

**Weather Forecast**

| HYDERABAD          | VIJAYAWADA         | TIRUPATHI          |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| H 35° C<br>L 21° C | H 36° C<br>L 23° C | H 36° C<br>L 23° C |

## AMARAVATI GOING TO SHINE



TPN Kishore Katta | Amaravati

The long-awaited construction of Amaravati, the capital of Andhra Pradesh, is finally set to resume, marking a significant milestone in the state's development. After five years of stagnation under the previous government, the coalition administration has successfully cleared all obstacles and finalized dates between March 12-15 for the official commencement of works.

Since returning to power, the coalition government has prioritized Amaravati's revival, securing crucial support from the central government and international financial institutions. The World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and HUDCO have agreed to provide phased funding of ₹31,000 crore for the capital's development. Additionally, the central government has committed ₹15,000 crore towards the project, ensuring steady financial backing.

Over the past eight months, authorities have been engaged in extensive cleaning and restoration of the neglected capital region, which had suffered from severe deterioration during the previous regime. Reports indicate that due to lack of maintenance, key infrastructure, including roads and buildings, had been affected by water stagnation and structural wear. The coalition government undertook a

large-scale effort to repair and restore these areas, spending crores to improve the region's condition. To ensure the quality and safety of existing structures, the government roped in experts from IIT Hyderabad to assess their durability. Following a thorough evaluation, the experts confirmed that the constructions met quality standards and recommended the continuation of works without concerns over structural integrity. This validation has provided a major boost to the project, allowing the government to resume construction with confidence.

In parallel, the government has initiated the tendering process for new constructions, including a proposed greenfield airport in Amaravati. Consultancy firms are being appointed to determine the most viable location, estimate costs, and prepare a long-term development plan considering projected traffic growth over the next 35 years. With over four years remaining in its tenure, the coalition government is aiming to complete the first phase of Amaravati's construction by 2028. Political analysts believe that achieving this goal could significantly impact the 2029 elections, positioning Amaravati as a key symbol of governance and development. The successful completion of the initial phase is expected to attract private investments and large-



- **Amaravati capital works set to begin this month**
- **Government secures ₹31,000 crore funding for construction**
- **Central government grants additional ₹15,000 crore support**
- **IIT Hyderabad experts confirm structural integrity of buildings**
- **Greenfield airport planned; consultants to finalize location**
- **First phase completion targeted by 2028 elections**
- **Private investments expected to boost Amaravati's development**

### Minsiter Narayana Led By Ministerial Committee Reviews Land Allocations in Amaravati

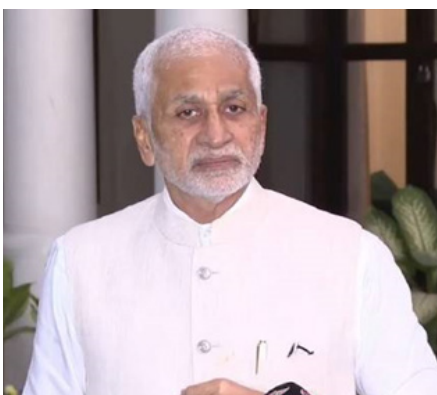
The Committee of Ministers, led by AP Urban Development Minister Narayana, convened to review land allocations in Amaravati, making key decisions regarding institutions that had previously been allotted land. Minister Narayana, addressing the media, confirmed that a total of 131 institutions were granted land in the past, and the government has now finalized its stance on these allocations.

According to Minister Narayana, the government has decided to continue land allocations for 31 institutions. However, the locations of land allocated to two institutions have been modified to better align with Amaravati's development plans. Additionally, changes in location and expansion have been approved for 16 other institutions to optimize land usage. The minister further announced that land allocations to 13 institutions have been canceled, citing non-com-

pliance with development requirements. These decisions, he said, are aimed at ensuring that land in Amaravati is utilized effectively and in line with the city's long-term infrastructure and institutional goals. Criticizing the previous administration, Minister Narayana alleged that the previous government mishandled Amaravati's development, creating confusion through inconsistent policies. He accused the former leadership of obstructing progress with a faction-driven approach and reiterated the current government's commitment to building Amaravati as a world-class capital.

The Committee of Ministers emphasized that all land-related decisions are being made transparently, keeping in mind the vision of Amaravati's planned development and the interests of institutions contributing to its growth.

scale projects, transforming Amaravati into a thriving urban hub. Will the government's vision for Amaravati materialize as planned? The next three years will determine the future of Andhra Pradesh's capital.



### CID Issues Notice to Vijayasai Reddy for Inquiry

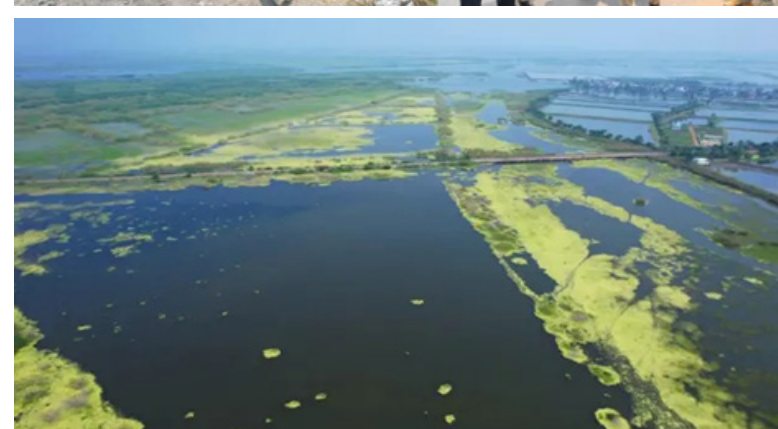
- CID summons former MP Vijayasai Reddy
- Ordered to appear for inquiry on Wednesday
- Case filed under multiple IPC sections

### No Tolerance for Corruption - CM Naidu

- CM reviews revenue, healthcare, temple, and municipal services
- Orders strict action against repeated complaints
- Calls for improving service quality and eliminating corruption

### IS KOLLERU GETS FREEDOM OR NOT?

- Supreme Court orders strict action on Kolleru encroachments.
- State government to submit report by March 19.
- CM Chandrababu reviews measures with key officials.
- Forest officials deployed to identify Kolleru boundaries.
- Drones used for accurate boundary determination process.
- MP Putta Mahesh Yadav consults legal experts in Delhi.



TPN Kishore B.K | Eluru

The Supreme Court has directed the state government to take strict action against encroachments in Kolleru and prevent future violations. The court also emphasized creating awareness among fishermen to ensure their livelihoods remain unaffected. Additionally, measures have been ordered to prevent pollution from garbage and sewage entering the lake. Encroachments blocking the natural water flow and endangering wildlife will not be tolerated. The state government must submit a report on the identified boundaries of Kolleru by March 19.

**Past Encroachments and Govt Response**  
Kolleru, spanning 901 square kilometers, has been severely affected by encroachments, with thousands of acres converted into fish ponds before 2006.



# Loans for Amaravati Capital, Key Announcement by Central Govt

- World Bank, ADB loans for Amaravati
- Exempted from Andhra Pradesh's FRBM limit
- Center to provide additional counterpart funding



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Central government has made a crucial announcement regarding financial support for the development of Amaravati. Union Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary clarified in the Lok Sabha that loans secured from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Amaravati's construction will not be counted under Andhra Pradesh's Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) limit.

Responding to a question from a YSRC MP in Parliament on Monday, Pankaj Chaudhary stated that external loans taken for Amaravati will not impact the

state's borrowing capacity. He further revealed that the Central government has already granted ₹2,500 crore as special assistance for essential infrastructure in Amaravati. Additionally, loans of ₹6,700 crore each from the World Bank and ADB have been sanctioned for the Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Program and the Amaravati Integrated and Sustainable Capital City Development Program.

The Union Minister confirmed that the World Bank loan became effective on January 22 this year, followed by the ADB loan on February 10. However, loan disbursements are yet to commence. As part of its support, the Central government

will provide "counterpart funding" of up to 10% of the total project cost, capped at ₹1,500 crore. The utilization of funds will be monitored under strict guidelines and conditions set during the loan approval process. Following the victory of the NDA coalition in last year's Assembly elections, the state government, led by CM Chandrababu Naidu, has prioritized Amaravati's development along with the Polavaram project. With firm backing from PM Narendra Modi and Union Ministers, the coalition government is making strategic moves to accelerate Andhra Pradesh's progress, correcting the setbacks caused by the previous YSRC regime's three-capital policy.

## Minister Nara Lokesh Launches Free Electric Buses in Mangalagiri

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

State Education, IT, and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh inaugurated free electric bus services in Mangalagiri constituency on Monday. The launch event was held at his Undavalli residence, where he flagged off the buses. Recognizing the commuting difficulties faced by visitors to AIIMS Hospital and Panakala Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple, Minister Lokesh took the initiative to address the issue. Responding to his request, Megha Engineering & Infrastructure Ltd. (MEIL) provided two advanced Olectra 7-meter electric buses worth ₹2.4 crore under their CSR funds. One bus will operate from Mangalagiri Bus Stand to AIIMS via NRI Junction and DGP Office, while the other will run from Mangalagiri Bus Stand to Panakalawamy Temple via NRI Junction. The AIIMS-bound bus will operate from 6 AM to 6 PM, while the Panakala Swamy Temple service will run from 7 AM to 8 PM. Each bus has an 18-passenger capacity and can travel up to 150 km on a single charge.



Equipped with cutting-edge safety features, the buses include digital instrument panels, electronic hydraulic power steering (EHPS), real-time vehicle tracking systems (VTS), reverse park assist systems (RPAS), and other modern amenities. The inauguration event saw the participation of AIIMS Director Shanta Singh, Deputy Director Shashikant, Temple Executive Officer A. Kotireddy, TTD Board Member Tammiseti Janakidevi, Padmasali Corporation Chairman Nandam Abaddiah, and several others.

## IS KOLLERU GETS...

Continued from page 1

These illegal activities disrupted the wild-life conservation zone and operated under political influence. In response, the Supreme Court's Empowered Committee launched "Operation Kolleru" to clear illegal ponds. The drive, led by then-District Collector Lav Agarwal, faced resistance from locals who claimed financial losses. The issue of allocating upper contour lands to the poor has remained unresolved for nearly two decades.

Current Developments and CM's Review Following the latest Supreme Court order, the state government has deployed forest officials to identify Kolleru's boundaries. CM N. Chandrababu Naidu recently reviewed the situation with ministers, MPs, MLAs, and forest officials. He directed a survey to finalize boundaries, raise public awareness, and ensure compliance with court orders. Meanwhile, MP Putta Mahesh Yadav consulted legal experts in Delhi to safeguard the interests of Kolleru residents.

Forest Department's Ongoing Survey In December 2024, the Supreme Court ordered the AP government to eliminate encroachments and finalize Kolleru's boundaries within three months. The hearing was adjourned to March 19, with a status report to be submitted. Following this, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests AK Nayak, Rajahmundry Forest Officer BNN Murthy, and other officials began surveying the region. Using drones, they are verifying boundaries in Kalakurru, Pulaparru, Gudivakalanka, Madhavapuram, and Pathikollalam. While some previous boundary markings are intact, others require reassessment. Senior officials have approached the Supreme Court to report challenges in finalizing the boundaries.

As illegal pond removals continue and legal proceedings advance, Kolleru residents remain anxious about the potential impact of these measures.

## MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju Distributes ₹1 Crore CMRF Aid in Duddukur



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju continues his efforts to support people in need through the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). Monday, he participated in the CMRF cheque distribution program in Duddukur village of Devarapalli mandal, extending financial assistance to those facing medical emergencies and other critical needs. During the event, a total of ₹1,01,18,474 was distributed among 94 beneficiaries, providing crucial aid to those in distress. This initiative is part of the MLA's ongoing commitment to ensuring that government welfare schemes reach the people effectively. Over the past eight months, MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju has facilitated the distribution of CMRF cheques amounting to ₹3 crore, benefiting around 314 individuals. Known for his active involvement in public welfare, MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju has been a strong advocate for health and financial support programs in his constituency. His consistent efforts in delivering aid through CMRF reflect his dedication to the well-being of his people. Through his leadership, many families burdened by medical expenses and emergencies have received timely assistance, reinforcing his reputation as a leader who prioritizes the needs of the common people.



## "Pithapuram is Pawan Kalyan's Stronghold, Varma's Issue is TDP's Internal Matter"

TPN Correspondent | Pithapuram

Janasena PAC Chairman and Minister Nadendla Manohar addressed concerns regarding former Pithapuram TDP MLA SVSN Varma, who was not allotted an MLC ticket. Responding to media queries, Nadendla emphasized that Varma is a seasoned politician with a long political journey, acknowledging the challenges they have collectively faced in the past. He clarified that the allocation of positions is a decision made by the respective party leaderships, and Varma's issue is an internal matter of the TDP. Nadendla also acknowledged Varma's support for Pawan Kalyan in the last elections and stated that the party holds him in high regard, wishing that he receives due recognition. Praising Pawan Kalyan's leadership, Nadendla noted that the Jana Sena chief prioritizes offering opportunities to others rather than securing positions for himself.

On the speculation surrounding Pendem Dorababu's recent entry into Jana Sena, Nadendla dismissed the claims that he was brought in to counter Varma. He clarified that Dorababu had expressed his interest in joining the party before the elections but could not do so due to various reasons.

