures are only symptoms of a larger institutional problem.

Addressing the Root CauseA tribunal can function independently only when it has adequate autonomy over administration, appointments, supervision, discipline, infrastructure, staffing and finances. The proposed National Tribunals Commission seeks to provide such an institutional framework through legislation rather than executive orders. The Commission will have responsibility for selection, oversight, discipline and assessment of tribunal requirements, supported by a permanent professional secretariat. This institutional design could provide tribunals with greater stability and administrative independence.

Judicial Primacy With Institutional BalanceThe Bill retains judicial primacy at crucial stages. The Commission is to be chaired by a retired Supreme Court judge or a High Court Chief Justice and have a judicial majority. Selection, oversight, discipline and performance mechanisms would operate under judicial leadership, reflecting the principle recognised in the R. Gandhi case that the executive, being a frequent litigant, should not dominate the appointment of those adjudicating disputes involving it. At the same time, equidistance from both the executive and judiciary is essential.

The Bill therefore creates a balance among the Commission, executive and professional secretariat, avoiding both executive dependence and excessive judicial control over administration. A Model Beyond TribunalsThe proposed framework reflects lessons from other jurisdictions, including Canada, which consolidated support services for federal tribunals while protecting judicial independence. The success of the Bill should ultimately be measured not by whether it merely survives legal challenges, but by whether it removes the structural causes that repeatedly produced them. If implemented effectively, the framework could bring greater transparency, accountability, faster filling of vacancies and better facilities for litigants. More importantly, it could offer a useful institutional model for future public recruitment and adjudicatory systems.

Parliament Passes Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026



Parliament has passed the Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026, with both Houses approving legislation aimed at replacing the colonial-era Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891, with a modern legal framework suited to India's digital banking system.

The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill on Monday, after the Lok Sabha had approved it on August 5. The legislation seeks to modernise rules governing the use of bankers' books and records as evidence in legal proceedings.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Bill provides a technology-neutral legal framework for bankers' books and formally recognises electronic and digital banking records as evidence.

The Bill retains existing provisions allowing certified copies of bank records to be used in court without requiring the original records to be produced. However, it specifically recognises electronic or digital records as admissible and legally enforceable evidence, subject to safeguards.

Under the proposed framework, an electronic or digital copy must accurately represent the relevant entry or information and be a true copy or appropriately derived from the original record. The Bill also requires safeguards against unauthorised alterations, data tampering or other events that could affect the integrity and accuracy of records.

The legislation retains protections for bank officers. An officer generally cannot be compelled to produce a banker's book in proceedings where the bank is not a party, or appear as a witness to prove transactions or accounts recorded in such books. Courts can order production or appearance for a specified special cause.

The Bill defines such circumstances, including doubts over the accuracy or genuineness of records, interruptions in regular record-keeping processes, or failure by a bank to comply with a court order for inspection.

Sitharaman said the legislation would strengthen statutory protection for bank officers and reflect the rapid digitisation of India's economy and financial transactions.

Another provision allows the Centre to extend the law to other financial-sector entities through notification, subject to specified conditions, exceptions or modifications. The legislation currently covers banking entities, post office savings banks and money order offices.

Assam-Arunachal Border Tension Leaves 18 Injured, Four Critical



Fresh tension erupted along the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border on Monday morning after unidentified men from the Arunachal side allegedly opened fire during a confrontation over a land dispute, leaving at least 18 Assamese villagers injured. Four of the injured were reported to be in critical condition.

The incident took place at Mingmang Basti in Assam's Dhemaji district and reportedly stemmed from a dispute over alleged encroachment in the border area. Security sources said the confrontation escalated into firing, triggering panic among residents and prompting authorities to rush reinforcements to the area.

The injured were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment. Four critically injured persons were shifted to Dibrugarh Medical College and Hospital for further medical care, according to security sources.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the chief secretaries of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh were holding discussions, while the directors general of police of both states were coordinating efforts to bring the situation under control.

"Assam Police reinforcements have reached the location. We need to de-escalate the situation. At the same time, I have directed the Assam Police that under no circumstances should Assam lose even an inch of its land," Sarma said. Some of those injured have been identified as Durgeshwar Patir, also reported as Durgheswar Patir; Rohit Doley, also reported as Rohit Dole; Nagaraj Doley; Bigneshwar Patir, also reported as Biggeshwar Patir; Pame Pegu; Sanjay Tayung; Utpal Doley; and Jan Doley, also reported as Jaan Doley.

The latest confrontation comes against the backdrop of decades-old boundary disagreements between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The two neighbouring states have been attempting to resolve their differences through dialogue, regional committees and demarcation exercises. However, several areas along the inter-state boundary continue to remain sensitive.

Authorities on both sides are expected to investigate the circumstances surrounding the firing and take measures to prevent the situation from escalating further. The border area remained tense but was under close monitoring as of Monday afternoon.

Arunachal Pradesh Home Minister Mama Natung had said on July 28 that the state government was committed to resolving all pending inter-state boundary disputes through regional committees. He had also urged people living along the Assam-Arunachal border to maintain peace and harmony.

Referring to recent tension in the Tarasso area, Natung said boundary disputes in five districts had already been resolved, while discussions were continuing to settle disputes in the remaining districts.

The fresh violence has renewed concerns over the need for sustained coordination between the two state governments and security agencies to maintain peace in border communities and prevent local land disputes from developing into wider confrontations.

Parliament Logjam Continues as Modi, Shah Skip Lok Sabha

The Parliament logjam continued on Monday as the Lok Sabha was adjourned for the day amid persistent protests by opposition MPs demanding statements from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah over alleged police brutality against protesting students.

The Opposition has been pressing for Amit Shah to address the House over the police crackdown on students protesting against the alleged NEET paper leak across the country. Opposition members have also been demanding a discussion on the alleged theft of donations from the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. The Lok Sabha was eventually adjourned until 11 am on Tuesday after repeated disruptions. Opposition MPs continued their protests, alleging that the government

was avoiding accountability by not allowing a discussion on the issues they had raised. In the Rajya Sabha, Opposition members staged a walkout after the Chair disallowed their attempts to raise issues including the alleged theft of Ram Temple donations and the use of pellet guns against protesters. The Opposition had demanded the presence of the Prime Minister and Home Minister in Parliament and sought statements on the issues.

The disruption has continued since the Monsoon session began on July 20. For the 16th consecutive day, the Lok Sabha failed to complete Question Hour because of persistent sloganeering by opposition members.

Amid the continuing impasse, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla made an "emotional appeal" to floor leaders of



political parties, urging them to cooperate and allow Parliament to function without disruption. At a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, Birla stressed that important Bills should be discussed in the House so that members could express their views on proposed legislation. He also appealed to political parties to uphold parliamentary traditions and

ensure constructive deliberations. According to sources, the Speaker emphasised the importance of meaningful participation, constructive discussion and adherence to the highest parliamentary traditions. He urged all parties to cooperate in ensuring the smooth and orderly functioning of the House so that matters affecting the public could be discussed comprehensively.

Despite the repeated disruptions, the Lok Sabha has passed nine Bills during the ongoing Monsoon session. However, debate has taken place on only two of them, highlighting the extent of the continuing parliamentary deadlock.

The Opposition has maintained that its demands relate to matters of public importance and should be addressed on the floor of the House. The government, meanwhile, has continued parliamentary proceedings amid the protests.

With the session entering another day of disruption, attention is now focused on whether discussions between the government and Opposition can break the deadlock and allow normal legislative business to resume.

Amit Shah Ready for Detailed Discussion on Student Protests: Rijiju

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Monday said the government is ready for a full and detailed discussion on the student movement and related activities, while urging Opposition members not to disrupt the Home Minister's response in Parliament. Rijiju accused the Opposition of repeatedly stalling parliamentary proceedings and said the government's position was clear on holding a comprehensive debate. He urged lawmakers to listen to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's response without creating

disturbances. "The offer made by the government is very clear that it is ready to have a full and detailed discussion on students' movement and activities related to it," Rijiju said. He added that once the discussion begins, Parliament should allow a "threadbare discussion" on the matter. His remarks came after Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi criticised Amit Shah over alleged police action during the July 20 student protests. Gandhi alleged that pellet guns, nail-studded batons and tear gas shells were used



against students and demanded a Supreme Court-

monitored investigation. The Lok Sabha witnessed repeated disruptions on Monday as Opposition MPs sought a government response over the alleged police action at Jantar Mantar and alleged theft of Ram Temple donations. Four Bills, including the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026, Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026, Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026, and National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2026, were introduced amid protests.

Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav criticised the government over the alleged Ayodhya donation issue and questioned provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) Amendment Bill. CPI(M) MP John Brittas said the Opposition had sought clarification over the student protest incident and alleged that the government was attempting to pass Bills without addressing Opposition concerns. He also demanded a full discussion on the alleged Ayodhya donation issue and criticised the FCRA provisions.

Kerala Name Change Bill Among Four Introduced in Lok Sabha Amid Protests

Four Bills were introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday amid loud protests by Opposition members demanding the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the alleged police crackdown on students during protests on July 20. The House witnessed continued sloganeering, following which proceedings were adjourned until 2 pm. Earlier in the morning, the Lok Sabha was adjourned within seconds after Opposition members began protesting. The proceedings were later resumed at noon.

