Ishan Kishan's **Explosive Century Powers SRH** to Victory



**BRS** must win for Telangana's

Karimnagar pivotal in Telangana's history.

future.

- **Criticizes BJP** and Congress failures.
- achievements: irrigation, education, infrastructure.
- **Workers urged** to ensure BRS victory.

TR, the working president of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), made sensational comments regarding the party's defeat in the 2023 Telangana elections, stating that the people were to make sure that their voices between Karimnagar and KCR, eled the Telangana movement,

# KTR Blames 'Thief' in CM's Seat for **BRS Defeat, Vows to Reclaim Power**

not at fault but the "thief" sitting in the Chief Minister's seat was to blame. Speaking at a BRS workers' meeting in Karimnagar, KTR expressed that the people had been misled by hate against KCR (K. Chandrashekar Rao) and that the party needed to work harder to regain the people's trust for the betterment of Telangana.

KTR emphasized the importance of BRS winning once again, calling it a "historical necessity" for the state's future. He appealed to the party workers to rally in large numbers at in Warangal on April 27, aiming to counter the claims made by critics that BRS was fin-



the upcoming public meeting were heard loud and clear and referring to the district's historto silence those who doubted the party's strength.

In his speech, KTR highished. KTR urged the workers lighted the deep connection

ical significance in the Telangana movement. He recounted how KCR's first public meeting in 2001 at Karimnagar had fu-

and how the district had always supported the cause of Telangana, even when others had opposed it. KTR criticized both the BJP and Congress, accusing them of being enemies of Telangana's progress, citing broken promises by the BJP-led government at the center, including failed promises of jobs and financial aid. KTR also reflected on the progress made by the BRS government in various sectors, such as agriculture, education, and water supply.

He pointed out the significant improvements in Karimnagar, including the establishment of medical colleges, smart city projects, and irrigation schemes. He stressed that the BRS government had brought prosperity to the re-

gion, with the Kaleshwaram project and the supply of water to remote areas being prime examples of its achievements.

Referring to the growing disenchantment among Telangana's people due to the failure of Congress and BJP, KTR made a direct appeal to the party workers, stressing the importance of their involvement in the upcoming elections.

He urged them to dedicate themselves to the cause of BRS, ensuring the party's victory and KCR's return as the Chief Minister.

KTR concluded by saying that the BRS workers should work relentlessly, highlighting that the party's goal was to bring Telangana's future into their own hands.

# Invitation to CM for Participation in Sri Rama Navami Celebrations

Minister Konda Surekha, along with temple priests and officials, invited Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy to participate in the Sri Rama Navami Kalyana Brahmotsavams at the Bhadrachalam Sri Sitaramachandra Swamy temple. The invitation was extended at the Chief Minister's residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. Along with the Chief Min-

ister, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, and Minister Tummala Nageshwar Rao were also invited. A wall poster for the Sri Rama Navami Brahmotsavams was unveiled by the CM along with Deputy CM and other ministers. During the meeting, the Chief Minister inquired about the necessary land acquisition and other details related to the temple's development. He directed officials to provide



regarding land acquisition and required funds for the ongoing projects. CM's advisor, V. Narendra Reddy, Devasthanam present at the event. This invi-Principal Secretary Shailaja tation and the meeting mark

comprehensive information Ramaiyer, Commissioner of Endowments Sridhar, Bhadrachalam Temple EO Ramadevi, and other officials were also

an important step in furthering the development of the Bhadrachalam temple and ensuring smooth preparations for the grand celebrations of Sri Rama Navami.

# Bandi Sanjay Accuses KCR of Fake Currency Operations in Bidar

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay has made serious allegations against Telangana's Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), claiming that KCR's family operates a printing press in Bidar, Karnataka, used for printing counterfeit currency notes. Sanjay asserted that these fake notes were distributed during various movements and elections, suggesting that this illicit activity has contributed to the family's wealth, while Telangana is burdened with significant debt.

Addressing the media at the BJP state office in Nampally, Hyderabad, Sanjay criticized the financial management of the Telangana government. He highlighted that the state's debt has surpassed ₹6 lakh crore, acknowledging that the government is struggling to pay salaries to employees without selling government

- Bandi Sanjay accuses KCR of corruption.
- Fake currency printed in Bidar press.
- Telangana's debt exceeds ₹6 lakh crore.
- Congress promises unfulfilled, financial uncertainty looms.
- Farmers' power can change governments.



increase in commission rates, now ranging between 15% and

lands. He also pointed out the 18%, indicating rising corrup-

Turning to the Congress

party, Sanjay accused them of making numerous promises to government employees during elections without securing the necessary funds.

He estimated that fulfilling these promises would require over ₹8,000 crore, questioning the feasibility of such commitments. He warned that if the government fails to honor its promises to farmers, there will be significant repercussions, emphasizing that history shows no prosperity when farmers are neglected. Sanjay reminded that if farmers decide, they have the power to change governments.

Additionally, Sanjay underscored the importance of strengthening the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) system, as introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to ensure better financial security for employees.

### **Big Hero's Under Police Radar in Betting Apps Case**

- Police intensify crackdown on betting apps, now targeting top film stars.
- Cases registered against 36 YouTubers and celebrities so far.
- Notices issued to several individuals, including Balakrishna, Prabhas, and Gopichand.









TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Hyderabad and Cyberabad police have intensified their crackdown on betting apps, now shifting their focus to prominent Tollywood actors. Cases have already been registered against 36 individuals, including YouTubers and film celebrities, with notices served to all of them. Reports suggest that police are preparing to register cases against top actors Nandamuri Balakrishna, Gopichand, and Prabhas for allegedly endorsing betting platforms in the past.

Authorities are gathering evidence before taking further action, emphasizing that no one will be spared in their efforts to curb illegal betting promotions. Police officials assert that it is inappropriate for

celebrities to justify their past endorsements, as such promotions have had a significant impact on the public.

Several YouTubers who received notices have appeared for questioning at the Panjagutta police station, while film celebrities like Rana Daggubati and Prakash Raj have issued public apologies. Meanwhile, social media influencers Harshasai and Imran are reportedly absconding, prompting the police to deploy special teams to track them down.

The latest inclusion of top stars in the investigation has sent shockwaves through Tollywood, leaving several other big names in a state of uncertainty. Reports suggest that some individuals may be negotiating settlements with authorities. >> PAGE 2



# **Centre Pushes for Energy-Efficient Cooling Amid Record Power Demand**

- Industry-Led Movement for Sustainable Cooling
- Digital Strategy to Influence **Consumer Choice**

TPN correspondent | Hyderabad

**7**ith India bracing for record-breaking power demand this summer, the Union government is intensifying its push for energy-efficient cooling solutions. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) Ministry of Power, Government of India has urged air-conditioner manufacturers to accelerate the adoption of BEE 5-star-rated models, emphasizing their critical role in reducing electricity consumption and ensuring grid stability.

India's demand for air conditioning is soaring, with studies revealing that nearly 30% of installed air conditioners (ACs) are over eight years old. These outdated models consume 40-50% more electricity than modern energy-efficient units. As a matter of fact, many experts estimate that replacing older ACs with BEE 5-star-rated mod-

els could yield significant ben- ration from manufacturers on efits: (i) Up to 60% energy savings, lowering electricity bills for households and businesses,

(ii) Reduced peak power demand, enhancing grid stability and energy security, and

(iii) Major climate impact, cutting millions of tonnes of CO2 emissions annually.

In addition to upgrading AC units, simple behavioral changes can drive substantial energy savings. Setting air conditioners to 24°C instead of lower temperatures could save up to 10 billion kWh annually, translating into thousands of crores in energy cost reduc-

Recognizing the immediate need and urgency, the BEE has called for an industry-led movement to promote energy-efficient cooling.

Accordingly Milind Deore, secretary BEE has addressed a letter to Air Conditioning manufacturers and sought collabo-

a nationwide awareness campaign to encourage consumers to switch to BEE 5-star-rated models. The initiative also encourages companies to: (a) Leverage brand ambassadors to amplify messaging on responsible cooling, (b) Utilize digital marketing and social media to educate consumers, (c) Drive e-commerce promotions and in-store initiatives highlighting the benefits of energy-efficient ACs.

Interestingly, the consumer behavior has shifted significantly, with purchasing decisions heavily influenced by online searches, social media reviews, and influencer endorsements. This is evident from data trends indication of a surge in consumer interest in air conditioners between February and May, making this the optimal period for targeted digital campaigns.

As the summer heat inten-

sifies, the government's call to action presents both a challenge and an opportunity for

AC manufacturers.

Certainly, with strategic industry collaboration, India can move towards a more sustainable, energy-efficient future while ensuring consumer savings and grid stability. The Secretary BEE also requested AC

manufacturers and Traders to give utmost priority for popularizing 5 Star modules particularly in highly electricity consumed major cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Lucknow, Gandhi Nagar, Bhopal, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Vizag.

He specifically mentioned about rapid energy and also to achieve Net Zero emissions.

population growth of around 1 crore 30 lakhs by 2031 in Hyderabad Metropolitan City as per the reports where lot of potentiality is prevailing for penetration of 5 Star ACs which will immensely benefit the consumers.

The initiative also helps for the objective of the government



# Bandi Sanjay Criticizes Opposition Parties for Dramatizing Delimitation

- Delimitation debate distracts from real issues.
- Southern states demand disproportionate parliamentary representation.
- Congress, BRS leaders accused of corruption.
- Loan waivers and promises remain unfulfilled.
- Teachers and employees facing unresolved issues.
- BJP vows to fight for people.

nagar, Union Minister of State of staging a drama under the for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, sharply criticized the opposition parties, particularly Congress, BRS, and DMK, for their recent activities

In a fiery speech at a Teach-surrounding the issue of deers' Union event in Karim- limitation. He accused them and needs. pretext of representation in Parliament, arguing that their political maneuvering was disconnected from the country's actual economic performance



Sanjay strongly opposed the demand for Southern states to receive 36% of Parliament's representation based on their share in India's GDP, calling it a "strange proposition." He pointwith lower GDP contributions, didn't claim a proportionate representation in the Telangana Assembly, questioning the logic behind such proposals for

national politics.

Sanjay also took a firm stand on the ongoing liquor scam allegations involving key opposition leaders, accusing them of conspiring with liquor mafia groups to distract from their failures. He further lambasted Congress for not fulfilling its election promises, such as loan waivers for farmers and DA increases for government employees.

Emphasizing the struggles ed out that districts like As- of teachers, government emifabad, Adilabad, and Mulugu, ployees, and farmers, Sanjay condemned the delay in resolving issues like pending bills, unpaid pensions, and health insurance dues. He called on teachers and the TEPUS Union

to continue their fight for the resolution of these issues.

Lastly, he attacked the Congress-led government for failing to address the challenges faced by the people of Telangana, while the ruling parties played political games rather than focusing on governance. Sanjay warned the public against falling for such tactics and stressed that the BJP would continue to fight for the people's rights and welfare.

The speech was a sharp critique of the current political situation in Telangana and a call for action on real issues affecting the public.

### **Prabhakar Rao Files Petition in High Court**

In a significant development in the phone tapping case that has created a nationwide stir, T. Prabhakar Rao, the former Chief of the Special Intelligence Branch (SIB), has approached the High Court with a petition seeking bail. In his petition, Rao claims that he is suffering from cancer and a lung infection, and had traveled to the United States for medical treatment. He asserts that he had arrived in the U.S. before being implicated in the phone tapping case and denied any wrongdoing.