## "Special Focus on Rayalaseema Development"



TPN Correspondent | West Godavari

State Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu emphasized the government's commitment to accelerating irrigation projects and strengthening water resources in Rayalaseema. Speaking to the media during his visit to West Godavari, Minister Nimmala stated that the Polavaram left canal works are progressing rapidly, aiming for completion by June this year to provide irrigation water to North Andhra. He also assured that the Veligonda project would be completed by June 2026. Highlighting ongoing projects, the Minister noted that the Handri Niva project, which will cover 700 km and transform Rayalaseema into a fertile region, is being executed swiftly. Additionally, ₹37.63 crore has been sanctioned for 99 irrigation works in Palakollu constituency.

Key initiatives include ₹14 crore for cleaning the Damayaparthi river, which affects ten wards in Palakollu town, and ₹8 crore for strengthening the Godavari river in Yelamanchili mandal. Another ₹16 crore has been allocated for sewer cleaning across the constituency.

## CID Issues Notice to Vijayasai Reddy for Inquiry

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

The CID police have issued a notice to former MP and YSRC leader Vijayasai Reddy, summoning him for an inquiry. The notice directs him to appear before the CID officials at 11 AM on Wednesday.

The notices, issued by the Mangalagiri CID police, cite various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 506 (criminal intimidation), 384 (extortion), 420 (cheating), 109 (abetment), 467 (forgery), 120(B) (criminal conspiracy), and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of a common intention).

According to sources, the CID Superintendent of Police (SP) personally served the notices to Vijayasai Reddy. The investigation is reportedly based on a complaint filed by some individuals from Hyderabad. With this development, political circles are closely watching how Vijayasai Reddy and the YSRC will respond to the CID's move.

## No Tolerance for Corruption - CM Naidu

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu conducted a review meeting on Monday, assessing the performance of various government departments and the implementation of state welfare programs. As part of his initiative to ensure effective governance, the CM is reviewing four departments every week, focusing on improving public service delivery and addressing citizens' concerns.

This week, the review covered revenue services, hospitals, temple administration, and municipal departments. CM Chandrababu instructed officials to closely monitor these sectors, identify recurring complaints, and take corrective actions. He stressed that accountability must be upheld and that necessary changes should be made in departments where inefficiencies persist.

To improve the quality of services, the CM directed officials to counsel lower-level employees and officers, ensuring that they understand their responsibilities in delivering efficient public services. He emphasized that better training and supervision would enhance overall service standards and public satisfaction.

## Two More Greenfield International Airports for AP

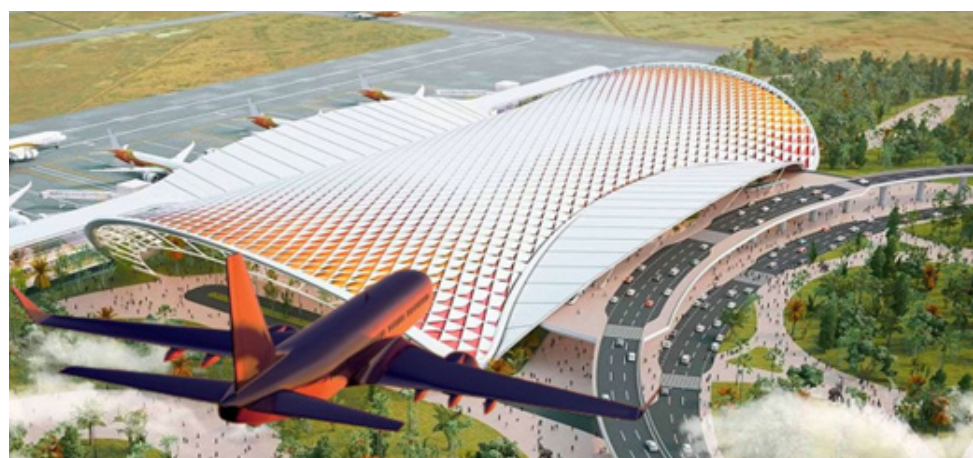
- Greenfield airports planned in Amaravati and Srikakulam
- APADC invites tenders for feasibility studies
- Plans to boost aviation and industrial growth

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government has made a significant move to expand aviation infrastructure in the state by planning two new greenfield international airports in Amaravati and Srikakulam districts. The Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation (APADC) has invited tenders to appoint consultants for conducting technical and economic feasibility studies for these projects. The tender submission deadline is March 21, with technical bids set to open

on March 24, followed by financial bids on March 27. The selected consultancy firm will identify a suitable location for Amaravati's airport, while the Srikakulam airport is planned to be built 70 km northeast of Srikakulam city, near the seashore. Previously, central teams inspected lands in Mandasa and Vajrapukotturu mandals for this purpose.

The consultants will analyze key technical and financial aspects, conduct environmental and social impact assessments, and propose a comprehensive project plan. They will develop a master plan covering a 35-year horizon, sug-



gesting the number of runways, taxiways, passenger and cargo terminals, and revenue generation models, including Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and Joint Venture approaches. A market demand survey will also assess the potential for developing avi-

ation hubs and fostering aerospace and defense industries. If successfully implemented, these airports will significantly enhance connectivity, boost trade and industry, and position Andhra Pradesh as a key player in the international aviation sector.



## Home Minister Anitha Criticizes Jagan's Rule at Upamaka Kalyanotsavam



- **Upamaka Venkateswara Swamy Kalyanotsavam held with grandeur**
- **Minister Anitha slams previous government for neglecting devotees**
- **Assures improved facilities for pilgrims under the current administration**

**TPN Correspondent | Anakapalle**

Home Minister Vangalapati Anitha participated in the grand annual Kalyanotsavam of Upamaka Sri Kalki Venkateswara Swamy and extended her prayers for the well-being of the people. She presented silk robes to the deity and took darshan, following temple traditions.

Speaking to the media, Minister Anitha criticized the previous YSRCP government, stating that it failed to provide even basic facilities for devotees. She expressed anger over the negligence towards pilgrim safety and convenience under the previous administration. She assured that the current government is committed to ensuring a smooth and comfortable ex-

perience for devotees.

During her visit, Minister Anitha performed pradakshina, participated in special pujas, and received the Lord's tirtha and prasadam from Vedic scholars. She also felicitated Bharatanatyam artists and arranged for the distribution of buttermilk and calendars at the temple through her financial support.

She emphasized that devotees have been arriving since early morning to seek blessings and that this year's Kalyanotsavam is being conducted with better arrangements. She highlighted that prasadam from Tirumala Tirupati Swamy is also available at Upamaka and that food and buttermilk facilities have been arranged to cater to visiting devotees.

## TIDCO Chairman Ravinaidu Questions YSRCP's Stance TDP Slams Jagan Over YSRCP's 'Yuvatha Poru' Protest



**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**

TIDCO Chairman Ravinaidu has launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy and the YSRCP over their recent 'Yuvatha Poru' protest. He accused Jagan of misleading students after having failed them during his tenure.

Ravinaidu highlighted that the previous YSRCP government left behind massive unpaid dues, in-

cluding Rs. 2,832 crore for fee reimbursement, Rs. 989 crore for housing allowances, and Rs. 450 crore for postgraduate fee reimbursement. He alleged that Jagan's administration looted public funds while neglecting students and youth.

"You cheated the students by not paying their education and housing allowances. Didn't you cancel the fee reimbursement scheme that your father YSR introduced? You also scrapped scholarships and deceived students in the name of 'Vidya Deevana' and 'Vasathi Deevana,'" he remarked.

He ridiculed Jagan for now calling for justice for students, stating that Education Minister Nara Lokesh had already cleared Rs. 780 crore in dues that were long overdue. He blamed Jagan for pushing

two lakh students into distress by withholding hall tickets and certificates.

"Jagan and his batch failed miserably in the past with 'Porubata.' Now, after ruining students' futures, they have come back shamelessly with another protest," he said.

Ravinaidu challenged YSRCP leaders to confront Jagan over why student dues were not paid and dared them to stage their protest outside Jagan's Tadepalli residence instead. He also accused Jagan of bringing GO No. 77 and later canceling it opportunistically.

"The coalition government is sincerely working for students' futures. It's time for students and youth to think critically and reject Jagan's deceptive politics," he added.

## Somu Veerraju Named BJP MLC Candidate in AP

- **BJP fields Somu Veerraju for MLA quota MLC seat**
- **Veerraju expresses gratitude to PM Modi, BJP leadership**
- **Alliance candidates to file nominations on monday**

**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**

Senior BJP leader and former state president Somu Veerraju has been nominated as the party's candidate for the MLA quota MLC elections in Andhra Pradesh. The BJP high command officially announced his name for the seat allotted to the party as part of the NDA alliance.

Expressing his gratitude, Veerraju thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Amit Shah, BJP National President JP Nadda, and the party leadership for this opportunity. He stated that he is committed to working for the welfare of the people and strengthening the BJP in Andhra Pradesh under the guidance of the central leadership.

The upcoming elections will see five MLA quota MLC seats in Andhra Pradesh becoming vacant. As per the NDA alliance agreement, the TDP will contest three seats, while Jana Sena and BJP will con-



test one seat each. The TDP has fielded Beda Ravichandra, Kavali Greeshma, and BT Naidu, while Jana Sena has nominated Nagababu.

All alliance candidates are filing their nominations on Monday. The polling for these five MLC seats will be conducted on March 20, with the counting of votes taking place on the same day.

## Former Pithapuram MLA Varma Reacts to MLC Post Omission

- **Varma says he remains committed despite missing MLC post**
- **Alliance leaders in East Godavari express disappointment**
- **CM Chandrababu assures future opportunities for aspirants**

**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**

Former Pithapuram MLA Varma stated that he remains undeterred despite not securing the MLC post. Speaking to the media in Kakinada on Monday, he emphasized his unwavering 23-year association with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. He acknowledged that certain political calculations prevented his selection this time but expressed confidence that justice would be done in the future. He reiterated his commitment to serving the people of Pithapuram and working for the party.

However, disappointment looms among alliance leaders in the joint East Godavari district. Many aspirants, particularly from the TDP, had high expectations for an MLC seat under the MLA quota. Despite hopes that at least one or two seats would be allocated to the region, the final distribution left them empty-handed. With only five MLC vacancies in the state, the TDP secured three seats, while the Jana Sena and BJP each received one.

Several leaders, including former MLAs Varma, Burugupalli Seshu Rao, and former minister KS Jawahar, were reportedly considered but did not make the final list. Former MLC Reddy Subrahmanyam from Konaseema was also among the aspirants. The increased competition for limited



seats posed a challenge for the high command, leading to disappointment among many party leaders.

CM Chandrababu Naidu addressed the situation by instructing TDP state president Palla Srinivas to assure the affected leaders that future MLC vacancies would be considered. It is reported that a significant number of seats will open in 2027, offering another opportunity for those who missed out this time.

Meanwhile, speculation is rife regarding former Finance Minister Yanamala Ramakrishnudu's next move, as his MLC term ends on the 29th of this month. Reports suggest he may be given a key position, potentially a Rajya Sabha seat or a gubernatorial post. The recent construction of a grand entrance and bunker at his residence in Thetagantha, Tuni constituency, has fueled speculation about his political future.

## KA Paul Criticizes Pawan Kalyan Over MLC Ticket Allocation

**TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh**

Praja Shanti Party president KA Paul has made sharp remarks regarding the MLC ticket allocation, particularly targeting Pithapuram TDP in-charge SVSN Varma. Reacting to Varma not receiving the MLC ticket, Paul claimed that he had already foreseen this outcome and accused both Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan of failing to keep their word.

KA Paul alleged that Pawan Kalyan prioritized his family's interests by ensuring the MLC seat went to his elder brother, Nagababu. He recounted how, during the previous election, he had advised Varma to support Pawan Kalyan rather than contest independently, assuring him that he would be rewarded with an MLC post. However, he criticized Varma for continuing to believe in Janasena and TDP leadership.

Taking a swipe at former YSRCP MLA Dorababu, who recently joined Janasena, Paul questioned the wisdom of those aligning with the party. He accused Pawan Kalyan and Chiranjeevi of exploiting politics for financial gain, citing the formation of the

Praja Rajyam Party in 2008 and alleging that it was used to amass wealth, leading to some people even taking extreme steps. Paul further claimed that Janasena is a mere extension of the same political strategy, predicting that they would once again collect massive funds under the guise of public service. "No intelligent person will join that party; only fools will," he remarked.



## MLA Buchepalli Sivaprasad Reddy Criticizes Govt Over Fee Reimbursement

**TPN Correspondent | Prakasam Dist**

MLA and party district president Buchepalli Sivaprasad Reddy has strongly criticized Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, accusing his government of weakening the fee reimbursement scheme and failing to address key issues affecting students. He alleged that due to delays in reimbursements, students are facing harassment from college managements, creating undue stress on their education and financial stability.

Speaking to the media, Sivaprasad Reddy stated that the state budget has completely ignored unemployed youth, offering no benefits or job opportunities. He claimed that while the fee reimbursement scheme was initially introduced by the late Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy and later expanded by Jagan Mohan Red-



dy, the current government is attempting to dilute the program, leaving thousands of students in distress.

To protest against the government's failure in addressing this issue, Sivaprasad Reddy announced a large-scale rally at the Ongole Collectorate on March 12. The protest will be organized under the leadership of the Vice-Chairman for Fee Reimbursement, with students, parents, and concerned citizens expected to participate. He called upon the

government to immediately clear pending fee dues and ensure that students are not burdened due to administrative lapses.

In addition to student-related issues, Sivaprasad Reddy also accused Chandrababu Naidu of lacking commitment to the long-pending Veligonda project. He claimed that despite repeated assurances, no significant progress has been made, depriving the people of Prakasam district of crucial irrigation and drinking water facilities.



