



CM Revanth Reddy Solicits Two-Year Window from Teachers to Overhaul Education Sector

Kodangal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Participating in the Teachers' Day celebrations at the Government Junior College in Kodangal, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy paid floral tributes to former President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on his birth anniversary and extended warm greetings to the teaching fraternity. Addressing a gathering of educators, public representatives, and students alongside Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar and Minister Damodara Raja Narasimha, the Chief Minister appealed to teachers for a two-year window, assuring that his government would amicably resolve all pending grievances-including Pay Revision Commission (PRC) implementation and increments-without requiring them to resort to street protests. Highlighting educators as the true architects of children's futures, CM Revanth Reddy urged them to partner with the administration to establish Telangana's education system as a national role model. He emphasized that under his governance, major structural reforms have already been executed, including transparent, controversy-free teacher transfers, resolving long-standing issues under GO 317, granting pending promotions, setting up an Education Commission, and sending teachers on international study tours to observe global best practices. The Chief Minister credited the dedicated teaching workforce for boosting enrollment in government schools by over 80,000 students and elevating Telangana's national educational development ranking from 28th to 17th place. Reaffirming his commitment to employee welfare, he noted that despite inheriting severe financial constraints, the government disbursed Rs 6,000 crore within 100 days to clear long-pending retirement benefits left behind by the previous administration. Outlining measures for modernizing technical and vocational education, the Chief Minister detailed the transformation of ITIs into Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs) and the restructuring of polytechnic courses under the Skills University framework. Under the

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HYDERABAD | VOL-2 | ISSUE - 345 | SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 6 | 2026 | PAGES 12 | PRICE 5 | PUBLISHED FROM : HYDERABAD □ VIJAYAWADA

Endowments Portfolio Under 'Jinx' Shadow

Ravi Podili

Politics is widely regarded as a world where trust carries limited weight and promises are not always honoured. History has repeatedly shown members of the same family competing against one another for political power and positions. Yet, despite the unpredictable nature of politics, politicians continue to attach considerable importance to auspicious timings, sentiments and traditional beliefs. Before beginning an important task, many leaders carefully select a muhurtham. Similarly, anything considered unlucky or inauspicious is often avoided. One such long-standing belief in the Telugu states concerns the Endowments portfolio. A political sentiment dating back to the era of united Andhra Pradesh holds that becoming the Endowments Minister can bring misfortune to a politician's career. According to this belief, ministers handling the department frequently encounter controversies, lose their positions or struggle to continue their political careers. Even those who complete their tenure are sometimes believed to face defeat in subsequent elections. The belief has continued after the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The recent removal of Konda Surekha from the Telangana Cabinet has once again revived discussions surrounding the so-called "Endowments curse". Several political careers are cited in support of this sentiment. During the tenure of N.T. Rama Rao in united Andhra Pradesh, Endowments Ministers such as Eeli



Anjaneyulu and N. Yathiraja Rao reportedly faced political difficulties. The pattern was also discussed in connection with the Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy government. M. Satyanarayana Rao, J. Ratnakar Rao and Gade Venkata Reddy, who handled the Endowments portfolio, subsequently did not get opportunities to contest elections. Jupally Krishna Rao, who served as Endowments Minister in Kiran Kumar Reddy's cabinet, later resigned from the government and became associated with the movement for a separate Telangana state. C. Ramachandraiah subsequently took charge of the department and later changed political affiliations following the bifurcation of the state. In Andhra Pradesh, Paidikondala Manikyala Rao, a BJP leader and MLA from Tadepalligudem, served as Endowments Minister in the Chandrababu Naidu-led government formed in 2014. Political developments later

resulted in his losing the ministerial position, and he eventually stayed away from electoral politics. Vellampalli Srinivas, who held the Endowments portfolio during the initial phase of the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy government in 2019, also lost his ministerial position. He later contested from Vijayawada Central in the 2024 elections but was defeated. During a subsequent expansion of the Jagan cabinet, Tadepalligudem MLA Kottu Satyanarayana was given charge of Endowments with the rank of Deputy Chief Minister. However, he too lost the 2024 Assembly election to Janasena candidate Bolisetty Srinivas. The sentiment has also found examples in Telangana. Indrakaran Reddy, who served as Endowments Minister during the K. Chandrasekhar Rao government, subsequently moved away from active politics. Konda Surekha, who was entrusted with the same department under Chief

Minister A. Revanth Reddy, was recently removed from the Cabinet. These developments have once again brought the old political belief into public discussion. Supporters of the theory point to the repeated political setbacks faced by several former Endowments Ministers across the Telugu states. Of course, political careers are shaped by elections, party strategies, public sentiment, internal dynamics and changing alliances rather than any particular government department. Nevertheless, the unusual sequence of political setbacks associated with the Endowments portfolio has ensured that the old belief continues to survive. For politicians who attach importance to sentiment and tradition, the latest developments may therefore be viewed as another chapter in a long-running political superstition. Whether it is genuinely a pattern or simply a coincidence remains a matter of political interpretation.

CM Revanth Reddy Hails Teachers' Role on Teachers' Day



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

On the occasion of Teachers' Day, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy extended his heartfelt greetings to the entire teaching fraternity across the state. Paying rich tributes to India's former President, philosopher, and visionary teacher, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, on his birth anniversary, the Chief Minister highlighted the invaluable role educators play in guiding young minds and laying the foundation for national progress. In his official message, CM Revanth Reddy stated that the contribution of teachers extends far beyond delivering traditional classroom instruction. He emphasized that by imparting knowledge, wisdom, and continuous guidance, educators play a vital role in molding

students into exemplary, responsible citizens. He noted that their unwavering commitment remains essential to helping youth realize their true potential and navigate future opportunities. "The role of teachers in shaping the future of students by imparting knowledge and wisdom, and by constantly inspiring and guiding them-is invaluable," the Chief Minister expressed. He praised their dedication to character building, emphasizing that their mentorship significantly accelerates the nation's overall growth and intellectual development. Concluding his message, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed his sincere hope that the wisdom, dedication, and inspiration provided by teachers will continue to illuminate the lives of their students and steer the state toward a prosperous future.

Tourism Infrastructure Gets Fresh Push



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Friday reviewed the development of tourism infrastructure in Telangana and called for a focused and strategic approach to strengthen the sector in line with the objectives of the State Tourism Policy. During a meeting at the Secretariat, Jaju stressed the need to identify select destinations with high tourism potential and develop quality hotel infrastructure at these locations to meet the growing requirements of visitors. He suggested upgrading and modernising suitable properties owned by the Telangana Tourism Development Corporation to improve accommodation and visitor facilities. The Chief Secretary also proposed exploring government lands and suitable semi-forest areas, wherever permitted

under existing rules and regulations, for developing hotels and tourism-related infrastructure. He emphasised that such development should support the long-term growth of tourism while complying with applicable norms. Jaju called for creating a strong ecosystem around major tourist destinations by improving accommodation, connectivity, amenities and the overall visitor experience. He also urged officials to formulate an aggressive and comprehensive tourism promotion strategy to position Telangana as an attractive destination for domestic and other visitors. He suggested identifying suitable individuals who could effectively showcase Telangana's tourism potential and strengthen the state's tourism brand. He also proposed developing a distinctive and appealing tagline that could be used consistently in promotional campaigns and branding initiatives. The Chief Secretary directed officials to prepare a comprehensive strategy covering Telangana's diverse tourism segments, including heritage, culture, nature, eco-tourism, adventure tourism and emerging attractions. He said the unique strengths of different regions should be properly identified, packaged and promoted. Jaju further asked district Collectors to take a proactive role in tourism development by identifying potential destinations in their respective districts and exploring opportunities to create supporting infrastructure. YAT&C Special Chief Secretary Vani Prasad, Finance Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania and other officials attended the meeting.

Major AI Data Centre Project Set to Create 7,000 Jobs



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad is set to host the country's largest artificial intelligence data centre campus, with HyperVault, a subsidiary of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Telangana government for the proposed project. A delegation led by TCS CEO K. Krithivasan met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the Secretariat on Saturday to discuss the initiative. IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, along with Ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy,

Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Adluri Laxman Kumar, attended the meeting. TCS COO Aarti Subramanian, HyperVault President V. Rajanna and HyperVault CEO and Managing Director Deepesh Nanda were also present. OpenAI Chief Technology Officer Uday Rudraraju joined the discussions virtually from the United States. The proposed state-of-the-art campus will have a capacity of one gigawatt, or 1,000 megawatts, and will be developed across more than 250 acres in Hyderabad. HyperVault and its partner companies are expected to invest around Rs 70,000 crore

in construction and operations, with the project projected to create approximately 7,000 direct and indirect jobs. The facility is planned to provide large-scale computing infrastructure for leading artificial intelligence companies, hyperscalers and global enterprises. It will incorporate high-performance computing systems and advanced liquid-cooling technologies to support intensive AI workloads. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy described the project as a landmark initiative for Telangana and India, saying Hyderabad was emerging as a major global centre for the AI revolution.

He said access to advanced computing infrastructure within the state would provide a significant advantage as AI capabilities increasingly become critical infrastructure. Reddy assured TCS and HyperVault of the state government's complete support and cooperation. He said the investment would strengthen the foundation for the proposed Future City and contribute to the Telangana Rising Vision-2047 target of building a \$3 trillion economy. The project is also expected to generate opportunities in allied sectors, including power, cooling, networking, construction, engineering and operations. The campus will follow an environmentally conscious approach, incorporating green energy and water-neutral design. The project's groundwork was initiated during a meeting between Reddy and Tata Sons Chairman N. Chandrasekaran in Davos in January 2026. Following several rounds of discussions, Telangana secured the project despite competition from five other states. The government said the initiative marks a major step towards establishing Hyderabad as a global AI and data centre hub.

Revanth Highlights Welfare and Development

Nakrekal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday inaugurated a new 100-bed Area Hospital in Nakrekal in Nalgonda district and launched several development projects during his visit to the constituency. The hospital, constructed at a cost of Rs 32 crore, was inaugurated in the presence of Ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Adluri Laxman Kumar, besides MPs and other public representatives from the undivided Nalgonda district. Addressing a Praja Palana public meeting at the Rajiv Gandhi Mini Stadium, marking 1,000 days of governance, the Chief Minister said welfare and development programmes were being implemented across Telangana without political discrimination. He said the government was focused on supporting farmers, women, poor families and unemployed youth.



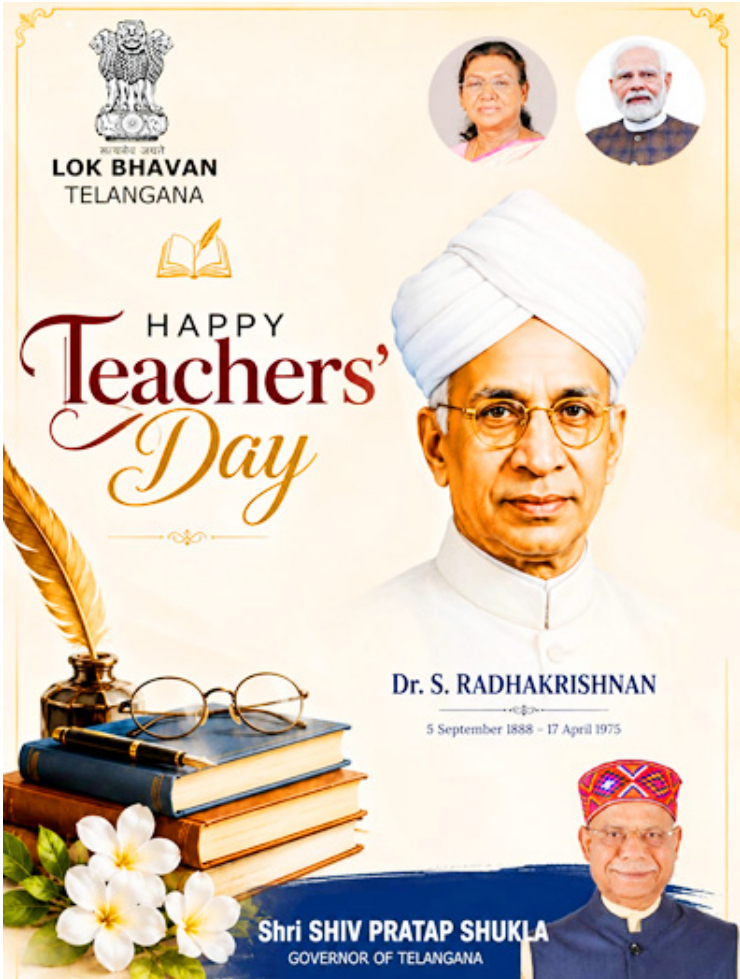
Reddy highlighted initiatives including farm loan waivers, paddy procurement, Rythu Bharosa and bonuses for fine-quality paddy. He said the government was

also working to strengthen women's economic independence, with an objective of helping one crore women become financially prosperous by 2034.

He said employment opportunities and recruitment measures were being pursued for unemployed youth. Reddy also reiterated the government's commitment to the free travel facility for women in RTC buses, saying attempts to undermine the scheme would not succeed. The Chief Minister said welfare benefits such as new ration cards, fine-quality rice for 3.48 crore people, free electricity up to 200 units for eligible households, LPG cylinders at Rs 500, free power for agricultural pump sets, farm loan waivers and Rythu Bharosa were being extended without discrimination. Reddy also laid foundation stones for several projects in the constituency. These included a Telangana Public School building costing Rs 9.85 crore and a Young India Integrated Residential School at Kadaparthy village, estimated at Rs 200 crore. Other projects include power substations and transmission lines at Munipampula and Gudivada, costing

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Governor Greets Teaching Fraternity on Teachers' Day



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

On the occasion of National Teachers' Day, Governor of Telangana Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla extended his warm greetings and best wishes to educators across the state. Observed annually on September 5, the day commemorates the birth anniversary of former President of India, visionary leader, and eminent philosopher Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Describing teachers as true nation-builders, the Governor highlighted their pivotal role in shaping the character, knowledge, and moral values of future generations. He emphasized

that their unwavering dedication to education and commitment to molding responsible citizens make an invaluable contribution to the progress of the nation. Revering the enduring legacy of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla noted that the former President's life and high ideals continue to inspire teachers in their everyday pursuit of academic excellence. Expressing deep appreciation for the selfless service rendered by educators, the Governor conveyed his gratitude to the entire teaching fraternity and wished them continued success in their noble profession of guiding youth toward a prosperous future.

Governor Stresses Higher Education Reforms

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has called for continuous reforms in universities, with greater emphasis on research, innovation and knowledge creation to prepare students for the changing demands of higher education and the future workforce. Speaking on the occasion of National Teachers' Day, the Governor extended greetings to teachers and appreciated their contribution to nation-building and shaping future generations. He said universities must equip young people with relevant knowledge and skills while responding effectively to technological and global developments. The Governor released Volume 2, Issue 1 of the Telangana Journal of Higher Education (TJHE), published by the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE).

The issue carries the theme "Universities in the Twenty-First Century: Renewal, Reforms and Roadmaps" and aims to pro-



mote research-based discussions on contemporary challenges facing higher education. Shukla stressed the need for universities to revise academic frameworks in line with technological advancements, emerging skill requirements and international

trends. He highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary education, research and innovation, along with stronger international academic partnerships. He said academic platforms such as TJHE could promote knowledge exchange among researchers, faculty members, academi-

cians and policymakers while supporting informed policy discussions. The Governor also appreciated the journal for obtaining online and print ISSN recognition through the ISSN network. Shukla commended the TGCHE for its efforts to strengthen research culture and academic excellence in Telangana under the leadership of Chairman Professor V. Balakista Reddy. Reddy briefed the Governor about the Research Education Advancement Conclave in Hyderabad (REACH)-2026, scheduled for September 26. The conclave will focus on research, innovation, collaboration among institutions and the future direction of higher education. TGCHE Secretary Professor Sriram Venkatesh also attended the event. Earlier, Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University Vice-Chancellor Dr. D. Padma met the Governor. Breast cancer surgeon and Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation founder-chairman Dr. P. Raghu Ram also called on Shukla at Lok Bhavan.

SLBC Tunnel to Ease Water Woes



Nakrekal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) tunnel would provide a permanent solution to the irrigation and drinking water problems faced by South Telangana for decades.

Addressing a large public meeting in Nakrekal after Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy inaugurated a 100-bed hospital, Uttam Kumar Reddy described the SLBC tunnel as a "Jala Sanjeevani" for the undivided Nalgonda district, which has long faced the impact of fluoride contamination.

The Minister said the government was committed to completing the long-pending tunnel despite technical challenges and other obstacles. With the support of the Chief Minister, construction would be accelerated and the tunnel targeted for completion by June 2028, he said.

Uttam Kumar Reddy said completion of the project would mark a new chapter in

the water history of South Telangana by addressing irrigation shortages and strengthening drinking water security in the Nalgonda region. He said the Congress government was also expediting several irrigation projects that had remained pending for years. The Chief Minister had sanctioned Rs 1,800 crore for the Dindi project following appeals by Munugode MLA K. Omairaj Reddy and Rajagopal Reddy and Devarakonda MLA Balu Naik. Work had already begun and would be accelerated, he added. The Minister assured that the Brahmana Vellamla project, other pending irrigation schemes and canal works in the undivided Nalgonda district would also be completed. He said the government's objective was to ensure that irrigation facilities reached every acre and farmers received their due share of water.

He further assured farmers in the Musi command area that necessary irrigation water would be released and that steps were being taken to prevent shortages. On civil supplies, Uttam Kumar Reddy criticised the previous BRS government over the delay in issuing ration cards.

He said the Congress government was providing six kilograms of fine rice per person every month through the Public Distribution System and had issued new ration cards to eligible poor families. He thanked Congress workers for their contribution to the party's victory and expressed confidence that the undivided Nalgonda district would remain a stronghold of the Congress.

Healthy Population Vital for Viksit Bharat: Kishan Reddy



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy said a healthy population is essential for achieving the vision of a developed India by 2047, stressing the need to make health, nutrition and fitness a people's movement.

Kishan Reddy was the chief guest at the valedictory ceremony of Rashtriya Poshan Maah, organised by the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) under the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at AV College. The five-day programme focused on creating awareness among students and the public about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

He said public awareness about balanced diets, hygiene, physical fitness, sports and the welfare of women and children should extend beyond government programmes. He urged citizens to take personal responsibility for their health by consuming nutritious food, getting adequate sleep and regularly engaging in exercise, walking, yoga and sports.