Rao expressed his frustration, stating that it was unfair to label him a criminal without proper investigation or evidence. He emphasized that there were no substantial grounds against him. The



phone tapping case was filed on March 10, and Rao was named as a primary accused. A non-bailable warrant was issued against him in the case.

In his petition, Prabhakar Rao also leveled serious allegations against the newly formed Congress government, claiming that it had conspired to involve him in the case. He denied

any political affiliation, asserting that he had worked with full dedication as the SIB Chief. Rao refuted accusations that he had illegally tapped the phones of opposition party members, stating that such claims were false. Despite being in the U.S., he maintains that he has remained in contact with investigating authorities.

1st Page Cont..

### Big Hero's Under Police Radar in Betting Apps Case

Additionally, former IPS officer Sajjanar's tweet on the issue has further intensified public de-

Amidst this controversy, producer Dil Raju is reportedly mediating discussions between the government and the film industry on the betting apps issue.

Legal experts are currently advising the police on the appropriate sections of the law to be applied, with indications that strict action will follow.

As the investigation deepens, those who promoted betting apps for financial gains are now facing serious legal consequences. With Ugadi approaching, it remains to be seen how this case will unfold for the celebrities involved.

# Minister Seethakka's **Empowering Remarks at Dalit Progress Conference**

At the Dalit Progress Conference in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, Minis-Seethakka called for a fight against deeply entrenched systemic oppression. The event was inaugurated by Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan. Speaking at the conference, Minister Seethakka shared her

an Adivasi woman, I've faced struggles and injustices, but today, I stand before you as an example of overcoming adversity and achieving political power." Minister Seethakka, who has won three terms as an MLA and currently serves as the Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Women's Welfare, reflected on the challenges she has faced



personal journey, saying, "As in her political career. She emphasized that the fight for Dalit rights is not just about equality and social justice, but also about celebrating the victories, no matter how small.

She paid tribute to historical struggles, including the Ayengar struggle and the Nangleli movement, noting that these battles were fought for the welfare of future generations. The minister highlighted

the rich revolutionary history of Dalit and Adivasi communities in India and urged everyone to draw inspiration from past movements for a just and equal society.

Concluding her speech, Seethakka urged solidarity and collective action for the betterment of future generations, stressing the importance of continuing the fight against oppression.



### **BRS Leader Jagadeesh Reddy Criticizes BJP and Congress, Accuses** of Broken Promises



#### **TPN Correspondent** Hyderabad

In a scathing attack on both the BJP and Congress, BRS MLA Jagadeesh Reddy made shocking comments about match-fixing and broken promises. Speaking to the media on Sunday, he accused Congress of lying about their loan waiver promises, stating that they had betrayed farmers by giving false assurances. He criticized the Congress for making promises that were not feasible and claimed they had misled the public about loan waivers. According to Reddy, the Congress only waived a fraction of the promised amount, and the actual figures from banks showed that the waiver was far below expectations.

Reddy also targeted the BJP over the delimitation issue,

warning that both southern and northern regions would oppose it. He stated that the BJP's conspiracies would ultimately backfire, and their efforts to change the political landscape would be thwarted. Additionally, Reddy claimed that the Congress party had abandoned its promises to the people, with no benefits delivered in terms of loan waivers, bonuses, or irrigation.

He further remarked that Congress had failed to fulfill its responsibilities to the people, leaving them frustrated with the ineffective government. Reddy assured that BRS would continue to fight for Telangana's rights, emphasizing the importance of state unity and federal spirit in protecting the state's interests.

### **BJP MP Laxman Defends Southern States Amid Delimitation Debate**



### **TPN Correspondent** Hyderabad

BJP Rajya Sabha MP Laxman criticized Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin's leadership in convening an all-party meeting in Chennai, led by Stalin. Speaking to the media on Sunday, Laxman accused the meeting of being part of Stalin's "diversion politics," aimed at deflecting attention from the impending electoral defeat. He claimed Stalin was involving leaders from other states to manipulate the sit-

Laxman strongly denied the allegations regarding the Delimitation process, stating that it was "frozen" until the BJP.

uation and alleged a secret

pact between Congress and

BRS in Chennai.

2026, and accused Congress, DMK, and BRS of spreading baseless rumors. He assured that the BJP would not treat Southern states unfairly, emphasizing that the party would continue to support their interests.

Laxman also attacked Congress and DMK, accusing them of stirring up false narratives about Delimitation and reservations to create emotional upheaval among the public. He asserted that BJP was committed to the welfare of Southern states and highlighted Prime Minister Modi's special affection for the region. He further condemned opposition parties for using divisive tactics to fuel resentment against

# **Kishan Reddy Accuses Congress and BRS of Collusion on Delimitation Issue**

- Delimitation issue exploited for political gain.
- No official Parliament discussion on delimitation.
- BJP focused on southern state welfare.
- BJP committed to winning key elections.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Union Minister and BJP State Chief, Kishan Reddy, made strong remarks on the ongoing delimitation issue, accusing both Congress and BRS of revealing their true colors. Speaking to the media at the BJP State Office on Sunday, Reddy criticized the two parties for jointly creating unnecessary issues against the central government. He pointed out that both parties were working together to spread misinformation, claiming that the southern states were being unfairly treated, despite no such discussion taking

place in Parliament or the Cabinet.

Reddy emphasized that no formal debate on the reorganization of parliamentary constituencies had been conducted in Parliament, yet opportunistic parties were creating baseless issues for political gain. He accused Congress and BRS of using the delimitation issue to engage in "dirty politics," despite the absence of any real problem in the matter. The BJP leader further stressed that the Narendra Modi government was sincerely working for the welfare of the

southern states and would continue its efforts to ensure their progress.

POLITICS

Reddy also made a point to highlight the BJP's focus on winning elections in Karnataka, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu, working dedicatedly to strengthen its presence in these states. He affirmed that the BJP's commitment to the welfare of the southern population would remain unwavering.



### **Former Minister V. Srinivas Goud Criticizes Government Policies**



### **TPN** Correspondent Hyderabad In a press conference at Telan-

gana Bhavan, former Minister V. Srinivas Goud and former BC Commission member Upendra Chari criticized the government's actions under the leadership of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao (KCR). Goud accused the Congress of deceiving all sections of society to come to power and misleading the public with unrealistic promises. He specifically employees' concerns, stating that the government plans to remove 1.25 lakh outsourcing workers, leaving their families without livelihood. Goud emphasized that these workers were performing the same duties as regular employees and should be regularized instead of being dismissed.

He also criticized the govern- up for their rights. ment for not providing bene-

fits to retired employees, with around 12,000 waiting for their dues. Goud stressed the need for immediate action to pay the pending bills using the state's revenue and called on the government to prioritize the welfare of workers.

Further, Goud pointed out the inefficiency of the government in addressing the issues faced by farmers in his own district, Mahabubnagar, due to unseasonal rains causing crop losshighlighted the outsourcing es. He demanded immediate compensation for the affected farmers and questioned the government's accountability for its debt, which he claims has not been used effectively for public welfare.

> Goud concluded by warning the government against taking actions that harm outsourcing employees, pledging to stand

### Vijayasai Reddy Supports KTR's View on Delimitation

### TPN Correspondent Hyderabad

Former MP Vijayasai Reddy expressed his support for the suggestion made by BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) on the issue of Delimitation. Reddy shared his views in response to the ongoing controversy surrounding the Delimitation of Parliament constituencies. He tweeted that relying solely on population-based Delimitation would negatively affect Southern states. He aligned himself with the protests initiated by several Southern states, including Tamil Nadu, led by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, against this approach.

Reddy acknowledged that the protests were justified but highlighted the assurances given by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who reassured that no

Southern state would lose any parliamentary seats and that the expansion would be equitable. He also praised the efforts of the Joint Action Committee (JAC), led by Stalin, for their efforts in fighting for the rights of Southern India.

He further pointed out the current distribution of Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh (4.6%) and Uttar Pradesh (14.7%), suggesting that any increase should maintain proportionality. Reddy emphasized that considering only population for seat allocation was impractical, given the large number of Indians living outside their home states. He concluded by agreeing with KTR's suggestion that state assemblies should also see an increase in the number of seats to bring governance closer to the people.



# K.Keshavarao's Key Comments on Delimitation



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad Congress senior leader and government advisor K. Keshavarao made significant re-

marks regarding the new Delimitation policy introduced by the central government. Speaking at a media conference on Sunday, K.Keshavarao emphasized the need for discussions with all states before moving forward with the Delimitation process. He stressed that the policy should enhance the representation of Southern states rather than reduce it.

K.Keshavarao stated that the law should only be passed with Parliament's approval and cautioned against proceeding unilaterally. He clarified that this was not a battle for seats but rather a fight for the prioritization of Southern states in Parliament. He expressed his belief that the leaders of Southern states must unite, as failure to do so could result in significant losses for the

The central government's move to base constituency redrawing on population has faced strong opposition from Southern states, which have lower populations and higher income levels. These states are concerned that such a policy will lead to a decrease in their representation in Parlia-



# **BJP MP Raghunandan Rao Receives Birthday Wishes from CM Revanth Reddy**

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a gesture of goodwill, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy extended birthday wishes to BJP MP Raghunandan Rao on his special day. Taking to social media, CM Revanth Reddy posted, "On the occasion of Medak Lok Sabha MP Madhavaneni Raghunandan Rao's birthday, I extend my heart-

felt congratulations. May God bless him with long life and good health as he continues to serve the public and contribute to the development of the state."

Raghunandan Rao, who initially contested and lost the Dubbak constituency in the previous assembly elections,

bounced back in the Lok Sabha elections, winning the Dubbak parliament segment. His birthday greetings from the Chief Minister highlight the spirit of camaraderie across party lines, reflecting a positive note in Telangana's political landscape.





# Walgo Infra CMD Sridhar Rao Gifts Mini Cooper to Son at | Crackdown on Black **Lavish Birthday Celebration**

#### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Sridhar Rao, the CMD of Walgo Infra, made a special gesture for his son Abisri's 7th birthday by gifting him a Mini Cooper at their residence, Abisri 1, Road No 49, Jubilee Hills. The celebration was a grand affair, featuring a red carpet entrance that welcomed numerous dignitaries and celebrities.

Key guests included Ut Khadeer, Honorable Speaker; Etla Rajendra, MP; Janga Raghav Reddy, Chairman; Donthu Madhav Reddy, Narsampet MLA; Naini Rajendra Reddy, Warangal West MLA; Anil Reddy, MLA, Bhongiri; and many more influential figures from politics, including MPs, MLAs, and esteemed personalities like Gayatri Ravi, Rajyasabha MP, and Mettu Sai Kiran, Chairman of the Fisheries Board.

The event featured stunning decorations, transforming the venue into a beautiful wonderland with floral arrangements and heavy lighting effects. Dubai-based architects worked on the décor, incorporating elements of Milan and London's design aesthetics. The centerpiece was the glorious Kakatiya Kala Thoranam (Warangal Gate) displayed in the live visuals, symbolizing heritage.

The evening was filled with electrifying performances from top artists and was further graced by film celebrities like Rajashekhar, Jeevitha, Catherine Tresa, Lahari Shari, and more. The celebration exuded luxury, camaraderie, and joy, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



# **Ticketing in Uppal**



### **Hyderabad Youth Congress Holds Gratitude March for CM Revanth Reddy**



### **TPN Correspondent** Hyderabad

Hyderabad Youth Congress, led by former president Motha Rohith Mudiraj, organized a Gratitude March from Rajiv Gandhi statue to Indira Gandhi statue, thanking Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for his initiatives benefiting marginalized communities. The rally, which saw Youth Congress workers march with placards expressing gratitude to the CM, culminated with the release of a 40-foot flex, lifted by drones, displaying the message "Thank You Revanth Anna."

