

ED Tightens Noose in Liquor Transportation Scam

Ravi Podili

Amaravati: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has intensified its investigation into alleged irregularities in liquor transportation tenders during the previous YSRCP government, with the arrest of former minister and senior YSRCP leader Karumuri Nageswara Rao triggering fresh speculation over the possible involvement of other prominent political figures. Karumuri Nageswara Rao, described by investigators as a prime accused in the case, was arrested by ED officials in

Kondapur, Hyderabad. His detention has created a political stir as the agency continues to probe alleged violations of tender norms and large-scale cash transactions linked to liquor transportation. According to the investigation, officials suspect that Sigma Supply Chain Solutions was allegedly used as a front company in the tendering process. The ED is examining the financial transactions associated with the company and is reportedly probing suspected hawala channels through which the alleged proceeds were moved. The investigation has

already resulted in several arrests. Former AP Beverages Corporation MD Vasudeva Reddy, Raj KC Reddy and Sunil Kumar, son of former minister Karumuri Nageswara Rao, were arrested earlier in connection with the case. With the former minister now arrested, investigators are expected to examine the alleged financial and operational links among the accused and establish the flow of funds involved in the transportation contracts. The liquor transportation issue had emerged as a major political controversy during the elections, with the then Opposition



alleging widespread irregularities in the system. The ED's intensified action has now fuelled speculation within political circles that its investigation could widen further and bring other prominent YSRCP leaders under scrutiny. However, the agency's investigation and any subsequent court proceedings will determine the responsibility of individual accused persons.

Special TET Announced for In-Service Teachers

Amaravati, August 24 | TPN Bureau

HRD Minister Nara Lokesh on Monday announced a Special Teacher Eligibility Test (Special TET) for in-service teachers, providing an opportunity to fulfil the mandatory TET qualification requirement and continue their professional careers.

Announcing the examination schedule on X, Lokesh said the notification would be issued on August 24, while applications would be accepted from August 25 to September 24. The Special TET examination will be conducted from October 11 to 21. He urged all eligible in-service teachers to make



full use of the opportunity and prepare for the examination through mock tests. Lokesh said the initiative was aimed at empowering teachers and strengthening the foundation of quality education in Andhra Pradesh. Detailed notification and guidelines are available through the official CSE Andhra Pradesh and TET-DSC portals.

Strict Action Against Negligence in Power Services : CMD Sivashankar Lotheti

Tirupati, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

APSPDCL Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) Sivashankar Lotheti warned that strict action would be taken against field-level officials and staff negligent in resolving consumers' electricity issues. During the 'Dial Your APSPDCL CMD' programme at the APSPDCL corporate office on Monday, 56 consumers from nine districts submitted grievances. Following complaints over delays in sanctioning domestic, commercial and agricultural services, Lotheti directed nodal officers to initiate disciplinary action against responsible personnel. He ordered immediate resolution of hazardous electricity pole replacement, voltage fluctuations and name-trans-



fer issues. Director (Projects & IT) P. Ayub Khan, Director/Finance (FAC) K. Ramamohan Rao, CGMs J. Ramana Devi, R. Padma, M. Murali Kumar, N. Shobha Valentina, Ch. Ramachandra Rao, K. Sampath Kumar and S. Ramana, and GMs Srikanth, Chakrapani, Jagadeesh, Bhaskar Reddy, Hemalatha and Latha attended. Meanwhile, Lotheti said 1,779 of 2,427 candidates attended the second-day AEE recruitment examination at 21 centres, recording 73% attendance.

Farmer ID to Become Mandatory for Govt Crop Procurement

Amaravati, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Farmer ID, or Unique Farmer Number, will soon become mandatory for farmers seeking to sell crop produce at government procurement centres in Andhra Pradesh, Agriculture Director Dr. Manazir Jeelani Samoon said. Samoon held a review meeting with senior officials of AP Markfed, Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation and the Digital Agriculture Division on Monday regarding Kharif procurement arrangements. He said Farmer ID was already mandatory under the crop insurance scheme and

would shortly be required for PM-KISAN. AP Markfed, which procures pulses including green gram, black gram, red gram and chickpea, and the Civil Supplies Corporation, which procures paddy, were directed to purchase produce only from land parcels linked to valid Farmer IDs. Against the State target of 64.71 lakh Farmer IDs, 51.83 lakh farmers have been registered. Samoon directed field staff to intensify awareness and registration efforts. He also asked CSCs to assist farmers in obtaining IDs. Officials Bala Subramanyam, Lakshman Kumar, B. Sai, Rajeev Sharma and Karthik attended.

AP Releases 50% Composite School Grants for 2026-27

Amaravati, August 25 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh School Education Department has released 50% of the Composite School Grant for government schools for the academic year 2026-27 and issued guidelines for its utilisation. The proceedings were issued by Samagra Shiksha. The grants are intended to improve the learning environment and meet recurring requirements, including teaching aids, consumables, sports equipment, laboratory needs, newspapers, electric-

ity, internet and drinking water. Funds can also be used for maintenance and repairs of school buildings, toilets and other facilities. At least 10% of the grant must be utilised for Swachhta Action Plan activities, including toilet maintenance, safe drinking water and WASH infrastructure. School Management Committees (SMCs) must oversee expenditure, while school heads are required to upload estimates and expenditure details through the designated app for online approval by the MEO.

CSMRS Experts Conduct Stability Tests on Polavaram ECRF Dam



Polavaram, August 24 | TPN Bureau

Experts from the Central Soil and Materials Research Station (CSMRS) conducted stability and quality tests on Monday at the Earth-cum-Rock-Fill (ECRF) dam being constructed as part of the Polavaram Project. The team assessed water seepage and soil density in the ECRF sections completed so far. The tests are aimed at verifying whether the dam construction meets pre-

scribed quality standards, particularly in preventing excessive seepage and maintaining the required soil density. The CSMRS team comprised Siddharth P. Hedavoo, Srihari T. Nair and Amit Sen. They were assisted by Polavaram Project MEIL General Manager A. Gangadhar, DGMS Murali Pamm and Guttapati Shankarayya, Water Resources Department EE D. Srinivas, and DEEs Nirmala, Srinivas and Sekhar Babu. The experts conducted permeabil-

ity tests to determine the rate of water movement through the ECRF structure and carried out field tests to assess soil density. They also collected samples for detailed laboratory examination. Some additional samples will be taken to Delhi for advanced testing at the CSMRS central research laboratory. The findings from the field and laboratory tests will be compiled into final reports to assess the quality and stability of the ECRF construction.

Health Minister Calls for Greater Awareness on Eye Donation



Mangalagiri, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav called for wider public awareness on eye donation while releasing an awareness pamphlet marking the 41st National Eye Donation Fortnight at the Health Department

headquarters in Mangalagiri on Monday. He said 13,803 corneas were collected in the State during the three financial years from 2024-25 to July 2026-27, accounting for 75% of the 18,400 collected during the previous five years. He appealed to people to voluntarily

donate eyes to help restore vision to those suffering from corneal blindness. The Minister announced that state-of-the-art equipment worth Rs.80 lakh would be procured for eye banks at regional eye hospitals in Kurnool and Visakhapatnam to facilitate cornea preservation and

transplantation. The fortnight will be observed across 28 districts from Aug 25 to Sept 8 through rallies, pledges, conferences and awareness program in schools and colleges. Health officials, ophthalmologists, eye banks and voluntary organisations will participate.

New Women's Police Station Building Inaugurated



Tirupati, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha inaugurated the newly constructed Women's Police Station building in Tirupati on Monday. District In-charge Minister and Minister for Revenue, Registration & Stamps Anagani Satya Prasad, MLAs Arani Srinivasulu, Pulivarthi Nani, Adimulam, Bojjala Sudheer Reddy, Nelavala Vijayasree and Aravah Sridhar, District Collector Dr. S.

Venkateswar and District SP L. Subbarayudu attended. Anitha said the Alliance government was giving top priority to women's safety. The 8,480-square-foot building was constructed at a cost of ₹2.70 crore after work, which had stalled earlier due to lack of funds, was completed following Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's directions. She stressed counselling to resolve family disputes and said psychiatric experts would conduct counselling twice a week.

She appreciated Additional SP Srilatha for improving the station's functioning, noting that cases declined from 94 last year to 58 so far this year. The Minister said crime in the state had declined by 14 percent and assured that women's police stations with dedicated buildings would be established at all district headquarters in phases. Additional SPs Ravi Manoharachari, Srilatha, Srinivas and Srinivasulu, DSPs and police personnel attended.

Jessie Blazes at Shakti SAT Workshop, Carries AP's Space Dreams



Uday Banavath

New Delhi: Kandula Jessie, the 14-year-old Class 10 student from Andhra Pradesh selected for the prestigious Mission ShaktiSAT, stepped into the international spotlight as the first day of the workshop began in New Delhi on August 23. Dressed in a bright yellow shirt and blue jeans, Jessie stood out among students representing different countries, joining the Indian contingent selected for the global all-girls lunar CubeSat initiative. The workshop, being conducted from August 23 to September 1, is designed to give participants hands-on exposure to satellite design, payload development and mission operations. Jessie, a student of Zilla Parishad Girls High School, Dowleswaram, East Godavari, is the only student from Andhra Pradesh among the 20 Indians selected from nearly 12,000 applicants representing 108 countries.



The first day brought together young space enthusiasts from across the world, allowing Jessie to learn, interact and work alongside fellow participants and experts. Speaking to the True Point team, Jessie said, "I was excited and a little anxious when the workshop began. Seeing girls from so many countries here made me realise how big this opportunity is. I am eager to learn every new thing and give my best for India." Jessie's participation marks a proud moment for Andhra Pradesh, as a government-school student from Dowleswaram takes her place on an international platform focused on encouraging girls in STEM and space science.

Jatwani Case Charge Sheet Puts Officers' Suspension Under Review

Ravi Podili

Amaravati: With the investigation into the actress Jatwani case reportedly completed and the charge sheet filed, the suspension of police officers Kanthi Rana Tata and Vishal Gunni is now expected to come under review. According to sources, preparations are underway to give the two officers loop-line postings if their suspension is lifted.

The officers had faced suspension over allegations that they exceeded their authority during the previous government. Sources said that after their suspension, they allegedly sought the intervention of senior government leaders through senior officials and intermediaries, while conveying that they had realised their mistakes. Meanwhile, P. S. R. Anjaneyulu, who is facing serious allegations in the APPSC digital evaluation irregularities case, is due to retire at the end of this month while continuing to remain under suspension. The government is reportedly examining the possibility of withholding



his retirement benefits in accordance with applicable rules. The developments have triggered a debate over disciplinary standards within the police department. Critics argue that merely lifting suspensions and assigning loop-line postings could effectively benefit officers facing serious allegations. They contend that disciplinary mechanisms will retain their credibility only when violations of rules are subjected to thorough inquiries and appropriate action, regardless of the officers' rank or influence.

Govt Rejigs FAC Arrangements In Health Department

Amaravati, August 24 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Government has issued orders amending the Full Additional Charge (FAC) arrangements for key posts under the Health, Medical and Family Welfare Department. According to G.O.Rt.No.1689, issued by the General Administration (SCA) Department on August 24, P. Arun Babu, Director General, Drug Control Administration, has been placed in FAC of the post of Director, Institute of Preventive Medicine with immediate effect. He will take over the additional responsibility from K.V.N. Chakradhara Babu, who has been relieved of the FAC of the post.

In another change, Gopalakrishna Ronanki, Joint Secretary to Government, HM & FW Department, has been placed in the FAC of the post of Director,

AYUSH. He will take over the additional charge from P. Arun Babu. The orders were issued by G. Sai Prasad, Chief Secretary to Government, by order and in the name of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh. The General Administration Department directed the concerned officials and departments to take necessary action in accordance with the orders. Copies of the proceedings were also forwarded to the HM & FW Department, Pay and Accounts Officer, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, and the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India. The orders also informed the Special Chief Secretary to the Governor, Lok Bhavan, Vijayawada, and the Special Chief Secretary/Secretaries to the Chief Minister about the changes.

BJP Seeks Extension of SIR Claims Deadline to Sept 10

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

BJP State General Secretaries Nagothu Ramesh Naidu and Sannareddy Dayakar Reddy urged State Chief Electoral Officer Vivek Yadav to extend the deadline for filing claims and objections under the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls to Sept 10, 2026. In a representation submitted on Monday, they said the extensive revision process required additional time for verifying voter details, collecting documents and filing claims or objections. They stressed that eligible voters should not lose their

opportunity to seek inclusion, deletion or correction of names due to the limited timeframe. The BJP leaders also highlighted practical difficulties faced by voters, Booth Level Agents, Booth Level Officers and election staff during the exercise. They said additional time would help ensure the SIR process is comprehensive, transparent and accurate while protecting every eligible citizen's right to vote. They requested the State Election Commission and Election Commission of India to consider the extension, stating that it would facilitate preparation of a reliable and error-free electoral roll.

Appeal to Extend SIR Claims and Objections Period Until Sept 10A

Amaravati, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

A representation has been submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer, Andhra Pradesh, seeking an extension of the Claims and Objections Period under the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. A copy of the representation was also addressed to the Chief Election Commissioner, Election Commission of India, New Delhi. The representation stated that the existing timeline was insufficient considering the scale of the SIR exercise and practical difficulties faced by electors, Booth Level Agents and election functionaries

at the field level. It noted that verification of voter details, collection of necessary information and submission of claims and objections were still underway in several areas. The representation stressed that eligible voters should not lose their opportunity to file claims or objections due to the limited timeframe. It urged the authorities to extend the Claims and Objections Period until Sept 10, 2026, to ensure a comprehensive, inclusive and accurate revision process and a credible electoral roll. The appeal sought favourable consideration in the larger interest of voters.

Karumuri Nageswara Rao Remanded in Liquor Transportation Scam Case

Hyderabad, August 24 | TPN Bureau

A Hyderabad ED court on Monday remanded former minister and YSRCP leader Karumuri Nageswara Rao to judicial custody for two weeks in connection with the Andhra Pradesh liquor transportation scam. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested Karumuri in Kondapur on Sunday and produced him before the court after conducting a medical examination. Following the court's order, he was shifted to Chanchalguda Jail. Karumuri is the fourth person to

be arrested in the case. His son Sunil Kumar, former AP Beverages MD Vasudeva Reddy and Raj KC Reddy were arrested earlier. The ED is investigating alleged irregularities in liquor transportation tenders and suspected hawala transactions linked to the case. According to the ED remand report, Karumuri and his son Sunil Kumar were allegedly the primary beneficiaries of a liquor transportation syndicate. The agency alleged that they used their political influence to secure transportation sub-contracts. The ED reportedly found that Sri Sudarshana Constructions



was established as a dummy sub-contractor, while the transportation contract was obtained through Sigma Supply Chain

Solutions. The actual transportation work, however, was allegedly carried out by other individuals.

The agency further alleged that proceeds generated from the transportation operations were routed through multiple bank accounts. According to the remand report, Karumuri and his son allegedly accumulated illegal income of RS.18.09 crore. The ED also stated that more than RS.11.95 crore was transferred from Sri Sudarshana Constructions to members of Karumuri's family. The investigation is continuing, with the agency examining the financial transactions and alleged hawala channels associated with the liquor transportation network.

Lokesh Failed to Ensure Basic Hostel Facilities, Alleges Talari Rangaiah

Tadepalli, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Former MP Dr Talari Rangaiah criticised HRD Minister Nara Lokesh over alleged poor conditions in government schools and SC, ST and BC welfare hostels. Speaking at the YSRCP Central Office in Tadepalli, he said students must first be provided safe drinking water, toilets, nutritious food and basic facilities. Rangaiah alleged that nearly 100 students had died across Andhra Pradesh in recent months and questioned the government's response. He cited the death of SC student Teja Harshavardhan at Setturu Mandal ZP High School after a wall collapsed when he went outside due to inadequate toilet facilities. He also referred to injured student Akshay and a boy who died after falling into a farm pond at Rayalappadoddi. He said around 650 students at Kanekallu hostel faced water shortages and questioned why a borewell costing about Rs.1.5 lakh could not be provided. Rangaiah recalled the previous YSRCP government's Rs.7,245 crore Jagananna Gorumudda programme and alleged deterioration in food quality. He demanded a comprehensive HRD Department review, Rs.1 crore compensation and a government job for the deceased student's family. He also sought SC/ST Atrocities Act cases against those responsible and said Lokesh should resign if unable to ensure student safety.

Alliance Poised for Victory in Alur Local Elections: Ministers

Alur/Kurnool, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

BC Welfare Minister S. Savitha expressed confidence that the Alliance would win the upcoming local body elections in Alur constituency. Along with Water Resources Minister Nimmala Rama Naidu, she visited Alur and addressed TDP cadres, urging TDP, BJP and Jana Sena leaders to work unitedly. Savitha said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu was giving priority to BC welfare while accelerating development. She announced that a BC Gurukul residential school would be established in Alur from the next academic year and said efforts were underway to establish a textile park. She said infrastructure works, including CC and BT roads and canals, were progressing under the Alliance government. Savitha criticised the previous government's irrigation ministers and accused YS Jagan Mohan Reddy of making baseless allegations over the Mega DSC out of political jealousy. She said another DSC recruitment drive would be conducted soon. Nimmala Rama Naidu urged cadres to take welfare schemes to the people. Several TDP, BJP and Jana Sena leaders participated.

Gurumoorthy Seeks MEA Intervention to Trace Missing Fishermen

New Delhi, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP Tirupati MP Maddila Gurumoorthy urged External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to intervene urgently to trace fishing boat Sri Muthyalamma and ensure the safe return of seven fishermen from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district, missing since Aug 3. In a letter to Jaishankar, Gurumoorthy sought diplomatic coordination with maritime authorities and governments of Myanmar, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, as the vessel may have drifted into international waters. The boat, registered as IND-AP-E8-MO-135, departed from Odalarevu Fishing Landing Centre in Allavaram mandal at around 9.30 am on Aug 3. No confirmed contact has been established with the vessel or crew since then. The MP said Indian Coast Guard and Navy personnel had conducted search operations, while mobile and satellite tracking efforts also failed to locate the boat. Citing the District Collector's assessment that engine failure may have caused the vessel to drift, Gurumoorthy stressed the need for immediate diplomatic intervention to overcome jurisdictional and communication challenges and bring the fishermen home safely.

YS Jagan to Hold State-Level Meeting with YSRCP Leaders

Tadepalli, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP President and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will hold a state-level meeting with key party leaders at the YSRCP Central Office in Tadepalli at 11 am on Tuesday, Aug 25. Regional Coordinators, District Party Presidents, coordinators of all 175 Assembly constituencies, State General Secretaries handling coordination and affiliated wings, and State Deputy General Secretaries will attend the meeting. The discussions are expected to focus on issues faced by people across Andhra Pradesh, strengthening the party organisation and preparations for the upcoming local body elections. The latest political developments and the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls will also be reviewed. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is expected to seek feedback from leaders on public issues and the party's organisational position across constituencies. He will also review preparations for the forthcoming local elections and discuss the political situation in the State. The YSRCP leadership said the meeting would help finalise the party's course of action on key issues and provide directions to leaders and cadre.