The Union Minister advised people to reduce excessive consumption of oil and sugar and expressed concern over increasing overweight and obesity among

children and youth. He encouraged families to prefer fresh, nutritious, home-cooked food while limiting junk food. Kishan Reddy also highlighted the impact of excessive use of technology on physical activity. He urged youngsters to reduce screen time, particularly at night, and maintain healthy sleeping habits.

Expressing concern over drug abuse among youth, he said combating the menace required collective action involving parents, teachers, educational institutions, police, voluntary organisations and society at large. He described initiatives such as Nasha Mukti Bharat, Fit India and Drug-Free India as important programmes for protecting the country's future.

Additional Director General of PIB and CBC Shruti Patil said the five-day programme had successfully created awareness among students through quizzes, poster-making, video-making and nutritious food competitions. She urged students and families to turn awareness into daily action.

AV Education Board member and AV College Correspondent K. Vinod Reddy, Sama Jaganmohan Reddy, officials, teachers and students attended the concluding programme.

Rural Women to Gain Solar Power Support



Nagarkurnool, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Ministers Dr. Seethakka, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, and Jupally Krishna Rao, Excise and Tourism, said the Telangana government was committed to improving the livelihoods of rural women by creating opportunities for economic empowerment. The ministers, along with Nagarkurnool MP Dr. Mallu Ravi and Collector Hemant Keshav Patil, participated in the foundation-laying ceremonies for several development projects in the district.

At Machinenipalli village in Kollapur mandal, the ministers laid foundation stones for two solar power units, each with an 800 kW capacity and connected to an 11 kV system. The projects will be implemented through Indira Mahila Shakti groups.

Seethakka said the solar initiatives would help women's groups generate income and strengthen their financial

independence. Earlier, the ministers laid the foundation stone for HAM road works estimated at Rs 17.78 crore in Ankiraupalli village.

They later launched three HAM road projects costing about Rs 15.87 crore at Nakkalabanda Stage in Peddakothapalli mandal. The ministers also initiated rehabilitation works for 257 Chenchu families from three villages located within the Nallamala Tiger Reserve. At Bacharam village, foundation stones were laid for an R&R colony, CC roads and underground drainage facilities at an estimated cost of Rs 4.50 crore. Officials, elected representatives, Indira Mahila Shakti group members and villagers attended the programmes. Senior officials, including SP Sangram Singhji Patil and Forest Department representatives, were also present. The ministers said the development initiatives were aimed at improving rural infrastructure while expanding livelihood opportunities for vulnerable communities and women.

Bandi Sanjay Targets Congress and BRS



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar used Teachers' Day to criticise the Congress government over the pending demands of teachers and launched a sharp attack on both the Congress and BRS over the condition of the education sector. In a series of remarks, Sanjay extended Teachers' Day greetings to serving and retired teachers, acknowledging their contribution despite financial difficulties. He alleged that teachers were struggling due to delays in Dearness Allowance (DA), non-implementation of Pay Revision Commission (PRC) benefits and non-payment of retirement benefits.

He said teachers deserved more than ceremonial greetings and urged the government to address their pending issues as a genuine mark of respect. Sanjay argued that no state or country could progress if teachers were driven to distress and accused the Congress government of making promises without adequately resolving their problems. He also alleged that students were suffering because of pending fee reimbursement dues, affecting their higher education prospects. Sanjay further criticised

both Congress and BRS, claiming that the two parties had failed to protect the education system during their respective periods in power. Turning his attention to BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, Sanjay described the recent "Yuva Samara Bheri" meeting in Karimnagar as unsuccessful. He questioned KTR over issues including youth unemployment, paper leaks, student suicides, self-employment schemes and the implementation of GO 317.

Sanjay claimed that the BRS had failed to fulfil several commitments to unemployed youth and said young people would not forget what he described as the party's failures. Highlighting his contribution to Karimnagar, Sanjay claimed that more than Rs 22,000 crore had been secured for development in the Karimnagar parliamentary constituency over seven years. He also said Rs 840 crore was brought for Karimnagar Municipality and questioned KTR's contribution to Sircilla Municipality. He alleged that the IT Hub established in Karimnagar was not functioning effectively and concluded by asserting that people were aware of the development work and funds he had secured for the region.

Monsoon Session Security Reviewed



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

A preparatory meeting was held at the Telangana Legislative Council meeting hall on Saturday to review arrangements, facilities and security measures for the upcoming monsoon sessions of the Telangana Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, scheduled to begin on Monday. Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy, Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Legislative Affairs Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu and Deputy Chairman Banda Prakash attended the meeting. Council Chief Whip Patnam Mahender Reddy, Council Secretary V. Narasimha Charyulu and Assembly Secretary Rendla Tirupati were also present. Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, Finance Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania and GAD Principal Secretary Ahmed Nadeem participated on behalf of the state government.

Senior police officials, including DGP C.V. Anand, Principal Secretary (Home) Shikha Goel, DG (Law and Order) Mahesh Bhagwat, Additional DG (Intelligence) Vijay Kumar and Hyderabad City Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, also attended. Speaker Gaddam Prasad stressed the need for close coordination among the legislature, gov-

ernment departments and police to ensure smooth proceedings. He asked officials to provide information sought by members promptly and ensure that documents are made available in Telugu, English and Urdu sufficiently in advance. He also called for departmental officials to remain available during discussions concerning their respective subjects to assist ministers and legislators. Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy said officials should work with greater speed and coordination during the sessions. He cautioned that proceedings could become heated and urged the police and intelligence wings to remain vigilant and promptly share relevant information with legislative authorities.

Minister Sridhar Babu assured that the government would extend full cooperation to both Houses. He directed departments to submit answers to questions at least a day in advance and ensure the availability of departmental representatives throughout the sessions.

The meeting also emphasised maintaining peace inside and outside the legislature, with police directed to take adequate bandobast and security measures to prevent disruptions, protests and traffic blockades.

Officials were asked to coordinate closely and ensure the successful conduct of the monsoon sessions.

Etela Vows to Fight 22-A Land Restrictions



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Malkajgiri MP Etela Rajender on Saturday vowed to continue the BJP's fight against the 22-A land restrictions and accused the Congress government of causing hardship to poor and middle-class families through land-related actions. Addressing a BJP protest by MPs, MLCs and MLAs at Indira Park in support of 22-A land victims, Rajender alleged that thousands of families were suffering because their properties had been placed on the prohibited list. He demanded that genuine lands be removed from the 22-A restrictions and questioned the authority of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy to impose such restrictions. Rajender alleged that the government was targeting poor families through demolitions and cited disputes in areas including Quthbullapur, Gajularamaram and communities along the Musi River.

He also criticised HYDRA for alleged action against homes and basic facilities used by economically weaker sections.

The BJP leader warned IAS and IPS officers against blindly following political directions, saying officials must uphold their constitutional responsibilities. He also criticised police restrictions on opposition leaders visiting affected areas and warned that legal action would be pursued against officials if they obstructed public representatives. Rajender alleged irregularities in land records and claimed that changes were being made overnight in Bhu-Bharathi records. Referring to Puppallagada, he alleged that 134 acres valued at around Rs 17,000 crore had been reclassified. He also raised allegations concerning other valuable land parcels and demanded investigations into transactions. He accused both the previous BRS government and the present Congress administration of mishandling land issues, while insisting that the BRS would not return to power. Rajender said the BJP would continue its campaign until the grievances of 22-A victims were addressed. He added that the party would approach central investigative agencies, including the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation, wherever necessary. He vowed that the BJP would intensify its political fight against the government and work toward bringing the party to power in Telangana.

Laxman Demands Revenue Minister's Resignation



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

BJP Rajya Sabha Member Dr. K. Laxman accused the Congress government of turning Telangana into a "real estate firm" and demanded the immediate resignation of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy over the inclusion of private lands in the Section 22-A prohibited list.

Addressing a BJP Maha Dharna at Dharna Chowk near Indira Park, Laxman said thousands of farmers, Dalits, poor and middle-class families were facing difficulties after their properties were brought under the Bhu-Bharathi and 22-A provisions. He alleged that even small plots purchased through years of hard work were being restricted, leaving own-

ers unable to obtain bank loans or meet major family expenses.

Laxman cited complaints from Dalits in Korremula village, alleging that intermediaries and local Congress leaders were pressuring landowners to surrender portions of their properties. He warned that the BJP would oppose any attempts to extract land shares in the name of resolving 22-A disputes.

He also criticised the government's alleged plans involving public and institutional lands, saying valuable properties should be protected from private interests. Referring to his earlier opposition to commercial development at NTR Grounds, Laxman said public spaces must remain accessible to citizens. The BJP leader argued that the Revenue Minister could not escape responsibility by describing the 22-A land classification as an administrative mistake. He demanded that properties wrongly included in the prohibited list be removed immediately instead of forcing affected families to undergo lengthy procedures. Laxman assured affected citizens that the BJP would continue raising the issue in the Assembly and outside it.

He said the party would intensify its agitation until the government addresses land grievances and safeguards the property rights of farmers and ordinary families.

Warangal: Emerging as a Regional Growth Hub!

The Ongoing Trajectory of Development Across a Twelve-Year Journey

Following the formation of Telangana, the need for a formidable second economic center beyond Hyderabad became increasingly apparent. Warangal holds a natural claim to that mantle. An urban heritage rooted in the Kakatiya era, premier academic institutions, healthcare networks, an agrarian base, and strategic road-rail connectivity-these were Warangal's pre-existing strengths. After 2014, fresh momentum across infrastructure, in dustrial development, education, health-care, and tourism was built upon these foundations. As Warangal and Hanuma konda expanded into a contiguous twin-city urban agglomeration, their economic integration with neighboring Jangaon and Mahabubabad deepened. In 2022-23, the combined Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP) of these four districts reached approximately Rs 94,000 crore at current prices: Hanu makonda: Rs 30,003 crore, Warangal: Rs 28,960 crore, Mahabubabad: Rs 18,172 crore, Jangaon: Rs 16,956 crore. This chapter examines how far this region has progressed toward emerging as Telangana's second growth engine, even if not as an outright alternative to Hyderabad.

Warangal-Hanumakonda: From Town Cluster to Regional Core

The tri-city urban cluster of Warangal, Hanumakonda, and Kazipet forms the economic spine of this region. Administration, commerce, higher education, tertiary healthcare, and regional transport converge around this urban node. Warangal's standing as the largest urban center outside Hyderabad is not defined merely by demographic size. Its real strength lies in its role as a regional service hub: citizens from across surrounding districts travel here for schooling, medical treatment, employment, and wholesale commerce. Transforming from an expanding town into a dynamic service center for the wider hinterland represents its primary developmental strength.

Academic Capital: Warangal's Distinct Advantage

Education has long anchored the region's development profile. National Institute of Technology (NIT) Warangal, Kakatiya University, Kakatiya Medical College, and a dense network of higher education institutions have established the city as a premier educational powerhouse in Telangana. Hosting an institution of national importance like NIT Warangal delivers advantages beyond conventional classroom education; it fosters innovation, high-end technical skills, applied

Chennu Peddiraju



Senior Journalist

research, startup incubation, and industry-academia linkages. Yet, the critical question remains: how effectively has this academic capital translated into the local economy? While thousands of students arrive here to study, local policies must address how many stay on to launch enterprises, generate local employment, and anchor high-value ventures within Warangal.

Healthcare: Decoupling Reliance on Hyderabad

Premier public healthcare institutions like Kakatiya Medical College and MGM Hospital have established Warangal as a



critical medical hub for North-Eastern Telangana, bolstered by an expanding private healthcare sector. While the reliance on Hyderabad for super-specialty tertiary care has not been eliminated entirely, the proliferation of medical teaching hospitals, specialty clinics, and diagnostic infrastructure has substantially boosted the regional services economy. Healthcare here acts as an economic multiplier: an arriving patient brings family, which directly fuels the transport, hospitality, food, pharmaceutical retail, and ancillary small-business sectors.

Industrial Bedrock: Kakatiya Mega Textile Park

The Kakatiya Mega Textile Park represents the most ambitious industrial venture launched in Warangal over the past twelve years. Spanning over 1,200 acres, the park was conceived to integrate the entire textile value chain-from "fiber to fashion"-within a single ecosystem, supported by dedicated power, water lines, common effluent facilities, and plug-and-play industrial infrastructure. According to the Telangana Department of Handlooms and Textiles... Land acquisition of 1,190 acres has been completed. Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) valued at roughly Rs 3,400 crore have been executed with manufacturing units.

The park carries a projected employment potential of 23,800 jobs. The critical determinant moving forward will be how rapidly this blueprint evolves into a fully operational, integrated manufacturing cluster.

Agriculture: The Structural Anchor of the Hinterland

The Warangal growth corridor cannot be understood through industries alone. Cultivation of paddy, cotton, and red chili-alongside the expansive market yards, logistics networks, cold storages, and trading ecosystems built around them-forms the bedrock of the rural econ-

omy. High agro-yield is a clear strength, but the capacity to convert raw commodities into high-value processed goods represents an even greater economic lever. Currently, agro-processing and food value-addition remain vastly underutilized, leaving a major growth chapter waiting to be unlocked.

Transforming Heritage into a Tourism Economy

Historic landmarks like the Warangal Fort, the Thousand Pillar Temple, and the Ramappa Temple lend the region a distinct cultural identity. The inscription of Ramappa Temple as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021 elevated the circuit onto the global tourism map. However, possessing historical monuments and operating a functioning "tourism economy" are fundamentally different things. When a tourist visits for a few hours and departs, local economic capture remains minimal. When visitors stay overnight, revenue flows into hotels, dining, local transit, regional handicrafts, and cultural retail. Capitalizing fully on the commercial value of Warangal's heritage remains an ongoing challenge.

Transit Connectivity: The Multi-Modal Pivot

Kazipet Junction and major highway cor-

ridors seamlessly connect Warangal to broader Telangana and national transit lines. High-speed highway and rail links to Hyderabad have vastly improved market access. Yet, as modern industrial investment increasingly demands seamless supply-chain integration, the necessity for robust multi-modal connectivity has become urgent. The revival of Mamnoor Airport has emerged as a central catalyst in this framework. The state government completed the requisite land acquisition and formally urged the Union government to develop the site to commercial aviation standards. Establishing air connectivity would not only expedite passenger transit, but open avenues for industrial investment, heritage tourism, medical travel, and technical services.

Jangaon-Mahabubabad: The Outer Economic Ring

Evaluating Warangal in isolation yields an incomplete developmental picture. Jangaon functions as an essential transitional corridor between Hyderabad and Warangal, while Mahabubabad possesses a distinct identity driven by agriculture, forest resources, and regional freight. In 2022-23, per capita income figures reflected these varying internal structures. Warangal: Rs 2,23,000, Jangaon: Rs 2,17,000, Mahabubabad: Rs 1,99,000, Hanumakonda: Rs 1,87,000. These metrics demonstrate that development across the wider Warangal Growth Region has not been monolithic. Economic structures diverge between the core urban centers and the surrounding districts. The Warangal region is not a single isolated city, but a constellation of complementary economies anchored to an urban core.

What Does the Twelve-Year Journey Reveal?

Since 2014, Warangal has laid considerable foundational groundwork to transcend its legacy town status and evolve into a dynamic regional pole. Higher education is entrenched, healthcare has widened its reach, targeted industrialization has commenced, tourism has attained global recognition, and transit connectivity has improved. However, before declaring this trajectory an unqualified success, an essential question persists: Have these individual pillars integrated into a cohesive, self-sustaining regional economy? For Warangal, the honest answer is that the journey is underway. While it may not serve as an exact alternative to the capital, many foundational bricks required to build Telangana's second growth center are already in place. The decisive task ahead lies in how securely and ambitiously that regional economy is built.

CM Revanth Reddy Solicits Two-Year Window from Teachers to Overhaul Education Sector

Continue

updated curriculum, polytechnic students will complete two years of theoretical study followed by a one-year corporate internship featuring a monthly stipend of up to Rs 9,000. He dispelled rumors regarding privatization, clarifying that polytechnic education now offers degree-equivalent pathways for higher studies abroad while retaining direct lateral entry into second-year engineering courses. Exhorting teachers to embrace modern methodologies that combine core academics with global skill development, CM Revanth Reddy stated that the government's doors remain open for constructive dialogue through Advisor K. Keshav Rao. He concluded by calling on educators to unite with the government over the next two years to steer the state's public education system toward unprecedented growth.

Revanth Highlights Welfare and Development

Continue

Rs 3.62 crore and Rs 2.74 crore respectively, and an integrated mandal-level office complex at Nakrekal costing Rs 20 crore. Road development works worth Rs 45.60 crore and construction of an Excise Department building costing Rs 1.10 crore were also taken up. The Chief Minister said the government would continue combining welfare with infrastructure development to improve living standards across the state.

BJP Seeks Probe Into 22-A Lands



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao inaugurated a 'Maha Dharma' at Dharana Chowk near Indira Park on Friday, demanding action over the inclusion of farmers' and private lands in the 22-A prohibited list under the Bhu-Bharathi land records system. Addressing the protest, Rao alleged that the issue was causing severe hardship to farmers and middle-class families across Telangana. He claimed that properties purchased and developed by families, including residential plots in Malkajgiri and other parts of Hyderabad, were being affected, preventing owners from selling or mortgaging their properties. Rao criticised both the previous BRS government and the present Congress administration over land-record management. He alleged that irregularities under the Dharani system had not been properly

ly addressed despite the Congress coming to power with assurances of reform. The BJP leader demanded a judicial inquiry headed by a sitting High Court judge to examine the inclusion of private patta lands in the prohibited lists and establish responsibility for alleged irregularities. He claimed that nearly 50 lakh people across the state were facing difficulties and said the restrictions were affecting families seeking loans for education, marriages and other needs. Rao also accused the government of failing to adequately hear grievances and criticised the functioning of the revenue administration. He demanded an immediate review of all properties included in the 22-A list and removal of eligible lands. Warning that the protest was only the beginning, Rao said the BJP would intensify its agitation from the streets to the legislature if the government failed to resolve the issue.

