



KTR Says Gen Z Reshaping Political Narrative Through Social Media



CM Revanth Reddy Likely to Visit US, Canada to Attract Investments

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is expected to undertake a tour of the United States and Canada soon as part of the state government's efforts to attract global investments and promote industrial growth. According to reports, the proposed overseas visit is likely to continue for around 10 to 15 days. During the tour, the Chief Minister is expected to hold meetings with representatives of multinational companies, leading industrialists and business leaders to showcase Telangana's investment opportunities, industrial ecosystem and government policies. The visit is aimed at encouraging global companies to establish operations in



Telangana by highlighting the state's strengths in sectors such as information technology, manufacturing, life sciences, infrastructure and emerging technologies. Government representatives accompa-

nying the Chief Minister are expected to present details of investment-friendly policies and ongoing initiatives aimed at improving ease of doing business in the state. The proposed tour comes as the Telangana government focuses on attracting large-scale investments, generating employment opportunities and strengthening the state's position as a preferred destination for global businesses. Officials are expected to finalize the schedule, meetings and locations as part of preparations for the Chief Minister's overseas visit. Further details regarding the itinerary and delegation are likely to be announced after the final approval.



Bhatti Vikramarka Receives Warm Welcome in Washington D.C.

Washington D.C., August 1 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka received a warm welcome from members of the Indian diaspora after arriving in Washington D.C. on Saturday to participate in the American Telugu Association (ATA) convention. Representatives of ATA, NRIs and admirers gathered in large numbers at the Washington D.C. International Airport to welcome the Deputy Chief Minister. They greeted Bhatti Vikramarka and presented him with bouquets as part of the reception. Bhatti Vikramarka is attending the ATA convention as a special guest. The event is being organised to bring together

Telugu people living across the United States and provide a platform for cultural, social and community interactions. During his visit, the Deputy Chief Minister is expected to participate in convention programmes and interact with members of the Telugu community in the US. Expressing his gratitude for the reception, Bhatti Vikramarka thanked the Telangana diaspora, ATA representatives and supporters for extending a warm welcome on foreign soil. He said such affection reflected the strong bond between Telangana and Telugu communities living abroad. The ATA convention is one of the major gatherings of Telugu people in North America, bringing together community members, professionals and cultural representatives from different regions.



Hate Crimes Bill Panel Seeks Wider Consultation, Says Minister Ponnam Prabhakar

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

The inaugural meeting of the Selection Committee for the Telangana Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2026, was held at the Speaker's Chamber in the Legislative Assembly building, with the panel deciding to adopt a consultative approach while examining the proposed legislation. The meeting was attended by Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Selection Committee Chairman and Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnam Prabhakar, and committee members Danam Nagender, Kova Lakshmi, Gavinolla Madhusudan Reddy, Thota Lakshmikantha Rao, Kavvampalli Satyanarayana, Mamidala Yashaswini, Koneti Manik Rao, Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao and Ahmed Bin Abdullah Balala. Council Secretary Dr. V. Narasimha Charyulu and Assembly Secretary Rendla Tirupati also participated. Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar congratulated the committee members and said

the panel had been entrusted with the important responsibility of examining the bill comprehensively and submitting recommendations to the Legislative Assembly. He expressed confidence that the committee would conduct a fair review through detailed discussions and constructive deliberations. Chairman Ponnam Prabhakar said the committee would seek opinions from members of both the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council before preparing its recommendations. He stated that the panel would incorporate valuable suggestions from all stakeholders to frame regulations beneficial to society and useful for future generations. Speaking to the media after the meeting at the CLP office, Ponnam Prabhakar said the committee discussed the need to maintain dignity and decorum in legislative proceedings by preventing hate speech and criminal rhetoric. He added that another meeting would be conducted soon to continue discussions on the bill. The Minister clarified that the

Dharani Irregularities Under Probe, Land Encroachers Will Face Action: Ponguleti



Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the Telangana government has launched a fast-track investigation into alleged irregularities linked to the Dharani portal and warned that those who illegally acquired lands belonging to the poor and the government would not be spared. Addressing the media at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on Saturday, Ponguleti said the government was examining land transactions from the Dharani period to the Bhu-Bharati phase with supporting documents. He said the inquiry would identify illegal mutations, unauthorised transfers and misuse of government lands, and the findings would be placed before the public. The Minister said the government was also reviewing details of lands included in the prohibited list, including when they were added, who added them and the reasons behind their inclusion or removal. He clarified that not even an inch of new land had been added to the prohibited list by the present government. Ponguleti said the existing prohibited list available on the Dharani portal was submitted before the High Court as per its directions and rejected allegations that dispute-free private properties were included in the list. He said all allegations raised by opposition parties were also being examined. Highlighting the government's land reforms, the Minister said a land resurvey was being conducted to provide a permanent solution to disputes. The survey has already been completed in 276 villages, and every survey number will receive a unique 'Bhu-Aadhar' number. He said the initiative had received a positive response from people, with objections raised in only around two percent of cases. The Minister said the state has nearly 85,000 acres of assigned lands and the government would soon take a comprehensive policy decision considering both rural and urban requirements. He reiterated that government lands would be protected without favouring or targeting any individual. Ponguleti also criticised BRS leaders for opposing the construction of 'Indiramma Towers' in the Hyderabad Urban Agglomeration Region. Referring to reports of water leakage in 2BHK houses constructed at Kollur during the previous government's tenure, he said the present government would take steps to repair the issues faced by residents. He announced that the government would clear pending final bills for 'Indiramma' houses constructed in rural areas even without receiving funds from the Central government, ensuring beneficiaries do not suffer. The Minister said the revision of land market values resulted in a 20 percent increase in Stamps and Registration Department revenue. He said annual revenue, which was around RS.13,000 crore when the government assumed office, increased to nearly RS.15,000 crore last year and is expected to reach RS.18,000 crore during the current financial year. Ponguleti added that the department has also witnessed a rise in the number of registration documents, reflecting increased activity in the real estate sector.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Reviews Godavari Projects, Pushes Optimal Water Use

Yellampally, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday inspected the Sriramsagar Project (SRSP), Kaddam Project and Sripada Yellampally Project as the major Godavari irrigation projects received the first significant inflows of the season. He said the government was taking all measures to utilise Godavari waters effectively for the benefit of farmers in north Telangana. During the inspection of Yellampally Project, the Minister said five pumps had been activated to transfer water through the Flood Flow Canal towards Mid Manair. He stressed the need for coordinated operation of irrigation projects and directed officials to monitor inflows, storage levels and pumping operations on an hourly basis to prevent wastage of water. Minister D. Sridhar Babu, Minister G. Vivek Venkatswamy, legislators Adhuri Lakshman and senior officials accompanied Uttam Kumar Reddy during the inspection. Rejecting claims that the water being pumped from Yellampally was "Kaleshwaram water", Uttam Kumar Reddy clarified that the Sripada Yellampally Project was conceived during the Congress regime under the Pranahita-Chevella project. He said the current inflows were natural Godavari waters and were not lifted from the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages. The Minister highlighted that projects such as SRSP, Kaddam, Nagarjuna Sagar, Srisailem and the Flood Flow Canal, constructed during earlier governments, continue to serve farmers. He alleged that the



Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages, constructed between 2016 and 2019 during the previous BRS government, developed structural issues by 2023. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government was following the directions of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and Central Water Commission (CWC) by not storing water at the damaged barrages until detailed investigations and repairs were completed. He said a Central Technical Oversight Committee constituted on June 30 was supervising the rehabilitation process, while IIT Bombay and AFRY India were preparing the rehabilitation design. Proposed measures include construction of a diaphragm wall and extension of the stilling basin to strengthen foundations. The Minister said Kannepalli pumps could not be operated until structural concerns at

Telangana Records Highest-Ever Tax Revenue, Logs Strong GST Growth

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Commercial Taxes Department has recorded its highest-ever monthly revenue, collecting ?7,865 crore in July through GST, VAT, and professional tax combined, officials said. The figure marks a 19% increase compared to the corresponding month last year, reflecting improved compliance and economic activity. GST collections alone stood at RS.5,819 crore during July, forming a major share of the total revenue. Officials said Telangana continues to rank among the top-performing states in GST growth. While the national GST growth for July stood at around 10%, Telangana recorded a significantly higher growth of 19%. Cumulative data further underlines the state's performance. Net GST collections increased from ?14,561 crore up to July 2025 to ?17,438 crore up to July 2026, registering a growth of 19.76%. This places Telangana second in the country in terms of GST growth rate, next only to Haryana. Officials attributed the growth to stronger enforcement, data analytics-based monitoring, and improved taxpayer compliance. Increased digitalisation and tighter scrutiny have also helped curb tax evasion. The department said the steady rise in revenue would support the state's development and welfare programmes, adding that efforts would continue to further strengthen tax administration and sustain growth momentum in the coming months.

Tummala Announces Exercise to Fill Nominated Posts Across Telangana

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Saturday said the process of filling nominated posts across Telangana has commenced and will be carried out based on the decisions taken by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud. Tummala Nageswara Rao said the government has initiated the exercise to fill various nominated positions, including corporation chairpersons, corporation directors, nominated posts, temple boards, market committees, cooperative societies, and directorships. He said the selection process would be conducted after consultations between Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud. The Minister added that priority would be given to ensuring coordination between party leaders and government representatives during the process. As part of the exercise, in-charge ministers have been instructed to conduct meetings in all districts. The ministers, along with MLAs and party in-charges, will coordinate with local leaders and collect details of aspirants seeking nominated positions. Tummala Nageswara Rao said the names of eligible aspirants would be compiled and submitted to the PCC for further consideration. He emphasized that the process would involve discussions at various levels to ensure proper representation. The Minister said the government intends to complete the appointment process for all vacant nominated posts in a systematic manner. He added that the involvement of district-level party leadership would help identify suitable candidates and strengthen coordination between the government and the party organization. The announcement comes as the Congress government moves forward with filling key nominated positions across the state. The exercise is expected to cover a wide range of posts associated with various departments, institutions, and public bodies.

Tummala Pushes Digital Reforms to Make Agricultural Marketing Transparent

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Agriculture, Marketing, and Cooperation Tummala Nageswara Rao directed officials to accelerate digital transformation in the Agricultural Marketing Department and ensure complete transparency in the functioning of market committees across Telangana. During a review meeting held on Saturday, Tummala reviewed the department's performance, development works, digitalisation initiatives, cotton procurement preparedness, engineering projects, solar power installations in market yards, and inspections conducted by special teams. The Minister instructed officials to undertake full-scale automation of all 206 market committees in the state. He directed that planning and tendering processes be completed by



the end of August so that implementation could begin from September. As part of the digital reforms, Tummala ordered the integration of CCTV cameras, electronic weighing machines, and gate entry-exit systems across market yards into a single digital platform. He also instructed officials to introduce a vehicle number plate scanning system similar to the one used by the Transport Department and develop

software to record vehicle movements, weight details, and transactions digitally. He made it clear that all future purchases and transactions under the Marketing Department should be carried out through digital platforms to eliminate irregularities and improve accountability. The Minister directed officials to submit reports on inspections conducted by seven special teams by the following Monday. He instructed the Director of Marketing and Secretary of the Agriculture Department to take immediate action based on the findings and establish a weekly monitoring system to review the teams' performance. Ahead of the cotton procurement season, Tummala ordered officials to convene a meeting with the Cotton Corporation of India, ginning mill representatives, and concerned officials

Sridhar Babu Calls for Corporate Partnership in Telangana Rising-2047 Vision



Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau
Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Saturday

urged corporate organisations to align their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives with the state's

long-term development vision, Telangana Rising-2047, and contribute towards inclusive and sustainable growth. Addressing the 50th Southern India Regional Conference of Company Secretaries organised by the Hyderabad Chapter of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) at the Telangana Contractors Cultural Club in Kondapur, Sridhar Babu said the collective efforts of the government, industry and society were essential to achieve the state's development goals. The two-day conference brought together company secretaries, corporate professionals

Ponnam Thanks Revanth After SC Relief on Irrigation Projects



Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnam Prabhakar met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his residence and expressed gratitude following the Supreme Court's verdict upholding the environmental clearances granted to the Gouravelli, Palamuru-Rangareddy and Seethamma Sagar irrigation projects. Ponnam Prabhakar said the favourable judgment was the outcome of the Chief Minister's proactive approach in protecting Telangana's interests. He stated that Revanth Reddy held consultations with the Central Government and ensured the appointment of senior legal counsel, including Abhishek Singhvi, to effectively present the state's case before the Supreme Court. The Minister said the verdict would provide renewed momentum for the com-

pletion of major irrigation projects, which are expected to benefit farmers and rural communities across Telangana. He said projects such as Gouravelli, Palamuru-Rangareddy and Seethamma Sagar would help provide irrigation facilities to lakhs of acres of agricultural land besides meeting drinking water requirements in several areas. Ponnam Prabhakar appreciated the Chief Minister and the state government for their efforts in safeguarding Telangana's rights and successfully pursuing the legal battle. He said the judgment would strengthen the government's efforts to accelerate irrigation development and improve water availability for farmers. The Minister reiterated that completion of these projects would play a crucial role in boosting agriculture, supporting rural livelihoods and contributing to the overall development of Telangana.

Operation Muskaan-XII Rescues Over 6,300 Children Across State



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Telangana police rescued 6,347 children, including 6,307 from six States and 40 from Nepal, during Operation Muskaan-XII conducted across the State under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs' child protection initiative. The Women Safety Wing (WSW) of Telangana Police, the nodal agency for the programme, coor-

minated the operation in July with support from various departments and NGOs. WSW Director-General Charu Sinha said 6,307 children were rescued, including 5,892 boys and 415 girls. Of them, 3,447 belonged to Telangana, while 2,860 were from 15 other States, including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Jharkhand. She said one child was rescued from bonded labour, while 647 children were found on streets and 43 engaged in begging. Police registered 1,705 FIRs and arrested 1,710 accused persons linked to child exploitation cases. As many as 5,737 children were reunited with their families, while 570 were shifted to child care institutions for rehabilitation. The operation involved 620 police personnel along with officials from the Women Development and Child Welfare Department, labour department, health department, Child Welfare Committees, District Child Protection Units and NGOs. Rescue teams focused on vulnerable locations such as railway stations, bus stations, construction sites, brick kilns, hotels and shops.

Telangana Defence MSME Ecosystem Expands to 2,000 Units



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Telangana's defence and aerospace ecosystem has expanded significantly, growing from around 400 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in 2016 to nearly 1,500-2,000 units currently, industry leaders and government officials said at the second Defence MSME Manufacturers Forum organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC). Addressing the forum on the theme "Make in India for the World: Empower MSMEs for India's Defence & Aerospace Future", Praveen P.A., director of the State's aerospace and defence unit, said Telangana focused on creating a strong ecosystem rather than depending only on domestic defence orders.

He said global companies including Lockheed Martin, Boeing, GE Aerospace, Airbus, Pratt & Whitney and Safran had invested in Telangana. Safran alone invested around ?2,500 crore in Hyderabad over the past six years and created nearly 2,000 jobs, he added. Commodore P.R. Hari (Retd.), chairman and managing director of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, said India's defence production increased from ?46,429 crore in 2014-15 to ?1.78 lakh crore in 2025-26, while exports rose to ?38,424 crore. Krishna Aditya, special secretary, industries and commerce, said the State government was developing dedicated aerospace, defence and space industrial parks with common testing facilities. Nikhil Chakravarthy J., director, industries and commerce, urged MSMEs to utilise schemes such as iDEX, Aditi, T-Works and State incentives to develop indigenous defence products.

KNRUHS Releases NEET-UG Merit List for Telangana MBBS, BDS Admissions

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences (KNRUHS) on Saturday released the NEET-UG state merit ranks and category-wise qualifying cut-off marks for MBBS and BDS admissions for the academic year 2026-27. The university uploaded the merit list and admission-related details on its official website. Veeriahgari Sahyu emerged as the Telangana state topper with All India Rank (AIR) 13 and a score of 705 marks in NEET-UG. Bura Sai Sharan secured the second position in the State with AIR 19 and 701 marks. Kandagattla Haneeesh (AIR 21), Andem Sai Charan Reddy (AIR 38) and Mayuk Jayasimha (AIR 42) followed with 700 marks each. Kompella Sai Gayathri Tejoarunima,

who secured AIR 83 with 693 marks, was the highest-ranked female candidate from Telangana. Rutumbika Mohanty stood next among female candidates with AIR 91 and 691 marks. KNRUHS announced that the qualifying percentile remained at 50th percentile for General and Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) candidates, while it was 40th percentile for Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) candidates. For General/EWS-PwBD candidates, the qualifying percentile was fixed at 45th, while SC/ST/OBC-PwBD candidates required the 40th percentile. Top-ranked candidates said they were aiming for premier national institutions, including AIIMS Delhi and JIPMER, for their medical education.

Asmita Dey's Commonwealth Gold a Proud Moment for India: TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Saturday expressed his delight over Indian judoka Asmita Dey winning the gold medal in the women's 48kg judo event at the Commonwealth Games, calling it a historic and proud moment for the nation. In a statement, Mahesh Kumar Goud said Asmita Dey's achievement marks the first-ever gold medal for India in judo at the Commonwealth Games, elevating the country's stature on the international sports stage. He congratulated her for bringing laurels to the nation

and for making the Indian tricolor fly high at a prestigious global event. He noted that her remarkable victory would serve as a strong inspiration for youth across the country, especially aspiring sportspersons aiming to excel at the highest level. Mahesh Kumar Goud praised Asmita Dey's dedication, discipline, and perseverance, stating that her success reinforces the belief that determination and hard work can overcome any challenge. Expressing confidence in her future, he said Asmita Dey has the potential to achieve greater milestones and win more medals for India in upcoming international competitions, further enhancing the nation's pride.

Heavy Flood Flow at Jurala as 29 Gates Opened



Jogulamba Gadwal, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Heavy flood inflows continued at

the Priyadarshini Jurala Project in Jogulamba Gadwal district, prompting officials to open 29 gates and release water down-

stream. The project was receiving around 1.71 lakh cusecs of inflows from upstream areas, according to officials. The increased flow in the Krishna River has led to continuous monitoring of reservoir levels and regulated discharge operations. Officials are closely watching the inflow and outflow conditions and have advised people living in low-lying areas along the riverbanks to remain alert. The Priyadarshini Jurala Project plays an important role in irrigation, water management and hydropower generation in Telangana. The project has 62 radial gates and a hydropower capacity of 234 MW.