During the event, Rohith Mudiraj highlighted several key decisions taken by the CM, including the 42% reservation for BCs, SC categorization bill, and the Rajiv Youth Development Scheme. He praised the CM's efforts in pro-

viding financial assistance up to Rs. 4 lakh for self-employment through the Rajiv Youth Development scheme, a first-of-itskind initiative aimed at empowering unemployed youth.

Rohith also criticized the BRS for focusing on criticizing the CM rather than working for the state's development. He challenged KTR to debate the development works carried out by the Congress government compared to those of the BRS. Rohith emphasized that Telangana's Congress government has done more for the state in its first year than the BRS during its two terms in power.

He concluded by stating that the people of Telangana are ready to give a befitting reply to the BRS for their baseless attacks.

### **Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy Attends Indian Army Function in Secunderabad**

### **TPN** Correspondent Hyderabad

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy attended an Indian Army function today in Secunderabad Cantonment, along with Telangana Governor Shri Jishnu Dev Varma. During the event, Minister Uttam expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Telangana and Andhra Sub-Area Army Commander General Misra, officers, and jawans for their unwavering support and courageous efforts in the SLBC tunnel accident relief and rescue operations.

He commended the army's com-

mitment to serving the people, particularly in times of crisis. Minister Uttam also expressed pride in being a part of the Indian Armed Forces, recognizing their critical role in ensuring national security and contributing to humanitarian efforts during emergencies.

The event served as an acknowledgment of the Indian Army's exemplary dedication and bravery, with special recognition for their efforts during the challenging rescue operations following the SLBC tunnel accident.



### **TPN Correspondent** | Hyderabad

The police have intensified their efforts to combat the black ticketing racket in Uppal, with significant progress made over the past 24 hours. As part of the ongoing crackdown, 15 individuals have been arrested, and approximately 45 black tickets have been seized by the authorities.

The raids, conducted by the Rachakonda police, led to the arrest of three individuals, Bhardwaj, Sampath, and Hari, yesterday. Today, 12 more individuals were arrested as part of the operation. In a related action, the Maheshwaram SOT team apprehended four suspects and seized 15 tickets from them.

The LB Nagar SOT police arrested several individuals, including Devender Agarwal, who was found with two tickets, Gugalothu Rakesh with four tickets, and Bhanoth Yakub Nayak with two tickets. The police also confiscated a total of 8 tickets from these suspects.

In another operation, the Bhongir SOT police seized three tickets from an individual named Karthik. The Malkajgiri SOT team also arrested Appala Suresh Das with two black tickets in his possession.

The authorities have vowed to continue their crackdown, ensuring that those involved in illegal ticketing operations face legal action.

### Kushai Guda Industrial Area: Fatal **Accident Due to Electrical Shock**



### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A tragic incident occurred in the Kushai Guda Industrial Area, under the jurisdiction of the Kushai Guda Police Station, when a man working near an electrical pole was electrocuted due to an earth wire shock. The incident took place when a transformer exploded with a loud noise, causing a fatal shock to the person who was working with mud near the pole.

According to reports, the owner of a nearby house was overseeing a laborer who was lifting the mud piled near the transformer for construction work. Unfortunately, during the process, the transformer malfunctioned, resulting in a deadly shock.

Upon reaching the scene, the police registered a case and have initiated an investigation into the incident. The authorities are working to ascertain the exact cause of the accident.

# Fatal Accident on Narsingi Outer Ring Road Due to Overspeeding

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A horrific accident occurred early this morning on the Narsingi Outer Ring Road when a speeding car lost control, collided with a divider, and then crashed into an oncoming Tata Safari. The driver of the car, Anand, who was traveling in a cab, tragically lost his life in the accident.

Five people traveling in the Tata Safari suffered severe injuries and were rushed to a nearby private hospital for treatment.

The incident took place when the car, traveling from Shamshabad Airport towards Gachibow-

li, lost control upon reaching Narsingi, hit the 
The collision caused significant damage to both divider, and then crashed into the Tata Safari, which was traveling in the opposite direction.



vehicles.

The Narsingi Police have registered a case and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the accident. The deceased cab driver, identified as Anand Kambli, hailed from Rajendranagar, Shivarampally. His body has been sent to Osmania Mortuary for a post-mortem examination.

The accident highlights the dangers of overspeeding, and the authorities have urged the public to exercise caution on the roads.

### Students Protest Water Shortage at Osmania University **Ladies Hostel**



### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Students at Osmania University's Ladies Hostel have been struggling with a severe water shortage for the past two days, leading to protests by the students. The students, who faced extreme inconvenience due to the lack of water supply, took to the streets in protest, demanding immediate action from the university authorities.

In a show of solidarity, leaders from the BRS Student Wing joined the protests and expressed their support for the affected students. They condemned the university's failure to provide basic amenities and urged the authorities to resolve the issue at the earliest.

The water shortage has disrupted the daily lives of the students, affecting their hygiene and overall well-being. The BRS Student Wing leaders emphasized the need for urgent intervention by the university and local authorities to ensure the water supply is restored without further delay.

The university administration has assured that efforts are underway to address the issue, but the students are demanding faster and more efficient action. The ongoing protests highlight the importance of providing essential services to students, especially during their academic pursuits.

### KTR Fulfills Promise, Rebuilds Tea Stall for **Srinivas Family in Sircilla**

#### **TPN Correspondent** | Hyderabad

In a heartwarming display of responsibility and commitment, KTR, the Working President of BRS, demonstrated his unwavering support for the Srinivas family of Sircilla. Recently, Srinivas's tea stall near the Bathukamma Ghat was dismantled by municipal authorities for not having a trade license and for displaying KTR's photo. The action was carried out under the directions of the District Collector. However, when Srinivas and his family protested in front of the Sircilla Municipal office, seeking help, KTR immediately reached out to them over the phone, offering words of encouragement and reassurance.

True to his word, KTR promised to personally set up a new tea stall for the family at his

**KTR's Karimnagar Rally Turns** 

**Chaotic Due to Bullet Incident** 

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

An unfortunate incident took place at

the BRS leader KTR's public meeting in

Karimnagar. Before the commence-

ment of the event, BRS leaders orga-

nized a rally, which was marred by

an unexpected disturbance caused by

a youth named Srikanth from Kothi

Rampur, Karimnagar. Srikanth, rid-

ing a Bullet motorcycle, created cha-

os by racing through the rally and ag-

gressively driving towards the crowd.

In the course of the incident, he hit

Padmaja, a police constable who was

performing her duties at the rally. As

a result, Padmaja sustained serious

injuries, including a broken leg. Fol-

lowing the incident, the police quick-

ly intervened, apprehended Srikanth,

and seized the Bullet motorcycle. He was subsequently taken to the police

The injured constable Padmaja was

immediately transferred to a pri-

vate hospital in the city for medical

treatment. The incident caused panic

among the rally attendees and drew

significant attention, highlighting

the need for better control and secu-

station for further action.

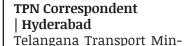
rity at such public events.



own expense. On Sunday, KTR visited Sircilla and inaugurated a new tea stall for Srinivas, bringing joy to the family. The swift action and fulfillment of his promise earned KTR praise from the family, who expressed their heartfelt grat-

The event saw the participation of local MLA L. Ramana and other public representatives. This act by KTR not only helped the struggling family but also demonstrated his commitment to helping the people of Telangana, reflecting his deep sense of responsibility towards future generations.

### **Ponnam Prabhakar Announces Strict Action Against Repeated Traffic Violators**



ister Ponnam Prabhakar made a significant announcement regarding traffic violations. He stated that strict action will be taken against individuals who repeatedly violate traffic rules. The Minister revealed that, from now on, the driving licenses of habitual offenders will be canceled. In addition, he warned that the offenders will not be able to renew their licenses or register any new vehicles in the future.

The Minister emphasized that the government will soon implement this regulation, and a Government Order (GO) will be released to formalize the process. This decision aims to bring stringent measures

against those who consistently neglect traffic laws, despite facing fines multiple times.

Authorities highlighted that some individuals continue to flout rules even after being fined repeatedly, leading to the necessity of such harsh measures. The new regulation will serve as a deterrent for such offenders and help in maintaining road safety. This initiative reflects the government's commitment to ensuring safer roads for the public, and it is expected to have a significant impact on traffic discipline in Telangana.

This move marks a decisive step towards improving road safety and reducing traffic violations across the state.



### **Tragic Road Accident in Nalgonda District: Four Dead**

### **TPN Correspondent** | Hyderabad

nearby hospital for treatment. the authorities.

place in Nalgonda district, the accident and investigated where an RTC bus was collided the details from local witnesswith by a car near Bibi Gudem es. The bodies of the deceased in the Chivemla Mandal. The were sent for postmortem, accident resulted in the tragic and their families were indeaths of four individuals on formed of the unfortunate inthe spot. Additionally, three cident. The traffic on the road, others sustained injuries and which had been disrupted due were immediately rushed to a to the accident, was cleared by

A horrific road accident took The police reached the scene of Initial investigations suggest that the accident was caused by over-speeding, but further inquiries are underway. A case has been registered, and the police are continuing their investigation into the incident. This tragic event serves as a reminder of the dangers posed by reckless driving.

### **Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Counters** KTR's Statements on Karimnagar **Development**

#### TPN Correspondent Hyderabad

In a strong counter to KTR's recent remarks on the development of Karimnagar, former Minister and Congress leader Ponnam Prabhakar raised several pointed questions regarding the ongoing political and developmental issues in the region. During his speech, KTR had claimed that Karimnagar had given them their political birth and spoke about the city's development under BRS rule. However, Prabhakar questioned the actions of KTR and the BRS government in addressing key issues in Karim-

He asked why medical col-

Karimnagar, despite promises to do so, while other areas like Siddipet, Jagtial, and Godavari Khani received them. He also pointed out the delay in completing important irrigation projects such as the Upper Maneru and Mallanna Sagar, and questioned the lack of a 8-lane road for the Karimnagar-Ramagundam stretch.

Prabhakar criticized KTR for not following through on promises made regarding the Shatavahana University and engineering college. He also raised concerns about the BRS government's failure to deliver essential infrastructure, like a medical college in the district, and the lack of development leges were not established in in the region despite political



Furthermore, Prabhakar accused KTR of not addressing land encroachment issues and of failing to protect the interests of the common people. He concluded by questioning the effectiveness of the BRS government and its promises to the people of Karimnagar.

# **Minister Ponguleti Inaugurates Road Development Works in Aedulapuram**

#### **TPN** Correspondent | Hyderabad

Minister of Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, has emphasized the need to complete ongoing road development works in Aedulapuram Municipality before the onset of the monsoon. On Sunday, the minister visited the municipal area and laid the foundation for several road construction projects.

Among the projects inaugurated were the construction of a BT road from Gurralapadu to New Narayanapuram, costing ₹2.85 crore, a BT road from Venkategiri SC, BC Colony to

Khammam Gudimalla ZP Road to submit proposals for necescosting ₹2.04 crore, and another BT road from Gudimalla to Torrivagu Donk Rice Mill costing ₹1.95 crore.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Ponguleti stressed the importance of completing these projects swiftly, ensuring that they are operational before the monsoon season begins. He urged the officials



sary road works based on public needs.