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal introduced the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026. Union Minister G Kishan Reddy introduced the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026. The Bill was opposed by RSP MP N K Premachandran, who alleged that its provisions were against the federal structure. The Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill was introduced by Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai. Minister of State for Cooperation Murlidhar Mohol introduced the National Co-operative Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill. The Opposition continued to demand a response from the government over the alleged police action against protesting students and sought Amit Shah's presence



in the House. Earlier, when the House met in the morning, Premachandran, who was chairing the proceedings, adjourned them until noon following the protests. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, who normally presides over the Question Hour, did not chair the proceedings on Monday morning. Sources said Birla was engaged in back-channel discussions with various political parties in an effort to ensure the smooth functioning of the House during the remaining days of the Monsoon Session. The session is scheduled to conclude on August 13. However, repeated disruptions have affected legislative business throughout the session. Six of the eight Bills passed by the Lok Sabha during the session have been cleared without debate. Monday marked the 16th consecutive day on which the House failed to complete Question Hour, scheduled between 11 am and noon, reflecting the continuing parliamentary deadlock.

Bengal BJP Chief Warns Action Over Extortion Using His Name

West Bengal BJP chief Samik Bhattacharya has warned of strict action against people allegedly trying to extort money by misusing the party's name, saying his own identity was recently used in an extortion attempt in New Town near Kolkata.

Speaking at a business forum, Bhattacharya said he was informed that someone was demanding money using his name. He said the phone number used in the alleged extortion attempt displayed his name and photograph, while the SIM card had reportedly been issued in his name. Bhattacharya said he asked the person who approached him to file a police complaint. According to him, the calls were traced to Jalpaiguri and Siliguri, and the accused was arrested from the Salkia area of Howrah seven days later. He asserted that no BJP worker should be involved in extortion and urged people who encounter such cases to approach him directly.

The warning comes as the BJP faces allegations of corruption and extortion at local levels, despite having been in power for only a few months. In what has been described as a damage-control effort, the party has suspended 25 workers and issued show-cause notices to another 300 people over alleged involvement in extortion cases. A BJP source said the issue was also discussed during a meeting with the party's central leadership in Kolkata this week. The party has claimed that many people allegedly involved in extortion cases were Trinamool Congress workers who



joined the BJP following its recent electoral victory. The allegation has added to the political dispute over responsibility for extortion-related activities.

Trinamool rebel MLA Ritabrata Banerjee, now the Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly, said political parties have a responsibility to act against workers involved in such activities. He said he would submit a list of BJP leaders allegedly involved in extortion cases to the state administration.

Trinamool MLA Kunal Ghosh also criticised the BJP over the allegations, claiming that the party was struggling to control extortion within its ranks shortly after coming to power.

Ghosh said warnings from leaders including Samik Bhattacharya and Jitendra Tiwari showed the extent of the problem within the BJP.

Indian Envoy Meets Bangladesh PM Amid Fresh Strain in Bilateral Ties

Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman met Indian High Commissioner to Dhaka Dinesh Trivedi on Monday amid renewed strain in relations between India and Bangladesh. The meeting was described as a courtesy call and marked Trivedi's first meeting with the Bangladeshi Prime Minister after taking charge as India's new High Commissioner in Dhaka. The extradition of former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the return of the accused in the murder case of Osman Hadi were among the key issues discussed during the meeting. Rahman also stressed the need to create a suitable environment to further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries. According to a press release issued by the Prime Minister's Press Wing, Bangladesh expressed hope

that India would expedite the process of extraditing Sheikh Hasina. Dhaka has repeatedly sought her extradition and has raised the issue with New Delhi. The meeting came against the backdrop of growing tensions following a media press conference by Sheikh Hasina in New Delhi last week. The Bangladesh government had expressed "outrage" over the event and warned that such developments could affect bilateral relations. Dhaka has also maintained its demand for Hasina's extradition. The meeting took place ahead of the upcoming BRICS Summit in New Delhi, where India has invited Rahman. The summit is expected to provide an opportunity for the two countries to engage at the highest level and discuss issues affecting their bilateral relationship. As part of preparations for



the meeting, Trivedi held discussions with Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman on Sunday. The discussions focused on bilateral matters and the importance of maintaining communication between the two neighbouring countries. Before meeting Rahman, Trivedi told the media in

Dhaka that all bilateral issues needed to be resolved through dialogue. He said both countries had people-friendly leaders and expressed confidence that direct discussions between the two Prime Ministers could help resolve several outstanding problems. Trivedi also emphasised the

importance of continued engagement, saying that problems could be addressed when the two sides communicated with each other. He expressed an optimistic view of the relationship and said there was nothing negative in the situation. According to Dhaka Tribune, the meeting covered a range of important bilateral issues between Bangladesh and India. Trivedi also briefed Rahman about his experiences during his first two months in Dhaka. The meeting assumes significance as New Delhi and Dhaka attempt to manage differences over sensitive political and legal matters while keeping channels of communication open. Both sides are expected to continue discussions on outstanding issues as they work towards maintaining and strengthening bilateral relations.

Saudi Factory Fire Kills 16 Bangladeshi Migrant Workers



A major fire at a sofa manufacturing factory in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia, killed 16 Bangladeshi migrant workers, officials in Dhaka said on Monday. The incident has prompted efforts by Bangladesh authorities to repatriate the bodies and provide assistance to the victims' families. The fire broke out on Sunday in the Musa Sanaia industrial area of Riyadh. The circumstances that led to the blaze were not immediately detailed.

Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs is monitoring the situation, while officials from the Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh are coordinating with Saudi authorities to complete the necessary formalities for bringing the bodies back to Bangladesh.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Ariful Haque Choudhury has instructed officials to expedite the repatriation process. He also directed authorities to ensure that the bereaved families receive the necessary government assistance and compensation.

The deaths have raised concerns over the safety of Bangladeshi migrant workers employed in Saudi Arabia, which hosts one of the largest Bangladeshi expatriate communities in the world. Around 3.5 million Bangladeshis are estimated to be living in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia remains the largest destination for Bangladeshi migrant workers, many of whom are employed in construction, manufacturing, services and other sectors. Their contribution is also significant to Bangladesh's economy through remittances sent to families back home.

Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia sent home more than \$2.7 billion in remittances last year, underlining the importance of the migrant workforce to the country's foreign exchange earnings and household incomes.

Bangladesh authorities are working with Saudi officials to complete the procedures for identifying and repatriating the deceased workers. Officials have also been directed to provide necessary support to the affected families during the process. The tragedy has caused grief among the families of the victims and highlighted the risks faced by migrant workers working in industrial facilities abroad. Further details regarding the cause of the fire and the identities of those killed are expected as authorities continue their investigation.

North Korean Hacking Group Builds AI Tools for Cyberattacks: Report



A North Korean-linked hacking group has developed tools using artificial intelligence that could help automate cyberattacks, analyse stolen information and create more convincing phishing campaigns, according to South Korean cybersecurity firm Genians. Genians said on Monday that it had identified evidence suggesting the group Kimsuky had established tools to run and manage artificial intelligence models locally. The tools identified included Ollama, GPT4All and Msty, along with retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) technology used to search and process documents.

According to Genians, the use of locally operated AI systems could allow the group's operators to analyse documents and other sensitive material without sending the information to external AI services. This could provide greater control over potentially stolen data and reduce the need to rely on third-party AI platforms.

The cybersecurity firm also identified AI agent development frameworks, speech-to-text software and Cursor, an AI-assisted coding tool, on infrastructure it linked to the campaign. Genians said the findings indicate that Kimsuky may be moving beyond the use of generative AI for creating phishing messages and other social-engineering material. The group appears to be developing capabilities to integrate existing AI models into malware development, data analysis and the automation of cyberattacks, the company said in its report. The firm also discovered finance- and cryptocurrency-themed decoy documents that appeared to have been generated using AI. The documents were designed to look like legitimate investment reports and other workplace materials, potentially making them more convincing to targeted recipients. Genians cautioned that its findings could not be independently verified. The report nevertheless highlights growing concerns about the use of artificial intelligence by state-linked cyber groups to enhance existing cyber capabilities. North Korea has for years been accused by US and South Korean authorities, as well as cybersecurity experts, of using state-linked cyber units for espionage, financial theft and revenue generation.

Kimsuky has previously been identified by US authorities as a North Korean cyber-espionage group. The US Treasury sanctioned Kimsuky in 2023, describing it as a cyber group controlled by the North Korean government and stating that it collected intelligence in support of Pyongyang's strategic objectives. The latest findings underscore concerns that increasingly accessible AI tools could enable established hacking groups to expand the scale and sophistication of their cyber operations.

Trump Signals Reduced Pressure on Iran as Talks Continue

US President Donald Trump has signaled that his administration is prepared to allow economic pressure to build on Iran while apparently backing away from ordering additional military strikes, even as Tehran continues to set tough conditions for negotiations.