Karumuri Arrest Political Vendetta, Alleges Mudunuri Prasada Raju

Bhimavaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP West Godavari District President and former MLA Mudunuri Prasada Raju condemned the arrest of former Minister and BC leader Karumuri Nageswara Rao, alleging it was an act of political vendetta by the coalition government. Speaking at the YSRCP office in Bhimavaram, he said the government was targeting BC leaders who questioned its failures. Prasada Raju alleged that Karumuri was arrested in connection with a liquor scam despite having no links with the liquor business. He termed the case baseless and said the arrest was aimed at weakening Karumuri, who was serving as YSRCP Regional Coordinator for two districts. He accused the coalition government of neglecting development and welfare while targeting opposition leaders and social media activists with cases. He questioned the status of election promises, including new pensions, unemployment allowance, Rs.1,500 monthly assistance for women and Rs.20,000 aid for farmers. Prasada Raju said YSRCP would face the upcoming local body elections without fear and expressed confidence in YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's support among people. He assured full support to Karumuri's family and expressed faith in the judiciary.

Minister Narayana Receives Public Grievances at TDP Office



Amaravati, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Minister Narayana participated in the 'Grievance Day' programme at the TDP central office in Amaravati and received petitions from people arriving from across Andhra Pradesh. He enquired about their problems and contacted concerned officials over the phone to initiate immediate action. Narayana said the government's objective was to resolve public grievances and ensure people faced no inconvenience. He said nearly 90 per cent of the 84 petitions received involved land-related

issues, many of which arose from irregularities during the previous government's tenure. He said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had directed the Revenue Department to address such disputes. The petitions were forwarded to secretaries, commissioners and Collectors concerned for action. Officials would contact petitioners and provide solutions. Narayana said Ministers would conduct Grievance Day programmes at the TDP central office every month under the directions of Chandrababu Naidu and Nara Lokesh.

YSRCP Seeks Uniform Access to SIR-2026 Data for Booth Agents

Tadepalli, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP State General Secretary and MLC Lella Appi Reddy urged Chief Electoral Officer Vivek Yadav to ensure authorised YSRCP BLAs receive booth-wise SIR-2026 data across Andhra Pradesh. He sought details on unmapped voters, logical discrepancies, anomalies and notices issued or pending. Appi Reddy said YSRCP BLA-1s and BLA-2s were facing difficulties in obtaining information at district, Assembly constituency and booth levels. He cited Pulivendula, Punganur and Uravakonda as examples and said similar issues were reported elsewhere.

He said the YSRCP SIR Organisational Team had approached the RDO office in Kadiri seeking booth-wise data, but officials reportedly said they lacked the required access. Appi Reddy pointed out that similar data relating to Chittoor Assembly Constituency had been submitted to the CEO, indicating its availability within the election machinery. He requested statewide data for the party's Central Office and urged the CEO to direct Collectors/DEOs, RDOs/EROs, AEROs and BLOs to share relevant information with authorised YSRCP BLAs. He said transparent data-sharing would help verify electoral rolls and identify genuine discrepancies.

YSRCP Opposes Srisailam Releases, Demands Water for Rayalaseema

Pothireddypadu, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP Rayalaseema leaders accused the Chandrababu Naidu government of releasing Srisaillam water downstream for power generation while allegedly neglecting Rayalaseema's irrigation needs. They demanded immediate measures to maintain adequate water levels and fill reservoirs across the region. Nandyal District YSRCP President Katasani Rambhupal Reddy and former Minister Sake Sailajanath spoke to the media after police prevented YSRCP leaders from visiting the Pothireddypadu regulator. Police reportedly erected barricades and deployed security, citing lack of permission. Katasani said Srisaillam should maintain

around 841 feet to facilitate water flow towards Rayalaseema through Pothireddypadu. He recalled former Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy's measures to protect the region's water interests and urged farmers to unite for their rightful share. Sailajanath alleged that reservoirs including Gorakallu, Owk and Velugodu were being left dry despite water availability at Srisaillam. He questioned the government's alleged understanding with Telangana and criticised restrictions on opposition leaders. The YSRCP leaders demanded protection of Rayalaseema's irrigation rights and vowed to continue their democratic struggle alongside farmers until adequate water reaches the region.

"A Small Beginning Should Lead to a Big Vision and a Big Dream", Says Vice-President

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"A small beginning should lead to a big vision and a big dream," C. P. Radhakrishnan said while appreciating the journey of Gourmet Popcornica from Andhra Pradesh to wider markets. He said more than 17,500 farmers across eight States were associated with the Gourmet Popcornica initiative, cultivating nearly 40,000 acres. He also felicitated best-performing farmers from the eight States and partners associated with the enterprise. Governor S. Abdul Nazeer said agriculture remained indispensable to India's economy and noted that maize, the country's third-largest food crop after rice and wheat, was cultivated across 16.9 million hectares with annual production exceeding 43 million tonnes. Referring to emerging weather challenges, the Governor stressed the need to develop drought-tolerant maize and rice varieties capable of maintaining yields with lower water availability. He appreciated Gourmet Popcornica for developing tropical popcorn hybrids suited to Indian soil and climatic conditions, with improved kernel expansion, disease resistance and consistent yield performance. He said the company was working with 17,500 farmers across eight States and its products were available in more than 3,400 cinemas. He also highlighted its initiative to introduce popcorn cultivation among tribal farmers in Srikakulam district. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu called for greater processing and value addition of agricultural and horticultural produce to create wealth and expand access to global markets. Along with the Vice-President and Governor, he released the non-GMO hybrid maize seeds. Naidu said popcorn cultivated in the Nuzvidu region was being supplied to markets across India and abroad and that the country's largest popcorn processing plant had been established at Musunuru. He said India had earlier imported substantial quantities of popcorn, including from Brazil, but indigenous production and processing could retain more wealth within the country. The Chief Minister said the government would take steps to establish counters at railway stations for Andhra Popcorn and Araku Coffee, while promoting other indigenous products such as Kondaveeti wooden toys in global markets. He urged farmers and youth to focus on processing and value addition, saying the government's objective was to transform agricultural producers into entrepreneurs and create an entrepreneur in every family. Turmeric, chilli, maize, aquaculture and other products should be processed, branded and exported to international markets, he said. Naidu also highlighted plans to develop Rayalaseema as a horticulture hub through public and private investments of RS.1 lakh crore. He said measures were being taken to address possible water scarcity amid El Niño conditions and encouraged farmers to consider alternative crops such as pulses. The programme was attended by Ministers Nara Lokesh, Kinjarapu Atchannaidu and Kolusu Parthasarathy, along with Gourmet Popcornica Managing Director S.B.P. Pattabhi Rama Rao, Directors K. Venkateswara Babu and K. Mahidhar Reddy, Preferred Popcorn LLC founder Norman Krug, farmers and other dignitaries.

Suzlon Expands Wind Energy Footprint in Andhra Pradesh

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Uravakonda Wind Power Pvt. Ltd., Ostro Andhra Wind Pvt. Ltd., ReNew Wind Energy (Shivapur) Pvt. Ltd., Poonawalla Estate Stud & Agri Farm Pvt. Ltd., Jindal Aluminium Ltd., Asian Paints Ltd. (Vizag) and Axis Wind Farms (Anantapur) Pvt. Ltd. **Focus On Green Skills** The Andhra Pradesh Government and Suzlon are jointly implementing a large-scale green skill development programme through Wind Energy Learning Centres in Uravakonda and Vijayawada. Around 12,000 young professionals are being trained for the renewable energy sector, with women accounting for nearly 25% of the trainees. Suzlon is the first Indian company to cross 20 GW of installed wind power capacity globally and has a domestic market share of more than 33%. About one in every three wind turbines manufactured in India is produced by Suzlon. The latest investment and expansion are expected to boost renewable energy generation, manufacturing, employment and skill development in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Anantapur region.

Naidu Directs Departments to Improve Services Through Technology

Continue

measures. Officials reported that dengue cases had declined from 1,361 during the corresponding period last year to 401 cases this year. He also stressed the need to accelerate renewable energy initiatives and prepare an action plan for large-scale installation of rooftop solar systems to support Andhra Pradesh's carbon-neutral goal.

SEC Warns Against Fake Local Election Schedule Circulating on Social Media

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

State Election Commissioner (SEC) Anil Chandra Punetha warned the public against a fake local election schedule being circulated on social media in Andhra Pradesh, urging people not to believe or forward unofficial information. In an official statement, Punetha said false information regarding the local election schedule was being widely shared on social media, with some individuals allegedly misusing official symbols to make the fabricated schedule appear genuine. He said the State Election Commission office had been receiving a large number of calls from various quarters seeking clarification on the authenticity of the information. "The schedule being circulated by some individuals is fake and has no truth," Punetha clarified, urging the public not to believe or forward election dates being shared through WhatsApp and other social media platforms. The SEC warned that strict action would be taken against those deliberately spreading misinformation. Cases would be registered under applicable cyber laws against individuals found circulating the fake schedule. Punetha made it clear that details concerning local body elections would be communicated only through official press statements or media briefings issued by the State Election Commission. He advised the public, political parties and other stakeholders to rely only on official announcements and ignore unverifiable messages until the Commission formally releases the election schedule.

Transport Department Driver Assaults Lorry Driver

Visakhapatnam, August 24 | TPN Bureau

A video showing the alleged assault of a lorry driver by the driver of a Transport Department 'Break Inspector' vehicle has gone viral in Visakhapatnam, triggering concern among members of the transport community. The incident reportedly occurred at Maruti Junction in Sheela Nagar during a vehicle inspection. According to reports, a lorry driver allegedly failed to stop when signalled by the Transport Department officials. The 'Break Inspector' vehicle subsequently overtook the lorry and forced it to stop. During the ensuing incident, the driver of Break Inspector Parvathi



allegedly boarded the lorry and assaulted the lorry driver. The assault was reportedly severe enough to cause bleeding from the victim's mouth. The incident was captured on video and later circulated widely on social media, drawing attention from the lorry

operators' community. Members of the AP Lorry Association have reportedly decided to stage a protest demanding action over the alleged assault. Further details regarding the incident and any action by the Transport Department were awaited.

Durga Temple Hundi Collections Cross 3.91 Crore

VIJAYAWADA, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam on Indrakeeladri recorded hundi collections of RS.3.91 crore over 18 days, with the counting completed at the temple on Monday.Temple Executive Officer and Special Grade Deputy Collector V.K. Sheena Naik said the hundi counting was conducted from 7 AM on the sixth floor of the Mahamandapam.

The hundis, last opened on August 6, yielded a total of RS.3,91,17,684 in Indian currency, including RS.3,74,30,684 in notes and RS.16,87,000 in coins. The collection works out to an average of around RS.21.73 lakh per day, reflecting the steady flow of devotees to the temple during the period.Devotees also offered 306 grams of gold and 4 kg 170 grams of silver.



Foreign currency offerings were received from 17 countries, including 663 US Dollars, 840 UAE Dirhams, 21 Saudi Riyals and 85 Euros.Temple authorities

said the counting was carried out under strict supervision and security arrangements to ensure transparency in the process. The substantial offerings under-

Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam Hundi Collection Summary (Aug 06 to Aug 24, 2026)		
Category	Collection Total	
Total Indian Currency	₹3,91,17,684	
Currency Notes	₹3,74,30,684	
Coins	₹16,87,000	
Average Daily Collection	₹21.73 lakh	
Gold	306 grams	
Silver	4 kg 170 grams	
Foreign Currency	From 17 countries	
Collection Period	Aug 06 to Aug 24, 2026	

line the continued religious significance of the Indrakeeladri temple and the large number of devotees visiting Goddess Kanaka Durga.

Case Registered Over Patient's Death at Vijayawada Hospital

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Satyanarayanapuram police registered a case following court directions over allegations concerning the death of Panthla Appayamma at Swara Super Speciality Hospital, Vijayawada, in October 2023. The complaint was filed by her son, Panthla Krishnamurthy, and forwarded to police under Section 156(3) of the Cr.P.C. by the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vijayawada, on August 23, 2026.

According to the complaint, Appayamma was admitted with low blood pressure, weakness and existing health conditions,

including Atrial Fibrillation, COPD and neurological problems. Krishnamurthy alleged that he repeatedly requested cardiology and pulmonology consultations. He was reportedly informed that her condition was not critical after ECG and X-ray examinations. However, she died of sudden cardiac arrest on October 27, 2023.

The complainant later alleged discrepancies in the professional credentials and registration of some doctors. Police registered the case under several IPC sections, including 406, 468, 471, 506, 304-A, 201, 120-B, 371 and 386 read with 149, and are investigating.

'Eagle Challenge' Intensifies Drug Control

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Satyanarayanapuram Police Station has intensified efforts against marijuana and drug abuse under the 'Eagle Challenge' programme, as part of 'War on Drugs 2.0 and 3.0', on the directions of CP Rajashekhar Babu. CI Lakshminarayana said 500 individuals within the station limits were tested during Phase 2.0, of whom 78 tested positive.

They were counselled and sent to rehabilitation centres. During Phase 3.0, all 78 tested negative after re-testing, indicating successful rehabilitation efforts.Police identified five persons

allegedly involved in marijuana sales and remanded them to custody. Cases under the NDPS and PD Acts were registered against other repeat offenders, who were sent to jail. A reward of RS.5,000 is being offered for information leading to marijuana sellers and RS.1,500 for information about consumers. Lakshminarayana urged citizens not to attribute every public disturbance to marijuana users, stressing the difference between alcohol- and marijuana-related behaviour. Though local cultivation has been curbed, supplies reportedly continue from Odisha, prompting further action by senior officials.

All Set For Sravana Celebrations at Durga Temple

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Devasthanam at Indrakeeladri will conduct Sravana Masa celebrations, Pavitrotsavams, Varalakshmi Vratams and Sri Krishna Janmashtami festivities from August 13 to September 11, 2026, as per Endowments Department orders. Daily rituals and special pujas will be performed at the main temple and sub-temples.

Pavitrotsavams

The three-day Pavitrotsavams will be held from August 27 to 29. Udaya Shanti will be performed at 4 PM on August 26. The celebrations will include Snapana Abhishekam, Pavitra Dharana, Ganapati Puja, Mandaparadhana, Agni Pratishthapana, Havanams, Veda Parayanam and other Vedic rituals. Purnahuti, Kalashodvasana and Mahadashirvachanam will be performed

on August 29.

Varalakshmi Vratams

The Varalakshmi Vratam will be observed privately on August 21, with the presiding Goddess adorned as Varalakshmi Devi. Mass Varalakshmi Vratams will be conducted on September 4 at Sri Mallikarjuna Maha Mandapam. The paid ritual will be held from 7 AM to 9 AM at RS.1,500 per person, followed by darshan through the RS.300 queue. A free mass vratam will be conducted from 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Janmashtami Celebrations

Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations will also be held on September 4. Lord Krishna worship and Go-puja will be performed from 8 AM, followed by a discourse by Puranic scholars from 5 PM to 6 PM. The traditional Utti Kottuta will be held at 6:30 PM near the Rajagopuram. Extensive arrangements are being made for devotees.

Maris Stella College Hosts National Space Day Celebrations



Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The Department of Physics, Maris Stella College (Autonomous), Vijayawada, organised National Space Day Celebrations-2026 at the college auditorium on Monday to commemorate India's achievements in space science and technology. The programme was held with the theme "India's Space Journey Towards Viksit Bharat 2047".The celebrations were conducted under the guidance of Principal Dr. Sr. Innyasamma

Gade, fmm, and Correspondent Dr. Sr. Leena Quadras. Department of Physics Head P. Padma Latha coordinated the event with faculty members.Chief Guest Santhi Sree Basavaraju, Sci/Eng: G, Group Head, Satellite Data Evaluation, Data Processing Area, National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, Department of Space, delivered an invited talk on India's space journey and emerging opportunities in the sector. Inter-collegiate PPT, model presentation, drawing and quiz competitions were organised, with nearly 150 students from nine colleges participating. Cultural programmes, an online quiz and prize distribution were also held.The event was supported by Meenakshi, Maruthi Sree, Chittaranjandas, Jeevitha and Radha Kumari, along with Vice-Principals, Deans, faculty and student coordinators. The programme concluded with the College Anthem and National Anthem.

Collector Stresses Genuine Grievance Redressal

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha directed officials to provide genuine and permanent solutions to public grievances, stressing that redressal should be achieved at the field level rather than confined to paperwork or online records. He said public satisfaction must be the real benchmark.At the People-Friendly PGRS meeting at the Sri Pingali Venkayya Conference Hall in the Collectorate on Monday, 192 petitions were received, including 66 Revenue, 52 Municipal and Urban Development, 22 Police and 17 Panchayat Raj grievances. Lakshmisha directed officials to personally interact with petitioners, thoroughly examine complaints and clearly record action taken. MPDOs and Tahsildars were asked to remain available for online reviews.The Collector also inspected the Special Summary Revision (SSR) inquiry process at Ayyappanagar Swarna



Ward Office in Vijayawada East. He clarified that issuing notices would not automatically result in deletion of votes and said decisions would follow factual verification.So far, 1,88,769 notices have been issued and inquiries completed for 61,284 people. Arrangements are being made to reschedule inquiries for 64,252 people whose scheduled period had lapsed.He said the exercise aims to protect voting rights and create an error-free electoral roll. BLOs would assist voters and provide Forms 6, 7 and 8. Eligible citizens were urged to register through Form-6.

Yamini Sharma Demands Justice for Sowjanya's Family

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

BJP State Official Spokesperson Sadineni Yamini Sharma demanded justice for Sowjanya's family and urged the state government to take serious action over her death. She questioned whether State Home Minister Anitha had responded to the incident and the plight of Sowjanya's parents. Yamini Sharma alleged that rifle shooting coach Shaik Sadik Khan had blackmailed Sowjanya's family and coerced her into converting to Islam, leading to her tragic

death.She demanded that the government treat the matter with utmost seriousness and that the courts impose severe punishment on the accused. She called for stricter legal provisions to ensure the accused was denied bail and to prevent similar incidents. Sharma also questioned the silence of celebrities, independent journalists, women's organisations and human rights groups over the incident. She urged authorities to ensure justice for Sowjanya's family and take measures to prevent such incidents.

Naseer Ahmed Invited to Eid Milad-un-Nabi Celebrations

Guntur, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Ata Nizam Baba extended a special invitation to Guntur East MLA Md. Naseer Ahmed to attend the Eid Milad-un-Nabi ? celebrations at the Astana-Ata-e-Bagh Sarkar Tajul Auliya Darbar (AABSTA Darbar) in Jampani.On the occasion, Ata Nizam Baba offered a special spiritual Dua for the MLA, praying for the blessings and grace of Prophet Muhammad Mustafa ? and greater success in his public service. He announced that the Eid Milad-un-Nabi ? celebrations would be held on a grand scale at the AABSTA Darbar. Md. Naseer Ahmed thanked Ata Nizam Baba for the invitation and expressed hope that people would follow the Prophet's teachings of love, peace, brotherhood and humanity.



Ata Nizam Baba also prayed for Allah's mercy, blessings, unity and peace to prevail in society.

Maha Dharna Seeks Resolution of Dalit, Tribal Issues



Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

People's organisations held a Maha Dharna at the NTR District Collectorate on Monday, demanding immediate resolution of issues faced by Dalits and Tribals identified during the 'Samajika Shankharavam' study tour. Hundreds participated and submitted a memorandum to District Collector and DRO M. Lakshmi Narasimham. KVPS district leader K. Kranthi Kumar presided.Civil Welfare Association State leader Ch. Babu Rao highlighted the shortage of

cremation grounds in Dalit colonies. AIDWA State President K. Sridevi sought 1.5-cent house sites for eligible homeless families, while CITU State Secretary K. Subbaravamma demanded an end to diversion of SC Sub-Plan funds and better roads, drainage and sanitation. Leaders also sought pending wage payments, employment, revival of the Land Purchase Scheme, protection of assigned lands, restoration of the SC/ST grievance cell, drinking-water connections and pensions.They warned of intensified protests if the demands remained unresolved.