# 10 Arrested in B.Ed Question Paper Leak

- Key accused arrested in Pedakakani
- Question paper leaked via social media
- SP Satish Kumar presents case details



TPN Correspondent | Guntur

The Pedakakani police have arrested the accused in connection with the B.Ed question paper leak case at Acharya Nagarjuna University. Guntur SP Satish Kumar presented the accused before the media at his office and revealed the details of the investigation.

question paper through social media platforms. The accused allegedly conspired to distribute the paper before the examination, compromising the fairness of the academic process. During the investigation, the police uncovered that the question paper was leaked for financial gain, with students and other intermediaries being involved in the distribution network. Authorities have arrested a total of 10 individuals in connection with the case. Further investigation is underway to

identify any additional persons involved in the scandal. SP Satish Kumar assured that strict action would be taken against all those responsible for the leak. He emphasized the importance of safeguarding the integrity of examinations and warned that stringent measures would be implemented to prevent

such incidents in the future. The case has raised serious concerns about the security of academic institutions and the need for stricter monitoring of examination procedures. Law enforcement agencies are working closely with university officials to prevent similar leaks from occurring again.

# 135 Complaints Addressed at Public Issues Resolution Platform

- Weekly grievance program held at Police Commissioner's Office
- DCP Udayarani IPS personally reviews complaints
- Immediate action directed for speedy resolution

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The "Public Issues Resolution Platform" program was conducted at the N.T.R. District Police Commissioner's Office on Monday, addressing 135 complaints from the public. The initiative, held every Monday from 10 AM to 1 PM, aims to ensure the prompt resolution of grievances.



On 10.03.2025, DCP A.B.T.S. Udayarani IPS led the grievance redressal session, personally interacting with the complainants. Special attention was given to disabled and elderly individuals, with direct intervention to address their concerns. The DCP also instructed Station House Officers (SHOs) over the phone to take immediate action on various issues. Among the complaints received,

30 were related to cash transactions, 25 involved family disputes, 18 pertained to crimes against women, 22 were land-related disputes, and 13 were cases of fraud. Additionally, 3 complaints were linked to thefts, 6 involved altercations, and 18 concerned other

minor disputes and incidents. DCP Udayarani IPS, along with other officers and staff, played a key role in resolving these issues. The Police Department reiterated its commitment to providing swift justice through such public grievance programs.

# Justice for Nemali Temple Land Donors' Heirs?

- Focus on Nemali Venugopala Swamy Kalyana Mahotsavam on March 14
- Heirs of temple land donors facing alleged neglect
- Public and Hindu groups watching coalition government's response

TPN Correspondent | NTR Dist

As the Kalyana Mahotsavam of Nemali Venugopala Swamy approaches on March 14, widespread attention is on whether justice will be served to the heirs of the temple's land donors. The temple, a revered shrine in Thiruvur constituency, has long upheld the tradition of honoring these families, regardless of changes in government.



However, concerns have arisen over the conduct of the newly appointed endowment officer, who is allegedly sidelining the heirs. This has drawn criticism, especially as AP Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and Jana Sena are actively advocating for Sanatana Dharma. Many see the officer's actions as a violation of temple traditions, causing distress among the donor families.

Given the coalition government's emphasis on Hindu traditions, there is growing public expectation that the administration will act in favor of the heirs by ensuring their rightful temple honors. The issue has also gained significance amid ongoing tensions in the Hindu community, following incidents such as the Rayachoti controversy and the recent Peacock temple issue.

Analysts suggest that prompt action by coalition leaders could prevent further discontent. Meanwhile, the people of Thiruvur constituency keenly observe how BJP leaders and Hindu organizations will respond to the matter.

# MLA Bojjala Raises Key Issues in Assembly



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati Srikalahasti MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy highlighted the urgent need for an underground drainage system in Srikalahasti,

a major pilgrimage town, during the Assembly session on Monday. He urged the government to take immediate steps to implement the project, emphasizing that sewer maintenance was completely neglected under the previous YCP regime. He also requested the sanctioning of funds for these works.

Additionally, the MLA pointed out the deteriorating condition of revenue offices in the constituency. He stated that the Thottambedu Tahsildar office has become dilapidated, with tiles falling from the ceiling and severe leaks during rainfall. The Renigunta revenue office is also in poor condition, with broken windows, malfunctioning doors, and damaged infrastructure, causing concerns for employees working in unsafe environments. Bojjala further stressed that the Srikalahasti Municipal Council, with a population exceeding one lakh, and the rural mandal, with over 85,000 people, currently share a single Tahsildar office. He demanded the establishment of separate offices for both urban and rural areas to improve administrative efficiency. The MLA also highlighted the lack of basic facilities at the RDO office, making it difficult for the public to access services. He requested the government to allocate funds for the renovation of these crucial revenue offices. Revenue employees expressed their gratitude for the MLA's efforts in bringing these issues to the government's attention.

# VHP Stages Protest in Krishna District Over Attacks on Hindu Pilgrims

- VHP organizes protest at Krishna District Collectorate
- Condemns attacks on Hindu pilgrims and temples
- Delegation submits memorandum to Joint Collector



TPN Correspondent | Krishna Dist

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) of Krishna District staged a massive protest rally on Monday, March 10, in front of the district Collectorate, condemning the rising attacks on Hindu pilgrims and temples across Andhra Pradesh.

The protest was triggered by a series of incidents that have raised serious concerns among the Hindu community. One of the most alarming cases occurred in Rayachoti, Kadapa district, where pilgrims attending the Veerabadrasmami festival were attacked. The Veerabadrasmami festival is a significant religious event, drawing thousands of devotees, and the violence during such an occasion has heightened fears about the security of Hindu religious gatherings.

ing stronger measures to protect Hindu religious sites and devotees.

The protest was led by VHP District Prabhari (in-charge) PVS Naidu, who called for immediate government intervention to prevent further attacks. Following the demonstration, Naidu, along with a delegation of VHP representatives, met Joint Collector Geetanjali Sharma and submitted a memorandum detailing their concerns. The delegation urged authorities to take stringent action against the perpetrators and implement effective security measures to safeguard Hindu pilgrims and temples.

The leaders emphasized the need for collaborative efforts between the government and community organizations to maintain peace and security. BJP and RSS functionaries also participated in the rally, showing their support. District VHP President Dr. Buragadda Srinadh thanked all those who joined the protest, reinforcing their commitment to protecting Hindu religious rights.

The protest in Krishna District witnessed a large turnout, with participants demand-

# Supreme Court Judge Justice Bhatti Visits Sri Kanaka Durga Temple

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Supreme Court Judge Justice Sarasa Venkata Narayana Bhatti, along with his family, visited Sri Kanaka Durgamma temple at Indrakiladri on Monday morning and had darshan of the presiding deity.

Upon his arrival, temple scholars and officials extended a warm welcome to the Justice. Special arrangements were made for the visit, ensuring a smooth darshan experience. After offering prayers, Vedic scholars performed a blessing ceremony, invoking divine grace upon the visiting dignitary and his family.

As a token of reverence, the temple authorities presented Justice Bhatti with prasada and a sacred portrait of Sri Kanaka Durga. The Justice expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality and divine experience at the revered temple.

Temple officials emphasized the significance of such visits by prominent personalities, stating that they help in spreading the temple's spiritual and cultural heritage. The serene and divine atmosphere at Indrakiladri, home to the powerful goddess, continues to attract devotees from all walks of life.



# Vissannapet Police Solve Two Key Cases Within 24 Hours

TPN Correspondent | NTR Dist

On the instructions of the Commissioner of Police and under the guidance of DCP Rural and ACP Mylavaram, Vissannapet Police successfully solved two important cases within 24 hours using advanced technology.

Senior officials commended the sincere efforts of the Vissannapet Police in solving both cases efficiently. The police team's dedication and use of technology played a crucial role in these breakthroughs.

In the first case, a fatal hit-and-run accident occurred on the outskirts of Nuzvid-Vissannapet Road during nighttime. By analyzing CCTV footage, the police identified the crime vehicle and apprehended the accused, ensuring justice for the victim.

In the second case, a long-pending missing person report (Cr No. 546/21) at Vissannapet Police Station was resolved using the AP-COPS system. A name search helped trace the missing person's phone number, leading to his successful recovery and reunion





# Historic Arrangements for Jana Sena Formation Day in Pithapuram



**TPN Correspondent | Pithapuram**  
All eyes are on Pithapuram as the Jana Sena Party, led by AP Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, prepares to celebrate its 11th Formation Day on March 14. This event, the first after the party came to power, is set to be held in the presence of the people of Pithapuram, who elected Pawan Kalyan as their MLA. The party high command has intensified preparations to make the celebrations historic, with Chitrada in Pithapuram chosen as the venue.

Massive Preparations Underway  
Jana Sena leaders, under the supervision of Minister and Political Affairs Committee Chairman Nadendla Manohar, are actively involved in organizing the event. Kakinada MP Udaya Srinivas is closely monitoring every detail, ensuring flawless arrangements. Ministers, MLAs, and grassroots workers are participating enthusiastically, creating a vibrant and festive atmosphere across Pithapuram. Excitement Among Party Workers  
For the past week, Jana Sena flex banners

and flags have adorned both Godavari districts, reflecting the growing enthusiasm for the event. The Chitrada venue has become a hub of activity, with leaders and party workers engaged in preparations. Given Jana Sena's 100% strike rate in the elections and Pawan Kalyan's rise as Deputy CM, expectations are soaring, with speculations that over 10 lakh people may attend. Advanced Monitoring & Door-to-Door Invitations  
To ensure smooth execution, a dedicated control room has been set up in Pithapuram under the leadership of MP Uday Srinivas and Minister Nadendla Manohar. Additionally, the party's Veera Mahila wing has launched a special campaign, distributing invitation cards with dot stickers to women through a door-to-door initiative. The party aims to make this event a historic and unforgettable gathering.



# Blind Woman Anju Draws Portrait of Collector



- Visually impaired artist surprises everyone with her talent
- Collector Vetriselvi impressed by the heartfelt gesture
- Anju secures a job at a government-organized fair

**TPN Kishore B.K | Eluru**  
In an inspiring display of talent, Bathula Anju, a visually impaired woman, astonished everyone by drawing a portrait of Eluru District Collector K. Vetriselvi as a token of gratitude. Anju, who secured a job through the district's job fair for differently-abled individuals, expressed her happiness by creating a detailed pencil sketch of the collector. The job fair, held at the Eluru YTC on January 29, was organized under the Andhra Pradesh Government Skill and Vocational Training Institute to provide

employment opportunities to educated differently-abled individuals. Overwhelmed with joy at securing employment, Anju gifted the portrait to Collector Vetriselvi, who was deeply moved by the gesture. The Collector, who also unveiled a biography book at the Collectorate on Monday, personally congratulated Anju for her remarkable skill and dedication. Many officials and attendees at the event also praised Anju for her incredible talent and perseverance, proving that determination and hard work can overcome any obstacle.

# Nellore Collectorate Introduces Free Meals for Petitioners Initiative by District Collector O. Anand



addition of free food, the district administration has taken another step in supporting the petitioners. Every Monday, around 400-500 people visit the public grievance redressal forum at the Collectorate, seeking solutions to various issues, including land disputes, family problems, financial hardships, and elderly care. Many of them struggle with transportation costs and often cannot afford meals during their visit. Recognizing their difficulties, the district administration arranged free meals, ensuring that no petitioner leaves hungry. The petitioners expressed their gratitude for the thoughtful gesture, appreciating the efforts of District Collector O. Anand and other officials for not only listening to their concerns but also providing them with a meal.

**TPN Correspondent | Nellore**  
Nellore District Collector O. Anand has taken a special initiative to provide free meals to petitioners visiting the Collectorate to address their grievances. On Monday, food arrangements were made for the petitioners, with meals supplied by Subhojanam, the provider for Anna canteens. The food was brought in a Collectorate van and served to all visitors. The petitioners were provided a nutritious meal consisting of rice, curry, lentils, curd, and sweets. Drinking water and medical facilities were already available at the Collectorate, and now, with the

# Massive Turnout Expected for Jana Sena Formation Day in Pithapuram



**TPN Correspondent | Mandapeta**  
Jana Sena party Mandapeta constituency in-charge Vegulla Leelakrishna has called for a massive gathering at the party's Formation Day meeting in Pithapuram on March 14, likening it to the Maha Kumbh Mela in Uttar Pradesh. Addressing the Mandapeta constituency preparatory meeting at Sri Surya Convention Hall on Monday, he urged party workers from every village to ensure large participation. Amalapuram Parliament Constituency Coordinator Bandaru Srinivas, Assembly Action Constituency Coordinators Gangarapu Ramdas Chowdhury, and Tadi Mohan Kumar attended as chief guests.

Leelakrishna welcomed them with shawls and garlands before releasing the official poster for Hello Mandapeta, Chalo Pithapuram Aavirbhava Sabha. He emphasized that buses have been arranged from Mandapeta for easy travel, along with food provisions to avoid any inconvenience for attendees. He also directed Jana Sena leaders at the village level to conduct preparatory meetings to ensure maximum participation. Leelakrishna, who is part of the Publicity and Decoration Committee for the event, assured that all arrangements are being closely monitored to make the meeting a historic success. Several Jana Sena leaders, including Mandapeta Town President Namala Chandra Rao, District Chief Secretary Sarakula Abbulu, and Mandapeta Mandal President Kunche Durga Prasad, participated in the event.