Trump made the remarks on Sunday as his administration seeks an agreement with Iran to end the conflict that began on February 28. According to Axios, which spoke to Trump in a brief phone call, the US President said, "We are lowering it," indicating a possible shift away from immediate military escalation.

The comments came only a week after Trump issued another series of threats to take strong action against Iran. However, he subsequently stepped back from



those threats as efforts continued to secure a deal with Tehran.

Axios reported that Trump did not express frustration over Iran's continued delay in reaching an agreement to

reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has demanded that the United States first end its blockade of Iranian ports and lift oil sanctions, in line with a memorandum of understanding signed by the two

countries in June.

The Strait of Hormuz has remained blocked by Iran since the conflict began, contributing to a sharp increase in fuel prices and creating uncertainty in global markets. The disruption has also placed pressure on the Trump administration as the November midterm elections approach.

Trump said the United States was only "semi-negotiating" with Iran while closely monitoring the country's economic situation. He pointed to Iran's high inflation and lack of financial resources as factors that could increase pressure on Tehran. "We are only semi-negotiating with them. We are just watching Iran with its huge inflation and the fact they have no money," Trump was quoted as saying. The US President also high-

lighted the recent decline in oil prices, saying American consumers were experiencing less economic pain from the conflict. Lower energy prices could ease some of the domestic pressure associated with the disruption caused by the war.

Trump expressed confidence that the situation would eventually be resolved and compared the US approach to Iran to a chess game. His latest comments suggest Washington may continue relying on economic pressure and negotiations rather than immediately pursuing further military action.

Iran's conditions for reopening the Strait of Hormuz remain a major obstacle to reaching an agreement, while the Trump administration continues to weigh diplomatic and economic options.

China Issues Red Alert as Typhoon Dolphin Hits Eastern Coast

China's national observatory issued a red alert, the highest level in the country's typhoon warning system, as Typhoon Dolphin made landfall along the eastern coast on Sunday afternoon, bringing heavy rainfall and powerful winds. The typhoon made landfall along the coast from Sammen in Zhejiang Province to Fuding in Fujian Province, according to the National Meteorological Centre (NMC). Wang Haiping, NMC chief forecaster, said the highest-level alert was necessary because of the storm's heavy rainfall, wide impact area and prolonged duration. From Sunday to Wednesday, northern Fujian, Zhejiang, Shanghai, northern Jiangxi,

Jiangsu, Anhui, eastern Hubei, central and eastern Henan and southern Shandong are expected to receive heavy rainfall. Some areas of central-eastern Zhejiang and southern Anhui could experience severe torrential rain.

Wang warned coastal areas of East China and the East China Sea to prepare for gale-force winds. From Sunday to Tuesday, most parts of the East China Sea, Hangzhou Bay, Zhejiang's coastal areas and the Yangtze River Estuary are expected to experience winds of Force 9 to 12, with gusts reaching Force 11 to 14. Near the typhoon's centre, gusts could reach Force 15 to 16.



Authorities also warned of secondary disasters caused by prolonged rainfall, including mountain torrents, geo-

logical disasters and flash floods. Zhejiang, Anhui, Henan and Hebei face elevated risks, while several cities

could experience severe urban waterlogging.

The NMC said Dolphin would move north-westward and gradually weaken after landfall. Its remnant vortex is expected to turn northward after Wednesday. Wang stressed that the typhoon's landfall would not end its impact as the storm would continue moving inland. From Thursday to Sunday, the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, northern Shandong and Liaoning are expected to receive heavy rainfall, with some areas facing severe downpours.

China's meteorological authority upgraded its emergency response for severe weather disasters from Level III to Level II.

Putin May Mobilise 5 Lakh Fighters Amid Escalating Russia-Ukraine War: Report

Russian President Vladimir Putin may be preparing to mobilise around five lakh additional fighters for the war in Ukraine, according to Ukrainian intelligence cited by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The reported mobilisation could take place after Russia's parliamentary elections in late September. Zelensky said Putin was not ready to end the war and was preparing for another mobilisation. He claimed Russia could announce the move after the September 21 elections to the State Duma. According to Zelensky, Putin may avoid openly announcing a large-scale mobilisation because he is concerned about public reaction inside Russia. He also warned that Russia would not be able to train such a large number of recruits quickly, potentially resulting in poorly trained personnel being sent to the battlefield and increased casualties.

The warning comes amid a significant escalation in long-range attacks by both Russia and Ukraine. The United Nations has said the two countries have intensified such attacks this year, contributing to a rise in civilian deaths.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan has separately warned that continued escalation could create circumstances in which Putin con-



siders Russia's nuclear capabilities as a "last option". Speaking on Anadolu's Editor's Desk programme, Fidan described the situation as dangerous and said Turkey had discussed the issue with Western partners.

Meanwhile, Ukraine has continued launching attacks deep inside Russian territory. A Ukrainian drone strike in Russia's Tatarstan region killed at least 13 people on Monday, according to reports, making it one of the deadliest Ukrainian attacks since the war began.

Russia also carried out strikes against Ukraine. Ukrainian officials said a Russian artillery attack killed five people in a village in the north-eastern Kharkiv region. Russia's Defence Ministry said it had shot down 456 Ukrainian drones overnight, without stating how many drones reached their intended targets. Ukraine's Air Force said Russia launched 126 drones during its overnight attack.

Pakistan Urges Muslim Nations to Join New Defence Alliance

Pakistan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has urged Muslim countries to set aside their differences and join a new defence agreement with Saudi Arabia and Turkey, describing the proposed grouping as an alliance that could operate along the lines of NATO. Speaking to Geo News, Asif said the Mecca Joint Defence Agreement should not remain an exclusive arrangement between the three countries. He argued that other Islamic nations should be allowed to join and work together despite bilateral disputes and differing interests.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif signed the agreement on Friday. The pact builds on a defence agreement previously signed by Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. The central provision states that an attack on any one of the three countries would be treated as an attack on all three. Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said the arrangement was technically similar to NATO's Article 5 mutual defence principle, although the details of implementation are yet to be finalised.

Turkey has said member states would consult each other to determine the nature and extent of support required if one of them came under attack. The three countries bring different military and economic strengths to the alliance. Pakistan is the Muslim world's only nuclear-armed country,



Saudi Arabia has substantial economic resources and regional influence, while Turkey has NATO's second-largest army and a growing domestic defence industry.

Fidan said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan wanted the alliance to expand and identified Egypt as one potential candidate. He also stressed that the pact was not directed against Iran or any other country.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said the agreement was "purely defensive in nature" and remained open to other regional countries willing to uphold its principles and resolve disputes peacefully.

Dar added that the Makkah Accord would not replace or cancel existing bilateral or multilateral agreements involving the participating countries or other organisations.

Shiprocket IPO GMP Rises to 28% Ahead of August 12 Opening

Shiprocket's initial public offering (IPO) has generated strong interest in the grey market ahead of its issue opening on August 12, with the latest grey market premium (GMP) indicating a potential listing gain of nearly 28% over the upper end of the issue price band. The grey market activity has emerged as an important indicator of investor sentiment ahead of the public issue. Shiprocket shares are currently commanding a significant premium in the unofficial market, suggesting that investors are expecting the stock to make a strong debut on the exchanges. According to the latest GMP indications, the premium points to a potential listing gain of nearly 28% compared with the upper end of Shiprocket's IPO price band. However, grey market premiums are unofficial and can change before the listing. They should not be considered a guarantee of the actual listing price or returns. The IPO is scheduled to open for subscription on August 12. Investors are expected to

closely track the issue price, subscription levels, grey market movement and other key details as the opening date approaches. Shiprocket's strong GMP ahead of the issue has placed the IPO among the offerings attracting attention in the primary market. The premium indicates that market participants are currently showing positive expectations about the company's potential listing performance. The grey market is an unofficial market where shares of companies preparing to list can be traded before their formal stock market debut. The GMP generally reflects the difference between the expected listing price and the IPO issue price, although it can fluctuate depending on market sentiment, demand and other factors. A GMP of nearly 28% suggests that the market is currently anticipating a substantial premium at listing. However, investors should consider the company's financial performance, business prospects, IPO valuation and broader market conditions before making



investment decisions. With the Shiprocket IPO set to open on August 12, attention will now turn to the formal subscription process and investor response. Market participants will also watch whether the strong grey market premium is sustained as the issue opening approaches. The latest grey market indica-

tions provide an early view of market sentiment, but they do not represent an official price discovery mechanism. The actual listing price will ultimately depend on demand, market conditions and trading activity once Shiprocket shares are listed. The IPO's opening on August 12 is therefore expected to be

closely watched by investors, particularly after the company's shares recorded a strong grey market premium. The nearly 28% potential listing gain has added to the interest surrounding the public offering, although investors are advised to assess the issue independently rather than relying solely on GMP trends.

Sensex, Nifty End Flat in Rangebound Trade - Realty Stocks Shine



Indian benchmark indices ended almost flat after a volatile and rangebound trading session on August 10, as investors remained cautious and the market failed to sustain its intraday gains. The Sensex and Nifty swung between gains and losses during the session before closing near their previous levels.

The Sensex moved within a narrow range as buying interest in select sectors was offset by weakness in banking and other key segments. The Nifty also struggled to establish a clear direction, reflecting the cautious mood among investors.