APTA Seeks Watchmen for Upgraded Schools

Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The AP Primary Teachers Association (APTA) has demanded the immediate appointment of watchmen for upper primary schools upgraded to high schools under the Alliance government's educational reforms. APTA State President Kaki Prakash Rao and State General Secretary M.G. Mehdi said several upgraded schools had been functioning without night watchmen even a year after the upgrade.They noted that the schools possess valuable assets, including mod-

ern panel TVs, computers and other equipment, requiring proper security. The association had earlier submitted a written request to Education Department officials seeking appointments, but no action had been taken so far.

The APTA leaders have now represented the matter again to Minister for Human Resource Development Nara Lokesh and Education Department officials through a letter bearing Ref. No. 92/APTA State/2026. They urged the government to act promptly to protect school infrastructure and equipment.

VMC Chief Calls for Protection of Voter Rights



Vijayawada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dhyanaachandra directed officials to address every public complaint responsibly through field inspections and permanent solutions. At the grievance redressal session at the VMC Command Control Room on Monday, he reviewed complaints and ordered resolution within stipulated timelines. He also reviewed grievance programmes at head and zonal offices through video conference and directed continuous monitoring of complaints registered through the Puramitra app.A total of 15 complaints were received, including nine related to

Town Planning, three to Engineering, and one each to UCD, Revenue and Horticulture. Dhyanaachandra stressed inter-departmental coordination, transparency and accountability.Later, he visited a polling station in Maruti Nagar and reviewed the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 hearing process. He said notices had been issued to eligible voters regarding unmaped cases and assured protection of voting rights for those attending hearings with prescribed documents. Those unable to submit documents could apply for new voter registration, while those who missed hearings were advised to approach their respective AERO offices.

Pragnya School Student Selected for State Ball Badminton Championship



Gannavaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Thirividhi Bharat, a ninth-grade student of Pragnya School, Gannavaram, has been selected to represent Krishna district in the state-level ball badminton championship. School Principal K.N. Sailaja Rajeshwari announced the selection on Monday.Bharat earned the opportunity after displaying outstanding sporting skills at the district-level sub-junior ball badminton championship held at Hindu College, Machilipatnam. He will

represent the Krishna district team in the upcoming state-level tournament. Principal K.N. Sailaja Rajeshwari congratulated Bharat and appreciated Physical Education teachers V. Charan Teja and U. Varshini Priya for encouraging and supporting his sporting talent. Teaching and non-teaching staff, D. Sharvani, Vice President of the Krishna District Ball Badminton Association, and Dhaniyala Nagaraju, Sports In-charge for the Gannavaram constituency, also congratulated the student and teachers.

Chandrababu Distributes Sheep Loan Benefits

Eluru, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu handed over a symbolic cheque for Rs.12 crore in sheep-rearing loans benefiting 400 people across four mandals in the Nuzvid constituency. The loans were facilitated by the Krishna District Cooperative Central Bank (DCCB). Support for Farmers
Chandrababu personally greeted residents, farmers and women gathered at the helipad after the Vice President's visit to Musunuru. Sheep breeders presented him with a lamb and a black woollen blanket.



The Chief Minister praised Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy and Krishna DCCB district chairman Nettem Sriraghuram for facilitating the loans. He said the coalition government aimed to strengthen families financially through sheep rearing and promote self-employment in rural areas. He urged people to utilise government schemes to create employment and stable incomes.

Collector K. Vetriselvi, SP K. Pratap Siva Kishore, Sub-Collector Bollipalli Vinuthna, DCCB Director General N. Rangababu, coalition leaders and beneficiaries attended.

Minister Ravi Kumar Inaugurates 276.6-Crore Power Substation



Darsi, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar inaugurated a 132/33 kV substation at Shivaramapuram in Darsi constituency on Monday, built at a cost of Rs.276.6 crore, stating that the Alliance government was strengthening power infrastructure to address low-voltage problems and supply interruptions. He said Rs.900 crore worth of works had been taken up under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in Darsi, while projects worth Rs.1,500 crore were underway. Across Andhra Pradesh, power infrastructure works worth Rs.80,000 crore were being implemented, with construction of 50 previously incomplete substations being expedited. Around 4,000 PM Surya Ghar connections worth 7500 crore were approved for Darsi, including additional subsidies

for BC communities. Ravi Kumar alleged that the previous YSRCP government had neglected substations despite adequate power generation. TIDCO Houses Before December
In Addanki, Ravi Kumar said more than 960 TIDCO houses at Singarakonda would be handed over to beneficiaries before December. He performed Bhoomi Puja for infrastructure works worth Rs.9.70 crore and laid the foundation for restoration of Oora Cheruvu at Rs.5.10 crore. A sewage treatment plant, two-lakh-litre water tank, compound wall, roads, drainage system and an exclusive Rs.4.50-crore power substation are being developed at the housing complex. The lake will be restored under AMRUT 2.0 with parks, walking tracks and greenery. Gottipati Lakshmi, TDP in-charge for Darsi, Alliance leaders and officials participated.

BKMU Demands Continuation of Employment Guarantee Law



Eluru, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers' Union (BKMU) staged a protest at the Tahsildar's office in Chataparru, Eluru Rural mandal, on Monday, demanding continuation of MGNREGA in its existing form and provision of 200 days of work annually.Organised under the State Committee's call with the slogan "Change Must Come: We Want Change", the protesters submitted a memorandum to Deputy Tahsildar Priyadarshini. BKMU district general secretary Bandi Venkateswara Rao alleged that the

Central Government led by Modi was weakening the employment guarantee scheme and demanded withdrawal of the Viksit Bharat G-Ram G programme.The union sought a Rs.10,000 drought pension, house sites and Rs.5 lakh construction assistance for workers, besides a monthly Rs.1,500 guarantee for every woman above 18. Eluru Mandal Secretary Potelu Pentayya, BKMU Mandal leader Buggala Prabhakara Rao, AITUC district general secretary Reddy Srinivas Dange, B. Yesuratnam, Korada Nageswara Rao and others participated.

124 Crore Projects to Boost Development in P. Gannavaram

P. Gannavaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

P. Gannavaram MLA Giddi Satyanarayana said the Alliance government was giving top priority to roads and basic infrastructure in the constituency. Speaking to the media at his Gannavaram office on Monday, he said nearly 80 per cent of road works had been completed and the remaining works would be expedited. He said Rs.17.67 crore worth of road works would be taken up under the Panchayat Raj APRRSP programme. The government has also sanctioned Rs.8.39 crore for development of 24 Pushkar

Ghats ahead of the Godavari Pushkaram,ensuring better facilities and connectivity for devotees. Satyanarayana said Rs.24.42 crore had been allocated for temple development, including Rs.5 crore for Sri Vigneshwara Swamy Temple at Ainavilli. Rs.3 crore for a Bhodhashala at Sri Bala Balaji Swamy Temple, Appanapalli, and funds for other temples. He added that proposals worth Rs.91.70 crore had been submitted for new bridges and roads, including 19 crore for bridges and Rs.72.70 crore for roads. Alliance leaders and public representatives attended the meeting.

Police Conduct Surprise Checks, Counsel Rowdy-Sheeters

Chirala, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Police intensified inspections in the Chirala II Town Police Station limits ahead of the local body elections. Acting on the directions of District SP B. Uma Maheshwar and DSP M.D. Moin, II Town CI Sasikumar led a foot patrol in sensitive areas of Janpeta and Jayanthipeta on Saturday. Around 20 police personnel participated in the operation, conducting surprise checks and visiting the residences of rowdy-sheeters and suspected individuals for inquiries and counselling. Police also

identified 50 two-wheelers without proper documents and seized them, shifting the vehicles to Chirala II Town Police Station. CI Sasikumar warned that any attempt to disturb law and order during the election period would invite strict action. He said the preventive checks were aimed at ensuring peaceful conduct of the local body elections and maintaining public safety in sensitive areas.



Akhanda Godavari Project to Boost Tourism Along Riverbanks



Nidadavole, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Tourism, Culture and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh said the Akhanda Godavari tourism project would add grandeur to the Godavari riverbanks and attract more visitors. He inspected the project works at Shettipeta in Nidadavole mandal on Monday and directed officials to maintain quality and complete the works according to the Detailed Project Report (DPR). Durgesh said preliminary works at Shettipeta had been completed and the entire project would be completed and opened to tourists by December. Facilities being developed include a boating point, roadside restaurant, modern

children's play area, Chinakashirevu Ghat and essential amenities for devotees at Kotasattamma Temple in Thimmarajupalem.He said the project also covered renovation of the historic Havelock Bridge, reconstruction of Pushkar Ghat in Rajamahendravaram and an Experience Centre at Kadiyam nurseries. Preparations were underway for major events at ghats in Rajamahendravaram, Nidadavole and Kovvur ahead of the Godavari Pushkarams in 2027.The Minister thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for their support.

Gollapalem-Kuyyeru Road Works Revived After Decades



Ramachandrapuram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Labour Minister Vasamsetti Subhash inspected the ongoing Gollapalem-Kuyyeru road works in Kajuluru mandal on Monday and directed R&B officials to maintain quality and complete the project on schedule.The 13-km road is being developed at a cost of Rs.37.65 crore, with works worth 19.25 crore already completed. Subhash said the coalition government had resolved the long-pending issue after the project remained stalled for over a decade due to lack of

funds.He criticised the YCP for allegedly spreading misinformation against development works and said the government was committed to infrastructure development.The minister announced Rs.16 crore for Kajuluru mandal and Rs.2 crore in CSR funds for Gollapalem reservoir development. He also announced closure of the Chodavaram slaughterhouse and alternative livelihoods for workers. Subhash said he would transform Ramachandra puram into "Suvarna Rama chandrapuram." AMC president Akkala Rishanth Roy, MPDO J. Rambabu, JE Prasanna and alliance leaders participated.

International Homoeopathy Conference Campaign Launched



P. Gannavaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

The Konaseema chapter of the Indian Homoeopathic Medical Association organised its monthly medical knowledge-sharing programme at Vijaya Homeo Clinic in Amalapuram, where the campaign for the upcoming International Homeopathy Conference was launched. Dr. Yalla Sandhya Ratnam, doctor and director of Yalla Radiology Services, conducted a special session on radiological terminology and explained how doc-

tors can understand reports and identify important clinical findings. The programme was attended by Dr. G.V.S. Sharma, B.S. Mohan, N. Srinivas, Balaraju, Ganeshwara Rao, Dayanidhi, Ramya, Anisha, D. Ratnam, Anusha, Suryakumari and medical student Lasya, among others.Members also unveiled the conference brochure. The International Homeopathy Conference will be held on November 21 and 22 at Kanha Shanti Vanam, Hyderabad, focusing on scientific integration of homeopathy with healthcare. The conference will feature scientific lectures, research presentations, clinical case studies and training programmes on evidence-based practice, public health, chronic diseases, mental health, maternal and child care, preventive medicine and AI-driven healthcare.

Vijayasai Reddy Slams Naidu and Jagan



Rajamahendravaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Former YSRCP MP Vijayasai Reddy launched sharp criticism against Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and YSRCP president and Leader of Opposition YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, describing both as ineffective in their respective roles. Speaking to the media during his visit to Ravulapalem on

Monday, he said political opponents should not be treated as personal enemies and asserted that the interests of Andhra Pradesh were paramount.Vijayasai Reddy also raised serious allegations against Sadiq Khan in connection with the Nookaraju case involving Panchayat Raj Assistant Engineer Nookaraju of Pithapuram in Kakinada district. He alleged that Sadiq Khan had exploited and harassed members of the affected families and called for strict action.

He expressed grief over the deaths of three members of Nookaraju's family and met Bhaskar Reddy and his grandson Karthikeya Reddy.Vijayasai Reddy said he would bear Karthikeya Reddy's educational expenses. He questioned the silence of TDP and YSRCP leaders and urged the government to address the case. He also demanded stronger action against religious conversion networks and said he would respond to injustice against anyone.

Ashok Reddy Leads Bike Rally Celebrating Veligonda Water Release

Giddalur, August 24 | TPN Bureau

TDP MLA Muthumula Ashok Reddy participated in a grand motorcycle rally organised in Giddalur to celebrate the release of water from the Veligonda project. The rally began at the Telugu Desam Party office and proceeded to the Sri Pathala Nageswara Swamy temple. Alliance leaders said the water release brought immense joy to farmers and residents of the Giddalur constituency. Special prayers were offered on behalf of the Alliance government and Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's family, seeking adequate water for agricultural fields and prosperity for the people.Ashok Reddy expressed hope that



the Veligonda water would boost agricultural development and improve farmers' livelihoods. A large number of Alliance leaders, party workers, farmers and residents participated in the rally. At the temple, participants performed Abhishekam and took part in special worship ceremonies.

Chalo Kakinada Rally Seeks NIA Probe, Strict Action in Nookaraju Family Case

Kakinada, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed in Kakinada as hundreds participated in a 'Chalo Kakinada' rally organised by Hindu Chaitanya Vedika and Viswa Hindu Dharm Parirakshana Rama Sena, demanding justice for Panchayat Raj AE Nookaraju's family and stringent action against accused Shaik Sadiq. Protesters marched from Balaji Cheruvu to the Collectorate and submitted a memorandum to the District Collector.BJP State Executive Committee member and Viswa Hindu Dharm Parirakshana Rama Sena president Kambala Srinivasa Rao demanded that the case be handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), citing allegations of forced religious conversion and a possible conspiracy. He sought severe punishment for the accused and said the movement would continue



until justice was delivered.Activists arrived from Gokavaram, Jaggampeta, Rajanagaram and Polavaram. Srinivasa Rao said over 10 private buses were arranged using his funds. Hindu Chaitanya Vedika leader Chengala Venkata Rao and Nirmana Padmaji also participated. The Collector assured protesters of an impartial investigation and legal action.

CID Holds Training on Financial Crimes and New Criminal Laws



Rajamahendravaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

A one-day departmental training programme was conducted at the CID regional office in Rajamahendravaram to strengthen investigations into financial crimes, GST evasion and banking fraud. The programme was organised under Additional SP Asma Fareen, under the

supervision of CID SP R. Gangadhara Rao and the directions of CID DGP Ravi Shankar Ayyanar.Experts provided training on GST evasion cases, the Prevention of Corruption Act-1988, digital evidence collection, cooperative society records and banking fraud investigations. Officers were also briefed on the new criminal laws, including BNS, BNSS and BSA.Rajamahendravaram GST Deputy Assistant Commissioner Suresh, Kakinada DCCB Bank AGM M. Suryanarayana, National Banking Officers, CID Legal Advisor G.S.Prakasa Rao and former Additional PP Radhakrishnan Raju participated. Additional SP Asma Fareen later felicitated the experts and officials with shawls and mementos.

Janasena Gears Up for Local Body Polls

Rajanagaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

Political activity has intensified in the Rajanagaram constituency ahead of the upcoming Panchayat, MP/MLA and ZPTC elections, with the Janasena Party preparing an election strategy under MLA Bathula Balaramakrishna.A key constituency-level meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug 25, at 3 PM at Raju Convention Center in Jambupatnam, Korukonda mandal. Village-level leaders, Janasena cadres and Veera Mahilas are expected to participate.The meeting will focus on selecting suitable candidates for Sarpanch and ward-member posts, with aspiring candidates asked to bring their details. Alliance coordination



and seat-sharing among TDP, BJP and Janasena alliance partners will also be discussed.MLA Bathula Balaramakrishna is expected to guide leaders on assessing ZPTC and MP/MLA candidates and strengthening the alliance's grassroots vote mobilisation. The party aims for a clean sweep in the local elections.

Yarlagadda Venkatrao Assures Equitable Development

Gannavaram, Aug 24 | TPN Bureau

AP Government Whip and Gannavaram MLA Yarlagadda Venkatrao said development would be undertaken in every village without political discrimination. He spoke at the 'Alliance Government: Two Years of Trust, Development and Welfare' programme at Remalle village, Bapulapadu mandal, on Monday. Yarlagadda laid the foundation for 220 lakh drainage works and inaugurated a 7 lakh cement road. He said development works worth Rs.2.91 crore had been

completed in Remalle, while proposals worth another Rs.2.40 crore were pending.He said priority would be given to roads, drainage, drinking water and electricity. Free door-to-door blood tests were conducted for 2,800 people in Remalle and over 60,000 people across the constituency.He said Praja Darbars were being held regularly in 48 villages, receiving more than 9,800 grievances. He sought the cooperation of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and Minister Nara Lokesh to secure funds.

Editorial

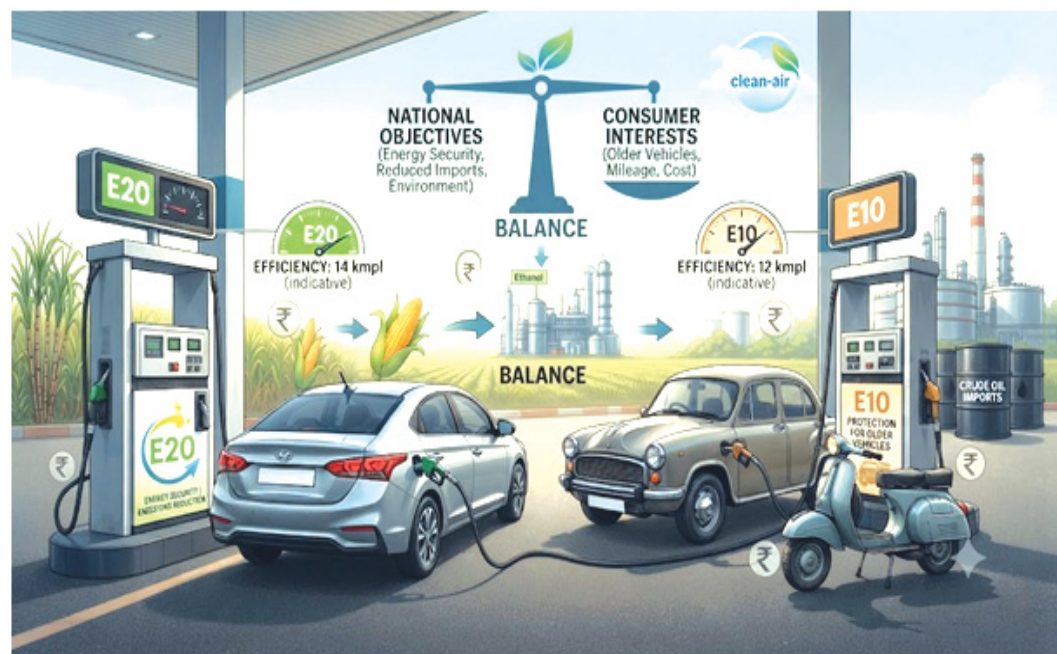
When 'Love Jihad' Allegations Meet the Test of Law

The Kakinada family suicide has brought the politically charged term "love jihad" back into public debate in Andhra Pradesh. A Panchayat Raj Assistant Engineer, his wife and daughter died after jumping into the Godavari, while their grandson survived. Police later arrested rifle-shooting coach Sheikh Sadhik Khan in connection with the case. Suicide notes allegedly named Khan and accused him of harassment; separate allegations also concern the death of the daughter's husband. These are serious allegations, but the investigation and courts must establish what actually happened. The religious-conversion allegation has understandably intensified public concern. Yet journalism and governance require a crucial distinction: an allegation of "love jihad" is not itself proof of an organised conspiracy. The appropriate questions are whether there was coercion, deception, blackmail, forced conversion, abetment or other criminal conduct- and whether evidence supports each charge. The neighbouring Telangana experience offers a cautionary parallel. In June, a teenage girl in Narayanpet died by suicide after alleged harassment by an 18-year-old youth, who was arrested under abetment-to-suicide and POCSO provisions. BJP and VHP groups described the case as "love jihad", while police said the allegations were still under investigation. There have also been cases where social-media claims of "love jihad" proved false, including a Hyderabad murder video that investigators found had no communal angle. The lesson for Andhra Pradesh is clear: protect victims, investigate coercion without fear, punish proven offenders severely-but do not allow a tragedy to become a verdict before evidence speaks.