El Nino Panel Suggests Boosting Pulses, Oil Palm Cultivation in State

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Saturday advised the Telangana government to focus on expanding the cultivation of pulse crops and oil palm to reduce the country's dependence on imports and strengthen agricultural self-reliance. The Governor made the remarks after receiving the report of the Expert Committee on the Impact of El Nino from committee chairman Dr. Gilllella Chinna Reddy and other members at Lok Bhavan. The committee submitted its detailed report on the possible impact of El Nino conditions and suggested measures to address challenges in the agriculture sector. Shukla said India was facing a major shortage of pulses and edible oils, making it necessary to increase domestic production of these crops. He emphasised that expanding oil palm cultivation could help reduce the country's heavy dependence on imported



edible oils. The Governor pointed out that India spends nearly ?1.61 lakh crore annually on importing edible oils to meet domestic requirements. Increasing oil palm production within the country, he said, would help reduce the import burden and support farmers. Appreciating Telangana's initiatives, Shukla said oil palm cultivation in the State was progressing satisfactorily. He suggested that further promotion of oil palm and pulse cultivation would benefit both Telangana farmers and the

national economy. The Governor expressed confidence that implementation of recommendations from the El Nino impact report would help the State prepare better for climate-related challenges and improve agricultural resilience. The Expert Committee's report is expected to guide the government in framing strategies related to crop diversification, water management and support measures for farmers in view of changing weather patterns.

'Dial Your MLA' Sees Overwhelming Response in Husnabad; Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Assures Swift Action



Husnabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

The "Dial Your MLA" program, aimed at directly addressing public grievances in the Husnabad constituency, witnessed an overwhelming response, with citizens actively reaching out to share their concerns. Husnabad MLA and State Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnam Prabhakar personally attended to over 80 phone calls during the program. He patiently listened to each grievance and immediately contacted concerned officials, directing them to take prompt

action to resolve the issues raised by the public. Residents highlighted a range of concerns, including the sanctioning of Indiramma houses, land disputes, lack of basic amenities in villages, delays in ongoing development works, and problems related to drinking water, roads, drainage, and electricity supply. The Minister assured callers that all issues would be addressed on priority and monitored for timely resolution. Speaking on the occasion, Ponnam Prabhakar said the "Dial Your MLA" initiative, organized by Way2News, has emerged as an effective platform for strengthening communication between elected representatives and the public. He appreciated the initiative for enabling people to directly voice their concerns and seek immediate intervention. The Minister also commended the efforts of Way2News representatives Mahender, Dikshit, Praveen, Venu, Tirupati Naik, Tirupati, and others for successfully organizing the program and ensuring its smooth execution. Reiterating his commitment to public service, Ponnam Prabhakar said that being accessible to the people and resolving their issues promptly remains his foremost responsibility. He emphasized that public welfare and development are the government's top priorities and assured that every grievance would be handled in a responsible and time-bound manner.

TGSRTC Explores New Bus Terminal at Chilakalguda to Ease Secunderabad Traffic

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) is exploring the possibility of developing a new bus terminal at Chilakalguda in Secunderabad as part of efforts to expand public transport infrastructure and reduce congestion at major transit points. The proposed terminal is expected to ease pressure on the busy Secunderabad Railway Station and Rathifile Bus Station, where increasing commuter movement has resulted in frequent traffic congestion. As part of infrastructure expansion plans, discussions are reportedly underway between TGSRTC and South Central Railway (SCR) regarding a possible land exchange arrangement. Railway authorities have sought around five acres of RTC land located near the Kacheguda bus depot for the expansion and modernisation of Kacheguda Railway Station. In return, TGSRTC has sought approximately five acres of railway land at Chilakalguda for developing transport-related infrastructure. The corporation is also examining the possibility of using the remaining land at the Kacheguda depot for establishing a new bus depot to meet future operational requirements.



TGSRTC sources said that no final decision has been taken so far, but the Chilakalguda terminal proposal is among the options being considered to redistribute bus operations currently concentrated around Secunderabad Railway Station and Rathifile Bus Station. Officials believe that a new terminal could improve passenger convenience, streamline bus movements and reduce traffic congestion in the Secunderabad area. Meanwhile, discussions are also reportedly being held between TGSRTC and railway authorities regarding the issuance of a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for a proposed skywalk connecting Secunderabad East Metro Station with Secunderabad Railway Station as part of the station redevelopment project. The integrated transport infrastructure initiatives are aimed at improving connectivity and creating smoother transit facilities for commuters in Hyderabad's rapidly growing urban areas.

173 Child Labourers Rescued in Sangareddy Drive

Sangareddy, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Sangareddy district police, in coordination with the labour and child welfare departments, rescued



173 child labourers during a special drive conducted under Operation Smile and Operation Muskan-XII. As part of the six-month initiative to eliminate child labour, inspections were carried out across the district from July 1 to 31. Officials rescued 168 boys and five girls who were allegedly engaged in various forms of labour. Cases have been registered against 136 employers for illegally employing children. Additional SP Chaitanya Reddy said strict action would be taken against those violating child labour laws. She said the rescued children would be provided necessary support and rehabilitation measures in coordination with concerned departments. Efforts are also being made to ensure that they return to education and receive opportunities for a better future. Chaitanya Reddy appealed to the public to cooperate with authorities in preventing child labour and safeguarding children's rights. She said protecting children and ensuring a safe childhood was the responsibility of every citizen. Officials stated that such special drives would continue across the district to identify and rescue children forced into labour and to take action against those exploiting minors.

Telangana Police Board Announces 7,437 Vacancies

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana State Level Police Recruitment Board (TSLPRB) has invited online applications for 7,437 vacancies across the police, Special Protection Force (SPF), fire services, and prisons and correctional services departments. The online application process will begin at 8 am on August 19 and continue until 5 pm on September 9. The Board said candidates must submit applications only through the official website, and applications through any other mode will not be accepted. The recruitment notification includes 5,000 posts in the police department, 1,424 posts in the Special Protection Force, 790 posts in fire services, and 223 posts in prisons and correctional services. Nearly 7,000 vacancies are for constables, firefighters, wardens and equivalent posts. The one-time application fee ranges from ?600 to ?1,500 depending on the category of candidates and posts applied for. TSLPRB advised aspirants to carefully read the notification details before submitting applications.

Adilabad Businessman's Organ Donation Saves Four Lives

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

The family of a 48-year-old businessman from Adilabad donated his organs after he was declared brain dead, helping save the lives of four patients under the State government's Jeevandan organ donation initiative. Ponugoti Venkateshwera Rao, a small business owner from Kondukur in Adilabad district, was shifted to a private hospital in Hyderabad after he suddenly felt dizzy, lost consciousness and collapsed at his residence on July 26. Despite treatment and efforts by doctors in the emergency intensive care unit, his condition did not improve. Medical teams declared him brain dead on July 31 after conducting necessary procedures and assessments. Following the declaration, his son Ponugoti Rohith Krishna came forward and decided to donate his father's organs to patients in need. His kidneys, liver and lungs were donated as part of the Jeevandan programme, benefiting four recipients. Health officials appreciated the family's decision, stating that organ donation provides a second chance at life for critically ill patients waiting for transplants. The Jeevandan initiative, implemented by the Telangana government, facilitates organ donation and transplantation by coordinating between hospitals, donors' families and recipients. Officials urged more people to come forward and support organ donation, which can help save multiple lives even after the loss of a loved one.

Komatireddy Blames KCR for Delay in SLBC Tunnel Project

Nalgonda, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy alleged that the previous BRS government deliberately neglected the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel project due to political reasons and denied water benefits to farmers in the Nalgonda region. He said completing the project had been one of the main objectives behind his entry into politics. During his tour of several mandals in the Nalgonda constituency and the launch of development works, Komatireddy criticised former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) and former minister T. Harish Rao over the delay in completing the tunnel works. Komatireddy said SLBC works were initiated in 2007 with the import of machinery from the USA. He alleged that after KCR became Chief Minister, the project was side-



lined due to fears that he would receive political credit for its completion. "Had the works continued at that time, the project would have been completed within two years at a cost of around RS.1,000 crore," he said, adding that the delay affected farmers who were dependent on irrigation faci-

ties. The Minister claimed that the completed tunnel would provide irrigation support to nearly four lakh acres in the Nalgonda region and help farmers even during severe drought conditions. He said the Congress government revived the project after coming to power, including discussions

with contractors and clearing pending issues. He announced that the SLBC tunnel would be made operational by July 2028 and said the government was committed to completing the project and supplying water for two crops. The Telangana government has earlier set a June 2028 deadline for completing

SLBC tunnelling works while focusing on safety measures and removal of technical hurdles. Komatireddy demanded an apology from KCR, KTR and Harish Rao for the delay in completing the project. He also claimed that the BRS would lose political relevance in Telangana in the coming elections.

KTR Says Gen Z Reshaping Political Narrative Through Social Media



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao on Saturday said the younger generation is redefining political engagement, asserting that recent developments in Delhi reflect a shift in how narratives are shaped and challenged. Speaking at an event in Hyderabad, KTR remarked that the youth have made a "bold statement" and that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has "picked a fight with the very people he should not have crossed." He drew a contrast between traditional and new-age information consumption, stating, "We saw who won the battle

between 'WhatsApp Uncles' and 'Insta kids.'" KTR pointed out that the Prime Minister himself posted a video on Instagram at midnight, underlining the growing importance of digital platforms in political communication. He emphasised that social media has become a key tool for accountability in public life. Highlighting changing voter dynamics, KTR said Gen Z voters are expected to account for over 50 percent of the electorate in upcoming elections. He noted that young people aged 18 to 24 largely avoid newspapers and television, preferring short-form content such as reels for news consumption.

Sridhar Babu Calls for Corporate Partnership in Telangana Rising-2047 Vision

Continue

and industry representatives to discuss emerging challenges in governance, compliance and business practices. Describing Telangana Rising-2047 as a comprehensive roadmap for long-term economic and social development, the Minister said the vision aims to ensure that economic growth creates employment opportunities, encourages innovation and benefits people across all constituencies. He said the state government was focusing on partnerships with industries, educational institutions, voluntary organisations and corporate entities to achieve inclusive growth. He assured that the government would continue to support investors and companies while facilitating impactful CSR programmes across Telangana. Sridhar Babu highlighted the growing importance of technology-driven governance and said advancements in Artificial Intelligence, data management and cybersecurity had expanded the responsibilities of corporate professionals. He said Company Secretaries should move beyond traditional compliance roles and act as strategic advisers to corporate boards by promoting good governance, sustainability and ethical business practices.

The Minister appreciated the Institute of Company Secretaries of India for joining the state government's flagship Constituency Development Programme (CDX) as a Knowledge Partner. He expressed confidence that more professional institutions and corporate organisations would collaborate with the government in implementing development initiatives under Telangana Rising-2047. Sridhar Babu said CSR activities should not be limited to individual projects but should contribute to broader social transformation by addressing areas such as education, skill development, healthcare, sustainability and community development. He emphasised that Telangana's growth journey required active participation from all stakeholders and said the corporate sector could play a crucial role in strengthening social infrastructure while supporting economic progress. ICSI national and regional office-bearers, including Mahadev Tirunagari, M. Damodaran, Shilpa and Karthik, attended the conference. The Minister's remarks come as the state government continues efforts to build stronger partnerships with industries and professional bodies to support investment, innovation and inclusive development in Telangana.

BRS Leaders Hit Back at Addanki Dayakar Over Remarks on Harish Rao

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

BRS leaders Gattu Ramchander Rao, Gautam Prasad and Satya on Saturday criticised Congress MLC Addanki Dayakar over his remarks against former Telangana minister Harish Rao and warned that legal action would be initiated against what they described as baseless allegations. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Gattu Ramchander Rao alleged that Addanki Dayakar's criticism of Harish Rao had increased after he secured a position in the Congress government. He accused Dayakar of making irresponsible statements to please Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Reacting to allegations that Harish Rao had performed occult rituals to influence rainfall, Gattu said such claims were irrational and questioned whether major political movements, including the Telangana statehood movement, could have been achieved through such practices. He said Addanki Dayakar should understand that political positions are temporary and warned that statements against Harish Rao would be legally challenged. "Just because Revanth Reddy is the Chief Minister, nobody has the right to make irresponsible remarks," he said. Gattu also questioned Dayakar's criticism of BRS leaders while referring to comments made by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey about Revanth Reddy's political affili-



ations. He alleged that Dayakar was targeting Harish Rao without addressing issues raised by BRS. BRS leader Gautam Prasad also launched a strong attack on Addanki Dayakar, alleging that he lacked the credibility to comment on Harish Rao's political record. He said people across the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh were aware of Harish Rao's role in Telangana politics. Gautam Prasad questioned the Congress government's performance and asked what major achievements had been delivered since coming to power. He criticised the government over issues related to irriga-

tion projects, including check dams, and alleged that development had slowed across sectors. He also targeted Dayakar over his claim of being an Ambedkarite, questioning whether supporters of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideology would believe in occult practices. The BRS leaders alleged that Congress leaders were avoiding answers to questions raised by Harish Rao and were instead making personal attacks. They said they would continue to respond to such statements and take appropriate action if necessary. BRS leader Satya also participated in the press .

Eravathri Anil Targets KTR Over Education, Governance Issues



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Chairman, Mineral Development Corporation, Former MLA Eravathri Anil on Saturday launched a sharp attack on BRS leader K. T. Rama Rao, questioning his remarks on competitive exams and holding him accountable for alleged lapses during the previous government's tenure. Addressing the media, Eravathri Anil questioned whether one needs to clear competitive examinations or attend interviews to become Chief Minister, taking a dig at KTR's comments on the subject. He further asked whether KTR has the standing to speak about competitive exams, given the controversies that surfaced during the BRS government's rule. Raising the issue of exam paper leaks, Eravathri Anil accused KTR of failing to take responsibility for incidents that occurred while he was in power. He also referred to the death of Pravalika, alleging that KTR had mocked the fam-

ily, and demanded an explanation. He urged KTR to respond to allegations reportedly made by his own sister, intensifying the political criticism. The former MLA further alleged that the BRS government had severely damaged the Basara IIIT campus and weakened the overall education system in the state. He said the current government is focused on introducing reforms to address these shortcomings and improve educational standards. Referring to recent remarks by the Chief Minister that students were lagging in engineering skills, Eravathri Anil said such observations were aimed at highlighting the need for reforms rather than criticizing students. He questioned why there was resistance to constructive criticism and reform measures, asserting that the priority should be the welfare and future of students. Eravathri Anil demanded that KTR apologize for the alleged injustice caused to students during the BRS regime.



Revanth Reddy Attacking All Sections, Says Rakesh Kumar

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Former Corporation Chairman Dr. Chirumalla Rakesh Kumar on Saturday criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that the state government was attempting to silence different sections of society through threats and pressure tactics. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Rakesh Kumar accused the Chief Minister of making controversial remarks against engineering education and students due to the government's inability to release fee reimbursement funds. He questioned the remarks describing engineering education as a "criminal waste" and asked whether events such as beauty pageants and football matches would also be considered unnecessary expenditure. Rakesh Kumar said it was inappropriate for Revanth Reddy to make such comments while several officials in the Chief Minister's Office with engineering backgrounds were part of the administration. He alleged that the Chief

Minister had developed a habit of criticising various sections instead of addressing public issues. The BRS leader claimed that the state was witnessing a situation similar to the Emergency period, with many people hesitant to question the government due to fear of cases. He said it was the responsibility of opposition parties to raise their voice whenever any section was allegedly targeted. Rakesh Kumar also criticised the government over unemployment and fee reimbursement issues, alleging that it had failed to provide adequate job opportunities and was making repeated claims about job notifications without proper results. He challenged the Congress government to hold a debate comparing employment opportunities created during the previous BRS government under K. Chandrashekar Rao with those provided after Revanth Reddy assumed office. Rakesh Kumar said people would respond to what he described as the Chief Minister's "irresponsible statements" in the future.

Tummala Pushes Digital Reforms to Make Agricultural Marketing Transparent

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during the first or second week of August. He stressed the need to prevent irregularities and ensure that farmers receive the benefits of Minimum Support Price directly. The Minister instructed officials to conduct technical tests on newly purchased equipment, including paddy cleaners, dryers, and lifters, before deployment. He warned that disciplinary action would be initiated if equipment was purchased without proper assessment of requirements and remained unused. Reviewing engineering works, Tummala directed officials to prepare a time-bound action plan to complete all pending projects within the current financial year. He instructed the Agricultural Produce Commissioner to transfer delayed works to departments such as Roads and Buildings or Panchayat Raj if required due to staff shortages. He also ordered officials to install solar power systems in all market yards and warehouses within three months. Feasibility reports from market committees must be collected by next month, with works scheduled to begin in September and completed by November.

On the Koheda Integrated Fruit Market, the Minister directed officials to finalise designs within a week and begin construction next month after obtaining approval from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Earlier, leaders of Oil Palm Farmers' Associations from Warangal, Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Mahabubabad, Suryapet, Nalgonda, Nirmal, and Khammam districts, led by Alapati Rajendra Prasad and Shambha Reddy, met Tummala Nageswara Rao and discussed issues faced by oil palm growers. Farmer representatives sought timely supply of quality oil palm saplings, affordable agricultural inputs, electricity-related solutions, FFB collection centres in every mandal, bank loan support, subsidised machinery, and custom hiring centres. Tummala assured farmers that the government would address their concerns and promote oil palm cultivation across Telangana. He said the crop has high income potential, faces fewer marketing challenges, and provides opportunities for additional earnings through intercropping. He directed oil palm companies to ensure availability of quality saplings whenever farmers require them.

Hate Crimes Bill Panel Seeks Wider Consultation, Says Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar

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proposed legislation would not restrict freedom of expression but would aim to prevent discrimination and promote social harmony. He said the committee would ensure that the law does not discriminate based on caste, religion, region or gender. Ponnamp Prabhakar

said the committee would examine all aspects of the bill in accordance with Rule 254/2 and submit its report after considering all views and suggestions. He expressed confidence that the final recommendations would serve as a balanced framework and a model for future generations.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Reviews Godavari Projects, Pushes Optimal Water Use

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Annaram and Sundilla were resolved, as the lifted water would require storage at these barrages. He alleged that technical experts had identified defects in the secant pile foundation system. Uttam Kumar Reddy also claimed that Telangana achieved record paddy pro-

duction of nearly 300 lakh metric tonnes annually and procured around 152 lakh metric tonnes in recent seasons without relying on the damaged barrages. He assured farmers that the government would continue efforts to maximise Godavari water utilisation for irrigation, drinking water and agriculture.