Sectoral performance remained mixed. Realty stocks emerged among the stronger performers, supported by buying interest in the sector. The performance indicated continued investor preference for selected real estate counters despite the broader market remaining subdued. On the other hand, PSU banks faced selling pressure and emerged as one of the major drags on the benchmark indices. Weakness in public sector banking stocks limited the market's ability to extend its early gains.

The broader market also witnessed mixed trends. The Nifty Midcap 100 gained 0.6%, indicating continued interest in several mid-sized companies. However, the Nifty Smallcap 100 declined 0.3%, reflecting profit-taking and cautious sentiment in smaller stocks.

The market remained volatile through the trading session, with investors closely monitoring sector-specific movements and broader market signals. The inability of the benchmark indices to hold their intraday gains resulted in a largely flat close.

Analysts and market participants are expected to remain watchful of domestic economic developments, corporate updates and global market cues in the coming sessions. The mixed performance across sectors and market-cap segments suggests that investors continue to adopt a selective approach rather than making broad-based purchases.

Overall, the session ended on a subdued note, with the Sensex and Nifty closing almost unchanged after fluctuating between positive and negative territory. Realty stocks provided support, while PSU banks weighed on the market, leaving investors cautious about the near-term direction of the benchmarks.

Wockhardt Reports Rs 107 Crore Profit in Q1



Pharmaceuticals company Wockhardt Ltd reported a consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 107 crore for the first quarter ended June 30, marking a significant improvement from the loss recorded in the same period a year earlier.

The company attributed the strong quarterly performance mainly to robust revenue growth. Wockhardt Ltd had reported a consolidated net loss of Rs 108 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. The latest results therefore represent a substantial turnaround in the company's financial performance.

Consolidated revenue from operations during the first quarter stood at Rs 929 crore. The increase in revenue helped strengthen the company's overall financial position and contributed to the return to profitability during the quarter.

The results highlight an improvement in Wockhardt's operating performance as the pharmaceutical company continues to focus on expanding its business and strengthening revenues across its operations. The sharp year-on-year improvement in profitability is expected to draw attention from investors and market participants tracking the pharmaceutical sector.

The company's turnaround from a consolidated net loss of Rs 108 crore in the year-ago quarter to a consolidated PAT of Rs 107 crore in the latest quarter represents a positive change of Rs 215 crore on a year-on-year basis.

Wockhardt Ltd has operations in the pharmaceutical sector, and its quarterly performance is closely watched by investors because of the company's presence in domestic and international markets. The latest results indicate that the company has made considerable progress in improving its financial performance compared with the corresponding period last year.

Revenue from operations of Rs 929 crore during the quarter also reflects the company's stronger business performance. With profitability returning to positive territory, the company will now be expected to maintain the momentum in the coming quarters.

The pharmaceutical sector continues to remain an important part of India's healthcare and manufacturing ecosystem, with companies focusing on revenue growth, operational efficiency and expansion of their product portfolios. Wockhardt's latest quarterly numbers provide a positive indication of its current financial trajectory. The company's strong improvement in PAT, combined with consolidated revenue of Rs 929 crore, marks a notable quarter for Wockhardt Ltd. The results are likely to remain a key focus for investors as they assess the sustainability of the company's recovery and its performance in subsequent quarters.

Shivalik Bimetal Controls Stock Jumps 40% in Two Sessions



Shares of smallcap precision manufacturing firm Shivalik Bimetal Controls witnessed a sharp rally, jumping 40% in just two trading sessions following back-to-back upper circuits. The stock has emerged as one of the notable gainers in the smallcap segment, with its strong recent performance adding to substantial gains recorded during 2026. The stock settled at Rs 1,105.05 per share on the NSE, after

registering a significant rise during the latest trading sessions. The sharp movement came as the stock hit consecutive upper circuits, indicating strong buying interest among market participants. Shivalik Bimetal Controls has delivered an exceptional return so far this year. The company's stock has gained nearly 160% in 2026, highlighting the strong momentum in its shares. The latest two-ses-

sion rally has further accelerated its year-to-date performance and placed the stock firmly among the closely watched smallcap counters. The company has also generated substantial long-term returns for investors. Over the last five years, Shivalik Bimetal Controls shares have risen by more than 900%. The strong five-year performance reflects the significant appreciation the stock has recorded

over the period. The latest rally has come amid heightened activity in the company's shares, with back-to-back upper circuits driving the stock sharply higher. The movement has also attracted attention to the performance of smallcap companies operating in the precision manufacturing segment. Shivalik Bimetal Controls is engaged in precision manufacturing and has established a presence in specialised products and components. Its operations place the company within a segment that caters to industries requiring precision-engineered manufacturing capabilities. The stock's rapid rise, however, also highlights the volatility associated with smallcap shares. While the company has delivered substantial gains over both the short and long term, sharp movements in smallcap stocks can also lead to increased volatility and fluctuations in investor sentiment. The 40% gain recorded over two sessions represents a significant short-term movement compared with the stock's previous trading levels. The back-

to-back upper circuits indicate that buying demand remained strong during the period, allowing the stock to move sharply higher. With the stock trading at Rs 1,105.05 per share on the NSE, investors are likely to closely track its subsequent performance following the recent rally. Market participants may also monitor trading volumes, corporate developments and broader market conditions to assess whether the momentum can be sustained. The nearly 160% gain recorded by Shivalik Bimetal Controls in 2026 and more than 900% appreciation over five years underline the stock's strong historical performance. However, past returns do not guarantee future performance, and investors may need to consider the company's financial fundamentals, valuation and business outlook before taking investment decisions. The latest 40% jump in two sessions has nevertheless placed Shivalik Bimetal Controls firmly in focus among smallcap stocks, following a period of exceptionally strong gains.

Lalithaa Jewellery Mart to Open Rs 1,700 Crore IPO on August 17

Lalithaa Jewellery Mart is set to open its initial public offering (IPO) on August 17, with the company targeting a total issue size of Rs 1,700 crore. The jewellery retailer is expected to be listed on the stock exchanges on August 24, making the upcoming offering one of the closely watched IPOs in the retail jewellery segment. The proposed IPO will comprise a fresh issue of shares worth Rs 1,200 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of shares worth Rs 500 crore. Promoter and founder Kiran Kumar Jain will sell shares worth Rs 500 crore through the offer-for-sale component. The fresh issue will provide Lalithaa Jewellery Mart with Rs 1,200 crore in proceeds, while the OFS component will allow Kiran Kumar Jain to sell part of his existing holding in the company. The distinction between the two components is important for investors, as proceeds from the fresh issue will accrue to the company, whereas the money raised through the OFS will go to the selling shareholder. The company is expected to disclose the price band and other key details of the IPO ahead of the issue opening. Investors will be able to assess the offer based on the final price band, lot size, subscription schedule and other information provided in the IPO documents. The IPO is scheduled to open for subscription on August 17. Following the completion of the subscription process and allotment, the shares are expected to make their stock market debut on August 24. Lalithaa Jewellery Mart has built its business in the jewellery retail sector and the public issue is expected to provide investors with an opportunity to participate in the company's growth prospects. The IPO will also bring greater market visibility to the jewellery retailer following its proposed listing. The Rs 1,700-crore issue is structured



to balance the company's fund-raising requirements with an exit opportunity for its promoter and founder. Of the total issue size, Rs 1,200 crore will come from the fresh issue, accounting for the larger portion of the offering, while Rs 500 crore will be raised through the OFS by Kiran Kumar Jain. Investors are expected to closely track the company's valuation once the price band is announced. The pricing of the IPO will be a key factor in determining investor interest, particularly as the issue enters the market amid continued activity in the primary market. The August 17 opening will mark an important step for Lalithaa Jewellery Mart as it moves toward becoming a publicly listed company. The expected August 24 listing will provide investors with an opportunity to trade the company's shares on the stock exchanges. Further details, including the IPO price band and other issue-related information, are expected to be announced before the subscription window opens. Investors will be able to evaluate those details along with the company's business prospects and financial performance before deciding on participation in the public offering.