Later, the minister visited the Tirupatamma Temple in Gudimalla and sought blessings. The event was attended by public representatives, R&B SE Hemalatha, RDO Narasimharao, Panchayat Raj EE Venkat Reddy, Municipal Commissioner A. Srinivas Reddy, Khammam Rural Mandal Tahsildar Ramprasad, various officials, and Congress leaders.

road development works are expected to improve infrastructure in the region, benefiting local residents and facilitating better connectivity.

# Dr. Subrahmanyam Receives **Prestigious Award from Governor**



### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Dr. Subrahmanyam was honored with the prestigious 'Service Above Self Award' by Rotary International for his tireless efforts in the field of palliative care. The award was presented to him by Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan at a ceremony held in Hyderabad's Banjara Hills Rotary Club on Sunday.

This award is given to only 150 individuals worldwide from the Rotary community, and Dr. Subrahmanyam was recognized for his exceptional contribution to palliative care. He has been instrumental in

establishing the Sparsh Hospice, a special palliative care center in Hyderabad, in association with the Rainbow Group of Hospitals. The hospice provides free services, including food, medicines, accommodation, and medical care, to its patients.

Since its inception in 2011, Sparsh Hospice has served over 13,000 patients, providing palliative care to nearly 6,000 individuals daily. The Rotary Club of Banjara Hills emphasized that Dr. Subrahmanyam's dedication exemplifies the true spirit of Rotary and stands as an inspiring example for others in the medical field. His work continues to make a profound impact on the lives of many, offering comfort and care to those in

# Telangana Assembly to Pass Resolution Against Delimitation



### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana Assembly is set to pass a resolution tomorrow opposing the delimitation process. The government will express its strong objection to the BJP-led central government's approach to delimitation, particularly in relation to penalties imposed on states that follow population control measures. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will introduce the resolution, after which political parties in the assembly will voice their opinions.

The delimitation process has faced widespread opposition, with all parties, except the BJP, criticizing it. Political leaders argue that the BJP's approach favors increasing seats in northern states, es-

pecially to bolster its power in these regions. Allegedly, the BJP is increasing the number of seats in northern states to maintain control, which could diminish the political representation of southern states.

Congress and regional parties have raised concerns that the delimitation is part of a conspiracy to reduce political representation in the southern states. A meeting of all political parties was held in Chennai on Saturday, although BJP allies and representatives from YSRCP were absent. During this meeting, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy declared that a resolution opposing delimitation would be presented in the Telangana Assembly

on Monday.

Additionally, Revanth Reddy and others are demanding that the increase in Lok Sabha seats be postponed for another 25 years. They have also called for a fair distribution of seats in the new Lok Sabha, proposing that southern states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry should collectively receive 33% of the total seats. Following the resolution, discussions will take place regarding Panchayat Raj and Municipal laws, with proposals to establish six new municipalities and amend boundaries and names of certain village panchayats.



# **Who was Jessica Aber?**

# **Ex-US Attorney Found Dead Two Months after her Resignation**

 $F^{
m ormer}$  U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA), Jessica Aber, was found dead at her residence in Virginia on Saturday morning. The Alexandria Police Department (APD) confirmed the discovery and stated that an investigation is underway to determine the cause of her sudden demise.

Authorities responded to a call at 9:18 AM at a residence in the 900 block of Beverley Drive, where Aber, 43, was found unresponsive. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner of Virginia is set to conduct an autopsy to establish the cause and circumstances of her death, according to an APD statement.

Who was Jessica Aber?

Jessica Aber was a distinguished legal professional with a long history in public service. She began her career in the Eastern District of Virginia as an assistant U.S. attorney in 2009.

From 2015 to 2016, she worked as counsel to the assistant attorney general in the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ). She later served as the deputy chief of EDVA's criminal division before being nominated as U.S. Attorney by President Joe Biden in 2021. Her appoint-

Senate. Aber stepped down from her position months following a change in administration un-President Donald Trump. Prior to her resignation, she told The Washington Post that she had traveled more

than 50,000

miles across Virginia to engage with students and community leaders, underscoring her commitment to outreach and justice.

Born in California in 1981, Aber earned her un-

ment was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. dergraduate degree from the University of Rich-

Law

death

col-



the legal community. Virginia Attorney General Jason Miyares expressed his condolences in a statement on social media platform X, saying:

"I am saddened to learn of the passing of Jessi-

ca Aber, whose career of public service included U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia and whose work with Ceasefire Virginia saved more lives than we may ever realize.'

Current U.S. Attorney for EDVA, Erik S. Siebert, described Aber as an irreplaceable leader, mentor, and prosecutor.

"We remain in awe of how much she accomplished in her all-too-brief time in this world. Her professionalism, grace, and legal acumen set the standard," Siebert stated. "Though we are devastated by this loss, each of us in the Eastern District of Virginia will look to her example and endeavor to live up to that standard." Investigation into her death

While no official cause of death has been determined yet, authorities have stated that they are investigating the incident thoroughly. The APD has not provided any details regarding potential foul play but assured that further updates will be released as the investigation progresses.

Aber's passing has left a void in the legal community, with many remembering her as a dedicated public servant who tirelessly worked for justice.

# China's Military Drills Near Taiwan Is This Strategic Posturing?

China's recent military exercises near Taiwan, conducted between March 16 and 17, 2025, have once again raised serious concerns about stability in the Taiwan Strait. The large-scale deployment of warships, fighter jets, drones, and strategic bombers marked one of the most aggressive displays of force by Beijing in recent years. While China insists that these drills were a necessary response to foreign interference, they also serve as a clear demonstration of its military capabilities and strategic intent. The question remains—are these exercises merely strategic posturing, or do they signal a dangerous escalation toward conflict?

Beijing's Calculated Show of Force

The scope of China's military operations over these two days was extensive. Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence reported that 59 Chinese aircraft, including J-10 and J-16 fighter jets, conducted operations near the island. Of these, 42 crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait, a previously respected boundary that acted as a buffer between Taiwan and mainland China. Additionally, at least 90 Chinese warships were reportedly active in the surrounding waters, engaging in joint air-sea

China's Eastern Theatre Command described the exercises as a way to test "joint operational capabilities under real combat conditions." However, given the scale of the incursions, it is difficult to see them as anything other than an attempt to intimidate Taiwan. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) appears to be rehearsing potential future scenarios, such as a blockade or even an invasion of Taiwan. The US and Taiwan Partnership

Beijing claims that the exercises were provoked by statements from both the US and Taiwan, which it views as threats to its sovereignty. Recent adjustments in the US State Department's official language removed references to Taiwan being part of China, a shift that Beijing interpreted as a significant policy change. Furthermore, Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te has reaffirmed his government's commitment to strengthening Taiwan's self-defence, further aggravating tensions.

Taiwan has been steadily increasing its defence capabilities in response to Beijing's growing aggression. In 2025, Taiwan's military budget reached 2.45% of its GDP, with significant investments in missile defence systems, naval fleets, and air force capabilities. Additionally, Taiwan has been developing asymmetric warfare strategies, focusing on mobile missile units, sea mines, and drone technology to counter potential Chinese aggression.

The US, which has legal obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to assist in Taiwan's self-defence, strongly criticised China's military actions. The State Department labelled the drills "irresponsible and escalatory," reinforcing Washington's support for Taiwan. In recent years, US-Taiwan military cooperation has deepened, with increasing arms sales, intelligence-sharing, and joint training programs. This growing partnership has been

a major point of contention between Beijing and Washington.

Regional and Global Implications

China's aggressive military drills near Taiwan have sent ripples across the Indo-Pacific. Japan, which sees Taiwan's security as crucial to its own national interests, expressed concern over Beijing's assertiveness. Meanwhile, Australia and South Korea urged all parties to exercise restraint to prevent unintended military confrontations. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) also voiced alarm, as many of its member states fear that escalating tensions could spill over into broader regional conflicts.

These developments have led several countries to reassess their own security strategies. Many regional players are considering stronger defence partnerships with the US and its allies, further complicating China's strategic calculus. Beijing's actions may, in fact, be counterproductive, pushing neighbouring nations to seek greater military cooperation with Washington rather than deterring them. While China's military drills serve strategic purposes, they also play a crucial role in domestic politics. President Xi Jinping has repeatedly framed Taiwan's reunification as a historical mission, using nationalist rhetoric to solidify public support. By taking an aggressive stance, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) seeks to reinforce its nationalist credentials and project strength to its domestic audience. However, this approach comes with risks. If Beijing continues escalating



military pressure, it could accelerate Taiwan's push toward formal independence and provoke stronger responses from the US and its allies.

The Risks of Miscalculation

China's military exercises near Taiwan underscore the fragile balance of power in the region. While Beijing aims to send a strong message, such aggressive manoeuvres also increase the risk of accidental conflict. A miscalculation by any side—whether it be China, Taiwan, or the US—could lead to an unintended escalation, with potentially catastrophic consequences.

As tensions rise, diplomatic engagement and crisis management mechanisms become increasingly vital. While China may seek to pressure Taiwan into submission through military intimidation, its actions may ultimately have the opposite effect, strengthening Taiwan's resolve and drawing the US and its allies deeper into the conflict. The Taiwan Strait remains one of the most volatile flashpoints in global geopolitics, and how these tensions are managed in the coming years will shape the future of regional stability.

# **US Lifts \$10 Million Bounty on Sirajuddin Haqqani**

# Move follows the return of an American citizen held captive for two years

 $T^{\text{HE POINT DESK}}$  The recent decision by the United States to quietly lift its \$10 million bounty on Sirajuddin Haqqani, the Taliban's interior minister and a key figure in the Haqqani network, has sparked debates on whether this is a calculated diplomatic move or a dangerous compromise. The move, which also includes the removal of bounties on Abdul Aziz Haqqani and Yahya Haqqani, follows the release of an American citizen held captive for two years—a development that raises serious questions about Washington's evolving stance on the Taliban. For decades, the Haqqani network has been one of the most feared militant factions, known for orchestrating deadly attacks, including bombings on the US and Indian embassies in Afghanistan. The group was responsible for a series of kidnappings and extortion activities, all while being

labeled a terrorist organization. Sirajuddin Haqqani himself admitted to planning the 2008 Kabul Serena Hotel attack, which claimed six lives, including that of an American citizen. Yet, in 2025, he finds himself walking a path of international rehabilitation, with the US signaling a thaw in rela-

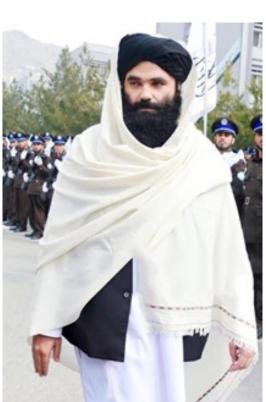
Taliban officials have hailed this as a step toward normalization. Foreign Ministry official Zakir Jalaly framed the decision as a sign that Afghanistan and the US are moving "beyond the effects of the wartime phase." But this raises concerns: Does this move truly indicate a shift toward constructive diplomacy, or is it merely a transactional compromise in exchange for an American hostage?

From a strategic standpoint, Washington's decision is not without precedent. Over the years, US administrations have engaged in back-channel negotiations with the Taliban, recognizing their de facto control over Afghanistan. China and Qatar have already accepted Taliban representatives in various diplomatic capacities. Yet, the Taliban's governance remains under scrutiny, particularly due to its harsh policies against women and girls, which have drawn global condemnation.