Revanth Reddy Praises HYDRAA for Uppal Nalla Cheruvu Rejuvenation

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday appreciated the efforts of Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) officials and staff for the rejuvenation of Uppal Nalla Cheruvu. In a post on X, Revanth Reddy said he was pleased to see Hyderabad transforming through the restoration of its lakes. He stated that protecting and revitalising water bodies would help secure a sustainable future for future generations. The Chief Minister congratulated HYDRAA officials and personnel who worked on the lake rejuvenation project and emphasised the importance of conserving lakes beyond protecting water resources. He said safeguarding lakes was also about preserving the environment, maintaining public assets and ensuring better living conditions for future generations. Revanth Reddy reiterated that the government would continue efforts to protect every lake and preserve public property across Hyderabad.



Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday appreciated the efforts of Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) officials and staff for the rejuvenation of Uppal Nalla Cheruvu.

VH Demands CBI Probe into Ayodhya Ram Mandir Donation Theft Allegations



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao (VH) on Saturday demanded a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the alleged theft of donations made by devotees to the Ayodhya Ram Mandir and said there was no confidence in the ongoing Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe. Reacting to the controversy over alleged irregularities in the handling of temple donations, VH said the issue had hurt the sentiments of devotees across the country. He alleged that there was no security for devotees' offerings in temples and urged people to question the authorities over the matter. The Uttar Pradesh government had constituted an SIT to investigate allegations of theft and misappropriation of donations at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple in Ayodhya. The probe reportedly examined issues related to donation counting procedures, security lapses, CCTV monitoring, and supervision. VH also referred to the protest staged by Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha

Rahul Gandhi and Independent MP Pappu Yadav inside the Parliament premises over the issue. The protest triggered political controversy, with complaints being filed against Rahul Gandhi, Pappu Yadav, and others over the demonstration. Calling upon devotees to raise their voice, VH appealed to people across the country to conduct silent protests in front of temples to express their concern over the alleged misuse of donations. He questioned the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the issue. VH said he would tour villages across the state to mobilise public opinion and build pressure on the Central Government for a detailed investigation. He reiterated that only a CBI inquiry would ensure a fair and transparent probe into the allegations. The Congress leader demanded accountability from those responsible for managing devotees' contributions and said the issue should be addressed in a manner that restores the confidence of devotees.

Teachers Set August 31 Deadline For Government



Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Government and local body school teachers in Telangana have issued an ultimatum to the State government, demanding resolution of their long-pending issues, including implementation of Pay Revision Commission (PRC) benefits and release of pending Dearness Allowances (DAs). The teachers fixed August 31 as the deadline for fulfilling their demands and warned of intensified protests if there was no action. Hundreds of teachers participated in the Maha Dharna organised by the Telangana Prantha Upadhyaya Sangam (TPUS) at Indira Park in Hyderabad on Saturday. Addressing the gathering, TPUS president Voonala Rajashekhar and general secretary Telkalapalli Pentayya said teachers were only seeking the implementation of assurances made by the Congress party in its election manifesto. The leaders announced that if their demands were not addressed by the deadline, the teachers would organise statewide protests and take up programmes to lay siege to the Secretariat and the Legislative Assembly.

The protesting teachers demanded immediate clearance of pending DAs and implementation of PRC recommendations. They also urged the government to address issues affecting government and local body schools. Criticising the State government's claims on improving education standards, the teachers said initiatives such as providing breakfast in select schools and establishing a few Telangana Public Schools did not represent the overall condition of government education institutions. They alleged that school rationalisation measures were leading to the closure of schools and affecting access to public education. Several political leaders, including BJP MP Dr K. Laxman, MLA Aleti Maheshwar Reddy, MLC Dr AVN Reddy, and MLCs Anji Reddy and Malka Komuraiah, extended their support to the protesting teachers and participated in the programme. The TPUS leaders said they would continue their agitation until the government responds positively to their demands and ensures implementation of promised benefits for teachers.

Ponnam Prabhakar Reviews Voter Revision Process, Assures Protection of Eligible Votes

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnam Prabhakar on Saturday said the Congress party is taking all measures to ensure that no eligible voter loses voting rights during the ongoing voter revision process in the Hyderabad Parliamentary constituency. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, Ponnam Prabhakar said that, as the Minister-in-charge, he is closely monitoring the revision exercise across the seven Assembly constituencies under the Hyderabad Parliamentary segment along with Hyderabad Minister Azharuddin, Parliamentary constituency in-charge Mallu Ravi, contesting candidates, and other key leaders. He said party leaders are coordinating with booth-level in-charges and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to ensure that



every eligible voter is included in the electoral rolls. He emphasized that special attention is being given to prevent genuine voters from being excluded during the process. Ponnam Prabhakar said the Telangana government has launched the 'Family Identity Card' initiative without delay

and urged people to complete enumeration forms by submitting the required supporting documents. He stated that Congress workers are actively participating in the process while cooperating with officials and following the directions issued by the Election Commission. The Minister said

the party is committed to safeguarding democratic rights and ensuring transparency in the voter revision exercise. "Some political parties may have intentions to get votes deleted, but the Congress is a democratic party and will work to protect every eligible voter's right," Ponnam Prabhakar said. The Minister informed that a review meeting regarding the Hyderabad Parliamentary constituency was being conducted at Gandhi Bhavan with the participation of party leaders. He said all Congress leaders in Hyderabad are united in their efforts to protect democracy and ensure that citizens' voting rights remain intact. He added that continuous coordination with ground-level party workers, officials, and election authorities would help complete the voter revision process smoothly and fairly.

CMC Conducts Sterilisation, Anti-Rabies Drive for Stray Dogs in Quthbullapur

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

The veterinary wing of Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) conducted a sterilisation and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV) drive for stray dogs in the Quthbullapur zone on Saturday as part of efforts to promote public health and ensure safer neighbourhoods. The drive covered several localities, including Jeedimetla, Chintal, Gajularamaram, Kompally and Nizampet. Veterinary teams identified and captured unsterilised stray dogs for sterilisation, while Anti-Rabies Vaccination was administered to sterilised dogs as a follow-up preventive measure. CMC officials said the initiative was aimed at scientific and humane management of the stray dog population while reducing the risk of rabies transmission. The teams carried out field-level monitoring to ensure that the sterilisation and



vaccination process was conducted safely and systematically. The civic body has been undertaking regular sterilisation and vaccination programmes through its veterinary wing to control the stray dog population and address concerns related to animal bites and public safety. CMC Commissioner G. Srijana shared details of the activity through the corporation's official X platform on Saturday, highlighting the measures being taken for responsible stray animal management. Officials stated that such drives would continue in different areas under the municipal limits to strengthen rabies prevention measures and improve public safety. The corporation also stressed the importance of maintaining a balance between animal welfare and community health through planned sterilisation and vaccination programmes.

SI Srikanth Arrested in Sexual Assault Case

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Police have arrested Sub-Inspector (SI) Srikanth of Rajanna Sircilla district in connection with allegations of sexual assault and cheating a woman on the promise of marriage. According to police, a young woman from Hyderabad approached Jagtial Police Station and lodged a complaint alleging that Srikanth befriended her through social media platforms and later allegedly deceived her after assuring marriage. Based on the complaint, police registered a case and initiated an investigation. Using technical evidence and other investigative methods, officials traced the accused to Nizamabad and arrested him. After his arrest, Srikanth was shifted to Hanamkonda for further questioning as part of the investigation process. Police officials said that further details would emerge after completion of the inquiry.



The accused was working as a Sub-Inspector in the Rajanna Sircilla district at the time of the alleged incident. Police are examining all aspects of the case, including digital evidence and statements of those involved. Officials said the investigation is ongoing and further action will be taken based on the evidence collected.

H-NEW Busts Inter-State Drug Network, Two Arrested

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW), in coordination with Hussainialam police, busted an inter-state drug trafficking network and arrested two persons allegedly involved in the illegal supply of narcotic substances in Hyderabad. Police seized 120 grams of OG (hydropic cannabis), five grams of cocaine, 27 LSD blots, two mobile phones and a Maruti Suzuki Baleno car (TG12-8766), which was allegedly used for transporting the contraband. The arrested persons were identified as Mohammed Saif (31), a resident of Babri Alawa, Charminar, and Sameer Babubhai Waghele (25), a resident of Kurla West, Mumbai. According to police officials, Saif was allegedly procuring narcotic substances from a Mumbai-based supplier identified as Aditya through Sameer, who reportedly acted as a transporter. After receiving the consignments in Hyderabad, Saif allegedly distributed the drugs among consumers through his local network. Police said Saif was allegedly involved in drug trafficking and was also addicted



to consuming OG, cocaine and LSD. Sameer allegedly transported narcotic consignments from Mumbai to Hyderabad on behalf of the absconding supplier. Officials stated that the investigation revealed links between local drug distribution and an interstate supply network. The arrested persons were produced before the court after completing necessary procedures. H-NEW and Hussainialam police have launched further investigation to trace Aditya and identify other persons involved in the network. Efforts are also underway to uncover the source of the narcotic substances and the extent of the trafficking operations. Authorities reiterated that strict action would continue against drug suppliers, transporters and local networks involved in the distribution of narcotic substances in the city.

Gun Salute Malfunction During Peddi Sudarshan Reddy's Funeral Draws Criticism



Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

A controversy has emerged following the malfunction of guns during the ceremonial gun salute at the funeral of Peddi Sudarshan Reddy, a leader associated with the Telangana movement, with criticism being raised over the arrangements for the official honours. The Telangana government had announced that the final rites of Peddi Sudarshan Reddy would be conducted with official honours. However, during the ceremonial salute, the guns reportedly failed to fire, disappointing family members, followers and others who attended the funeral. Supporters and activists expressed anguish over the incident, stating that

official honours should not be limited to an announcement but must also be executed with proper arrangements and coordination. They questioned the lack of preparedness during the final farewell of a leader who contributed to the Telangana movement. Dr. Barigela Shiva, Founder and Chairman of Jai Bhim TV, criticised the incident and said that such lapses caused distress among admirers who expected Peddi Sudarshan Reddy to receive the respect due to him. The incident has triggered demands from sections of the public for an explanation regarding the arrangements made for the official funeral honours. Officials have not yet issued a detailed response on the reported malfunction.

KTR Calls for Unrestricted Press Freedom, Says Media Must Reflect Truth Without Fear

Hyderabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Saturday called for stronger protection of press freedom and said media organisations must remain committed to presenting facts without fear or external influence. He was speaking at a seminar on "Constitution - Democracy - Press Freedom" organised as part of the 11th anniversary celebrations of Nava Telangana at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram in Hyderabad. Congratulating Nava Telangana on completing 11 years, KTR said media freedom was facing challenges and many media organisations were struggling for survival. He said the changing media landscape, particularly the rise of social media, had created new avenues for accountability and public participation. Referring to recent youth protests in Delhi, KTR said the younger generation had demonstrated its commitment towards society and proved that several narratives being projected earlier were incorrect. He said Gen Z voters would account for more than 50 per cent of votes in upcoming elections and their views would influence the political discourse. KTR said governments would not have responded to several issues without the pressure created through social media platforms. However, he cautioned that fake news circulating online must be subjected to proper fact-checking. Criticising sections of the media, KTR alleged that many organisations were supporting specific interests and failing to report issues objectively. He questioned why certain incidents, including the Lagacharla issue and Hyderabad Central University land-related matters, did not receive adequate media attention. He also alleged that some cases involving influential individuals were not given proper coverage. On hate speech, KTR said governments should first ensure that hate speech is stopped before bringing legislation to regulate it. He stated that democracy requires space for criticism and dissent, and people speaking truthfully should not face intimidation. KTR also referred to alleged misinformation campaigns, citing claims about Pragathi Bhavan having 152 bedrooms and allegations of phone tapping involving film personalities. He said such claims should be verified before being presented as facts. Emphasising the role of media in democracy, KTR said news organisations must present both positive and negative developments objectively. He added that a healthy democracy depends on the ability of citizens and journalists to question those in power.

BJP Condemns Lathi-Charge on Students in Palamuru District

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Telangana State President Ramchander Rao condemned the police lathi-charge on students during a protest in Palamuru district, alleging that the incident reflected an attempt to suppress democratic voices. In a statement, Ramchander Rao said students were peacefully expressing their views against remarks made by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy when police allegedly used force against them. He termed the action unfortunate and said such measures were unacceptable in a democratic society. The BJP State President said the Constitution provides every citizen, particularly students and youth, the right to express opinions and participate in peaceful protests. He alleged that the use of police force against students amounted to an attack on democratic rights. Ramchander Rao demanded the immediate withdrawal of cases registered against the students and sought a detailed inquiry into the incident. He also called for strict action against those responsible for the alleged lathi-charge. He stated that the BJP would continue to oppose any efforts to silence students and youth and would stand in support of their right to raise concerns through democratic means. The BJP leader's remarks came amid criticism from opposition parties over the handling of student protests in the state.

Bandi Sanjay Announces Comprehensive Development Plan for Karimnagar Corporation

Karimnagar, August 2 | TPN Bureau
Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Saturday announced plans to develop every neighbourhood within the Karimnagar Corporation limits and assured that additional funds would be secured from the Central Government for infrastructure development in Karimnagar and his parliamentary constituency. During his visit to Karimnagar, Bandi Sanjay Kumar participated in a series of foundation stone-laying ceremonies, inaugurations, and public interactions. After meeting people at his residence in the morning and receiving their grievances, he launched various development works along with Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas, Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao, municipal officials, corporators, and BJP leaders. The Union Minister laid the foundation stone for CC road and drainage works worth ?1 crore at Vidyanaagar Kurumawada in the 48th Division. The project includes ?80 lakh from UIDF funds and ?20 lakh from the municipal general fund. The programme was attended by Municipal Commissioner Prafull Desai and local Corporator Karra Padma Anil. Later, Bandi Sanjay Kumar visited Rekurthi Mudiraj Colony in the 19th



Division and laid the foundation stone for CC road and pipeline works worth ?40 lakh. He also inaugurated CC road and pipeline works completed at Lakshmi Narasimha Colony at a cost of ?57 lakh. At Mogdumpur, the Union Minister inaugurated the 'Mahila Shakti Dharani Gramaikaaya Sangham' building constructed with ?10 lakh under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. He also inaugurated CC road and drainage works worth ?15 lakh in the village along with local Sarpanch Shivakumar. Earlier, Bandi Sanjay Kumar participated in the "Vana Mahotsavam-2026" programme held near Ambedkar Bhavan at Chintakunta. He planted saplings along with officials, women participants, Mayor Kolagani Srinivas, Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao, Commissioner Prafull Desai, and other officials. Speaking to the media, Bandi Sanjay

Kumar said the government has decided to transform every street in Karimnagar Corporation into a developed area. He said special focus would be given to constructing CC roads in peripheral villages that have lacked adequate infrastructure. The Union Minister highlighted that Karimnagar had received ?900 crore under the Smart City initiative and ?279 crore under AMRUT 1 and 2 schemes for development works. He also said ?50 crore was sanctioned from the Urban Development Fund for road construction and other civic projects. He stated that the Central Government has sanctioned ?156 crore for the construction of the Teegalaguttapalli Rail Over Bridge and the project is progressing rapidly. He further announced that ?840 crore in Urban Civic Fund resources would be utilised for model roads, skywalks, foot-over-bridges, and non-motorised transport facilities. Bandi Sanjay Kumar said his objective is to transform Karimnagar into a model city in Telangana. He added that he has already taken up development works worth ?22,000 crore in the Karimnagar parliamentary constituency and is preparing proposals to secure more funds under various Central Government schemes.

High Court Judge Surepalli Nanda Visits Jangaon District



Jangaon, August 1 | TPN Bureau
High Court Judge Surepalli Nanda, who holds the administrative portfolio for Jangaon district, visited the district on Saturday. Upon her arrival, the Judge was accorded a guard of honour by police personnel. Jangaon Police Commissioner (CP) Swetha, District Collector Sandeep Kumar Jha, and District Principal Judge Prathima welcomed Surepalli Nanda and presented bouquets. The High Court Judge interacted with officials from the Judiciary and Police departments during the visit. The officials briefed her on district-level administrative and judicial matters. Representatives from the Judiciary and Police departments participated in the programme. The visit was part of her administrative responsibilities concerning Jangaon district, with officials reviewing coordination between various departments and the judicial system.

Telangana Distributes Three Months' Ration in One Go Amid Rainfall Deficit

Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau
The Telangana government has started distributing ration for three months - August, September and October - at one time in view of deficient rainfall conditions across the state. The distribution process, which began on August 1, will continue until August 15. Beneficiaries are required to authenticate their details through biometric registration on e-POS machines to receive their ration quota. Officials said the initiative aims to

ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities to eligible families during the period of rainfall shortage. However, ration dealers have reported delays in distribution due to limited storage space and technical issues with e-POS devices. They have urged the government to resolve these challenges to ensure smooth distribution. Beneficiaries have been advised to complete biometric verification and collect their allotted ration within the stipulated period.



Hyderabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau
The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) criticised the Telangana government for operating the Rampur pump house, a key component of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project's reverse pumping system, despite earlier allegations by the Congress government that the project was ineffective. The government recently operated motors at the Rampur pump house in Jagtial constituency to lift Godavari water into the Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP) flood flow canal through the reverse pumping system. The move is expected to provide irrigation support to nearly two lakh acres in Jagtial and Nizamabad districts. Former Minister and Balkonda MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy welcomed the decision but alleged that it exposed the contradictions in the government's earlier criticism of Kaleshwaram project. He said that by pumping water through Rampur into the SRSP flood canal, the government had acknowledged the

BRS Questions Government Over Rampur Pump House Operations

importance of the project components. Prashanth Reddy urged the government to immediately operationalise the Rajeshwar Rao Peta pump house on the SRSP flood canal and demanded the revival of other lift irrigation schemes, including Lakshmi, Vempalli, Bodepalli, Choutpalli Hanumanth Reddy, Gutpa and Alisagar projects. He said the SRSP storage level had increased to 25 TMC following recent heavy rains and urged the government to utilise available water resources for irrigation. Meanwhile, BRS general secretary and former Minister T Jeevan Reddy criticised the government over delays in irrigation projects during his visit to Rollavagu in Beerpur mandal. He alleged that the expansion of the Rollavagu project from 0.25 TMC to 1 TMC, approved during the tenure of BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao, had not been completed as promised.



