



**Weather Forecast**

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 35° C L 21° C	H 36° C L 23° C	H 36° C L 23° C

# OH MY HELAPURI NRI WAS BACKSTABBED CONNINGLY

NRI was cheated by Helapuri College Management.

<b>Investment was invited, but the stance changed later.</b>	<b>Even refusing to return the invested amount.</b>	<b>NRI was removed as a director through manipulation.</b>	<b>Fake documentation was created to revoke directorship.</b>
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ROC and Registrar of Societies (Khammam) were manipulated.

<b>Even forged the signature of Director Atluri Sri Rupa, who was in the USA.</b>	<b>Planned and executed the documentation process within 20 days.</b>	<b>Being a BJP leader, the College Chairman influenced the Registrar of Societies.</b>	<b>NRI is seeking the intervention of state authorities. If this continues, NRIs may hesitate to invest in the state.</b>
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TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Earlier, we have seen how an NRI investment was blocked by Helapuri College Management at Eluru, allegedly threatened by an MLA and his associates in collusion with the college management. Now, more colors are emerging from Helapuri College Management. Allegedly, they have manipulated the Registrar of Companies and the Registrar of Societies (Khammam).

As per the NRI's version, first, they invited investment. Then, after witnessing the political situation in their favor, they started avoiding investors. Fed up with this attitude, the NRI demanded the repayment of crores of rupees. In response, they devised a plan to avoid repayment as well. They used the local MLA and his associate to issue threats against the NRI. Later, they doctored the documentation. After receiving the investment amount, they incorporated NRIs as directors. However, they later decided to remove them after all these developments. As per the procedure, proper financial settlement should be made before

removing directors. But here, they removed these two directors under the pretext of misbehavior with staff and others. No management, firm, or company can remove a director based on behavior. Surprisingly, they made a resolution, registered it with the Registrar of Societies, Khammam, and later updated it with the Registrar of Companies. For this purpose, they even forged the signature of a director, Mrs. Atluri Sri Rupa, who was in the USA on the date of the resolution.

The major issue is that, apart from all these manipulations and improper actions, they successfully removed the two directors with the approval of the Registrar of Societies, Khammam, and the ROC. Moreover, the NRI did not receive this information until February, while the documents had been registered with the Registrar of Societies in October 2024.

Helapuri College operates under Sri Gayathri Educational Society. Using this name, they fabricated documents related to conducting a meeting, appointing a two-member committee, obtaining committee approval, and

ultimately making a society resolution to remove the two directors. The entire process was completed within just 20 days, from October 3 to October 23, 2023.

The approach of the Registrar of Societies, Khammam, also appears suspicious. The registrar did not respond for a long time to the victim NRI's request to the registered amendments and resolutions of the society. The registrar only released them a few days ago, revealing the manipulations done to remove the NRI as a director. It is alleged that the Chairman of the Society, Mr. Ramesh EV, who hails from Khammam and is a BJP political leader, used his influence over the registrar's office.

If the system can be manipulated so blatantly, how can NRIs be expected to invest in the state? Politicians, officials, police, and the registration department, including the ROC, are all allegedly involved. The NRI is now seeking the intervention of the heads of the state and JNTU, the authority overseeing engineering colleges, to ensure justice is served. A legal battle remains the NRI's final option.



## CM Naidu Holds Key Meetings in Delhi With Union Minister

Focus on AP Development and Financial Cooperation

- Meetings with Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Gadkari
- Land Grabbing Bill and anti-drug measures discussed
- Request for continued financial support for AP development

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu held two significant meetings in New Delhi on Wednesday, accompanied by State Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav. The Chief Minister met Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari to discuss crucial issues related to AP's development and future plans.

Chandrababu discussed the state's political situation and the way forward for the NDA alliance with Amit Shah. During the meeting, Chandrababu also highlighted the AP Land Grabbing Provision Bill, explaining how previous governments misused power by colluding with officials to illegally register private lands under 22E and encroach on forest lands. Drawing inspiration from Gujarat's successful implementation of similar legislation, Chandrababu requested Amit Shah's support for the swift approval of the bill. The proposed legislation covers both urban and rural lands and includes provisions to file PD Act cases against those involved in land irregularities.

The Chief Minister also discussed AP's action plan to curb marijuana cultivation and drug abuse. He explained that special systems are being established to completely eliminate marijuana, and alternative employment opportunities along with incentives will be provided to those currently involved in illegal cultivation. A dedicated anti-drug bill is also being drafted to strengthen these efforts.

In a separate meeting, Chandrababu and Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to discuss AP's financial situation and the need for continued central support. They briefed her on the recently presented AP budget, with special emphasis on the introduction of the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme aimed at boosting capital expenditure. They explained that ₹2,000 crore has been allocated to a dedicated corpus fund under this scheme, which they described as the first-of-its-kind initiative in the country.

Chandrababu expressed his gratitude to Nirmala Sitharaman for the Centre's continued financial support and assured her that the AP government is committed to effectively implementing central schemes. He requested timely release of funds to ensure smooth implementation of development projects, including the proposed linking of Godavari, Vamsadhara, Nagavali, Krishna, and Penna rivers to benefit Rayalaseema and optimize water utilization for projects like Polavaram.

## Babu's Surety... Fraud Guarantee... - YS Jagan

Pawan Kalyan is more of a corporator than an MLA

TPN Correspondent | Tadepalli

YSR Congress Party president and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan. Speaking at a press conference held at the YSRCP central office in Tadepalli on Wednesday, Jagan ridiculed Pawan Kalyan's political career and criticized the governance of the NDA coalition government. Responding to Pawan Kalyan's recent comments that the YSRCP would not even get opposition status, Jagan quipped that Pawan is "more suited to be a corporator than an MLA," reminding that Pawan has only managed to win as MLA once in his life. Jagan also recalled that it was during his government that Chandrababu was officially recognized as the Leader of the Opposition, despite internal pressure to poach TDP MLAs.



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## Nagababu Finalized as Jana Sena MLC Candidate Under MLA Quota

- Nagababu to contest as MLA quota MLC
- Pawan informs Nagababu to file nomination
- Discussions held with CM Chandrababu

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati



Jana Sena Party's State General Secretary Konidela Nagababu has been finalized as the party's MLC candidate under the MLA quota. Party president and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan informed Nagababu to file his nomination and instructed the party office to prepare the required documents. Nagababu's selection was confirmed following discussions between Pawan Kalyan and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Pawan officially announced Nagababu's candidature, finalizing one out of the five available MLC seats under the MLA quota.

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## Babu's Surety...

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Jagan alleged that the present government's budgets are nothing but bundles of lies and deceit. "The two budgets presented by Chandrababu's coalition are full of false promises and unrealistic figures," Jagan charged. He accused the government of using its election manifesto as a publicity gimmick, with no intention of fulfilling promises like the Super Six and Super Seven schemes. "Chandrababu promised 20 lakh jobs and ₹3,000 monthly unemployment allowance, but there's no mention of funds for these in the budgets," Jagan pointed out. Criticizing the Governor's address, Jagan alleged that the claim of creating 4 lakh jobs is a blatant lie. In contrast, Jagan highlighted that his government created 1.30 lakh jobs within the first four months, appointed 2.66 lakh village and ward volunteers, and provided jobs to 96,000 people through APCOS and 58,000 employees through the RTC merger. Jagan concluded that during YSRCP's five-year rule, a total of 6.31 lakh jobs were created directly and indirectly, asserting that the current government's claims are far from reality.