- Editor

E10 Petrol May Enter the Market?

Concerns Over Older Vehicles Revive Debate on Ethanol Policy



Chennu Peddiraju

Senior Journalist

The Central Government, which introduced E20 petrol by blending ethanol with petrol, now appears to be considering another step-making E10 fuel available again, particularly for older vehicles. India introduced E20 with the broader objectives of reducing dependence on crude-oil imports, saving foreign exchange and lowering pollution through increased ethanol blending. With E20 now being implemented across the country, the policy has reached another important juncture, as concerns grow over its suitability for older vehicles. Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran recently suggested that a lower-ethanol fuel such as E10 could be made available again, particularly as an alternative for consumers using older vehicles that were not designed or calibrated for E20. However, the Central Government has not yet taken any final decision on reintroducing E10. There is also no indication so far from official

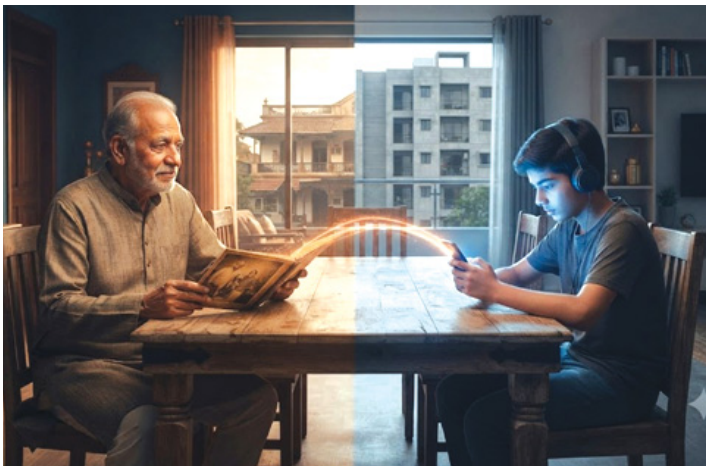
sources that E10 will immediately return to petrol pumps across the country. Where Did the Debate Begin? The shift from E10 to E20 has raised concerns primarily over the compatibility of older vehicles. The issue is not entirely new. The 2021 Ethanol Blended Petrol Roadmap, prepared by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, had already recommended retaining E10 for some time as a protective fuel for older vehicles. The roadmap also estimated that vehicles originally designed for E0 and calibrated for E10 could experience some reduction in fuel efficiency when using E20-around 6-7% in four-wheelers and 3-4% in two-wheelers. The automobile industry had similarly suggested that E10 should remain available alongside E20 for older vehicles. Therefore, the present discussion about E10 is not a completely new policy idea. The need to protect older vehicles was recognised when India

began moving towards higher ethanol blending. What Are Vehicle Owners Experiencing? While the government's argument for E20 focuses on energy security and environmental benefits, some vehicle owners have reported concerns about reduced mileage, changes in engine performance and possible wear in fuel-system components. A June 2026 survey by LocalCircles found that 66% of owners of petrol vehicles manufactured before 2023 reported a mileage reduction of more than 10% after using E20. Another 55% said they had experienced increased wear or repair requirements involving components such as fuel lines, tanks, carburetors, fuel pumps and injectors. However, these are consumer survey findings and should not be treated as conclusive technical evidence that E20 caused the reported damage. Vehicle age, engine design, maintenance, fuel quality and driving conditions can all influ-

ence performance. A comprehensive independent technical study would be necessary to establish the precise impact of E20. At the same time, the government and automobile manufacturers have said there is no evidence of widespread engine damage caused by E20 in older vehicles. At a government meeting in July, Maruti Suzuki reportedly said that among more than 1.5 crore vehicles older than three years serviced during 2025-26, it had not identified widespread corrosion, excessive wear or reduced component life attributable to E20. The company, however, acknowledged that E20's lower calorific value compared with E10 could result in roughly a 3-3.5% impact on fuel efficiency. In other words, some reduction in mileage is technically possible even without any engine damage. This shifts the central question from "Is E20 dangerous?" to a more practical policy question: "Should older vehicle owners have access to an alternative fuel?" Who Benefits If E10 Returns? Millions of older petrol vehicles remain on Indian roads, and many were not designed specifically for E20. Making E10 available could reduce concerns among their owners about fuel compatibility and efficiency. Replacing an old vehicle simply because of a change in fuel policy is not financially realistic for every family. For the middle class and lower-income households in particular, purchasing a new vehicle can represent a significant financial burden. Therefore, continuing E20 while making E10 available for

vehicles that are not compatible with higher ethanol blends could be viewed as a consumer-protection measure, rather than a reversal of India's ethanol policy. What About the Government's Larger Objective? E20 is not merely a question of petrol composition. It is linked to energy security, reduction in crude-oil imports, foreign-exchange savings, agricultural markets and environmental objectives. The 2021 NITI Aayog roadmap highlighted the potential of ethanol blending to reduce India's dependence on imported crude oil and save foreign exchange. For this reason, a complete rollback of the E20 programme appears unlikely. A more practical approach would be to continue the E20 policy while creating a specific solution for older vehicles. From E10 vs E20 to Finding a Balance At present, there is no final government decision to reintroduce E10 nationwide. But the fact that the issue has been raised at the level of the Chief Economic Adviser is significant. Ultimately, the debate should not be reduced to E10 versus E20. The larger policy challenge is to find the right balance between India's energy security, environmental goals and the financial interests of vehicle owners. The objective of ethanol blending need not be abandoned. But neither should the concerns of millions of owners of older vehicles be ignored. A policy that protects both the nation's energy interests and the consumer's economic interests may be the most sustainable way forward.

When Generations Stop Talking



A nation does not become truly strong merely through economic development, technological advancement, or political stability. The real strength of a society lies in the ability of different generations to exchange ideas, values, experiences, and wisdom with one another. However, today a silent transformation is taking place around us. Generations living in the same homes, studying in the same institutions, and sharing the same society are slowly moving away from each other. This distance is not physical but emotional, intellectual, and communicative. As the speed of modern life increases, meaningful conversations are gradually disappearing. What was once considered a personal concern has now become an issue that can influence the future character of society. History reveals that every generation has its own way of thinking, lifestyle, and aspirations. Differences between generations have always existed, but communication remained a strong bridge between them. Even during disagreements, there was patience to listen and a willingness to understand. Today, the real challenge is not the existence of differences but the decline of dialogue itself. Experiences are not being transferred with the same depth, and every generation is increasingly living within its own separate world. As a result, mutual understanding between generations is becoming weaker. In India, this transformation is becoming clearly visible. The

shift from joint families to nuclear families, migration for employment, rapid urbanisation, and the widespread use of smartphones have changed the nature of family relationships. Even while living under the same roof, family members often spend most of their time in their own digital spaces. Dining tables, which once became places for family discussions and emotional bonding, are now often occupied by screens and distractions. Because of this, parents find it difficult to understand the emotional world of their children, while young people struggle to recognise the concerns, sacrifices, and experiences of elders. A similar change is visible in the field of education. There was a time when teachers were not only educators but also mentors who guided students in building character and making life decisions. Today, education is increasingly focused on examinations, rankings, and measurable results. Learning is often judged through marks and achievements rather than personal development and values. This transformation has affected the relationship between teachers and students. The connection based on trust, guidance, and personal care is slowly being replaced by a more result-oriented relationship. The widening gap between generations is not limited to India alone. Countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, South Korea, and Germany are also facing similar challenges. In Japan, the



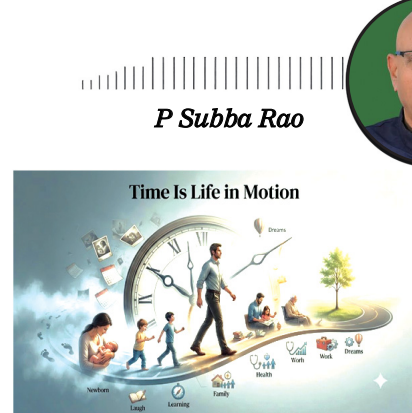
Chittikena Kiran Kumar

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increasing isolation of elderly people and declining social interaction among youth have become serious concerns. In South Korea, intense academic pressure has affected family communication. In Europe and North America, governments and institutions are giving greater importance to mental health, family relationships, and social connections. These societies are recognising that when communication weakens, the unity and stability of society are also affected. Several countries are adopting innovative approaches to address this challenge. Finland gives importance not only to academic learning but also to emotional development, cooperation, and communication skills. In the Netherlands, programmes connecting students and elderly people through shared living arrangements are encouraging meaningful interaction between generations. In Canada, schools involve families in activities that strengthen understanding and communication. These examples remind us that development is not measured only by buildings, roads, or economic statistics. The quality of human relationships is also an important indicator of progress. India too needs a wider discussion on this issue. Criticising the younger generation is easy, but understanding their dreams, pressures, and uncertainties is more important. Every generation is shaped by the conditions of its own time. Rejecting experience in the name of modernity is as harmful as rejecting new ideas in the name of tradition. A balanced society is created when the wisdom of the past and the opportunities of the future move together. Communication is not only about speaking; it is also about listening with patience and empathy. One of the most con-

cerning changes of the present time is the decline of the habit of listening. Many people are ready to express their opinions, but fewer are willing to understand the feelings and viewpoints of others. Digital platforms may increase the number of voices, but they do not always create deeper understanding. When listening decreases, misunderstandings increase, trust weakens, and relationships become fragile. When silence grows between generations, its impact goes beyond individual families and affects society as a whole. Every generation receives values, culture, history, and life experiences from those who came before it. At the same time, it contributes new ideas, energy, and vision to the generations that follow. If this exchange becomes weaker, society may lose its continuity and direction. Visible progress may continue, but the foundations required for long-term social stability may slowly weaken. The future of a nation depends not only on government policies, institutions, or economic achievements. It also depends on the strength of relationships that connect people across generations. The wisdom of elders and the fresh perspectives of youth must complement each other for society to move forward with confidence. What we urgently need today is not only more technology, more infrastructure, or more information, but more meaningful conversations, deeper understanding, and stronger human relationships. If we rebuild the bridges between generations, we can create a future that is more balanced, compassionate, and resilient. Ultimately, societies are sustained not merely by wealth or power, but by the willingness of one generation to understand, respect, and learn from another.

The Clock Within: Why Time Is the Most Precious Thing We Carry



P Subba Rao

Veteran Journalist

Time is not merely something measured by clocks, calendars and deadlines. It is built into the human body and woven into every stage of life. From the first heartbeat to the final breath, our existence unfolds through time. We grow with time, heal with time, learn through time and eventually surrender to time. In this sense, time is not outside us; it lives within us. Many of the most important events in life are associated with time. Birth marks the beginning of our journey. Childhood gives way to youth, youth to adulthood, and adulthood to old age. Education takes years. Careers demand patience. Relationships grow gradually. Success rarely arrives overnight. Even grief requires time before the heart can accept what the mind already knows. The Body's Invisible Clock The human body has its own natural rhythm. We sleep at night, wake in the morning, grow hungry at certain hours and become tired after sustained effort. Our biological clock regulates sleep, digestion, energy and even mood. Though modern life often encourages us to ignore these rhythms, the body continues to remind us that time is part of our design. A person who constantly sacrifices sleep for work may gain hours in the short term but lose health in the long term. Someone who postpones rest, recreation and family time may eventually discover that money cannot buy back the moments that were wasted. Maxim: "When we ignore the clock within, the body sends us a bill." Every Achievement Has a Season In a world obsessed with instant results, we often forget that meaningful things take time. A seed does not become a tree in a day. A child does not become wise through a single lesson. A professional does not become excellent without years of practice. Character is built through repeated choices, not sudden declarations. Patience is not laziness, nor is it a refusal to act. Patience is the discipline to continue working while waiting for results. It allows us to respect the natural process of growth. The greatest achievements in science, art,

business and public service are usually the outcome of persistence over long periods. Maxim: "Do not curse the time of preparation; it is shaping the person who can carry success." The Past Teaches, the Present Demands, the Future Waits Human beings often live in the wrong time. We replay past mistakes, regret lost opportunities and remain trapped in old disappointments. At other times, we become anxious about a future that has not yet arrived. In doing so, we overlook the only moment over which we have genuine influence: the present. The past should be used as a teacher, not as a prison. The future should inspire planning, not produce constant fear. The present is where decisions are made, relationships are repaired and dreams are transformed into action. A sincere apology cannot be offered yesterday. A new habit cannot be started tomorrow. Change begins today. Maxim: "Yesterday is a lesson, tomorrow is a promise, but today is an opportunity." Time Reveals What Truly Matters Time has a remarkable way of exposing priorities. When life becomes difficult, we discover who stands beside us. When years pass, we understand which ambitions were meaningful and which were merely fashionable. Time strips away appearances and reveals the value of love, health, family, friendship and inner peace. People often say they have no time for those they love, yet time is regularly spent on distractions. The issue is not always a lack of time; it is often a lack of attention. We make time for what we consider important. Maxim: "Your calendar is a mirror of your priorities." Spend Time Like a Treasure Money lost can sometimes be earned again. Opportunities lost may occasionally return. But time, once spent, is gone forever. This does not mean that every minute must be filled with work. Rest, laughter, silence and reflection are also valuable uses of time. The wise person does not simply count the hours but makes the hours count. To respect time is to respect life itself. Ultimately, time is the most democratic possession. Everyone receives twenty-four hours in a day, but not everyone uses them with equal purpose. The quality of our lives depends largely on how we invest this limited gift. Final maxim: "Time is life in motion-waste it carelessly, and you waste yourself; use it wisely, and you leave a meaningful mark."

The Myth of Mahabali: How a Utopian Narrative Engineered Social Reform in Kerala

Malayalees (Keralites) can be found across the globe, consistently earning profound respect from the local communities they inhabit. This high regard stems primarily from their emphasis on education and their inherent ability to integrate seamlessly with others, transcending barriers of caste, creed, color, religion, or economic status. The ethos of mutual respect is, quite simply, encoded into the Malayali DNA. Having lived as a Non-Resident Keralite (NRK) for over thirty years, a status I proudly maintain today, I can personally vouch for the widespread appreciation we receive, whether within India or abroad. Let me take you on a journey through the systemic social engineering that made this cultural DNA possible, a transformation woven through the narrative of the Asura emperor Mahabali and the annual state festival of Onam. Historical texts and Puranic scriptures, such as the Bhagavata Purana, traditionally situate the kingdom of the Asura king Mahabali along the banks of the Narmada River in Central or Northern India. Geographically and historically, Mahabali was not a king of the Malabar coast. Yet, every year, the state of Kerala celebrates Onam with unparalleled fervour, welcoming back a sovereign who, strictly according to the

texts, never ruled there. But we Malayalees, believe, he ruled Keralam or this part of the Bharatham. This geographical paradox reveals a profound truth about Kerala's history: Onam is not merely a harvest festival or a literal historical commemoration. It is a masterpiece of sociological storytelling. The narrative of Mahabali was adopted, adapted, and amplified to serve as a cultural blueprint for equality, justice, and systemic social engineering. It is an architecture of an egalitarian myth. To understand the power of Onam, one must look at the folk song that forms its heartbeat: "Maveli nadu vaneedum kalam, manushyarellarum onnupole" (When Maveli ruled the land, all humans were equal). The narrative built around Mahabali describes a utopian society devoid of theft, corruption, deceit, and most importantly away from caste and economic hierarchies. In a region that was historically entrenched in one of the most rigid and oppressive caste systems in India (prompting Swami Vivekananda to famously dub 19th-century Kerala a "lunatic asylum"), this myth offered a powerful counter-narrative. It established the idea that inequality was not a divine mandate, but a deviation from a "Golden Age" of absolute parity. It is interesting to see the



story of Onam become acatalyst for radical social reform in the modern Kerala. This shared cultural memory of a just and equal society became the psychological bedrock for Kerala's reform movements. When social reformers like Sree Narayana Guru, Chatambi Swami and Ayyankali began dismantling learning barriers and advocating for the rights of the oppressed, the Onam narrative provided a universally accepted moral framework. The narrative's crowning triumph in social engineering culminated in the Temple Entry Proclamation of 1936 in the princely state of Travancore. By abolishing the ban on lower-caste

Hindus entering temples, Kerala opened its doors to the "untouchables," setting a historic precedent for the rest of India. The cultural shock of this monumental shift was cushioned by the underlying Onam ethos. Reformers were not presenting a foreign concept; they were simply advocating for a return to the justice and truth of Mahabali (colloquial saying is Maveli) era, making the transition toward human cordiality far more acceptable across different strata of society. In the mid-20th century, as the Communist movement sought to establish a foothold in Kerala, they encountered a deeply religious and agrarian society. Introducing Karl Marx's complex socio-eco-

omic theories of class struggle and a stateless, classless society could have alienated the masses. Instead, the Communist Party engaged in a brilliant exercise in mass communication by mapping their political ideology directly onto the Onam narrative. The Communists recognized that the utopian society promised by Marxist theory—where wealth is shared and class divides are abolished, was nearly identical to the kingdom of Mahabali. They leveraged this narrative to amplify the Divide. By contrasting the utopian ideal of Mahabali with the stark realities of feudal oppression, landlordism (Janmi system), and caste discrimination,



Ram Kamal

Social Engineer

they heightened public awareness of systemic injustices. You must also understand, by then Kerala was a land of Hindus (80% then), Muslims, Christians, Buddhist and a handful of Jains. The promise of a Communist government was not framed as an imported Soviet ideal, but as the political mechanism required to bring back the egalitarian days of Mahabali with a local powerful narrative about our past. This synthesis of ancient myth and modern political theory allowed the Communist movement to penetrate deeply into the grassroots of the state. It bridged religious and economic divides, ultimately leading to Kerala electing the world's first democratically chosen Communist government in 1957. No where else in the world communist came to power through votes till then. Today, the historical accuracy of Mahabali's geographical domain is largely irrelevant to the Malayali consciousness. The narrative was never about where he ruled, but how he ruled. By collectively choosing to believe in and celebrate a story of absolute equality, truth, and justice, Kerala utilized the Onam narrative to engineer a society that consistently ranks highest in India for human development, literacy, and communal harmony. Recently, a new narrative has emerged in Kerala seeking to trace the roots of the Onam festival back to the Chera Dynasty. This theory points to a newly discovered scripture at the ancient Thrikkariyoor Temple in Kothamangalam, within the present-day Ernakulam district. The inscription reportedly states that "the ruler Mahabali of the Kayamkulam Dynasty directs all who travel through Thrikkariyoor to pay a tax to Vaidyanathan (Lord Shiva) and the Bhagavathi (deity) of the temple." While I leave the validation of these claims to historians for further investigation, the undeniable reality is that Kayamkulam in central Kerala is still known today as Onattukara (the land of Onam). Regardless of its historical origins, the festival's core values of equity and brotherhood are deeply woven into Kerala's social fabric, uniting Hindus, Christians, and Muslims alike.