Jeevan Reddy alleged that delays in installing gates and shutters resulted in water loss due to damage to the inspection path. He also claimed that lift irrigation schemes in Kolvai and Mangala villages remained non-functional due to the absence of transformers. He further accused the government of delaying repairs to the Kaleshwaram project and demanded better power supply and fertiliser availability for farmers. He also alleged that urea was being sold in the black market despite the government introducing the Urea App

CPI Calls for Strong Participation in Anti-Centre Campaign



Mahabubabad, August 2 | TPN Bureau
CPI Mahabubabad district secretary Vijaya Sarathi Reddy called upon party workers and the public to make the anti-Central Government campaign rallies scheduled from August 6 to 14 a grand success. He was addressing the CPI constituency general body meeting held at Veera Bhavan in Mahabubabad on Saturday. The meeting was presided over by Katloju Pandurang. Vijaya Sarathi Reddy alleged that the Central Government had failed to control rising prices and accused it of misleading students and unemployed youth with promises of providing two crore jobs every year. He said the campaign would highlight issues affecting common people and urged party cadres to mobilise public support across the district. He appealed to people from all villages to participate in large numbers in the programmes planned during the campaign period. The CPI district secretary announced that CPI State assistant secretary Takkalapalli Srinivasa Rao would attend and address the concluding meeting to be held on August 14 at the Mahabubabad district headquarters. He asked party leaders and activists to work together to ensure the success of the concluding programme. Several CPI leaders and representatives participated in the constituency-level general body meeting and discussed preparations for the upcoming campaign activities.

Grandfather Booked for Alleged Sexual Abuse of Minor Granddaughter in Mulugu

Wajedu, August 1 | TPN Bureau
A shocking incident of alleged sexual abuse of a minor girl by her grandfather has come to light in Wajedu mandal of Mulugu district, causing concern among residents. According to preliminary reports, Modern Krishnaiah allegedly sexually abused his 14-year-old granddaughter when she was alone at home. It is alleged that he threatened the girl with serious consequences if she disclosed the incident to anyone. The matter came to light after the minor girl reportedly fell ill and was taken to a hospital by her paternal grandmother. During medical examination, doctors informed the family that the girl was pregnant, following which the grandmother questioned her about the matter. The girl then allegedly revealed that Krishnaiah was responsible for the incident. Following the disclosure, family members reportedly confronted him. The girl is said to have informed her family that Krishnaiah had been delaying the matter by allegedly promising to arrange medical procedures and bear expenses until her marriage. The incident has raised concerns among locals, with questions being raised over whether the matter was reported to the authorities immediately. Police are expected to investigate the allegations and take action based on the findings. Further details regarding the case and legal proceedings are awaited.

Rains Recede in Adilabad Region, Damage Assessment Underway



Adilabad, August 1 | TPN Bureau
Heavy rains that battered the erstwhile Adilabad region for three consecutive days eased on Saturday, bringing relief to residents and restoring normal activities across Adilabad, Nirmal, Mancherial and Kumram Bheem Asifabad districts. Farmers resumed agricultural operations, while coal mining activities and irrigation projects returned to normal. Farmers welcomed the rainfall after a three-week dry spell and intensified field activities, including weed removal and transplantation of saplings. Educational institutions functioned as usual, and road connectivity to several rural areas was restored. Tribals in villages under ITDA-Utnoor and Bejjur mandal also received relief as overflowing streams gradually receded. Coal mining and overburden removal operations resumed at Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) open cast mines in Srirampur, Mandamarri and Goleti regions. The inflows into irrigation projects brought cheer among farmers, especially paddy growers, who expressed confidence about raising paddy, cotton, soybean and other crops. However, the full extent of damage caused by the heavy rains is yet to be assessed. Officials reported damage to roads, causeways and houses in several areas. A cowshed collapse in Adilabad resulted in cattle deaths, while property losses are being evaluated. In a tragic incident, Marsakola Parubai (45), a social security pension beneficiary from Chamanapalli village, was allegedly swept away by strong currents while attempting to cross a flooded stream at Ervachintal village in Khanapur mandal on Wednesday. Officials have begun assessing the damage and are monitoring affected areas as normalcy returns to the region. Rescue and restoration measures are continuing in vulnerable locations.

Bandi Sanjay Orders Legal Action Over 'Baseless' UIDF Tender Allegations in Karimnagar

Karimnagar, August 2 | TPN Bureau
Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Saturday directed Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas and Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao to initiate legal action against individuals making what he termed as "baseless and malicious" allegations regarding UIDF fund tenders. During his visit to Karimnagar, Bandi Sanjay Kumar participated in several development programmes and held a review meeting with civic leaders. The issue of UIDF funds and the associated tender process figured prominently in the discussions. Mayor Kolagani Srinivas and Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao informed the Union Minister that certain BRS leaders were spreading false propaganda, attempting to tarnish the BJP's image by linking them to alleged irregularities. Responding strongly, Bandi Sanjay Kumar categorically stated that neither he nor the BJP had any connection with the UIDF fund tenders. He clarified that the entire tendering process falls strictly within the jurisdiction of the state government. "What role do we have in those tenders? These are baseless allegations driven by malice," he said. The Union Minister accused leaders of the previous BRS administration of attempting to deflect attention from their own alleged record of corruption and irregularities. He said those who had "ruined the Karimnagar Municipal Corporation with corruption, irregularities, and anarchy over the past decade" were now trying to level similar accusations against the present leadership. Emphasising transparency, Bandi Sanjay Kumar asserted that the BJP is committed to serving the public without any scope for corruption. "There



is no need to fear when we have done nothing wrong. At the same time, there is no question of tolerating those who spread lies and cast false allegations," he said. He instructed the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to immediately issue legal notices to those making defamatory claims and to proceed with court action if apologies were not forthcoming. "Stern action must be taken against those making false, slanderous accusations," he added. The Union Minister also said that the people of Karimnagar had elected the BJP due to their dissatisfaction with the previous BRS regime. He alleged that political opponents were unable to accept the BJP's governance model focused on transparency and development, and were therefore resorting to false propaganda. Reiterating his stance, Bandi Sanjay Kumar said the party would not hesitate to pursue legal remedies to protect its reputation and ensure accountability against those attempting to mislead the public.

Contractor Fraud Case : Man Arrested for Allegedly Cheating Investors of Rs 52 Crore



Lakshmidivipalli, August 1 | TPN Bureau
Lakshmidivipalli police have arrested Bharat Kumar, a resident of Bhadrachalam in Bhadradi Kothagudem district, for allegedly cheating several people of around Rs 52 crore by promising high returns through contract work partnerships. DSP Adinarayana, while addressing the media, said the accused had allegedly projected himself as a contractor associated with the ITC Paperboards plant at Sarapaka and convinced victims that they could earn substantial profits by investing in contract works. According to police, Bharat Kumar allegedly approached Barapati Srinivasa Rao, a resident of Lakshmidivipalli mandal, promising to arrange contract works and share profits through a partnership arrangement. He reportedly collected large amounts from several individuals after assuring them a 4 per cent share in profits. Police said the accused issued fake partnership agreement documents to gain the confidence of investors. The case came to light after Barapati Srinivasa Rao lodged a complaint on July 9, following which Lakshmidivipalli police launched an investigation. The accused was later arrested from the Pala region of Kerala.

Editorial

Clean India Begins with Civic Responsibility

The observations made by the Mumbai High Court while hearing a petition on waste management deserve the attention of every Indian. The Court remarked that when Indians are abroad, they hesitate even to throw a chocolate wrapper on the road, yet the same people have no hesitation in dumping tonnes of waste on streets and near residential areas after returning home. This simple comparison exposes a disturbing reality. The problem is not the absence of rules but the absence of civic responsibility.

Cleanliness cannot be achieved by governments and municipal authorities alone. Every citizen has a role to play in maintaining a hygienic environment. We strictly follow rules and regulations in our homes and offices because we understand their importance. The same discipline must extend to public places. Roads, parks, markets, and residential colonies are shared spaces, and keeping them clean is a collective responsibility. India has a vibrant culture of street food and roadside vendors. There is nothing wrong with enjoying these facilities, but there is everything wrong with carelessly throwing plastic covers, paper cups, food leftovers, and other waste onto the streets. Proper waste bins, regular collection, and responsible disposal can ensure that such activities do not become a source of pollution. Vendors, customers, and local bodies must work together to maintain cleanliness.

Improper waste disposal is not merely an aesthetic issue; it is a serious public health concern. Garbage dumped in the open contaminates the environment, clogs drainage systems, attracts disease-carrying insects and animals, and increases the risk of infections. Preventing such hazards begins with simple individual actions. If every citizen resolves to dispose of waste responsibly and respects public spaces as much as they respect those abroad, India can become cleaner, healthier, and more livable. Civic sense is not a foreign habit; it is a national responsibility that must become part of our daily lives.

Editor

Social Justice: The Indian Constitution and the Necessity of Reservations

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India's reservation system, rooted in constitutional ideals, continues to remain at the center of intense public debate. Far from being a mere welfare measure, reservations were envisioned as a structural correction to centuries of caste-based exclusion embedded in society.

Historical Roots and Constitutional Intent

The origins of reservations lie in the deep inequalities created by the varna system, which marginalized SC, ST, and BC communities across all spheres of life. B.R. Ambedkar and the Constituent Assembly designed reservations to ensure representation in education, governance, and employment. Even before Independence, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj pioneered affirmative action in 1902, granting 50% reservation to non-Brahmin communities in Kolhapur, setting a transformative precedent.

Inequality Still Shapes Reality

Despite decades of progress, caste-based discrimination persists in everyday life. From housing bias to restricted access in religious spaces, social exclusion continues in subtle and overt forms. Economically too, disparities remain stark, with a majority of land and wealth concentrated among a small segment, while marginalized communities continue to dominate low-paying and stigmatized occupations like sanitation work.

Representation and Policy Concerns

A major concern is the lim-

ited representation of marginalized groups in higher judiciary appointments. Critics argue that the absence of proportional inclusion contradicts constitutional ideals. The introduction of EWS reservations by the NDA government led by Narendra Modi has further fueled debate, with many questioning whether shifting focus to economic criteria weakens the foundational principle of social justice.

The Merit Argument Revisited

The call for a purely merit-based system often overlooks structural inequalities. Equal opportunity remains elusive when access to quality education and resources is uneven. In such a context, reservations are seen not as a privilege but as a necessary mechanism to level the playing field.

Reforming Society for Equality

Experts emphasize the need for deeper reforms beyond reservations. Encouraging inter-caste marriages,



"The responsibility of an artist is not merely to entertain, but also to provoke thought."
— Naseeruddin Shah

Few actors have altered the very grammar of Indian acting as profoundly as Naseeruddin Shah. At a time when stardom often overshadowed artistry, he re-directed the discourse from celebrity to craft, demonstrating that acting is not a performance of gestures but an exploration of the human soul.

If the Indian Parallel Cinema movement marked a cultural renaissance, Naseeruddin Shah stood among its defining faces. Trained at the National School of Drama, New Delhi, and the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, he emerged alongside fellow luminaries such as Om Puri, Shabana Azmi, and Smita Patil to forge a new cinematic language one rooted in truth, restraint, and emotional authenticity.

Shah's acting is remarkable for what it refuses to do. There are no exaggerated gestures or theatrical expressions. Instead, a fleeting glimmer in the eyes, the faintest curve of the lips, a pause suspended between words, or the quiet weariness resting on his shoulders become the instruments of expression. What others articulate through elaborate dialogue, he conveys with a single glance. What many attempt to express through raised voices, he communicates through silence. His extraordinary gift lies in re-

vealing the hidden interior life of his characters.

The influence of his theatre training under the legendary Ebrahim Alkazi is unmistakable. His command of language, precise diction, disciplined physicality, and complete immersion into character all bear the imprint of the stage. Yet he never remained confined by theatrical conventions. Shah instinctively understood that cinema demands a different scale of expression, that before the camera, less is often infinitely more. His performances are therefore free of excess, achieving their power through remarkable economy.

At a time when cinema increasingly revolves around technology, visual effects, and marketing strategies, Naseeruddin Shah reminds us that the true heart of cinema remains the human being. Stories are, ultimately, about people. Acting is the art of discovering the unseen landscapes of their inner lives.

Born in 1950 in Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Shah made his cinematic debut in Shyam Benegal's Nishant. His extraordinary body of work includes landmark films such as Aakrosh, Sparsh, Mirch Masala, Albert Pinto Ko Gussa Kyun Aata Hai, Trikaal, Bhavni Bhavai, Junoon, Mandi, Mohan Joshi Hazir Ho!, Ardh Satya, Katha, Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro, Masoom, Ijzat, Maqbool, and his unforgettable portrayal in Gulzar's television classic Mirza Ghalib. Together, these perfor-

Varala Anand



Poet, Film Critic & Recipient of Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award for



mances constitute one of the richest legacies in Indian cinema.

His contribution to theatre is equally distinguished. Through Motley Productions, founded in 1977, Shah has directed and performed in celebrated productions of including Waiting for Godot, Ismat Apa Ke Naam, Manto-Ismat Haazir Hain, Aurat Aurat Aurat, Kambakht Bilkul Aurat, The Father, and Dear Liar. His theatre work reflects the same artistic integrity and intellectual curiosity that characterize his films.

Among his finest cinematic achievements, Sai Paranjpye's 'Sparsh' remains a milestone in Indian cinema. Shah's portrayal of Anirudh, the Principal of a school for the visually impaired, transcends conventional acting. It is an act of profound human

understanding. Through Anirudh, Shah dismantles familiar stereotypes, blindness is not an object of pity, disability is not weakness, and dignity possesses its own vision. His portrayal of a man who longs for love yet cannot endure being loved out of compassion is rendered with such emotional precision that the invisible becomes deeply visible.

Equally immortal is Gulzar's television adaptation of Mirza Ghalib. Elevated by Jagjit Singh's sublime ghazals and Shah's luminous performance, the series has become a classic of Indian television. Ghalib may be read. He may be heard. But to truly see Ghalib, one must watch Naseeruddin Shah inhabit him.

Goutam Ghose's Paar stands as one of the towering works of

Indian Parallel Cinema a searing exploration of poverty, caste oppression, and exploitation. Shah's portrayal of Naurangia, driving a herd of pigs across a river in one of Indian cinema's most unforgettable sequences, scarcely feels like acting. It appears instead as the distilled reality of millions condemned to lives of hardship and invisibility.

From Masoom to Maqbool, Shah has repeatedly reinvented himself. In Masoom, he embodies a father haunted by guilt. In Mandi, he radiates innocence amid moral ambiguity. In Khandhar, he becomes a man trapped among the ruins of time itself. In Maqbool, he reveals the terror concealed beneath the intoxication of power. Every role carries a new face, a new voice, and a new emotional universe. Even in recent productions such as Made in India: The Titan Story and Main Wapas Aaunga, his performances reveal an artist whose creative vitality remains undiminished. Naseeruddin Shah is more than an extraordinary actor. He is also a conscientious citizen who believes that artists carry responsibilities within a democracy. He has spoken fearlessly on issues such as religious intolerance, the politics of hatred, freedom of expression, and artistic liberty. His willingness to voice his convictions even at personal cost distinguishes him as much as his artistic achievements. Throughout his life, he has remained committed not to popularity, but to the demands of his own conscience. In an age that often celebrates spectacle over substance, Naseeruddin Shah endures as a rare artist who reminds us that the highest purpose of acting is not imitation but revelation, not performance, but truth.

Sleeping Under The Open Sky Is Joy Forever

Pulluru Jagadishwar Rao



Revenue Divisional Officer, Adilabad

To travel in a palanquin, carrying carts of memories, is always beautiful. One such memory is sleeping under the open sky.

In the past, sleeping outside their houses, especially during hot summer days, was very common across rural India.

It was sheer Joy sleeping under the open sky, overlooking the twinkling of stars and the moonlit sky.

People had blissful sleep, breathing fresh air and feeling a tender breeze blowing across.

In those good old days, air and sound pollution were unheard of. People would slip into sleep the moment they lay their backs on the beds. They followed the norm of early to bed and early to rise, scrupulously.

In my childhood days, string cots were ubiquitous. Every

house had as many cots as family members and children would sleep on baby cots, specially made for them or sleep by the side of their parents.

The advantage of string cots was that, unlike the present-day single or double cot beds, they were not permanent fixtures. They were portable and lightweight, and when not in use, could be lifted and leaned against walls or kept vertically outside the house, occupying minimum place.

When guests arrive, these cots double up as chairs. Cots are laid down for them to sit on and even to have a nap.

Those are the 'powerless' days and to beat the stifling summer heat, sleeping outside is inescapable.

During the summer season, every house's courtyard or

backyard would be filled with rows of cots and soon become a hub of activities.

Sometimes, even neighbours would join, making it even livelier. From singing to cracking jokes to teasing riddles, everything under the sun would be discussed and debated till sleep overwhelms all. Insomnia is unheard of.

Those childhood images of sleeping in the lap of nature, viewing the limitless sky with millions of twinkling stars, and moons antics of playing with clouds were still at the forefront of my memory.

Once, during summer holidays, nieces and nephews and other relatives descended on my house.

We all played a "hide & seek" game. One hid beneath the cot to avoid detection. But the seeker soon found him and tried to lift the cot. The boy hiding kept pulling it down. In this process, one of the cross planks of the cot broke down, rendering it unusable. Till it was repaired, I was forced to sleep on the floor

mat.

It is an unforgettable experience in my life.

With the arrival of electric fans, coolers, and now Air Conditioners, sleeping outside the house has gradually declined.

Now, people sleep inside four walls, securing the doors from inside, keeping the fans/coolers or ACs on.

Comforts have increased multiple times. Cotton mattresses were replaced by synthetic ones, making the bed more cushiony. But sleep evades many.

In the name of privacy, security and comfort, people prefer to sleep indoors, and with that, the usage of string cots has declined, and double cot/single cot laminated gained currency and became a status symbol. The poor cot, which served many with great memories, has been pushed out of the door. It still remains the poor man's rich c

The present generation is deprived of the joys of sleeping under the sky.



Legendary Climber Nirmal Purja Dies in Broad Peak Avalanche

Legendary mountaineer Nirmal “Nimsdai” Purja, one of the most celebrated climbers in the world, has died after being caught in an avalanche on Broad Peak in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The tragic incident has ended the journey of a climber who redefined the limits of high-altitude mountaineering.

Purja and several other climbers went missing after an avalanche struck the Broad Peak route, the world’s 12th-highest mountain, during an expedition. His adventure company Elite Exped confirmed his death, along with the loss of other members of the expedition team.

The company expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy, saying the world had lost one of mountaineering’s greatest climbers. It described Purja as a leader who inspired millions through his courage, determination and belief in human potential.

The avalanche occurred on



Broad Peak’s West Ridge route at an altitude of around 6,600 metres. Rescue operations were launched by Pakistani authorities, but harsh weather conditions and difficult terrain made the search extremely challenging.

Broad Peak, located in the Karakoram mountain range near K2, is considered one of the most technically demanding peaks due to its steep slopes, unpredictable weather and avalanche risks. The mountain rises to over 8,000 metres above sea level, placing

it among the world’s highest peaks.

Born in Nepal, Purja was a former soldier in the British Army’s elite Gurkha unit and Special Boat Service. He later became a full-time mountaineer and gained worldwide recognition for his extraordinary achievements.