ABSL MF Launches Apex Equity Long-Short and Ex-Top 100 Long-Short Funds

Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund (ABSL MF) has launched two new equity-oriented long-short funds, the Apex Equity Long-Short Fund and the Ex-Top 100 Long-Short Fund, aimed at making equity investing more manageable during periods of sharp market movements. The new strategies are designed to address different levels of market volatility and investment horizons. The Equity Long-Short Fund will seek to minimise drawdowns over a one-year period, while the Ex-Top 100 strategy will operate with a two-year horizon. The difference in the investment horizons reflects the varying risk characteristics of the markets targeted by the two strategies. The Ex-Top 100 strategy focuses on the mid- and small-cap universe, which generally experiences higher volatility compared with the broader large-cap segment. Harish Krishnan of Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund said the products were designed around the need to make equity investing more manageable during periods of sharp market movements. The strategies are intended to provide investors with an approach that can potentially navigate changing market conditions while managing downside risks. Long-short strategies typically seek to use both long and short positions to respond to market opportunities and risks. By adopting such an approach, the funds aim to manage the impact of market declines while participating in opportunities that emerge across different segments of the equity market. The Equity Long-Short Fund has a one-year drawdown-minimisation objective, making its strategy focused on managing risks over a relatively shorter investment horizon. The Ex-Top 100 Long-Short Fund, meanwhile, has a two-year horizon, reflecting the higher volatility associated with mid- and small-cap stocks. The launch comes as investors continue to seek investment



strategies that can provide greater flexibility during uncertain or volatile market conditions. Sharp movements in equity markets can increase the risk of drawdowns, particularly for investors with concentrated exposure to equities. ABSL MF's latest offerings are positioned to address this challenge through long-short investment strategies. The two funds differ in their approach and time horizons, allowing investors to consider the strategy that best matches their risk tolerance and investment objectives. The launch also highlights the growing focus among mutual fund companies on strategies designed to manage downside risk while remaining invested in equities. With the mid- and small-cap segments witnessing higher volatility, the Ex-Top 100 strategy is particularly structured around a longer two-year horizon. (The Apex Equity Long-Short and Ex-Top 100 Long-Short funds add to ABSL MF's range of investment products and provide investors with alternative approaches to navigating equity markets. Harish Krishnan's comments underline the objective of making equity investing more manageable during periods of sharp market fluctuations.

Intex Expands Home Appliances Portfolio Across Multiple Categories

Intex Technologies, one of India's leading homegrown consumer electronics brand s, has announced the expansion of its Home Appliances portfolio as part of its strategy to strengthen its presence in the growing consumer durables market. Building on its established presence in air coolers, Intex is expanding into the fans segment with decorative, energy-efficient BLDC, exhaust and TPW (Table, Pedestal and Wall) models. The company is also entering the

water heater category with storage and instant geysers available in different capacities to meet varied household requirements. The company is further strengthening its presence in kitchen and everyday appliances by expanding its small domestic appliances portfolio. The range includes irons, mixer grinders, juicer mixer grinders, air fryers, electric kettles and cooktops. Across categories, Intex said its products have been developed with a focus on design,

functionality and reliability. The expansion is aimed at creating a comprehensive Home Appliances business catering to both seasonal and everyday household requirements. The move comes after strong growth in Intex's Consumer Durables business, which recorded 80 per cent year-on-year growth in FY26. The growth was driven by demand across Smart TVs, Air Conditioners and Washing Machines. Keshav Bansal, Director, Intex Technologies, said the



strong performance reflected growing consumer trust in the Intex brand. He said changing consumer aspirations had created an opportunity to build a broader home appliances portfolio offering quality, reliability and value at accessible price points. "Our expansion into fans, water heaters and small domestic appliances is a natural progression of this strategy and will enable us to serve a wider range of household needs," Bansal said. Intex said India's home appli-

ances market continues to grow due to rising household incomes, increasing appliance penetration beyond metropolitan cities and growing consumer preference for trusted brands offering multiple product categories. With demand increasing across Tier II and Tier III markets, the company sees further opportunities to expand its presence by leveraging its nationwide distribution network, retail partnerships and after-sales service capabilities.

Founder's Risk Pays Off as Taxi Driver Rises to Procurement Head

Hyderabad-based entrepreneur Sravanth Gajula has shared the story of how taking a chance on a Class 9 pass taxi driver as his company's first employee eventually turned into one of the most successful hiring decisions of his career. In a LinkedIn post, Gajula recalled hiring the taxi driver 10 years ago despite the candidate having no corporate experience, limited English skills and no conventional resume that would have attracted a traditional recruiter. Many people questioned the decision at the time, but Gajula said he saw qualities that mattered more - hunger to succeed and honesty. Instead of focusing only on formal qualifications, Gajula decided to give the man an opportunity and invest in his development. The company enrolled him in spoken English classes and assigned him meaningful and impactful responsibilities. Gajula said the employee was treated as someone with the potential to grow because the company genuinely believed in his



abilities. The approach eventually produced results beyond expectations. According to Gajula, after a decade with the company, the former taxi driver now heads procurement and manages responsibilities across India. Gajula said the journey demonstrated the value of giving people opportunities based on their potential rather than judging them solely by their educational qualifications or previous work experi-

ence. Reflecting on the experience, the founder said discussions around company culture, values and putting people first often remain theoretical unless leaders act on those principles. For him, putting people first meant identifying individuals whom others might overlook, investing in their development before they appeared fully ready and giving them opportunities to contribute meaningfully.

The former taxi driver's rise from his first job at the company to heading a key function has become an example of how opportunity and support can transform an employee's career. Gajula said the experience reinforced his belief that a founder or leader's responsibility goes beyond building products or growing a business. Leaders must also create an environment where employees can develop and take on greater responsibilities. He concluded that teams often become what their leaders believe they can become, urging founders and leaders to have greater confidence in their people and their potential. The story highlights how unconventional hiring decisions can sometimes produce exceptional results when employees are given the training, trust and responsibility needed to succeed. For Gajula, what began as a risky decision a decade ago ultimately became a long-term success story within his organisation.

Mysterious Well Movement in Gujarat Village Puzzles Residents



A mysterious well in Virpada village of Morbi taluka in Gujarat has once again attracted attention after its water was seen moving on its own, prompting residents to gather at the site and sparking speculation about the unusual phenomenon.

According to local residents, the movement resumed around 3 pm on Thursday. Similar activity had been witnessed two days earlier, when the water reportedly moved before gradually stopping. The repeated occurrence has led many villagers to closely watch the well and seek an explanation.

Some residents speculated that the phenomenon could be connected to seismic activity in the region. However, authorities have ruled out any indication of an earthquake-related event so far and urged people not to believe rumours.

Morbi Collector and District Magistrate Swapnil Khare said a team from Gandhinagar had been deployed to investigate the unusual activity. Khare said there was currently no indication of earthquake-related activity and appealed to the public not to rely on unverified claims. He also said speculation about a possible gas leak had emerged, but investigators had not yet collected water samples. The district administration cautioned that conclusions should not be drawn solely from videos circulating about the incident without a proper scientific assessment.

The unusual movement had reportedly subsided on Thursday, while investigation teams continued working to determine its exact cause. Officials said verified information would be shared after the investigation is completed.

The repeated movement has generated considerable curiosity among villagers, with many awaiting a scientific explanation for what has become a local mystery. Authorities have stressed that the situation is being examined and that people should avoid spreading unverified information until the findings are available.

Jeff Dean's AI Startup Pitch Deck Goes Viral

Google veteran Jeff Dean has attracted widespread attention after publicly sharing the pitch deck used to raise funding for his new artificial intelligence startup, Discovery Loop. Dean, who recently departed Google after a 27-year career, shared selected slides from the presentation on Wednesday. The deck quickly went viral on social media, with technology enthusiasts praising the extraordinary list of products, research projects and engineering achievements associated with Dean and his collaborators.

One slide highlighted products that members of the founding team helped build or worked on, including Google Search, Ads and Gmail. Dean also said the team had contributed to major artificial intelligence projects, including Gemini, AlphaFold and Google's first neural chatbot. "We created a pitch deck to tell a handful of VC firms about us and what we were up to," Dean said while sharing the slides. He also highlighted the achievements of people who had worked with members of the team and later founded successful companies.

The presentation drew enthusiastic reactions online, with users describing it as an unusually impressive pitch deck. One commenter called it an "insane flex," while another said achieving even one of the accomplishments listed would represent a major career success. Vinod Khosla, who backed Discovery Loop through Khosla Ventures, also praised the team. He said he was honoured to be selected to co-lead the funding round, describing the group's combined accomplishments and expertise as "almost unbelievably impressive."

Dean is launching Discovery Loop with several long-time collaborators, including Indian-origin technology veteran Sanjay Ghemawat, along with AI researchers Oriol Vinyals and Quoc Le.

The startup has been organised as a public benefit corporation and aims to apply AI to experimental workflows in science and engineering. Its founders want to develop AI systems capable of proposing, conducting and evaluating thousands of experiments simultaneously. The company's approach reflects a broader effort to use advanced AI not merely for generating content or answering questions, but for accelerating scientific discovery and engineering research.

Dean spent more than two decades at Google and became one of the company's most influential technology figures. His work included contributions to large-scale computing systems and artificial intelligence. The public release of the pitch deck has therefore attracted attention beyond the startup's fundraising effort, offering a glimpse into the technical background of a team whose members have played roles in some of the technology industry's most significant developments.