Kishan Reddy Demands 22-A Land Clearance



Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy accused the Congress government in Telangana of misusing the Section 22-A land classification and demanded the immediate and unconditional removal of eligible private lands from the prohibited list. Addressing a BJP Maha Dharma at Indira Park in Hyderabad, Kishan Reddy alleged that lands belonging to farmers, poor families and the middle class had been arbitrarily included under Bhu-Bharathi and Section 22-A. He claimed that several properties with valid title deeds and established civic connections were being affected, causing hardship to

owners. Kishan Reddy accused the government of turning Telangana into a "real estate company" and alleged that public and institutional lands were being offered for sale to address the state's financial difficulties. He questioned the proposed handling of lands belonging to institutions, Housing Board properties, parks and other public-use areas. He claimed that more than 60 lakh acres had been brought under the 22-A category and alleged that the Bhu-Bharathi system had failed to resolve problems associated with the earlier Dharani portal. According to him, the BJP had received numerous complaints from citizens facing difficulties in dealing with land records. The Union Minister also criticised the government over alleged restrictions on opposition protests and referred to the house arrest of BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao. He alleged that democratic rights were being curtailed while the government claimed to promote people-centric administration. Kishan Reddy further levelled allegations of corruption and commissions in land transactions and removal of properties from prohibited lists, demanding accountability from officials and political leaders. He warned that the BJP would pursue the issue if it came to power in 2029. Calling for intensified public mobilisation, he urged BJP workers to explain the 22-A issue to people at the grassroots level. He said the party would continue its agitation from villages to the Assembly until affected citizens received justice.

Satyavati Rathod Targets Seetakka



Mulugu, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Former minister Satyavati Rathod alleged that Minister Seetakka remained silent over the dismissal of Konda Surekha from the Telangana Cabinet because she was allegedly complicit in corruption under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's government. Rathod was speaking at a student and youth conference held at Telangana Bhavan in Mulugu on Saturday as part of the BRS campaign against what the party described as 1,000 days of failed Congress governance. She attended the programme as the chief guest. Rathod questioned why Seetakka had not publicly responded to what she described as the injustice faced by Surekha, a fellow woman leader from the undivided Warangal region. She alleged that corruption was widespread across ministerial portfolios under the Congress government.

She said differences among ministers had surfaced over arrangements for the Medaram Maha Jatara and continued until Surekha's removal from the Cabinet. According to Rathod, Surekha lost her ministerial position after raising questions over alleged corruption involving the Chief Minister. Rathod further alleged that Seetakka's silence indicated that she too was unwilling to challenge the alleged irregularities. She criticised the minister for continuing to support the Chief Minister despite Surekha's removal. The former minister urged students and young people to closely examine the Congress government's election promises and hold it accountable for what she described as failures and unfulfilled commitments. She called upon youth to expose what she termed the party's deception and give the Congress an appropriate political response in future elections.

Harish Rao Targets Revanth Over Student Issues



Siddipet, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Former Telangana minister and BRS MLA T. Harish Rao demanded the resignation of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, accusing the Congress government of failing to fulfil its election promises and neglecting students and unemployed youth. Addressing a protest by unemployed youth at Ambedkar Crossroads in Siddipet, Harish Rao said the government must answer questions over fee reimbursement, employment and education. He alleged that the Congress had promised two lakh jobs and a job calendar, but the latter had effectively become a "job-less calendar." Harish Rao claimed that the previous BRS government had allocated around RS.2,000 crore annually for fee reimbursement and alleged that the Congress

government had failed to release funds during its tenure. He said students, particularly from SC, ST and BC communities, were facing serious difficulties because of pending payments. Citing a recent representation from B. Pharmacy students in Gajwel, he said graduates were allegedly unable to obtain their certificates from their college because of pending fee reimbursement payments. He said some students risked losing admission opportunities for higher studies due to delays. The BRS leader also opposed the proposed merger of government polytechnic colleges with the Skill University under GO 97. He alleged that the move would increase the financial burden on students and demanded immediate withdrawal of the order. He said government polytechnics currently enabled students to pursue technical education at relatively affordable fees. Harish Rao further alleged that several welfare and educational initiatives introduced during the previous BRS government had been discontinued. He also claimed that hundreds of private degree colleges had closed since the Congress government came to power, affecting students' educational opportunities. He assured students that the BRS would raise their concerns during the Assembly session. Harish Rao also warned against any alleged police action against protesting students, stating that the party would firmly oppose cases or intimidation against them.

KTR Targets Congress Over Youth Promises

Karimnagar, September 5 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging that it had failed to fulfil the promises made to Telangana's youth and was mishandling the lands of poor people. Addressing a BRS protest in Karimnagar, KTR said the Congress had failed to implement even one of the 24 commit-

ments outlined in its Youth Declaration. He recalled that the party had promised to fulfil its key assurances within 100 days, but claimed that nearly 1,000 days had passed without meaningful progress. KTR questioned the demand for former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's resignation, arguing that the BRS leader had played a major role in achieving statehood for Telangana. He instead asked who should take responsibility



for the alleged failures of the present government. Responding to his question, protesters reportedly raised slogans demanding the resignation of Chief

Minister A. Revanth Reddy. KTR accused the Congress of betraying unemployed youth after allegedly promising two lakh

government jobs within 365 days. He claimed that the party had made several commitments during the election campaign but had failed to deliver on them after coming to power. The BRS leader also criticised the government over land-related issues, alleging that large tracts of land belonging to the poor had been placed on prohibited lists. He warned that the public would eventually reject those responsible for such decisions. KTR said the political situation was moving towards a point where not just individual ministers but the entire Congress government could face public rejection. He vowed that the BRS would continue raising issues concerning youth, unemployment and land rights. He said the party would intensify its campaign against what it described as the Congress government's failures and broken promises.

Tight Security for Ganesh Festival

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar has ordered a stringent, zero-tolerance security plan for the upcoming Ganesh festival, with large numbers of armed personnel to be deployed across the city.

Addressing a preparatory meeting with senior police officials on Saturday, Sajjanar directed officers to strengthen security, intelligence gathering and traffic management. He said any attempt to disturb communal harmony or public order would invite immediate legal action.

For the first time, police will introduce digital geo-tagging of Ganesh mandapams, supported by round-the-clock cyber surveillance. Organisers will have to register their mandapams through the police portal and geo-tag the structures using the designated application.

Sajjanar also instructed organisers to install barricades for orderly movement of devotees and dedicated



CCTV cameras at crowded locations to prevent theft, nuisance and stampedes.

Following the inclusion of Shamshabad and Rajendranagar zones under Hyderabad police jurisdiction, Sajjanar directed officers to prepare for heavy idol movement along the Balapur-Khairatabad procession route. Advance security sweeps and coordinated traffic diversions will be undertaken with the Cyberabad and Rachakonda commissionerates.

He stressed visible policing, restraint and patience while dealing with large gatherings. Additional CPs M. Srinivasulu and Tafseer Iqbal, Joint CP S.M. Vijay Kumar and zonal DCPs attended the meeting.

Sunitha Named Best Teacher

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

P.V. Sunitha, an English teacher at Lokbhavan School, has been selected as the district's Best Teacher in recognition of her dedicated service and contribution to education.

The award was presented to Sunitha by the District Collector and District Educational Officer (DEO) on Saturday on the occasion of Teachers' Day. The honour recognises her eight years of teaching service and her efforts to support students' academic and overall development. Educationists, teachers and prominent personalities congratulated Sunitha on receiving the district-level recognition. They appreciated her professional commitment, discipline and continued efforts to help students improve their learning and achieve their goals. Colleagues said Sunitha has consistently demonstrated dedication to classroom teaching and student welfare. The award highlights the contribution of teachers who work consistently to strengthen the quality of education and encourage students to pursue academic excellence.

BRS Protests Congress Rule

Alwal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Responding to a call by BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao, party leaders and activists staged protests across the Malkajigiri constituency on Saturday, alleging that the Congress government had failed to fulfil its election promises during its nearly 1,000 days in office.

The campaign was led by Malkajigiri MLA Marri Rajasekhara Reddy, who criticised the government over issues concerning students, youth, unemployed persons, women and economically weaker sections.

As part of the programme, BRS activists organised a bike rally involving around 600 motorcycles. The rally began at the Kanajiguda petrol bunk and passed through several localities before concluding at the Telangana Talli statue. Participants raised slogans and demanded immediate action on pending fee reimbursement dues, recruitment of unemployed youth, implementation of a job calendar, scooters promised to students and the Youth Declaration. Speaking at the protest, Rajasekhara Reddy alleged that the Congress had deceived people by failing to fully implement its election commitments. He said the government must clear outstanding fee reimbursement dues and fill vacant government posts without further delay.

He also criticised the implementation of the Six Guarantees, claiming that benefits had not reached all eligible beneficiaries. Rajasekhara Reddy said the BRS would continue to highlight what it described as the government's failures and press for implementation of the promises made to the people. A large number of BRS leaders, activists, women and youth participated in the protests.

BJP Slams Congress Over 1,000-Day Rule

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

BJP Legislature Party Leader Aleeti Maheshwar Reddy criticised the Congress government over its celebrations marking 1,000 days in office, alleging that the administration had failed to fulfil its election promises and was diverting public attention from key issues.

He alleged that the government had obstructed permission for the BJP's proposed two-day protest, while ruling-party leaders were now preparing to hold a dharna at the same venue. He termed the move "diversionary politics" and said people would respond appropriately. Questioning the achievements of the Congress government, he cited pending fee reimbursement, unemployment, corruption allegations, rising debt and delays in development. He alleged that the state's financial position had deteriorated and questioned how the government could celebrate amid mounting liabilities.

The BJP leader also targeted the Bhu-Bharathi land records system, arguing that changing the name from Dharani had not resolved the underlying problems. He alleged that large numbers of private lands had been placed under Section 22A, preventing owners from selling or mortgaging their properties.

Maheshwar Reddy demanded transparency over the inclusion and removal of lands from the prohibited list, alleging that affected people had raised complaints of corruption. He also questioned Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy over alleged business-related conflicts of interest, calling for clear answers to the allegations. Maheshwar Reddy said the BJP would continue its agitation until eligible lands were removed from the 22A list and property rights were protected. He warned that the party would intensify the movement both inside the Assembly and on the streets if the government failed to address the concerns.

Ramchander Rao Greets Teachers

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao extended warm Teachers' Day greetings to teachers, lecturers and educators across Telangana, describing teaching as one of the noblest professions dedicated to shaping future generations.

In his message marking the birth anniversary of former President and Bharat Ratna Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Rao highlighted the impor-

ance accorded to teachers in Indian culture. Quoting the traditional verse, "Gurur Brahma, Gurur Vishnu, Gurur Devo Maheshwaraha," he said teachers are revered as embodiments of the Divine and are respected through the principle of Acharya Devo Bhava. Rao said teachers play a crucial role in dispelling ignorance and spreading the light of knowledge.

Beyond academic education, he noted, educators help mould children into responsible citizens by nurturing disci-

pline, moral values, good conduct and patriotism. He said society could never fully repay the contribution and guidance provided by teachers throughout generations.

On the occasion, he expressed gratitude to educators for their continued commitment to education and social development. Rao also prayed for the long, healthy and happy lives of all teachers who dedicate themselves to educating children and contributing to the betterment of society.



Safety Beyond Textbooks



Quthbullapur, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Education is not limited to les-

sons taught inside classrooms. Awareness about safety, responsible behaviour and handling real-life challenges

is equally important for students. Highlighting this need, the Jeedimetla Traffic Police conducted a special awareness

programme at Suraram Government High School. The programme focused on several issues that can affect

young people, including narcotics, cybercrime, road safety, and the protection of women and children. Police officials explained that lack of awareness can sometimes lead to serious consequences, while vigilance and responsible choices can help prevent dangers.

Students were advised to strictly follow traffic rules, remain away from intoxicating substances and exercise caution while using digital platforms.

Officials also stressed the importance of protecting personal information online and avoiding interactions that could expose children to cyber threats.

The programme also highlighted the important role played by teachers in shaping

students' futures. As part of Teachers' Day celebrations, Jeedimetla Traffic Circle Inspector Narasimha Rao felicitated the school principal and teachers, recognising their contribution to education and character-building.

Police officials encouraged students to develop awareness alongside academic knowledge and to become responsible citizens who can identify and respond appropriately to potential risks.

School staff, students and Jeedimetla Traffic Police personnel participated in the programme.

The initiative underlined the message that education must prepare children not only for examinations, but also for the challenges and responsibilities of everyday life.

Janmashtami Celebrations at Osmania University

Tarnaka, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Sri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations were held with devotion and enthusiasm at the Osmania University Arts College campus under the aegis of various student organisations.

Responding to an invitation from the student groups, Gandikota Vijay Kumar, TDP President of Tarnaka Division, attended the celebrations and offered special prayers to Lord Sri Krishna. Speaking on the occasion, he wished students and the people well and expressed hope



that Lord Sri Krishna's blessings would bring peace, prosperity and happiness to all.

The celebrations witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of students and youth leaders. Veera

babu, Praveen, Nitish, Ramcharan, Gopi, Deva Guna, Bharat, Ravi, Avinash, Bunny and Kiran were among those who participated in the programme.

The event reflected the students' enthusiasm in

observing the festival and promoted a spirit of devotion and togetherness on the university campus. The gathering concluded with prayers and greetings on the occasion of Sri Krishna Janmashtami.

BRS Bike Rally Targets Congress

Quthbullapur, September 5 | TPN Bureau

The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) organized a massive bike rally in Quthbullapur on Friday, protesting what it described as the Congress government's 1,000 days of "deceptive rule" and demanding the fulfillment of promises made to the youth.

The rally began from BRS Bhavan at Gandimaisamma and concluded at IDPL Crossroads, drawing hundreds of party workers and young supporters. The demonstration was held under the guidance of Quthbullapur MLA K.P. Vivekananda Goud and Medchal-Malkajigiri District BRS President and MLC Shambipur Raju.

A large contingent of youth from Saibaba Nagar (Division 292), led by Varala Vinod, participated in the rally on motorcycles while raising slogans against the state government. Protesters questioned the implementation of key assurances, including fee reimbursement, a comprehensive job calendar, and the Congress Party's Youth Declaration.



BRS leaders alleged that the government had failed to honor its commitments to students and unemployed youth, leaving thousands waiting for employment opportunities and educational support. They accused the Congress administration of neglecting the aspirations of young people despite its election promises. The rally concluded peacefully at IDPL Crossroads, with party leaders reiterating their demand for the immediate implementation of youth welfare commitments and employment-related assurances.

Congress Marks 1,000 Days



Lalapet, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Congress party leaders and activists in Lalapet celebrated

the completion of 1,000 days of the Congress government

with a programme organised to highlight its achievements

BJP Mahila Morcha Seeks Action on Crimes

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

The BJP Mahila Morcha has submitted a memorandum to Governor Narsing Prasad Shukla, urging stringent action against the rising incidents of crimes against women in Telangana.

The delegation alleged that law and order had deteriorated under the Congress government and called for stronger measures to protect women. Led by Mahila Morcha state president Dr Mekala Shilpa Reddy, the delegation criticised Chief Minister A. Revan



th Reddy for retaining the Home portfolio. She claimed that crimes against women had increased significantly, citing 24,945 cases, including 5,940 sexual assault cases and 2,945 rape cases.

The BJP leaders urged the Governor to direct the gov-

ernment to strengthen security arrangements at hospitals and hostels, revive She Teams and expedite cases involving crimes against women through fast-track courts.

The delegation also raised the August 28 Tukuguda incident involving the

alleged rape and murder of a tribal nurse. The BJP demanded that the accused, Mohammed Sanaula Khan, be tried in a fast-track court and given the death penalty if convicted. It also sought Rs 1 crore ex-gratia for the victim's family and a gov-

ernment job for her mother or brother. Shilpa Reddy further alleged that the mother of Nalgonda BJP president Dr Nagam Varshith Reddy was assaulted at his residence by a Congress man or supporters. She claimed that furniture was damaged

and that the elderly woman later suffered a heart attack. Despite CCTV evidence and a complaint, she alleged that police had not registered an FIR. The BJP demanded immediate registration of a case and the arrest of those responsible.

BRS Questions Congress Over 1,000 Days

Hyderabad, September 5 | TPN Bureau

The Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) on Saturday organised protests across Telangana, accusing the Congress government of failing to fulfil its election promises after completing nearly 1,000 days in office. In Sanathnagar constituency, former minister and MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav led a rally in the Padmarao Nagar area, highlighting what the party described as the Congress government's "420" broken promises. BRS leaders in Serlin Gampally constituency also staged a protest, alleging that the Congress administration had failed to deliver on key commitments made before the elections. Party workers raised slo-

gans against the government and demanded that it honour its promises to the people.

In Moosapet, MLA Madhavaram Krishna Rao and former corporator Thumu Shrivani organised a large protest rally.

BRS activists criticised the government over what they described as failures in addressing public concerns and implementing welfare commitments.

Meanwhile, student unions held a rally in Chevella in Rangla Reddy district to protest against the Congress government's 1,000-day administration. BRS leaders said the protests were intended to highlight the government's alleged failures and mount pressure on the Congress administration to fulfil its electoral commitments.

Collector Hails Teachers' Role

Medchal-Malkajgiri, September 5 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Manu Chowdary on Saturday said teachers play a vital role in shaping students' lives and extended Teachers' Day greetings to educators across the district. The event commemorated former President and renowned philosopher Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. The Collector, accompanied by District Educational Officer Renuka Devi, District Scheduled Castes Welfare Officer Vinod Kumar and representatives of teachers' unions, inaugurated the programme by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Addressing the gathering, Chowdary said people who achieve success in



life often remember the important role played by their school teachers. He urged teachers to explain lessons from students' perspectives and adopt simple, practical teaching

methods. He stressed that educators should focus not only on academic knowledge but also on building confidence, personality and discipline among stu-

dents. Teachers, he said, should identify students' strengths, address their shortcomings and encourage curiosity and continuous learning. Chowdary observed that

books provide knowledge, while teachers help students understand how to apply that knowledge in real life. He encouraged educators to support students during

failures and motivate them to make renewed efforts. He also advised teachers to encourage students to read newspapers for at least five to ten minutes every day, saying the habit would strengthen social awareness and help in future competitive examinations. District Educational Officer Renuka Devi said teachers were adapting to modern educational methods and preparing effective lesson plans to meet changing requirements. Later, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Faizan Ahmed honoured the district's best teachers with shawls, appreciation certificates and saplings. Teachers from across the district participated in the programme.