CJP Announces September 5 Delhi Protest March

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) has announced a fresh protest march in New Delhi on September 5, accusing the Centre of failing to fulfil commitments made to the youth during negotiations that led to the suspension of its earlier agitation. According to the organisation, the peaceful march will begin at India Gate and proceed towards the Delhi Police Headquarters. Families of students who died in connection with the NEET controversy, along with people who were allegedly subjected to police action during earlier protests, are expected to lead the march. Students, youth groups and young citizens from across the country have also been urged to participate. The announcement followed a meeting of the CJP's National Working



Committee, where members reviewed the government's alleged failure to implement assurances given on July 25. The organisation had earlier agreed to suspend its protest campaign following those assurances. One of the major issues raised by the CJP concerns FIRs registered against students and protesters during the demonstrations. The organisation has

alleged that authorities have failed to take the promised steps and has questioned the government's commitment to resolving the issue. The September 5 march is being presented as a renewed youth mobilisation focused on accountability, justice and implementation of earlier commitments. The families of deceased NEET aspirants and those who allegedly faced police action are expected to play a prominent role in the demonstration. The CJP has appealed to young people across the country to join the Delhi protest while maintaining that the march will remain peaceful. The latest announcement signals a fresh escalation after the organisation suspended its earlier nationwide agitation following discussions with the govern-

ment. The renewed protest also indicates that several issues remain unresolved between the youth organisation and authorities. The September 5 demonstration could therefore become an important test of the CJP's ability to once again mobilise students and young citizens. With India Gate as the starting point and Delhi Police Headquarters as the proposed destination, the march is expected to bring renewed attention to the NEET controversy, allegations of police action against protesters and the government's commitments to the youth. The developments surrounding the march could also determine whether the CJP's campaign gains further momentum in the coming weeks.

Bihar Forms Panel To Reform Examination System

The Bihar government has decided to constitute a five-member expert committee to recommend reforms aimed at preventing paper leaks and improving the state's examination system. The panel will function under the leadership of a serving or retired judge and is expected to examine weaknesses in the existing examination process and suggest measures to make it more secure and transparent. The decision comes amid growing concerns over question-paper leaks and irregularities in competitive examinations. The government wants to strengthen safeguards at every stage, from question-paper preparation and printing to transportation, storage and distribution at examination centres. The proposed committee is expected to study the current procedures followed by examination authorities and identify loopholes that could be exploited by organised groups. It will also recommend technological and administrative measures to prevent unauthorised access to examination material. The move assumes significance as examination-related controversies have increasingly raised concerns among students and job aspirants. Paper leaks not only disrupt examinations but also undermine confidence in the recruitment system and create uncertainty for thousands of candidates who spend months or years preparing for competitive tests. Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and other senior government representatives have indicated that the state wants to introduce a more robust examination framework. The committee is expected to examine ways to improve security, accountability, transparency and efficiency. Possible areas of reform include strengthening the handling of confidential examination material, improving security at printing and storage locations, monitoring transportation and introducing stricter verification procedures for personnel involved in the examination process. The government is also expected to consider greater use of technology to track examination material and reduce the possibility of human intervention at vulnerable stages. The formation of the committee comes against the backdrop of broader examination reforms being discussed across India. The Centre has also been taking steps to strengthen national examination systems following controversies surrounding major competitive and entrance examinations. For Bihar, the immediate challenge is to restore the confidence of students and candidates who depend on government examinations for education and employment opportunities. The proposed expert panel could therefore play an important role in redesigning the examination process and identifying practical solutions to prevent future leaks. The government's objective is to create an examination system where question papers remain secure, examinations are conducted fairly and deserving candidates receive a level playing field. The committee's recommendations will be closely watched, as their implementation could determine how effectively Bihar addresses the recurring problem of examination irregularities and builds greater trust in its recruitment and education systems.



Yogi Slams Rahul Over Manusmriti Remarks

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday launched a sharp attack on Congress leader and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi over his recent remarks on the Manusmriti, accusing him of repeatedly disparaging India's traditions and cultural heritage. Speaking at an event in Raebareilly, Yogi Adityanath said the country may not have high expectations from Rahul Gandhi as an individual, but his position as Leader of Opposition carries significant responsibility towards Indian democracy. The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister referred to Gandhi's recent interaction with students in Pune, where the Congress leader criticised what he described as a "Manusmriti mindset" and called

on young women to challenge patriarchal restrictions. Gandhi had also spoken about women's independence and the need to break away from traditional structures that, in his view, limit their freedom. Reacting to those comments, Yogi accused Gandhi of showing disrespect towards India's traditions and heritage. He argued that as a senior constitutional functionary, the Congress leader should demonstrate greater responsibility in his public statements. Yogi also questioned Gandhi's approach to Indian history and cultural traditions, saying that political differences should not become an excuse to undermine the country's heritage. The remarks have added another layer to the continuing political con-



frontation between the BJP and Congress, with cultural issues increasingly becoming a major point of debate between the two parties. Rahul Gandhi's comments were primarily centred on women's empowerment, patriarchy and social equality. His criticism of the Manusmriti was presented as part of a broader argument that women should have complete control over their own

choices and lives. The BJP, however, has interpreted such remarks as an attack on Indian traditions and has strongly pushed back against them. Yogi also highlighted Gandhi's constitutional responsibility as Leader of Opposition, arguing that the position requires accountability towards the country's democratic institutions. The exchange is likely to fuel further political debate, particularly over the interpretation of Manusmriti, Indian cultural traditions, women's rights and the role of historical texts in contemporary society. With both sides taking sharply contrasting positions, the controversy has once again brought cultural and ideological issues to the centre of India's political discourse.

J&K Reopens Probe Into 1998 Wandhama Massacre

Nearly three decades after the Wandhama massacre, the Jammu and Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA) has reopened the investigation into the killing of 23 Kashmiri Pandits in 1998. The move is part of a wider effort to revisit long-pending cases linked to targeted killings during the peak years of militancy in the Valley. The massacre took place on January 25, 1998, in Wandhama village of Ganderbal district. According to investigators, armed militants entered the homes of Kashmiri Pandit families and carried out the killings. The victims included nine women, nine men and four children. The SIA is now examining the old case afresh, looking for new leads and evidence that could help estab-



lish the identities and roles of those involved. Investigators are also focusing on alleged associates and over-ground workers who may have supported militant networks. As part of the renewed investigation, the agency has conducted searches at several locations across the Kashmir Valley. Officials are examining available records and other material that could help fill gaps in the decades-old investigation. The Wandhama

case is being reopened alongside investigations into several other prominent killings of Kashmiri Pandits from the militancy era. The SIA has intensified its probe into the killing of Tika Lal Taploo, a prominent lawyer and Jammu and Kashmir BJP leader who was shot dead near his residence in Srinagar in September 1989. His assassination was among the early targeted killings of prominent Kashmiri Pandits during the rise of militancy. The agency is also investigating the assassination of Justice Neelkanth Ganjoo, who was killed in Srinagar in November 1989. Ganjoo had sentenced JKLF terrorist Maqbool Bhat to death. Recent investigations into other historic cases, including the killings of nurse Sarla Bhat and writer Sarwanand

Koul Premi and his son Virender Koul, have also brought renewed attention to unresolved cases from the period. The SIA's latest action reflects a broader attempt to revisit investigations that remained unresolved for decades. Officials are now pursuing fresh leads and examining whether surviving suspects, militants and their associates can be identified and brought to justice. For the families of the Wandhama victims, the reopening of the case could provide a renewed opportunity to establish responsibility for one of the Valley's most devastating episodes of the militancy era. The investigation will now determine whether new evidence and modern investigative techniques can finally help solve the 1998 massacre, nearly 29 years after the killings.

Vijay Scraps Parandur Airport, Keeps Key Promise

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay has announced that the proposed greenfield airport at Parandur in Kancheepuram district will be scrapped, fulfilling a major political promise he had made during his early political campaign. The announcement was made in the state Assembly on August 24, with the government saying it will now identify an alternative location for Chennai's second airport. The Parandur airport project was proposed by the previous government as a major infrastructure project to meet Chennai's growing aviation requirements. However, the plan faced strong opposition from farmers and residents of villages that would have been affected by land acquisition. Residents had raised concerns over the loss of agricultural land, displacement, water bodies and the possible impact on their livelihoods. Protests continued for several years, making the airport project a major political issue in the region. Vijay had personally met residents and protesters during his early political activities and opposed the proposed location. While supporting the need for a second airport for Chennai, he had promised to explore an alternative site that would have a lower impact on farmers and local communities. With the latest announcement, Vijay has now followed through on that commitment. The government has indicated that alternative locations are being considered. These sites will undergo scientific studies and technical assessments before a final decision is taken. The administration has also indicated that Chennai's existing airport will be expanded to address the city's immediate aviation requirements. The decision has triggered a political controversy in Tamil Nadu. Opposition leaders have criticised the cancellation, arguing that abandoning the project could affect the state's long-term infrastructure and economic development plans. The issue also led to a walkout by DMK legislators from the Assembly after they were not allowed to debate the announcement. For the farmers and residents who opposed the Parandur project, however, the decision has brought considerable relief. Protesters have described it as a victory for their long-running campaign to protect their land and livelihoods. The bigger challenge for the Vijay government now is to ensure that Chennai gets the additional airport capacity it needs without creating another major conflict over land acquisition and environmental concerns.



September Visa Bulletin Brings Mixed News For Indians



The United States has released its September 2026 Visa Bulletin, bringing mixed developments for Indian green-card applicants. While several family-sponsored categories have moved forward significantly, employment-based applicants continue to face major delays. The September bulletin is especially important because it is the final update of fiscal year 2026, which ends on September 30. A fresh annual allocation of immigrant visa numbers will become available when the new fiscal year begins on October 1. For Indian professionals, however, the latest update remains disappointing. EB-2 India has been marked "Unavailable" for September, meaning no additional immigrant visas can be issued in this category during the month. The US State Department said high demand and increased visa usage have put pressure on the annual limit. The situation reflects the long-standing backlog faced by Indian professionals seeking permanent residency in the United States. High demand, combined with annual country limits, has resulted in exceptionally long waiting periods. EB-1 India is also facing pressure, with the State Department warning that the category could become unavailable if the annual limit is reached before the end of the fiscal year. The employment-based situation is in sharp contrast to the movement seen in several family-sponsored categories. For Indian applicants, the F1 category, covering unmarried sons and daughters of US citizens, moved forward to January 22, 2020. The F2A category, covering spouses and minor children of permanent residents, advanced to August 22, 2026. There was also significant movement in F2B, which covers unmarried adult sons and daughters of permanent residents. Its final action date advanced to August 22, 2019. The biggest movement came in the F3 category, covering married sons and daughters of US citizens. Its final action date moved to October 22, 2014, representing a substantial advance. However, applicants must understand the difference between Final Action Dates and Dates for Filing. Final Action Dates determine when a visa or green card can actually be approved, while Dates for Filing indicate when eligible applicants may begin submitting required documentation, subject to applicable USCIS instructions. For Indian professionals already living and working in the US, the continued employment-based backlog can have significant consequences. Many applicants have spent years waiting for their priority dates to become current. The situation could change with the beginning of the new fiscal year on October 1, 2026, when a fresh supply of immigrant visa numbers becomes available. However, the pace of movement will depend on demand and the number of visas available in each category. The State Department has also warned that some categories could experience retrogression, meaning priority dates could move backward, if demand increases sharply. For now, the September bulletin presents a clear contrast: family-sponsored applicants from India have received meaningful movement, while employment-based applicants continue to face a severe backlog. For thousands of Indian families and professionals waiting for permanent residency, all eyes will now be on the October Visa Bulletin and whether the beginning of the new fiscal year brings the long-awaited relief.

Japan Searches For A Backup Capital

Japan has begun exploring an unusual but potentially crucial idea - creating a backup capital that could keep the country's government functioning if Tokyo is paralysed by a major disaster. The initiative is gaining attention because Japan faces a constant risk from earthquakes, tsunamis and other natural disasters. Tokyo remains the country's capital, but officials are increasingly concerned about what could happen if a catastrophic earthquake were to severely damage the capital and disrupt government operations. The idea is therefore not to replace Tokyo, but to establish another city that could temporarily take over essential government functions during a major emergency. The proposal has triggered intense competition among Japanese cities. Thirteen local governments have already entered the race, hoping to position themselves as the country's potential backup administrative centre. Among the leading contenders is Osaka, Japan's major commercial and economic hub. Osaka has long sought a greater role in national administration and has the infrastructure, transport links and business ecosystem needed to support large-scale government operations. Other contenders include Nagoya, Hokkaido and cities such as Fukuoka and Sapporo. Each has been highlighting its own advantages, from infrastructure and connectivity to geographical distance from Tokyo. The competition has even been described as a kind of "gold rush", with local governments exploring incentives and strategies to convince the central government that their cities would be suitable alternatives. The reasoning behind the plan is straightforward. If a massive earthquake strikes Tokyo, the damage could extend far beyond buildings and transport systems. Government offices, communication networks, financial institutions and other critical infrastructure could all be affected simultaneously. A functioning backup location could allow ministers, officials and essential government agencies to continue operating without waiting for Tokyo to recover. Japan's vulnerability became particularly clear after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, which demonstrated how quickly a natural disaster can disrupt infrastructure and public administration. The proposed backup capital is therefore part of a broader effort to strengthen national resilience and continuity of government. However, establishing such a system would not be simple. A backup capital would require government offices, secure communication networks, emergency accommodation, transportation facilities and reliable power and water supplies. There is also the question of how much authority the alternative centre should have. It would need sufficient infrastructure and legal arrangements to allow the national government to function immediately during a crisis. Osaka appears to be one of the strongest candidates because of its size, economic importance and transport connectivity. At the same time, cities farther from Tokyo could offer an important advantage by reducing the possibility that the same disaster would affect both the capital and the backup centre. The debate also raises a broader question about how modern countries should prepare for catastrophic disasters. Concentrating too many critical institutions in a single city can create enormous risks if that city becomes inaccessible. For Japan, the proposed backup capital is therefore less about creating a second Tokyo and more about ensuring that the Japanese state can continue functioning even under the worst possible circumstances. Tokyo is expected to remain Japan's capital. But if disaster strikes, the government wants to make sure that the country's administration does not stop with it. That is why Osaka, Nagoya, Hokkaido and other cities are now competing for a role that could become vital to Japan's future national security and disaster preparedness.



Iran-US Tensions Intensify, India Watches Closely

Tensions between the United States and Iran have entered another critical phase, with the Strait of Hormuz once again at the centre of the confrontation. Washington is preparing fresh economic measures against Tehran, while Iran has warned that countries supporting the US campaign could face retaliation. The latest developments have also brought Pakistan into the diplomatic spotlight. Pakistan Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir travelled to Tehran as Islamabad attempts to revive dialogue between Washington and Tehran and prevent the conflict from escalating further. Munir's visit came after a reported conversation with US President Donald Trump. According to sources, Trump urged Pakistan to use its influence to encourage Iran to return to negotiations. Pakistan has previously played a mediating role between the two sides. Islamabad is now attempting to use its ties with Tehran and Washington to reopen diplomatic channels at a time when mutual distrust remains extremely high. At the same time, Washington is preparing what US officials have described as a major financial offensive against Iran. The proposed measures could include secondary sanctions targeting countries and companies that continue trading with Tehran. Iran has responded with strong warnings. Tehran has threatened retaliation against countries that cooperate with the new US sanctions and has again raised the possibility of restricting oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz. The strategic waterway is crucial to global energy markets. Any major disruption to shipping through the strait could send crude oil and gas prices sharply higher and create fresh pressure on economies that depend heavily on energy imports. For India, the situation is particularly important. The country remains heavily dependent on imported crude oil and LNG, much of which traditionally moves through the Gulf region. Disruptions around Hormuz could therefore increase India's energy import bill and put pressure on inflation. Indian energy companies have already been forced to look for alternative sources and routes as uncertainty around Gulf shipping continues. LNG prices have also risen sharply amid concerns over supply disruptions. The geopolitical crisis could have wider consequences for India as

well. Higher crude prices could increase transportation and production costs, while a weaker rupee could make imported energy even more expensive. Meanwhile, the United States continues to increase pressure on Tehran. Washington wants countries around the world to reduce economic engagement with Iran, while Iran is attempting to resist further isolation. China and Russia have so far shown less willingness to follow Washington's pressure campaign, adding another dimension to the geopolitical confrontation. The Strait of Hormuz therefore remains the biggest pressure point. Iran's ability to disrupt ship-



ping gives Tehran considerable leverage, while Washington is determined to prevent the waterway from becoming an effective tool of economic pressure. For India, the priority will be protecting energy supplies, ensuring the safety of Indian vessels and citizens in the region, and maintaining diplomatic flexibility with all sides. With Pakistan attempting mediation, the US preparing tougher sanctions and Iran threatening retaliation, the coming days could prove crucial. Any escalation around Hormuz could quickly move beyond the Middle East and affect global oil markets, inflation and India's economy.

Imran Khan Denied Heart Scan, PTI Raises Questions

Fresh controversy has erupted in Pakistan over the medical treatment of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan, after his party alleged that a recommended heart scan was not carried out despite doctors advising the procedure. Khan was taken to the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) in Islamabad for medical examinations after growing concerns over his health. Doctors reportedly recommended a CT coronary angiography (CTA) to assess his heart and check for possible blockages. However, the test was not performed. Hospital officials reportedly said the required facility was unavailable, after which Khan underwent other medical examinations and was sent back to Adiala Jail. The development has triggered strong criticism from his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. PTI leaders questioned why Khan was taken to a government hospital where the recommended cardiac test was allegedly not conducted, instead of the private facility identified by the Supreme Court for his medical treatment. The controversy is particularly significant because a functional CT scanner capable of conducting a CTA is reportedly available at PIMS. This has raised questions over the hospital's explanation



that the necessary facility was unavailable. According to PTI, doctors had recommended the cardiac scan because Khan had reportedly experienced fluctuating blood pressure, palpitations, headaches, restlessness and anxiety. The party has argued that these symptoms warranted a detailed cardiac examination, particularly given Khan's age and prolonged incarceration. PTI Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram accused authorities of repeatedly delaying appropriate medical treatment for Khan. He questioned whether the decision to take Khan to PIMS instead of the designated private hospital had been made in advance. The controversy comes days after

Pakistan's Supreme Court directed authorities to move Khan to Shifa International Hospital for medical examination and treatment. The court had also ordered the creation of a medical panel that would include specialists as well as Khan's personal physician. However, Khan was instead taken to PIMS. The government cited security concerns for changing the hospital arrangements, arguing that the planned route had become unsafe because of PTI supporters. After the medical examination, government officials said Khan had been declared medically fit by a team that included an ophthalmologist, cardiologist and physician. He was subsequently returned to jail. PTI, however, has rejected the government's han-

dling of the matter and has demanded that Khan be shifted to Shifa International Hospital, where a comprehensive medical assessment can be carried out. The latest controversy adds to growing concerns surrounding Khan's health during his imprisonment. His family and party have previously raised concerns about problems with his right eye and alleged restrictions on access to doctors and family members. The government has rejected allegations of medical neglect and maintained that Khan has received appropriate medical attention. The dispute has also attracted international attention. Several former cricket captains, including Sunil Gavaskar and Kapil Dev, have appealed to Pakistan's government to ensure that Khan receives proper medical treatment. For PTI, the unanswered question remains simple: if doctors recommended a heart scan and the required technology was reportedly available, why was the test not conducted? The Pakistani government's response to that question could determine whether the controversy remains a political dispute or develops into a larger legal and medical issue surrounding the treatment of the jailed former prime minister.