## HC Expresses Strong Displeasure Over Delay in Appointment of PPs and APPs

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh High Court expressed strong displeasure towards the state government for its delay in appointing Public Prosecutors (PPs) and Assistant Public Prosecutors (APPs). Taking a serious view of the prolonged delay, the court initiated an inquiry into the matter and sought a clear explanation from the Chief Secretary. The court directed the Chief Secretary to personally appear before the inquiry and submit a detailed explanation regarding the reasons for the delay and the steps being taken to fill these crucial vacancies. The court emphasized that the absence of adequate prosecutors is severely hampering the functioning of the judicial system. The High Court was hearing a petition that sought immediate action to fill the vacant posts of PPs and APPs across the state. Taking the petition into consideration, the court ordered the government to issue appropriate instructions to the concerned departments to expedite the recruitment process without any further delay. The bench made it clear that further inaction on the part of the state would not be tolerated and warned that the government would be held accountable if the vacancies were not filled within a reasonable timeframe. The court adjourned the case to next week, awaiting a comprehensive response from the state government.

## Minister Nara Lokesh Questions Jagan on Majority Comparison with Pawan Kalyan

- Nara Lokesh Slams Jagan's Remarks on Deputy CM
- Criticizes Jagan for making degrading remarks on Deputy CM
- Says even Jagan's own family doesn't trust him anymore

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Minister for IT and Industries Nara Lokesh strongly criticized YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for his remarks on Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. Responding to Jagan's comments that Pawan is only fit to be a corporator and has no stature compared to MLAs, Lokesh condemned the remarks as highly degrading and unbecoming of a former Chief Minister.

Lokesh questioned Jagan directly, asking him to compare the majority won by Pawan Kalyan with the majority Jagan himself secured in his own constituency. "Let's compare how much trust the people have in Pawan and how much they have in Jagan," Lokesh said.

He criticized Jagan for staying distant from the people, whether he was in power or after losing the elections. Lokesh took a jibe at the former Chief Minister, saying that after the fall of the "curtain government" run by Jagan, even the sales of curtains in the



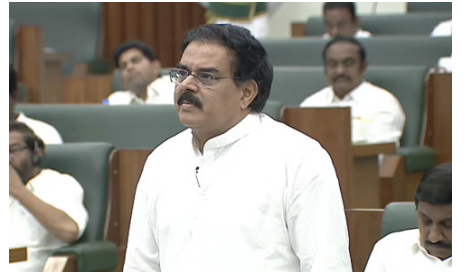
state had dropped, highlighting how the YSRCP government functioned behind closed doors.

Lokesh further added that the people of Andhra Pradesh have given a clear mandate, not only rejecting YSRCP but also ensuring they do not even qualify for the main opposition status. "Why is Jagan unable to understand the message from the people?" Lokesh questioned.

He slammed Jagan for making comments that not only insult the Deputy

Chief Minister but also show disrespect towards the democratic verdict. Lokesh also remarked that Jagan's failure to understand why his party was reduced to just 11 seats shows his complete disconnect with reality.

Concluding his remarks, Lokesh said that Jagan should take time to introspect and realize that even his own mother and sister no longer trust him, which is why the people of Andhra Pradesh have also rejected him so decisively.



## Complaints Against Opposition to be Referred to Privileges Committee: Minister Nadendla Manohar

- Opposition behavior degrading House dignity
- Minister urges Speaker to refer matter to Privileges Committee
- Civil Supplies budget of ₹3,807 crore introduced

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Minister Nadendla Manohar strongly condemned the conduct of opposition members in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Wednesday, stating that their behavior is undermining the dignity of the House.

Speaking in the Assembly, Minister Manohar expressed concern over opposition members disregarding the rights and traditions of the House while spreading false information to mislead the public. He requested Speaker Tammineni Sitaram to refer these issues to the House Privileges Committee for thorough examination and necessary action.

Minister Manohar stressed that protecting the sanctity of the House is the collective responsibility of all members. He accused the opposition of misusing Assembly rules to make baseless allegations and disrupt proceedings. Defending the Speaker's rulings, he asserted that they were fully justified and in line with established parliamentary norms.

He further urged opposition members to focus on constructive participation for the state's development instead of engaging in disruptive behavior, warning that people would ultimately reject such negative politics. Minister Manohar emphasized the need for all parties to work together to overcome the state's economic challenges and put Andhra Pradesh back on the path to development.

The Minister also introduced the Civil Supplies Department's budget for the financial year 2025-26, amounting to ₹3,807 crore. He highlighted that the budget gives equal importance to welfare, development, and the implementation of government promises.

## Nagababu Finalized...

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There was earlier speculation that Nagababu might be sent to the Rajya Sabha, especially after former MP Vijayasai Reddy's resignation. However, with the BJP also showing interest in that seat, plans were adjusted. Following Pawan Kalyan's recent meeting with Chandrababu, the decision to nominate Nagababu for the MLC seat was finalized. Jana Sena Political Secretary and current MLC Hariprasada officially confirmed Nagababu's name in the party's internal group. With nominations to be completed by the 10th, Nagababu is expected to file his papers on an auspicious day.

While Nagababu's name has been officially announced, the names of the remaining four candidates are yet to be revealed. There is also speculation about whether Vangaveeti Radha will be given a seat from the TDP quota. A final decision on the remaining MLC candidates is expected after Chandrababu's return from Delhi.

## Amaravati Will Be Built Without Burdening People, Says Minister Narayana

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

State Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Dr. Ponguru Narayana made it clear that not a single paisa from public taxes will be used for the construction of Amaravati, the state's world-class capital. Addressing a review meeting at the Nellore Collectorate on Wednesday, Minister Narayana explained that the capital is being developed with loans from international financial institutions like the World Bank, ADB, and HUDCO, ensuring there is no financial burden on citizens.

He highlighted that 5,000 acres of land were collected through land pooling, with 1,200 acres allocated for international-level educational institutions, schools, and industries. The remaining land will be developed and sold at good prices, ensuring funds for capital construction and debt repayment. Tenders have already been invited for ₹50,000 crore worth of works, out of the ₹64,000 crore planned investment.



Minister Narayana emphasized that Amaravati is being built with full transparency, strictly adhering to SSR rates, and unlike the previous government, funds will not be diverted. He reassured that ₹6,000 crore has been allocated in the budget for the capital, with provision for additional funds if needed.

He also responded to former CM Jagan's comments, urging people not to believe the opposition's false propaganda regarding Amaravati.

The minister further stated that the government will resume construction of BC Bhavan and Ambedkar Bhavan in Nellore, and legal hurdles permitting, land pattas will be distributed to Bhagat Singh Colony residents.



## Illegal Transportation of Cattle Caught in Rajanagaram

TPN Correspondent | Rajanagaram

Police in Rajanagaram constituency intercepted a container vehicle illegally transporting cattle near Durgamma Thalli Gudi Junction in Rajanagaram mandal. Acting on specific information, the police reached the spot and conducted inspections, discovering 52 bulls crammed inside the container.