Collector Honoured for Education Efforts

Mancherial, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Mancherial District Collector Kumar Deepak has received the State-level 'Award for Excellence' for 2026 in recognition of his performance in educational administration and efforts to strengthen government schooling. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy presented the award to Deepak during the State-level Teachers' Day celebrations held at the Government Junior College in Kodangal on Saturday. Mancherial district recorded notable progress in government school enrolment during the 2026-27 academic year. The number of students increased from 43,072 in 2025-26 to 45,626 in 2026-27, representing an addition of 2,554 students. Officials said enrolment had increased by 10.34 per cent compared with 2024-25. More than 10 per cent growth was recorded across 282 government schools

in the district. Mandamarri, Naspur, Jaipur, Hajipur and Bheemaram mandals also registered significant increases. A key feature of the campaign was the migration of 4,346 students from private schools to government institutions during the current academic year. Officials said the shift indicated growing parental confidence in government education. The improvement was attributed to a coordinated action plan involving Education Department officials, headmasters, teachers, MIS personnel, CCOs and CRPs. Continuous monitoring and field-level efforts, carried out under the guidance of Collector Kumar Deepak, were credited with helping achieve the enrolment targets. The State-level recognition has brought prominence to Mancherial district's education initiatives and acknowledged the collective efforts of officials and teachers in improving participation in government schools.

AIYF Calls for Youth-Centric Policies



Medchal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

AIYF State General

Secretary Kalluru Dharmendra urged governments to urgently address unemployment, problems

in the education sector, examination paper leaks, delays in recruitment and the privatisation of public

sector enterprises. He was speaking at the 3rd District Conference of AIYF Medchal-Malkajgiri, held at Neelam Rajas hekhara Reddy Bhavan under the leadership of District President Salman Baig. The conference was preceded by a youth rally from ECIL Ambedkar Junction to the GHMC office, where participants raised slogans demanding education, employment, healthcare and social justice. Dharmendra hoisted the AIYF flag to mark the beginning of the confer-

ence. Referring to protests in Bihar, Dharmendra said even children were raising questions about education, employment and their future. He said questioning was part of democracy and that peaceful protest should not be treated as a crime. He called for administrative accountability instead of relying on police action to address public concerns. AIYF State Working President Nerla kanti Srikanth demanded immediate filling of government vacancies, a transparent recruitment calendar and a permanent mechanism to prevent examination paper leaks.

He also sought action on fee reimbursement, unemployment allowance, skill development centres and industries based on local resources. CPI Medchal District Secretary Uma Mahesh stressed the importance of scientific thinking among youth and called for wider promotion of AIYF's principles of "Peace, Progress and Scientific Socialism." AIYF district leaders, office-bearers and activists attended the conference and appealed to youth to participate in the AIYF Telangana State Conference at Yadagirigutta on September 8, 9 and 10.

Minor Girl Attempts Suicide

Medchal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

A minor girl allegedly attempted suicide in a village under the jurisdiction of Medchal police station on Friday, following reported harassment by another minor boy. According to preliminary information, the girl allegedly took the extreme step after facing harassment from the boy. The incident came to the attention of local residents, who alerted the police. Medchal police promptly reached the village and began gathering information about the circumstances surrounding the incident. The minor boy was reportedly questioned by the police as part of the initial inquiry.

Police have registered a case and launched an investigation to establish the sequence of events and determine the factors that allegedly led to the girl's actions. Authorities are examining the statements of those connected with the incident and are also collecting other relevant information as part of the investigation. Police said further details would emerge as the inquiry progresses. Officials are working to ascertain whether the girl had been subjected to sustained harassment and to establish the exact circumstances preceding the incident. The case remains under investigation, and police said appropriate action would be taken based on the findings.

Man Held Over Child Assault Allegation

Bellampalli, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Police in Bellampalli have taken a 46-year-old man into custody following an allegation that he sexually assaulted a three-year-old girl in Shanthi Gani Basti. According to information provided by local residents, the accused, identified as Kampala Kishtaiah, allegedly lived next door to the child's family in the same locality. Residents informed the police after learning about the alleged incident. Police reached the area, made preliminary inquiries and took Kishtaiah into custody. A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway to establish the circumstances surrounding the allegation. Police sources said the accused and the child were neighbours and that the girl reportedly visited his residence to play. It is alleged that he took advantage of the familiarity and committed the offence. Following his detention, Kishtaiah was shifted to a government hospital, where he is currently receiving medical attention as part of the proceedings. Police are gathering relevant information and examining the circumstances of the incident. Further action will be taken based on the investigation and available evidence. Authorities have urged residents to cooperate with the inquiry and avoid spreading unverified information about the case. The allegations remain subject to investigation, and the accused is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in accordance with law.

Ramappa Temple Somasutra Restored

Mulugu, September 5 | TPN Bureau

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Hyderabad Circle has successfully restored the ancient Somasutra at the historic Ramappa Temple in Palampet, Venkatapur mandal, Mulugu district.

The Somasutra is a traditional channel designed to drain water used during ritual ablutions, or Abhishekam, from the sanctum sanctorum. The channel had remained blocked for several decades, preventing the smooth conduct of rituals in accordance with Agama traditions.

The restoration was undertaken using scientific conservation techniques and modern equipment to protect the temple's original structure. As part of the process, officials carried out detailed 3D mapping to identify obstructions within the channel. Endoscopic and GoPro

cameras were also used for real-time monitoring during the restoration. The obstructions were removed gradually using a specialised "soft-drilling" method designed to minimise vibrations and prevent damage to the ancient stonework. The entire operation was conducted under the supervision of the ASI Hyderabad Circle team, with officials from

the Telangana Endowments Department present during the work. Following the successful completion of the restoration, the Somasutra has been made fully functional. The restored drainage channel now enables the water used during Abhishekam to flow out properly from the sanctum. Officials said the restora-

tion represents an important conservation effort at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, combining modern scientific methods with the preservation of the temple's historic architectural features. With the channel restored, devotees can now perform Abhishekam rituals without the earlier obstruction, in accordance with established Agama practices.

Teachers Felicitated



Quthbullapur, September 5 | TPN Bureau

The Jeedimetla Police organized a special programme at Gandhinagar Government School to mark Teachers' Day and honour the educators who play a vital role in shaping students' futures. Jeedimetla Circle Inspector Ravikumar visited the government school, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Jeedimetla Police Station, and felicitated the teachers as part of the celebrations. The programme highlighted the importance of recognising the contribution of teachers to society and education. Addressing the students, CI Ravikumar said teachers do much more than impart academic knowledge. They help students

develop discipline, responsibility, confidence and good values, while guiding them towards becoming responsible citizens. He advised students to respect their teachers, follow their guidance and remain focused on their goals. He said the encouragement and direction provided by teachers can have a lasting influence on students' personal and professional lives. The felicitation programme reflected the Jeedimetla Police's appreciation for the teaching profession and its contribution to society. Teachers, students, school staff and police personnel participated in the event, which concluded on a positive note with a message of respect and gratitude for educators.

Collector Reviews Welfare Schemes

Nirmal, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Nirmal District Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to ensure that the benefits of government welfare and development programmes reach every eligible person at the grassroots level. The Collector conducted a review meeting with officials from various departments at the Collectorate conference hall on Saturday evening. He assessed the progress of welfare and development schemes being implemented across the district and reviewed their impact on beneficiaries. Mishra instructed officials to take proactive measures to ensure that all flagship government programmes reach eligible people without delays or gaps. He sought detailed information from departmental officials regarding the schemes under their respective jurisdictions and the benefits already delivered to the public. The Collector emphasised the need for effective coordination among departments and urged officials to identify implementation-related difficulties at the field level. He directed them to respond promptly to complaints and resolve prob-



lems faced by beneficiaries while accessing government schemes. Mishra said officials should closely monitor the implementation process and ensure that eligible families are not left out due to administrative issues or lack of awareness. The meeting was attended by DRDO Vijayalakshmi, Minority Welfare Officer Dayanand, CPO Gangareddy, DMHO Rajender, District Agriculture Officer Sujatha, Horticulture Officer Ramana, Housing PD Srinivas Reddy and Welfare Officer Vinunutta. Other departmental officials and staff members also participated in the review meeting. The Collector called for continued monitoring and coordinated efforts to improve the delivery of government services and ensure that welfare measures achieve their intended objectives.

Two Brothers Injured in Blast

Hanumakonda, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Two minor brothers sustained serious injuries after detonators reportedly exploded near a poultry farm behind the Dharmasagar reservoir on Friday. The injured boys were identified as K. Dhanraju, 13, and K. Nagaraju, 11. According to reports, Dhanraju suffered severe injuries to his fingers, while Nagaraju sustained damage to his right eye in the explosion. The brothers were reportedly working at Dhanalakshmi poultry farm along with their family. Their father, K. Anandarao, had reportedly arrived in Dharmasagar on Thursday with his family in search of work. On Friday, Anandarao went into the nearby village to purchase household essentials. During his absence, the two boys reportedly went towards a stone crusher

unit located close to the poultry farm. They allegedly noticed unexploded detonators lying in the area and carried them back to the farm premises. The boys reportedly began playing with the devices when they suddenly exploded, leaving both children seriously injured. On hearing the blast, local residents rushed to the spot and shifted the injured brothers to a private hospital in Hanumakonda. They were reportedly transported through the 108 emergency ambulance service. Police reached the area and initiated an inquiry into the incident. A case has been registered based on a complaint lodged by the boys' father, Anandarao. Investigators are examining how the detonators came to be left unattended near the stone crusher unit and whether adequate safety measures were in place. Further details are expected after completion of the investigation.

460 Cannabis Plants Seized



Komaram Bheem, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Police have intensified action against illegal cannabis cultivation in Komaram Bheem district, conducting raids in Sirpur (U) mandal and seizing 460 cannabis plants cultivated on agricultural land. Acting on the directions of District Superintendent of Police Nitika Pant, police teams carried out special inspections on the outskirts of Jeerlagat and Guttuguda villages under Burnoor Gram Panchayat limits. During the operation, officials detected illegal cannabis cultivation and seized 460 plants. Police registered three separate cases in connection with the cultivation and arrested four persons. The accused were identified as Gedam Lobaji, Gedam Jayavanth, Kumra Madhavrao and Pendor Suryabhanu. According to police, the four were allegedly cultivating cannabis on their agricultural lands. Cases have been registered under relevant provisions of law, and further legal proceedings have been initiated. Police are also investigating whether other persons were involved in the cultivation, transportation or distribution of the prohibited substance. SP Nitika Pant said the district administration would adopt a strict approach towards cannabis cultivation, transportation, sale and storage. She warned that stern action would be taken against individuals involved in narcotics-related activities or those supporting such operations. The SP urged parents, teachers and members of the public to remain alert and help prevent young people from becoming victims of drug addiction. She appealed to residents to promptly inform police if they notice suspicious cannabis cultivation or narcotics trafficking, particularly in rural areas. Police assured that the identities of informants would be kept confidential. Pant said surveillance and field inspections would continue across the district as part of efforts to curb illegal cannabis cultivation and work towards making Komaram Bheem district cannabis-free.

Teachers Honoured at Krushi Schools

Quthbullapur, September 5 | TPN Bureau

Teacher's Day celebrations were held on a grand scale at Krushi Group of Schools, with teachers felicitated and presented with mementos in recognition of their contribution to education and student development. The programme was organised to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Vice President and renowned educationist Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, whose ideals continue to inspire the teaching profession. Addressing the gathering, Director Shyam Prasad Poranki

highlighted the vital role of teachers in shaping the future of students. He said that while technology continues to advance rapidly, Artificial Intelligence cannot replace the guidance, values and personal connection provided by a good teacher. He called upon students and society to respect and appreciate educators for their dedicated service. As part of the celebrations, various sports competitions were organised exclusively for teachers, creating an atmosphere of enthusiasm and camaraderie. Students also presented cultural programmes that entertained the audience and added



colour to the celebrations. Academic Director Poranki Nadia, Principal V.N. V.V. Lakshmi, Vice Prin-

cipal Rajeshwari and In-charge Mahesh participated in the event along with teachers and students. The

celebrations highlighted the enduring importance of teachers in education and reinforced the mes-

age that academic success must be accompanied by values, discipline and respect for educators.

Editorial

Democracy
Cannot Be
Silenced by
Suppression

Oppression against social workers, journalists, professors and others who attempt to expose facts on issues of public importance can never be considered a healthy sign for any government. Those who question the administration, raise allegations or bring irregularities to public attention cannot simply be branded as enemies of the Government. In a democracy, criticism and dissent are not threats; they are essential instruments for accountability. Arresting a social worker or professor for raising questions, or attempting to silence journalists who report uncomfortable facts, may temporarily suppress criticism, but it cannot permanently suppress public opinion. Such an approach is unlikely to produce positive political or administrative results. Instead, it can create the impression that the Government is unwilling to face questions or respond to criticism with confidence. Governments derive their strength not merely from their authority but from their ability to answer questions convincingly. When allegations are made, the appropriate response should be to examine them objectively, place the facts before the public and establish where the allegations are incorrect. If critics are wrong, the Government has every opportunity to expose their arguments through evidence, facts and reasoned explanations. The responsibility of an administration is therefore not to shut down voices but to demonstrate why those voices may be mistaken. A strong Government should have the confidence to confront allegations rather than fear them. Suppression can turn an individual criticism into a larger public controversy, while a transparent response can bring the matter to a logical conclusion. The Government must reconsider any approach that treats every critic as an adversary. Social workers, journalists, professors and other public voices have a legitimate role in a democratic society. Differences of opinion should be answered through facts and arguments, not intimidation or suppression. Ultimately, governance becomes stronger when criticism is confronted with transparency, accountability and reason rather than force.

-Editor

NTR The Sun That Still
Shines Over Telugu Cinema

In the realm of Telugu cinema and across Telugu land, the sentiment that "NTR belongs to every household" is undeniably true. Telugu people have enshrined him in their hearts. It is no exaggeration to say that some even placed his portraits portraying Lord Krishna, Lord Rama or Lord Venkateswara in their home shrines and worshipped them. That physique, that commanding presence, that aura, the chiselled nose, the expressive eyes, the body language and the diction in every aspect, NTR stood as a towering peak of acting, majestic and immovable like Mount Meru. It is a fact that no one in the Telugu film industry of his era could match NTR when it came to portraying mythological characters. He left an indelible mark on the genre. Such fame and greatness were not achieved overnight, nor were they the result of mere luck. NTR's life was defined by self-effort, determination, discipline and sheer hard work. If one looks at interviews with veteran actors, these qualities become evident. It is said that NTR would be ready with his makeup on and fully prepared ten minutes before the scheduled shooting time. Actors sharing scenes with him were also expected to maintain the same level of punctuality. That was NTR's working style. His mere presence on the sets created a distinct atmosphere; the entire location seemed charged with his energy. That was NTR. NTR-these three letters alone represent a vibration, a whirlwind, a high-voltage combination of power. Pronouncing the name "NTR" feels like a surge of energy. It fills every Telugu person with enthusiasm, brings a proud smile to their lips and instils a sense of pride in their identity. His portrayal of Lord Krishna in *Mayabazar* was truly unparalleled-unprecedented and unsurpassed. That playfulness, that grace, the occasional



gravity and flashes of mild anger in certain scenes, and the sheer brilliance of his acting elsewhere-who else but NTR could have delivered such a performance? Audiences were mesmerised by him. Even today, people continue to enjoy the film, including its colourised version. It is undeniable that *Mayabazar* holds a permanent place in the history of Telugu cinema. NTR's performance as Bhima in *Pandava Vanavasam* was extraordinary. The Bhima of the *Mahabharata* possessed immense strength and valour-a character defined by formidable power and capability. Yet, despite all this might, he

remained deeply obedient to his elder brother, Dharmaraja. In the scene depicting the humiliation of Panchali, NTR simultaneously portrayed so many facets of Bhima. The expressions he displayed while Ghantasala sang the verses remain etched in cinematic history forever. Can one speak of NTR without recalling *Dana Veera Soora Karna*? NTR *is* Duryodhana-that arrogance, that haughtiness, that body language, that recklessness, those emotions-the list goes on. He brought out nuances in the character of Duryodhana that were not even visible in the original *Mahabharata*. Or, perhaps



Gaddam Muralikrishna

Member, Telugu Cine Writers' Association, Khammam

more accurately, he did not merely portray the role; he truly lived it. Although NTR portrayed Lord Rama in many films, *Lava Kusa* holds a unique distinction. The deep anguish, the pain of separation from Sita, the scenes of solitude within the royal palace, the battle sequences against young Lava and Kusa, those eyes brimming with compassion, the face etched with sorrow and the heart-wrenching cry of separation from Sita-the talent and maturity NTR displayed across these myriad moments and scenes are unparalleled. One cannot find such a performance in any other actor. He is the one and only NTR. If one examines films like *Seetharama Kalyanam* and *Bhookailas*, NTR's heroic presence shines through. Typically, in the *Ramayana*, Ravana is a character with negative shades-or, in cinematic terms, a villain. NTR achieved the remarkable feat of taking on such a challenging role and, through his extraordinary acting and impeccable dialogue delivery, transforming him into a heroic figure that cinematic history will never forget. He effortlessly portrayed the character's sternness, determination and, in certain scenes, innocence, showcasing his acting prowess and securing an indelible place in the hearts of audiences. NTR possessed the unique ability to clearly distinguish between contrasting roles such as Rama and Ravana. Whether in films like *Sri Krishna Pandaveeyam*, *Dana Veera Soora Karna* or *Srimad Virata Parvam*, he-the Emperor of Acting-could portray diverse characters while distinctly highlighting the nuances that

set each one apart. It was truly remarkable to see NTR play Brihannala in *Nartanasala*. It was akin to fitting an atom bomb into a suitcase. Despite compressing his towering, majestic physique and regal acting stature into the guise of a eunuch, he performed the role with astonishing naturalness. The director even delighted fans by allowing him to appear as Arjuna in select scenes. The ability to completely immerse himself in and embody any character was an innate gift-a talent that came naturally to him. By appearing as Lord Venkateswara-the deity of the Kali Yuga-in *Sri Venkateswara Mahatmyam*, NTR became a living god to the Telugu people. His majestic presence and compassionate performance ensured that he remains enshrined in their hearts to this day. One could go on listing countless examples. He portrayed a multitude of mythological characters and breathed life into every one of them. NTR was, in those days, an asset, a pillar of support and a guiding light for the then-nascent Telugu film industry. A chronicle of the films he acted in and directed would fill volumes-amounting to a massive research tome or a text spanning thousands of pages. Even today, the mere thought of NTR stirs the soul of the average Telugu movie fan. It brings a mist to their eyes and keeps his name constantly on their lips. That is precisely why I say it again and again: NTR-the true legend of the Telugu film industry. So, these are the stories of NTR-a man who became a part of every household across Telugu land. Let us meet again with more interesting details. Indeed!!