# 20 Years Rigorous Imprisonment for Accused in Kidnapping & POC SO Case

**TPN Narasimhulu | Parvathipuram Manyam**  
The Special POC SO Court, Vizianagaram, presided over by Judge Smt. K. Nagamani, has sentenced Korada Rama Rao to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of ₹13,000 in a kidnapping and POC SO case registered at Komarada Police Station, Parvathipuram Manyam District, in 2023. The verdict was announced on March 10, according to District SP Shri S.V. Madhav Reddy, IPS. According to the details, the victim, a resident of Vikramapuram village, Komarada Mandal, was waiting at her school bus stop when the accused lured her into his cart and took her to Rayagada and then to Vijayawada. He confined her at an acquaintance's house and sexually assaulted her. Later, fearing consequences, the accused brought the victim back and left her near his house. Following a complaint, Crime No. 86/2023 was registered under Sections 363, 376, 354(D) IPC and Sections 5(1) r/w 6 of the POC SO Act. The case was investigated by DSP Subhash, following which the charge sheet was filed with solid evidence. Special Public Prosecutor Khajana Rao effectively argued the case,



leading to the conviction. Komarada SI Neelakantha, Court ASI Varahala Raju, and witnesses played a crucial role in the proceedings. SP S.V. Madhav Reddy congratulated Special Public Prosecutor Khajana Rao, Investigation Officer DSP Subhash, then Komarada SI Jagadish Naidu, current SI Neelakantha, and Court ASI Varahala Raju for their efforts in ensuring justice in this case.

# DNR College to Host Vikasith Bharat Youth Parliament-2025 - Collector Nagarani



**TPN Correspondent | West Godavari**  
West Godavari District Collector C. Nagarani announced that DNR College has been selected as the nodal institution to organize the West Godavari and Eluru District Level Vikasith Bharat Youth Parliament-2025. As part of the initiative, a wall magazine related to the event was unveiled. NSS Program Officers S. Anil Dev, K. Somaiya, E. Bharat Raju, and PDR Satish participated in

the event. Youth aged 18 to 25 years from West Godavari and Eluru districts are eligible to participate. Interested candidates must register on mybharat.gov.in, selecting West Godavari district, and upload a one-minute video on the topic "What does Viksit Bharat mean to you?" in any Constitution-recognized language. A total of 150 participants will be shortlisted for the district-level competition at DNR College, where 10 winners will be selected for the state-level round. The last date for registration is March 16th (until 11:59 PM). For registration assistance, contact 8179179899 or 9441388058 before 4:30 PM.

# Anganwadi Workers Stage Dharna in Srikakulam Demanding Wage Hike

**TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam**  
The AP Anganwadi Workers & Helpers Union (CITU) staged a massive dharna at the Srikakulam Collector's office on Monday, demanding that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu make an announcement in the Assembly regarding wage hikes for Anganwadi workers. The protest was led by CITU District President C.H. Amman Naidu, General Secretary P. Tejeswara Rao, and Union District President K. Kalyani. Protesters first took out a demonstration from Vambe Colony Junction before gathering at the Collector's office. Speaking at the protest, union leaders accused the state government of failing to fulfill promises made during the elections, stating that Anganwadi wages have not been increased in the past five years. They criticized the government for reissuing an old G.O. on International Women's Day instead of implementing the long-pending demands. The leaders also condemned the crackdown on peaceful protests, stating that house ar-



rests, threats, and detentions were imposed on Anganwadi workers participating in Chalo Vijayawada protests. They reminded that TDP leaders had supported their 42-day strike before the elections but have remained silent after coming to power. **Their key demands include:**  
• Fixing a minimum wage of ₹26,000 per month.  
• Implementing gratuity as per the Supreme Court verdict.  
• Issuing a G.O. to convert mini Anganwadi centers into main centers.  
• Enforcing agreements made during the 42-day strike. Union leaders K. Sujatha, K. Hemalatha, K. Lakshmi, Madhavi, Chandramouli, P. Bhulakshmi, T. Rajeshwari, Appamma, Lalitha, E. Appalannarsamma, and K. Jyothi participated in the dharna, urging the government to immediately address their demands.

# Urgent Request for Road Repair in Sathyavedu Constituency

**TPN C. Sekhar | Sathyavedu**  
The road connecting Pallamala Cross (Chennai-Srikalahasti main road) to Putheri village in B N Kandriga Mandal, Tirupati District, has become nearly impassable due to its deplorable condition, causing immense hardship for the residents. This stretch, falling under the Sathyavedu constituency, has large potholes and extensive damage, making it dangerous for both pedestrians and vehicles. Due to the hazardous road conditions, APSRTC has completely halted bus services from the Sathyavedu depot, citing the road's unworthiness

for transportation. As a result, students, daily wage workers, and other residents are facing severe difficulties due to the lack of public transport. Several villages, including Kothapalem, Alathuru, Rithu Suramala, Pelletivari Kandriga, Parlla Palli, and Putheri, have been significantly impacted, with no direct transportation available from Sathyavedu. Residents have urged authorities to either approve the construction of a new road by demolishing the existing damaged stretch or initiate immediate temporary patchwork to provide relief.





## Regulating Speech

# Balancing Accountability and Free Expression

### The Point Desk

The debate over free speech and state intervention has intensified in India, particularly in the digital space. The recent controversy involving Ranveer Allahbadia and Samay Raina highlights the complex relationship between public outrage, legal interpretation, and regulatory oversight. While offensive remarks deserve criticism, the question remains—should they be treated as crimes?

### The State's Response: Crime or Control?

Governments across the world often respond to legal ambiguities with overreach rather than measured regulation. Instead of clarifying existing laws, they resort to preemptive action, ensuring that potential disorder is controlled before it manifests. This tendency stems from a fundamental fear—not of crime itself, but of losing authority over unpredictable situations.

This pattern is evident in how authorities reacted to the Allahbadia-Raina episode. Multiple FIRs were lodged in different states under laws related to obscenity, prompting Allahbadia to seek legal relief. The Supreme Court granted him interim protection but imposed strict conditions, including the surrender of his passport. While the court's intervention prevented excessive legal harassment, its remarks during the hearing reflected a moralistic stance rather than a neutral legal evaluation.

### Judiciary's Role: Upholding Law or Enforcing Morality?

The Supreme Court's sharp criticism of Allahbadia's statements extended beyond legal scrutiny, veering into subjective condemnation. Terms like "perverted mind" and "societal shame" framed the issue in moral



rather than constitutional terms. This raises concerns about the judiciary's role—should it adjudicate based on clear legal principles or enforce societal norms through personal interpretations?

Indian free speech jurisprudence has long emphasized that restrictions must align with Article 19(2) of the Constitution, which permits limitations only on specific grounds like public order, defamation, and incitement to violence. If speech does not clearly violate these principles, treating it as a criminal offense risks creating a precedent where subjective morality dictates legal outcomes.

### Regulating Digital Content: The Need for a Balanced Approach

The controversy has reignited discussions on digital content regulations, with lawmakers calling for stricter controls on online speech. However, heavy-handed regulation risks stifling creativity, innovation, and open discourse. Instead, a structured yet flexible approach can ensure accountability without suppressing expression.

### 1. Platform Responsibility Without Excessive Criminalization

Social media platforms should en-

force content policies aligned with Indian laws but retain some intermediary protections if they adhere to best practices. A system of graded accountability—where platforms are incentivized to self-regulate rather than penalized excessively—can be more effective.

### 2. Transparent and Reviewable Content Moderation

Platforms should establish clear, predictable takedown policies with user appeal mechanisms. Instead of arbitrary removals, an independent review process can prevent unfair censorship.

### 3. A Non-Intrusive Regulatory Body

A neutral industry-led body, similar to Ofcom in the UK, can oversee digital content moderation without direct government intervention. Its role should focus on guidance, compliance monitoring, and dispute resolution rather than enforcement. Regulating digital speech requires a nuanced approach—one that ensures accountability without enabling state overreach. A framework based on transparency, platform responsibility, and measured intervention will help strike the right balance between free expression and social accountability.

## Empowering Women Legislatively Is A Must

March 8th, International Women's Day, is a strong reminder of the need to support women's rights and empowerment in our society. Under the leadership of Mr. Revanth Reddy, the Telangana Government has launched several schemes to uplift women. Adding to these efforts, the recent passage of the Women's Reservation Bill 2023, is a significant step forward for gender equality in India.

The bill, approved by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, reserves one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the Delhi Assembly for women. It also includes seats reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). This important legislation aims to increase women's representation in politics, giving them a bigger role in shaping the nation's future. The Women's Reservation Bill 2023, also known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, has been passed by both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, marking a historic step towards gender equality in India. The bill, which is the 128th Constitutional Amendment, reserves one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the Delhi Assembly for women. It also applies to seats reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), promising a significant boost to women's representation in Indian politics.

Currently, women make up only 15.2% of the Lok Sabha and 13% of the Rajya Sabha. While this is an improvement from the 5% representation in the first Lok Sabha, it is still lower than many other countries. According to the United Nations, Rwanda (61%), Cuba (53%), and Nicaragua (52%) lead in women's representation.



**Sagar Vanaparthi,**  
Sr Journalist &  
Political Analyst.

Even Bangladesh (21%) and Pakistan (20%) have better female representation in their parliaments compared to India.

The new bill introduces key changes by inserting Article 330A into the Constitution, reserving one-third of Lok Sabha seats for women, including those reserved for SCs and STs. It also adds Article 332A to ensure similar reservations in state legislative assemblies and amends Article 239AA to extend these provisions to the Delhi Assembly. The reservation will be in effect for 15 years, with the option to extend it based on a law made by Parliament. Reserved seats will rotate after each delimitation exercise.

However, there are some challenges. The reservation will only start after a fresh delimitation based on the next census, leaving uncertainty about when women will begin to benefit. Moreover, the bill does not provide reservations in the Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Councils, where women's representation is still low.

For the bill to make a real impact, the government must ensure that the census and delimitation process is completed on time. Extending reservations to the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils could also help achieve balanced representation across all legislative bodies.

On International Women's Day, this bill brings hope for a brighter future where women have a stronger voice in governance. It is not just about increasing numbers but enhancing the quality of democracy by bringing diverse voices to the forefront. As a society, everyone must contribute to empowering women not only through laws but also by creating an environment where women can thrive and lead.



## India's Champions Trophy Triumph Exposes Pakistan's Decline

### The Point Desk

As India lifted their third ICC Champions Trophy, a glaring absence loomed over the celebration—Pakistan, the official hosts, were nowhere to be seen. Beyond their logo on television screens, there was no Pakistani representation at the trophy ceremony. The stage was dominated by Indian officials, with ICC President Jay Shah leading the proceedings. The absence of any Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) official, including Chairman Mohsin Naqvi, was both baffling and telling. Despite being the official hosts, Pakistan failed to make their presence felt, either on the field or off it.

### A Host in Name Only

Pakistan's hosting rights for the tournament were already a compromised affair, with all matches played in the UAE instead of their home soil. Yet, the total absence of PCB representatives at the final added to the embarrassment. An ICC spokesperson clarified that no PCB official was present in Dubai for the match. Naqvi, who also serves as Pakistan's Interior Minister, cited pressing commitments at home, but surely, a high-profile event like this warranted at least some representation? Hosting an ICC event after nearly three decades should have been a moment of pride, but Pakistan failed to seize the moment, further accentuating the widening gap between them and India.

### The Diverging Cricketing Fortunes of India and Pakistan

India's journey to the title was one of absolute dominance—five wins in five matches, a flawless campaign that reflected their standing as the best limited-overs side in world cricket. In contrast, Pakistan's campaign was dismal, crashing out without a single victory. Once considered fierce competitors, the Pakistani team now struggles to keep pace with India, both in terms of skill and consistency.

The gulf between the two teams is not just about this tournament; it reflects the larger trajectories of the two nations. While India has evolved into a global powerhouse—both in cricket and beyond—Pakistan continues to grapple with internal turmoil, financial instability, and administrative chaos. The PCB reportedly spent PKR 12.8 billion on stadium renovations, yet the tournament saw underwhelming attendance figures, highlighting deeper structural issues within Pakistan's cricketing ecosystem.

### India's Supreme Command of the Rivalry

Historically, Pakistan held the upper hand in ODI encounters, particularly in the '80s and '90s. However, the balance has tilted significantly in India's favor in recent years. The last bilateral ODI series between the two teams was in 2012-13, with India winning 2-1. Since 2010, India has claimed victory in 13 of the 17 ODIs against Pakistan, including a dominant six-wicket win in this very tournament. Legendary Indian cricketer Sunil Gavaskar even stated that Pakistan would struggle against India's second-string team—an assertion that no longer seems far-fetched.

Shahid Afridi, a former Pakistan all-rounder, summed it up aptly: "India has more match-winners. A match-winner is someone who knows how to win a game single-handedly. Right now, we don't have such players." This candid admission speaks volumes about Pakistan's cricketing struggles.

### India's Imperious Run in ICC Tournaments

India's performance in the last three ICC white-ball tournaments has been nothing short of extraordinary—23 wins in 24 completed matches, with the sole defeat coming in the 2023 ODI World Cup final. Their Champions Trophy campaign was a textbook demonstration of control, with even their closest contest—the final—ending with an over to spare.

Gautam Gambhir, in his first major tournament as India's head coach, can take a sigh of relief, as this win silences critics questioning India's ability to finish ICC events on a high. Tactically, India was spot-on, including the bold decision to field five spinners, which paid rich dividends. Ravindra Jadeja's winning runs were a poetic conclusion, given his immense contributions over the years.