Officials from the Animal Husbandry Department, the Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO), and other concerned authorities were immediately informed. DSP Y. Srikanth stated that the bulls were safely shifted to the Bobbilanka Gosala in Seethanagaram mandal, where they are being

provided necessary care, keeping in view their health conditions.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the transportation bill mentioned the cattle were being moved from Madhavaram in Srikakulam district to the market in Chilakaluripet. However, suspicions about illegal transport and potential violations prompted further investigation.

DSP Srikanth confirmed that the driver fled the scene, and a case has been registered. Police have seized the container and are investigating from all angles to gather complete details regarding the source, destination, and purpose of the transport. Authorities are determined to take strict action against those involved in illegal cattle transportation.

## National Safety Day Celebrated at Tulsi Seeds Factory



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

A special awareness seminar was organized at the Tulsi Seeds Factory premises on the occasion of National Safety Day. The event, held on March 5, 2025, aimed at promoting workplace safety and preparedness among employees.

The program was presided over by Tulsi Seeds Managing Director Shri Tulsi Yogish, who unfurled the safety flag and administered a safety pledge to the staff. Addressing the gathering, Shri Yogish

emphasized the importance of workplace safety and conducted a demonstration on handling natural hazards that may occur in factories.

Production managers, staff, and Corporate HR Shri Vadlamudi Ravindra Kumar participated in the event, along with representatives from Coastal Packagings, Chaitanya Packagings Private Limited, and Tulsi Seeds Private Limited. The seminar served as an important platform to reinforce safety measures and enhance awareness among factory workers.



# Speaker Ayyanna Patrudu Warns YSRCP Over Opposition Status Demands



- **Speaker rejects YSRCP's opposition status demand**
- **Warns Jagan against making baseless allegations**
- **Cautions against attributing ill intentions to Speaker**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

AP Legislative Assembly Speaker Chintakayala Ayyanna Patrudu made strong remarks against the YSR Congress Party's repeated demands for recognition as the official opposition. He compared their expectations to seeking a boon rejected by God from a priest, emphasizing that the matter is not within the Speaker's authority

alone.

Ayyanna Patrudu expressed serious displeasure over the baseless allegations made by YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy and his party MLAs regarding opposition status. Addressing the Assembly, the Speaker reminded the House that Jagan had already approached the High Court on the same issue. He stressed that the matter is now in the legal domain and should be allowed to run its due course.

The Speaker took strong objection to the recent statements made by Jagan and other YSRCP legislators outside the Assembly, where they accused the Speaker of acting with bias. Ayyanna Patrudu firmly warned that attributing ill intentions to the Speaker or questioning the impartiality of the Chair would be treated as a violation of the established rules and decorum of the House.

He made it clear that decisions on official opposition status would be guided strictly by constitutional provisions and legal clarity, not political pressures. The Speaker urged all members to maintain respect for the legislative process and await the court's verdict instead of resorting to public accusations.

The strong stance taken by Ayyanna Patrudu highlights the growing tensions between the ruling alliance and YSRCP over the party's status in the Assembly.

# Nadendla Manohar's Sharp Counter to Jagan: More Than a Chicken Knife, Less Than an Axe



- **Nadendla mocks Jagan as 'work-from-Bangalore MLA'**
- **Slams YSRCP for being a party without direction**
- **Questions Jagan's honesty and contribution to public welfare**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar

launched a strong counter against former CM and YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy over his derogatory comments on Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan. Responding to Jagan's remark calling Pawan "more than a corporator and less than an MLA," Nadendla said that Jagan himself is "more than a chicken knife and less than an axe." Nadendla ridiculed Jagan for falling from 175 seats to 11, calling it a clear sign of public rejection. He questioned how someone who couldn't even retain his party's foothold in the state could now dream of implementing "German laws" in Andhra Pradesh. He described YSRCP as a party without a rope, drifting aimlessly.

He mocked Jagan for declaring himself as the party's permanent president, calling it a move that reflects his lack of basic sense

and democratic spirit. Nadendla contrasted Jagan's track record with that of Pawan Kalyan, highlighting how Pawan had extended financial assistance to thousands, while Jagan had never stood as a donor or worked honestly for even a single day. Referring to Jagan's absence from the Assembly, Nadendla labeled him a "work-from-home Chief Minister" who has now become a "work-from-Bangalore MLA." He asserted that the NDA government, unlike Jagan's regime, will fulfill every promise made to the people and uphold values in governance.

Nadendla concluded that Jagan's baseless attacks on Pawan only expose his frustration and inability to accept reality.

# MP Appalanaidu Slams Jagan for Skipping Assembly, Calls His Remarks Misleading



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

TDP MP Kaliseti Appalanaidu launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy, accusing him of destroying Andhra Pradesh during his tenure and now trying to mislead the public with false narratives.

Speaking to the media in Delhi, Appalanaidu mocked Jagan's recent remarks made outside the Assembly, calling it laughable that Jagan speaks of democracy and governance while avoiding Assembly sessions altogether. He questioned whether Jagan was truly fighting for special status or merely for his own survival, adding that the people of Andhra Pradesh are well aware of the reality.

Appalanaidu asserted that Jagan's so-called "Raja Reddy Constitution", which he allegedly ran the state with, has no place now and cannot be enforced under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership. The MP said it was shocking to hear Jagan speak about law, morality, and democratic values, con-

sidering his own track record in power. The TDP MP further claimed that the public is praising CM Chandrababu Naidu's governance, contrasting it sharply with the chaotic and corrupt administration under Jagan. He alleged that Jagan dismantled the entire administrative structure, filling it with his loyalists instead of competent officials.

Appalanaidu also highlighted that Jagan's recent comments are nothing more than attempts to confuse the public and divert attention from his failures. He said that with the backing of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the NDA alliance, CM Chandrababu Naidu is effectively steering the state towards recovery.

# Somireddy's Satire on Jagan's Absence in Assembly: Suggests Beauty Contest to Attract Him

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Sarvepalli MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy launched a scathing attack on former CM and YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy, ridiculing his continuous absence from the Assembly. In a sarcastic remark, Somireddy suggested that the Assembly Speaker consider holding a beauty contest for male MLAs to attract Jagan to attend the sessions, given his apparent interest in appearances.

He further stated that Jagan should be given a privilege notice for spreading false propaganda. Somireddy reminded that even the Supreme Court had previously rejected Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's petition regarding opposition status, yet Jagan chose to approach the High Court on a similar issue, calling it an act

of foolishness.

The TDP MLA challenged Jagan to clarify his claim of providing 40 lakh jobs during his tenure, questioning why such claims were made outside the Assembly instead of facing debates on the floor of the House. He criticized Jagan for choosing to sit at home, hold press conferences, and spread misinformation instead of attending Assembly sessions and engaging directly with legislators.

Somireddy also dismissed Jagan's recent allegation that the coalition government was threatening industries. He reminded that it was Jagan's government that drove several industries out of the state with hostile policies. He concluded that Jagan's refusal to attend the Assembly while resorting to baseless accusations reflects his fear of facing the truth.