150 Pakistani Brides Overcome Visa Hurdles

At least 150 Pakistani Sindh women engaged to Indian men have finally reached India for their weddings, overcoming months of visa restrictions and travel hurdles that followed Operation Sindoor. For years, families from Pakistan's Sindh province had travelled to India through the Wagah-Attari border for weddings. The process became extremely difficult after India tightened visa restrictions and the Attari route was closed following the 2025 military operation. The restrictions left around 150 Pakistani women who were already engaged to Indian men waiting in Pakistan. Their weddings, planned in cities including Nagpur, Raipur, Jodhpur and Pune, were put on hold. Community leader Rajesh Jhambia said the long wait eventually came to an end after the Indian government granted visas to the brides and their relatives. However, the visitors could not use the traditional land route. Instead, they were permitted to travel to India by air through third countries. Since April this year, the brides and their families have travelled through transit points including Dubai, Muscat, Oman, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and other countries before reaching India. The effort to help the stranded families began after community representatives approached Sant Yudhishtir Lal Shadaani, the spiritual head of Shadaani Darbar, a prominent Hindu religious shrine in Pakistan's Sindh province. A list of Pakistani women who were already engaged to men in India was prepared and submitted to India's Ministry of Home Affairs. The community requested special arrangements so that the weddings could proceed despite the restrictions. The government subsequently



allowed the identified brides and their relatives to travel to India, but with the condition that they enter the country only by air. The development has brought considerable relief to the families involved. Weddings that had been delayed for months could finally take place, allowing the brides to join their future husbands in India. According to community representatives, the 150 cases include 15 families from Nagpur alone, while weddings are also scheduled in several other Indian cities. However, the issue is far from over. Community leaders say nearly 300 more Pakistani women are still waiting in Pakistan after becoming engaged to Indian men. They have now appealed to the Indian government to extend similar visa facilities to these women and their families so that their marriages can also take place. The episode highlights how geopolitical tensions can directly affect families and personal relationships across the India-Pakistan border. While diplomatic relations between the two countries remain strained, these families have continued searching for ways to bring their long-awaited weddings to reality. For the 150 brides who have already reached India, the difficult journey through multiple countries has finally ended. What began as a wedding plan disrupted by border restrictions has now become a remarkable story of love, patience and determination overcoming diplomatic barriers.

Khelo India Dialogue To Shape Sports Future

Khelo India Dialogue To Give Youth A Voice The government is set to launch a nationwide youth engagement programme, "Khelo India Dialogue - Khel Ki Baat, Pradhan Mantri Modi Ke Saath," aimed at giving young Indians a direct platform to share their ideas, suggestions and innovative thoughts on the future of sports and youth development. Students and young people from leading educational institutions, including IITs, IIMs, NITs, AIIMS, medical colleges and universities, will participate in the initiative. The programme will begin with a virtual address by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, followed by physical programmes at participating institutions and locations across the country. The initiative seeks to bridge the gap between youth aspirations, ground-level experiences and policymaking. Participants will discuss four key areas that could shape India's sports and youth ecosystem. The first focus will be on strengthening sports infrastructure at the grassroots level, including better facilities, coaching, training opportunities and greater access to sports for young people. The second theme will focus on developing sporting talent with the 2036 Olympics in mind. Discussions will cover scientific talent identification, athlete development and creating stronger pathways for young sportspersons to compete at the international level. The third area will focus on youth leadership and participation in governance, encouraging young people to contribute ideas to policymaking and play a larger role in nation-building. The fourth theme will focus on future-ready skills, volunteering and development opportunities, helping young Indians prepare for emerging challenges and contribute to the country's growth. Sporting Champions To Inspire Youth A major attraction will be direct interaction between young sports enthusiasts and some of India's leading sporting personalities. Olympians and champions including Deepa Karmakar, Saina Nehwal, Gagan Narang, Sreejesh, Mary Kom, Baichung Bhutia, Pullela Gopichand, Anju Bobby George, Karnam Malleswari, Mirabai Chanu and P.T. Usha will interact with participants. Prominent cricketers will also join the programme. The sportspersons will share their journeys, challenges, setbacks and achievements, offering young participants valuable lessons from their careers. Policymakers To Engage With Youth Members of Parliament, MLAs, Union Ministers, Ministers of State and State Sports Ministers will also participate and seek suggestions from young people. The programme will include the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue Quiz, while participants will be encouraged to register on the MY Bharat Portal for continued engagement. By bringing together youth, athletes and policymakers, the Khelo India Dialogue aims to turn young people's aspirations into ideas and ideas into meaningful policy. The larger goal is to give India's youth a stronger voice in shaping the country's sports ecosystem, leadership opportunities and future development.



BLS International Shares Plunge 14% On Visa Fraud Reports

Shares of BLS International Services came under heavy selling pressure on Monday after media reports linked the company to an investigation into alleged visa irregularities in Spain. The stock fell as much as 14% during the session, touching an intraday low of ?233.47 on the NSE. It later recovered some ground but still closed at around ?242.17, down 10.73%. The sharp decline followed reports that Spain's National Court had expanded its investigation into an alleged visa fraud network connected to the Spanish Consulate in Algiers. The probe reportedly includes companies involved in visa appointments and document processing, including BLS International, which has a contract with the Spanish Foreign Ministry. The allegations centre on claims that applicants seeking Schengen visas may have paid substantial amounts through unofficial channels to obtain appointments or visas. Spanish media reports cited figures of up to 25,000 per family in some cases. However, BLS International has strongly rejected any involvement in the alleged irregularities. In a regulatory filing, the company said there was no evidence establishing wrongdoing by BLS International or its employees in connection with visa issuance. The company also clarified the nature of its role in the visa process. According to BLS, its responsibilities are strictly administrative and are carried out according to procedures prescribed by the relevant authorities. Decisions regarding whether a visa is processed, approved or rejected, the company said, remain solely with the concerned diplomatic and consular authorities. Despite the clarification, investors reacted sharply to the reports, reflecting concerns over the possible impact of any regulatory or legal investigation on the company's international visa-processing operations. BLS International is a major provider of visa outsourcing, passport and consular services. Its role generally involves administrative and non-judgmental functions such as appointment scheduling, document handling and biometric services, while the final decision on visa applications rests with diplomatic missions. The latest controversy therefore puts the spotlight on the distinction between visa-processing service providers and the authorities that actually make visa decisions. BLS has maintained that it has followed the procedures prescribed by the relevant authorities and has denied any wrongdoing. For investors, the key issue going forward will be developments in the Spanish investigation and whether any evidence emerges directly implicating the company or its employees. Until then, the market's reaction remains driven largely by concerns surrounding the allegations and their potential business impact. The sharp fall in BLS International's stock highlights how quickly regulatory or reputational concerns can affect companies operating in sensitive outsourcing businesses, even when the company itself denies involvement in the alleged misconduct.

From rs.300 Oven to rs.7,500 Crore Food Empire



Rajni Bector's journey from a homemaker experimenting with baking in her Ludhiana kitchen to building a food business valued at nearly ?7,900 crore is one of India's most inspiring entrepreneurial stories. What began with a modest ?300 oven eventually grew into Mrs Bectors Food Specialities, known for brands such as Cremica and English Oven and for supplying bakery products to major global quick-service restaurant chains. Born in Karachi and raised partly in Lahore before her family moved to Delhi after Partition, Rajni Bector later married into a Ludhiana family. After completing her education and raising her children, she began exploring her passion for cooking and baking. She enrolled in a baking course at Punjab Agricultural University and started making ice creams, cakes and cookies for friends and acquaintances. Encouraged by the response, she decided to turn her passion into a business. Her first major purchase was an oven costing just ?300. She also began making ice cream in her backyard and selling it at local fairs. However, the early venture was not immediately profitable. Her products were sometimes sold for less than their production cost, forcing her to think more seriously about the commercial side of the business. Her husband, Dharamvir Bector, encouraged her to expand and supported her with ?20,000 to establish an ice-cream manufacturing unit in 1978. That investment became an important turning point. The business gradually moved beyond ice cream into bakery products. In 1985, Rajni Bector established a bread manufacturing unit in Punjab. The plant initially produced around 5,000 loaves a day, but its capacity eventually increased to nearly 50,000 loaves. The biggest breakthrough came in the 1990s when McDonald's entered the Indian market. Cremica was selected to supply burger buns and liquid condiments to the global fast-food chain. By 1996, the company had begun supplying buns to McDonald's. Working with an international QSR giant demanded consistent quality, food-safety standards and large-scale production. The partnership helped the company strengthen its manufacturing capabilities and opened doors to the institutional food business. Over the years, Mrs Bectors expanded its portfolio through two major brands-Cremica and English Oven. Cremica developed a strong presence in biscuits, while English Oven focused on breads and premium bakery products. The company also expanded its institutional business, supplying buns and baked products to major chains including McDonald's, KFC and Burger King. Its products eventually reached more than 70 countries, while international customers and retailers included Walmart and Lulu Group. Another landmark moment came in December 2020, when Mrs Bectors Food Specialities went public. Its IPO raised ?541 crore and was reportedly subscribed nearly 198 times. The listing marked a new chapter for the family-built food business. The company's market capitalisation, which was around ?2,500 crore in November 2021, had reached approximately rs 7,890 crore by August 24, 2026. Rajni Bector's story stands out because the business was not built overnight. It evolved through years of experimentation, manufacturing expansion, quality control and strategic partnerships. From a ?300 oven in a home kitchen to a listed food company with a market value approaching ?8,000 crore, her journey demonstrates how a small beginning, when combined with persistence and a willingness to scale, can develop into a major business empire. The woman who once baked cakes and made ice cream at home ultimately built brands that became part of everyday consumption across India and international markets. Her journey is a powerful reminder that some of the biggest businesses can begin with nothing more than a simple idea, a small investment and the courage to take the first step.

Hexaware Shares Rise 5% On AI Growth Plans

Shares of Hexaware Technologies gained nearly 8% during Monday's trading session after the IT services company outlined an ambitious strategy to tap the rapidly expanding artificial intelligence market. The stock touched an intraday high of ?574.85 on the NSE before paring some gains and closing around 5% higher at ?558.75. The rally came after Hexaware highlighted its plans to use artificial intelligence to create new revenue streams while improving profitability. The company believes the addressable market, or total addressable market (TAM), for AI-related services could reach around \$300 billion, creating a significant opportunity for technology companies with strong AI capabilities. Hexaware is positioning itself to

capture a meaningful share of this opportunity by expanding its AI offerings and targeting larger technology deals. The company is reportedly aiming for a 30% win ratio and is aggressively pursuing contracts valued at more than \$100 million. The company's strategy is centred on moving beyond traditional IT services and increasing the role of AI across enterprise technology operations. Hexaware has been strengthening its AI portfolio through platforms and solutions designed to help businesses adopt artificial intelligence at scale. Earlier this year, the company launched Agentverse, an enterprise AI agent platform featuring more than 600 ready-to-deploy AI agents. The platform is designed to integrate AI agents with enter-



prise systems, workflows and communication channels, helping organisations move from experimentation to wider deployment. Hexaware has also been expanding

its partnerships within the global AI ecosystem. In June, the company was named an Anthropic Authorised Reseller for Amazon Bedrock, allowing it to resell

Claude AI models and strengthen its AI-focused strategy. The announcement had also triggered a sharp rise in the company's stock at the time. The latest rally comes despite a challenging year for the stock. Hexaware shares have faced considerable pressure in 2026, making the recent focus on AI growth particularly important for investors looking for signs of a turnaround. The company's financial performance has remained mixed. In the June 2026 quarter, consolidated revenue rose to around ?3,845 crore, up from ?3,613 crore in the previous quarter. However, net profit declined to approximately ?330 crore, compared with ?352 crore in the March quarter. Analysts remain divided but several brokerages see potential in

Hexaware's AI-led growth strategy. Motilal Oswal has maintained a positive view on the company and recently set a target price of ?720, reflecting its expectations for future growth. For investors, the key question will be whether Hexaware can convert the massive AI opportunity into actual contracts, revenue and stronger margins. With the company increasingly focusing on large deals and AI-driven services, its execution over the coming quarters will be closely watched. The latest 5% gain suggests that investors are beginning to respond positively to Hexaware's AI ambitions. However, sustained growth will depend on how effectively the company turns its \$300-billion AI opportunity into measurable business results.

Sensex Falls 172 Points, Nifty Ends Lower

Indian equity markets began the week on a cautious note, with benchmark indices ending lower on Monday, August 24. After opening with gains, the Sensex and Nifty came under selling pressure during the afternoon session as investors remained wary of elevated crude prices and uncertainty surrounding fresh US sanctions on Iran. The Sensex closed at 77,369.11, down 171.72 points or 0.22%, while the Nifty declined 32.95 points or 0.14% to finish at 24,219.05. During the session, the Nifty briefly slipped below the 24,150 mark before recovering some ground toward the close. Market sentiment remained subdued as investors assessed geopolitical developments and their potential impact on crude oil prices and inflation. The Indian rupee also weakened marginally, ending at ?95.74 against the US dollar, compared with the previous close of ?95.70. Sectoral performance was mixed. Metal, realty and IT stocks attract-



ed buying interest and helped limit the broader market decline. The metal index emerged as one of the strongest performers, while the realty sector also gained. In contrast, PSU banks came under pressure, with the Nifty PSU Bank index falling nearly 0.93%. Private banks, media and consumer durable stocks also ended lower. Among individual Nifty stocks, Hindalco, JSW Steel, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Tata Steel and HCL

Technologies were among the notable gainers. On the other hand, SBI Life Insurance, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, Bharat Electronics and Adani Ports featured among the major losers. Several individual stocks also witnessed significant movement. Ratnamani Metals and Tubes surged around 15% after its subsidiary secured export orders worth ?2,700 crore. Heranba Industries gained 9% after report-

ing a 17% rise in quarterly profit, while Vishal Mega Mart jumped 9% following the reappointment of its Managing Director and CEO. Meanwhile, new listings delivered mixed performances. Horizon Industrial Parks ended almost flat after a muted debut, while Lalithaa Jewellery surged 24% following a strong market listing, debuting at a premium of around 31% to its issue price. Looking ahead, analysts expect volatility to remain high. According to market experts, 24,250 is an important immediate resistance level for the Nifty. A sustained move above that level could open the way toward 24,350-24,400. On the downside, support is seen around 24,000-23,950. With geopolitical tensions, crude prices and global policy developments continuing to influence investor sentiment, traders are likely to remain cautious in the near term. For now, the market remains range-bound, with sector-specific buying providing some support despite pressure on the major indices.

SEBI Plans Easier RPT Rules, Tighter Promoter Checks

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is considering a major overhaul of the rules governing related-party transactions (RPTs), with the aim of reducing unnecessary compliance for routine deals while strengthening scrutiny of transactions involving promoters, directors and key managerial personnel. The proposals have been prepared by a SEBI working group and seek to make the framework more risk-based. Under the proposed changes, shareholders holding 20% or more of a listed company's equity or voting rights would continue to be treated as related parties. However, investors holding between 10% and below 20% would not automatically fall under the definition. Instead, the Audit Committee could assess whether such investors have significant influence through board representation, veto rights, information rights or other special powers. The proposed approach could significantly reduce compliance requirements for passive institutional investors who hold sizeable stakes but do not exercise strategic control over a company. The working group has also suggested removing several routine transactions from the RPT framework. These could include fixed



deposits and other deposits with banks and NBFCs, certain retail transactions conducted on standard terms available to employees or the public, and payments related to listed non-convertible securities made according to their issue terms. Reimbursements of actual expenses between related parties could also receive exemptions. The underlying idea is that transactions with little or no inherent conflict of interest should not face the same level of regulatory scrutiny as potentially risky promoter-linked transactions. Another proposed change concerns transactions undertaken without prior Audit Committee approval. Companies could be given up to three months to seek ratification instead of having to

wait for the immediate next Audit Committee meeting. The existing ?1 crore ceiling for ratification could also be removed, although the committee would have to record the reasons for both the missed approval and subsequent ratification. For unforeseen related-party transactions, the omnibus approval limit could be increased sharply from ?1 crore to ?10 crore during a financial year. Such transactions would still have to remain outside the category of material RPTs, while quarterly reporting and one-year validity of omnibus approvals would continue. The panel has also proposed easing disclosure requirements. A ?1 crore threshold could be introduced for half-yearly RPT disclo-

sures, although transactions involving promoters or promoter groups would continue to require disclosure irrespective of their value. The filing timeline could also be extended. Instead of requiring disclosures on the same day financial results are published, companies may be allowed to file them within seven days after board approval of the results. The proposed reforms reflect SEBI's attempt to strike a balance between ease of doing business and investor protection. While routine and low-risk transactions could face fewer compliance hurdles, promoter-linked deals would continue to receive greater scrutiny. SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey recently indicated that the regulator was reviewing the RPT framework to make the requirements clearer and more workable while retaining necessary safeguards for investors. If implemented, the proposed changes could reshape the way listed companies handle related-party transactions, reducing compliance burdens for ordinary business activities while keeping the regulatory spotlight firmly on transactions where conflicts of interest or potential transfer of value are greater.

Ratnamani Metals Shares Surge 18% On Rs.2,700 Crore Orders

Shares of Ratnamani Metals & Tubes Ltd witnessed a sharp rally on Monday after the company announced that its subsidiary had secured export orders worth around ?2,700 crore. The stock surged as much as 18% intraday, touching a two-month high of ?2,777 per share on the NSE. The strong movement came after the company informed the stock exchanges about the new orders. The contracts involve the supply of spools and hangers to international customers, giving the company a significant boost in its export business. Before the announcement, Ratnamani Metals shares were already trading more than 6% higher. Following the order announcement, buying interest intensified and the stock climbed to ?2,777 during the session. However, the stock later pared some of its gains. By the end of trading, Ratnamani Metals shares settled at around ?2,698, still registering a strong 14.59% gain for the day. According to the company's

exchange filing, the newly secured orders will be executed over a period of two to three years. The project execution model will involve a combination of in-house manufacturing and subcontracting. Part of the products will be manufactured at the company's own facility, while the remaining requirements will be handled through subcontractors. The company will also undertake some of the business through a mercantile trade transaction model. The size and duration of the orders have attracted considerable attention from investors. A ?2,700-crore export order book provides the company with visibility for future revenues and could support business performance over the next several years. The announcement also comes at a time when investors are closely tracking companies with strong export opportunities and sizeable order inflows. Large international contracts can provide manufacturers with greater revenue visibility while strengthening their presence in global markets.