### Pakistan's Search for Direction

As India basks in the glory of another ICC triumph, Pakistan is once again in a state of flux. In the wake of their Champions Trophy disaster, the PCB made sweeping changes, removing Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan from the T20I squad. A new captain has been appointed, but whether these changes will bring stability remains uncertain.

For now, the contrast between India and Pakistan in cricket is stark. Once a fierce rivalry, the contest has turned lopsided, with India miles ahead. The arch-rivalry remains a major attraction in global cricket, but its competitive edge is diminishing. Until Pakistan finds a way to address its structural deficiencies, the chasm between the two sides will only widen.

India, much like the dominant Australian teams of the past, has set a benchmark that others, including Pakistan, can only aspire to reach.



# Visit to Mauritius, a key partner in Indian Ocean, will open new chapter: Modi

- **Modi to Visit Mauritius to Strengthen Ties and Celebrate National Day**
- **Visit highlights India's strategic engagement in the Indian Ocean region**
- **PM Modi to inaugurate India-funded civil service college and health centre**

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to embark on a two-day state visit to Mauritius on March 11, 2025, to attend the island nation's 57th National Day celebrations as the chief guest. During his visit, India and Mauritius are expected to sign several agreements aimed at enhancing economic, security, and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

PM Modi's visit comes at a time of deepening bilateral ties, with India and Mauritius having a strong partnership, especially in the areas of maritime security, trade, and development. The visit will be marked by significant events, including the participation of an Indian armed forces contingent, the Indian Navy warship, and the Akash Ganga skydiving team in the National Day celebrations.

Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam welcomed PM Modi's visit, highlighting it as a testament to the close relations between the two nations. He expressed gratitude for Modi's presence despite his packed international schedule.

Key agreements to be signed include an MoU on maritime cooperation, enhancing white shipping information exchange to improve maritime security. Additionally, both nations will sign agreements in areas such as capac-



ity building, financial crime prevention, and promoting small and medium enterprises. India's Enforcement Directorate and Mauritius' Financial Crime Commission will also collaborate on combating money laundering.

During his visit, PM Modi and PM Ramgoolam will inaugurate a civil service college and a health centre built with Indian grants. Modi is also expected to meet with political leaders, dignitaries, and members of the Indian-origin community in Mauritius.

Mauritius, home to a large Indian-origin pop-

ulation, shares strong historical and cultural ties with India. The trade between the two countries has grown significantly, with India being one of Mauritius' largest trading partners. Both nations continue to work closely on issues of maritime security, with India aiding in the development of strategic infrastructure on Agalega Island.

PM Modi's visit to Mauritius underscores India's commitment to strengthening ties in the Indian Ocean region, balancing relations with Mauritius and its economic cooperation with China.



## Maharashtra budget: 3rd airport in Mumbai, night landing in Shirdi

TPN Correspondent | Maharashtra

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Ajit Pawar presented the state budget for the financial year 2025-26 in the state assembly on Monday, unveiling several ambitious proposals aimed at boosting the state's infrastructure and economic growth.

A significant proposal in the budget is the plan for a third airport in Mumbai, which is expected to be operational by 2030. This new airport will be located near Vadhvan Port, strategically positioned with the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train station nearby. Additionally, domestic flights are set to commence at Navi Mumbai International Airport next month, with 85% of the construction already completed and successful trial runs carried out.

Pawar also announced the introduction of a night landing facility at Shirdi Airport, a major pilgrimage destination, which will enhance connectivity for travelers visiting the region.

In terms of infrastructure development, Maharashtra plans to invest in expanding its road network, with the construction of 1,500 kilometers of new roads and the upgrading of 7,000 kilometers of existing roads to cemented roads. These initiatives are aimed at improving transportation across the state and boosting economic activity.

The state's economy is projected to see substantial growth, with Mumbai's economy expected to grow from \$140 billion to \$300 billion. The Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) is being developed as a major growth hub, and Pawar outlined the vision for MMR to have a USD 1.5 trillion economy by 2047.

Additionally, the state aims to generate 50 lakh new employment opportunities over the next five years. This will be supported by Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth ₹15.72 lakh crore, signed with 56 companies at the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Pawar also announced the upcoming metro service linking Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport with Navi Mumbai International Airport, enhancing connectivity between these key transport hubs. These budget proposals reflect Maharashtra's focus on long-term economic growth, infrastructure development, and improved connectivity.

## Grape expectations: Italy sniffs wine opportunity in India

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Italy is strategically focusing on the growing Indian market for its premium wines, with Vinitaly, the country's flagship wine roadshow, making its debut in New Delhi over the weekend. The event brought together a variety of exhibitors from Italy's top wine-producing regions, including Apulia, Tuscany, Veneto, Campania, and Abruzzo, aiming to establish business opportunities and forge collaborations with local distributors and wine enthusiasts.

The Italian wine industry sees immense potential in India, a market



that is rapidly growing in terms of demand for luxury and niche products. Despite the ongoing negotiations for an India-European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which have seen wine tariffs emerge as a key sticking point, Italy remains committed to expanding its footprint in the Indian wine market. Vinitaly served as a

platform for showcasing Italy's renowned wines, which range from prestigious reds to unique white varieties, appealing to India's growing segment of affluent consumers and connoisseurs.

Italy's wine industry is betting big on India as a new hub for premium wines, with the event aimed

at educating the Indian market on the distinct characteristics of Italian wines. Participants were given an opportunity to explore the diversity of Italian wines through tastings and discussions, with a special focus on the craftsmanship behind Italy's wine-making heritage. The event also highlighted the significance of the FTA discussions, where wine tariffs remain a crucial issue for both India and the EU. The Italian government hopes to reduce these tariffs, making Italian wines more accessible and appealing to Indian consumers, ultimately boosting exports and strengthening bilateral trade relations.

## Mumbai To Have \$1.5 Trillion Economy By 2047: Ajit Pawar



TPN Correspondent | Mumbai

In the state budget for 2025-26, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar outlined ambitious plans aimed at significantly boosting the state's economy. Aimed at increasing Mumbai's economic value from USD 140 billion to USD 1.5 trillion by 2047, the state government has proposed the development of at least seven international-standard business centres across the city.

Pawar announced that business hubs will be established in strategic locations including Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC), Kurla-Worli, Wadala, Goregaon, Navi Mumbai, Kharghar, and Virar-Bhoisar. These centres are set to transform the Mumbai Metropolitan Region into a thriving economic hub.

Another major announcement was the development of Vadhavan port, in which the state government holds a 26% share. This massive project, valued at Rs 76,220 crore, will have an annual cargo handling capacity of 300 million metric tonnes—three times the capacity of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT). Expected to start cargo operations by 2030, Vadhavan

port will be connected to the Mumbai-Nagpur Samruddhi Expressway and a third Mumbai airport, in addition to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train station.

Maharashtra is also working on enhancing its transportation network. Pawar revealed that a metro project connecting Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport to the Navi Mumbai International Airport is set to begin soon. Additionally, the newly developed Navi Mumbai airport, with 85% of its construction complete, will be ready to handle domestic flights by April and is expected to cater to 90 million passengers annually.

The state has also earmarked significant resources for expanding its metro network, with 64.4 km of metro lines planned for inauguration in Mumbai and Pune next year. Over the next five years, a total of 237.5 km of metro lines will be operational, further boosting connectivity.

The upgrades to Nagpur's Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport and the development of new airports in Amravati and Gadchiroli will further stimulate regional growth, particularly in Vidarbha.

## India Imposes Anti-Dumping Duty on Chemical Imports from China and Japan



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India has imposed an anti-dumping duty of up to \$986 per tonne for five years on "Trichloroisocyanuric acid," a chemical used for water treatment, imported from China and Japan. The decision, announced through a Finance Ministry notification, aims to protect the domestic industry from the negative impact of cheap imports flooding the market.

The move follows recommendations from the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), an investigative arm of the Commerce Ministry, which conducted a probe into the alleged dumping of the chemical by both countries. The DGTR concluded that the domestic industry had suffered material injury due to these below-cost imports, leading to the imposition of the duty.

According to the notification, the anti-dumping duty will be enforced for a period of five years, unless revoked or amended earlier. The two countries—China and Japan—are among India's

key trading partners, and the decision is expected to have a significant impact on trade relations.

The DGTR is responsible for investigating claims of dumping, while the Finance Ministry ultimately decides whether to impose the recommended duties. In this case, the duty was imposed within three months of the DGTR's recommendations.

Anti-dumping duties are typically levied when a country believes its domestic industries are being harmed by imports that are being sold at unfairly low prices. This practice, known as dumping, is seen as a threat to local businesses that cannot compete with cheaper goods, potentially leading to financial losses or even closures. India's decision aligns with global trade practices under the World Trade Organization (WTO) framework, which allows countries to impose such duties to ensure fair competition and provide a level playing field for domestic industries. Importantly, anti-dumping measures are not intended to restrict trade or arbitrarily increase costs but to counteract unfair trade practices.



# "Don't Think Zelensky Is Grateful": Trump Jibe Follows Elon Musk's Warning

- Claims Biden administration made it too easy for Ukraine to receive funding
- Asserts Russia would not have invaded Ukraine if he were president
- Defends his tough stance on Russia and sanctions during his presidency

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former US President Donald Trump has once again criticized Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, accusing him of lacking gratitude for the billions of dollars in aid the United States provided to Ukraine under the Biden administration. In a recent interview with Fox News, Trump compared the US's \$350 billion aid to Ukraine to "taking candy from a baby," suggesting that it was too easy for Zelensky to accept such a substantial amount of support.

The remarks came after a series of tensions between the US and Ukraine, particularly following a contentious meeting in the Oval Office on February 28, where President Biden halted military funding to Ukraine. Zelensky later issued an apology for



the diplomatic fallout. Speaking to Maria Bartiromo on Sunday Morning Futures, Trump reiterated his frustration, stating that Zelensky's behavior was not reflective of the significant aid received by Ukraine since Russia's invasion in 2022.

Trump acknowledged Zelensky's intelligence and toughness but maintained that the Ukrainian leader's attitude towards US aid was one of entitlement. "He took money out of this country under Biden like taking candy from a baby. It was so easy with that same attitude," Trump re-

marked.

Trump also defended his own record on Russia, asserting that no one had been tougher on Moscow than him, citing his sanctions on Russia and the halt of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline during his presidency. He claimed that if he had been president in 2022, Russia would not have invaded Ukraine, and other global conflicts, such as Hamas' attack on Israel in October 2023, would not have occurred.

In response to questions about the US-Ukraine mineral deal, Trump said he believed it would still proceed. His interview follows a warning from Elon Musk, who suggested that Ukraine's defense system could collapse if he were to shut off his Starlink satellite services, which have been crucial for military communications.



## New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon to visit India

TPN Correspondent | Auckland

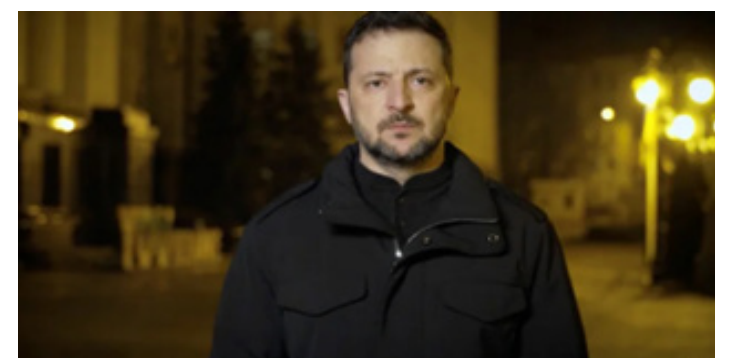
Tech billionaire Elon Musk has once again sparked global debate over the ongoing war in Ukraine with a series of provocative tweets. Musk, the CEO of SpaceX, claimed that his Starlink system plays a critical role in supporting Ukraine's military operations, suggesting that the entire front line of Ukrainian forces could collapse if he chose to deactivate the service. His comments have raised concerns and reignited discussions about the role of private companies in conflicts.

In one tweet, Musk boldly stated, "I literally challenged Putin to one-on-one physical combat over Ukraine, and my Starlink system is the backbone of the Ukrainian army." He further claimed that the Ukrainian military's communications and operations would be severely disrupted without Starlink, a satellite internet system developed by SpaceX, which has been crucial in maintaining connectivity in Ukraine amid Russian attacks on the country's infrastructure.

Musk's comments have been met with mixed reactions, with some criticizing him for overly inflating the importance of Starlink in Ukraine's military strategy. Others have expressed concern about the potential for Musk's actions to influence the outcome of the war. Musk, who has previously made headlines for his controversial views on the conflict, also suggested that imposing sanctions on Ukrainian oligarchs could help bring an end to the war. His remarks have added fuel to the ongoing debate over how private businesses and individuals should engage with international conflicts.

The billionaire's influence, particularly through his company SpaceX, has made him a central figure in discussions about the role of private companies in modern warfare. While Starlink has undoubtedly provided critical communication infrastructure for Ukraine, Musk's public statements have raised questions about the broader ethical and political implications of his involvement.

As the war in Ukraine continues to evolve, Musk's influence on global geopolitics remains a topic of increasing scrutiny. His comments further highlight the complex intersection of technology, business, and international conflict.