# YS Sharmila Accuses YSRCP of Betraying Polavaram Project



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

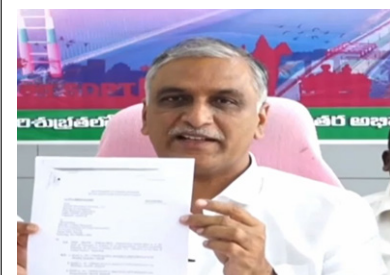
AP Congress President YS Sharmila launched a scathing attack on the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), questioning their commitment to the Polavaram project and their credibility to speak on its progress. She alleged that former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy's government actively contributed to weakening the project during its tenure. Sharmila ridiculed YSRCP's stance, asking if the party, if given power for another five years, would focus on saving the project — or the donkeys. She accused Jagan's government of approving the proposal to reduce Polavaram's

height from 45.72 meters to 41.15 meters and even writing to the Prime Minister requesting funds based on the reduced height.

She further criticized the current NDA coalition government in Andhra Pradesh, accusing them of misleading the Assembly by presenting false claims on the project's height. Sharmila questioned the validity of the government's claim that the project height would remain at 41.15 meters unless the Centre approves the revised project estimates of ₹30,436 crore, after which the height could return to 45.72 meters.

Sharmila demanded that if the allegations regarding height reduction were false, the Central Government should issue an official clarification. She reiterated that YSRCP, which allegedly compromised Polavaram's future, has no moral right to lecture others on the project's welfare.

# TG MLA Harish Rao Exposes Chandrababu's Double Standards on Kaleshwaram Project



- **Criticizes Revanth Reddy for appointing Chandrababu's officials in Telangana**
- **Reveals Chandrababu's 2018 letter opposing Kaleshwaram project**
- **Accuses Chandrababu of misleading people on irrigation projects**

TPN Correspondent | Siddipet Senior BRS MLA Harish Rao lashed out at both Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and AP Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu over their roles in the Kaleshwaram project controversy. During an inspection of the Ranganayaka

Sagar project in Siddipet district, Harish Rao expressed strong objection to Revanth Reddy appointing officials who worked under Chandrababu as Telangana State Irrigation Advisors. He questioned how such individuals, who previously served Andhra Pradesh's interests, could now be trusted to safeguard Telangana's irrigation needs.

Harish Rao also exposed Chandrababu Naidu's double standards regarding the Kaleshwaram project. Though Chandrababu now claims he never opposed the project, Harish Rao revealed that in 2018, Chandrababu personally wrote to the Central Government expressing deep regret over the Centre granting permissions for Kaleshwaram. In that letter, Chandrababu urged the Centre to immediately suspend all approvals and halt the project's construction.

# Major Twist in Viveka Murder Case, Key Witness Rangaiah Passed Away

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

In a significant development in the murder case of former minister YS Vivekananda Reddy, key witness Rangaiah (70) has passed away. Rangaiah, who had been working as a watchman at Viveka's residence, breathed his last while undergoing treatment at Kadapa RIMS hospital due to age-related health complications.

It is known that Vivekananda Reddy was brutally murdered at his residence on March 15, 2019. On the day of the murder, Rangaiah was present at the house, making him a crucial witness in the case. His testimony provided several important details to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) during the probe. Recognizing his importance, the CBI had also provided him with security



by assigning gunmen for his protection.

However, Rangaiah had been suffering from multiple health issues for some time. On Tuesday, his condition worsened and he was shifted to Kadapa RIMS for emergency treatment. Despite efforts by doctors, he passed away while receiving treatment. His death adds another twist to the already sensational case, with investigators and legal experts closely watching how this development will impact the ongoing trial and further investigation.



## Builders Should Embrace Latest Technologies in Construction Sector: MP Kesineni Shivanath

**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**  
Vijayawada MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinini) stated that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is moving forward with a clear vision for the construction of Amaravati, and the capital's construction works will soon begin. He revealed that tenders related to Amaravati projects will be opened in the next three to four days, marking a significant step forward.

As part of these developments, the AP Construction Expo, organized at SS Convention Center in Vijayawada from March 4th for three days, plays a vital role in enhancing awareness among builders and contractors about the latest technologies in the construction sector. MP Kesineni Shivanath, who visited the expo on Wednesday, was warmly welcomed by the event organizers and Shiny Group head Sheikh Baji. The MP inspected the stalls set up at the expo and interacted with representatives to learn about the latest innovations in construction materials, techniques, and equipment. Later, addressing the Construction Industry Conclave organized at the expo,



Kesineni Shivanath highlighted that technology adoption will play a crucial role in ensuring ease of business and efficient project execution, particularly in Amaravati's development.

He emphasized the need for builders to adopt new-age construction practices, ensuring that the state stays at the forefront of the evolving construction industry. He also called for regular expos to keep builders and contractors updated with cutting-edge technology. Expressing confidence in the state's construction sector, he said Andhra Pradesh is set for remarkable growth, with

not just infrastructure projects, but also stadiums, residential complexes, and more on the horizon. He expressed hope that Andhra Pradesh will soon surpass Hyderabad in construction excellence.

APCRDA Chief Engineer M. Srinivasa Rao, IGBC Chairman Dr. Sandeepani, CFI Vice President Kiran Babu, Winters Representative Preeti Sharma, IIA President Venugopal, ICI Director V. Jagadish, TDP State Representative Rafi, and former corporator Kaku Mallikarjuna Yadav participated in the program.

## P4 Survey Aims to Build Poverty Free Society - Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha

**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**

The NTR District administration is set to conduct the Public, Private, People Partnership (P4) Survey from the 8th to the 18th of this month, with the objective of creating a poverty-free society, informed District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Sha. On Wednesday, Collector Lakshmi Sha held a virtual meeting with MPDOs and Municipal Commissioners regarding the P4 survey. He instructed officials to train village and ward secretariat staff as master trainers through two-day training sessions on March 6th and 7th. Detailed explanations of the survey process and tech module will be provided during the training. The P4 survey aims to complement existing poverty eradication programs by encouraging socially and economically better-off families to support underprivileged families, fostering social responsibility. The survey will help identify the needs of poor families and design targeted welfare projects for their holistic development. Collector Lakshmi Sha clarified that the survey will not impact existing welfare schemes. Data collected will help design customized programs to meet the specific needs of each household. Families will be clearly informed about the purpose of the survey, and accurate socio-economic details will be collected through a mobile app. The Collector urged all field-level officers to ensure collective participation of all departments to complete the survey successfully within ten days. CPO Y. Srilatha, Special Officer G. Jyothi, nodal officers, and other officials participated in the meeting.

## Minister Nadendla Manohar Reviews Ration Supply in Amaravati

**TPN Correspondent | Amaravati**

Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar conducted an inspection of the Mobile Dispensing Unit (MDU) vehicle at Yerrabalem Road, Amaravati, reviewing the ongoing ration distribution process. The minister examined records from March 1 and assessed the number of beneficiaries availing rations daily.

During the visit, Minister Manohar interacted with local residents to understand their experiences and challenges in accessing essential supplies. He inquired about any delays or disruptions in the distribution process and encouraged the public to report any issues directly to authorities for swift resolution.