A Severe Warning on Global Warming



God seems to be warning the world more frequently these days through devastating natural disasters-flash floods, deadly cyclones, cloudbursts, landslides, extreme heat, and other climate-related calamities. The devastating flash floods in Uttarakhand and Nepal, where entire communities have been swept away and countless lives and livelihoods have been destroyed, are a stark reminder of the consequences of our continued negligence towards nature. These disasters should not be viewed merely as acts of fate. They are a reflection of the growing imbalance we have created in our environment through deforestation, unplanned urbanization, destruction of natural drainage systems, excessive exploitation of natural resources, and the relentless

emission of greenhouse gases. Nature has its own delicate balance. When forests are destroyed, rivers and wetlands are encroached upon, mountains are destabilized and ecosystems are disturbed, the consequences eventually return to us in the form of floods, landslides, cyclones, droughts and unprecedented weather events. The repeated occurrence of such disasters should therefore serve as a wake-up call for humanity. Development is necessary, but development without environmental responsibility can become destructive. We must listen to the warnings of nature and act before it is too late. Protecting forests, restoring ecosystems, safeguarding rivers and wetlands, reducing pollution, promoting sustainable develop-

ment and preparing communities for disasters are no longer optional measures-they are essential for our survival. Nature is not our enemy. It is our life-support system. If we continue to disturb its balance, we will have to face consequences that may be far more devastating than anything we have witnessed so far. Even an increase of 1 to 2 degrees Celsius in the global average temperature can have enormous consequences. It is important to remember that this is not the temperature of a particular city or country, but the average temperature of the entire planet. A seemingly small change in this global average can disturb delicate ecological systems that have evolved over thousands of years. One of the most visible consequences is the rise in sea levels.

Melting glaciers and polar ice, combined with the expansion of warmer seawater, are causing oceans to rise. Coastal communities are increasingly vulnerable to tidal flooding, storm surges and coastal erosion. Areas that once remained relatively safe from seawater are experiencing flooding during high tides and severe weather events. Climate change is also contributing to more extreme weather events. Heat waves are becoming more intense and prolonged in many parts of the world. Heavy rainfall can produce devastating flash floods, while changing atmospheric conditions can increase the likelihood of exceptionally intense storms. Cloudbursts, floods and prolonged droughts can destroy crops, damage infrastructure and leave thousands of families struggling to

rebuild their lives. However, we must distinguish between events that are directly caused by global warming and those that are influenced by a combination of natural and human factors. Earthquakes and tsunamis, for example, are primarily geological phenomena and are not established direct consequences of global warming. Nevertheless, climate change can worsen the consequences of many natural hazards, particularly through sea-level rise, coastal vulnerability, extreme rainfall and ecosystem degradation. This distinction is important because our response must be based on sound science. The warnings from the international scientific community are becoming increasingly serious. The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and other international assessments have repeatedly emphasized that current climate policies are not yet sufficient to keep global warming within the limits agreed upon by the international community. The world has committed itself to pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C and keep it well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels under the Paris Agreement. Yet, if greenhouse-gas emissions continue at present levels, warming could move far beyond these safer thresholds during this century. A world approaching 3°C of warming would face substantially greater risks. Agricultural productivity could decline in vulnerable regions, water shortages could intensify, ecosystems could collapse, and extreme heat could make some areas increasingly difficult to inhabit. Rising seas could threaten densely populated coastal cities and force large-scale displacement. Food insecurity and competition for scarce water and land could increase social and economic pressures. The poorest communities are like-

ly to suffer the most, even though they have historically contributed much less to global greenhouse-gas emissions. Farmers, fishermen, coastal communities, tribal populations and people living in fragile ecosystems are particularly vulnerable. Climate change therefore is not merely an environmental issue; it is also an issue of social justice, public health, food security and human survival. The answer cannot be left to governments alone. Every country must accelerate the transition towards renewable energy, improve energy efficiency, protect forests, restore wetlands, conserve biodiversity and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Cities must invest in better drainage, water conservation, heat-action plans and climate-resilient infrastructure. Agriculture must adopt practices that conserve soil and water and withstand changing weather patterns. At the individual level, responsible consumption, reduced wastage, energy conservation, tree planting and protection of local ecosystems can make a difference. More importantly, citizens must demand responsible environmental policies from governments and industries. The Earth does not need sympathy from humanity-it needs action. Technology, science and international cooperation provide us with many of the tools required to address climate change. What is needed now is political will, collective responsibility and urgency. Global warming is not a problem that belongs to the next generation. It is already knocking at our doors. The choice before humanity is simple: continue with business as usual and face increasingly dangerous consequences, or act decisively today to protect the planet for generations yet unborn. The time to save the Earth is not tomorrow. It is today.



BVS Kumar

State Coordinator AP Red Cross



51,979 Tip-Offs Help Punjab Cops Arrest Over 25,000

Punjab's anti-drug campaign, Yudh Nashean Virudh, has received a major boost from citizen participation, with 51,979 tip-offs helping enforcement agencies arrest 25,339 people between March 1, 2025, and September 3, 2026. The tip-offs were received through the Safe Punjab Helpline (97791-00200), which allows citizens to provide information about suspected drug peddling and related activities. The figures show the growing role of public-generated intelligence in supporting the state's anti-narcotics enforcement efforts. According to the data, 59,293 FIRs have been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act during the campaign period. Of these, more than 25,000 arrests were linked to information received through citizen tip-offs. The crackdown has also targeted



major players in the drug trade. As many as 696 "big fish" were arrested with more than 2 kg of heroin each, indicating that enforcement agencies have focused on individuals allegedly handling large quantities rather than limiting action to street-level peddlers. The scale of recoveries further underlines the extent of the operation. Authorities seized 3,757 kg of

heroin, 964 kg of opium, 45 tonnes of poppy husk, 1,288 kg of ganja and 71 kg of methamphetamine, commonly known as ICE. In addition, 62 lakh tablets and capsules were recovered under the NDPS Act. The campaign also resulted in the seizure of Rs 22 crore in drug money. A total of 2,675 cases involving commercial quantities of drugs were registered.

Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav said citizen tip-offs had provided additional strength to the Anti-Narcotics Task Force and expressed confidence that public participation would increase further. Nilabh Kishore, ADGP, Anti-Narcotics Task Force, Punjab, said the figures reflected an approach combining enforcement action with citizen-generated intelligence. The campaign has also focused on helping people struggling with addiction. Police facilitated the admission of 42,498 persons into de-addiction centres, while another 1,55,970 persons were taken to Outpatient Opioid Assisted Treatment (OOAT) clinics. Separately, 11,239 individuals received immunity under Section 64A of the NDPS Act after voluntarily undergoing treatment, highlighting the campaign's dual focus on disrupting drug networks and encouraging rehabilitation.

Rahul Gandhi Calls Punjab Protester, Police Personnel Face Action



Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has spoken to Mohanjit Singh Sheron, who is undergoing treatment at Civil Hospital, Sangrur, following allegations of police assault. The phone call has brought the controversy into the national political spotlight as the Congress stepped up its criticism of the Punjab government. Rahul Gandhi spoke to Sheron during a visit by Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring to the hospital. Warring facilitated the conversation between the Congress leader and Sheron, who was allegedly beaten after being detained by police during Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's event in Sangrur. The Punjab government has meanwhile initiated action against police personnel in connection with the incident. DSP Harwinder Singh has been transferred, while Inspector Partek Jindal, SI Baljit Singh and ASI Harpreet Singh have been sent to the Sangrur Police Lines with immediate effect. The controversy began after Sheron was allegedly detained when he was seen around 200 to 230 metres from the Chief Minister's Lok Milni event. He was reportedly holding a black flag and raising slogans against the government.

According to the police, security personnel and officials removed Sheron from the spot and took him for verification. Police claimed that eight FIRs had previously been registered against him under serious criminal sections. Police said preventive action was subsequently initiated and Sheron was arrested around 10:30 pm before being kept at Cheema Police Station. Officials have relied on a medical examination conducted before his production before the SDM, which recorded "no fresh injury marks present on examination." Police also claimed that two drug tests conducted the following morning returned positive results. However, after Sheron was handed over to his family following intervention by the village panchayat, he was taken to Civil Hospital, Sangrur. Doctors there recorded 10 injuries in his medico-legal report (MLR), creating a discrepancy between the initial medical examination and the subsequent report. Police officials have highlighted the difference between the two medical records. The complete medical record and other relevant documents have now been placed under the supervision of police headquarters for further examination. Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema has condemned the incident and said allegations of assault are being investigated. Rahul Gandhi's direct conversation with Sheron and the government's disciplinary action against police personnel have added political weight to the controversy. The incident has now emerged as a fresh flashpoint between the ruling AAP government and the opposition Congress in Punjab, with questions continuing over Sheron's detention, the alleged assault and the conflicting medical findings.

PM Modi Takes 'Naraaz Fufa' Swipe at Opposition

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday took a sharp swipe at the opposition while contrasting the challenges faced by India in 2013 with the country's present economic and social position. Addressing the centenary celebrations of Delhi University's Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), he also spoke directly to students about entrepreneurship, innovation and India's future. Referring to his Independence Day address from the Red Fort on August 15, Modi said he had administered "homoeopathic pills" to his critics by using the term "Dimagi Naxals". He said the remarks had prompted opponents to reveal their "true colours". The Prime Minister divided people into two categories, saying one group positively transforms society's strength into national strength, while another behaves like a "Naraaz Fufa", or angry uncle, who questions every major initiative. Modi cited criticism surrounding projects and initiatives including the world's largest statue, bullet



trains, UPI, semiconductor chips and the new Parliament building. He also referred to the memorial for army personnel who died for the country, saying critics repeatedly questioned the need for such projects. Looking back at the situation before 2014, Modi referred to

the 2013 Kedarnath disaster, the 2008 banking crisis and the Mumbai terror attack. He said his government had also faced major challenges, including COVID, the Russia-Ukraine war and the Iran conflict, but India had emerged stronger. The Prime Minister high-

lighted India's expanding global trade links, saying free trade agreements had been signed with nearly 40 countries over the last decade. He said opening new markets would create additional opportunities for the country's youth. Modi expressed confidence that India would become a developed nation through the efforts of its 1.4 billion citizens. He said India would emerge as a global hub for research and innovation and predicted that the country would have its own space station and host the Olympics. Addressing students, he contrasted campus life at SRCC with opportunities outside college. He said young Indians now aspire to build startups, unicorns and space ventures, ambitions that were less common before 2013. He urged students to think beyond existing achievements and asked why global companies could not be Indian. Modi concluded by calling for greater self-reliance and collective determination to build a developed India.

Mohan Bhagwat's UK Visit to Address Hindutva Misconceptions

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat's ongoing visit to the United Kingdom is aimed at addressing misconceptions about Hindutva and Bharat and strengthening civilisational dialogue with Western academics, public figures and the Indian diaspora. RSS Prachar Pramukh Sunil Ambekar said. Bhagwat arrived in the UK for a visit from September 2 to 7 as part of the RSS centenary celebrations. Ambekar said the tour would provide an opportunity to explain the organisation's understanding of Hindutva and its cultural perspective on Bharat. "There are a lot of misconceptions," Ambekar said, explaining that Bharat should not be viewed merely as a political nation-state but as a cultural concept. He added that Hindutva was not a religion or a fixed ideological concept, but one that respects and accepts the truth and practices of different religious traditions. Ambekar said Bhagwat would meet prominent public figures, organisations and members of the Indian diaspora during his UK engagements. He had already visited the Shri Swami Narayan tem-



ple in Willesden, while other meetings were expected to focus on dialogue, collaboration and strengthening long-term relations between the UK and India. The visit is being undertaken at the invitation of the organisation Integral. Ambekar said people-to-people engagement was necessary alongside government-level diplomatic relations and that cultural and civilisational dialogue could

contribute to greater mutual understanding. "We believe that apart from the diplomatic dialogues at the government level, there is a need for people-to-people dialogue; there is a need for civilisational and cultural relations at large," Ambekar said. Bhagwat's UK visit follows engagements in North America. On August 29 in New York, Ambekar

addressed a multi-faith leaders' meeting organised at the invitation of American Hindus for Engagement and Dialogue (AHEAD). The meeting was attended by 175 participants representing different denominations and religions. He also addressed the 'Universal Oneness' conference at Madison Square Garden, which brought together more than 6,000 delegates from 853 cities and 39 US states, representing 250 organisations. Around 250 university students from across the United States also participated. The interfaith meeting adopted a five-point "Call for Action" resolution. Bhagwat later travelled to Toronto at the invitation of Canadian Hindus for Outreach, Relations and Dialogue (CHORD), where he addressed the 'Hindu Vishwa Bandhu' conference. More than 2,000 delegates representing 175 organisations from all ten Canadian provinces attended. The RSS was established during India's freedom struggle by Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, who believed a strong and cohesive society was essential for sustaining independence.

Yogi to Review Varanasi Flood Situation Today



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is scheduled to visit Varanasi on Saturday to assess the flood situation and review relief measures being implemented for affected residents. According to reports, Yogi Adityanath will arrive in Varanasi at around 5:00 PM. Before reaching the city, he will conduct an aerial survey of flood-affected areas to assess the situation on the ground and review the extent of inundation. The Chief Minister will travel to Varanasi from Azamgarh and hold a meeting with officials and public representatives at the Police Lines 'Safe House'. The meeting is expected to last around 20 minutes and will focus on the flood situation, relief operations and measures being taken for affected people. Following the review meeting, Yogi Adityanath will visit a flood relief camp at a college, where he is expected to distribute relief materials among people affected by the floods. Later, the Chief Minister will offer prayers at the Kaal Bhairav and Vishwanath temples before leaving for Lucknow at around 7:30 PM. The visit comes as several parts of Uttar Pradesh continue to face the impact of rising river levels and flooding. In Varanasi, there has been some relief for residents as the water level of the Ganga River has started receding. However, several areas of Moradabad's Mundha Pande region have been inundated following a rise in the water level of the Kosi River. Roads have been submerged, disrupting normal movement, while residents are using boats provided by the administration to travel through affected areas. Earlier on Thursday, Yogi Adityanath assured flood-affected families in Farrukhabad that his government was committed to finding a permanent solution to the recurring flood problem. Addressing a gathering in Farrukhabad, the Chief Minister said the government was taking steps to protect both people and livestock in flood-affected villages. He directed the administration to ensure adequate fodder, vaccinations and medicines for cattle. "We are making every effort to ensure that in areas where floodwaters have entered villages, livestock is not harmed. Complete arrangements are being made on a war footing across every area to provide fodder, vaccinations, and essential medicines for cattle," Yogi Adityanath said. His Varanasi visit is expected to provide an opportunity to assess relief operations directly and issue further instructions to officials on flood management.

India's First Sentient Corporate Campus to Rise in Pune

India's first "sentient" corporate campus will be established at the Bajaj Finserv Campus in Koregaon Park Annexe, Pune, with the project designed to combine artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), sustainability and employee-focused facilities. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis laid the foundation stone for the project on Friday. Speaking at the ceremony, Fadnavis said the Bajaj Finserv Campus would be not only the largest corporate campus but also among the country's most intelligent and sustainable workplace ecosystems. Built with AI and IoT at its core, the campus will be designed to sense its environment and the needs of its occupants and proactively adapt to changing conditions in real time. According to company sources, AI and IoT systems will enable the campus to respond to variations in weather, occupancy and environmental conditions.



Sensors and analytics will be used to optimise energy and water consumption while monitoring crowd density and movement. IoT-enabled predictive maintenance systems will monitor critical infrastructure, while automation and robotics will support day-to-day campus operations. The campus will feature an eco-efficient design intended to maximise natural breeze and daylight and reduce cooling requirements. It will operate on renewable energy and target 80 per cent water recycling, along with rainwater harvesting and zero-waste operations.

A biophilic design will bring nature into the workplace through extensive green areas, including rare Ayurvedic gardens, Miyawaki forests and replanted native forests. Native species from Maharashtra will be incorporated to promote biodiversity and strengthen the campus ecosystem. The workplace will also have floor- and cluster-level monitoring of air quality and temperature. An integrated employee application will provide access to campus facilities and services, including navigation, parking and bookings. Healthcare and wellness will form another key component of the

campus. An integrated medical centre will provide telemedicine and emergency response services, supported by dedicated wellness facilities for employees. Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv, said the campus would be developed in accordance with global LEED and IGBC standards. "Built to global LEED and IGBC standards, the Campus will combine eco-efficient and biophilic designs with AI-driven systems and operate entirely on renewable energy," Bajaj said. He added that the campus would demonstrate India's growing technological and financial capabilities while reflecting the country's move towards a technology-ready and environmentally responsible future. The project is expected to establish a new model for corporate workplaces by integrating intelligent infrastructure, sustainability, biodiversity, digital services and employee wellbeing into a single ecosystem.



DNA Testing Gives Nepal Families Hope for Missing Relatives

DNA testing has emerged as a crucial final hope for families searching for relatives who remain missing after devastating floods in Nepal, with authorities struggling to identify hundreds of bodies recovered from floodwaters and debris. The disaster, which struck on August 26, has killed at least 1,287 people in Nepal, while 5,083 remain missing, according to disaster authorities. The scale of destruction and the condition of many recovered bodies have made conventional identification extremely difficult. Police have so far collected 2,272 DNA samples, including 1,260 from bodies and 1,012 from relatives of missing people, as authorities work to establish identities. Officials said 1,030 bodies had been buried after DNA samples and other identification procedures were completed. The figure includes 222 women, 355 men and 453 bodies whose sex could not be determined.