## Ukraine Set For Crucial Talks With US On Ending War With Russia

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is set to arrive in Saudi Arabia on Monday ahead of high-stakes talks aimed at resolving the ongoing conflict with Russia. The talks, scheduled for Tuesday in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah, will bring together US and Ukrainian officials for the first time since Zelensky's tense White House visit last month.

Zelensky confirmed he would meet with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Monday and then participate in discussions with the American team the following day. US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff has emphasized that Washington hopes to establish a framework for a peace agreement and an initial ceasefire.

While Zelensky expressed Ukraine's commitment to constructive dialogue, he made it clear that Ukraine's interests must be prioritized. "We hope for results, both in terms of bringing peace closer and continuing support," Zelensky stated in his evening address.

The Ukrainian delegation will include key figures such as Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga, Defense Minister Rustem Umerov, Chief of Staff Andriy Yermak, and military commander Pavlo Palisa. Zelensky mentioned Ukraine is in "constant contact" with the US team ahead of the talks.

# Trudeau's Successor, Mark Carney, Signals Big Diplomatic Shift In India-Canada Ties

### Mark Carney Plans to Rebuild Strained Ties Between Canada and India

TPN Correspondent | Ottawa

Mark Carney, the newly elected leader of Canada's ruling Liberal Party and future Prime Minister, has expressed his intention to "rebuild" the strained relationship between Canada and India. Under Carney's leadership, Canada aims to diversify its trade relations with New Delhi, which suffered under the leadership of his predecessor, Justin Trudeau.

Carney secured a decisive victory in the Liberal Party leadership race, receiving 85.9 percent of the votes. In his first statements as leader, he addressed the challenges Canada faces due to US tariffs and indicated that diversifying trade with like-minded countries, including India, would be a priority for his government. "There needs to be a shared sense of values around that commer-



cial relationship, and if I am Prime Minister, I look forward to the opportunity to build that," Carney said.

Carney's knowledge of economic ties between Canada and India gives him an edge. Having previously served as the Governor of both the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England, and as the head

of Brookfield Asset Management, Carney is familiar with the significant investments Canada has made in India, particularly in real estate, renewable energy, and infrastructure. He stepped down from his position at Brookfield in January 2025.

India, particularly, may welcome Ottawa's efforts to improve

bilateral ties, especially given the ongoing tariff issues with the US. Carney's efforts could provide an opportunity for India to raise concerns regarding Canada's immigration restrictions and tightened visa norms, particularly as Canada remains one of the top destinations for Indian migrants. The relationship between India and Canada hit a low point in September 2023, when Trudeau accused India of involvement in the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. India strongly rejected these allegations, calling them "baseless." In the aftermath, both countries expelled each other's top diplomats, and Ottawa paused the Early Progress Trade Agreement, which was supposed to be concluded in 2023. Carney's leadership offers a potential path forward to restore and strengthen ties.

# Won't Negotiate Under "Intimidation": Iran Rejects US Talks Amid Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Tehran, Iran

Iran has firmly stated it will not negotiate under "pressure" or "intimidation," following US President Donald Trump's decision to end a sanctions waiver that allowed Iraq to purchase electricity from Iran. The waiver's termination is part of Trump's renewed "maximum pressure" campaign aimed at crippling Iran's economy, particularly its oil industry.

Iran's foreign minister, Abbas Araghchi, took to social media to reject any talks driven by external pressure, asserting that Tehran's nuclear program is purely peaceful. He stated, "We will NOT negotiate under pressure and intimidation. We will NOT even consider it, no matter what the subject may be."

Despite a previous statement



from Iran's mission to the United Nations suggesting potential openness to discuss US concerns over the "potential militarization" of Iran's nuclear program, Araghchi emphasized that such discussions were off the table unless they focused solely on Iran's peaceful intentions. Tehran made it clear that any talks aiming to dismantle Iran's nuclear program—an objective they say former President Obama failed to achieve—would be cat-

egorically rejected.

The US decision to end Iraq's sanctions waiver, which had been in place since 2018, is aimed at depriving Iran of economic relief, specifically in energy revenues. Iran supplies a significant portion of Iraq's gas and electricity, contributing to the Iranian economy. The US Embassy in Baghdad urged Iraq to reduce its reliance on Iranian energy imports, with the State Department

reiterating that the sanctions pressure is meant to curb Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile programs, as well as its support for terrorist groups.

The sanctions waiver for Iraq was introduced as part of a deal negotiated during Obama's administration, which lifted sanctions on Iran in exchange for limiting its nuclear program. Since Trump's withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, Iran has gradually scaled back its commitments, leading US officials to estimate that Iran could produce a nuclear weapon in just a few weeks if it chose to.

The ending of the energy waiver is expected to exacerbate Iraq's power shortages, especially during the upcoming summer months, with experts predicting challenges in maintaining electricity supplies.



## GST Tax Evasion Detection Hits ₹1.95 Lakh Crore in 25,397 Cases

Central GST officers have detected tax evasion of ₹1.95 lakh crore in 25,397 cases during the April-January period of the current fiscal year, according to data shared in Parliament on Monday. The total number of GST evasion cases detected by central officers over the past five years has reached 86,711, with the total amount of tax evaded surpassing ₹6.79 lakh crore.

In the current fiscal year up to January 2025, the total number of evasion cases detected stands at 25,397, with the total detection amount of ₹1,94,938 crore. During this period, a voluntary deposit of ₹21,520 crore was made in relation to tax evasion cases.

Additionally, there were 13,018 cases of Input Tax Credit (ITC) frauds detected in the current fiscal year, involving a total of ₹46,472 crore. As part of the investigation, a voluntary deposit of ₹2,211 crore was made to settle the fraud cases.

The GST Investigation Wing's data for the 2023-24 fiscal year revealed that 20,582 evasion cases were detected, amounting to ₹2.30 lakh crore in evaded taxes. These figures highlight the government's ongoing efforts to combat GST tax evasion and enhance compliance across the country.

The government's crackdown on tax evasion continues to focus on large-scale frauds and has led to significant voluntary deposits, indicating an increased willingness among businesses to settle tax issues proactively. The focus on ITC fraud cases also underscores the need for stricter monitoring of input tax claims to prevent fraudulent practices.

Overall, the detection of such a large number of GST evasion cases reflects the government's commitment to tackling financial irregularities, ensuring greater transparency, and securing vital revenue for the economy.



## India's Thermal Coal Imports Drop for Sixth Consecutive Month

India's imports of thermal coal, primarily used for power generation, continued their downward trend in February, marking the sixth consecutive month of decline. According to ship tracking data, the drop in imports is attributed to slower growth in coal-fired power generation, which has been impacted by a slowdown in manufacturing activity. This marks the longest such streak since February 2022, when imports had declined for eight straight months.

India, the world's second-largest importer of coal, saw its thermal coal imports decrease by 15.3% to 12.16 million metric tons in February. This follows a broader trend, as the country's total thermal coal imports fell by 20% to 77.3 million metric tons in the six months leading up to February 28.

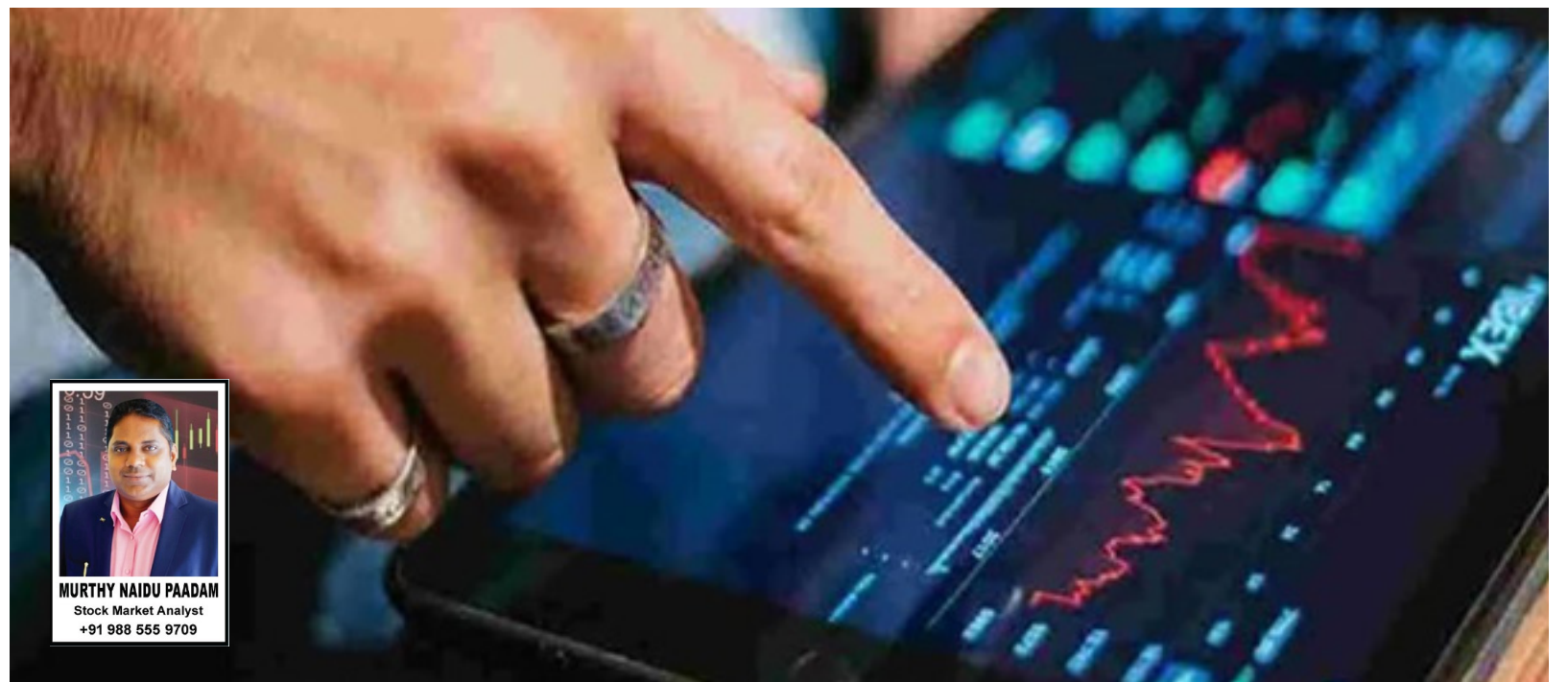
The slowdown in manufacturing activity in India has played a significant role in reducing the demand for seaborne coal. With industrial output cooling to its weakest pace in over a year, the country's need for coal has also diminished. The decline in thermal coal imports further contributes to the global trend of falling coal prices, exerting additional pressure on an already declining market.

India's reduced coal imports are part of broader efforts to cut dependence on imported fossil fuels. The country has increasingly turned to renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, which are expected to play a more significant role in meeting energy demands in the future.

Despite these efforts, coal still plays a crucial role in India's power generation mix, and the recent import decline highlights the ongoing challenges the country faces in balancing energy demand with its transition to cleaner energy sources. The trend also signals the need for sustained investment in renewable energy infrastructure and technology to reduce reliance on thermal coal imports in the long term.



## Domestic Markets Slide on US Shutdown Fears Sensex Down 217, Nifty 92



Domestic stock markets fell on Monday. The indices, which started with huge gains in the morning, plunged into losses due to negative signals from international markets and negative sentiment. The reasons for this are concerns about the US economy and the shutdown situation. In addition to this, the market breadth turned red as investors started selling shares of all sectors. Except for FMCG, all sectoral indices fell. Nifty 92 and Sensex lost 217 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 74,332 in the previous session, started at 74,474 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 74,022. It reached an intraday high of 74,741. Finally, it closed at 74,115, losing 217 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,521, touched a low of 22,429 and a high of 22,676. It closed at 22,460, down 92 points. The Nifty Bank lost 280 points and settled at 48,216. The burden of medicines required by diabetes patients will decrease. Domestic pharma companies are preparing to produce the generic version of Empagliflozin soon. GR Infra Projects has declared an interim dividend of Rs. 12.50 per share.

In Nifty50, 9 companies gained while 41 lost. FMCG shares rose. Realty, PSU bank, oil and gas, consumption, energy, auto, manufacturing, metal, healthcare, pharma, and bank indices rose. PowerGrid, Hindustan Unilever, Infi, SBI Life, Nestle, Asian Paints were the top gainers. ONGC, Trent, IndusInd Bank, Bajaj Auto, Eicher Motors were the biggest losers. Market breadth on NSE today shifted in favour of sellers. Out of 2988 stocks traded, 607 gained and 2308 lost. 15 stocks touched 52-week highs. 90 stocks touched 52-week lows. 138 stocks touched the upper circuit and 162 touched the lower circuit.

Rupee weakened by 45 paise to settle at 87.33 against the dollar. Fitch has given a negative outlook rating to Adani Ener-

gy in the wake of the US probe. IndusInd Bank Jefferies maintains Buy rating, reducing target price from Rs 1200 to Rs 1080. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Infosys. Sun Pharma to acquire Check Point Therapeutics. Hudco declares second interim dividend of Rs 1.05 per share. Thermal coal imports fall for sixth consecutive month. HFCL gets Rs 44.36 crore order from Indian Army. RailTel gets Rs 28.29 crore work order from Northern Railway. 14 lakh shares changed hands in Varun Beverages. Zerodha Fund House launches Silver ETF. Tata Power signs MoU with AP Government.

**Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (POWERGRID)**



Power Grid is India's premier electric power transmission company, responsible for managing and expanding the country's high-voltage transmission network. Poised to benefit from ongoing government initiatives in grid modernization and integration of renewable energy sources, offering long-term stability and moderate growth.