The minister assured that the government is fully committed to ensuring uninterrupted supply of rations to all eligible beneficiaries. He directed officials to streamline the operations, closely monitor the supply chain, and take immediate corrective action wherever necessary. Emphasizing the im-



portance of transparency, Minister Manohar stated that all beneficiaries will receive their entitlements without obstacles, and any disruptions in supply will be dealt with strictly.

He reiterated that the government remains focused on enhancing food security and will continue to improve the efficiency of ration distribution across the state to serve the people better.

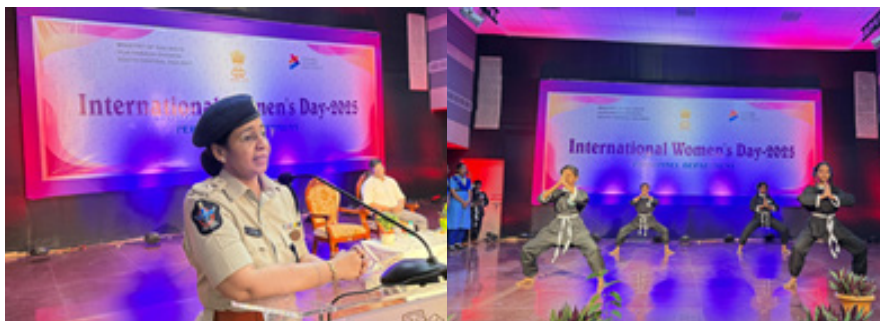
## Need to Strengthen Govt Education Sector in Nellore: MLA Prashanti Reddy

**TPN Correspondent | Amaravati**

Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanti Reddy highlighted the urgent need to strengthen the government education sector in Nellore district while addressing the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday. She pointed out that several historic aided colleges in the district were forced to shut down due to GO-42, introduced by the previous government without proper planning. She noted that Nellore district has only a women's degree college, with no government degree college for men, pushing economically weaker students into private institutions, which is financially burdensome. She also expressed concern over the absence of key arts departments — such as history, economics, and commerce — in many degree colleges, making it difficult for students preparing for competitive exams like Group-1. Vemireddy Prashanti Reddy further stressed the need for a government engineering college in the district. She pointed out that although permissions were given for engineering and pharmacy colleges at Vikrama Simhapuri University, they were never established due to negligence. She urged Education Minister Nara Lokesh to establish these colleges, fill teaching and non-teaching vacancies, address the drinking water problem, and set up a health center at the university. Responding, Minister Nara Lokesh assured that comprehensive reforms in higher education will be introduced soon, including linking government colleges with industries and reviving the aided college system. He also promised necessary infrastructure and staff recruitment at Vikrama Simhapuri University.

## Women's Security and Self-Defence Workshop Held by Vijayawada Division of SCR

**DCP K.G.V. Saritha, IPS, attended as Guest of Honour**



**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**

The Vijayawada Division of South Central Railway (SCR) organized a workshop on Women's Security, Safety, and Self-Defence at the Divisional Auditorium, Vijayawada, as part of International Women's Day Week celebrations.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Administration), NTR Police Commissionerate, Smt. K.G.V. Saritha, IPS, attended as the Distinguished Guest of Honour. Around 300 women staff members, Bharat Scouts & Guides, and the Rufus Kung-Fu Team actively participated in the program.

Senior Divisional Personnel Officer Shri Katta Anand, IRPS, welcomed Smt. Saritha and inaugurated the workshop. Addressing the participants, Smt. Saritha urged women to break stereotypes and actively contribute to society. She stressed the importance of self-defence training, physical fitness, and emotional resilience for boosting confidence and empow-

erment. She also highlighted cyber crimes targeting women and informed about 24/7 helplines for women's safety.

She elaborated on initiatives by NTR Police Commissionerate, including Suraksha Committees, drone and CCTV surveillance to identify hotspots, and cloud patrolling to curb drug-related activities. The Rufus Kung-Fu Team and Bharat Scouts & Guides gave live self-defence demonstrations, showcasing nunchaku skills, stick fighting, and other techniques, receiving appreciation from the audience.

Assistant Personnel Officer Smt. P. Malleswari felicitated Smt. Saritha with a memento. Assistant Personnel Officer Shri Sopan Viswanath Phad delivered the vote of thanks, marking the successful conclusion of the workshop. Nusrat M Mandrupkar, Public Relations Officer, Vijayawada Division, South Central Railway, coordinated the event.

## AP JAC Amaravati Associations Congratulates Alapati Rajendra Prasad on Historic MLC Victory

**TPN Correspondent | Guntur Dist**

Alapati Rajendra Prasad, who achieved a historic and overwhelming victory in the MLC election for the joint Krishna - Guntur districts, was cordially welcomed at his residence in Guntur on Wednesday by the AP JAC Amaravati leadership, led by Bopparaju Venkateswarlu, along with the AP JAC Amaravati Women's Wing, led by Smt. Pare Lakshmi and Smt. Ponnuru Vijayalakshmi, and leaders from various departmental associations.

On this occasion, AP JAC Amaravati State President Bopparaju Venkateswarlu expressed that the vast administrative experience and commitment to employee welfare of Shri Alapati Rajendra Prasad were the key factors behind his grand victory. He highlighted the strong faith that graduate employees placed in Alapati Raja Garu, confident that he will stand firmly by the employees and



represent their concerns effectively, drawing from his extensive service as an MLA and Minister.

In response, MLC Shri Alapati Rajendra Prasad thanked the graduate employees of Krishna and Guntur districts for their overwhelming support and assured the AP JAC Amaravati leadership that he would honour the trust placed in him by actively taking employees' issues to the government and ensuring full support and solutions to their concerns.

Among those who conveyed their wishes were State Treasurer Kanaparthi Sangeeta Rao, Organizing Secretary B.

Kishore, State Government Drivers Association President Samsani Srinivasa Rao, Class IV Employees Association President Malleswara Rao, Women's Section Chairperson Smt. Pare Lakshmi, Chief Secretary Smt. Ponnuru Vijayalakshmi, Associate Chairperson Smt. Saikam Sivakumari Reddy, Treasurer Smt. G. Sai Lakshmi, State Secretary Smt. Rachakonda Venkamma, Village Revenue Officers Association General Secretary Smt. G. Anupama, District General Secretary Ayub, Village Ward Secretariat Employees Welfare Organization President Velpula Aralaya, Municipal Employees Association President T. Nageswara Rao, Police Officers Association President Janakula Srinivasa Rao, and leaders from Krishna, Guntur, Bapatla, and NTR districts, along with representatives from various employee associations.

## Prohibition and Excise Officials Conducts Surprise Inspection in Nuzividu

**Crackdown on Illicit Liquor (natu sara), Public urged to report illegal activities to 14405**

**TPN Correspondent | Nuzividu**

Prohibition and Excise Commissioner Nishanth Kumar and Director of Prohibition and Excise Rahul Dev Sharma conducted a surprise inspection at the Nuzividu Prohibition and Excise Office, reviewing the ongoing crackdown on illicit liquor (natu sara).