For families, the testing process represents more than forensic identification. It could bring an end to days or weeks of uncertainty and allow relatives to perform final rites for loved ones. One such family is that of Raj Kumar Diyali, 33, who disappeared along with his 30-year-old wife Shriti and their four-year-old son Siraj after the Bhotekoshi River flood struck Syaphrubesi in Rasuwa district. Raj Kumar's relatives searched along the river as far as Chitwan and Nawalpur. Five days after the flood, his nephew Avinash discovered a severed human hand in Nawalpur and sent a photograph to Amrit Diyali, Raj Kumar's relative. Amrit said the hand closely resembled his brother's. He subsequently sent a sample from the remains to the National Forensic Science Laboratory in Kathmandu for DNA testing. The sample is reportedly 182nd in line for examination. "We have stopped hoping for any-



thing else," Amrit told The Kathmandu Post, expressing the family's desire for certainty even if the remains are confirmed to belong to Raj Kumar. The floods began in the Bhotekoshi River area of Rasuwa near Nepal's northern border with China before causing widespread destruction downstream. To make identification easier, Nepal Police has opened a DNA sample collection centre in Bidur, Nuwakot, enabling relatives of missing people to provide samples without travelling to Kathmandu. Deputy Inspector General of Nepal Police Hospital Dr Damodar Poudel said samples from close blood relatives, including parents, children and siblings, are particularly useful for comparison with DNA recovered from unidentified bodies. Authorities have also uploaded details of 1,270 unidentified bodies on the Nepal Police website, allowing families to check whether their missing relatives are among those recovered.

Zelensky Proposes Ceasefire Ahead of US Envoys' Russia, Ukraine Visits

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky has proposed a temporary ceasefire with Russia as US envoys Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff prepare to visit Moscow and Kyiv for talks aimed at finding a possible settlement to the Russia-Ukraine war. Zelensky confirmed that Witkoff and Kushner will travel to Moscow on Saturday and Kyiv on Sunday. The proposed pause in hostilities is intended to ensure the safety of the US representatives and provide the necessary conditions for negotiations and logistical arrangements. "There will be no air strikes from our side," Zelensky said, calling on Russia to mirror the move by suspending its air attacks for the duration needed to conduct the negotiations. Zelensky said Ukrainian diplomats had held discussions to prepare for the American delegation's visit to Kyiv. During those preparations, it was decided that normal operations in Russian airspace should continue so the envoys could arrive safely. "Russia must mirror



this by ensuring silence without its air strikes for the time needed to hold these negotiations and resolve the logistical issues associated with this American visit," Zelensky said. His proposal came hours after Russia carried out a daytime airstrike on Kyiv. Zelensky said the attack targeted

the headquarters of Ukraine's intelligence service and the office of its intelligence chief. The Ukrainian president said Kyiv was focused on engaging with the American envoys rather than Russia itself and wanted practical proposals that could help end the conflict, which has continued for

four-and-a-half years. "We'll see what proposals Steve and Jared have and what Moscow will say to them," Zelensky wrote. Russia has intensified daytime air attacks on Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities in recent days, with civilian areas repeatedly coming under attack. Before the Friday strike on Kyiv, Russia launched a major overnight attack on the Odesa region that killed one person and injured at least five others, including a child. Over night attacks elsewhere also killed two police officials in Dnipro, according to the report. A US official confirmed the planned visits earlier in the day. The trip will mark the first visit by the Trump administration's envoys to Kyiv for negotiations over a settlement. The proposed ceasefire could provide a brief window for direct diplomatic efforts, although its success will depend on whether Russia accepts Zelensky's call to halt airstrikes during the US delegation's mission.

US Strikes Three Iranian Oil Tankers After Naval Attacks



US forces struck three Iranian crude oil tankers after the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) launched ballistic missile attacks against two US Navy warships operating in regional waters, the US Central Command said. In a post on X, the US Central Command said an aircraft carrier and a guided-missile destroyer successfully avoided what it described as "multiple unprovoked Iranian attacks". No US personnel were injured in the incidents, according to the command. Following the attempted attacks, US forces destroyed two IRGC-linked crude oil tankers, M/T Downy and M/T Stark 1. The vessels were targeted off the coast of Kharg Island and near Jask. A third tanker, which was not carrying a cargo, was also disabled in the Gulf of Oman. The US Central Command said the three vessels were part of what it described as a multibillion-dollar shadow network that finances the IRGC and its proxies. The strikes represent a significant escalation in the confrontation between Washington and Tehran, with oil infrastructure and shipping becoming increasingly central to the conflict. Admiral Brad Cooper, commander of the US Central Command, said the US military would continue to defend its forces and warned that Iran's oil fleet could face further action. "Let the message to the IRGC be clear: If you shoot at two of our ships, we will impose an even higher economic cost - taking out three of yours," Cooper said. "We will not hesitate to defend American forces, and if necessary, destroy Iran's limited and exposed oil fleet," he added. Iran earlier accused the US of attacking an Iranian tanker near Kharg Island in the Persian Gulf, semi-official Iranian news agency Tasnim reported. Local sources quoted by Tasnim said there were no casualties and that the tanker's crew was being evacuated. US President Donald Trump had on August 31 posted a brief message on social media accompanied by an AI-generated video, saying Kharg Island was being "blown to smithereens". Kharg Island is strategically important to Iran's oil industry. Iran is the third-largest producer in the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and has historically depended heavily on the island as a key transit point for crude exports. Before the outbreak of the US-Iran war, Kharg Island handled around 90 per cent of Iran's crude oil exports, making any military action around the facility potentially significant for the country's energy revenues and global oil markets. The latest strikes underscore the growing risks to Iranian oil shipments and regional maritime security as tensions between the US and Iran continue to intensify.

Sri Lanka Arrests Ex-President's Son Over \$800,000 Airbus Bribe

Sri Lankan anti-graft authorities have arrested lawmaker Namal Rajapaksa, son of former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, over allegations that he received \$800,000 in connection with a major Airbus aircraft deal. The Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) arrested Namal Rajapaksa after questioning him about the \$2.3 billion transaction involving Sri Lankan Airlines. Colombo Chief Magistrate Asanga Bodaragama ordered the 40-year-old politician to remain in custody for two weeks while investigators continue their probe. CIABOC told the court that Rajapaksa received \$800,000 from money allegedly paid by European aircraft manufacturer Airbus to Sri Lankan politicians and officials to secure the deal. A Sri Lankan businessman is alleged to have arranged the transfer through two Singapore bank accounts. Rajapaksa's lawyer Nishantha Dayananda sought bail, but the court rejected the request. The investigation has also focused on former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, who was questioned by CIABOC in May over allegations that he received kickbacks linked to the aircraft purchase. The Rajapaksa family has denied receiving bribes and has described the corruption allegations as politically motivated. Former Sri Lankan Airlines chief executive Kapila Chandrasena told investigators in March that he had handed nearly \$500,000 in kickbacks to the senior Rajapaksa. Chandrasena was found dead at a relative's home in May, shortly before he was due to be rearrested. The cause of death has not been established. A joint investigation by US, British and French authorities had previously found that Airbus agreed to pay about \$16 million in bribes in Sri Lanka. Around \$1.7 million was allegedly routed to Chandrasena before the scandal emerged. The payments were connected to the purchase of 10 Airbus aircraft, a transaction that required cabinet approval during Mahinda Rajapaksa's presidency from 2005 to 2015. Court submissions stated that Chandrasena initially told investigators he had paid Mahinda Rajapaksa 60 million rupees, equivalent to about \$461,000 at the time, in three instalments in 2013. He later withdrew the allegation, saying it had been made under pressure. The corruption case comes as Sri Lankan Airlines continues to face severe financial difficulties. The national carrier has accumulated losses estimated at nearly \$2 billion, while repeated efforts to privatise the debt-laden airline have failed.



Jaishankar to Address UN General Assembly on September 26

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is scheduled to address the annual high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 26, according to a revised provisional list of speakers released by the UN. The 81st session of the UN General Assembly will begin on September 8, with world leaders set to address the 193-member organisation during the General Debate from September 22 to 28. Jaishankar is scheduled to speak during the afternoon session on September 26. Jaishankar also addressed world leaders from the UN lectern last year, and his upcoming appearance is expected to provide India with an opportunity to outline its position on major international developments and global challenges. Brazil will traditionally be the first country to speak when the General Debate opens on September 22, followed by the United States. US President Donald Trump is scheduled to address world leaders from the iconic UN General Assembly podium on September 22. It will be his second address to the UN session



during his second term in the White House. The 81st session will be presided over by Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman, who was elected in June to lead the 193-member UN organisation. The annual high-level gathering is considered the busiest diplomatic period at the United Nations Headquarters, bringing together heads of state, government leaders

and senior officials for discussions on pressing international issues. This year's session comes amid continuing geopolitical conflicts across several regions. The months-long US-Israel war against Iran has had a major impact on countries of the Global South and least developed nations, particularly through rising food and fuel costs linked to continued disruption in the Strait of Hormuz.

Several high-level meetings are also scheduled during the General Assembly session. These include a commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, a meeting on climate action and a just transition, and a high-level meeting addressing existential threats posed by sea-level rise. The agenda will also include discussions on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, along with a plenary meeting to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. Heads of government from Bangladesh and Nepal are scheduled to address the General Debate on September 24, followed by Pakistan on September 25. The session will also mark the final high-level General Assembly gathering for current UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, whose second five-year term ends in December. The selection process for the next UN chief is underway, with attention focused on whether the 80-year-old organisation will appoint a woman to the top post for the first time in its history.

USS Abraham Lincoln Returns With Heavy Rust After 286 Days at Sea

The USS Abraham Lincoln has arrived at a Thai port after an unusually long deployment, drawing attention to extensive rust covering the nearly 1,100-foot aircraft carrier. The warship docked at Laem Chabang on the Gulf of Thailand, south of Bangkok, on Wednesday after spending 286 days at sea, according to the US Navy. The carrier left San Diego last November and spent months conducting combat and blockade operations against Iran in the Middle East. Its heavily corroded hull has highlighted the physical toll of an extended deployment, although naval experts say such rust is not unexpected for a ship that remains at sea for prolonged periods. Carl Schuster, a former US Navy captain, told CNN that rust along the waterline is common on vessels that have spent more than 60 days continuously operating at sea. He explained that crews cannot carry out extensive hull maintenance while a carrier is deployed, particularly during combat operations. Removing the corrosion requires



workers to reach the waterline, sand away the rust, apply two coats of rust-preventative primer and then add two coats of naval grey paint. Schuster estimated that the Lincoln could require about 30 days of preservation work to remove all the rust. Some urgent repairs could begin

during the carrier's stay in Thailand, although the short port visit means only high-priority maintenance is expected. Schuster said the bow and forward hull would likely receive attention first because those areas experience greater exposure to corrosive salt water and the stresses created by

rough seas. The Lincoln's visit to Laem Chabang is expected to last several days and provides the crew with its first significant rest-and-relaxation break following the demanding deployment. However, the ship's condition is not the only concern associated with its prolonged time at sea. Reports have also pointed to low morale among some crew members, with supply shortages reportedly contributing to dissatisfaction. At least one incident involving a crew member going overboard has also been reported. The developments illustrate the challenges faced by naval personnel and equipment during extended operations far from home ports. While surface corrosion is largely a maintenance issue, prolonged deployments can also place considerable pressure on crews, logistics and operational readiness. For the USS Abraham Lincoln, the Thailand stop therefore represents both a much-needed break for its sailors and an opportunity to begin addressing the physical effects of nearly 10 months at sea.

EU-India Agri-Food Trade Set to Double by 2032

India and the European Union are poised to significantly expand their agri-food trade, with bilateral commerce in the sector expected to double to 10 billion by 2032, driven by changing consumer preferences, rising demand for healthy and premium foods and the anticipated India-EU Free Trade Agreement. Industry leaders and trade officials said India's food processing sector is undergoing rapid transformation, with the level of agricultural produce being processed expected to rise from the current 16-17 per cent to 25-30 per cent by 2030. Government efforts to formalise the sector and strengthen infrastructure are expected to support this expansion. "The Indian food processing industry is valued at over US\$500 billion (estimated), with immense potential to convert India's strong agricultural production into value-added products, improve quality and shelf life, and expand exports," said J.P. Dongre, deputy agricultural marketing advisor &



director at Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MOFPI). Dongre said MOFPI is supporting micro, small, medium and large entrepreneurs through financial assistance for modern machinery, packaging infrastructure and cold-chain facilities. He was speaking on the sidelines of a precursor event for Anuga Select India and Anuga FoodTec India 2026. The co-located trade fairs will be

held from September 29 to October 1, 2026, at the BEC in Mumbai. The events are positioned as a major B2B marketplace connecting manufacturers, global suppliers, importers, distributors, HoReCa leaders and technology providers across agrifoods, dairy, beverages, fine foods and food processing. India's food processing level has increased sharply from 3-4 per cent a decade ago to 16-17 per cent

currently. Dongre said the expected rise to 25-30 per cent by 2030 could bring India closer to processing levels seen in leading European countries. Raghav Jadli, president of All India Food Producers Association, said Anuga FoodTec India provides opportunities beyond product promotion, including joint ventures, technology partnerships and stronger import-export cooperation. "EU-India bilateral trade in agri-food products currently stands at around 5 billion, accounting for only about 4 per cent of total bilateral trade of approximately 125 billion," said Pawel Stachowiak, Counsellor Trade & Economic Affairs - European Union. Volker Klima, Head of Agriculture & Food Division, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, New Delhi, said Germany would reinforce its presence through a dedicated pavilion featuring at least 12 companies from the food, beverages, confectionery and processing sectors.

NSE Gets Sebi Nod for Mega IPO



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has cleared the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) of the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE), paving the way for one of the country's biggest initial public offerings (IPOs). The proposed issue is expected to raise around Rs 30,000-31,000 crore through an offer for sale (OFS) by existing shareholders. The NSE IPO is set to become the second-largest public offering in India, behind the proposed Jio Platforms IPO, which recently received Sebi approval and is expected to raise around Rs 37,000-38,000 crore through fresh equity issuance. Sebi's approval for NSE came a day after the Supreme Court accepted settlement terms reached between Sebi and NSE concerning past regulatory lapses in the co-location and dark fibre cases. The settlement removes a major regulatory hurdle that had delayed the exchange's listing plans for several years. NSE had filed its DRHP with Sebi for the second time in June 2026. Its first draft offer documents were submitted in December 2016 for an IPO of around Rs 10,000 crore through an OFS. However, regulatory scrutiny linked to the co-location issue kept the listing process on hold for nearly a decade. The shareholders proposing to sell shares include State Bank of India, MS Strategic (Mauritius), Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, Aranda Investments (Mauritius), Bank of Baroda, Stock Holding Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation of India, The New India Assurance Company, National Insurance and United India Insurance Company. NSE's largest public shareholder, Life Insurance Corporation of India, will not sell any shares through the proposed IPO. NSE is expected to become the third Indian stock exchange to be listed, after Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX). NSE began operations on June 30, 1994, while BSE, established on July 9, 1875, is Asia's oldest stock exchange. Market expert and Graded Financial Services founder Thakur Ajit Singh said the IPO could have an impact extending beyond the exchange sector. He said NSE's unlisted-market valuation of around Rs 4.88 lakh crore, or \$58 billion, could create new valuation benchmarks for market infrastructure institutions, depositories, asset management companies and retail brokerage platforms. As of March 31, 2026, NSE was India's largest exchange by total cash-market and equity-derivatives turnover and ranked third globally by the number of cash-equity trades, according to the World Federation of Exchanges. Its listing will add NSE to an expanding group of listed Indian market infrastructure institutions, including CDSL, NSDL, BSE and MCX.

Scapia, Axis Bank Launch Travel-Focused Credit Card

Scapia and Axis Bank have launched the Scapia Axis Bank Credit Card, targeting India's growing community of new-generation travellers with a combination of digital payments, travel rewards and booking services through a single platform. The card integrates payments, rewards and travel on the Scapia app, allowing customers to manage spending, book journeys and redeem rewards. Eligible everyday spends and UPI transactions can earn rewards, which can be redeemed for flights, hotel stays, experiences, shopping and other travel-related offerings. Available on both Mastercard and RuPay networks, the card is designed to provide a digital experience covering everything from everyday payments to travel bookings. The partnership combines Axis Bank's capabilities in cards and payments with Scapia's travel-focused platform. Anil Goteti, Founder and CEO, Scapia, said the partnership marked a new chapter for the company as more young Indians travel domestically and internationally. He said Scapia was built around the idea of giving travellers an



integrated platform to spend, book trips, shop for travel and earn rewards. According to Goteti, Scapia users have already travelled to more than 175 countries. Arnika Dixit, Group Head - Cards, Payments and Wealth Management, Axis Bank, said the partnership reflected a focus on simple, digital-first products aligned with changing travel habits. She said combining Axis Bank's payment capabilities with

Scapia's travel ecosystem would create a more connected experience, offering greater convenience, flexibility and value throughout the customer journey. Cardholders can earn up to 10 per cent rewards on eligible everyday spending and up to 20 per cent rewards in the form of Scapia Coins on eligible travel bookings. The coins can be redeemed for flights, stays, visas, experiences and other offerings available

through the Scapia platform.. For international travellers, the card offers zero forex markup and Smart Forex features intended to provide greater visibility and control over overseas spending. Airport benefits include access to lounges, dining and premium retail, while onboarding and card management are handled digitally through the app. Gautam Aggarwal, President, India & South Asia, Mastercard, said travel had become a major segment of India's consumer economy and that travellers increasingly expected secure, seamless and globally accepted payment options. Sohini Rajola, Executive Director Growth, NPCI, said RuPay's integration with UPI had expanded digital payment convenience and that the partnership would combine travel benefits with the network's broad acceptance. For Scapia, the launch marks its third banking collaboration and an important step towards reaching more Indian travellers. For Axis Bank, it strengthens its co-branded card strategy and presence in travel and digital-first segments.

Govt Rejects 'No Takers' Claim on Coal Gasification Scheme



The government has rejected reports claiming that its Rs 37,500-crore Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects has failed to attract applications, calling such conclusions premature with the first-round application deadline still approaching. The Ministry of Coal clarified that applications can be submitted until September 7, 2026, and the actual response to the scheme cannot be assessed conclusively until the application window closes. In a statement, the Ministry of Coal said reports suggesting that the scheme had received no applications did not reflect the current status of the application process. It stressed that the number of applications received in the first round could only be determined after the deadline. The Union Cabinet approved the Scheme for Promotion of Surface Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects on May 13, 2026, with a total financial outlay of Rs 37,500 crore. The initiative aims to accelerate coal and lignite gasification in India and encourage the conversion of domestic coal and lignite into higher-value products such as syngas, methanol, ammonia and urea. The government expects the scheme to reduce dependence on imported feedstock while strengthening India's energy and economic security. Following the Cabinet approval, the Ministry of Coal conducted outreach programmes and stakeholder engagements to attract potential project developers. Roadshows were organised in New Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai, involving representatives from State Governments, public and private sector companies, technology providers, investors, financial institutions and other stakeholders. The Ministry said Talcher Fertilisers Limited (TFL) and NTPC Limited had already submitted their respective applications through the online portal. It said this demonstrated that claims that the scheme had "no takers" were factually incorrect. The large scale and technical complexity of coal and lignite gasification projects require considerable preparation before applications can be submitted. Prospective applicants have to prepare Pre-Feasibility Reports, examine technology options, arrange coal, lignite and other feedstock, evaluate project economics and develop detailed project proposals. Officials therefore expect additional applications to be submitted as the September 7 deadline approaches. The clarification comes amid growing government efforts to promote domestic coal utilisation beyond conventional power generation. Through gasification, coal and lignite can serve as feedstock for industrial products, potentially opening new avenues for domestic manufacturing and reducing reliance on imported raw materials. With the application window yet to close, the Ministry maintained that any assessment of the scheme's response at this stage would be premature.