In 2019, Purja created history by climbing all 14 of the world’s mountains above 8,000 metres in just six months and six days through his “Project Possible” expedition. His record-breaking feat established

him as one of the greatest mountaineers of the modern era.

He was also part of the historic team that achieved the first successful winter ascent of K2 in 2021, another milestone in Himalayan climbing history.

Purja’s achievements gained global attention through the Netflix documentary “14 Peaks: Nothing Is Impossible,” which showcased his determination, teamwork and passion for mountaineering.

Beyond records, Purja was admired for inspiring people to overcome challenges and pursue ambitious goals. His legacy is expected to continue through the organisations and initiatives he built, including Elite Exped and the Nimsdai Foundation.

The mountaineering community across the world has mourned the loss of a fearless climber whose achievements transformed the sport and motivated millions.

Lashkar Commander Suspected in J&K Migrant Killings

Security agencies suspect that Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Latif Bhat and his associate Waris Shah were behind the recent targeted killings of migrant workers in Jammu and Kashmir, including the latest attack in Kulgam that left two workers dead.

According to preliminary investigations, Shah allegedly provided logistical support and carried out reconnaissance before the attacks. Officials believe the killings were part of a strategy to create fear and disturb normalcy in the Valley.

Two migrant workers from Chhattisgarh, identified as Deepak and Bhupender, were killed after terrorists opened fire on them in Kulgam on Friday evening. Deepak died on the spot, while Bhupender succumbed to injuries during treatment at a hospital.

The attack came days after a policeman was killed in another targeted strike in Anantnag, following which security forces launched a major crackdown across Kashmir.

Investigators believe small-calibre weapons, possibly pis-



tols, were used in both attacks instead of traditional assault rifles. Security officials said the method resembles the pattern followed by “hybrid terrorists” linked to The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Officials said such attackers are often locally recruited operatives who carry out sudden strikes and then blend into civilian areas to evade security forces. The use of pistols and quick-hit tactics has made detection more difficult for agencies.

Security forces are now searching for Latif Bhat and Waris Shah as part of the ongoing investigation. Agencies believe the duo may have been involved in planning and executing multiple targeted attacks in the region.

Latif Bhat gained attention after the Shopian encounter, where he was trapped along with senior Lashkar commander Zakir Ganai. During the five-day operation, security forces killed Ganai, but Bhat managed to escape.

Since then, intelligence



Punjab Congress Faces Fresh Rift Over Channi Slogans

The internal differences within the Punjab Congress resurfaced during a party meeting in Patiala after supporters of former Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi raised slogans demanding his return, disrupting the address of state Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring.

The incident occurred during a meeting held in Samana to discuss the party’s organisational strategy and preparations for upcoming political challenges. Senior Congress leaders, including Punjab in-charge Bhupesh Baghel and state unit president Raja Warring, were present at the gathering.

Trouble began when Warring took the stage to address party workers. A section of the audience, believed to be supporters of Channi, started chanting slogans such as “Charanjit Singh Channi zindabad” and “Bring back Channi, save Punjab.” The repeated slogans interrupted Warring’s speech and highlighted the ongoing divisions within the party’s Punjab unit.

The public show of support for Channi has once again brought attention to the rivalry between different groups within the state Congress. While the party leadership has been making efforts to project unity, such incidents have exposed the challenges in maintaining cohesion among senior leaders and their supporters.

The meeting was aimed at strengthening the party organisation and reviewing preparations for future electoral bat-

tles. However, the slogan-shouting episode shifted the focus from strategy discussions to internal differences.

The development came a day after some Congress leaders expressed dissatisfaction over not being invited to a party meeting in Fatehgarh Sahib, further raising concerns about coordination and communication within the state unit.

Political observers believe that factional tensions could affect the Congress’s efforts to rebuild its position in Punjab. The party has been attempting to regain political ground after facing setbacks in recent elections, but disagreements among leaders and competing claims of influence continue to remain a major challenge.

Bhupesh Baghel’s meetings with Punjab Congress leaders are expected to focus on strengthening the organisation, resolving internal disputes, and preparing a united strategy for upcoming political contests.

The latest incident has highlighted the difficulty faced by the Congress leadership in balancing different factions within the party. While individual leaders continue to enjoy strong support among sections of party workers, the visible divisions may make it harder for the Congress to present a united front before voters.

The party leadership now faces the task of addressing internal concerns and ensuring greater coordination among leaders to avoid further public displays of differences.

Delhi Lakshmi Yojana Portal Opens, 1,083 Women Register on First Day

The Delhi government’s Lakshmi Yojana portal went live on Saturday, marking the beginning of the registration process for the city’s monthly financial assistance scheme for women. Within a few hours of launch, 1,083 women had completed their registrations, according to government officials.

The scheme aims to provide eligible women with financial assistance of Rs 2,500 per month. Registration camps were set up across Delhi from 8 am, where officials and volunteers assisted applicants in completing the online process, checking eligibility and uploading required documents.

At several centres, women were seen waiting in queues since morning. Officials said each application initially took around 25 to 30 minutes to complete, as applicants had to enter Aadhaar details, family information, bank details and upload supporting documents.

Many women who completed the registration process said the procedure was simple with the help of volunteers. Some



applicants said the financial support would help them manage household expenses and provide greater financial independence.

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta described the launch of the portal as a significant step towards women’s empowerment. She said the government had fulfilled its promise made to voters and allocated more than Rs 5,100 crore for the scheme.

The scheme is expected to benefit around 17 lakh women in Delhi. The government plans to release the first instalment after verification and approval of applications, likely

around Raksha Bandhan on August 28.

The financial assistance programme was one of the key promises made by the BJP during the Delhi Assembly elections. Initially referred to as the Mahila Samridhhi Yojana, it was later renamed the Delhi Lakshmi Yojana before receiving cabinet approval.

Under the eligibility criteria, applicants must be women aged between 21 and 60 years, the eldest female member of their family, and registered voters in Delhi. The annual family income limit has been fixed at Rs 2.5 lakh.

Applicants must also meet residency conditions and provide documents such as Aadhaar card, voter ID, photograph, signature and proof of residence. Women receiving certain government benefits, income taxpayers, government employees and families owning four-wheelers are excluded from the scheme.

The government said the initiative is aimed at improving women’s economic security and helping them become more financially independent.

Kishtwar Cloudburst Damages Shops, Vehicles; No Casualties Reported

A cloudburst hit the Chattro area of Jammu and Kashmir’s Kishtwar district in the early hours of Saturday, damaging several shops, commercial establishments and vehicles. However, no loss of life has been reported so far, officials said.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh confirmed the incident and said he spoke with Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma after receiving reports of the cloudburst. He said some commercial outlets and shops were damaged and assured that affected people would be provided compensation. The sudden cloudburst caused disruption in the area, with heavy water flow damaging property. Local authorities have been assessing the extent

of the damage and taking necessary measures to assist residents and business owners.

Jitendra Singh also said steps had been taken to strengthen the early warning system in the region to prevent major losses during such weather events. He highlighted that two advanced Early Warning Systems (EWS) have been installed in Kishtwar and Machhail following previous cloudburst incidents.

An Automatic Weather Station is also being installed in the Padder area to improve weather monitoring and provide timely alerts, the minister said. The incident comes amid increasing concerns over extreme weather events in Jammu and Kashmir. Last year, the Chasoti area of

Kishtwar witnessed a devastating cloudburst that caused significant damage and loss of lives.

In another incident in Rajouri district on July 19, heavy rainfall and a cloudburst triggered massive landslides, severely damaging the Thannamandi-DKG-Bufliaz Road. The road, an important Border Roads Organisation project connecting Rajouri and Poonch districts with the Kashmir Valley, remains closed due to extensive damage. Authorities have urged people in vulnerable areas to remain alert and follow weather advisories as the region continues to experience unpredictable rainfall patterns during the monsoon season.



Girl Apologises Over Remarks Against PM Modi After FIR Filed

A young girl from Noida, whose video allegedly showing her making abusive remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) protest went viral, has apologised following the registration of a police complaint.

In an apology video circulating online, the girl claimed that it was her “first and last mistake” and said she was influenced by people present at the protest site. She expressed regret over her comments and apologised to the public.

“I was at the protest site, where many groups were making such remarks against PM Modi. They were also encouraging others to repeat them. I am ashamed of what I said and apologise to the entire nation,” she said in the video. The girl also claimed that she was 15 years old.

The Noida Police had earlier registered a zero FIR based on a complaint filed by a Ghaziabad resident at the Expressway police station. A zero FIR allows a complaint to be filed at any police station, regardless of where the alleged incident occurred, before being transferred to the appropriate jurisdiction.

The case was later transferred to the Parliament Street police station in Delhi. Police have registered charges relat-

ed to intentional insult likely to provoke a breach of peace, statements causing public mischief and defamation.

Senior Delhi Police officials said they have reviewed the apology video and are verifying the girl’s age before deciding the next course of action. Officials said the FIR records her year of birth as 1994, while the girl has claimed she is a minor.

The incident occurred during protests at Jantar Mantar, where several objectionable remarks and social media posts targeting the Prime Minister were reported. Delhi Police has also initiated action regarding allegedly defamatory content shared online during the protests and has asked social media platforms to remove such material.

The development came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he wanted to forgive those who made abusive remarks against him and his late mother. In a video message, Modi said that punishing people or forcing them into legal battles would not change their circumstances and appealed for compassion.

Police officials are continuing their investigation while verifying the facts surrounding the incident, including the girl’s identity and age.

Commercial LPG Cylinder Prices Cut by Rs 192, ATF Rates Rise

The prices of commercial LPG cylinders have been reduced by Rs 192 per 19-kg cylinder from Saturday, providing relief to hotels, restaurants and other commercial users. At the same time, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices have been increased by Rs 5 per litre.

According to state-owned oil companies, a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi

will now cost Rs 2,738, down from the earlier price of Rs 2,930. This marks the second consecutive monthly reduction in commercial LPG prices after a cut of Rs 183.50 on July 1.

The reduction follows a sharp rise in commercial LPG rates in recent months due to tensions in the Middle East that pushed global energy prices higher. Between Febru-

ary and June, the price of a commercial cylinder had increased by Rs 1,373, rising from Rs 1,740.50 to Rs 3,113.50.

Along with commercial cylinders, the price of a 45-kg market-priced LPG cylinder has also been reduced. It will now cost Rs 762 compared to the earlier price of Rs 808.50.

However, domestic LPG cylinder prices for household kitchens remain unchanged.

A 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinder continues to cost Rs 942 in Delhi. The domestic LPG rates were last revised on June 7, when prices were increased by Rs 29 per cylinder.

Oil companies revise LPG and ATF prices on the first day of every month based on international benchmark rates and foreign exchange fluctuations. The final prices vary across states due to dif-



ferences in local taxes, including VAT. Meanwhile, ATF prices have been raised to Rs 115 per litre from Rs 110 in Delhi.

The increase reverses the reduction made in July.

Petrol and diesel prices have remained unchanged af-

ter being increased by around Rs 7.50 per litre each in May. Indian Oil Corporation Chairman A S Sahney recently said oil companies were facing losses on domestic LPG cylinders as selling prices remained below the actual cost.

The latest commercial LPG price cut is expected to reduce operating costs for businesses such as restaurants, hotels and catering services.

Ceuta Crisis: 50,000 Migrants Enter Spain

A massive migrant crisis has unfolded in Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta after more than 50,000 people crossed from Morocco in a single day, leaving at least 57 people dead and creating a major political and humanitarian challenge for Spanish authorities.

The sudden movement of migrants overwhelmed Ceuta, a small Spanish territory with a population of around 85,000. Thousands of people entered the enclave by crossing sea routes and border areas, creating pressure on local facilities and emergency services. The unprecedented scale of the arrivals has sparked concerns across Spain and the European Union.

Spanish officials estimated that around 50,000 people entered Ceuta, while local authorities suggested the number could be closer to 60,000. Spain's Interior Ministry later confirmed that more than 48,000 migrants had voluntarily returned to Morocco following negotiations and security measures. The crisis also resulted in significant loss of life. At least 57 migrants died during the attempted crossing,



with many drowning while trying to reach the Spanish territory. Some others died in a crowd surge near border barriers at Tarajal beach as large groups attempted to enter Ceuta. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez described the incident as a serious challenge to the country's territorial integrity. He blamed human trafficking networks for encouraging migrants to make the

dangerous journey by exploiting legal developments related to migrant returns. Authorities have begun emergency measures, including setting up temporary reception centres for registration, identification and humanitarian assistance. Spain has also increased the deployment of police and security forces in Ceuta to control the situation and prevent further large-scale crossings. The

crisis has triggered discussions within the European Union, with member states debating migration policies, border security and support for Spain. Ireland, which holds the EU presidency, called emergency meetings to discuss coordinated action and assistance. Morocco has said criminal organisations were responsible for encouraging the movement of migrants and maintained that cooperation with Spain on migration issues remains strong. Moroccan officials stated that the country supports organised and safe migration practices. The latest incident is considered far larger than previous migrant surges involving Ceuta and Melilla, Spain's two territories located on the African continent. In 2021, around 10,000 migrants entered Ceuta during a diplomatic dispute between Spain and Morocco. The current crisis has renewed debate over Europe's migration management system. Spain and EU authorities are now focusing on processing migrants, providing humanitarian support and strengthening border coordination to prevent similar incidents in the future.



US Makes Visa Bond Rule Permanent, Raises Cap to \$20,000

The United States has made its visa bond programme permanent, introducing stricter financial requirements for citizens of 50 countries, including Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. The move is aimed at reducing visa overstays and strengthening immigration controls.

Under the revised rule, applicants from selected countries applying for B1 and B2 visas, which are issued for business and tourism purposes, may have to pay a security bond before attending their visa interview. The bond amount has been increased from the earlier range of \$5,000 to \$15,000 and will now be set between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

The US State Department said the decision followed a year-long review of the pilot programme launched in August last year. Officials claimed the system helped reduce visa violations and encouraged travellers to comply with immigration rules. The bond amount will be refunded if the visa application is rejected or if the traveller follows all visa conditions after entering the US. However, failure to comply with immigration requirements could result in the loss of the deposited amount. The rule primarily affects visitors travelling to the US for short-term business or tourism purposes. It does not apply to all

visa categories, including student and work visas. The inclusion of Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan has drawn attention in South Asia because of their close connections with the United States through tourism, business, education and diaspora communities. Travellers from these countries who frequently visit the US may now face additional financial requirements before obtaining visitor visas. The State Department has listed 50 countries under the programme, with most being African nations. The list also includes countries from Asia, the Caribbean and other regions. US officials said the programme has shown positive results, claiming that visa overstays among applicants covered under the pilot dropped significantly. According to the department, thousands of applicants were required to provide bonds during the trial period, though many chose not to proceed with their visa applications after the requirement was introduced. Officials argue that visa overstays create significant costs for the US government, including expenses related to detention and deportation. They believe the bond system will encourage visitors to leave the country on time after their authorised stay. However, critics have raised concerns that the higher bond amounts could

Italy Tightens Border Checks After Migrant Surge in Europe

Italy has temporarily suspended parts of the Schengen agreement with Spain following a major surge in migrant arrivals at Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta from Morocco. The move has renewed debate across Europe over migration management and border security. The Italian government said the suspension will not affect Spanish citizens or other European Union nationals travelling to Italy. Regular movement between the two countries will continue as usual. Instead, targeted checks will be introduced for non-EU citizens arriving from Spain through air and sea routes. Ceuta, a small Spanish territory located on the North African coast bordering Morocco, has become a major entry point for migrants attempting to reach Europe. The recent surge saw tens of thousands of people cross into the enclave, creating a major challenge for Spanish authorities and triggering wider concerns among European nations. Italy said the temporary border measures were introduced in response to the sudden increase in migrant crossings into Ceuta. The checks are expected to remain in place for one month, after which authorities will decide whether to extend, modify or end the restrictions. The Schengen agreement allows passport-free travel across most European countries but permits temporary border controls under certain circumstances, including security threats or major migration pressures. Such measures are generally expected to be limited in duration and focused on

specific concerns rather than a complete closure of borders. The decision has drawn criticism from opposition parties in Italy. Critics of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's government argue that the move is largely symbolic and does not directly address the migration situation in Ceuta. They questioned whether migrants arriving in Spain's enclave were actually planning to travel onward to Italy. Meloni's right-wing government came to power in 2022 with promises to reduce illegal immigration. The latest decision comes amid renewed political pressure from anti-migrant groups and rising debate over migration policies in the country. Opposition leaders accused the government of using the issue for political gains rather than finding practical solutions. They said the temporary checks could increase tensions with Spain and create unnecessary pressure on European cooperation. However, Italian officials defended the move as a precautionary measure aimed at strengthening border monitoring. The government has maintained that controlling irregular migration remains a priority and that temporary checks are necessary during periods of increased pressure. The Ceuta crisis has highlighted continuing challenges for the European Union, where countries are balancing free movement under the Schengen system with concerns over migration and security. Italy's decision reflects the growing political sensitivity surrounding migration routes from North Africa into Europe.



Oil Giants Gain From US-Iran Conflict

The prolonged US-Iran conflict has created major disruptions in global energy markets, but some of the world's biggest oil companies have emerged as key beneficiaries amid rising fuel prices and supply shortages. The fighting, which has affected oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, has tightened global crude supplies and pushed energy prices sharply higher. The strategic waterway, which normally handles a significant share of global oil and gas transportation, witnessed reduced traffic due to security concerns, creating uncertainty in international markets. As supply concerns increased, Brent crude prices climbed from around \$70 per barrel to above \$100 during March, April and May, briefly touching \$126. The surge affected consumers worldwide, with higher fuel costs, increased transportation expenses and rising prices of everyday goods. While households and industries struggled with increased energy bills, major oil companies recorded significant financial gains. US energy giants Exxon Mobil and Chevron reported strong quarterly performances, benefiting from higher crude prices and increased refining margins. Exxon Mobil posted a second-quarter profit of \$14.53 billion, nearly double compared with the previous period, while its revenue increased significantly. Chevron also reported a major jump in earnings, with profits rising sharply as demand for refined products such



as diesel and jet fuel remained strong. Energy experts said companies with both oil production and refining operations gained the most from the crisis. Refiners were able to benefit from higher fuel prices, especially as global supplies remained restricted and competition in international markets increased. The conflict also boosted earnings for several European oil companies. The region's major energy firms collectively reported billions of dollars in profits, reflecting the impact of higher energy prices and strong demand. However, not all oil producers benefited equally. Companies located in regions affected by export disruptions or damaged infrastructure faced challenges despite rising prices. Middle Eastern producers experienced difficulties due to transportation risks and security concerns. The surge in profits has triggered criticism from activists and some lawmakers, who argue that oil companies are benefiting from a crisis

that has increased financial pressure on ordinary consumers. Calls have grown in some countries for additional taxes on excess profits earned during periods of extreme market disruption. US lawmakers have proposed measures to impose windfall taxes on large oil producers, with the aim of using the revenue to support consumers facing higher fuel costs. Similar policies have been introduced in some European countries during previous energy crises. Oil companies have opposed such proposals, warning that additional taxes could discourage investment in future energy projects. As the conflict continues to influence global energy markets, the gap between corporate profits and consumer costs remains a major point of debate. While oil giants benefit from higher prices, millions of people worldwide continue to face the economic impact of expensive fuel and rising living costs.