During the inspection, officials examined records and assessed enforcement measures being taken. Nishanth Kumar reiterated the government's com-

mitment to eradicating illicit liquor through the Navodayam 2.0 initiative, which also includes awareness campaigns across villages and towns to educate people on the health, social, and economic risks associated with illicit liquor.

He directed officials to take strict action against repeat offenders under the ABC categorization system, impose fines for violations, and register cases against those supplying jaggery for illicit liquor

production. The public has been urged to actively report illegal liquor activities by calling the toll-free number 14405, which operates 24/7 to receive complaints and information.

State Task Force Assistant Commissioner Vivek Yadav, Eluru Deputy Commissioner B. Srilatha, and Eluru Assistant Excise Commissioner KVN Prabhu Kumar were present during the inspection.



## Plans for New Roads and Metro to Ease Traffic from Gajuwaka to Bhogapuram Airport - Minister Narayana



- Minister Narayana responded to Nellimarla MLA Lokam Madhavi's question
- 34.6 km metro planned from Gajuwaka to Bhogapuram via Maddilapalem and Madhurawada
- Internal roads and bypass routes proposed to ease traffic on AH 45

### TPN Correspondent

**| Amaravati Municipal Administration** Minister Narayana gave a detailed reply in the Assembly regarding the measures being taken to reduce traffic congestion between Gajuwaka and Bhogapuram Airport. Responding to a question raised by Nellimarla MLA Lokam Madhavi, the minister explained that plans are in place for both a metro rail project and the construction of new internal roads to ease traffic flow. He revealed that a 34.6 km metro rail corridor has been proposed from Gajuwaka to Bhogapuram, passing through key areas like Maddilapalem and Madhurawada. Proposals for this metro project have already been sent to the central government for approval, and

work will commence immediately after receiving the necessary clearances. The minister noted that while the metro will significantly reduce traffic, the project will take around four years to complete. To provide immediate relief, instructions have been given to complete 15 internal roads within a year and a half, aimed at reducing congestion on the existing AH 45 road. Additionally, six new roads connecting the old AH 47 highway to NH 16 have also been proposed. The Assembly Speaker directed the minister to hold a joint meeting with Visakhapatnam MLAs and officials to review these plans. Minister Narayana assured the House that this meeting will be held next week to fast-track these initiatives.

## Kuppam Vision Documents Launched to Drive Comprehensive Development - Project Director Vikas Marammath

- Kuppam Municipality to become a model town by July  
- 12,000 jobs promised through upcoming job fair

**TPN C. Sekhar | Kuppam** Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has officially launched several development works in Kuppam constituency, marking a new phase of progress for the region. Kuppam Development Authority Project Director IAS Vikas Marammath announced the launch of the Kuppam Vision Document, which outlines key projects and timelines aimed at transforming Kuppam into a model town by July. As part of the vision, the Palamaneru-Krishnagiri National Highway will be expanded into a four-lane road, ensuring better connectivity. Additionally, the government is fast-tracking the housing project for poor families, and land has already been allocated to Mother Dairy, which is expected to generate 8,000 job opportunities. To support women entrepre-

neurs, 400 women will be provided with subsidies through the cycle subsidy scheme. Health infrastructure will also be enhanced with the establishment of a CT scan facility at Kuppam Government Area Hospital. The long-pending HNSS winding work has commenced and is targeted for completion within the next five to six months. Infrastructure improvements worth Rs. 53 crore have been sanctioned for roads across Kuppam constituency. A job fair on March 11 under Easy Matt is expected to provide 12,000 jobs. Furthermore, tenders will be floated in 15 days for projects including Kuppam tourism development, a sports complex, cemetery development, command control center, and Krishi Vigyan Kendra construction, ensuring holistic development across sectors.



## Father's Knife Attack After Love Marriage: Three Injured in Kuppam



### TPN C. Sekhar | Kuppam

A shocking incident unfolded in Kuppam town of Chittoor district, where a father attacked his daughter and her husband with a knife following their love marriage. District SP Manikantha Chandolu held a press meet on the matter and assured strict action against the accused. According to reports, Kausalya and Chandrasekhar got married against the wishes of Kausalya's father, Shivappa. Unable to accept the marriage, Shivappa attacked the couple with a knife at BRD Hospital in Kuppam town. In the brutal assault, three people sustained serious injuries. The victims were immediately rushed to the hospital, where they underwent surgery. Doc-

tors have confirmed that all the injured are currently safe. SP Manikantha Chandolu inspected the crime scene and stated that special teams have been formed to arrest Shivappa, who fled after the attack. He assured that strict measures will be taken to prevent such violent incidents in the future.



## Draksharamam Temple Hundi Collections Total ₹27.97 Lakh in 83 Days



### TPN Correspondent | Draksharamam

The hundi counting at Sri Manikyamba Sametha Sri Bhimeshwara Swamy Temple in Draksharamam was conducted on Wednesday. Assistant Commissioner Allu Venkata Durga Bhavani informed that the income from the temple hundi collected over 83 days, from December 13, 2024, to March 5, 2025, amounted to ₹27,97,105. In addition, 10 grams of gold was also received. The annadanam hundi yielded an additional

₹90,186. The counting was conducted in the presence of Kakinada Deputy Commissioner D.L.V. Ramesh Babu, M.S.N. Charities Assistant Commissioner and Executive Officer K. Vijayalakshmi, along with temple priests, staff, and service personnel. Devotees including Muppanapalli Ganesh, Nama Venkanna Babu, Davuluri Ramakrishna, Penke Sambasiva Rao, Allam Ramakrishna, Alla Bujji, Naveen, Karra Nagewara Rao, and Adhamki Arjun also participated in the counting process. The officials expressed their gratitude to devotees for their continued generous contributions and emphasized the importance of hundi income in supporting the temple's maintenance and welfare programs.

## Ganja Smuggling Gang Busted by Jaggampeta Police - 8 Arrested, 492 Kg Seized

**TPN V. Ananth Kumar | Jaggampeta** In a major crackdown, Jaggampeta Police arrested 8 individuals involved in ganja smuggling during a raid in Jaggampeta Mandal's Jagannanna Colony based on specific information provided by Kakina-da District SP G. Bindu Madhav, IPS. The police seized 492 kg of ganja, ₹2,78,000 in cash, one Mahindra TUV car (AP31DD4032), one Hero Honda motorcycle (AP39EG7230), and seven mobile phones. The total value of the seized items stands at ₹30.52 lakh. The accused hail from Kakinada District (1), Alluri Sitarama Raju District (3), Tamil Nadu (2), and Karnataka (2). Investigations revealed that the gang was smuggling

ganja from agency areas to Jaggampeta and further transporting it to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. SP Bindu Madhav commended the special vigilance efforts along the National Highway, leading to the successful raid by Jaggampeta CI YRK Srinivas, SI T. Raghunatha



Rao, Gandepalli SI Shiva Naga Babu, Kirilampudi SI G. Satish, and other officers and home guards for their active role in the operation. The main accused (A1) acted as a middleman between agency suppliers and interstate buyers, with two more accused - Murugan (Tamil Nadu) and Sarvan (Karnataka) still at large. A1 and A2 both have previous criminal records. The Peddapuram SDPO Srihari Raju is supervising the investigation, including tracing and seizing assets acquired through ganja smuggling. Officials also warned house owners against renting properties for illegal activities, promising strict action.