Trump Venezuela Oil Deal Alarms US Energy Industry



US President Donald Trump's sweeping oil agreement with Venezuela has triggered unease among parts of the US energy industry, after the administration secured a 35% stake in a private company with long-term rights to develop Venezuelan oil fields. Trump has described the agreement as potentially "the greatest deal ever made," but some US oil executives believe the arrangement could disrupt ongoing commercial negotiations and place them at a disadvantage in accessing some of Venezuela's most promising oil assets. People familiar with the matter told Bloomberg that several industry leaders were surprised by the agreement. They requested anonymity to discuss the issue candidly, amid concerns about publicly challenging a deal strongly backed by Trump. Interest from US and international energy companies in rebuilding Venezuela's severely degraded oil industry had intensified in recent months. A ceremony in Caracas on Wednesday was attended by acting President Delcy Rodriguez, US Energy Secretary Chris Wright and executives from Chevron Corp., Eni SpA and GE Vernova Inc., which signed investment agreements. However, those agreements were overshadowed by Trump's announcement on his social media platform that the US government would take a 35% stake in North American Blue Energy Partners (NABEP), a private oil company led by investor Alejandro Betancourt. NABEP has secured 100-year rights to develop 17 Venezuelan oil fields. The arrangement was marshalled by the US State Department and the Pentagon and reportedly caught several energy companies off guard, including firms already involved in commercial discussions in Venezuela. The development highlights a difficult balancing act for the Trump administration. Washington wants to accelerate investment, increase oil production and generate revenue to help rebuild Venezuela. At the same time, major oil developers capable of increasing production of the country's heavy crude have remained cautious because of continuing political and economic risks following the capture of longtime President Nicolás Maduro. Supporters of the agreement argue that the arrangement could help bring Venezuelan crude back into global markets more quickly. Critics within the industry, however, worry that the government's involvement could create a powerful competitor to private US producers. Under the agreement, the US will hold a 35% stake in NABEP and receive the right to 20% of the company's production at cost. Kevin Book, managing director at Washington-based ClearView Energy Partners, said government ownership could create an incentive to protect the investment. "The question," Book said, is whether the arrangement will complement the broader oil industry or compete with it. Administration officials have attempted to reassure energy companies, arguing that the NABEP arrangement could provide greater security for private-sector investments in Venezuela.

Forex Reserves Hit Record \$740.80 Billion



India's foreign exchange reserves have climbed to a new record of \$740.80 billion, boosted by the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) special foreign exchange measures and strong inflows through swap facilities. The reserves increased by \$11.475 billion during the week ended August 28, taking the total well above the previous record of \$728.494 billion recorded for the week ended February 27. The latest rise also marked the ninth consecutive week of growth in India's forex reserves. The increase comes after the RBI introduced special swap windows to attract dollar inflows and strengthen its ability to manage pressure on the rupee. During the West Asia war, the central bank had sold dollars to stabilise the currency after the rupee came under significant pressure. On June 8, the RBI announced the USD-INR Forex Swap facility covering Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) or FCNRR(B) deposits, external commercial borrowings (ECBs) and overseas foreign currency borrowings (OFCB) inflows. Radhika Rao, senior economist and executive director at DBS Bank, said the intervention approach appeared to be changing. She noted that the USD-INR exchange rate, which had remained relatively steady despite strong FCNR inflows, had recently moved sharply lower, testing below the 95 level and reaching the mid-94 range amid intervention dollar sales and broader movements in the US currency. India's forex reserves consist of foreign currency assets (FCAs), gold reserves, Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) and the country's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Foreign currency assets, the largest component, rose by \$9.34 billion during the week to \$600.67 billion. Gold reserves increased by \$2.19 billion to \$116.41 billion. India's SDR holdings with the IMF stood at \$18.81 billion, declining by \$43 million during the week but remaining \$188 million higher than at the end of March. The country's reserve position with the IMF fell by \$11 million to \$4.914 billion, although it remained \$106 million above the end-March level. Meanwhile, the RBI also absorbed more than Rs 6.02 lakh crore from the banking system through two variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) auctions as surplus liquidity remained exceptionally high. In one three-day VRRR auction, banks parked Rs 5.41 lakh crore with the RBI against a notified amount of Rs 7 lakh crore. The cut-off rate was 5.24 per cent. In another three-day auction with a notified amount of Rs 1.5 lakh crore, banks deposited Rs 60,419 crore with the central bank at the same rate.

Ocean Cleanup Chief Invites River Cleaner to Join Team

A 21-year-old student from Madhya Pradesh has received an unexpected job invitation after his efforts to clean a polluted river attracted the attention of Ocean Cleanup CEO Boyan Slat. Surendra Singh Chaudhary, popularly known on social media as "Bittu Tabahi", has been cleaning the Ajnar River in Biaora largely on his own. The BSc student began the cleanup campaign on January 26, 2026, taking on the task of removing waste and debris that had accumulated in the river. His efforts recently gained wider attention online after photographs showing the condition of the river before and after the cleanup were shared on social media. The

images highlighted the difference made by Chaudhary's persistent work and prompted a response from Slat. Reacting to a post featuring Chaudhary and his cleanup mission, Ocean Cleanup CEO Boyan Slat wrote a brief but striking message: "Come work for us."The invitation quickly added an unexpected dimension to Chaudhary's environmental mission. What began as an individual attempt to improve the condition of a local river has now attracted recognition from a global organisation known for tackling plastic pollution and cleaning waterways. Chaudhary has continued his work despite facing several challenges. His cleanup activities have exposed him



to health risks, including encounters with snakes. He



has also suffered infections in his limbs while working near a local temple.Despite those difficulties, Chaudhary

has continued removing waste from the river and documenting his efforts through photographs. His social media posts have helped bring attention to the condition of the Ajnar River and the importance of local participation in environmental cleanup efforts.The campaign has also received support from the local civic administration. Biaora Municipal Corporation Sub-Engineer Rupesh Kumar Netam said the municipality has been providing assistance to Chaudhary by supplying heavy machinery to remove accumulated waste. "There is a young man named Surendra Singh Chaudhary who regularly cleans the Ajnar River in Biaora, the municipi-

pality also provides him with support in this effort.Chaudhary's story has since become an example of how an individual initiative can attract institutional support and international attention. His work demonstrates that environmental action does not always begin with a large organisation or a major campaign.For now, Slat's invitation remains a remarkable recognition of Chaudhary's efforts. A student who started cleaning a polluted river largely by himself has found his work noticed far beyond Biaora, with a potential opportunity to work with one of the world's prominent environmental organisations now on the horizon.

Apple Begins Ternus Era With Major Product Wave



Apple is preparing to enter a new phase under Chief Executive Officer John Ternus, with the company set to unveil a major lineup of new devices and product categories over the coming years. The shift will begin with Apple's September 9 "Surprise and Shine" event, where Ternus is expected to take the stage to introduce the latest iPhones and Apple Watches. However, the upcoming event is being viewed as only the opening chapter of a much larger product cycle that could extend through 2026, 2027 and beyond. For much of the past 15 years, Apple has concentrated on improving established product lines and expanding services that generate recurring revenue. Apart from launches such as the Apple Watch and AirPods, the company has introduced relatively few entirely new device categories. That approach is now expected to change. Apple has reportedly been developing a pipeline of new products for around five years, with several fresh form factors and product areas in development. Ternus has already signalled his enthusiasm about the company's future. In a message to employees, he said he was excited about the major launch ahead as well as products already being developed and ideas that had yet to be imagined. Although Tim Cook was Apple's CEO when many of the products were conceived and developed, they are largely associated with Ternus' team. Cook's decision to allow Ternus to introduce the products has added significance to the leadership transition. Ternus formally took command on September 1, just days before the major product event. The timing has positioned the new CEO at the centre of Apple's next stage of innovation. One of the biggest products expected in the rollout is a foldable iPhone, internally referred to by some Apple employees as the iPhone Ultra. The device is expected to feature a large internal screen and a smaller external display, folding to roughly the size of a passport. Reported features include an A20 Pro chip, Apple's in-house C2 modem, Touch ID support, split-view multitasking and an advanced hinge designed to make the display crease less noticeable. The phone is expected to have regular and ultrawide-angle cameras but no telephoto lens, along with dark and light colour options. The foldable iPhone is also expected to carry a premium price of more than \$2,000. Apple's product plans and timelines could still change, with some projects potentially delayed or cancelled. The company, based in Cupertino, California, declined to comment on the reported product pipeline.

Founder Defends 'Disgusting' Website After Job Seeker's Criticism

A startup founder's unusual response to a job seeker's blunt criticism of his company website has sparked attention online, after he thanked her for the feedback but said the website was intentionally designed to attract a particular audience and repel others. The interaction began when a job seeker contacted Pritam Kudev, founder and CEO of men's beauty and personal care brand Mannlich, through LinkedIn. After exploring the company's website and products, she offered detailed feedback about what she believed could be improved. The job seeker said she "cringed hard" after visiting the website and described it as "very repelling and borderline disgusting." According to her, the site appeared to focus heavily on pictures of shirtless men and men applying products rather than presenting the products in a more carefully curated manner. She said she liked the concept of skincare for men but added that



she would not return to the website to purchase a product for her father. She suggested making the platform simpler, more gender-friendly and more welcoming to potential customers. The woman also identified herself as a developer and pointed out that the website appeared to be lagging. Since she was currently looking for work, she offered to help improve the website and said she

hoped her suggestions would be useful. Kudev responded by thanking her for the honest feedback. However, he explained that the website had been created for a specific type of consumer base. He said the intentions were also to repel people who did not fit that target audience, adding that the company was glad the website had achieved that objective.

Kudev later shared a screenshot of the exchange on LinkedIn, bringing wider attention to the conversation. While posting it, he questioned the outreach approach being used by young job seekers and wrote, "Whoever is teaching these kids to use such templates for outreach. Where are your legs?" The exchange also highlighted the increasingly informal nature of recruitment outreach on professional networking platforms. While unsolicited feedback can be risky for job seekers, the episode showed how direct criticism can sometimes lead to an unexpected public conversation between a candidate and a company founder. Kudev also invited candidates interested in working with Mannlich to apply for opportunities in marketing, content and operations. He specifically asked people who were not "Repelled" by the website to share their portfolios, turning the unusual criticism into a broader recruitment appeal.

German Police Check Indian Tourists, Leave Former Cop Impressed

Former Delhi Police ACP Rajindar Pathania has recalled two experiences from a trip to Germany that gave him a different perspective on policing, public service and civic responsibility. After more than 38 years in the police service, Pathania said one particular encounter with German police left a lasting impression. His tour bus, carrying a group of Indian travellers, was stopped and surrounded by German police officers. The passengers were taken to a police station, where they were asked to get off the bus one by one. The officers checked their passports and visas and also searched their luggage. While the security procedure initially made Pathania concerned, it was the way the luggage inspection was handled that particularly caught his attention. According to Pathania, German police officers personally picked up the passengers' bags, carried them to the baggage scanner and returned them to the bus after the inspection was completed. For the former police officer, the incident demonstrated that enforcing the law does not necessarily have to come at the expense of dignity or respect. He said the experience made him reflect on the meaning of wearing a uniform and the responsibilities that come with exercising authority. Pathania said policing can involve strict enforcement while still being carried out with sensitivity and a sense of service. He wrote that the dignity of a uniform is not merely about authority, but also about using that authority with humanity.His second memorable



experience in Germany involved something far removed from a police station - the cleanliness of public spaces.Pathania said he was struck by the condition of roads and public areas, where he observed little unnecessary litter. He shared short videos from his trip to highlight the surroundings and questioned whether Germany's cleanliness could be attributed entirely to better government systems.While acknowledging the importance of administration, Pathania argued that citizens' attitudes and their sense of

responsibility were equally significant. Governments can build infrastructure, employ sanitation workers and conduct cleanliness campaigns, he said, but people themselves have a major role in keeping public spaces clean.He urged Indians to look beyond simply blaming authorities for sanitation problems and consider everyday behaviour. He raised questions about who throws rubbish on roads, dirties public walls and fails to treat shared spaces with the same care given to their homes.For Pathania, the two expe-

riences carried connected lessons. The first concerned how public servants should exercise authority, while the second focused on how citizens should use their freedom responsibly.He said travelling abroad should not only involve admiring another country's beauty and infrastructure. It can also provide lessons that travellers can bring home.Pathania concluded that a cleaner and better India requires responsibility from both public servants and citizens, with each playing a role in improving society.

Hybrid Work Wins After Pune Woman Says WFH 'Fried' Her Brain

A Pune woman's experience of working entirely from home for two weeks has sparked an online conversation about the benefits and drawbacks of remote work. Mohini Chavan said the temporary shift from her usual hybrid routine left her mentally exhausted and trapped in a repetitive daily cycle. Chavan shared her experience on Instagram, explaining that her organisation normally follows a hybrid working model but allows employees to work from home for two weeks during the year. While the arrangement can be particularly useful for employees who live away from their hometowns and

want to spend time with family, Chavan said the unchanged workload and lack of a change in surroundings made the experience difficult for her. "I don't know how people do permanent work from home, bro. Salute to them!" Chavan said while describing her experience. According to Chavan, working from home did not reduce her professional responsibilities. She continued to complete her regular workload, but the absence of an office environment meant that her days began to feel almost identical. She said that after spending two weeks mostly indoors, she felt mentally drained. "What I've



realised over these two weeks is that my brain is completely fried," she said, adding that she felt as though she had barely stepped outside during the entire period. The repetitive routine also extended into her weekends. Chavan said she went out for only one day, while the rest of the time followed the same pattern of working, eating and remaining at home. "Even during the weekend, I only went out for a day. Otherwise, every day has felt exactly the same," she said.For Chavan, the experience highlighted why she prefers a hybrid work arrangement rather than permanent remote employment. She said

going to the office provides a much-needed break from the home environment and offers opportunities for social interaction. Under her usual hybrid setup, Chavan gets to meet friends, have conversations, learn new things and experience a change in surroundings. She also said commuting and travelling occasionally help break the monotony of staying indoors."At least the hybrid system feels like the best balance to me," she said, explaining that spending two days in the office allows her to meet people, try different things, learn, talk and share experiences.Chavan's comments reflect a broader debate around

workplace flexibility, where remote work can offer convenience and time with family but may also create feelings of isolation and repetition for some employees.Her Instagram post carried the message, "Salute to permanent work from home employees," acknowledging those who have adapted to a fully remote lifestyle. For Chavan, however, the return to her hybrid routine appears to be something to look forward to. After two weeks of working from home, the office now represents more than just a workplace - it offers the social interaction and change of environment she says she missed.

Stuttgart Thrash Cologne to Bounce Back

Stuttgart produced a commanding response to their opening-day defeat against Bayern Munich, cruising past Cologne 4-1 in the Bundesliga. After suffering a heavy 5-1 loss to Bayern in their previous outing, Stuttgart dominated the contest and delivered the reaction they had been seeking. Stuttgart, who secured a return to the Champions League after finishing fourth last season, controlled proceedings for much of the match. Grischka Proemel said the team wanted to respond strongly following the Bayern defeat and was pleased with the performance. Cologne managed to keep Stuttgart at bay during the opening stages, but their resistance ended in the 39th minute when Bilal El Khannouss produced a brilliant individual effort. The former Leicester winger raced through the Cologne defence, nutmegging two players before sending a low strike into the bottom corner.



El Khannouss described the goal as "pure instinct", saying it was not something that could be trained and happened in the moment. He also expressed hope that it would be the first of many goals he scores during the season. Stuttgart continued to dominate after the break and doubled their advantage on the hour mark. El

Khannouss initiated the move down the flank before finding Germany defender Maximilian Mittelstaedt. The defender delivered a cut-back into the area, allowing Proemel to guide his shot into the net. Stuttgart striker Ermedin Demirovic then added another goal with 15 minutes remaining.

Demirovic charged into space down the right channel before finishing from a tight angle to put the hosts firmly in control. Cologne managed to pull one goal back through debutant Mikey Moore, who is on loan from Tottenham. Moore burst into the box and sent a square ball across the area, but the delivery ultimately resulted in an own goal from Stuttgart defender Ramon Hendriks. However, Stuttgart had the final say in spectacular fashion. In the final minute, Josha Vagnoman produced a stunning long-range effort, crashing a looping clearance into the top corner from outside the box. The emphatic victory allowed Stuttgart to quickly move beyond their disappointing defeat to Bayern Munich and provided a major confidence boost as they look to build on last season's fourth-place Bundesliga finish and their return to Champions League football.

Raina Questions India Exile During Kohli-Kumble Era



Former India batter Suresh Raina has opened up about his exclusion from the national team during the Virat Kohli-Anil Kumble era, revealing that he sought answers from the captain and coaching staff but never received a concrete explanation. Raina, who retired from international cricket in 2020 at the age of 33, was left out of India's squad for the 2019 ODI World Cup in England. Reflecting on the period, he said he and Yuvraj Singh initially failed the Yo-Yo fitness test but later cleared it after returning to domestic cricket and scoring runs. Speaking to former India batter Aakash Chopra, Raina said he repeatedly questioned the team management about his absence. "I asked questions, I didn't get answers. So I asked questions, talked to people... captain and coaches," he said. Raina acknowledged that every captain has different preferences and that team combinations can change with leadership. He also admitted that he could have performed better during that phase and felt his experience, along with Yuvraj Singh's, could have been valuable for the 2019 World Cup campaign. "Every captain has his own team," Raina said, pointing out that different players received preference when the leadership changed. He added that another batter and wicketkeeper were chosen for the World Cup, while suggesting that circumstances had changed significantly by then. The former left-handed batter also indicated that his knee injury may have been used as a reason for his omission. Raina questioned why he and Yuvraj were not considered after proving their fitness and returning to domestic cricket. He recalled that the team had become one of the fittest sides during that period and said players were expected to meet demanding fitness standards. Raina also contrasted the Yo-Yo testing conducted under Gary Kirsten with the process used later. Despite the disappointment surrounding his international career, Raina said he has no regrets. His comments have now renewed attention on the selection decisions that shaped India's squad before the 2019 World Cup and ultimately contributed to the end of his international career.