Techie Takes Rs.4 Lakh Pay Cut For Work-From-Home Job After Quitting Rs.33 Lakh Role

A tech professional has sparked a discussion online after choosing a Rs.4 lakh annual pay cut in exchange for a work-from-home opportunity and a better work-life balance. According to a post shared on X by Vanesh Mali, his friend was earning Rs.33 lakh per annum but decided to resign from his job without having another offer. The decision came after more than six months of frustration with a heavy workload and limited time to prepare for job interviews. The techie was also facing a two-month notice period, which made finding another position difficult because many companies preferred candidates who could join immediately. Eventually, he decided to take the risk and resign. After leaving his job, he reportedly took five days completely off to spend time with his family and

children. He then updated his resume and began applying for new opportunities in a more organised manner. His initial job search was not easy. He reportedly faced rejection from three companies before receiving an offer from the fourth. The new company offered him a Rs.29 lakh annual package, Rs.4 lakh less than his previous salary. However, the new role offered a major advantage: work from home, with office visits required only when necessary. He accepted the offer, believing that the new opportunity would provide a healthier and more comfortable working environment. Mali said his friend did not leave his previous company because of salary issues and did not accept the new job for financial gain. Instead, he wanted more personal time, family time and peace of

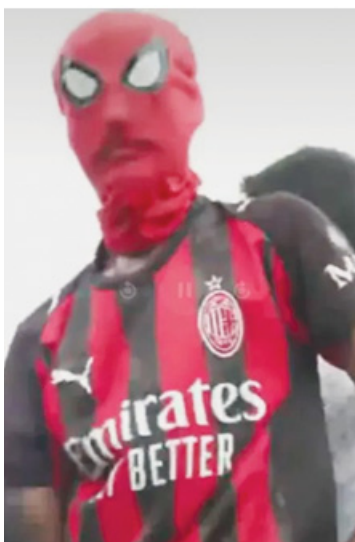


mind. The decision received considerable attention on social media. Several users praised him for prioritising well-being over a higher salary, while others pointed out that such a decision requires financial savings and confidence

in finding another job. The story has renewed a broader conversation about career choices, with many professionals increasingly considering flexibility, mental well-being and family time alongside salary when evaluating job opportunities.

Spider-Man Joins JPSC-JSSC Protest in Ranchi, Highlights Students' Demands

An unusual moment was witnessed during the ongoing JPSC-JSSC student protest in Ranchi on Monday when a man dressed as Spider-Man joined protesting aspirants during their march towards the Jharkhand Assembly. Amid slogans, barricades and heightened security, the costumed protester said he had come to Jharkhand because the students' voices were allegedly not reaching the state government. Referring humorously to the fictional superhero, he said the students' concerns had reached "Spider-Man sitting in America". The appearance added a lighter and unusual element to the protest while highlighting the students' larger complaint that their demands regarding recruitment examinations were not being adequately addressed. The agitation intensified when protesting aspirants breached barricades during their Assembly march. Ahead of the demonstration, student leaders had appealed to participants to remain united and maintain peace. Ranchi Police had made security arrangements for the march, while SP Paras Rana assured protesters that no action would be taken as long as the demonstration remained peaceful. The students are protesting alleged irregularities in JPSC and JSSC recruitment examinations and are demanding a CBI investigation. Their Assembly march followed a meeting between the Jharkhand government and a student delegation on Sunday. Jharkhand Minister Sudivya Kumar Sonu said the government had accepted 98 per cent of the students' demands. The government agreed to several measures,



including cancellation of the 14th JPSC examination and backlog recruitment examinations of 2023 and 2025. It also announced investigations by the CID and ED into alleged recruitment irregularities. However, protesters rejected the proposal, saying their main demand for a CBI inquiry had not been accepted. Student representatives also disputed the government's claim regarding the percentage of demands fulfilled. The protesters said only three of the 13 examinations they wanted cancelled were included in the government's proposal. They also expressed reservations about a CID probe and continued to demand an independent investigation. Against this backdrop, the Spider-Man appearance became a notable moment in the ongoing agitation, while his message echoed the protesters' demand for greater government attention to their concerns.

Google Employee Forgets Mouse at Work, Finds Easy Fix at Bengaluru Office

A Google employee in Bengaluru recently faced a small but inconvenient workplace problem after forgetting her computer mouse. However, what could have meant borrowing a device, visiting a store or waiting for a replacement was resolved within minutes through a vending machine inside the office. Neha Sharma shared her experience in an Instagram video, offering viewers a glimpse of a workplace facility at Google's Bengaluru office. According to Sharma, the vending machine allows employees to obtain essential work accessories, including computer mice, keyboards and earphones, free of charge. Sharma explained that her work involves spending long hours working across multiple screens, dashboards and numbers. On one particular day, she realised she had forgotten the mouse she depends on during her workday. She said Google's vending machines were stocked with several everyday work accessories, allowing her to pick up a replacement mouse without having to interrupt her work routine for long. After getting the device, she was able to return to her tasks. The video showed the vending machine inside the office and the range of accessories available to employees. Sharma highlighted the facility as an example of how workplace benefits can extend beyond commonly discussed corporate perks such as food and company stocks. In the caption accompanying her Instagram post, Sharma wrote that working at Google offers benefits beyond food and stocks, pointing to the vending machine as an example of a practical employee convenience.



The post attracted attention on social media, with users praising the idea of keeping commonly needed work equipment readily available inside the workplace. One user described the facility as the kind of workplace benefit that could genuinely make everyday work easier. Another said it was a thoughtful convenience for employees when minor problems arise during the workday. Other users similarly praised the setup, describing it as a practical corporate benefit that could save employees time. Much of the online reaction focused on the simplicity of the facility rather than its monetary value. Forgetting a mouse or suddenly needing a replacement keyboard may appear to be a minor issue, but such problems can interrupt productivity when employees have to leave the workplace or search for equipment. Having essential accessories available inside the office provides a quick solution and allows employees to resume their work with minimal disruption. Sharma's experience has therefore drawn attention not because of an elaborate corporate perk, but because of the convenience of having basic workplace necessities immediately accessible. The vending machine offers employees a simple way to deal with unexpected equipment-related problems during their workday.

Jemimah Rodrigues Says Team Win Is the Priority in Champions Trophy 2027

Indian batter Jemimah Rodrigues said her focus remains on helping the team win as India prepares for a busy international schedule, including the upcoming multi-format tour of South Africa and the inaugural ICC Women's Champions Trophy in 2027. Rodrigues spoke about her recent experience in The Hundred 2026 on JioHotstar's 'Follow the Blues'. Her campaign with Southern Brave was cut short because of a hamstring injury, but she played an important role in helping the team qualify for the playoffs, recording two Player of the Match performances. Reflecting on her stint in The Hundred, Rodrigues said the tournament provided a challenging learning experience because of varying pitches and conditions. She noted that the surfaces this year were generally slower and required batters to adjust their approach. Rodrigues said that compared with previous editions, there were fewer high-scoring matches, with many games producing totals in the range of 120-130. She explained that even though The Hundred is a 100-ball format, players still need

to assess conditions carefully and determine what constitutes a competitive score. She also highlighted the importance of calculated risk-taking while chasing targets. According to Rodrigues, adapting to different conditions and changing her game accordingly was one of her biggest takeaways from the tournament. Looking ahead to India's multi-format tour of South Africa later this year, Rodrigues said she expects an exciting contest between two strong teams. She pointed out that India and South Africa have developed a significant rivalry after playing several matches against each other in recent times. Rodrigues said facing South Africa in their own conditions would be a major challenge and expressed confidence that the series would provide valuable competition for both teams. She is also looking forward to the inaugural ICC Women's Champions Trophy in 2027, which will mark the first edition of the tournament in women's cricket. Rodrigues said the event would be particularly special because she will be part of the historic competition for the first time. The Indian batter said the team



has already experienced the feeling of success and now wants to reach the top again. She indicated that the desire to repeat that success is motivating the team as it prepares for the Champions Trophy. Despite the importance of the historic tournament, Rodrigues stressed that India's mindset would remain unchanged. She said the primary objective would continue to be putting the team first and making decisions that contribute to victories.

For Rodrigues, individual performances and achievements remain secondary to the larger goal of helping India succeed. Her comments underline the team-oriented approach she intends to carry into the South Africa tour and the 2027 Champions Trophy. With India facing a demanding international schedule, Rodrigues' experience in The Hundred, combined with her focus on adapting to conditions, could prove valuable as the team prepares for major challenges ahead.

Jannik Sinner Withdraws From Cincinnati Open With Knee Injury



World number one Jannik Sinner has withdrawn from the Cincinnati Open because of a right knee injury, dealing a setback to his preparations for the US Open later this month.

The tournament organisers confirmed Sinner's withdrawal on Sunday. The 24-year-old Italian, who won his fifth Grand Slam title at Wimbledon last month, had already pulled out of the Canadian Open, another important warm-up tournament ahead of the US Open.

Sinner said he made the decision after consulting his doctors and team. He explained that his right knee had continued to trouble him despite working with his medical team and that he was not yet ready to compete.

"After consulting with my doctors and my team, I have to announce that I need to withdraw from the Masters 1000 tournament in Cincinnati," Sinner said. The Italian expressed disappointment at missing the Cincinnati event but said his priority was now to recover fully and prepare for the US Open.

Sinner has enjoyed a strong run in Cincinnati in recent years. He won the tournament in 2024 and finished runner-up to seven-time Grand Slam champion Carlos Alcaraz last year.

His withdrawal further weakens the Cincinnati Open field, with Alcaraz also ruled out of the tournament because of a wrist injury.

The absence of the two leading players removes a major attraction from the event ahead of the final Grand Slam of the season.