Ratnamani Metals & Tubes is a major Indian manufacturer of steel tubes and related products, serving sectors such as oil and gas, petrochemicals, power and infrastructure. Its export business forms an important part of its overall operations. The sharp rise in the stock price reflects the market's immediate reaction to the order win. However, the actual financial impact will depend on factors including execution timelines, margins, production costs and the company's ability to suc-

cessfully deliver the contracts. For investors, the key factor to watch will now be the company's execution of these orders over the next two to three years. With the stock closing nearly 15% higher after touching an 18% intraday gain, the order announcement has clearly emerged as a major positive trigger for Ratnamani Metals. The coming quarters will reveal how effectively the company converts this large export opportunity into revenue and profitability.

Woman Breaks Down After Creepy Encounter

A woman's disturbing encounter with a stranger left her shaken and in tears, but a simple act of kindness from an auto-rickshaw driver helped her regain her composure. Her emotional experience, shared on social media, has touched many people online.

The woman, identified as Ayushi, said she was on her way to work when an unknown man behaved inappropriately with her. The incident left her deeply uncomfortable and frightened. She later boarded an auto-rickshaw, but the emotional impact of what had happened caught up with her, and she began crying inside the vehicle. Noticing that she was upset, the auto driver tried to comfort her. Although he reportedly did not know Hindi well, he still attempted to communicate with her and make her feel safe. His simple and

reassuring words helped calm her down during an otherwise difficult moment. The driver reportedly told her that "God is there" and asked whether she had eaten breakfast. Though these may have sounded like ordinary questions, they meant a lot to Ayushi at that particular moment. His concern made her feel that someone cared about what she was going through. Sharing the incident online, Ayushi affectionately referred to him as the "cutest anna" and expressed gratitude for his kindness. She reflected on how the same world that can sometimes leave people hurt can also offer unexpected moments of comfort through strangers. Her post quickly drew attention online, with several users praising the auto driver for his compassion. Many said that his response showed how small gestures can



make a significant difference when someone is emotionally vulnerable. Some users described such people as "angels on the streets," while others said they were glad she encountered someone who offered her comfort after the disturbing experience. The incident has resonated with many because of its simple message: kindness does not always require grand gestures. Sometimes, a few reassuring words from a stranger can provide much-needed strength. For Ayushi, what began as a frightening experience ended with an unexpected reminder that humanity still exists in the most ordinary places. The auto driver may have simply been doing what felt natural to him, but for her, his kindness turned a painful moment into one she will remember for a very different reason.

Indian Woman Shocked By UK Cleaning Bill Stolen Parrot Returns Home After Nine Years

An Indian woman living in the United Kingdom has sparked a lively discussion online after revealing that she paid £92, or roughly ₹12,000, for a roof drain-cleaning job that took just 20 minutes. Her reaction to the cost has prompted social media users to debate the difference between labour charges in India and Britain.

The woman, identified as Manju Shekhawat Parmar, shared a video on Instagram showing a worker cleaning the rainwater gutters along the edge of her roof. The gutters had become clogged with accumulated dirt and dry leaves, requiring someone to climb up and remove the waste.

According to Parmar, the entire task was completed in approximately 20 minutes. However, when she learned that the service had cost £92, she was surprised by the amount charged for what appeared to be a relatively simple household job.

In the video, she highlighted the striking difference between her experiences in India and her life in England. She recalled that in India, people often clean their rooftops themselves or hire someone locally at a comparatively lower cost.

Her comments also touched on the practical difficulties of maintaining homes in the UK. She pointed



Image credit: Instagram/@manjushewatparmar

out that accessing rooftops can be difficult because suitable ladders are not always readily available. As a result, residents often have little choice but to hire professionals for jobs that they might otherwise handle themselves. The video quickly attracted attention on social media, with users offering different explanations for the high price. Some argued that the charge was reasonable because the worker was being paid not simply for the 20 minutes spent cleaning, but also for the skill, equipment and risk involved in working at height. One commenter noted that the issue was "the cost of skill and risk," suggesting that the short duration of the job should not be the only factor used to judge

the price. Others compared average incomes and living costs in India and the UK, arguing that wages and service charges are naturally much higher in Britain. Some users, however, took a more humorous approach and suggested that the task could have been done personally if the necessary equipment were available. The viral incident has once again highlighted how everyday household services can carry dramatically different price tags depending on the country. For Indians accustomed to relatively inexpensive domestic and maintenance services, a ₹12,000 bill for a 20-minute task can certainly come as a surprise.

A British man has been reunited with his beloved pet parrot nearly a decade after the bird was stolen from his home. The remarkable reunion came after the parrot was unexpectedly found wandering in an IKEA parking lot, around 20 miles from where it had disappeared.

Robert Mortimer, 56, from Bradford in West Yorkshire, lost his parrot Barney in 2017 after the bird was taken from his home. Despite repeated efforts to locate the pet, there was no sign of Barney for years. Eventually, Mortimer came to believe that he would never see his beloved companion again.

Nearly nine years later, Mortimer received an unexpected phone call from a local police officer. The officer told him that his missing parrot had been found alive.

Mortimer was initially unable to believe the news. After so many years had passed, he had already given up hope of ever finding Barney. The discovery was made after the parrot was spotted wandering around an IKEA parking lot. Animal rescuers took the bird into their care and scanned its microchip. The chip revealed that the parrot's name was Barney and that he was originally from Bradford. However, there was a major problem: the telephone number registered with the microchip



Image credit: Unplash

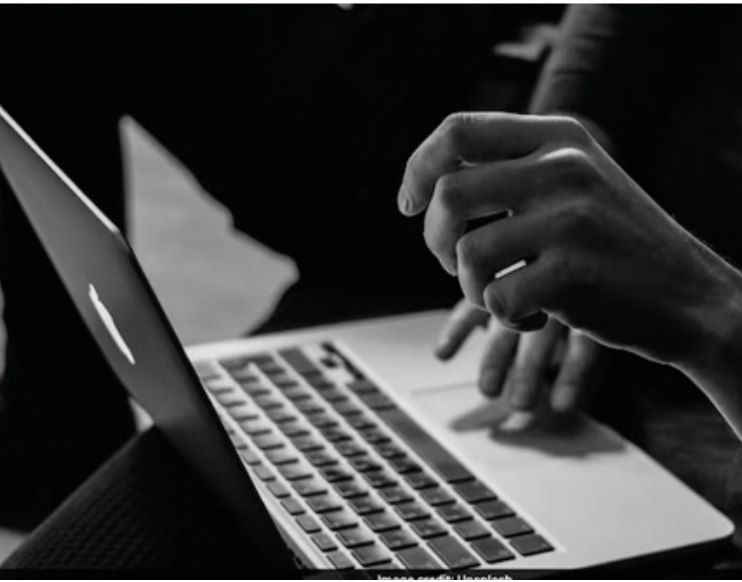
was no longer active. Several people reportedly contacted the rescue centre claiming that Barney belonged to them, but none could provide sufficient proof of ownership. The rescuers therefore continued searching for information that could establish the bird's identity.

Gemma Dumbill, who runs Hillary Harry and Friends Wildlife Rescue, said she had a memorable moment when she called the bird by its name. Barney reportedly looked at her as though surprised that she knew his name. Dumbill then conducted an internet search using the available information. That search eventu-

ally helped the rescue team trace Mortimer and confirm that Barney was indeed his long-lost pet.

After almost a decade apart, Barney was finally returned to his owner. The parrot is now settling into Mortimer's new home, bringing an extraordinary chapter in their story to a happy conclusion. The emotional reunion is also a reminder of the importance of keeping pets microchipped and ensuring that contact information linked to the chip remains updated. In Barney's case, the microchip provided the crucial clue that ultimately helped bring him home after nine long years.

25-Year-Old Builds rs1.6 Crore From Memes



A 25-year-old entrepreneur from a Tier-2 Indian city has attracted attention online after revealing how he built a net worth of around ₹1.6 crore through meme pages, freelancing and digital content. He shared his financial journey on Reddit while seeking suggestions on how to manage and grow his wealth further. According to his post, the young man started earning at the age of 18 through freelancing. Over time, he expanded his work into a digital-media business centred around meme pages and online content. His earnings from the business, combined with a disciplined approach to investing, helped him reach the ₹1.6 crore milestone by the age of 25. He also provided a detailed breakdown of his current assets. Indian equities make up the biggest portion of his portfolio, valued at around ₹90 lakh. He has another ₹45 lakh in cash and bank savings. His other investments include approximately ₹15 lakh in real estate, ₹7.5 lakh in US stocks and ₹5 lakh in mutual funds. Around ₹4 lakh is invested across cryptocurrency and fixed deposits. The entrepreneur also disclosed that he has a ₹50-lakh term insurance policy. However, he admitted that he currently does not have health insurance for either himself or his parents. His wealth-building journey has largely been driven by income from his own business rather than a conventional salaried career. Starting with freelancing at 18, he gradually developed multiple online revenue streams and used his earnings to build a substantial investment portfolio. Despite reaching a financial milestone that many people dream of achieving, the 25-year-old is now looking for advice on his next move. His main concerns include diversifying his assets, scaling his business and moving closer to Financial Independence, Retire Early, commonly known as FIRE. His post has sparked discussion among social media users, particularly about how young entrepreneurs should balance business growth with investment diversification. While a large portion of his wealth remains concentrated in Indian equities and cash, the young investor appears keen to explore ways of reducing risk while continuing to grow his net worth. The story highlights how digital platforms have created unconventional opportunities for young people to generate income. What began as freelancing at 18 eventually developed into a business capable of generating significant wealth. For the entrepreneur, however, reaching ₹1.6 crore appears to be less of an endpoint and more of a starting point. His next challenge is deciding how to protect what he has built, diversify his investments and turn his digital-media success into long-term financial independence.

Swiggy Rider Saves Daily To Gift Mother TV

A Swiggy delivery agent has won hearts online after surprising his family with a brand-new television bought entirely from his own earnings. The emotional video captures his mother and grandmother reacting with happiness as they see the new TV brought home by the young man.

According to the video, the delivery worker had been saving small amounts from his daily earnings for a long time. Working as a Swiggy delivery agent, he gradually set aside money until he had enough to purchase a smart television for his family.

The identity of the young man has not been revealed. The video was shared on social media by the account Raw India and shows the delivery worker presenting the television to his family at their modest home.

Explaining how he managed to buy it, the young man said in Hindi that he worked for Swiggy and saved a little money at a time

to make the purchase. His words highlighted the effort and patience behind what might otherwise appear to be a simple gift.

The reaction from his family made the moment particularly emotional. His mother and grandmother appeared overwhelmed with happiness and were seen becoming emotional as they looked at the new television. For them, the gift was not merely a household appliance but a symbol of the young man's hard work and love for his family.

The video quickly went viral across social media platforms. It reportedly crossed 942,000 views and received around 100,000 likes, while more than 3,000 people left comments praising the delivery worker and his dedication to his family.

Many viewers described his gesture as an achievement and encouraged him to continue working toward his dreams. Others pointed out that happiness does



Image credit: Instagram/@rawindia

not always depend on expensive possessions or enormous wealth. One social media user observed that while some people remain unhappy despite having immense wealth, someone else can find genuine happiness in buying something as simple as a television for their family. The heartwarming story has resonated because it reflects the value of saving, hard

work and family affection. For the delivery agent, the television may have been purchased with small amounts saved over time, but for his mother and grandmother, it became a deeply meaningful gift.

The viral moment serves as a reminder that even modest achievements can bring immense happiness when they are driven by love and sacrifice.

Tej Pratap Yadav, Mallika Sherawat's Viral Workout

Bihar politician Tej Pratap Yadav and Bollywood actress Mallika Sherawat have surprised social media users with an unexpected on-screen collaboration. The two appeared together on the reality show Bhojpuri Bawaal, where Sherawat took on the role of a fitness instructor and guided Tej Pratap through a series of yoga and stretching exercises.

A video clip from the show has gone viral, drawing attention because of the unusual pairing. In the segment, Mallika can be seen demonstrating different workout movements while Tej Pratap attempts to follow her instructions. Although Sherawat appears comfortable with the exercises, Tej Pratap struggles with some of the moves, resulting in several light-hearted moments.

At one point, Tej Pratap admits that the workout is difficult. His humorous reactions and attempts to keep up with Mallika quickly became one of the entertaining highlights of the segment.

The workout session soon took a playful turn when Mallika complimented Tej Pratap's smile. She



Image credit: Instagram/@bhojbotamally

reportedly told him, "Your smile has done wonders." Tej Pratap responded with a compliment of his own, saying, "Your smile is amazing, Mallika ji."

Their friendly exchange left Mallika laughing and blushing, adding another entertaining moment to the viral clip. The interaction has since triggered a wave

of humorous comments from viewers on social media.

One user jokingly described Tej Pratap as an "all-rounder," while another quipped that he seemed determined to win an award for flirting. Another social media user humorously suggested that Bihar politics had entered its "Yoga & Chill era."

The appearance comes as part of Mallika Sherawat's special guest stint on Bhojpuri Bawaal. The reality show features several prominent personalities from the Bhojpuri entertainment industry, including Pawan Singh, Dinesh Lal Yadav, popularly known as Nirahua, Amrapali Dubey and Kajal Raghvani.

The show has been attracting attention for celebrity interactions and revelations about the personal lives and careers of Bhojpuri stars. Mallika's appearance, however, brought an unexpected political celebrity into the spotlight.

Tej Pratap Yadav, the son of veteran Bihar politician Lalu Prasad Yadav, has often attracted public attention for his unconventional appearances and social media presence. His latest television appearance with Mallika Sherawat has added another viral moment to that list.

What began as a simple fitness segment ultimately became a talking point online, with viewers focusing as much on the playful conversation as on the workout itself.

Dhruv Jurel Century Puts India In Command

India strengthened their grip on the second Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo after declaring their first innings at 503/9 on Day 2. Dhruv Jurel produced a superb unbeaten 115, while Rishabh Pant returned from an injury scare to play an aggressive knock as India piled on the runs. Resuming from their overnight score of 300/5, India immediately looked to build a commanding total. Pant, who had retired hurt on Day 1 after being struck on the arm by Lahiru Kumara, returned to the crease and showed no signs of discomfort. He played his trademark attacking strokes and helped India maintain

the momentum. Pant's return provided India with valuable momentum. His aggressive batting put Sri Lanka's bowlers under pressure, while Dhruv Jurel provided stability at the other end. The pair added a crucial partnership that helped India move comfortably beyond the 350-run mark. Jurel then took complete control of the innings. Showing excellent composure, the young wicketkeeper-batter completed his second Test century. He remained unbeaten on 115 from 177 balls, becoming one of the biggest stars of India's second-day performance. Jurel's innings was particularly important because

India continued to lose wickets at regular intervals. Instead of allowing the innings to collapse, he took responsibility and guided the lower order effectively. His century ensured India crossed the massive 500-run mark. India eventually declared at 503/9 after 137.6 overs, with Jurel unbeaten on 115 and Prasidh Krishna contributing four not out. Asitha Fernando was Sri Lanka's most successful bowler, finishing with four wickets. Sri Lanka then began their first innings, but rain interrupted proceedings soon after. The hosts were yet to open their account when play was halted, leaving them



facing a massive 503-run deficit. The match has so far been dominated by India's

batting. Devdutt Padikkal had already provided the foundation with a brilliant

117 on Day 1, his second consecutive Test century. His performance helped India recover after early wickets and laid the platform for the huge total. Rishabh Pant's return was another major positive for India. His aggressive approach once again put the Sri Lankan bowlers under pressure, while Jurel's patient century demonstrated the depth in India's batting lineup. For Sri Lanka, the challenge is enormous. They now have to negotiate India's bowling attack after conceding more than 500 runs. The pressure will be on their top order to survive the early spell and prevent India from taking

complete control of the Test. India's massive first-innings total also gives their bowlers plenty of time to attack. With a huge lead already established, the visitors will be looking to strike early and put Sri Lanka under further pressure. After winning the opening Test in Galle, India have now produced another dominant performance in Colombo. With Jurel's century, Pant's aggressive comeback and Padikkal's earlier hundred, India have put themselves in an extremely strong position to take another step towards winning the Test and strengthening their series lead.

Jaiswal, Fernando Fined After Heated Clash

India opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and Sri Lankan pacer Asitha Fernando have both been fined 25 percent of their match fees and handed one demerit point each following their heated confrontation during the second Test in Colombo. The incident occurred on the opening day after Fernando dismissed Jaiswal for 45 runs. The Sri Lankan pacer gave the Indian batter an animated send-off, prompting Jaiswal to turn around and confront him. The exchange quickly became heated, with both players moving towards each other. Their heads eventually made contact before players from both sides intervened and separated them. The International Cricket Council (ICC) found both players guilty of breaching Article 2.12 of its Code of Conduct, which deals with inappropriate physical contact during an international match. Both Jaiswal and Fernando admitted the offence and accepted the sanctions proposed by match ref-



eree Andy Pycroft. As a result, there was no requirement for a formal disciplinary hearing. The incident took place during the 17th over of India's first innings. Jaiswal had been looking in good touch before his dismissal and had struck Fernando for three consecutive boundaries earlier in the over. However, Fernando eventually got the better of him, with Jaiswal being dismissed for 45.

The dismissal was followed by the animated exchange that quickly became one of the most talked-about moments of the Test. The ICC classified the incident as a Level 1 offence. Such breaches can attract an official reprimand, a fine of up to 50 percent of the match fee and one or two demerit points. Importantly, neither Jaiswal nor Fernando had committed an offence during the previ-

ous 24 months, meaning this was their first disciplinary violation during that period. Jaiswal had earlier defended his actions, suggesting that viewers should not judge the incident without knowing exactly what was said during the confrontation. He maintained that players need to respond when an opponent crosses the line. The controversy added extra intensity to an already competitive India-Sri Lanka Test. While aggressive exchanges and verbal battles are common in international cricket, physical contact remains strictly against the rules. With the ICC now imposing identical penalties on both players, the matter has effectively been closed. Jaiswal and Fernando can continue participating in the Colombo Test, but the demerit points will remain on their disciplinary records. The incident has once again highlighted the fine line between competitive aggression and unacceptable behaviour on a cricket field.

Rishabh Pant Scripts Three Historic Records



Rishabh Pant produced another memorable performance for India in the second Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo, rewriting the record books with three major achievements in a single day. Pant returned to the crease on Day 2 after retiring hurt on the opening day following a blow to his wrist. Despite the injury scare, the Indian wicketkeeper-batter showed his trademark aggression and scored 63 runs from 89 balls, including six fours and two sixes. His innings helped India strengthen their position before declaring at 503/9. One of Pant's biggest achievements was overtaking legendary Australian wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist in the Test six-hitting charts. Pant hit two sixes during his innings to take his tally to 102 sixes in just 52 Tests. Gilchrist had finished his Test career with 100 sixes in 96 matches. Pant is now the third-highest six-hitter in Test cricket, behind only Ben Stokes and Brendon McCullum. Pant also surpassed MS Dhoni to become India's highest run-scorer as a designated wicketkeeper in away or neutral Test matches. He crossed the 2,500-run mark in such conditions, moving ahead of his former predecessor in the Indian team. The achievement highlights Pant's impressive record outside home conditions. The third milestone involved India's current captain Shubman Gill. Pant overtook Gill to become India's highest run-scorer in the history of the ICC World Test Championship. Pant's WTC tally reached 2,948 runs, moving him ahead of Gill's previous mark. What makes the achievement even more impressive is the manner in which Pant reached these milestones. He had been forced to leave the field on Day 1 after being hit, creating doubts over whether he would be able to bat again. However, he returned the following day and immediately resumed his attacking style. Pant's 63 was eventually ended, but by then he had already made a significant impact on both the match and the record books. His aggressive approach once again demonstrated why he is regarded as one of the most dangerous wicketkeeper-batters in Test cricket. The Colombo Test has therefore become another landmark match in Pant's career. From surpassing Dhoni and Gill to moving ahead of Gilchrist in six-hitting, the Indian star achieved three significant milestones in a matter of hours. At just 28, Pant continues to add new chapters to his Test career. His latest performance further strengthens his reputation as one of India's most influential modern wicketkeeper-batters.