**Emami Ltd (EMAMILTD)**

Emami Ltd is a diversified FMCG company with a robust portfolio in personal care, health, and wellness products. It is known for its strong brand presence and innovative product offerings. With an expanding distribution network and growing consumer demand in both urban and rural markets, Emami is well-positioned for sustained long-term growth.



**Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL)**

ZEEL is a leading media and entertainment company in India, operating across television broadcasting, digital content, and film production.



It holds a significant market share in Indian TV and rapidly growing digital platforms. As digital consumption accelerates and international markets expand, ZEEL is set to benefit from the growing demand for high-quality content and new distribution channels.

**Solar Industries India Ltd (SOLARIND)**

Solar Industries is a prominent manufacturer specializing in industrial explosives, ammonium nitrate-based fertilizers, and other chemical products, serving both agricultural and industrial sectors. With sustained demand in both agriculture and industry, Solar Industries offers moderate growth potential, although it remains exposed to commodity price volatility and market cyclicality.



**JSW Energy Ltd (JSWENERGY)**

Part of the JSW Group, JSW Energy is involved in power generation through a mix of thermal and renewable energy projects. The company is actively expanding its renewable energy portfolio, particularly in solar and wind power. Benefiting from India's policy push toward renewable energy and environmental sustainability, JSW Energy is well-positioned for long-term growth, though short-term performance may be influenced by fuel price volatility and regulatory shifts.



## India's Wheat Production Estimated to Reach Record 115.3 Million Metric Tonnes in 2024-25

India's wheat production is projected to reach a record 115.3 million metric tonnes for the 2024-25 season, marking a 2% increase from the 113.3 million tonnes produced in 2023-24, according to the Second Advance Estimates released by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare on Monday.

This year's estimated production surpasses the 2022-23 production of 110.05 million tonnes and the 2021-22 output of 107.7 million tonnes, highlighting a steady increase in wheat yields over recent years. The record wheat output is crucial as the government aims to procure 31 million tonnes of wheat during the upcoming rabi marketing season (2025-26), ensuring adequate supply for both domestic consumption and strategic reserves.

Wheat is the second-largest crop in India after paddy, contributing significantly to the country's agricultural output. The expected rise in production reflects the ongoing improvements in farming techniques, the adoption of higher-yielding wheat varieties, and favorable climatic conditions in several wheat-growing regions of the country.



The estimates of bumper wheat production are welcomed by both the agricultural community and government officials, who see it as a crucial factor in addressing food security and ensuring stable wheat prices in the domestic market. Additionally, the expected rise in procurement during the rabi marketing season will further support India's wheat stock-

piles, helping to maintain the country's strategic reserves.

As India continues to play a vital role in global agricultural markets, the record wheat output is a positive development not only for the nation's food security but also for its position as a key exporter of wheat in the global market.



## Best Hydrating Foods and Drinks for a 30-Day Fitness Challenge



Staying hydrated is essential for maintaining energy, muscle function, and overall well-being, particularly during a 30-day fitness challenge. While water is the primary source of hydration, consuming the right foods and drinks can enhance electrolyte balance, aid muscle recovery, and prevent dehydration-related issues. The World Health Organisation (WHO) emphasises the importance of adequate fluid intake for optimal physical performance and body temperature regulation. Similarly, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) highlight hydration's role in endurance, cardiovascular health, and preventing cramps.

### Hydrating Drinks for Fitness

1. Coconut Water – A natural source of potassium and sodium, helping replenish lost electrolytes.
2. Lemon Water – Rich in vitamin C and electrolytes, aiding digestion and hydration.
3. Herbal Teas – Caffeine-free options like chamomile and hibiscus support hydration with added health benefits.
4. Aloe Vera Juice – Promotes gut health while providing a cooling, hydrating effect.
5. Homemade Electrolyte Drinks – A mix of water, salt, honey, and citrus juice creates a natural hydration booster.

### Hydrating Foods for Fitness

1. Watermelon – Composed of 92% water,

offering hydration along with vitamins and antioxidants.

2. Cucumber – A high-water-content vegetable that helps balance electrolytes.
3. Oranges – Rich in vitamin C and fluids, enhancing hydration and immunity.
4. Leafy Greens – Vegetables like spinach contain water, fibre, and minerals essential for muscle recovery.
5. Yogurt – A probiotic-rich food that supports digestion and hydration.

Tips for Staying Hydrated During Exercise

- Drink water before, during, and after workouts to prevent dehydration.
- Consume electrolyte-rich foods like bananas and avocados to replenish minerals.
- Avoid excessive caffeine and sugary beverages that may contribute to dehydration.
- Monitor urine colour, as pale yellow indicates proper hydration.
- Eat water-dense foods to naturally supplement fluid intake.

Hydration is crucial in achieving fitness goals and maintaining endurance throughout a 30-day fitness challenge. Experts from WHO and CDC stress the importance of fluid balance for both physical and cognitive performance. By making mindful dietary choices, individuals can stay hydrated, energised, and healthy during their fitness journey.

## Gill's Father Does 'Bhangra' With Rishabh Pant Viral Video Breaks The Internet

Amid India's celebrations after winning the ICC Champions Trophy, vice-captain Shubman Gill's father, Lakhwinder, was seen performing bhangra with wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant. The joyous moment, captured in a viral video, has taken the internet by storm. India clinched their third Champions Trophy title on Sunday, March 9, defeating New Zealand by four wickets at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. Despite not playing a single match in the tournament, Pant joined the post-match celebrations, dancing with Lakhwinder Gill. A video posted by the BCCI also showed Lakhwinder sharing a similar moment with his son, Shubman Gill, as pacer Arshdeep Singh joined in the festivities. Shubman Gill played a crucial role in India's campaign, starting the tournament with a century in the opening match against Bangladesh on February 20. However, his subsequent performances saw moderate scores of 46, 2, 8, and 31.

Following the victory, Gill reflected on India's triumph and praised captain Rohit Sharma's leadership and aggressive batting approach. "Felt amazing. For most of the time, I sat back and enjoyed Rohit's batting. He told me it doesn't matter how far ahead or behind we are; the goal was to bat till the end. We missed

out in 2023, so it feels great to win eight ODIs back to back. Seeing his intensity and approach is incredible. He keeps telling us to give it our all, and he backs it up," said Gill in the post-match presentation.

He also lauded New Zealand's competitive spirit, acknowledging their consistency and ability to execute plans under pressure.

"New Zealand are very consistent and execute their plans well. We know they give it their all, and they showed it tonight with their resilience," he added.

Meanwhile, speculation about Rohit Sharma's future was put to rest as the India captain clarified that he has no immediate plans to retire. "No future plans, jaise chal raha hain, chalta rahega (the way it is going, it will continue that way). One more thing—I'm not retiring from this format, just to ensure no rumours are spread moving forward," Rohit stated at a press conference.

With this victory, India became the most successful team in Champions Trophy history, surpassing Australia with three titles. The team previously shared the trophy with Sri Lanka in 2002 and won their second title under MS Dhoni in 2013.



## iQOO Z10 Series May Launch in April; Key Features Leaked



The iQOO Z10 series is expected to launch in China soon, with reports suggesting multiple variants, including the iQOO Z10, Z10 Turbo, Z10 Turbo Pro, and Z10x. A recent leak has revealed key details about the upcoming smartphones, including processor choices and battery specifications.

Launch Timeline and Specifications  
According to a now-edited Weibo post by tipster Digital Chat Station, the iQOO Z10 and Z10 Turbo could debut in April, while the Z10x variant may arrive in the third quarter of 2025. The previous iQOO Z9 series was introduced in

April 2024, making this a likely timeframe for its successor. The base iQOO Z10 is rumored to feature a Snapdragon 7 Gen 4 SoC and a 1.5K OLED display. Meanwhile, the Z10 Turbo may be powered by MediaTek Dimensity 8400, and the high-end Z10 Turbo Pro is expected to come with a Snapdragon 8s Elite chipset. While iQOO has yet to confirm the details, the rumored specifications indicate a performance-focused lineup with high battery capacities and fast charging capabilities. More information is expected to surface as the official launch approaches.

## Seasoning vs. Flavouring: What's The Difference?



The taste of food is shaped by the ingredients and techniques used in cooking. While both seasoning and flavouring enhance a dish, they serve different purposes in bringing out its best flavors.

Have you ever followed a recipe precisely, yet something still felt off? You added all the right ingredients, but the dish lacked depth. Then, with just a pinch of salt or a dash of spice, the flavors suddenly came alive. That's the magic of seasoning and flavouring—but did you know they're not the same thing?

Many people use these terms interchangeably, but they play distinct roles in enhancing food. Whether you're new to cooking or just looking to refine your understanding, here's what sets them apart.

### What is Seasoning?

Seasoning amplifies the natural taste of ingredients without altering their original flavor. It enhances, rather than transforms, the dish. The most common seasoning is salt—it doesn't add a new taste but brings out

the existing flavors. A bowl of dal or khichdi, for instance, tastes bland without salt but becomes instantly more flavorful with just the right amount.

Other examples of seasoning include pepper, cumin (jeera), and asafoetida (hing), which subtly boost a dish's taste without overpowering it. Seasoning ensures that food tastes its best without changing its inherent profile.

### What is Flavouring?

Flavouring, on the other hand, introduces a new taste to a dish. Unlike seasoning, which enhances, flavouring transforms. For example, adding cardamom (elaichi) to chai gives it a distinct aroma and taste, while a few drops of vanilla extract completely alter the flavor of a plain cake batter.

Flavouring ingredients such as kasuri methi, ginger, garlic, tamarind, and saffron define a dish's signature taste. Can you imagine butter chicken without kasuri methi? It simply wouldn't be the same. These ingredients are strong and shape the final taste of the dish, making flavouring a

## Hidden Supermassive Black Hole May Lurk in Large Magellanic Cloud

A hidden supermassive black hole may be lurking within the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC), a satellite galaxy of the Milky Way, according to new research. Scientists believe the discovery of hypervelocity stars—stars moving at extraordinary speeds—may provide evidence of a massive, yet-undetected black hole in the LMC.

Evidence from Hypervelocity Stars

Using data from the European Space Agency's Gaia satellite, researchers tracked 21 hypervelocity stars at the edge of the Milky Way. While many were propelled by Sagittarius A\* (Sgr A\*), the black hole at the center of our galaxy, a significant number appeared to have originated from the LMC. This unexpected trajectory led scientists to theorize that a supermassive black hole within the LMC may have been responsible for accelerating these stars.

Jesse Han, an astrophysicist

at the Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian (CfA), called the possibility of another supermassive black hole so close to the Milky Way a striking revelation. He also noted that black holes are notoriously difficult to detect, making this discovery particularly significant. Potential Mass and Implications

Estimates suggest that this hidden black hole could have a mass of around 600,000 times that of the Sun—smaller than Sagittarius A\* (4.3 million solar masses) but still within the expected range for supermassive black holes.

Scott Lucchini, another researcher at CfA, pointed out that these findings challenge the idea that the Milky Way is the only nearby galaxy ejecting hypervelocity stars due to a supermassive black hole. The results align with previous theories suggesting that the LMC could host a powerful, unseen gravitational force.





# Rohit Sharma Clears Air on 2027 World Cup Plans After Champions Trophy Triumph



India captain Rohit Sharma has put to rest all speculation regarding his ODI future after leading the team to a historic unbeaten triumph in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025. Following the victory, Rohit categorically dismissed retirement talks, saying, "I am not going to retire from this format. Just to make sure no rumours are spread moving forward."

However, when asked about his participation in the 2027 ODI World Cup, the 38-year-old stated that he prefers to take things one step at a time. "Right now, I am taking things as they come. It wouldn't be fair for me to think too far ahead. At this moment, my focus is on playing well and maintaining the

right mindset," Rohit said on Jio Hotstar. Reflecting on India's flawless campaign in the Champions Trophy, Rohit took immense pride in the team's consistency. "We went undefeated despite losing all five tosses, yet we still won the trophy. Winning a tournament without a single defeat is a massive achievement," he said. Shifting the Mindset for Success Rohit credited India's triumph to a change in mindset, shifting focus from individual milestones to collective success. "Before the 2023 World Cup, we had discussions about not prioritizing personal achievements. I learned this the hard way in 2019—I

scored five centuries, but in the end, we didn't win the trophy. That's when I realized, it's all about the team's success." He also highlighted how preparation played a key role. "After the Australia tour, we had 20-25 days to analyze conditions. We studied T20 matches to assess the pitches and picked our squad accordingly." Looking ahead, Rohit made it clear that he wants India to be seen as an indomitable force. "I don't want to dictate how other teams should see us. The only thing I want is for them never to take us lightly. Even if we are five wickets down, we have the ability to fight back and turn the game around."