Nepal Border Crisis Deepens After Communal Violence

Communal clashes in south-eastern Nepal have triggered tension along the India-Nepal border, with authorities imposing curfews in several areas after violence left at least three people dead and several others injured. The unrest began on July 26 in Kaptanganj, a market area in Sunsari district near the Bihar border. The clash reportedly started during a dispute over loudspeakers and a religious procession. An argument between groups quickly turned violent, with stone-pelting reported from both sides. Police initially fired warning shots before opening fire to control the situation, resulting in two deaths in Sunsari. The violence later spread to neighbouring Siraha district, where another person was killed during fresh clashes despite restrictions being in place. Around 25 people were injured in the initial violence, according to reports. Authorities responded by imposing an indefinite curfew in several towns across Sunsari and Siraha to prevent further escalation. Additional security forces were deployed, and officials said efforts were underway to restore normalcy. The clashes have raised concerns because the region has witnessed similar tensions in the past. The Terai belt, which stretches along Nepal's southern border with India, has historically experienced social and political conflicts involving identity, ethnicity and representation.



Previous incidents, including clashes between Madhesi and hill-origin communities, have also resulted in casualties. The latest violence has involved Nepal's Muslim minority community, which accounts for around five per cent of the country's population. In several Terai districts, including Sunsari, Dhanusha, Parsa and Sarlahi, Hindu and Muslim communities live in close proximity, making local disputes sensitive. Nepal became a secular republic under its 2015 Constitution after ending its centuries-old Hindu monarchy. However, debates over religion and identity continue to remain politically significant, with some groups demanding the restoration of Nepal as a Hindu state. Prime Minister Balendra Shah has appealed for peace and assured citizens

that the government will conduct an impartial investigation into the violence. He said those responsible would face legal action. Home Minister Sudan Gurung visited the families of those killed in Sunsari and announced financial assistance of around Nepali Rs 8 lakh for each affected family. Opposition leaders, including former Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, have called for dialogue and criticised the government's handling of the situation. With security forces maintaining strict vigil, authorities are focusing on preventing further clashes and ensuring peace in the border districts. The incident has also drawn attention in India due to the close social and economic ties between communities living on both sides of the border.

Trump's Venezuela Policy Adviser Steps Down Amid Scrutiny

Mauricio Claver-Carone, the Miami businessman who played a key role in shaping US policy on Venezuela under President Donald Trump, has stepped away from his unofficial advisory role, bringing an end to his influential involvement in Washington's Venezuela strategy. Although Claver-Carone did not hold any official government position, he became one of the most important voices on Venezuela-related issues after the US operation that led to the capture of former Venezuelan Presi-

dent Nicolas Maduro. He worked closely with Secretary of State Marco Rubio and helped influence discussions involving Venezuela's political future, oil sector and economic reforms. Claver-Carone said his departure was his own decision, describing himself as "retired on Venezuela." However, reports suggested that some officials and Trump allies had raised concerns about his continued influence and private business interests. The main controversy surrounded the fact that Claver-Carone was ad-

vising on Venezuela-related matters while also managing a private equity fund. Some critics questioned whether a private citizen should have such a significant role in decisions involving Venezuelan assets, oil agreements and potential business opportunities worth billions of dollars. Claver-Carone has denied any conflict of interest, stating that neither he nor his investment fund has any financial stake in Venezuela. The US State Department also rejected claims that he was removed from any official



role, saying he was a private citizen with regional expertise and contacts. Former US ambassador Richard Grenell re-

portedly raised concerns about Claver-Carone's activities with President Trump in July. Officials also expressed unease over his connection with Venezuelan businessman Alejandro Betancourt, who has faced allegations related to corruption and money laundering in several countries, including the US. Betancourt has denied the accusations. During his involvement in Venezuela policy, Claver-Carone helped US financial firm Centerview Partners secure a contract valued at more than \$150 million to as-

sist with restructuring Venezuela's massive debt burden. The agreement was reportedly made without a competitive bidding process, attracting attention from critics. He also played a role in facilitating discussions between Venezuela's government and opposition groups, with talks planned as part of efforts to reshape the country's political and economic direction. Claver-Carone previously served as president of the Inter-American Development Bank during Trump's first term but left fol-

lowing misconduct allegations, which he denied. He was also known for supporting tougher sanctions against Venezuela and advocating a harder US approach toward Cuba. His exit raises questions about the future direction of Washington's Venezuela policy, particularly regarding oil, economic engagement and relations with Caracas. However, several other US officials involved in the Venezuela file are expected to continue their work, and the broader policy approach is unlikely to change immediately.

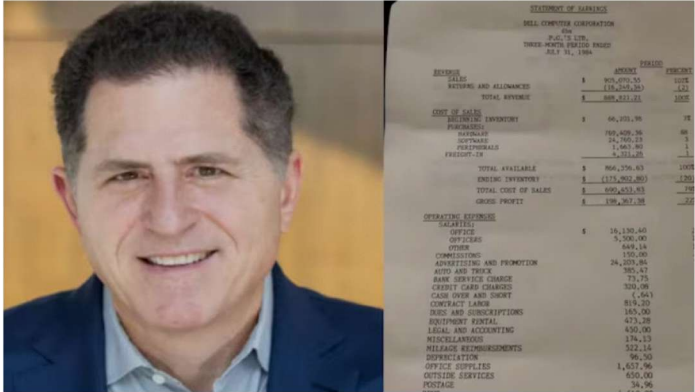
One Page That Changed Dell's Life

Michael Dell, founder and CEO of Dell Technologies, has shared a remarkable story from his early entrepreneurial journey, revealing how a single page from 1984 convinced his parents to support his decision to leave college and build a computer company.

The 61-year-old business leader posted a copy of Dell Computer Corporation's earnings statement for the three months ending July 31, 1984. The document showed that the young company had generated \$888,821 in revenue and a gross profit of \$198,367. Dell described it as the page that changed his life.

At the time, Dell was just 19 years old and studying at the University of Texas at Austin. Operating from his dorm room, he began upgrading and customizing personal computers for customers who wanted better performance at lower prices. What started as a small side business quickly began attracting significant demand.

Dell said the financial statement was the evidence his parents needed to see that his computer venture was more than a student hobby. Instead of returning to college, he chose to focus full-time on building the company that would eventually become one of the world's



largest technology firms.

Reflecting on the post, Dell noted how a seemingly small decision made four decades ago shaped the course of his future. He also highlighted how Dell Technologies has evolved from selling upgraded PCs to helping build the infrastructure that powers artificial intelligence systems, including large-scale AI factories and edge computing networks.

The story has resonated widely on social media, where many users expressed admiration for Dell's journey from a dorm-room entrepreneur to the head of a global technology giant. Several commenters pointed out that even some of the world's most successful innovators had to persuade their parents before taking unconventional career paths.

Dell's experience serves as a reminder that entrepreneurship often begins with modest steps rather than grand plans. A simple financial statement, showing real customers and real revenue, became the turning point that transformed a teenager's passion for computers into a multibillion-dollar enterprise.

More than four decades later, that single page remains a powerful symbol of how determination, evidence of progress, and the courage to pursue an unusual path can alter the course of a person's life. For aspiring entrepreneurs, Dell's story underscores an enduring lesson: small beginnings can lead to extraordinary outcomes when paired with persistence and belief in one's vision.

Altman's Podcast Idea Sparks Parenting Debate

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman has found himself at the centre of an online debate after suggesting that ChatGPT could be used to create personalised daily podcasts for children during the morning drive to school.

In a post on X, Altman described what he called a "cool use case" for families. He suggested that parents could connect their family calendars to ChatGPT, share details about their children's interests, and have the AI generate a short customised podcast each morning. The podcast could include reminders about a child's football game, an upcoming birthday, interesting news stories, or other events relevant to the family's day.

The idea was presented as a practical and creative way to make school commutes more engaging. Supporters argued that such a feature could help busy families stay organised while also introducing children to educational or entertaining topics tailored to their interests.

However, the suggestion quickly triggered criticism from many social media users, who argued that it risked replacing valuable conversations between parents and children. Critics said that the time spent driving to school is often one of the few uninterrupted opportunities families have to talk about their day, discuss worries, share experiences, or simply enjoy each other's company.

Some users responded with sarcasm, suggesting that the proposal sounded like AI was being positioned as a substitute for human interaction. Others questioned whether outsourcing routine family communication to technology reflected a worrying trend in



modern parenting.

One commenter argued that the idea made it seem as though even socialising could be delegated to artificial intelligence. Another suggested that calling it a "cool use case" revealed a surprisingly low standard for meaningful applications of advanced technology. Several critics also expressed concern that relying on AI-generated content for children could encourage parents to become less engaged in everyday conversations.

At the same time, others defended Altman's suggestion, saying that the podcasts were never intended to replace parents but rather to supplement family routines. They pointed out that many families already use audiobooks, educational podcasts, and voice assistants during commutes, and a per-

sonalised AI-generated version could simply be another tool for learning and organisation.

The discussion reflects a broader question surrounding artificial intelligence: where should technology assist human relationships, and where should it step back? As AI becomes increasingly integrated into daily life, ideas that appear convenient to some people may raise concerns for others about the preservation of personal connection.

Whether viewed as an innovative family assistant or an unnecessary intrusion into parent-child interaction, Altman's proposal has sparked an important conversation about the role artificial intelligence should play inside the home—and how families can balance convenience with genuine human connection.

A Tour Filled With Pride

A heartwarming video of a Google employee taking his parents on a tour of his office in Bengaluru has touched thousands of people online, reminding viewers that success often feels most meaningful when shared with family.

The video was posted on Instagram through the account @bug_to_feature and showed the employee proudly guiding his parents through the Google workplace. The family explored the office premises, looked around the campus, and later shared a meal together. Although the clip was short and carried little narration, the emotions were evident throughout.

The video carried a simple caption: "My office, their pride." Those four words captured a feeling that resonated deeply with many professionals and students across the country.

For countless young people, inviting their parents to their workplace represents far more than a casual visit. It is an opportunity to show the result of years of study, sacrifice, and perseverance. Parents who have supported their children through exams, career uncertainties, and long hours of hard work often see such moments as a reward in themselves.

The clip quickly gained attention on social media, with users describing it as a beautiful "full-circle moment." Many commented that the greatest part of professional success is



witnessing the pride and happiness on one's parents' faces. One viewer wrote that nothing compares to showing parents where years of effort have finally led. Another said that real success is not defined only by a prestigious job but by the ability to make one's parents smile with pride.

What made the video especially relatable was its simplicity. There were no grand celebrations or dramatic speeches—just a son sharing

first steps, and today I got to fly her across the skies."

The video quickly went viral, attracting warm reactions from viewers around the world. Many users praised the strong bond between mother and son, while others said the clip reminded them of the sacrifices parents make to help their children achieve their dreams. What makes the story so powerful is its universal emotion. Behind every professional milestone often stands a parent who has provided encouragement, patience, and unwavering support through every stage of life. For Tanish Arora, flying his mother was not just another flight assignment—it was a deeply personal milestone that turned an ordinary journey into an unforgettable memory.

The video serves as a gentle reminder that some of life's greatest achievements are measured not by awards or titles, but by the pride we are able to bring to the people who first believed in us.

A Mother's First Flight With Her Pilot Son

A touching video shared by pilot Tanish Arora has won hearts across social media after he flew his mother as a passenger on a flight he was operating for the very first time. The emotional moment has resonated with thousands of viewers, who described it as a beautiful celebration of a mother's love and a son's achievement.

The video begins before the journey starts, with Arora asking his mother how she feels about travelling on a flight operated by her own son. Smiling with excitement, she says she is looking forward to the experience and feels happy to be flying with him for the first time.

After reaching the airport and completing the check-in process, the two meet again inside the aircraft. Before take-off, Arora asks his mother if she has any advice for him. Like many caring mothers, her response is simple and heartfelt: "Fly safely and comfortably."

The most emotional part of the video comes when Arora



reflects on how his mother once held his hand and taught him to take his first steps. Years later, he now has the opportunity to take her into the skies, guiding her through a journey thousands of feet above the ground.

Following the flight, he asks his mother about her experience. She replies that she feels extremely proud and is delighted to have travelled on a

flight operated by her son. Her joy and pride are clearly visible, making the moment even more meaningful.

Arora ended the video with a heartfelt message, saying that although he would fly thousands of passengers during his career, his mother would always remain his "favourite passenger forever." He also shared a caption that read: "She taught me how to take my

Behind Every Office Window

A thoughtful video by a Hyderabad-based content creator has struck a chord with social media users after he reflected on the hidden realities of corporate office life. The video, shared by Viren through his Instagram account BagPackBeats, offers a moving reminder that every desk inside a glass office building carries a different human story.

Viren recorded the video while taking a break in his office cafeteria. Looking out at the brightly lit corporate towers around him, he began thinking about how similar these buildings appear from the outside. To most people, they represent modern workplaces filled with glass walls, bright lights, and a sense of glamour and success.

But according to Viren, the real stories are not visible from the outside.

He observed that behind every glowing window and on every floor, someone is living a



completely different chapter of life. One employee may be walking into the office for the excitement of their first day at work, filled with dreams and nervous anticipation. At the same time, another person may be leaving the same building after their final working day, carrying memories, uncertainty, or relief.

Viren also pointed out the contrasting emotions that ex-

ist simultaneously within corporate offices. On one floor, a promotion might be celebrated with applause and congratulatory messages. On another, someone could be quietly updating their LinkedIn profile, searching for a new opportunity after disappointment or burnout.

His reflections touched on many familiar aspects of corporate life: appreciation emails that brighten a difficult week, long-awaited job offers, stressful escalations, financial responsibilities, resignations, and career-changing decisions. He noted that somewhere in the cafeteria a birthday cake might be being cut, while elsewhere a resignation letter could be taking shape on a laptop screen.

The creator emphasised that offices are not just places where targets are achieved and careers are built. They are also spaces where people experience self-doubt, pressure, personal struggles, and moments

of silent resilience.

What makes his message powerful is its simplicity. The building itself remains unchanged every day, with the same glass facade, the same elevators, and the same lights. Yet the emotions, hopes, fears, and experiences inside those walls are constantly changing.

Viren concluded by saying that every glowing office window hides a story the world may never know. His final message urged people to be kinder and less judgmental because no one truly knows what another person is carrying behind their office desk.

The video has received widespread appreciation online, with many viewers describing it as a profound and relatable perspective on modern working life. For countless professionals, it served as a gentle reminder that beneath the polished surface of corporate culture lies a collection of deeply personal human journeys.

Lucky Number 7 Brings Crore Jackpot

A North Carolina man's life-long connection with the number 7 has turned into an extraordinary stroke of luck after he won a \$1 million lottery jackpot, worth approximately Rs 9.5 crore.

Tomas Munoz, a resident of Biscoe in Montgomery County, became the first top-prize winner in the North Carolina Education Lottery's newly launched Triple Red 777 Jack-

pot scratch-off game. The \$10 ticket immediately caught his attention when he saw it at a convenience store in Candor, and he decided to buy it because of the number printed on it.

For Munoz, the number 7 has always held special meaning. He was born on the 7th day of the month in 1977, making the repeated sevens on the ticket feel like a personal sign

of good fortune. The ticket's "777" theme convinced him that he should give it a try.

He scratched the ticket while still inside the store and quickly realised he had won the top prize. Describing the moment later, Munoz said he felt overwhelming emotions throughout his body as the reality of the win sank in.

After claiming the prize, he was given two payment op-

tions. He could receive \$50,000 annually over 20 years through an annuity, or choose a lump-sum payment of \$600,000. Munoz decided to take the lump sum, and after mandatory tax deductions, he received \$396,060.

Despite the life-changing windfall, Munoz does not plan to make drastic changes to his lifestyle. According to lottery officials, he intends to invest



the money wisely and continue pursuing one of his great passions — restoring classic cars. The hobby has long been an important part of his

life, and the prize money will help him continue working on vintage automobile projects.

The Triple Red 777 Jackpot game was introduced only recently and originally featured three \$1 million top prizes. With Munoz claiming the first jackpot, two top prizes are still waiting to be won.

Lottery officials also noted that proceeds from the state lottery contribute to educational funding, including grants for school construction projects in Montgomery County.

Munoz's story has attracted

attention because of the remarkable coincidence between his birth date and the winning ticket's triple-sevens design. While lottery victories are largely a matter of chance, the winner believes his favourite number has always brought him good fortune.

For many people, the story is a reminder of how an ordinary stop at a local store can unexpectedly become a life-changing moment — especially when a lucky number that has followed someone for decades suddenly lives up to its reputation.

GST Revenue Hits 14-Month High



India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections recorded a strong growth in July, reaching a 14-month high of Rs 2.11 lakh crore, reflecting steady economic activity and improved revenue mobilisation. This marks the second time in the current financial year that monthly GST collections have crossed the Rs 2 lakh crore milestone. The gross GST revenue in July witnessed a year-on-year growth of 15.4 per cent, registering the fastest growth rate in the last 14 months. The rise was driven by a significant increase in import-related tax collections along with healthy growth in domestic revenues. GST collections from imports surged 28.8 per cent compared to the previous year, reaching Rs 66,511 crore. The sharp rise indicates stronger trade activity and increased tax realisation from imported goods. Meanwhile, domestic GST collections, including revenues from domestic transactions and services, grew by 10.1 per cent to Rs 1.45 lakh crore. The July revenue performance follows a positive trend seen in recent months. In June, GST collections had increased by 13.9 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1.95 lakh crore. The latest figures underline continued momentum in consumption and business activity across

sectors. The July growth rate of 15.4 per cent is the highest since May 2025, when GST revenues had recorded a 16.4 per cent increase. The consistent improvement in collections highlights better compliance, economic resilience and increased formalisation of business transactions. Experts said the rise in GST revenues reflects the overall strength of India's economy despite global uncertainties. Higher domestic consumption, improved tax compliance measures and increased digital transactions have contributed to the steady rise in indirect tax collections. The government has been focusing on strengthening the GST framework through technology-driven monitoring, improved compliance systems and measures to prevent tax evasion. These efforts have helped maintain stable revenue growth and provide additional resources for public spending and development programmes. The strong July GST numbers are expected to support government finances and provide confidence about economic growth prospects in the ongoing financial year. With revenue collections maintaining an upward trend, policymakers are closely watching future monthly figures to assess the broader economic outlook.