Moreover, Sirajuddin Haqqani is no ordinary Taliban figure. Unlike the reclusive supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada—who faces potential prosecution by the International Criminal Court for gender-based persecution—Haqqani has attempted to position himself as a more pragmatic leader. He has, at times, spoken out against the Taliban's rigid authoritarianism and internal decision-making. Could this be a sign that certain factions within the Taliban are seeking legitimacy on the global stage?

For the US, the risk is clear. By easing pressure on the Haqqanis, Washington may be attempting to open diplomatic channels with a faction of the Taliban that could offer more flexibility. However, this move could also embolden militant networks, setting a precedent that groups with a history of terrorism can eventually be legitimized if they wait long enough. Ultimately, whether this is a

masterstroke of realpolitik or a dangerous gamble remains to be seen. If this is a first step toward meaningful engagement and reforms, the US may be charting a new course for Afghanistan. But if it is merely a one-time concession to secure a hostage's return, it risks eroding the very credibility of counterterrorism policies that once made Haqqani one of America's most wanted men.







- Court can reject the report and order further investigation if needed.
- Allegations against Aditya **Thackeray** remain under scrutiny.

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

**T**he recent closure report filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the death cases of Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput and his former manager Disha Salian has stirred fresh controversy, with legal representatives arguing that the accused have not been

Speaking to IANS, Advo-

# **Accused Not Cleared: Disha Salian's Father's Lawyer on Sushant Case Closure Report**

Salian's father, stated that the closure report does not necessarily mean the case is shut. He emhave the power to reject such reports and direct further invesnecessary.

"Even after the submission of a closure report, the accused are not automatically freed. Courts can reopen the case, demand additional evidence, and even issue arrest warrants, as seen in past cases like the Aarushi Talwar murder," Ojha

He further pointed out that no official statement from the CBI has been released regarding the report's findings. Citing legal precedents, Ojha

cate Nilesh C Ojha, highlighted instances where representing Disha closure reports were rejected, leading to fresh charge sheets and renewed probes.

Ojha also dismissed allegations of political interference, asserting that the case is about phasized that courts justice for Disha Salian and Sushant Singh Rajput rather than political agendas. He revealed that Disha's father had filed a tigations if deemed PIL in September 2023, following which the Maharashtra government formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) in December. However, despite a formal complaint being lodged in January 2024, no case was registered. The lawyer raised critical unanswered questions, including suspicions about Aditya Thackeray's possible involvement, discrepancies in post-mortem findings, and alleged threats to witnesses. He argued that these gaps indicate possible manipulation in the



investigation.

Sushant Singh Rajput, popularly known as SSR, was found dead at his Bandra residence

on June 14, 2020, sparking national outrage. His postmortem, conducted at Mumbai's Cooper Hospital, cited asphyxia

as the cause of death. However, questions regarding the probe's transparency continue to per-

# Leaders Pay Tributes to Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev on Shahid Diwas

- PM Modi, Amit Shah, and Rahul Gandhi paid homage to the martyrs.
- Shahid Diwas marks the sacrifice of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev on March 23.

TPN Correspondent New Delhi

On the occasion of Shahid Diwas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and senior Congress leaders paid homage to freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev, remembering their supreme sacrifice for India's independence.

Prime Minister Modi, in a message on X, hon-

ored their legacy, stating, "Today, preme sacrifice of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev. Their fearless pursuit of freedom and justice continues to inspire us all."



Home Minister Amit Shah also our nation remembers the su- paid his respects, calling their sacrifice a testament to patriotism. "These great revolutionaries proved through their lives that there is no greater duty than patriotism. Their

sacrifice ignited the nationwide freedom movement and will continue to inspire generations," he wrote on X.

Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, joined in paying tribute. Rahul Gandhi, in his post, highlighted Bhagat Singh's fight against social injustice, stating, "His struggle was not just against British rule but also against casteism and social discrimination. His thoughts on equality and brotherhood will always inspire us."

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge shared a quote reflecting the revolutionary spirit of the martyrs and called their thoughts "immortal," reaffirming their contribution to India's freedom struggle.

Shahid Diwas is observed every year on March 23 to honor the martyrdom of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Sukhdev, who were executed by the British in 1931.

### **Jama Masjid Sadar chief Zafar Ali Arrested in** Sambhal violence case

TPN Correspondent | Sambhal

Jama Masjid Sadar chief Zafar Ali has been taken into custody by the Uttar Pradesh Police in connection with the violence that erupted in Sambhal on November 24, 2024.

A special investigation team (SIT) interrogated him on Sunday regarding the clashes that broke out during the Archeological Survey of India's (ASI) examination of the Shahi Jama Masjid.

While being escorted by the police, Zafar Ali told reporters, "I did not incite any violence." His brother, advocate Mohammad Tahir, claimed that the Jama Masjid Sadar chief "will be arrested soon."

The SIT has already filed a chargesheet spanning over 4,000 pages in six of the 12 cases related to the violence, which resulted in the deaths of four individuals and injuries to several others, including security personnel and locals. Zafar Ali, along with his son, had been summoned to the Sambhal Police Station for questioning.

Tight security measures in place

Anticipating potential tensions, the pothe city, including personnel from the mission to investigate the incident.

Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC) and Rapid Response Force (RRF). A flag march was conducted to maintain law and order. Last week, officials and residents celebrated Holi peacefully, with the Friday namaz at the Jama Masjid proceeding without incident. To prevent vandalism, a tarpaulin sheet was placed over the mosque, and the structure was whitewashed as per court orders.

Background of the Sambhal violence

The violence on November 24, 2024, was triggered by a court-ordered ASI survey of the historic Shahi Jama Masjid, following claims that the mosque was built over the remains of a demolished Hindu temple. The situation escalated into violent clashes, marked by stone-pelting, gunfire, and the torching of vehicles.

The unrest led to the deaths of four people and injuries to over 30, including several security personnel. Authorities imposed Section 144 to control the situation, and additional forces were deployed to restore order.

Following the violence, the Uttar lice have deployed heavy security across Pradesh government set up a judicial com-

### "Suspected" Arambai Tenggol **Members Attack**

### Meitei Insurgents Who Signed Ceasefire: Manipur Police



Correspondent **Imphal** 

Four members of the United National Liberation Front (Pambei), or UNLF (P), who had signed a ceasefire with the Centre and the Manipur government in November 2023, were injured in an attack by 15-20 suspected members of the Arambai Tenggol (AT), police said on Sunday.

The incident occurred on Saturday when the alleged AT members arrived at the residence of UNLF (P) functionary Irengbam Nandakumar Singh alias Tonsana, 56. A confrontation ensued, leading to injuries for four UNLF (P) cadres. Manipur Police, in a post on X, stated that security forces responded immediately, detained the injured, and shifted them to a

hospital. "They are reported to be free from any danger and have only blunt injuries (not gunshot)," the statement add-

Following the attack, security forces raided AT Unit-17 under Imphal East district's turned from Myanmar after Porompat police station and recovered various items, including 15 grams of a substance suspected to be heroin and an INSAS assault rifle bayonet.

An AT delegation had met Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla on February 25, seeking assurances for civilian safety following the surrender of arms. They requested that central forces and the police ensure security to prevent civilians from rearming them-

Ongoing ethnic conflict

The violence in Manipur, ongoing since May 2023, has largely involved the vallev-dominant Meitei community and the Kuki tribes, who are concentrated in the hill districts. Kuki civil society groups have accused AT of attacking their villages, prompting the formation of village defense forces. AT, however, claims it was forced to take up arms as "village volunteers" due to inadequate law enforcement.

In September 2024, Manipur Police confirmed the involvement of overground insurgents from both communities in the ongoing conflict. Several Meitei militant groups, including PLA, KYKL, and KCP, reportedly rethe military junta's influence weakened in certain areas. Meanwhile, nearly two dozen Kuki and Zomi insurgent groups under the Kuki National Organisation (KNO) and the United People's Front (UPF) operate under a controversial suspension of operations (SoO) agreement, which mandates they stay in designated camps with weapons locked under supervision.

Manipur violence has so far claimed over 250 lives and displaced nearly 50,000 people.

# Rajeev Chandrasekhar To Take **Over As Kerala BJP President**

TPN Correspondent | Thiruvananthapuram

Former Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar is poised to take over as the Kerala BJP state president, with party sources confirming that he is the sole nominee for the post. A formal announcement is expected following the party's state council meeting on Monday, where BJP's central observer Prahlad Joshi is set to officially declare his appointment.

On Sunday, Chandrasekhar filed two sets of nomination papers at the BJP headquarters in Thiruvananthapuram, in the presence of outgoing state president K Surendran and senior BJP leaders Kummanam Rajasekharan, V Muraleedharan, PK Krishnadas, and MT Ramesh, along with Union Ministers Suresh Gopi and George Kurian.

At 60, Chandrasekhar brings over two decades of political experience, having served as Union Minister of State for Electronics and IT, Skill Development, and Jal Shakti. A three-term Rajya Sabha MP from Karnataka, he has also been the BJP's national spokesperson and vice-chairman of the NDA's Kerala unit.

Chandrasekhar contested



Thiruvananthapuram as the NDA candidate, narrowly losing to Congress leader Shashi Tharoor by 16,077 votes. Born to Keralite parents in Ahmedabad, he has strong family ties to Thrissur.

The leadership change comes as K Surendran completes his five-year term. Speculation about his continuation was dismissed after he stated in a TV interview that he had informed the central leadership of his decision to step down.

While other BJP state leaders, including Shobha Surendran and MT Ramesh, were the 2024 Lok Sabha elections considered strong contenders

for the post, party members welcomed Chandrasekhar's appointment.

Surendran ex-Shobha pressed confidence in his leadership, calling it a "unanimous decision" that will help strengthen the party. MT Ramesh praised Chandrasekhar's strong electoral performance in Thiruvananthapuram, emphasizing his growing support base. Union Minister of State Suresh Gopi described Chandrasekhar as a "catalyst" for the BJP's organizational expansion in Kerala, stating that a strong team of ministers and senior leaders would back his efforts.

# **GLOBAL**

# India Can Engage With Russia, **Ukraine, Israel, Iran Parallelly**

Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Saturday emphasized that India's foreign policy follows the principle of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' allowing the country to engage simultaneously with conflicting nations like Russia and Ukraine, as well as Israel and

Speaking at the Business Today Vucanomics 2025 event on 'Diplomacy in the Age of Disrup-

ed India's strategic approach in maintaining relations with diverse global players. "In the current polarized era, India is among the few that can simultaneously engage with Russia and Ukraine, Israel and Iran, the democratic West and the Global South, and the BRICS and QUAD," he said.

Expanding Global Cooper-

Jaishankar stated that India has actively participated

TPN Correspondent | New tions,' Jaishankar highlight- in over 40 international groupings focused on trade, technology, energy, and security. "We have shown the ability to forge different combinations for different domains, ensuring as many doors remain open as possible," he added.

> He also underlined the role of Indian diplomacy in securing defense and security partnerships that offer the armed forces and businesses a wide range of options.

The minister stressed that

India's foreign policy is designed to protect economic interests while navigating global challenges. He highlighted the role of Indian embassies in promoting commercial ties, concessional financing for businesses abroad, and facilitating talent mobility.

"Our diplomacy and businesses must continue working together as Team India in the quest for a Viksit Bharat and in promoting India's interests globally," he posted on X. Jais-



and connectivity initiatives as economic drivers, reinforcing

hankar also pointed to tourism India's efforts to enhance its global footprint while strengthening domestic development.