## Who Is RJ Mahvash? Mystery girl shares photos with Chahal after India's win



India's thrilling victory against New Zealand in the Champions Trophy 2025 final not only brought joy to cricket fans but also sparked online speculation surrounding cricketer Yuzvendra Chahal and YouTuber RJ Mahvash. Their joint appearance at the Dubai stadium has fueled fresh rumors about their relationship. Chahal, who is currently going through a divorce with his wife Dhanashree Verma, was seen enjoying the match alongside Mahvash. After India's win, Mahvash shared photos and videos from the stadium, captioning them, "Kaha tha na jita ke aungi (Told you I'd make India win) I am good luck for team India!" The post quickly gained traction, adding to the ongoing speculation. This isn't the first time the duo has been spotted together. In December, pictures of them celebrating Christmas together had already set social media abuzz. At the time, Mahvash dismissed the dating rumors as baseless, while Chahal requested fans to respect their privacy, stating that such speculations had caused emotional distress to

his family. **Who Is RJ Mahvash?** RJ Mahvash, a popular content creator known for her prank videos and humorous takes, hails from Aligarh. The 28-year-old, whose name means "Beautiful like the moon" in Persian, celebrates her birthday on October 27. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Aligarh Muslim University and a Master's in Mass Communication from Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi. Mahvash initially started as a radio jockey but gained massive recognition through her digital content. Despite receiving offers from Bigg Boss 14 and Bollywood, she chose to focus on her social media career. While neither Chahal nor Mahvash has confirmed any romantic relationship, their frequent public appearances continue to keep social media buzzing with reactions. One user humorously commented, "Hum jeet gye aur Chahal bhai v pighal gye (We won, and Chahal got impressed)," while another added, "Jindagi toh Chahal bhai jee rahe hai (Chahal is winning at life)."

## Barcelona vs Osasuna La Liga Match Called Off Minutes Before Kick-Off



Barcelona's La Liga match against Osasuna was postponed on Saturday, just 20 minutes before kick-off, following the sudden death of first-team doctor Carles Minarro Garcia. The tragic incident led the club to reschedule the fixture for a later date. "Barcelona is sorry to announce the sad news of the death of first-team doctor Carles Minarro Garcia this afternoon," the club said in a statement. "For this reason, the match between Barcelona and Osasuna has been postponed until a later date." Barcelona president Joan Laporta expressed his grief, calling the news

"heartbreaking and shocking." "We contacted his mother and his wife to express our condolences and support them in this incredibly painful time. It is our duty to stand by them," he said. The 53-year-old doctor leaves behind his wife and two children. Players and fans were stunned by the sudden development. Barcelona midfielder Pedri shared his disbelief on Instagram, writing, "I still can't believe it. A big hug to the family and friends of Carles." Osasuna president Luis Sabalza fully supported the decision to postpone the game. "Life is the most important thing.

You can't play a match when someone so close to the team is no longer there," he told DAZN. Osasuna also expressed their condolences on social media, writing, "Osasuna wishes to convey its deepest condolences to the family of doctor Carles Minarro Garcia and send a big hug to all the staff of Barcelona, as well as their fans. May he rest in peace." This is the second La Liga fixture to be postponed in recent days. On Monday, Villarreal's match against Espanyol was also called off due to a heavy rain alert in the region.

## "India Would Have Won Anywhere" Wasim Akram Shuts Down Champions Trophy Debate

Pakistan cricket legend Wasim Akram has dismissed the debate surrounding India's Champions Trophy 2025 triumph, asserting that India would have won the tournament regardless of the venue. India played all their matches in Dubai, avoiding travel to Pakistan, which led to discussions about whether they had an unfair advantage. However, Akram made it clear that India's dominance was undeniable. "This Indian team would have won it anywhere in the world," Akram said on the Dressing Room show on Sports Central. "Yes, people talked about India playing in Dubai, but even if they had

played in Pakistan, they would have won there as well." Akram highlighted India's back-to-back ICC title victories, pointing out that they remained unbeaten in both the T20 World Cup 2024 and the Champions Trophy 2025. "Winning two global tournaments without losing a game shows their depth and leadership," he added. Despite setbacks in Test cricket—including series losses against New Zealand, Australia, and Sri Lanka—India stuck with their leadership duo of Rohit Sharma and Gautam Gambhir. Akram praised this decision, saying, "There was pressure to change the captain and

coach, but BCCI backed them. Now, they are champions of the champions."



## Max Verstappen Eyes Fifth Title in F1's 75th Anniversary Season, Hamilton Joins Ferrari



The 2025 Formula One season promises high-intensity battles as the sport celebrates 75 years since its inception in 1950. With 24 races on the calendar, the competition is set to be fierce, with Max Verstappen aiming for his fifth consecutive title, while Lewis Hamilton's move to Ferrari adds a major twist to the championship. The season kicks off in Australia this Sunday, featuring six rookies eager to make their mark. Seventy-five years after Giuseppe Farina won the first-ever F1 title, Max Verstappen begins his quest to join Michael Schumacher as the only driver to win five consecutive world championships. The Dutchman dominated early in 2024 but suffered a 10-race winless streak, allowing McLaren, Mercedes, and

Ferrari to close the gap. Despite this, he clinched his fourth title in Las Vegas with two races to spare. However, Lando Norris is seen as a major threat in 2025, with betting odds placing him as the title favorite over Verstappen. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and new signing Lewis Hamilton are also expected to challenge for the crown. Testing in Bahrain provided mixed signals, with Mercedes, Williams, and McLaren topping different days. Ferrari looked strong, while Red Bull's Verstappen showed promise on the final day. McLaren CEO Zak Brown believes the field is tighter than ever, stating, "I can see it being super competitive. Last year, four teams won multiple races—this year, it could be even more."





## Rajinikanth's Jailer 2 Begins Filming "Muthuvel Pandian's Hunt Begins"



The highly anticipated sequel to Rajinikanth's blockbuster Jailer has officially gone on floors. Titled Jailer 2, the film marks the superstar's second collaboration with director Nelson Dilipkumar and is produced by Kalanithi Maran's Sun Pictures. Announcing the shoot, Sun Pictures unveiled a striking new poster on Instagram with the caption, "Muthuvel Pandian's hunt begins! #Jailer2 shoot starts today."

### A Grand Sequel in the Making

The makers had previously confirmed Jailer 2 in January with an announcement teaser featuring Nelson Dilipkumar and music composer Anirudh Ravichander. The video, shot inside a Goa beach house, showed the duo discussing their next project, ultimately revealing the return of Rajinikanth as Muthuvel Pandian.

While the cast of Jailer 2 remains under wraps, the film is expected to continue the legacy of its prequel, which was one of Tamil cinema's highest-grossing films of all time. Released in 2023, Jailer followed the story of a retired jail warden who embarks on a deadly mission after his son goes missing.

The first installment featured Vinayakan, Ramya Krishnan, Vasanth Ravi, and Yogi Babu, with special appearances by Mohanlal, Shiva Rajkumar, and Jackie Shroff. Actress Tamannaah Bhatia, who made waves with her hit song Kaavaalaa, had previously praised Rajinikanth, calling him "the most humble superstar" in an interview. Apart from Jailer 2, Rajinikanth is also working on Coolie, directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj. He was last seen in Lal Salaam, directed by his daughter Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth.

## "Blaming Women...": Dhanashree Verma's Cryptic Post



Choreographer and social media influencer Dhanashree Verma has once again grabbed attention amid her ongoing divorce case with Indian cricketer Yuzvendra Chahal. Following weeks of speculation and media reports, she posted a cryptic message on Instagram that read, "Blaming women is always in fashion." The post came just a day after Chahal was spotted at the Champions Trophy 2025 final in Dubai alongside YouTuber

RJ Mahvash. This has led to fresh speculation, with some social media users linking her statement to Chahal, while others believe it refers to the online trolling she has faced in recent times. Rumors of Chahal and Dhanashree's separation have been circulating for months, with reports suggesting that their divorce had already been finalized. However, Dhanashree's lawyer, Aditi Mohan, dismissed these claims, stating, "I have

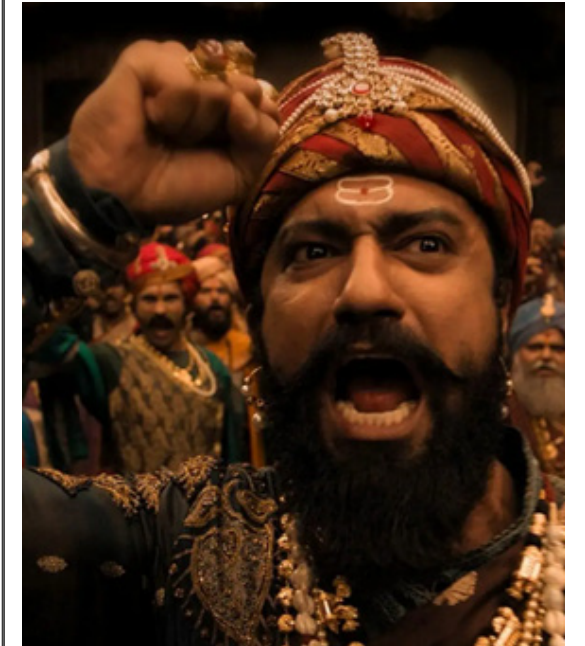
no comments to make on the proceedings. The matter is currently sub judice. The media should fact-check before reporting, as a lot of misleading information is being circulated."

One of the most viral claims alleged that Dhanashree had demanded ₹60 crore as alimony. In response, her family issued a strong statement, completely rejecting these reports.

"We are deeply outraged by the baseless claims about the alimony figure. Let me be absolutely clear—no such amount has ever been asked, demanded, or even offered. Reckless reporting like this only causes harm, and we urge the media to fact-check before spreading misinformation and respect everyone's privacy," the statement read.

While neither Chahal nor Dhanashree has officially confirmed their divorce status, their cryptic social media posts continue to fuel public curiosity.

## Chhaava Telugu Scores Big at Box Office Despite CT Final



Telugu audiences have once again proven their love for good cinema as Chhaava, the historical epic directed by Laxman Utekar and produced by Dinesh Vijan, continues its strong run at the box office. Released in Telugu by Geetha Arts, the film has performed exceptionally well despite competition from the Champions Trophy final.

While the opening two days saw impressive numbers, Day 2 surpassed Day 1, setting high expectations. Many predicted a dip on Sunday due to the cricket final, but Chhaava Telugu maintained its momentum, collecting nearly the same as Day 2. The film has grossed ₹9.46 crore in three days, proving that strong word of mouth is driving audiences to the-

aters despite being a dubbed release. Renowned production house Geetha Arts took up the challenge of completing the dubbing in record time, ensuring the film reached Telugu audiences with high-quality localization. Their dedication is now yielding big rewards at the box office. Viewers are showering praise on the performances of Vicky Kaushal, Rashmika Mandanna, and Akshaye Khanna, while the film's authentic portrayal of the unsung Maratha warrior king, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, is earning widespread acclaim.

With its phenomenal box office numbers, Chhaava Telugu is poised to set new benchmarks for Hindi-dubbed films in the Telugu market.

## When Roshan meets Sheela



The IIFA Awards stage witnessed a euphoric moment when Katrina Kaif made a rare appearance and joined Kartik Aaryan to perform the hookstep of the Bhool Bhulaiyaa title track. The moment turned even more special as Kartik

took on the role of a dance instructor, guiding Katrina through the iconic steps that have become a signature of the horror-comedy franchise.

Kartik, who won the Best Actor award for his performance in Bhool Bhulaiyaa

3, looked dapper in a midnight blue formal suit, while Katrina stunned in an ivory-hued outfit. Their electrifying stage presence and effortless chemistry left fans in awe, making it one of the most talked-about highlights of the event.

## Samantha's New Pic With Raj Nidimoru Sparks Dating Buzz



Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu is once again making headlines over her personal life after a picture of her with director Raj Nidimoru went viral on social media. The duo, who worked together on the Amazon Prime series Citadel: Honey Bunny, were seen attending a friend's birthday brunch, fueling fresh dating

speculation. In the widely circulated picture, Samantha is seen wearing a stylish green dress, while Raj Nidimoru keeps it casual. Their chemistry has become a talking point, especially after another viral moment from February 1, when Samantha shared photos from the World Pickleball League match. One of

the pictures showed her holding hands with Raj Nidimoru, adding to the rumors. Samantha was previously married to Naga Chaitanya, but the couple announced their divorce in 2021. Recently, Naga Chaitanya tied the knot with actress Sobhita Dhulipala on December 4, 2024, in a traditional Telugu ceremony, bringing

renewed attention to Samantha's past relationship. Samantha's Professional Front Samantha was last seen in Citadel: Honey Bunny, co-starring Varun Dhawan. On the big screen, she appeared in Kushi (2023) alongside Vijay Deverakonda.

Raj Nidimoru, best known as one half of the director duo Raj & DK, has helmed successful projects like The Family Man, Guns & Gulaabs, and Farzi. He has also directed films such as Shor In The City and Go Goa Gone. While neither Samantha nor Raj Nidimoru have addressed the dating rumors, their repeated public appearances have kept fans speculating.

## Hrithik Roshan Injured During Song Rehearsals With Jr NTR

Bollywood superstar Hrithik Roshan has suffered a leg injury while rehearsing for a song in War 2, where he shares screen space with Jr NTR for the first time. The injury has forced the actor to take a four-week break, leading to a postponement of the song shoot to May 2025. Originally, the film's team planned to complete the song shoot before proceeding with the remaining talkie portions. However, with Hrithik's injury, the schedule has been altered. Despite the delay, the makers remain committed to releasing the film on August 14, 2025.

Sources reveal that Hrithik pushed himself beyond limits during rehearsals, leading to a niggle in his leg. After a medical evaluation, doctors advised him to rest for a month to ensure a full recovery. Though the setback is disappointing, fans can

expect Hrithik to return with renewed energy. Current Status of War 2 Most of the talkie portions have been completed, and the team is now focusing on marketing strategies ahead of the theatrical release. Directed by Ayan Mukerji, War 2 is one of the most anticipated films of 2025, bring-

ing together Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR in a high-octane action spectacle. Yash Raj Films (YRF) is producing the sequel as part of its spy universe, following the massive success of War (2019). War 2 is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on August 14, 2025.