## MLA Mangodi Govinda Rao Requested Super Specialty Hospital for Pathapatnam

### TPN Correspondent | Srikakulam

Pathapatnam MLA Mangodi Govinda Rao has once again raised his voice in the Assembly, highlighting the long-pending issues faced by the people of his constituency. Speaking on the floor of the House, the MLA emphasized that Pathapatnam is one of the most geographically and developmentally backward constituencies in the state. He pointed out that the constituency severely lacks proper medical infrastructure, making it difficult for residents to access emergency healthcare. Being an agriculture-dominated region, most families in Pathapatnam cannot afford to travel long distances for medical treatment, put-



ting lives at risk. With this in mind, MLA Mangodi Govinda Rao formally requested the Honorable Speaker to direct the concerned minister to immediately sanction a 100-bed super specialty hospital with modern facilities for the Pathapatnam constituency. He stressed that such a hospital would greatly benefit the local population and provide timely medical care to thousands of families who are currently forced to rely on distant hospitals for even basic healthcare needs.

## Collector Chadalawada Nagarani Assures Support to Corona Orphans

### TPN Correspondent | Bhimavaram

District Collector Chadalawada Nagarani emphasized that the love and care shown by family members and guardians towards children who lost their parents to Corona is commendable and sets an example for society. She urged everyone to work together to provide affection and support to these children, helping them achieve greater heights in life. On Wednesday, the District ICDS Department organized a face-to-face interaction under the Mission Vatsalya sponsorship program at the PGRS Conference Hall in the District Collectorate. During the session, children affected by Corona expressed their gratitude for the support they received through the scheme, while also sharing their emotional struggles of missing their parents. Moved by their words, Collector Nagarani consoled the children, asked about their education, enquired whether their family members were taking good care of them, and assured them of continued

support. She stressed that the district administration will stand by them until they complete their education and achieve self-reliance. Highlighting the impact of the pandemic, the Collector said that losing parents at a young age is heartbreaking, but with community support and the Mission Vatsalya scheme, these children can build a bright future. She added that the scheme, which has been benefiting 358 children in the district for the past year, will continue for three years, ensuring assistance with nutrition, education, and training. District ICDS Officer B. Sujatha Rani, District Child Welfare Officer R. Rajesh, District Education Officer E. Narayana, along with other officials, affected children, their family members, and guardians participated in the program.



## Farmers' Associations Stage Dharna at Eluru Collectorate Demanding Fulfillment of Promises



### TPN Correspondent | Eluru

As part of a nationwide protest called by Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), farmers' associations held a dharna in front of the Eluru Collectorate on Wednesday. The protest was led by the District Coordination Committee of Andhra Pradesh Farmers' Associations, demanding that the central government immediately implement promises made to farmers. The farmers raised slogans demanding the enactment of a Support Price Guarantee Act, government purchase of farmers' crops, and an end to anti-farmer policies. Speaking at the event, Andhra Pradesh Farmers' Association (Anne Bhavan) State Assistant Secretary K. Srinivas, District President Katta Bhaskara Rao, Rythu Kuliya Sangam (Andhra Pradesh) State Assistant Secre-

tary Sheikh Basha, BKMU State Vice President Bandi Venkateswara Rao, and Andhra Pradesh Farmers' Association (Shoori Bhavan) District Secretary Rayankula Lakshmana Rao all condemned the central government for failing to fulfill the written assurances given to Samyukta Kisan Morcha leadership at the time of the Delhi farmers' movement withdrawal in 2021. They further alleged that recommendations made by the parliamentary committee on support prices and financial aid to farmers were ignored. The leaders also criticized the implementation of the Electricity Amendment Act, calling it anti-farmer. After the dharna, the leaders submitted a petition to the District Revenue Officer, urging immediate action on their demands.



## The Delimitation Debate: Why Stalin's Argument Falls Flat



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has recently raised concerns about the upcoming delimitation process based on the 2026 Census, claiming it would unfairly reduce Tamil Nadu's parliamentary strength. In a post on social media, Stalin warned that southern states like Tamil Nadu, which have successfully controlled population growth, could see their representation in Parliament decrease, thus weakening their voice. This claim, however, has been debunked by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who reassured the southern states that their interests would be safeguarded, and there would be no reduction in their seats. Stalin's statements are unsur-

prising, considering the DMK's history of exploiting regional sentiments and promoting a North-South divide for political gains. The primary aim is to rally the Dravidian vote bank by creating fear about potential political marginalization. But what exactly is delimitation? Delimitation is the process of redrawing electoral boundaries based on the latest population data to ensure fair representation. It is a constitutional exercise, mandated by Articles 82 and 170 of the Indian Constitution, which requires periodic adjustments to maintain democratic equality. Contrary to Stalin's claims, delimitation is a legitimate and necessary process to ensure proportional

representation in Parliament and state assemblies. In India, delimitation has been carried out multiple times, with the last exercise conducted in 2002. Population-based adjustments in the distribution of parliamentary seats are based on Census data, and the 2026 Census will guide the next review. While delimitation can result in an increase or decrease in the number of constituencies, it does not alter the total number of seats in Parliament. As India's population grows, the number of Lok Sabha seats is expected to increase, benefiting the southern states in terms of absolute representation. For example, based on population projections, southern

states like Tamil Nadu are likely to see an increase in their parliamentary seats post-delimitation. Tamil Nadu, which currently holds 39 Lok Sabha seats, could see its share rise to 41. This represents a 5.12% increase in Tamil Nadu's seat share, not a decrease, as Stalin claims. Moreover, Stalin's opposition to delimitation is inconsistent with his party's stance on other issues. For instance, the DMK has not criticized the Congress party's slogan "Jitni Aabadi, Utna Haq," which calls for representation based on population. If population is an acceptable yardstick for reservations, why oppose its use for delimitation?



## SEBI Under Scrutiny: A Call for Reform and Accountability

Recent developments surrounding the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the country's capital market regulator, have raised significant concerns about its credibility and ability to effectively regulate the stock market. On one hand, former Finance and Revenue Secretary Tuhin Kantana Pandey took over as SEBI's chairperson. On the other, a special court in Mumbai directed the Anti-Corruption Bureau to file a First Information Report (FIR) against Pandey's predecessor, Madhabi Puri Buch, and other officials, regarding alleged stock market fraud and regulatory violations dating back to 1994. The case revolves around the fraudulent listing of a company on the stock exchange, allegedly facilitated by authorities at the time.

Though Buch was SEBI chairperson years after the alleged fraud occurred, the court's directive highlights concerns about inaction by law enforcement and regulatory authorities over the years. The failure of SEBI and other agencies to

address the matter earlier has now triggered a judicial intervention, which calls for a thorough investigation into whether Buch ignored or mishandled complaints related to this historical case. This is a serious issue that requires immediate attention to preserve the integrity of the regulator.