### **Pope Francis Leaves Hospital After Five-Week Stay**

TPN Correspondent | Vatican City

Pope Francis was discharged from Rome's Gemelli hospital on Sunday after a five-week stay for pneumonia, marking his first public appearance since February 14. The 88-year-old pontiff, who had been battling a severe respiratory infection, was seen waving to well-wishers from a hospital balcony just moments before leaving in a car escorted by police vehicles.

The pope's hospitalization on February 14 was considered the most serious health crisis of his 12-year papacy. Doctors had been closely monitoring his condition, and although he has now been released, they have advised two more months of rest at the Vatican for a full recovery.

Despite his frail condition, Pope Francis made a brief but significant appearance outside the hospital, where he smiled and waved at the gathered crowd. Sitting in his wheelchair, he looked visibly weak, with a swollen face and a feeble voice, but managed



to express gratitude to one of the well-wishers who had brought him yellow flowers.

During his stay, the Vatican released only one public image of the pope, showing him praying in the hospital's chapel, which fueled concerns about his health. On Sunday, as he emerged for a short moment, hundreds of supporters outside the hospital chanted his name in an emotional display of support.

While the pope is now back at the Vatican, his recovery process remains ongoing, and doctors have urged caution in his schedule. His public engagements are expected to be limited in the coming weeks as he regains strength.

# Mark Carney to Contest in Nepean as Liberals Revoke Arya's Candidacy

TPN Correspondent | Otta-

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney will contest his first federal election in 2025 from the Nepean constituency in Ontario, replacing incumbent MP Chandra Arya, whose candidacy was revoked by the Liberal Party. The unexpected decision comes as Canada prepares for a snap election on April 28, nearly six months ahead of schedule.

The ruling Liberal Party announced on Saturday that Carney will run for Nepean, a suburban riding in Ottawa. The party highlighted Carney's deep ties to the capital, stating, "Ottawa is where he raised his family, devoted his career to public service, and always gave back to his community."

Arya, who has represented Nepean since 2015, was informed on Thursday that his candidacy for the 2025 election was revoked due to unspecified "new information"



tional Campaign Co-Chair. No further details were provided.

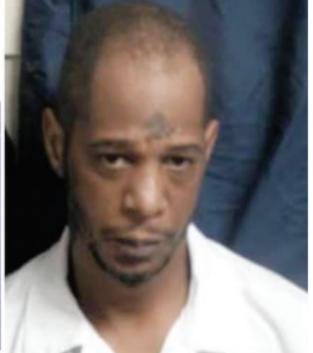
Carney Calls Snap Election Carney, who replaced Justin Trudeau as Prime Minister on March 14, is set to meet Governor General Mary Simon on Sunday to dissolve the House of Commons. The move is seen as an effort to capitalize on the Liberal Party's rereviewed by the party's Na- cent momentum and avoid a Removal

looming no-confidence vote in Parliament. At an event in Edmonton, Carney justified the early election, saying, "In this time of crisis, the Government needs a strong and clear mandate." He is expected to launch his campaign in Atlantic Canada before touring other provinces.

The sudden cancellation of Arya's candidacy raises questions about the internal decisions of the Liberal Party. Arya, who was also barred from the party's leadership race in January, has previously criticized the legitimacy of the process.

With Carney yet to face Parliament, this election will **Controversy Over Arya's** be his first major test as Prime Minister.





### **Indian-Origin Man and Daughter Shot** Dead in Virginia Store; Suspect Arrested

ginia

An Indian-origin man and his daughter were shot dead at a convenience store in Accomack County, Virginia, on Thursday, sending shockwaves through the Indian community in the region. The police have arrested 44-year-old George Frazier Devon White in connection with the shooting.

Pradipkumar Patel (56) and his daughter were working at a relative's store on Lankford Highway when the shooting occurred. According to authorities, the county sheriff's office received a distress call about the incident at around 5:30 AM

ficers found Patel unresponsive a felony. Authorities have not with gunshot wounds, while yet disclosed a motive behind his daughter was also discovered shot inside the building.

Patel was pronounced dead hind the shooting. at the scene, while his daughter was rushed to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, where she later succumbed to her injuries. Sheriff W. Todd Wessells confirmed the arrest of George Frazier Devon White from Onancock, who is curaccused faces multiple charges, including first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, possession of a firearm by a felon, and two counts of using

TPN Correspondent | Vir- on March 20. Upon arrival, of- a firearm in the commission of the shooting. Authorities have not yet disclosed a motive be-

Paresh Patel, the store owner and a relative of the victims, expressed his grief in an interview with Virginia's local WAYV-TV channel.

"My cousin's wife and her dad were working this morning, and some guy just came rently held without bond. The in and shot them," he said. "I don't know what to do.'

> The tragic incident has left the Indian community in Virginia in mourning, as investigations continue.

# **Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu Jailed Pending Trial**

Main opposition leader of Erdogan faces corruption charges

TPN Correspondent | Istan-

Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, a key political rival and main opposition leader against Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan, was jailed pending trial on Sunday as part of a corruption investigation. The court's decision, which also saw at least 20 others detained, has sparked widespread criticism from opposition leaders and European officials, with many calling it a politically motivated move.

The charges against Imamoglu, 54, come amid rising tensions ahead of Turkey's next general elections. While no national elections are scheduled until 2028, Imamoglu has been considered a strong contender against Erdogan, even leading in some polls. His arrest has intensified political unrest, with thousands of protesters rallying against the government's actions in Istanbul, Ankara, and other cities. Authorities have responded with heavy police presence, tear gas, demonstrators.

Despite facing corruption terror-related allega-



tions, Imamoglu has denied all charges, calling them "unimaginable accusations and slanders." The court, however, chose to release him under judicial control for the separate terror-related case, a move that prevents the government from appointing a trustee to take over Istanbul's administration.

Opposition leaders, including Ankara Mayor Mansur and water cannons to disperse Yavas of the Republican People's Party (CHP), have condemned the arrest as a "disgrace for the judicial system." The CHP is

currently voting to select Imamoglu as its candidate for the next presidential election, signaling continued resistance to Erdogan's rule.

The Turkish government has denied any political interference, insisting the judiciary remains independent. However, with a nationwide protest ban extended for four more days and over 320 demonstrators already detained, tensions between Erdogan's administration and the opposition are escalating rapidly.





# **Stock Markets Poised for Gains as FIIs Return**

 $\mathbf{I}$ ndian stock markets are likely to see an improved performance this week, as there are no immediate negative signals from international markets. Additionally, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have resumed MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM inflows into the Indian markets, further strengthening investor



The Nifty 50, which closed at 23,350 last Friday, faces immediate resistance at 23,800. However, experts suggest that consolidation at the current level is crucial for sustained growth. Once the index stabilizes, it could gain further strength, boosting investor confidence.

Last week, smallcap and midcap indices struggled, while stocks from the realty, healthcare, PSE, energy, pharma, banking, auto, infrastructure, and finance sectors saw gains.

### **Stock Recommendations**

#### **TVS Motors**

TVS Motors has been in a downtrend since September last year, correcting nearly



25%. However, it formed a double bottom at the crucial ₹2,230 level, indicating a potential turnaround. The stock gained in five consecutive sessions last week, closing at ₹2,413 on Friday. Investors should consider entering at ₹2,400, targeting ₹2,550–2,600, with a stop loss at ₹2,360.

#### **Mankind Pharma**

After a 30% correction from its lifetime high, Mankind Pharma is showing strong momentum. The stock surged 12% in



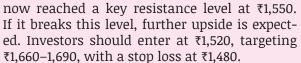
the last two sessions with high volumes, and the pharma sector as a whole is performing well. Mankind Pharma closed at ₹2,415 last Fri-



day, and investors should consider entering at ₹2,350, aiming for a target of ₹2,540 with a stop loss at ₹2,310.

### SBI Life

SBI Life, which has been in a downtrend since September, has shown accumulation since the beginning of this year. Despite market fluctuations, the stock displayed resilience, gaining nearly 12% last week. It has



### **MRPL**

MRPL shares have been in a downtrend since February last year, but recent trading patterns indicate range expansion with high volume. The stock outperformed the Nifty, rising 13%

range, targeting ₹165, with a stop loss at ₹120.

NHPC has been forming a solid base for the past two months, showing a Darvas Box pattern. The stock has reached short-term

Market experts suggest that while the outlook

last week and 22% over the past month. It closed at ₹135 on Friday with a 14% gain. Investors should enter in the ₹130

### NHPC



resistance at ₹82, and a breakout could increase momentum. NHPC rose 6% last week. Investors should enter at ₹80, targeting ₹115, with a stop loss at ₹76.

is positive, investors should follow stop-loss levels and monitor global cues closely.

### Boeing lays off 180 employees in India amid global workforce reduction aerospace firm. The contract, part of

US aerospace giant Boeing has laid off up to 180 employees from its engineering and technology center in Bengaluru as part of a broader global workforce reduction. The move comes as the company navigates ongoing challenges while maintaining its focus on customer service, safety, and

According to sources, the layoffs were part of strategic adjustments, affecting only limited positions without impacting key operations or government contracts. While some roles have been eliminat-

ed, Boeing has also created new positions, indicating a restructuring rather than an outright downsizing of its India workforce.

Boeing employs around 7,000 people in India and had earlier announced plans to reduce its global workforce by approximately 10% last year.



However, the company has not issued an official statement regarding the latest layoffs in Benga-

Boeing wins major US Air Force contract

Meanwhile, Boeing secured a significant contract to build the next-generation fighter jet for the US Air Force, marking a major victory for the the Next Generation Air Dominance (NGAD) program, will see Boeing replacing Lockheed Martin's F-22 Raptor with a new crewed aircraft de-

US President Donald Trump, who awarded the contract, named the new aircraft the F-47 but did not disclose the total value of the deal. The announcement led to a 5% surge in Boeing's stock, while Lockheed Martin shares dropped nearly 7%.

Trump hinted at potential international sales, stating, "Our allies are calling constantly. They want to buy

them also."

For Boeing, this contract represents a crucial turnaround, offering a boost to its St. Louis, Missouri, fighter jet production unit at a time when the company has faced struggles in both its commercial and defense segments.

# **India to Drive 6%** of Global Trade **Growth, Ranks Third After US** and China



Tndia is set to play a significant role in **■** global trade over the next five years, contributing around 6% to worldwide trade growth, following China at 12% and the United States at 10%, according to a joint report by DHL and the New York University Stern School of Business.

The latest DHL Trade Atlas 2025 projects that India will maintain its third-place position in trade expansion while improving its trade speed ranking by 15 places to reach the 17th spot. India's compound annual trade volume growth rate is expected to rise from 5.2% to 7.2% over the next five years.

The report highlights that in 2024, India ranked as the 13th largest participant in international trade, yet its trade volume saw a 5.2% annual growth rate from 2019 to 2024, significantly outpacing the global trade growth rate of 2%. The surge in India's trade reflects its rapid macroeconomic growth and increasing integration into the global trade network.

"The Trade Atlas underlines India's rapid expansion in global trade, positioning the country as a critical hub connecting the East and West. While we anticipate trade volume growth and an increase in global trade share, we remain cautiously optimistic given the global economy's volatility," said R S Subramanian, SVP South Asia, DHL

The report further notes that while China is perceived as a more trade-oriented economy, India's goods trade-to-GDP ratio in 2023 was nearly as high as China's. When accounting for both goods and services, India's trade intensity even exceeded that of China.