RBI Swap Window Attracts \$40.82 Billion Forex Inflows

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) foreign exchange swap facility has attracted overseas currency inflows worth \$40.82 billion till July 31, with Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposits emerging as the biggest contributor. According to data released by the central bank, total inflows under the concessional forex swap window stood at \$40.816 billion as of July 31. The facility, which was opened in June 2026, has received strong interest from overseas investors and banking channels. FCNR(B) deposits accounted for the majority of the inflows, contributing \$36.725 billion to the total amount. Overseas Foreign Currency Borrowings (OFCBs) contributed \$2.575 billion, while External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) brought in an additional \$1.516 billion. The RBI said the swap facility has witnessed steady participation since its launch on June 8, 2026. The initiative

is aimed at strengthening foreign currency inflows and supporting liquidity management in the domestic financial system. The increased inflows through the facility are expected to provide further stability to India's foreign exchange reserves and help manage currency market conditions. The move also reflects continued confidence among overseas depositors and borrowers in India's financial markets. SBI Research has projected that total inflows through the facility could rise further to around \$80-85 billion, indicating sustained demand from foreign currency deposit holders and international investors. The RBI has been closely monitoring foreign exchange liquidity conditions amid global economic uncertainties, currency fluctuations and changing capital flows. The strong response to the swap window is seen as a positive development for India's external sector.



Anawil Wire Raises Rs 50 Crore Ahead Of IPO

Gujarat-based windmill tower manufacturer Anawil Wire and Engineering has raised Rs 50.64 crore from 19 anchor investors ahead of its initial public offering (IPO). The company allotted 18.75 lakh equity shares to anchor investors at Rs 270 per share, which is the upper end of the IPO price band. The anchor investors include Abakkus Asset Manager

and Carnelian Asset Management and Advisors, which emerged as the largest participants by acquiring shares worth Rs 7 crore each. Anawil Wire and Engineering is planning to raise up to Rs 177.8 crore through its IPO. The public issue will open for subscription on August 3 and close on August 5. The IPO price band has

been fixed at Rs 257 to Rs 270 per share. The issue consists of a fresh issue of 52.84 lakh equity shares, while promoter Nimish Kumar Rameshchandra Vashi will offer 13 lakh shares through an offer for sale (OFS). The company operates in the manufacturing sector and specialises in products related to windmill tower infrastructure.

The IPO is expected to help the company raise funds for expansion and strengthen its business operations. Anchor investors play an important role in IPOs as their participation often reflects institutional confidence in the company's growth prospects. The participation of investment firms such as Abakkus and Carnelian has drawn attention ahead of the public issue. The company's shares will be closely watched by investors as the IPO enters the subscription phase. Market partici-

pants are expected to track demand from retail investors, qualified institutional buyers and non-institutional investors during the offer period. With increasing focus on renewable energy and infrastructure development, companies associated with wind energy supply chains have been attracting investor interest. Anawil Wire and Engineering's IPO comes amid continued activity in the primary market, with several companies looking to raise capital through public offerings.

SEBI Fines Zee Entertainment Rs 1.48 Crore

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.48 crore on Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL), its CEO Punit Goenka and Chairman Emeritus Subhash Chandra for alleged violations of securities laws. The market regulator also barred Punit Goenka and Subhash Chandra from accessing the securities market for one year as part of its action against the company and its senior officials. SEBI stated that the penalty was imposed after examining regulatory violations related to the company's affairs. The action follows an investigation into alleged non-compliance with securities market regulations.

According to SEBI's order, the regulator imposed a total penalty of Rs 1.48 crore on the company and the individuals involved. The move is part of SEBI's efforts to strengthen corporate governance standards and ensure compliance among listed companies. Punit Goenka is the Chief Executive Officer of Zee Entertainment, while Subhash Chandra is the founder of the Essel Group and serves as Chairman Emeritus of ZEEL. The regulatory action comes at a time when listed companies are facing increased scrutiny over disclosures, governance practices and transactions involving corporate entities.



SEBI's decision to restrict Goenka and Chandra from participating in the securities market for a year is expected to draw attention among investors and industry

observers. The order highlights the regulator's focus on maintaining transparency and accountability in India's capital markets. Zee Entertainment has been one of India's leading media and entertainment companies, operating television channels and digital platforms across various segments. The company has faced several regulatory and corporate challenges in recent years, including issues related to governance and business transactions. The latest SEBI order marks another significant development involving the company and its top leadership. The restrictions and penalty will remain applicable as per the directions issued by the market regulator.

Markets Surge On Strong Buying

Indian stock markets recorded their strongest weekly performance in nearly four months, supported by positive corporate earnings, foreign investor inflows and improving global cues. The BSE Sensex gained 2,034.87 points, or 2.67 per cent, during the week to close at 78,094.64, while the Nifty 50 climbed 616.15 points, or 2.59 per cent, to settle at 24,383.60. The rally helped benchmark indices recover from the losses witnessed in the previous week. The market recovery was driven by better-than-expected June-quarter earnings, a stronger rupee and declining crude oil prices. Investor sentiment also improved as the southwest monsoon progressed well, supporting expectations of stable economic growth. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) returned as net buyers after two weeks of continuous selling. FIIs purchased equities worth Rs 5,949.96 crore during the week, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) invest-



ed Rs 5,387.66 crore, providing additional support to the market. Sectoral indices witnessed broad-based gains, with information technology stocks leading the rally. The Nifty IT index surged 6.75 per

cent, marking its best weekly performance since December 2023. Nifty Media rose 5.97 per cent, while Nifty Auto gained 5.61 per cent. Pharma, healthcare and consumer durable stocks also ended higher. Midcap and smallcap stocks also attracted buying interest. The Nifty Smallcap 100 index advanced 2.6 per cent, while the Nifty Midcap 100 index gained 2 per cent during the week. The overall market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies increased by more than Rs 10 lakh crore, reflecting strong investor participation. Bajaj Finance emerged as the biggest wealth creator during the week, followed by Bharti Airtel, Tata Consultancy Services and Reliance Industries. The Indian rupee also showed improvement, ending a five-week losing streak by gaining 118 paise against the US dollar. It closed at 95.39 per dollar on July 31 compared with 96.57 in the previous week. Market experts expect domestic factors such as earnings growth, foreign inflows and economic stability to continue supporting equities. However, investors will closely monitor global developments, crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions for further market direction.

SEBI Bars Punit Goenka, Subhash Chandra For One Year



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has barred Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL), Punit Goenka and Essel Group founder Subhash Chandra from accessing the securities market over the alleged unauthorised mortgage of a ZEEL property. In its final order, SEBI stated that ZEEL's Hyderabad land was used as additional security for loans worth Rs 726 crore taken by four Essel Group entities without obtaining necessary approval from the company's board of directors or shareholders. As per the regulatory order, ZEEL has been prohibited from accessing the securities market for two months, while Punit Goenka and Subhash Chandra have been restrained for a period of 12 months. The regulator also imposed a combined penalty of Rs 1.48 crore on the company and the two individuals. SEBI imposed a penalty of Rs 30 lakh on ZEEL, Rs 58 lakh on Punit Goenka and Rs 60 lakh on Subhash Chandra as part of the action.

The case originated after ZEEL's statutory auditors reported during the financial year 2018-19 audit that title deeds of certain immovable properties were missing. Following the disclosure, SEBI initiated an investigation to examine whether there were violations of listing regulations and rules related to fraudulent and unfair trade practices. SEBI's investigation focused on whether the company's property was pledged for external group borrowings without following proper corporate procedures. The regulator concluded that the transaction involved a failure to comply with required approvals and disclosure obligations. Subhash Chandra, who serves as Chairman Emeritus of ZEEL, and Punit Goenka, the company's Chief Executive Officer, were held responsible by SEBI for their roles in the matter. The order comes amid increased regulatory scrutiny of corporate governance practices and related-party transactions involving listed companies. Market participants are closely watching the impact of the SEBI action on ZEEL's operations, management and investor sentiment. The securities market restrictions will remain in effect for the specified periods as mentioned in the regulatory order.

Optimystix Entertainment To Launch Rs 108 Cr IPO



Optimystix Entertainment India, the production house behind popular television shows like Comedy Circus, Crime Patrol and Laughter Chefs, is set to launch its initial public offering (IPO) on August 7 to raise around Rs 107.88 crore. The company has fixed the IPO price band at Rs 165 to Rs 174 per share, valuing Optimystix Entertainment at approximately Rs 405 crore. The public issue will include a fresh issue of 50 lakh equity shares worth Rs 87 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of 12 lakh shares worth Rs 20.88 crore by founder and promoter Vipul D. Shah. The anchor book for the IPO will open on August 6, while the subscription window for investors will remain open until August 11. The share allotment process is expected to be completed by August 12, with the company likely to list its shares on the NSE Emerge platform on August 14. Optimystix Entertainment has been involved in producing several successful television programmes across comedy, reality and crime-based genres. The company has

built a strong presence in the entertainment industry through popular shows that have gained wide audience acceptance. The IPO proceeds are expected to support the company's growth plans and strengthen its business operations. The issue will provide investors an opportunity to participate in the growth journey of a content production company with experience in television and entertainment programming. With increasing demand for digital content, television shows and entertainment formats, production companies have been looking for new avenues to expand their presence. Optimystix Entertainment's market debut will be closely watched by investors as it enters the SME platform. The IPO announcement comes at a time when the Indian primary market continues to witness strong activity, with several companies tapping investors for expansion and capital requirements. The response to Optimystix Entertainment's issue will indicate investor interest in the entertainment sector and SME listings.



Boxing Gold Rush Boosts India's CWG 2026 Medal Tally

India enjoyed another successful day at the Commonwealth Games 2026 as boxers Preeti Pawar and Jaismine Lamboria struck gold on Day 10, continuing the country's impressive campaign in the ring. Preeti Pawar opened the celebrations by winning India's first boxing gold of the Games. Her victory in the final gave the Indian contingent a major boost and maintained the momentum created by the country's strong boxing performances throughout the tournament. Later in the day, Jaismine Lamboria added another gold medal to India's tally with a commanding display in her final bout. Her triumph became India's seventh gold medal of the Commonwealth Games 2026 and further highlighted the depth of India's women's boxing programme. India also added two more medals in athletics through the men's triple jump event. Indian athletes secured both silver and bronze medals, ensuring a double podium finish and contributing valuable points to the overall medal standings.

The combination of boxing and athletics medals made Day 10 one of India's most productive days of the competition. The boxing ring has emerged as one of the country's strongest medal-producing arenas, with Indian boxers consistently reaching the finals and converting opportunities into podium finishes. Attention during the day also remained on India's athletics contingent, including Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, whose participation and comments generated significant interest among fans



following the live updates from Birmingham. With several events still remaining in the Games, India's medal tally continued to rise steadily as athletes competed across boxing, athletics, judo, and other disciplines. The double gold in boxing has strengthened India's position in the overall standings and increased expectations for more podium finishes in the closing stages of the tournament. The performances of Preeti Pawar and Jaismine Lamboria have been particularly significant because they underline the growing strength of Indian women in international boxing. Their victories not only added gold medals to India's tally but also demonstrated the country's continued progress in producing world-class female boxers capable of succeeding on major multi-sport stages. As the Commonwealth Games 2026 move toward their final phase, India will look to build on the momentum generated by these victories and add more medals across athletics, boxing, and other remaining events.

Jemimah-Fatima Hug Goes Viral In The Hundred

Indian women's cricket star Jemimah Rodrigues and Pakistan all-rounder Fatima Sana shared a warm post-match hug during a match in The Hundred, with the moment quickly going viral on social media and drawing widespread attention from cricket fans. The interaction took place after the Southern Brave versus Birmingham Phoenix encounter on Thursday. As players from both franchises exchanged handshakes following the game, Jemimah and Fatima were seen smiling and embracing each other, creating one of the most talked-about moments of the tournament. The clip attracted particular interest because relations between Indian and Pakistani cricket teams have remained sensitive in recent times. However, The Hundred is a franchise competition in which players from different countries compete together, and the post-match interaction reflected the cordial atmosphere often seen in such leagues. On the field, Jemimah played an impor-



tant role in Southern Brave's victory. Batting in the closing stages of the innings, she scored an unbeaten 28 runs from just 18 balls, helping her side reach a competitive total of 140 for 3. Lizelle Lee contributed 43 runs, while Maia Bouchier added 45 at the top of the order. Fatima Sana had a difficult outing with the ball for Birmingham Phoenix, conceding 33 runs in her 15-ball spell. Alana



King and Alice Capsey picked up one wicket each for Phoenix. Chasing 141, Birmingham Phoenix began strongly through a 73-run opening partnership between Tammy Beaumont and Davina Perrin. Perrin impressed with 52 off 43 deliveries, while Beaumont scored 22. However, the innings lost momentum after their dismissals. Sarah Glenn removed Perrin at a crucial

stage, and Lauren Bell struck again by dismissing Alice Capsey. Sophie Molineux then claimed two late wickets to restrict Phoenix to 116 for 5, giving Southern Brave a comfortable 24-run victory. The win extended Southern Brave's unbeaten run in the tournament to four matches, while Birmingham Phoenix remained without a win this season. Despite the cricketing result, much of the online conversation centred on the friendly exchange between Jemimah and Fatima. Fans from both countries shared the clip widely, with many describing it as a positive sporting moment that highlighted mutual respect between players competing in an international franchise environment. The viral video has once again shown how cricket often produces moments that go beyond statistics and scorecards, reminding fans that sports can also create gestures of friendship and sportsmanship that resonate far beyond the boundary ropes.

Ashwin Wants Bhuvneshwar Back In World Cup Plans



Former India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has urged Ajit Agarkar and the BCCI selectors to stay in touch with experienced pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar as India begin planning for the 2027 ODI World Cup in South Africa. With the tournament scheduled to begin in Africa in October 2027, discussions have already started about India's ideal squad combination. While much of the public debate has focused on the batting order and the future of senior players

such as Rohit Sharma, Ashwin believes India's bigger concern is the bowling attack. According to him, the team still appears heavily dependent on Jasprit Bumrah, and India need experienced support bowlers capable of succeeding in South African conditions. Speaking on Cricinfo, Ashwin said the selectors should communicate clearly with Bhuvneshwar Kumar and encourage him to participate regularly in

domestic competitions, including the Vijay Hazare Trophy and other first-class tournaments. He suggested that a fully fit and in-form Bhuvneshwar could be extremely valuable for the 2027 World Cup campaign. Ashwin also shared his early assessment of players who should be part of India's World Cup planning. In his "Yes" category, he included Shubman Gill, Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Ishan

Kishan, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Harshit Rana, and Bhuvneshwar Kumar. The "Maybe" list featured Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Varun Chakravathy, Ravindra Jadeja, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, and Prasidh Krishna. Perhaps the biggest surprise came in the "No" category, where Ashwin excluded several prominent names, including Rishabh Pant, Sanju Samson, Washington Sundar, Abhishek Sharma, Ravi Bishnoi, Shivam Dube, and young batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. The inclusion of Bhuvneshwar Kumar as a definite option, while Mohammed Shami was placed only in the "Maybe" group, has attracted particular attention. Bhuvneshwar has not been a regular part of India's ODI setup in recent years, but his ability to swing the new ball and operate effectively in helpful conditions remains highly regarded. Ashwin's comments underline the importance of long-term planning for major ICC tournaments. With more than a year remaining before the World Cup, he believes India should not only identify potential squad members early but also maintain regular communication with experienced players who could still have an important role to play in the team's campaign.

PM Modi Applauds India's Commonwealth Medallists



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated Indian athletes Neeraj Chopra, Yash Vir Singh, and Yamini Maurya for their medal-winning performances at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow, praising their dedication, consistency, and sporting spirit. Neeraj Chopra won the silver medal in the men's javelin throw with a season-best effort of 85.83 metres. Congratulating the Olympic champion, the Prime Minister said Neeraj had once again demonstrated "remarkable consistency, composure and spirit" and added that his achievements continue to make every Indian proud. PM Modi also extended his wishes to Yash Vir Singh, who secured the bronze medal in the same event with an impressive throw of 85.41 metres. He described the young athlete's performance as a reflection of his "zeal and dedication" and said the achievement would inspire many aspiring sportspersons across the country. India enjoyed a memorable double podium finish in the men's javelin event, with Neeraj and Yash Vir Singh finishing second and third respectively. Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage claimed the gold medal with a throw of 89.75 metres. The Prime Minister further congratulated judoka Yamini Maurya for winning the silver medal in the women's 57 kg category. He praised her passion for judo and said her performance would encourage more youngsters to take up the sport in the future. Earlier, President Droupadi Murmu had

also congratulated the Indian medallists for their achievements in Glasgow. She described the javelin double podium by Neeraj Chopra and Yash Vir Singh as a memorable achievement that reflected their unwavering dedication and exceptional sporting excellence. The President additionally lauded Tejaswin Shankar for winning bronze in the decathlon, noting that he had become the first Indian athlete to win a Commonwealth Games medal in the event. She termed the achievement a historic milestone for Indian athletics. Yamini Maurya's silver medal also received special praise from the President, who highlighted that it marked India's third judo medal of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and reflected the country's growing strength in the sport. She commended the athlete's resilience, determination, and fighting spirit and expressed hope that her success would motivate more young judokas. The congratulatory messages from both the Prime Minister and the President came as India continued to enjoy a strong campaign at the Commonwealth Games 2026, with athletes delivering notable performances across athletics, boxing, judo, and other disciplines. The praise for Neeraj Chopra, in particular, generated significant attention online, with fans celebrating the Prime Minister's strong endorsement of the star javelin thrower even after he finished with silver rather than gold, underlining the high regard in which the athlete is held across the country.