Yuki Bhambri Eyes Deep US Open Run With Michael Venus



India tennis player Yuki Bhambri will reunite with New Zealand's Michael Venus for the men's doubles at the US Open 2026, hoping to build on last year's breakthrough semifinal appearance and make an even deeper run. Bhambri enjoyed a memorable campaign at Flushing Meadows last year, reaching the last four and coming within one victory of a place in the final. The experience, he believes, has created a different mindset heading into this year's tournament. The Indian said the deep run has brought a "mental switch" as he prepares to return to the Grand Slam. He also recalled his strong memories from last year and expressed confidence ahead of the final Grand Slam of the season. Bhambri said his previous success in both singles and doubles, combined with his semifinal appearance, had made last year a breakthrough moment in his career. He added that he is excited to return to the tournament and compete again. The Delhi-born player also has a strong connection with New York, describing it as one of his favourite cities. Bhambri said the city's atmosphere, its scale and the support of Indian fans make playing at the US Open a particularly special experience. He recalled attending matches at Arthur Ashe Stadium simply to experience the energy generated by the crowd. According to Bhambri, the presence of a large Indian community adds another dimension to the tournament, with fans regularly turning up to support him and other Indian players. Bhambri and Venus will now begin their campaign together with ambitions of another extended run. However, their opening match presents a difficult challenge, as they will face two American players. The Indian stressed that the unpredictable nature of the doubles draw means the pair cannot afford to look beyond their first-round assignment. Several upsets have already highlighted the competitiveness of the tournament, making every match potentially difficult. Bhambri said the partnership will approach the tournament one match at a time while maintaining the ambition of going all the way. He acknowledged that the first-round opponents are tough but said he and Venus are looking forward to competing together again. With last year's semifinal run providing both confidence and motivation, Bhambri will look to combine that experience with his partnership with Venus as they chase a place in the latter stages of the US Open 2026.

India Face Pakistan in Crucial Women's Asia Cup Clash

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur has created history by becoming the first cricketer, male or female, to captain in 150 T20I matches as India take on Pakistan in a highly anticipated Group A clash of the Women's Asia Cup 2026. Pakistan captain Fatima Sana won the toss and elected to bat first, but her side endured a disastrous start. Pakistan were struggling at 32/4 after seven overs, with India's spinners causing major problems for the Pakistan batting line-up. India spinner Shree Charani led the attack with three wickets, putting Pakistan under severe pressure during the early stages of the innings. India's disciplined bowling ensured that Pakistan failed to build any meaningful partnership and were forced onto the defensive from the outset. The match carries significant importance for Pakistan, who are looking to secure their place in the semi-finals. Pakistan began their campaign with a victory over



Thailand and need another strong performance to strengthen their position in the group. India, meanwhile, have already booked their place in the semi-finals following emphatic victories over Thailand and Hong Kong in their opening two Group A matches. The clash against Pakistan therefore gives Harmanpreet

Kaur's side an opportunity to maintain their winning momentum while testing themselves against one of their biggest rivals. The match is also attracting considerable attention because of Smriti Mandhana's pursuit of another major record. The India superstar batter is 78 runs away from becoming the highest-ever

run-scorer in women's T20I cricket. Mandhana has consistently been among the leading performers in the shortest format and could further strengthen her place in the record books if she produces a substantial innings against Pakistan. Her battle with the Pakistan bowling attack is expected to be one of the major highlights of the contest. For Pakistan, the immediate priority is to recover from the early collapse and post a competitive total. With four wickets already down, their middle order faces a difficult task against an Indian bowling attack that has quickly gained control. India's strong start and Harmanpreet Kaur's landmark captaincy milestone have added further significance to an already high-profile encounter, while Pakistan must find a way back into the contest to keep their semifinal hopes alive.

Arshdeep Singh, Samreen Kaur Get Matching Tattoos

India pacer Arshdeep Singh and actor-model Samreen Kaur have taken their relationship into the spotlight after revealing matching tattoos featuring each other's handwriting and small red hearts. The development comes shortly after Arshdeep confirmed his relationship with Samreen through Instagram, ending weeks of speculation surrounding their reported romance. Samreen Kaur, born on September 7, 1999, in Jammu and Kashmir, is an actor, model and social media influencer. She completed her BCom (Honours) from Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce, Pune, before pursuing modelling and acting. Her career gained attention after she represented Jammu and Kashmir at the Femina Miss India 2018 pageant, where she emerged as a finalist. She subsequently worked on modelling assignments before entering films and digital projects. Samreen has appeared in the ZEE5 web series Nail Polish and fea-



tured in films including 83 and Sardar Ji 2. She has also appeared in music videos with singers such as Jubin Nautiyal, Badshah and Guru Randhawa. Songs including Baawla and Tujhe Bhoolna Toh Chaaha helped increase her popularity. The relationship rumours surrounding Arshdeep and Samreen gained momentum during IPL 2026. Speculation began after a viral Snapchat post appeared to

show the India cricketer holding hands with a woman whom fans believed was Samreen. Social media users subsequently compared tattoos, accessories and outfits visible in the images with photographs shared by Samreen online. Her repeated appearances at Punjab Kings matches further intensified the speculation. Samreen attended Punjab Kings' clash against Mumbai Indians at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium and

was later seen supporting the franchise during matches in Chandigarh. Her presence at several games, combined with paparazzi sightings outside stadiums, led to increased discussion about her reported relationship with Arshdeep. Before the cricketer publicly confirmed their relationship, fans had already attempted to connect the pair through their social media activity, public appearances and travel posts. The matching tattoos now add another personal detail to their much-discussed relationship. By choosing each other's handwriting for the designs, Arshdeep and Samreen appear to have given the tattoos a distinctly personal significance. Arshdeep has established himself as an important member of India's pace attack, while Samreen continues to build her profile across acting, modelling and social media. Their relationship has consequently attracted attention from both cricket and entertainment audiences.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Not Yet in India's Red-Ball Plans



Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is set for a busy period of cricket, but the young batting sensation is currently not part of India's red-ball plans, according to a report. The 15-year-old is, however, expected to remain an important option for India in T20Is as he continues to make rapid progress across formats. Sooryavanshi will feature in

the Duleep Trophy final before joining India's plans for the upcoming T20I series against Afghanistan. He is then expected to represent the country at the Asian Games. From October, he could also be involved in assignments against the West Indies and New Zealand. While his immediate pathway appears focused heavily on white-

ball cricket, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is closely monitoring his development. BCCI Secretary Devajit Saikia said the board wants Sooryavanshi and other emerging players to receive the right guidance so they can build long and successful careers. The BCCI recently held a review meeting attended by Devajit Saikia, India Test and ODI skipper Shubman Gill, T20I captain Shreyas Iyer, head coach Gautam Gambhir, Centre of Excellence (CoE) head VVS Laxman and other senior BCCI officials at the board's headquarters in Mumbai. Saikia stressed that the BCCI is taking Sooryavanshi's progress seriously and does not want his early success to result in a short-lived international career. He said the board hopes the youngster can serve India for many years, similar to legendary batter Sachin Tendulkar

and other players who became icons of Indian cricket. Sooryavanshi has already achieved several milestones at an extraordinary age. Recently, at 15 years and 157 days, he became the youngest player to score a half-century in Duleep Trophy history, breaking a 57-year-old record. He also impressed during India's series against Zimbabwe, scoring 151 runs in three matches as India completed a 3-0 clean sweep. His performances earned him his maiden Player of the Series award. With a demanding schedule ahead, Sooryavanshi will have opportunities to continue developing his T20 credentials. However, the latest report indicates that India's national red-ball setup is not currently considering him, suggesting the BCCI intends to manage his transition carefully rather than rush him into Test cricket.



Rajinikanth's Dharman Wraps Second Schedule

The makers of director Ashwath Marimuthu's eagerly awaited action entertainer Dharman have announced that the film's second schedule of shooting has been completed. The film features Tamil superstar Rajinikanth in the lead and is being produced by Raaj Kamal Films International, the production house of veteran actor and parliamentarian Kamal Haasan. Raaj Kamal Films International shared the update on its social media platforms along with a video clip, writing, "Dharman 2nd Schedule Wrapped. Swag Mode: ON." One of the scenes featured in the video shows Rajinikanth portraying a senior medical faculty member while lecturing junior doctors. The second schedule began on August 13, with the makers describing Rajinikanth's character as "The deadly doctor" while announcing the shoot. The project has generated considerable excitement among fans since its announcement, particularly because of Rajinikanth's unusual role as a doctor who takes on criminals. In June, the makers released a making video showcasing the process behind Rajinikanth's appearance in the film. Director Ashwath Marimuthu also shared a new poster featuring the superstar and revealed that the team had responded to audience interest regarding his hairstyle and look. Earlier, Raaj Kamal Films International released a glimpse video titled "THE OG SWAG" that offered a look at the making of the first look. The video showed accessories being arranged for Rajinikanth to choose from, while Ashwath demonstrated the exact pose he wanted the superstar to adopt. Kamal Haasan was also seen accompanying Rajinikanth, with the two legends of Tamil cinema exchanging pleasantries. While announcing the title, Kamal Haasan described the film with the phrase "Dharmame vellum!" meaning "Only Dharma will win", and referred to the project as Thalaivar 173. The title poster showed Rajinikanth inside a hospital operation theatre, holding a scalpel, while appearing to stand over the body of a slain rowdy sheeter. Dharman has music by Anirudh, while Niketh Bommi is handling cinematography and Pradeep E Raghav is responsible for editing. National Award-winning duo Anbariv is choreographing the action sequences. The film is produced by Kamal Haasan and R Mahendran, with S Disney serving as co-producer. The latest schedule update has added to anticipation surrounding the project, particularly with Rajinikanth's character, action-driven storyline and the collaboration between the superstar and the production house led by Kamal Haasan.

Ram Gopal Varma Questions Teachers' Day

Filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma sparked debate on Teachers' Day with a provocative post explaining why he did not want to wish people a "Happy Teachers' Day". He argued that an individual who truly thinks independently would naturally resist being taught and that genuine



learning begins when students question what they are told. Taking to his X timeline, Ram Gopal Varma wrote a lengthy post challenging conventional ideas about education and teaching. He said blind learning was not education but "domestication" and argued that progress begins when a student realises that a teacher could be outdated or wrong. The director illustrated his argument with examples from history and popular culture. He referred to Albert Einstein, saying the scientist



disliked the

rigid Prussian school system but went on to develop the theory of relativity while working as a clerk. He also cited filmmaker Steven Spielberg, who became one of the most prolific directors despite being refused admission to a film academy. Ram Gopal Varma argued that these individuals advanced because they refused to simply follow the syllabus imposed by teachers. According to him, true learning involves unlearning what a teacher forces a student to accept. He further claimed that while he had witnessed successful engineers, doctors and lawyers, he had never seen a successful teacher. He argued that people who become truly successful tend to retain their knowledge as something unique rather than turning it into a public service. The filmmaker also questioned the broader role of teachers in society. He said that when knowledge is offered publicly rather than treated as a personal advantage, it loses its uniqueness. He argued that teachers could produce followers rather than leaders by encouraging students to conform instead of developing independent thinking. He also brought parents into his argument, saying well-meaning parents send children to teachers who, in his view, can weaken their ability to think independently and turn them into a socially conditioned herd. To reinforce his views, Ram Gopal Varma quoted renowned personalities including George Bernard Shaw, who wrote, "He who can, does. He who cannot, teaches," and Oscar Wilde, who said, "Anyone who is incapable of learning takes to teaching." Concluding his post, the director maintained his position by stating that he therefore did not want to wish people a "Happy Teachers' Day", adding the hashtag #HappyTeachersDay. His remarks quickly drew attention for their unconventional and sharply critical take on education and the traditional teacher-student relationship.



Farah Khan Reveals AR Rahman Made Masakali for Om Shanti Om

Director and choreographer Farah Khan has revealed an interesting piece of Bollywood music history, saying Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman originally created the popular 'Masakali' track for her 2007 film 'Om Shanti Om', rather than Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's 'Delhi-6', where the song eventually appeared.

Farah made the revelation during a conversation with music director Vishal Dadlani at his farmhouse, featured in her YouTube vlogs. The two discussed their decades-long professional association and recalled how the music for 'Om Shanti Om' eventually came together.

Farah said she had initially approached AR Rahman to compose the music for 'Om Shanti Om', starring Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone. Before Vishal-Shekhar came on board, Rahman had already created 'Masakali', although Farah was unsure where the song would fit in the film.

"The first song which Rahman made for Om Shanti Om was Masakali! I don't know where I was going to put it but I love that song and love that word," Farah recalled during the vlog.

She also remembered telling Vishal that she planned to approach Rahman and, if the collaboration did not work out, she would consider Vishal and Shekhar for the project.

Vishal had hoped the arrangement with Rahman would work and suggested that he and Shekhar could assist him on the film. However, the duo ultimately composed the music for 'Om Shanti Om', delivering a soundtrack that became one of the film's major attractions.

During the conversation, Vishal jokingly observed that even if he and Shekhar had not worked on the film, 'Om Shanti Om' would still have had great music. Farah, however, credited the duo for making the film's music "epic".

Vishal described 'Om Shanti Om' as a rare example of traditional, large-scale Bollywood masala musical filmmaking.

He also recalled the elaborate visual treatment of songs such as 'Dhoom Tana', noting that audiences continue to discuss how such sequences were created before the widespread use of artificial intelligence.

"The big, masala music that was in 'Om Shanti Om', is the only one. This is the last one! The traditional masala Bollywood musical is this one," Vishal said.

The revelation adds an unexpected twist to the history of 'Masakali', which eventually became one of the most recognisable songs of 'Delhi-6', released in 2009.

The song featured Abhishek Bachchan and Sonam Kapoor and was composed by AR Rahman for Mehra's film. Its journey from an unused composition for 'Om Shanti Om' to a signature song of 'Delhi-6' highlights the unpredictable path that popular film music can sometimes take.



Nani Marks 18 Years in Cinema

Telugu star Nani has completed 18 years in the film industry as an actor and thanked his fans and audiences for their unwavering love and support. Reflecting on the milestone, Nani said he had never taken their affection for granted and assured them that he never would. Taking to his X timeline, Nani marked the completion of 18 years in cinema with a heartfelt message. "18 years. Officially an adult in cinema. Never took your love for granted. I won't ever," he wrote.

Nani began his acting journey with Ashta Chamma, directed by Mohana Krishna Indraganti, which released on September 5, 2008. Over the years, he has evolved from an actor into one of Telugu cinema's prominent heroes and has also established himself as a producer.

The actor is currently working on director Srikanth Odela's highly anticipated action entertainer The Paradise. Backed by SLV Cinemas, the film is scheduled to hit theatres on September 24. It was initially planned for release on March 26, 2026, before the makers postponed it first to August 21 and later to September 24.

The recently released teaser has heightened expectations around the film. It opens with a voiceover questioning who the place belongs to, followed by Nani's dramatic arrival through an acrobatic stunt. Sporting two plaits and covered in blood, he is shown walking slowly while sipping what appears to be a beverage.

Mohan Babu, who plays the antagonist, is seen addressing the people as "My beloved people of Paradise." The teaser then unfolds with intense action, violence and references to oppression and rebellion. A woman questions whether the government is meant for feudal lords or the people, while another voice calls upon the oppressed community to rise against tyranny.

The teaser concludes with Nani, drenched in blood and carrying a chain made of blades, seated on a pile of bodies while warding off the evil eye. The visuals suggest that The Paradise will be a dark and intense action thriller centred on rebellion against oppression.

The film is expected to release in eight languages: Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, English, Spanish, Bengali, Kannada and Malayalam.

Kamal Haasan Congratulates Bethlehem Kudumba Unit Team



Actor, producer and parliamentarian Kamal Haasan has congratulated the team of director Girish AD's Malayalam blockbuster 'Bethlehem Kudumba Unit', starring Nivin Pauly and Mamitha Baiju in the lead roles. Mythri Movie Makers, which is distributing the film in the Telugu states, shared a video of the core team meeting Kamal Haasan. The production house described the gathering as a special moment for the team following the film's strong performance and its Telugu release. The video shows Kamal Haasan warmly welcoming the team led by producer Fahadh Faasil. The members were seen interacting with the veteran actor before posing for photographs with him. 'Bethlehem Kudumba Unit' has emerged as a

major box-office success, crossing the Rs 200-crore mark worldwide. The film, which released globally on August 21, has quickly developed into a blockbuster, adding to the growing popularity of Malayalam cinema beyond Kerala. The film's success has also prompted its makers to appeal to audiences to protect the theatrical experience. Bhavana Studios, the production house that distributed the film, recently asked viewers not to record or circulate snippets and key scenes from theatres on social media. Nivin Pauly shared the statement on his social media timelines with a request for public attention. Bhavana Studios thanked audiences for the strong response before urging them to avoid recording scenes and sharing them online so that viewers could experience the film's surprises on the big screen. The story of 'Bethlehem Kudumba Unit' was written by Girish AD and Kiran Josey. Ajmal Sabu handled cinematography, while Vishnu Vijay composed the music. Akash Joseph Varghese served as the editor. The film's production began in September last year. Nivin Pauly had earlier described the project as something that would be "very special". Bhavana Studios is a production company partnered by director Dileesh Pothan, actor Fahadh Faasil and scenarist Syam Pushkaran. Its involvement in the film has further connected the project with prominent names from the Malayalam film industry. The meeting with Kamal Haasan comes as the film continues its theatrical run and expands its reach among Telugu-speaking audiences through Mythri Movie Makers. With its strong worldwide collections and growing audience response, 'Bethlehem Kudumba Unit' has become one of the notable Malayalam successes of the year, while Kamal Haasan's appreciation has added another high-profile moment to the film's celebrations.