Home Food Fuels Japan's Badminton Success

Japan's impressive campaign at the 2026 BWF World Championships in New Delhi has highlighted an unusual but carefully planned aspect of the team's preparation - Japanese badminton players travel with their own chefs so they can continue eating familiar home-style food during major international tournaments. The practice has been part of Japan's badminton setup since 2017. The idea is to ensure that players receive the right nutrients at the right time while also giving them the comfort of familiar Japanese cuisine during demanding overseas competitions. The importance of the system was evident during the New Delhi championships, where Akane Yamaguchi and Kodai Naraoka both reached the singles finals. Yamaguchi eventually won the silver medal after losing to South Korea's An Se-young, while Naraoka also finished runner-up after being defeated by France's Alex Lanier. For elite athletes, nutrition is considered an important part of recovery and performance. Japanese officials felt that relying entirely on food available at overseas tournament venues could make it difficult for players to maintain their preferred diet. That is where the travelling chef team comes in. The Japanese contingent is supported by a dedicated group that includes three chefs and two other members. The team travels ahead of the players to prepare the required kitchen facilities, arrange supplies and coordinate with local vendors. The chefs also carry essential Japanese spices, seasonings, food mixes and other ingredients from home. Once the team reaches the tournament city, fresh meals are prepared every day and packed into lunch boxes for the players. Interestingly, the meals are not particularly elaborate. A typical lunch box contains Japanese white rice, a main dish, a side dish and miso soup. Occasionally players request a sweet dish, but the chefs ensure that it does not contain excessive calories. White rice is especially important to the Japanese players and is reportedly among the most frequently requested items. The food is also delivered according to the players' schedules. When matches take place late in the evening, meals can even be delivered directly to the athletes' hotel rooms, ensuring they do not have to compromise on their nutrition after competition. Yamaguchi has explained that receiving the right nutrients at the right time is extremely important during major tournaments. Having familiar food available also provides players with a sense of comfort when they are far away from Japan. The programme is supported by Ajinomoto, which works with the Japanese Olympic Association and several sporting disciplines. Its nutrition programme aims to help athletes improve their performance through carefully planned diets. Japan's results at the 2026 World Championships show the potential benefits of this meticulous preparation. Although the country did not win either singles title, having two players reach the singles finals demonstrated the depth and consistency of Japanese badminton. The approach also highlights how success at the highest level is often built on details beyond training and talent. Recovery, sleep, hydration and nutrition can all influence an athlete's performance during a long tournament. For Japan's badminton stars, therefore, home may be thousands of kilometres away, but a taste of home travels with them. Their travelling kitchens may appear to be a small part of the overall setup, but for athletes competing at the highest level, familiar food, precise nutrition and timely meals can provide both physical support and psychological comfort.



Ibrahim Zadran To Lead Afghanistan Against India

Afghanistan have entered a new phase in their T20 cricket setup with Ibrahim Zadran taking over as the team's T20I captain. The 24-year-old top-order batter has replaced Rashid Khan as skipper, with the Afghanistan Cricket Board backing him as part of its long-term leadership plans. Zadran had previously served as Rashid Khan's deputy in T20Is and was considered one of the leading candidates to take over the captaincy. His promotion came after Afghanistan's disappointing campaign in the 2026 T20 World Cup, where the team failed to progress beyond the group stage. The leadership change marks the beginning of a new era for Afghanistan's T20 side. Rashid Khan had enjoyed considerable success as captain, including leading the team to the semi-finals of the 2024 T20 World Cup. However, the board decided to make a transition following the team's recent World Cup performance. Zadran will now be responsible for guiding a talented Afghanistan squad that includes several experienced players. Interestingly, Rashid

Khan remains an important member of the T20I team and will continue to play under his former deputy. The young captain has already demonstrated his ability to handle pressure with the bat. During the 2026 T20 World Cup, Zadran produced an impressive 95 off 56 balls against Canada, underlining his importance to Afghanistan's batting lineup. His leadership will now face a major test against India. Afghanistan are scheduled to play India in a three-match T20I series in Delhi from September 13 to 17, 2026, with all three matches set to be played at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. The series will be particularly important for Zadran because India are among the strongest teams in world cricket. Leading Afghanistan against India will provide the young skipper with an opportunity to establish his credentials as a long-term captain. Zadran's biggest challenge will be balancing his responsibilities as captain with his role as a top-order batter. Afghanistan will expect him to provide stability at the top while also making important tacti-



cal decisions on the field. The team management is also looking to build greater depth ahead of future global tournaments. The appointment of Zadran is part of that broader strategy, with the board hoping that a younger leadership group can take Afghanistan forward. Rashid Khan's presence will nevertheless remain crucial. His experience, world-class leg-spin and knowledge of international cricket could prove extremely valuable to Zadran, particularly during high-pressure matches. The India series could therefore

become an important milestone in Afghanistan cricket. For Zadran, it is an opportunity to prove that he can successfully lead a talented team while continuing to perform with the bat. After Rashid Khan's successful stint as captain, Afghanistan have placed their trust in Ibrahim Zadran. The upcoming India series will offer the first major indication of how effectively the young leader can handle the responsibility and whether he can establish himself as the face of Afghanistan's next T20 generation.

India's Hockey World Cup Medal Hopes End

India's hopes of reaching the semi-finals of the 2026 FIH Women's Hockey World Cup came to a heart-breaking end after the team played out a goalless draw against Australia in Amstelveen. The 0-0 result was not enough for India to progress to the last four. Australia and India finished level on points, but Australia secured the semifinal spot because of their superior number of goals scored. The match was effectively a knock-out contest for both teams. India needed a victory to keep their semifinal dream alive, while Australia knew that a draw could potentially be enough depending on the goal-scoring calculations. India entered the contest under pressure after suffering a 0-2 defeat against the Netherlands in their previous second-round match. That result meant the team had no room for error against Australia. The Indian players fought hard throughout the match but struggled to convert their opportunities into goals. Australia defended with discipline and ensured that India's attacking moves did not result in a breakthrough. The pressure became increasingly intense as the final hooter

approached. India pushed forward in search of the goal that would have taken them into the semi-finals, but Australia's defence remained firm. The final whistle confirmed India's elimination and sparked emotional scenes among the Indian players. Veteran goalkeeper Savita Punia, appearing in her third World Cup, was visibly devastated after India's campaign came to an end. For India, the disappointment is particularly painful because the team had entered the tournament with renewed confidence and high expectations. Their progress to the second round had kept alive hopes of another deep run on the world stage. However, the defeat to the Netherlands and the subsequent draw against Australia proved decisive. India finished their second-round campaign without the result they needed in the crucial final game. Australia, meanwhile, advanced to the semifinals after edging India on the goals-scored criterion. Their disciplined defensive performance ultimately proved enough to secure a place among the tournament's final four. India's exit also means the team



will now turn its attention to the remaining classification matches, with a chance to finish as high as fifth in the tournament. The campaign will nevertheless be remembered as a missed opportunity. India had reached a stage where one victory could have changed the entire tournament narrative, but the failure to find a

goal against Australia ended their medal aspirations. For the Indian women's hockey team, the World Cup journey has ended in heartbreak. The 0-0 draw may look like a narrow result on paper, but it carried enormous consequences, sending Australia into the semifinals and bringing India's medal hopes to an end.

Nani's The Paradise: Promotions Need To Accelerate

Natural Star Nani's much-awaited action drama The Paradise is now just a month away from its theatrical release. Directed by Srikanth Odela, the film is scheduled to hit screens on September 24, 2026, following two changes to its release date. With the countdown underway, expectations are high among Nani's fans and moviegoers. The film has already created considerable curiosity with its intense promotional material. The recently released teaser received a positive response, particularly for Nani's rugged and powerful look as Jadal. His transformation and the dark, raw world created by Srikanth Odela have raised expectations for the film. However, the makers have remained relatively quiet after the teaser release. Despite being only a month away from the theatrical release, there has not been a major promotional campaign so far. This has led fans to expect the team to step up promotions and keep the momentum going in the coming weeks. The Paradise marks Nani's second collaboration with director Srikanth Odela after their successful film Dasara. The new project is being presented as a pan-India action drama with a much larger scale and a darker backdrop. Kayadu Lohar is playing the female lead, while Mohan Babu and Raghav Juyal are also part of the cast. Music is composed by Anirudh Ravichander. The film's first single, "Aaya Sher," had already generated interest among audiences with its energetic composition and mass appeal. The teaser further strengthened the buzz surrounding Nani's character and the film's intense atmosphere. Now, the focus is expected to shift toward the next phase of promotions. Reports suggest that the second single, featuring a special appearance by Keerthy Suresh, could arrive soon. If released as expected, the song could mark the beginning of a more aggressive promotional campaign for the film. Since The Paradise is being positioned as a multilingual release, the promotional strategy will be particularly important. The makers need to introduce the film and its characters to audiences beyond the Telugu states while maintaining the excitement already created by the teaser. With only a month remaining, fans are now looking forward to more songs, posters, interviews, events and other promotional content. The film has already generated strong curiosity, but the makers will need to maintain that momentum until release day. For Nani and Srikanth Odela, The Paradise is one of their most ambitious projects yet. If the upcoming promotional material matches the intensity of the teaser, the film could enter its release month with strong expectations.



NBK 111 Targets Christmas Release Amid Tough Competition



Nandamuri Balakrishna's upcoming action entertainer NBK 111 is reportedly eyeing a December 24, 2026 theatrical release. Directed by Gopichand Malineni, the film was earlier expected to arrive during the festive season, but Balakrishna's recent injury and the resulting delay in shooting have prompted the makers to consider a Christmas release instead. Balakrishna suffered an injury during the shooting of the film, forcing the production to take a temporary break. He is expected to return to the sets in September, with the team keen to complete the remaining portions without further delays. The makers are reportedly working to keep the film on track for the proposed December release. The decision to target December 24 could help NBK 111 avoid the increasingly crowded Sankranti 2027 release window. Several major films are already expected to compete for screens and audience attention during the festival season. A Christmas release would therefore provide the Balakrishna-starrer with a separate festive window. However, December 24 is far from an easy release date. The film could face strong competition from several big-ticket projects arriving around the same period. Avengers: Doomsday is expected to release in Telugu, while Dune: Part Three and Shah Rukh Khan's King are also targeting the Christmas period. The competition could be particularly challenging because the rival films have strong appeal across multiple markets. While NBK 111 will primarily depend on its Telugu audience and Balakrishna's mass following, the Hollywood and Bollywood projects could attract viewers across urban centres and multiplexes. At the same time, Balakrishna has previously benefited from December releases. His recent Akhanda and Akhanda 2 arrived during the December window, making the period familiar territory for the actor and his fans. Directed by Gopichand Malineni, NBK 111 is being presented as a high-energy action entertainer. The project is produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru, while S Thaman is composing the music. Kajal Aggarwal is part of the cast, adding further interest to the film. The film's special glimpse released earlier has already created curiosity around Balakrishna's character and the movie's action-oriented treatment. With the actor expected to resume shooting soon, fans are now waiting for further updates regarding the title, teaser and promotional campaign. If the December 24 date is officially locked, NBK 111 will have to compete aggressively for audience attention during one of the busiest movie seasons of the year. The makers will be hoping that Balakrishna's mass image, Gopichand Malineni's action treatment and strong promotional material can help the film stand out amid the heavyweight competition. For now, the Christmas release remains a reported target, but the final date will depend on the progress of shooting and the release plans of competing films.

Seerat Kapoor Denies Bigg Boss Telugu 10 Entry

Maname. The actress has also maintained a strong presence on social media, where her posts frequently attract attention. Her online popularity appears to have contributed to the speculation surrounding a possible Bigg Boss entry. Meanwhile, preparations for Bigg Boss Telugu 10 are progressing, with Nagarjuna expected to return as the host. The upcoming season has already generated considerable curiosity, with several names being discussed as possible contestants. However, many of these names remain unconfirmed until the makers officially announce the cast. For now, Seerat Kapoor has made her position clear: she is not participating in Bigg Boss Telugu 10 at the moment. If her plans change in the future, fans can expect the actress to make the announcement herself rather than relying on social-media rumours.

Actress

Seerat Kapoor has put an end to reports claiming that she will participate in Bigg Boss Telugu 10. The actress, whose name has recently been circulating on social media as a possible contestant, has clearly stated that she is not joining the upcoming season at present.

Rumours surrounding the tenth season of Bigg Boss Telugu have been gaining momentum as the launch date approaches. Several celebrity names are being discussed online, with fans eagerly waiting to know who will enter the reality-show house. Seerat Kapoor's name also surfaced in these unconfirmed lists, leading to speculation that she had been approached or finalised by the makers. However, Seerat herself has now responded to the reports. Addressing the speculation on social media, she clarified that she is currently not participating in Bigg Boss Telugu. The actress also urged fans not to believe unverified reports about her involvement in the show. Seerat made it clear that if she has any announcement regarding her career or future projects, she will communicate it directly through her social-media platforms. Her statement has effectively put the ongoing speculation to rest for now. Seerat Kapoor is a familiar face to Telugu audiences. She made her Tollywood debut with Run Raja Run, starring opposite Sharwanand, and gained recognition with her performance in the film. She later appeared in movies including Tiger, Columbus, Raju Gari Gadhi 2, Okka Kshanam, Touch Chesi Chudu, Krishna and His Leela, Maa Vintha Gaadha Vinuma, Bhamakalapam and

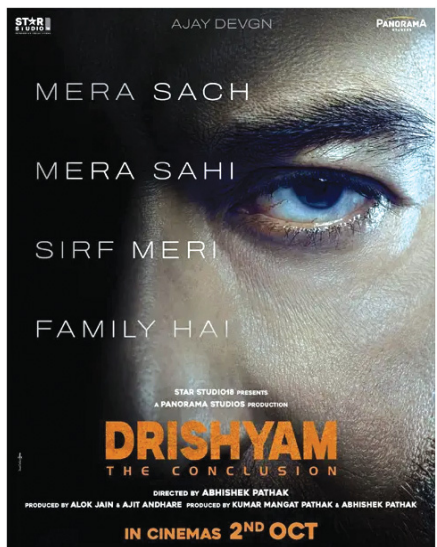
Mahakali Glimpse: Akshaye Khanna Stuns As Sukracharya

Prasanth Varma's cinematic universe is expanding with Mahakali, a female-led mythological superhero film that has now unveiled its much-awaited first glimpse. Directed by Puja Aparna Kolluri in her directorial debut, the movie stars Bhoomi Shetty in the lead role and features Bollywood actor Akshaye Khanna in a striking negative role as Sukracharya. The glimpse immediately grabs attention with its grand visual scale and mythological setting. Akshaye Khanna appears as Sukracharya, the powerful guru of the Asuras. His character seeks justice for the Asuras and appears determined to raise them against the gods and humans, setting the stage for a massive conflict. Akshaye Khanna's intense appearance is one of the biggest highlights of the glimpse. His commanding screen presence and powerful portrayal give Sukracharya a menacing edge. The character's war cry suggests that a major battle between opposing forces is about to unfold. On the other side stands Mahakaali, who takes on the forces of evil in an attempt to restore balance and peace. The glimpse presents her as a powerful divine figure, promising a visually spectacular superhero story rooted in Indian mythology. The final shot of the glimpse has emerged as one of its biggest talking points. It features a fierce Mahakaali with multiple arms while holding and feeding a baby, creating an intriguing image that raises several questions about the film's story and mythology. The visual effects and production scale have also received attention. The makers appear to be aiming for a larger-than-life cinematic experience, while Smaran Sai's background score adds intensity to the glimpse and strengthens its dramatic impact. Mahakali is being presented as the first female superhero film from the Prasanth Varma Cinematic Universe. The project is part of the same expanding mythology-driven universe that began with Hanu-Man. Alongside Bhoomi Shetty and Akshaye Khanna, the film also features Rohit Saraf and several prominent actors in key roles. The makers have also officially locked the film's theatrical release date, adding to the excitement following the glimpse. With its combination of mythology, superhero elements, high-end visuals and Akshaye Khanna's powerful performance, Mahakali is already generating considerable interest among Telugu cinema audiences. The glimpse makes one thing clear: this is not merely another superhero story. With Sukracharya preparing for war and Mahakaali standing against evil, Mahakali appears to be setting up a massive mythological battle that



could become an important new chapter in Prasanth Varma's cinematic universe.

Drishyam 3: The Conclusion Creates Huge Curiosity



Ajay Devgn's much-awaited Drishyam 3 has finally received an official title, and it has immediately caught the attention of movie lovers. The third installment of the Hindi franchise has been titled Drishyam: The Conclusion, strongly suggesting that Vijay Salgaonkar's gripping story is heading towards its final chapter. The film is scheduled to hit theatres on October 2, 2026. Ajay Devgn returns as Vijay Salgaonkar, the clever family man who has repeatedly managed to stay one step ahead of the law. The first two films established Vijay as a character who can go to extraordinary lengths to protect his family, while keeping audiences guessing about how far his plans can go. The newly revealed title has generated considerable curiosity because of the word "Conclusion." While it appears to indicate that this will be the final chapter of the Hindi franchise, it also raises an important question: will Vijay finally face the consequences of everything he has done? The first poster features an intense close-up of Ajay Devgn, with the line, "Mera Sach, Mera Sahi, Sirf Meri Family Hai". The statement once again underlines Vijay's central motivation - protecting his family at any cost. The film brings back several key members of the franchise. Tabu will reprise her role as IG Meera Deshmukh, while Shriya Saran returns as Nandini Salgaonkar. Rajat Kapoor is also part of the cast. Prakash Raj and Jaideep Ahlawat have joined the film in new roles, adding another layer of intrigue to the final chapter. Directed by Abhishek Pathak, who also helmed Drishyam 2, the movie has already completed its shooting and is currently in the post-production stage. The director has indicated that the Hindi version will have its own treatment and will lean more towards a family thriller rather than simply following the Malayalam storyline. The Drishyam franchise has built its popularity around suspense, family emotions and unexpected twists. The 2015 Hindi film introduced audiences to Vijay's extraordinary efforts to save his family, while Drishyam 2, released in 2022, took the story forward and became a major commercial success. Now, with Drishyam: The Conclusion, expectations are even higher. Audiences are eager to discover whether Vijay will once again outsmart the authorities or whether the truth will finally catch up with him. Interestingly, the Malayalam franchise has also continued with its own third installment, making the Hindi version's decision to use "The Conclusion" particularly intriguing. The title suggests that the makers want to give Vijay Salgaonkar's Hindi journey a definitive ending. With the release date locked for October 2, all eyes are now on the teaser and trailer. If the makers manage to deliver the twists and suspense associated with the franchise, Drishyam: The Conclusion could become one of the most anticipated thrillers of 2026. For now, the title itself has done exactly what it was expected to do - create a huge question mark around Vijay Salgaonkar's final fate.