Sinner's decision is particularly significant because the Cincinnati Open is considered an important part of the hard-court preparation for the US Open. However, with the Grand Slam tournament beginning later this month, the Italian has opted to prioritise his recovery rather than risk aggravating the knee problem.

The Cincinnati Open main draw is scheduled to begin on August 13, while the US Open main draw will get underway on August 30.

Sinner will now have additional time to recover from the injury and assess his fitness before deciding whether he is ready to compete at Flushing Meadows. His absence from Cincinnati is expected to increase attention on his fitness in the coming weeks.

The Italian said he was looking forward to returning to Cincinnati next year and would now concentrate on getting ready for the US Open. His immediate focus will be on rehabilitation and ensuring he reaches the final Grand Slam of the year in suitable physical condition.

With both Sinner and Alcaraz missing from Cincinnati, the tournament is set to provide opportunities for other leading players to make a deep run and strengthen their preparations ahead of the US Open.

Hardik Pandya at Centre of IPL Trade Buzz

Hardik Pandya has emerged as the biggest name in the IPL trade discussions ahead of the retention deadline. The Mumbai Indians captain is attracting interest from several franchises despite his recent struggles with the team.

Pandya, regarded as India's leading fast-bowling all-rounder, returned to Mumbai Indians in 2024. However, MI have reached the playoffs only once in the last three seasons. In IPL 2026, the team finished second-last after winning just four of their 14 matches.

According to reports, Kolkata Knight Riders and

Chennai Super Kings are among the teams showing strong interest in acquiring Pandya. Lucknow Super Giants and Rajasthan Royals have also reportedly been linked with the all-rounder. However, the trade talks have reportedly made little progress so far.

Reports citing Mumbai Indians sources suggest Pandya may not be traded at all. At the same time, calls have reportedly been exchanged between franchises regarding a possible deal, leaving his future uncertain.

Several possible trade combinations have also emerged. MI could report-



edly explore a deal involving Delhi Capitals all-rounder Axar Patel. A potential Pandya-for-Yashasvi Jaiswal swap with Rajasthan Royals and

a Pandya-for-Nicholas Pooran deal with LSG have also been discussed. Former India all-rounder Ravichandran Ashwin offered another perspec-

tive, suggesting that MI should seek Harshit Rana and Rinku Singh if they trade Pandya to KKR. Ashwin said KKR could become a much stronger team by acquiring Pandya, particularly if Cameron Green is unavailable due to his Ashes commitments. He argued that MI should therefore ensure they receive players who can strengthen their own squad. The trade decision could have major implications for the IPL. Pandya remains a valuable all-rounder despite his recent numbers, and whichever franchise acquires him could significantly alter its balance and title prospects.

Sarfraz Khan Returns to India Test Squad After Long Wait

Indian batter Sarfraz Khan has returned to India's Test squad for the upcoming two-match series against Sri Lanka, ending a long wait for another opportunity at the highest level. The series, which begins on August 15 in Galle, marks Sarfraz's comeback to the national side after his last Test appearance against New Zealand in November 2024. Sarfraz has been drafted into the squad as a replacement for Sai Sudharsan, who has been ruled out of the series due to injury. The recall comes after a strong domestic season and months of hard work on both his fitness and batting. The announcement was met with joy by Sarfraz's family, especially his

father and coach, Naushad Khan, who shared an emotional message celebrating his son's return. Quoting a motivational verse, Naushad said, "The sun may have risen after many nights, but destiny always supports hard work." His words reflected the perseverance and dedication that have defined Sarfraz's cricket journey. Sarfraz also shared a selfie on social media wearing India's training kit, revealing a noticeably leaner look after undergoing an intensive fitness transformation. Reports indicate that he has worked hard to improve his physical conditioning while continuing to perform consistently in domestic cricket. The Mumbai batter earned his place through impres-



sive performances across formats. In the Ranji Trophy, he scored 429 runs in seven matches at an average of 53.62, including a double century and a fifty. He also excelled in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, scoring 329 runs at a strike

rate above 200, while contributing 303 runs in the Vijay Hazare Trophy. Sarfraz further strengthened his case with useful performances in franchise and league cricket. He represented Chennai Super Kings in the IPL and later

featured in the Mumbai T20 League, where he continued to score runs at a rapid pace.

India, led by Shubman Gill, will enter the Sri Lanka series looking to improve their position in the World Test Championship standings. The squad includes experienced players such as KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, and Mohammed Siraj.

For Sarfraz, the Sri Lanka tour represents a fresh chance to establish himself in the Test team. After years of consistent domestic performances and a brief absence from the national setup, he now has an opportunity to prove his value once again on the international stage.

Gill Fit, Padikkal Impresses Ahead of Sri Lanka Test

India registered a convincing six-wicket victory over Sri Lanka XI in their three-day warm-up match, with several players making strong cases ahead of the first Test in Galle on August 15. However, the game also left the team management with a few selection decisions to make.

Captain Shubman Gill eased concerns over his fitness after missing the first two days. He returned to bat on the third day and scored 44 off 54 balls, hitting seven boundaries. His fluent knock suggested he is ready to lead India in the opening Test.

Devdutt Padikkal emerged as one of the biggest positives. With Sai Sudharsan ruled out of the series due to injury, India need a replacement at No. 3. Padikkal strengthened his claim by remaining unbeaten on 142 off 164 balls, including 18 fours. His composed innings could make him the favourite for the position.

Rishabh Pant, however, endured a difficult outing. He scored only two runs in the first innings and 28 off 68 balls during the chase. His attempts to play aggressively did not produce the desired results, raising questions about his place in the playing XI. India's spin department delivered encouraging signs. Ravindra



Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav and Manav Suthar all picked up wickets in the first innings. Jadeja looked particularly sharp, while Kuldeep added variety to the attack. Saransh Jain was also given opportunities with the ball. The competition for the lower middle order remains interesting, with Dhruv Jurel and Sarfraz Khan providing options. Saransh Jain's all-round ability has further complicated the selection equation.

With the Galle Test approaching, India have gained confidence from the warm-up victory, but the final combination remains undecided.

Scotland, Netherlands Criticise ICC World Cup Format Changes

Cricket Scotland and the Royal Dutch Cricket Association (KNCB) have criticised the International Cricket Council (ICC) over changes to the format of the 2027 Men's ODI World Cup, saying the decision was made less than 18 months before the tournament.

The two Associate Member boards expressed disappointment over what they described as a lack of communication from the ICC. They said the revised structure could reduce opportunities for emerging cricket nations and undermine efforts to expand the sport globally.

Under the new format, teams ranked 12th, 13th and 14th during the qualification process will compete in a new Super Series phase. The three teams will play a tri-series, with only the winner progressing to the second round. The next stage will feature 12 teams divided into two groups.

In a joint statement, Cricket Scotland and KNCB described the lack of consultation as "disappointing and disrespectful". They argued that the changes represented a setback for Associate Member cricket and could affect the progress made by developing nations in recent years.

The boards also questioned the timing of the decision, particular-



ly as the tournament is approaching. They said reducing meaningful opportunities for emerging teams sends the wrong message at a time when cricket is attempting to expand its global reach, attract new audiences and strengthen its position in international sport.

Associate Members are ICC nations that do not hold Full Member status, which is reserved for the leading cricket-playing countries.

The 2027 ODI World Cup will be jointly hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. The criticism from Scotland and the Netherlands highlights continuing concerns among Associate nations about their representation and opportunities at major international tournaments.

Shami Reveals Shikhar Dhawan Was Team India's Funniest Player



Indian pacer Mohammed Shami has revealed that former India opener Shikhar Dhawan was one of the funniest players he shared the dressing room with. Shami recalled how Dhawan's cheerful personality often helped lift the mood among teammates, even after disappointing results.

Shami and Dhawan played together for India for nearly a decade, with Dhawan making his mark as an opener and Shami leading the pace attack. Recalling Dhawan's unique way of keeping the dressing room lively, Shami said the former batter would sometimes laugh loudly after a defeat and even break into dance.

"Shikhar is very funny. He does those things. Say we lost a match, everyone comes and sits in the change room. Shikhar wants to do something different. He will just laugh very loudly," Shami said in an interview shared by CricketNext. According to Shami, when asked why he was laughing after a loss, Dhawan would simply say that they had lost the match. Shami added that Dhawan could suddenly stand on a table and start dancing to Punjabi music. Shami said such moments created a positive atmosphere in the dressing room and helped players avoid becoming overly disappointed

after losses.

"These things create that atmosphere in the dressing room. We also enjoy it because winning and losing keep happening. When you are playing the whole year, you will win and lose. All these things are there. But no one then goes into a very sad mood in the dressing room," he said.

Shami also recalled his first experience of joining the Indian team. He admitted that he was nervous after seeing several established players whom he had previously admired.

He said that during a team meeting before a match, he entered the room and realised that almost every player present was someone he had dreamed of playing alongside. Shami quietly took his seat, but Yuvraj Singh asked him to stand on a chair and introduce himself.

The pacer said he became so nervous that he forgot what he wanted to say. Eventually, he managed only a brief introduction, giving his name and hometown.

Shami's memories offer a glimpse into the camaraderie within the Indian dressing room and highlight how personalities such as Dhawan helped teammates handle the pressures and highs and lows of international cricket.