Strong foreign investments are expected to bolster India's trade growth. In 2023, India ranked second globally after the US in attracting greenfield foreign direct investment. The manufacturing sector, in particular, has emerged as the primary focus of this investment.

The report also predicts robust trade growth for other emerging Asian economies, including Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines. South Asia and Southeast Asia are expected to outperform other regions in terms of trade expansion.

"With the ongoing diversification of supply chains, Asia has firmly positioned itself as a dominant force in global trade," said Ken Lee, CEO - Asia Pacific, DHL Express.

### **UPI Services to Be Deactivated for Inactive Mobile Numbers from April 1**

The National Payments Corpora-L tion of India (NPCI) has directed banks and payment service providers to remove UPI IDs linked to inactive mobile numbers starting April 1. Users with such numbers will lose access to payment apps like Google Pay, Paytm, and PhonePe due to security concerns.

NPCI stated that inactive mobile numbers linked to UPI pose a security risk, as reassigned numbers may still be connected to previous UPI accounts. This could lead to fraudulent activities if the numbers are misused. To prevent this, NPCI has asked banks and digital payment platforms to delink inactive numbers from the UPI system.

### Who Will Lose UPI Access?

· Users who have changed or deactivated their mobile numbers



without updating them in their bank records.

Those whose mobile numbers have been reassigned to another person.

Customers with inactive or deactivated numbers that have not been used for banking transactions.

### **How to Avoid UPI Disruptions?**

- Ensure that the mobile number linked to the bank account re-
- mains active. If a mobile number has changed, update the new number with the bank before April 1.
- Users with inactive numbers should get a new number and update it in their bank records to avoid service disruption.

### Role of Banks in the Process

Banks and PSPs will regularly re-

view and remove UPI IDs linked to inactive or reassigned numbers.

- Telecom providers' Mobile Number Revocation List will be used to identify numbers flagged as inactive or deactivated.
- Banks will notify users before disabling UPI services for inactive numbers.
- UPI access will not be removed for users who update their mobile numbers before the deadline.

With this move, NPCI aims to enhance security in digital transactions and prevent potential fraud linked to reassigned mobile numbers. Users are advised to verify and update their mobile numbers to ensure uninterrupted access to UPI services.



# **OFF BEAT**

# NewJeans vs ADOR Court halts K-pop group's independent activities



South Korean girl group NewJeans has been barred from conducting activities independent following a legal dispute with their agency, ADOR, a subsidiary of HYBE Corporation. The Seoul Central District Court issued the directive on Friday, ruling in favor of ADOR's injunction against the group.

The conflict began last November when NewJeans comprising Minji, Hanni, Danielle, Haerin, and Hyein—announced their decision to cut ties with ADOR, citing mistreatment and dissatisfaction with the agency's management. The group even attempted to rebrand itself as NJZ. Tensions escalated when the members openly opposed the removal of former ADOR CEO Min Hee Jin, further straining their relationship with the label.

In January, ADOR filed an injunction against New-Jeans, arguing that the group was seeking independent contracts without approval. The court sided with ADOR, stating that NewJeans' actions could "seriously damage" the label's reputation. The ruling also emphasized that the group failed to provide sufficient proof that ADOR had violated their contractual obligations, noting that the agency had fulfilled its financial commitments.

"If (NewJeans) unilaterally terminate the contract, ADOR would suffer greatly. And if (NewJeans) begins activity under a new name, it could severely damage not only the brand of New-Jeans but the reputation of ADOR," the court stated. The ruling casts uncertainty over NewJeans' scheduled song release on March 23. The group, while respecting the court's decision, expressed dissatisfaction with the legal proceedings. In a statement, they said, "We plan to challenge today's decision during which we will raise additional legal issues and submit further supporting evidence. Regardless, we can no longer remain with a management that has disrespected our identities and undermined our achievements."

Beyond contractual disputes, NewJeans has also accused ADOR of violating artists' rights and workplace harassment, adding another layer of complexity to the legal battle.

# **Meta Weighs UK Subscription Option After Targeted Ads Ban**



Meta is considering introducing a subscription model for UK users of Facebook and Instagram after agreeing to stop targeting human rights campaigner Tanya O'Carroll with personalised ads. The move follows a legal challenge that led to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) affirming that users have the right to object to their data being used for direct marketing.

Legal Battle Over Targeted Ads The case began when O'Carroll sued Facebook over its collection and use of her personal data for

targeted advertising. The ICO backed her claim, stating that Meta was "processing Ms O'Carroll's personal data for direct marketing purposes." Under UK GDPR regulations, individuals have the "absolute right" to object to such processing.

Meta settled the case by agreeing to stop processing O'Carroll's data for direct marketing, effectively blocking targeted ads for her. In response, O'Carroll called it a "victory" for UK and EU citizens, saying it could help others object to surveillance advertising.

While Meta stated it was "pleased to draw a line under this long-running case," it fundamentally disagreed with the claims. A company spokesperson reiterated that Facebook and Instagram remain free because of personalised advertising and emphasized the company's compliance with UK GDPR obligations.

Following the settlement, Meta revealed that it is "exploring the option of offering people based in the UK a subscription" similar to the ad-free plan it already provides in the EU. The company said it would share further details in due course.

ICO's Stand on User Privacy

The ICO reiterated that organisations must respect people's choices regarding their data and provide a clear opt-out mechanism for direct marketing. The regulator encouraged users to file complaints if they believe companies are not complying with their requests.

As Meta faces increasing regulatory scrutiny, its potential shift to a paid subscription model in the UK could mark a significant change in how social media platforms operate in the region.

### **Honor Pad X9a Launched With** 11.5-inch LCD, Snapdragon 685 SoC

Honor has unveiled the Honor Pad X9a in Malaysia, featuring an 11.5inch LCD display with a 120Hz refresh rate and Snapdragon 685 chipset. The new tablet runs on Android 15-based MagicOS 9.0 and comes with an 8,300mAh battery, supported by a 35W fast char-

The device is listed on Honor Malaysia's website, but the company has yet to announce its price. It will be available in a single Gray color variant and comes in an 8GB RAM + 128GB storage configuration.

Honor Pad X9a Specifica-

The Honor Pad X9a sports a 2.5K (1,504x2,508 pixels) LCD screen, paired with 8GB of RAM. The company also offers virtual RAM expansion, allowing an addi-



tional 8GB of unused storage to be used as memory. In terms of cameras, the tablet features an 8-megapixel rear camera with autofocus and an f/2.0 aperture, while the front 5-megapixel camera handles selfies and video calls.

For connectivity, the tablet supports Wi-Fi and Bluetooth 5.1, and is com-

patible with Honor's wireless keyboards and stylus. It is equipped with a quad-speaker setup for an enhanced multimedia experience.

The 8,300mAh battery provides up to 70 days of standby time, according to the company. The tablet measures 267.3 x 167 x 6.77mm and weighs 475g.

# From Delhi to Hyderabad, India goes dark for Earth Hour

Photo Credit: PTI

Cities across India observed Earth Hour on Saturday night by switching off lights between 8:30 pm and 9:30 pm as part of the global movement to conserve energy. The event, organized by the World Wide Fund (WWF), saw several iconic buildings and landmarks participating across the country.

In Delhi, the lights at the India Gate and Qutub Minar were turned off in solidarity with the initiative. The Delhi electricity distribution company, BSES, had urged its 50 lakhplus consumers and 2 crore residents in South, West, East, and Central Delhi to switch off non-essential lights and appliances during the hour-long observance.

Hyderabad also joined the ini-

tiative, with the Dr BR Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat going dark in support of Earth Hour. Similarly, the Kerala Assembly Building switched off its lights, reinforcing the nationwide commitment to sustainability.

Earth Hour was first introduced as a lights-out event in Sydney, Australia, in 2007, and has since expanded to over 190 countries, engaging millions of individuals and organizations worldwide. The Ministry of Environment highlighted that major global landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, Big Ben, Sydney Opera House, and Empire State Building, have all participated in this global initiative over the years.

This year, Earth Hour coincided with World Water Day, with WWF-India promoting the theme "Be Water Wise" to emphasize the link between energy conservation and water security. As climate change continues to impact global water resources, the need for sustainable practices has become increasingly urgent.

Last year, Delhi residents saved 206 MW of electricity during Earth Hour, with BSES areas contributing 130 MW. This year, the initiative aimed to surpass those figures, reinforcing Delhi's role as a leader in the fight against climate change.

Earth Hour is more than just a symbolic gesture—it serves as a reminder to adopt conscious choices every day that contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

# Kerala Farmer's Tiny Goat Karumbi Enters Guinness Records

A Kerala farmer's pet goat, Karumbi, has made history by securing a place in the Guinness Book of World Records as the shortest living goat cord title. in the world. Owned by Peter Lenu, Karumbi, a black female pygmy goat, stands at just 1 ft 3 in (40.50 setting a new global benchmark.

Peter Lenu, who had always known encouraged by those around him to submit her for the world record. After receiving a suggestion from a guest, he took the necessary steps to

ian confirmed Karumbi's size, age, and health, clearing her for the re-

Karumbi belongs to the Canadian pygmy goat species, known for their stocky bodies and genetic dwarfism, cm) at the full-grown age of four, which limits their leg growth to a maximum of 21 in (53 cm). Despite her tiny stature, Karumbi is one Karumbi was unusually small, was of the most social animals on the farm, living alongside three male goats, nine females, and ten kids, as well as cows, rabbits, hens, and

get the goat evaluated. A veterinar- Adding to the excitement, Karumbi is currently pregnant, and her next offspring could potentially break new records.

> Thrilled by Karumbi's recognition, Peter Lenu expressed his commitment to maintaining the genetic quality of his animals and ensuring their well-being. He eagerly awaits the birth of Karumbi's baby, which could further cement the farm's place in history.









In a thrilling start to the IPL 2025 season, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) defeated Mumbai Indians (MI) by four wickets at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on March 23. Opting to field first, CSK's bowlers restricted MI to 155/9 in 20 overs. Debutant spinner Noor impressed with figures of 4/30,

including the pivotal wicket of Survakumar Yadav, who scored 29 off 26 balls.

In response, CSK's chase was anchored by captain Ruturaj Gaikwad, who smashed a rapid 53 off 26 deliveries, reaching his half-century in just 22 balls. Rachin Ravindra contributed signifi-

cantly with an unbeaten 65 off 45 balls, sealing the victory with a six. Despite a late wobble, CSK achieved the target in 19.1 overs, finishing at 158/6.

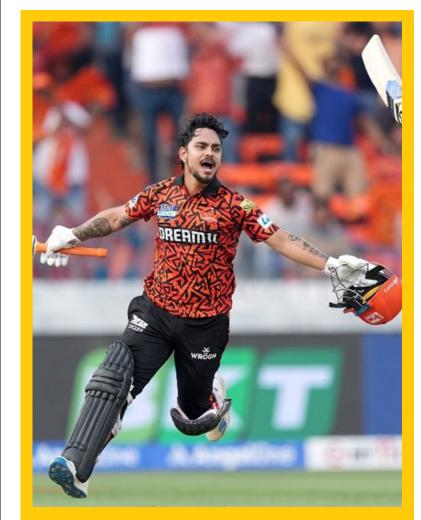
This win provides CSK with a positive start to their campaign, showcasing both bowling depth and batting prowess.



ermany is looking to maintain its momentum from Euro 2024 as they face Italy in the Nations League quarter-final second leg in Dortmund. After a 2-1 comeback victory in Milan, goalkeeper Oliver Baumann expressed confidence that the team would ride the "surge in spirit" that has uplifted them in recent months. Speaking at the prematch press conference, Baumann emphasized the home advantage of Dortmund's 82,000-strong Westfalenstadion, which could prove challenging for Italy. "It can be very loud, and it can carry a team. It can be extremely unpleasant for an opposing team," he said.