Ladakh Unveils Scholarship-Based Sports Policy



The Ladakh administration has approved a new sports policy that introduces monthly scholarships, cash incentives, and special awards for athletes competing at international, national, and Union Territory levels. The policy is aimed at creating a stronger support system for sportspersons and encouraging greater participation in competitive sports across the region. For the first time, athletes from Ladakh will receive both monthly financial assistance and one-time cash rewards linked to their sporting achievements. The administration described the policy as a comprehensive framework designed to nurture talent from the school level all the way to international competitions. Under the new policy, medal winners will receive monthly scholarships for 12 months from the date of winning their medal. International gold medallists will receive Rs 1 lakh per month, national gold medallists Rs 75,000 per month, and UT-level gold medallists Rs 10,000 per month. Separate lower scholarship slabs have been created for silver and bronze medallists. A notable feature of the policy is that athletes who progress to a higher level of competition during the scholarship period will receive an upgraded scholarship amount. The earlier amount will not be recovered, ensuring that athletes are not financially penalised for advancing in their careers. In addition to the monthly scholarships, the policy provides one-time cash incentives for medal winners at recognised international, national, state, and school-level competitions. These incentives will be awarded separately from the scholarship payments, giving athletes two distinct forms of financial support. The administration has also included special provisions for para-athletes. Competitors participating in Paralympic events, visually impaired sports, hearing-impaired sports, and Special Olympics competitions will be eligible for dedicated awards and incentives under the policy. Recognising Ladakh's unique connection with high-altitude adventure sports, the policy includes a special mountaineering award. Athletes from Ladakh who successfully summit peaks above 8,000 metres anywhere in the world will receive a one-time cash award of Rs 10 lakh. Officials said the framework was prepared after consultations with various stakeholders over a period of two months. The policy is intended not only to reward medal winners but also to reduce the financial burden on athletes who often struggle with training, travel, equipment, and competition expenses. The move is being seen as a significant step toward strengthening the sporting ecosystem in the Union Territory. By combining scholarships, performance incentives, para-sports recognition, and mountaineering rewards, Ladakh has created one of the more comprehensive athlete-support policies introduced by an Indian Union Territory in recent years.

Cricketer Turned Javelin Star Stuns Neeraj

Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage produced a sensational performance to win the men's javelin throw gold medal at the Commonwealth Games 2026, defeating Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra in one of the biggest athletics upsets of the tournament. Pathirage secured the gold with a best throw of 89.75 metres, while Neeraj Chopra had to settle for silver despite recording a season-best effort of 85.83 metres. India's Yashvir Singh added to the country's celebrations by claiming bronze with an impressive throw of 85.41 metres, giving India a double podium finish in the event. The result did not come entirely out of nowhere, as Pathirage has been in exceptional form throughout the 2026 season. Earlier this year, he became the first javelin thrower to cross the 90-metre mark in the season when he registered a world-leading throw of 92.62 metres at the Rome Diamond League. What makes Pathirage's rise particularly remarkable is his sporting background. Before becoming a javelin thrower, he was a promising cricketer who bowled medium pace. During his youth cricket

days, he regularly clocked speeds of around 130 kmph and reportedly touched 134 kmph in the Under-18 category. At one stage, he was considered the second-fastest bowler in that age group behind Sri Lankan pacer Eshan Malinga. His transition from cricket to athletics began after coach Tony Prasanna introduced him to javelin. Pathirage has often credited Prasanna not only for teaching him the technical aspects of the sport but also for guiding him in life beyond athletics. The switch proved highly successful. Pathirage went on to become the first Sri Lankan athlete to throw beyond 85 metres in javelin and has steadily established himself among the world's leading throwers. He also enjoyed a strong performance at the World Championships, where he finished seventh in his debut appearance. After the Commonwealth Games final, Neeraj Chopra acknowledged the quality of Pathirage's winning effort. He remarked that in javelin, a single excellent throw can be enough to decide the competition, and that Pathirage produced exactly such a decisive attempt.



Although disappointed not to win gold, Neeraj remained positive about his performance and said his focus is on gradual improvement in the competitions ahead. His silver medal and Yashvir Singh's bronze ensured India still enjoyed a successful outing in the

event. For Pathirage, however, the victory marked a historic moment - a former fast bowler who traded the cricket ball for the javelin has now emerged as a genuine global contender and a new star of Sri Lankan athletics.

Nani's Fierce Avatar Set To Dominate The Paradise Teaser

Natural Star Nani's much-awaited film The Paradise is gearing up for a grand promotional campaign, with the makers preparing to unveil the teaser on August 6. The upcoming action drama has already generated strong curiosity among audiences, and the teaser is expected to provide a glimpse into the intense and dark world created by director Srikanth Odela. The teaser is likely to showcase the film's powerful atmosphere, high-energy action sequences, and dramatic elements. Srikanth Odela, who is known for presenting raw and emotionally charged stories, is expected to bring a unique visual style and intense narrative to The Paradise. The film is being promoted as a major

transformation for Nani, who is set to appear in a completely different role compared to his earlier performances. One of the biggest talking points surrounding the teaser is Nani's character Jadal. Reports suggest that the actor's ruthless appearance, intense body language, and physical transformation will be among the major highlights of the promotional video. His shirtless look and aggressive screen presence are expected to surprise fans and showcase a new side of the actor. Nani has consistently experimented with different genres and characters throughout his career, earning appreciation for his versatility. With The Paradise, he appears to

be taking a bold step by portraying a more intense and action-oriented character. The film is expected to present him in a rugged and powerful avatar, creating a fresh experience for moviegoers. The film also features Kayadu Lohar as the female lead, adding another important dimension to the story. Veteran actor Mohan Babu and Raghav Juyal are playing key roles, bringing additional strength to the cast. Actress Keerthy Suresh will appear in a special song, which has further increased expectations around the project. The combination of Nani's new look, Srikanth Odela's direction, and the film's action-packed backdrop has made The Paradise one



of the most awaited upcoming Telugu films. The teaser release on August 6 is expected to reveal more details about the characters, storyline, and scale of the project. As the promotional activities begin, fans are eagerly waiting to

witness Nani's transformation into Jadal and experience the intense world of The Paradise. The teaser is expected to set the tone for the film and give audiences a glimpse of what promises to be one of Nani's most ambitious projects yet.

Jai Krishna Thanks Moviegoers

Jai Krishna Ghattamaneni, the nephew of superstar Mahesh Babu, has expressed heartfelt gratitude to audiences for the warm response to his debut film Srinivasa Mangapuram. The young actor made his silver-screen entry with the intense love story directed by Ajay Bhupathi, while Rasha Thadani, daughter of Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon, made her Telugu debut with the film. In a recent video message, Jai Krishna thanked viewers for welcoming him into the Telugu film industry. He said the affection shown by audiences after the release of Srinivasa Mangapuram had given him immense happiness and encouragement. He also conveyed special thanks to the Ghattamaneni family fans, who supported him even before the film began its theatrical journey. The actor promised that he would continue to work hard and give his best in future projects so that he could make his supporters proud. He noted that the appreciation coming from viewers has been particularly meaningful because it is his first film and an

important milestone in his career. Jai Krishna revealed that many people who watched the film have praised his performance, especially the action sequences and emotional scenes. According to him, the positive feedback has motivated him to improve further as an actor and take his responsibilities seriously as a newcomer carrying the Ghattamaneni family legacy. Srinivasa Mangapuram has generated curiosity among moviegoers because it marks the launch of two fresh faces in Telugu cinema. Directed by Ajay Bhupathi, known for handling intense emotional narratives, the film blends romance, drama, and action elements, giving Jai Krishna an opportunity to showcase both emotional depth and screen presence in his debut outing. Rasha Thadani's Telugu debut has also added to the film's appeal, making it a notable launch vehicle for both newcomers. The pairing of Jai Krishna and Rasha has attracted attention from younger audiences, while the association with the Ghattamaneni family has created additional buzz among



Mahesh Babu's fans. Concluding his message, Jai Krishna requested audiences to watch Srinivasa Mangapuram with their friends and family during the weekend and continue supporting the film. He expressed hope that viewers would keep showering him with the same

love and encouragement as he begins his journey in the Telugu film industry. The young actor's humble and emotional message has been well received by fans, who see it as a sincere acknowledgment of the support he has received during the crucial first step of his acting career.

'Korean Kanakaraju' Trailer Promises Fun Horror Ride



The theatrical trailer of Varun Tej's upcoming horror-comedy Korean Kanakaraju has been launched at a special event held at AAA Cinemas in Hyderabad, and it promises a thoroughly entertaining blend of comedy,

horror, action, and adventure. Directed by Merlapaka Gandhi, the film presents a unique and quirky premise. Varun Tej plays Kanakaraju, a man from Rayalaseema who unexpectedly becomes possessed by a

Korean spirit. The unusual possession leaves everyone around him shocked and confused, and attempts to communicate with the spirit lead to a series of hilarious situations because of the language barrier. The trailer highlights the comic confusion created by the Korean ghost, with Varun Tej displaying a different body language and mannerisms after the possession. Satya's presence adds further humour, while Ritika Nayak appears as the female lead who joins Kanakaraju on his unusual journey. As the story progresses, Kanakaraju, Ritika Nayak, and Satya travel to Korea to uncover the mystery behind the spirit. The Korea-set portions add a fresh visual appeal to the film and appear to include thrilling action sequences, with Varun Tej taking on a group of gangsters amid the supernatural chaos. One of the trailer's biggest attractions is the unusual cultural connection between Rayala seema and Korea, which gives the film a distinctive identity compared to conventional Telugu horror-comedies. The combination of

supernatural elements, travel adventure, and action-packed moments makes the narrative stand out. Varun Tej's transformation and energetic performance seem to be among the major highlights of the trailer. The promotional video also showcases impressive production values and a lively entertainment quotient, suggesting that the film is designed as a complete commercial entertainer. Korean Kanakaraju is jointly produced by Rajeev Reddy and Sai Baba Jagarlamudi under the banners of UV Creations and First Frame Entertainments. Sunil and Muralidhar Goud will also be seen in important supporting roles. Scheduled for a theatrical release on August 7, 2026, the film has now generated stronger curiosity among audiences. With its unusual Korean ghost concept, comedy-driven narrative, and action-adventure elements, Korean Kanakaraju appears to be shaping up as one of the more intriguing Telugu releases of the month.

it as a promising sign for the film's scale and entertainment value. According to the production team, the shooting of #Chiru158 is progressing at a brisk pace, with the first half of the film nearing completion. The makers have indicated that the schedule is moving smoothly without any significant delays. The screenplay has been developed by Kona Venkat and K. Chakravarthy Reddy, with additional screenplay contributions from Hari Mohana Krishna and Vineeth Potluri. Dialogues are being written by Bhanu-Nandu, while Thaman is composing the music for the film. Although the official title is yet to be announced, the project has already generated considerable buzz among Chiranjeevi's fans due to the successful combination of the Megastar and Bobby Kolli. With the shoot progressing steadily and promotional material beginning to emerge, #Chiru158 is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Telugu commercial entertainers in the coming months.

Stylish BTS Video Boosts Buzz Around 'Chiru158'

The makers of Chiranjeevi's upcoming film #Chiru158 have released a stylish behind-the-scenes (BTS) video on the occasion of director Bobby Kolli's birthday, further increasing excitement surrounding the highly anticipated project. The film marks the reunion of Chiranjeevi and Bobby Kolli after the blockbuster success of Waltair Veerayya. Produced by Venkat K. Narayana under the KVN Productions banner, the movie is being mounted on a lavish scale and is considered one of the biggest Telugu projects currently in production. The newly released BTS video begins with the line, "Every blockbuster begins with a single vision," and focuses largely on Bobby Kolli's approach to filmmaking. The footage showcases the director coordinating shots, discussing scenes with the crew, reviewing scripts and storyboards, monitoring footage on set, and carefully planning the visual composition of each frame. Apart from the technical aspects, the video also captures the

energetic atmosphere on the sets, featuring Bobby interacting with actors and technicians and sharing lighter moments between takes. The makers have presented him as "The Master of Mass



Entertainment," underlining his reputation for delivering large-scale commercial entertainers that connect strongly with audiences. The promotional clip has been designed to

highlight the director's passion, attention to detail, and hands-on involvement in every stage of production. Fans have responded positively to the stylish presentation, seeing

The Odyssey Holds Strong Despite Spider-Man Storm

The arrival of Spider-Man: Brand New Day has created a massive impact at the global box office, with the film making a powerful start and attracting audiences worldwide. The superhero entertainer is expected to cross the \$900 million mark globally, with trade analysts watching closely to see whether it can reach the prestigious billion-dollar milestone. However, the strong performance of Spider-Man does not appear to have significantly affected Christopher Nolan's The Odyssey. Despite facing competition from a major franchise release, the epic fantasy action drama continues to show impressive stability at the box office. In the domestic market, The Odyssey is reportedly tracking for a strong third weekend, with expectations of earning more than \$50 million. Compared to its second weekend collection of around \$90 million, the decline is expected to remain below 50 percent, which is considered an excellent hold for a film entering its third weekend. The steady performance indicates that The Odyssey has built strong audience interest and continues to attract viewers even after the arrival of another major Hollywood release. Its ability to maintain momentum against heavy competition highlights the film's strong word-of-mouth and audience appreciation. A major factor that could further boost The Odyssey's box office performance is its upcoming release in China, the world's second-largest theatrical market. The film has not yet arrived in the region, but early audience interest

on ticketing platforms suggests strong anticipation among Chinese moviegoers. If The Odyssey receives a positive response from Chinese audiences, the film could experience another major surge in collections. The China release is being viewed as a crucial opportunity that may help the film expand its global earnings significantly. The film has already achieved a major milestone by becoming the highest-grossing R-rated movie in history. Currently, the record is held by Deadpool & Wolverine, which earned around \$1.33 billion worldwide. With strong international performance and the China market still ahead, The Odyssey has the potential to push beyond existing records. While Spider-Man: Brand New Day continues its blockbuster run, The Odyssey appears to be maintaining its own strong position. The coming weeks will determine how far both films can travel at the global box office, but for now, The Odyssey's steady performance has become one of the biggest talking points in the entertainment industry.



'Objection My Lord' - A Decent Courtroom Drama With A Social Message

Veteran actor Srikanth returns in a courtroom-based Telugu web series titled Objection My Lord, which is now streaming on ZEE5. Directed by Santosh Ayyappan, the series attempts to blend a legal thriller with a socially relevant issue, and it succeeds to a fair extent despite a few shortcomings. The story begins when Narayana approaches the police to complain that his daughter Sameera has been kidnapped. When the police allegedly ignore the complaint and lawyers refuse to take up the case due to insufficient information, Narayana dies by suicide on the High Court premises. Disturbed by the incident, advocate Parashuram, played by Srikanth, files a Public Interest Litigation and begins a determined fight for justice. As the investigation progresses, the narrative gradually shifts from a straightforward kidnapping case to a more layered social issue, which becomes the central hook of the series. One of the major strengths of Objection My Lord is its sincere intent. The screenplay is paced neatly, and a few unexpected turns help maintain curiosity. The courtroom confrontations between Srikanth and Mukesh Rishi are presented in a commercial yet engaging manner, making the legal proceedings accessible even for viewers who are not regular followers of courtroom dramas. Srikanth delivers a convincing performance as a lawyer who is constantly underestimated by his colleagues and struggles with low self-confidence. His portrayal of a man trying to rediscover his courage after a humiliating setback gives the series its

emotional weight. Ananya Sharma performs well as his assistant and provides strong support, while Sameer, Gemini Suresh, Rayala



Harishchandra, and Snehal Kamat contribute effectively in their supporting roles. However, the series is not without flaws. The biggest issue lies in the final episode, which feels somewhat rushed. The crucial revelation arrives too late, reducing the emotional and dramatic impact that the story seems to be aiming for. At times, the writing becomes generic, and a few scenes suffer from noticeable lip-sync problems. Another underdeveloped aspect is Parashuram's family track. Although the series hints at tensions between him and his son, the relationship is not explored in enough depth, making those scenes feel less meaningful than they could have been. Technically, the series is well-mounted. The courtroom sets look authentic, the cinematography by Suryaa is effective, and the music and editing are competent. Santosh Ayyappan's direction keeps the narrative straightforward and watchable throughout its relatively crisp runtime. Overall, Objection My Lord is a decent and honest courtroom drama that offers a worthwhile watch for fans of legal thrillers. It may not reinvent the genre, but strong performances, a relevant social message, and an engaging central conflict make it a respectable addition to Telugu OTT content.

'Irumudi' Promotions Back On Track

Promotions for Ravi Teja's upcoming film Irumudi are set to resume after a brief pause, with the makers announcing a major new update that has excited fans.

The film has already generated strong buzz through its teaser glimpse and the first single, Irumudi Kattu, which received a positive response from audiences. However, the lack of promotional activity in recent days had led to speculation that the movie might be postponed from its announced release date of August 21. Putting those rumours to rest, the team has confirmed that the second single, Yaalalo Yaalalo, will be released on August 3. The newly unveiled poster suggests that the song will focus on the emotional family bond at the heart of the story. The track has been composed by GV Prakash Kumar, whose music has been one of the key highlights of the project so far. Following the release of the second song, the makers are also expected to launch the theatrical trailer, which will kick-start the next phase of the film's promotional campaign. Irumudi is being produced by Mythri Movie Makers and directed by Shiva Nirvana. Priya



Bhavani Shankar plays the female lead opposite Ravi Teja, while Baby Nakshatra appears in a significant role as the actor's daughter. With the release date approaching, the announcement has reassured fans that the film is progressing according to schedule. The combination of Ravi Teja's mass appeal, Shiva Nirvana's direction, and GV Prakash Kumar's music has created considerable anticipation for the film, making Irumudi one of the notable Telugu releases expected later this month.

'Toxic' Trailer To Arrive On August 8

The makers of Yash's much-awaited gangster action drama Toxic have officially announced that the theatrical trailer will be released on August 8. The announcement was made with a striking new poster featuring Yash, which has quickly grabbed the attention of fans across social media. Toxic marks the next major outing for the KGF star and is one of the most anticipated Indian films of the year. After facing multiple postponements, the film is now scheduled for a theatrical release on August 26. The recently released songs and promotional



glimpse have already generated significant buzz and renewed excitement around the project. According to the makers, the trailer launch will take place at a grand event in Bengaluru in the presence of the film's cast and crew. The event is expected to be a major promotional milestone ahead of the film's release later this month. The film is written by Yash himself and directed by acclaimed filmmaker Geetu Mohandas. The ensemble cast includes Nayanathara, Kiara Advani, Tara Sutaria, Rukmini Vasanth, and Huma Qureshi in important roles, adding to the film's strong pan-Indian appeal. One of the notable aspects of Toxic is that it has been shot simultaneously in Kannada and English. The film will also be dubbed in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam, indicating the makers' intention to position it as a large-scale multilingual release for audiences across India and

international markets. Produced jointly by Venkat K. Narayana and Yash under the banners of KVN Productions and Monster Mind Creations, Toxic is being mounted on a lavish scale. The film is expected to feature high-octane action sequences, a dark gangster backdrop, and a stylish visual presentation. The newly unveiled poster presents Yash in an intense and powerful avatar, hinting at the gritty tone of the film. With the trailer date now confirmed, expectations have risen further among fans eager to see Yash return to the big screen in a mass action role after the phenomenal success of the KGF franchise. As the countdown to August 26 begins, the August 8 trailer launch is likely to play a crucial role in setting the tone for the film's theatrical campaign and could offer audiences their first detailed look at the world, characters, and action-packed narrative of Toxic.