Agadha Won't Be Just Another Horror Film

Veteran producer Shyam Prasad Reddy has praised the upcoming horror thriller Agadha, saying the film will offer more than conventional horror elements and should be experienced on the big screen. The film marks veteran producer MS Raju's return to the director's chair and is scheduled to release on August 14, 2026.

Agadha stars Kamakshi Bhaskarla, Ulka Gupta and Shravan Reddy in key roles. The film's team is currently engaged in promotions, with a grand pre-release event held in Hyderabad on Monday in the presence of several prominent celebrities.

Speaking at the event, Shyam Prasad Reddy recalled his long association with MS Raju, whom he affectionately referred to as Honey. He said their journey together goes back around 45 years and that they share several similarities, having both been raised in a cinema environment.

Shyam Prasad Reddy said MS Raju had mastered the craft of storytelling and developed a strong passion for filmmaking and production. He noted that Raju had attempted different kinds of films during his career and was now presenting a mystic film like Agadha.

The producer said he watched the trailer three or four days ago and was impressed by its visuals. He

praised the work of Rajesh in music and Junaid in editing, saying both had contributed effectively to the film's presentation.

According to Shyam Prasad Reddy, Agadha should not be viewed simply as another horror film designed around jump scares. He said the movie needs to be experienced rather than merely watched and strongly recommended experiencing it on the big screen. He further stated that the film would combine horror elements with human emotions and edge-of-the-seat moments. He also praised the lead cast and particularly highlighted Kamakshi Bhaskarla's performance and screen presence. Shyam Prasad Reddy described Kamakshi as an actress capable of carrying a film on her shoulders and expressed confidence in her role in Agadha. He wished the entire team success ahead of the film's theatrical release.

With its blend of mysticism, horror, emotional elements and thriller moments, Agadha is being positioned as a different cinematic experience. The film's makers are hoping the positive response to the trailer and ongoing promotions will generate interest among audiences ahead of its August 14 release.

Ravi Teja's Irumudi Trailer to Launch in Bhimavaram on August 12

Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja and director Shiva Nirvana are teaming up for the upcoming film Irumudi, which has been generating considerable interest among fans and moviegoers. The makers are promoting the film on a large scale ahead of its theatrical release and have now announced a grand trailer launch event in Bhimavaram. The much-awaited theatrical trailer of Irumudi will be released on August 12. To mark the occasion, the film's team is organising a large-scale event at the SRKR Engineering College Grounds in Bhimavaram, West Godavari district. The event will begin at 5 pm, and the makers have released a special poster announcing the trailer launch. The promotional campaign has gained momentum as the film's release date approaches.

Irumudi is scheduled to have a worldwide theatrical release on August 21, giving the team only a short promotional window between the trailer launch and the film's arrival in theatres. According to the makers, Irumudi revolves around a man who considers faith his biggest weapon while fighting to protect and save his family. The story is expected to combine devotional elements with strong family emotions, creating a mix of faith, sentiment and drama. The collaboration between Ravi Teja and Shiva Nirvana has become one of the major talking points surrounding the project. Ravi Teja is known for his energetic screen presence and mass appeal, while Shiva Nirvana has established a reputation for presenting emotional stories with strong family relationships. Their combination has consequently raised expectations among audiences. Priya Bhavani Shankar is playing the female lead opposite Ravi Teja. The cast also includes Sai Kumar and Baby Nakshatra, who are said to be portraying important roles in the film. Their involvement is expected to add further depth to the family-oriented narrative. The technical team includes music composer GV Prakash Kumar, whose score is expected to play an important role in enhancing the film's devotional and emotional atmosphere. Irumudi is being produced by Mythri Movie Makers in association with T-Series. Both production houses have backed several prominent projects in Indian cinema. The trailer is expected to provide audiences with a closer look at the film's central conflict, key characters and the combination of devotional and family elements. Since the promotional video is being launched just nine days before the theatrical release, the makers are likely to use it as a major tool to build anticipation. The Bhimavaram event is expected to attract a large gathering of Ravi Teja fans. The choice of SRKR Engineering College Grounds provides a sizeable venue for the large-scale promotional programme, while the August 12 trailer launch is likely to further increase interest in the film. With Irumudi arriving in theatres worldwide on August 21, the upcoming trailer will be closely watched by Ravi Teja's fans and film enthusiasts. The makers are hoping the trailer and promotional campaign will strengthen expectations for the film ahead of its theatrical release.

Kiran Abbavaram's Mythological Film Titled Indraputra

Actor Kiran Abbavaram is set to enter the mythological genre with an ambitious pan-Indian project titled Indraputra. The film has been officially announced by the makers and is being planned on a large scale, marking a new phase in the actor's career.

Kiran Abbavaram is currently enjoying the success of Chennai Love Story. Following the positive response to the film, the actor is now preparing for his next major project, which is expected to be significantly different in terms of genre and scale.

It was already known that Kiran Abbavaram had teamed up with producer Prerna Arora and ZEE Studios for a big-budget mythological film. The makers have now officially revealed the title as Indraputra, creating interest among audiences and film enthusiasts.

Newcomer Srikanth Puppala has been chosen to direct the project. Srikanth Puppala previously worked as the first assistant director on Kantara Chapter 1, and Indraputra marks his debut as a director. His experience working on a major mythological and folklore-oriented production is expected to be an advantage as he takes charge of the ambitious project.

The film is being designed as a pan-Indian venture, with the makers planning to present the story on a broad scale for audiences across multiple languages and regions. Shooting for Indraputra is scheduled to begin in October.

According to the makers, the film will be co-produced by Keerthan and is planned as the first chapter in a larger mythological world. This indicates that the team intends to build a connected cinematic universe around the project, with further stories potentially being developed in the future.

The announcement of the title has generated curiosity, particularly because the film is expected to explore a mythological setting while being presented with contemporary filmmaking techniques and large-scale production values.

However, details regarding the complete cast, technical crew, storyline and other aspects of the project have not yet been revealed. The makers are expected to announce additional information in the coming days as the film moves towards production.

For Kiran Abbavaram, Indraputra represents an opportunity to take on a new kind of role and explore a genre that demands a different approach to performance and filmmaking. The actor's association with Prerna Arora and ZEE Studios also adds to the expectations surrounding the project.

With filming scheduled to commence in October, the production team is expected to begin preparations soon. As more details emerge about the characters, visual scale and mythology at the centre of the story, Indraputra is likely to become one of the notable upcoming pan-Indian projects featuring Kiran Abbavaram.



DC Sees Telugu States and Tamil Nadu Going Neck and Neck at Box Office

maker has established a strong following among Telugu audiences through his previous successful films, and his association with DC appears to have helped generate curiosity among moviegoers. The film's strong word of mouth is also contributing to its continued momentum. Positive audience feedback has reportedly encouraged more viewers to watch the film, resulting in an upward trend in collections instead of the usual decline after the opening day. DC's performance in both Tamil Nadu and the Telugu states indicates that the film has managed to connect with audiences beyond its primary market. The near-equal contribution from the two regions has strengthened its overall theatrical prospects. With the film continuing to benefit from favourable word of mouth, trade circles expect DC to maintain a strong run in the coming days. Its performance in the Telugu states could become particularly important as the film aims to build on its impressive opening weekend and extend its theatrical run. The early box-office numbers have therefore emerged as a positive sign for the film, with Tamil Nadu and the Telugu states going almost neck and neck. With audience response remaining encouraging, DC is expected to continue its strong momentum at the box office.

tum across major markets, with audiences continuing to turn up in large numbers for the superhero spectacle. The Rs. 500 crore milestone further strengthens Spider-Man: Brand New Day's position as one of the biggest Hollywood successes ever recorded in the Indian market. The film has already broken several previous Hollywood box-office records in the country and continues to establish new benchmarks with its sustained performance. The film's achievement is particularly notable because it has managed to maintain its pace beyond the initial opening period. While major releases often witness a significant drop after the first week, Spider-Man: Brand New Day has continued to attract audiences and generate substantial collections during its second week. The movie is also performing strongly in international markets and is reportedly racing towards the \$2 billion mark worldwide. Its worldwide performance has added to the growing buzz surrounding the film and its unprecedented commercial success. Spider-Man: Brand New Day features Tom Holland in the lead role. The film is directed by Destin Daniel Cretton and has a strong supporting cast that includes Zendaya, Sadie Sink, Mark Ruffalo and Jon Bernthal. The combination of the popular Spider-Man character, a star-studded cast and the Marvel brand has helped the movie generate significant interest among Indian audiences. The film's success also reflects the growing popularity of Hollywood franchise films in the Indian theatrical market. With the Rs. 500 crore gross milestone already achieved, the film is expected to continue its impressive run in the coming days. Its sustained collections could potentially push the movie further into record territory before its theatrical journey concludes. Spider-Man: Brand New Day's historic performance has given Marvel another major box-office success while setting a new benchmark for Hollywood films in India. As the film continues its theatrical run, industry observers and fans will be watching closely to see how far its collections eventually climb.

Spider-Man: Brand New Day Crosses Rs. 500 Crore in India