Germany's campaign has revived local enthusiasm after disappointing early exits in recent tournaments. major Coach Julian Nagelsmann echoed this sentiment, stating that the team aims to "make our own history" rather than dwell on past encounters, including Italy's 2006 World Cup semi-final victory at the same venue.

Italy, on the other hand, is determined to turn the tie around. Coach Luciano Spalletti acknowledged the first-leg defeat but urged his team to focus on the present. "We need to do something new. We expect a strong opponent, but we know what we need to do to return home with a win," he said.



### Ishan Kishan's Explosive **Century Powers SRH to Victory**

Tn a stunning display of This explosive knock was **I**batting prowess, Ishan supported by valuable con-Kishan scored a rapid centu- tributions from Travis Head ry to lead Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) to a command- Klaasen (34 off 14 balls), and ing victory over Rajasthan Abhishek Sharma (24 off 11 Royals (RR) in their IPL 2025 opener at the Rajiv Gandhi forts propelled SRH to a total International Stadium in of 286/6 in 20 overs, narrow-Hyderabad.

Kishan, acquired by SRH for of 287 runs. ₹11.25 crore during the mega In response, RR's chase falauction, made an immediate impact in his debut SRH secured a decisive win. match. He reached his cen- This match not only hightury in just 45 balls—the lighted Kishan's explosive fastest in IPL 2025—finish- batting but also underscored ing unbeaten on 106 off 47 SRH's dominance in the IPL. deliveries.

(67 off 31 balls), Heinrich balls). Their collective efly missing their own record

tered under pressure, and



# Yuki Bhambri Becomes India's No. 1 **Men's Doubles Player**

### Ends Rohan Bopanna's 286-week reign after Miami Open victory

Tndian tennis star Yuki **■**Bhambri has claimed the country's top spot in men's doubles rankings after defeating veteran Rohan Bopanna at the Miami Open. Bhambri, alongside his Portugal partner Nuno Borges, secured a hardfought victory over Bopanna and Croatia's Ivan Dodig in the round of 32 match, winning 6-4, 3-6, 10-7.

With this win, the 32-yearold Bhambri is set to overtake Bopanna in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) doubles rankings at the conclusion of the Miami Open. Bhambri now stands at number 29 in the live ATP doubles rankings, while Bopanna has dropped to 43. The Indo-Portugal duo will next face Adam Pavlasek of Czechia and Jamie Murray of the United Kingdom in the round of 16.

Bopanna, a two-time Grand tle with Matthew Ebden last Slam champion and a winner of 26 tour-level titles, had Bhambri has been in impresbeen India's number-one doubles player since October 2019. His reign, lasting 286 weeks, has now come to an end. The Championships alongside Aus-45-year-old had entered the Miami Open as the defending champion, having won the ti-



sive form this season, recently clinching his maiden ATP 500 title at the Dubai Tennis tralia's Alexei Popyrin. The duo staged a remarkable comeback in the final, defeating US Open and Australian Open champions Harri Heliovaara and Henry Patten 3-6, 7-6(12), 10-8.

also caused an upset by knocking out top-seeded Marcelo Qatar Open. The 2009 Australian Open junior boys' champion, Bhambri was previous-

ly India's top-ranked singles player, breaking into the top 100 twice with a career-best Last month, Bhambri and Ivan ranking of 83 in April 2018. He shifted his focus to doubles in 2023 and has since won three Arevalo and Mate Pavic at the ATP 250 titles, further cementing his position as one of India's top tennis players.

# Irfan Pathan Dropped from IPL **2025 Commentary Panel**

the commentary panel for the upcoming IPL 2025 season, reportedly due to accusations of bias and targeting certain players in his analysis.

Pathan, a regular in both English and Hindi commentary for IPL and India's international matches post-retirement, was not named by the broadcasters for the 2025 season. According to a report in the Times of India, the decision was influenced by complaints shots" at certain cricketers.

A source close to the development et. stated, "Pathan had a fallout with a couple of players a few years ago. Since then, he has not shied away from referring to them aggressively. The matter was raised that other junior players got caught in the crossfire. He has been accused of taking potshots at them on social media platforms even if he didn't name them."

Former Indian cricketer Irfan from players and concerns over Following his exclusion, Pathan remark on Ravindra Jadeja during has reportedly launched his own the 2019 ODI World Cup. he was accused of taking "pot- YouTube channel, where he is ex- At the time, Manjrekar had acpected to share his views on crick-

#### Not the First High-Profile Exclusion

Pathan is not the first commentator to be sidelined due to controversial remarks. In 2020, former cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar was removed from the BCCI's commentary panel for India's ODI series against South Africa, following his infamous 'bits and pieces'

knowledged the decision, stating, "I have always considered commentary a great privilege, but never an entitlement. It is up to my employers whether they choose to have me or not & I will always respect that."

With Pathan now out of IPL 2025 commentary, it remains to be seen if he will make a return in future seasons.





The anticipation for Sambaraala Yetigattu, starring Mega Supreme Hero Sai Durgha Tej, continues to grow. Following SDT's intense first look and the teaser's gripping action sequences, the makers have now introduced another pivotal character from the film.

On the occasion of Srikanth's birthday, the team revealed his striking transformation as "Britishu." Sitting atop a hill, clutching a thread, his intense gaze and rugged demeanor

set the tone for a powerful character. With a thick beard, unkempt long hair, a soldier's outfit, and sturdy boots, Srikanth's look exudes dominance and mystery.

Directed by Rohith KP and produced by K Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy, Sambaraala Yetigattu is shaping up to be a high-octane period action spectacle. The film is currently in production and is slated for a grand Pan-India release on September 25th.

# Raashi Khanna Flaunts **Post-Workout Glow!**

Tollywood star Raas- I hi Khanna is giving major fitness goals as she shared a post-workout snap with her trainer, Kuldip Sethi, revealing the dedication behind her sculpted physique.

Dressed in a chic brown bralette. matching gym pants, and trendy sneakers, Raashi looked effortlessly radiant, proving that hard work and style go hand in hand.

Adding a dash of humor to her fitness journey, she captioned the picture, "Proof that I made it through the session without tears and still felt cute enough for a selfie! @kuldepsethi."

Meanwhile, on the professional front, Raashi is gearing up to share the screen with Siddhu Jonnalagadda in her upcoming film Telusu Kada.





Ever since the intense teaser of Kingdom dropped in February, excitement has been soaring for this Vijay Deverakonda-led action drama. The gripping visuals hinted at a mysterious, high-stakes backdrop, and speculation has been rife that director Gowtam Tinnanuri's period narrative delves into the Sri Lankan civil war.

Adding fuel to these rumors, Vijay Deverakonda is now headed to Sri Lanka for the next schedule of Kingdom. Over the next five days, the team will be shooting a song across multiple picturesque locations, further strengthening the buzz that the film is rooted in the island nation's tumultuous past.

Reports suggest that Vijay plays a rebel who stands against the oppressive actions of the Sri Lankan army, fighting to protect his people. While it remains to be seen if

the film directly references the LTTE conflict, all eyes are on Kingdom as it gears up for a grand release on May 30th.

The film stars Mr. Bachchan actress Bhagyashri Borse as the female lead and is bankrolled by Naga Vamsi under the Sithara Entertainments banner. With a massive pan-India rollout planned, Kingdom is shaping up to be one of the summer's biggest cinematic spectacles.

# **Robinhood Trailer Blend of Comedy and Action**

With just five days left for ri Movie Makers. its theatrical release, the Nithiin plays a bu much-anticipated trailer of Robinhood has finally been unveiled, heightening excitement among fans. The film marks the reunion of Nithiin and director Venky Kudumula after their blockbuster Bheeshma, and is backed by Myth-

Nithiin plays a burglar who unexpectedly finds himself working for a security agency led by Rajendra Prasad. His team, consisting of elderly members, is assigned to protect a wealthy young woman, played by Sreeleela, who arrives from Australia. However, the plot

steps in with his illegal operations.

The trailer showblend of comedy, action, and advenure, with Nithiin impressing in multiple avatars, effortdelivering ture.

humor and charm. His chemistry with Sreeleela adds a lighthearted touch, while Rajendra Prasad and Vennela Kishore contribute hilarious moments. Devdatta Nage's villainous presence intensifies the narrative, and David Warner's stylish cameo adds an extra layer of

takes a sharp turn Visually, Sai Sriram's cinematogwhen a ruthless raphy enhances the film's appeal, villain, portrayed while GV Prakash Kumar's enby Devdatta Nage, ergetic music complements the high entertainment factor. With top-notch production values from Mythri Movie Makers, Robinhood promises to be a fun-filled entertainer with a gripping storyline. Releasing worldwide on March 28,

Robinhood is shaping up to be a crowd-puller, offering an exciting mix of humor, action, and adven-

### Warner makes his cinema debut with Robinhood

ahead of the grand trailer launch and pre-release event of his debut Telugu film, Robinhood. Warner, who enjoys a massive fan base in India, was welcomed with a huge bouquet and greeted by excited supporters seeking autographs. Directed by Venky Kudumula, Robinhood features Nithiin in the lead role. Warner has expressed his enthusiasm for his first acting experience, stating that he thoroughly enjoyed shooting for the film.

troduced Warner's entry into Indian cinema with a social media post. "After shining and leaving a mark on the ground, it is time for him to shine on the silver screen. Introducing the widely loved @ davidwarner31 to Indian Cinema with #Robinhood in an exciting cameo. Grand release worldwide on March 28th," they wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

Warner also shared his excitement, posting, "Indian Cinema,

Australian cricketer David Warner has arrived in Hyderabad house, Mythri Movie Makers, in #Robinhood. Thoroughly enjoyed shooting for this one. Grand re-



# Amanda Seyfried Calls Jennifer's Body "Perfect"

Amanda Seyfried has praised her 2009 film Jennifer's Body, calling it a "perfect" movie while criticizing its marketing for cheapening its impact.

Directed by Karyn Kusama and written by Diablo Cody, the horror-comedy starred Seyfried alongside Megan Fox. Though it failed at the box office, it later developed a strong cult following. Seyfried, in an interview with GQ, expressed her admiration for the film, highlighting its bold storytelling and unique tone.

"I can't critique this movie. To me, it's perfect. It's got guts. Diablo Cody was outspoken, brilliant, and hilarious. We were expressing a certain angst in a very specific, comedic way within a distinct genre. The special effects were incredible, there were stunts—everything you could want. If there's anything to criticize, it's the marketing," she said.

The film follows Fox's character, a high school girl possessed by a demon who preys on male classmates. Seyfried played her best friend, Needy Lesnicki, who ultimately tries to stop her.

According to Seyfried, the marketing campaign misrepresented the movie, portraying it as a standard horror flick rather than the sharp, feminist satire it was intended to

"The marketing team cheapened

it, making it seem like just a gory romp. I think they ruined it. Karyn and Diablo were an amazing team. I loved playing Needy it was my first time embracing a nerdy character, glasses and all. Megan got to transform into a demon—it was awesome. We had so much fun, and I'd love to celebrate it with a sequel," she added.

Up next, Seyfried will star in Paul Feig's psychological thriller The Housemaid.