Buch had previously faced another controversy when the now-defunct US short-seller firm, Hindenburg Research, accused her and her husband of having stakes in offshore entities allegedly linked to the Adani Group, a matter that was under SEBI's scrutiny at the time. This accusation triggered calls for her resignation, with critics citing a potential conflict of interest. Although Buch managed to weather the storm and continue in her role, the damage to SEBI's reputation was undeniable. These controversies have cast a long shadow over SEBI, undermining investor confidence and tarnishing its image as an impartial and trustworthy regulator.

## Haleem hopping in Hyderabad why Ramzan is worth every sleepless night in this Telangana city

When Ramzan begins in Hyderabad, a distinct transformation takes place across the city, particularly in its food culture. While the religious observance of fasting is at the heart of the month, it's the evolving food scene that attracts people from all walks of life. The city's gastronomic offerings gain an entirely new dimension, becoming the main attraction during this holy month.

Haleem, the iconic dish of Hyderabad during Ramzan, is undoubtedly the most celebrated food of the season. This meat-lentil dish, which originated in the 1940s at Irani ca-



fes, has now become a culinary obsession. Despite its increasing price, with mutton Haleem now costing nearly Rs 300, it remains a favorite for many. The tradition of "Haleem hopping," where

people visit different restaurants to sample and compare versions of the dish, has become a popular activity. Irani restaurants like Grand Hotel and eateries in the Old City, such as Nayab Ho-

stel, are among the hotspots for Haleem enthusiasts.

However, in the last decade, the Ramzan food culture in Hyderabad has expanded beyond Haleem. Dishes like Marag (creamy mutton stew) and Pathar Ka Gosht (mutton cooked on stone slabs) have also gained significant popularity. These dishes, which were once hard to find, are now a staple at roadside stalls that emerge during Ramzan, especially in the bustling Old City. The crowds that gather around these stalls are a testament to how food brings people from all parts of the city together, including those who

might never have ventured into the crowded streets before.

The Old City, especially around Charminar, becomes a maze of food stalls and eateries during Ramzan nights. It's no longer uncommon to find people, regardless of their religion, enjoying the vibrant food scene. The atmosphere is electrifying, with both locals and IT professionals from newer parts of the city joining the late-night food tours. This surge in visitors is partly due to the government allowing establishments to stay open all night, making late-night strolls to Charminar a must-do for food lovers and

tourists alike.

Sehri, the pre-dawn meal before fasting, also adds to the unique culinary experience of Ramzan. While dishes like Biryani and Haleem are more commonly associated with Ramzan, Sehri offers a different menu with options like Khichdi Khatta-Kheema and a variety of kebabs, giving visitors a taste of traditional household meals. For many, the night isn't complete without a cup of Irani Chai at Nimrah Café, just outside Charminar. Whether Muslim or non-Muslim, the food scene in Hyderabad during Ramzan is an experience cherished by all.

## Why the Death of a Nepali Student in Odisha Should Be a Wake-Up Call

The tragic death of a 20-year-old Nepali student at KIIT (Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology) University in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, has sparked not only outrage but also serious diplomatic concerns between India and Nepal. The incident on February 17 led to protests by over 500 Nepali students at the university, who were reportedly mistreated and forcibly removed from the campus. This alarming situation escalated when Nepal's Prime Minister, K.P. Sharma Oli, took to social media, demanding action from the Indian government and the Nepalese embassy, ultimately leading to the reversal of the eviction decision. This incident raises crucial

questions about India's treatment of foreign students, particularly from its neighboring countries like Nepal, with whom it shares deep cultural and historical ties. The unfortunate events also highlight the need for India to address its foreign student policies more effectively, as failing to do so could risk alienating a neighbor at a time when India is working to counterbalance China's growing influence in the region.

The turmoil triggered significant backlash in Nepal, leading to an official warning that Nepal would stop issuing No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to students wishing to study in India unless the situation was resolved fair-

ly. The Nepalese National Human Rights Commission called for an investigation into the student's death, citing allegations of negligence and mistreatment. In response, Prime Minister Oli suggested that Nepalese students should consider pursuing higher education in China instead of India.

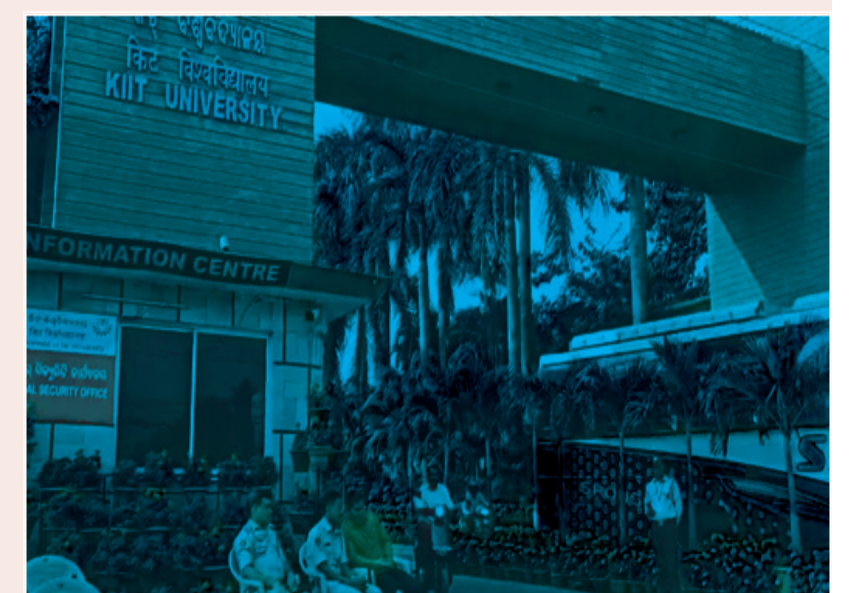
Nepal has traditionally sent a large number of students to India for higher education due to geographical proximity and cultural familiarity. The incident at KIIT, however, risks pushing these students—and others from neighboring countries—towards alternative destinations like China, which could have long-term consequences for India's educational

and diplomatic ties.

The KIIT case is far from an isolated incident. Foreign students, particularly those from Africa and Northeast India, have repeatedly faced discriminatory treatment and racism in India.

This not only damages India's reputation but also complicates bilateral relations with other countries. Stereotyping and mistreating students based on region, religion, or culture can have severe political and diplomatic repercussions.

Prime Minister Oli's suggestion to pursue education in China reflects a shift in Nepal's diplomatic stance. His government has already distanced itself from India by opting to visit China first



during his tenure and signing on to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in December 2024. This move signals a growing strategic shift in Nepal's foreign policy, with potential implications for India-Nepal relations in the years to come. India has long been a hub for foreign students, offering an affordable education system with relatively high stan-

dards compared to Western institutions. However, incidents like the one at KIIT highlight significant gaps in how Indian institutions address the welfare of foreign students. The government's silence on the issue is concerning, and there needs to be a stronger institutional framework to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of foreign students.





## Kamal Haasan accuses BJP of creating "Hindia", Opposes delimitation and Hindi Imposition

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Actor-politician Kamal Haasan has accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of trying to create a concept of "Hindia" by imposing Hindi on non-Hindi-speaking states, a move he argues undermines federal principles. Haasan, leader of the Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM), made these remarks while attending an all-party meeting convened by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin. The meeting primarily focused on issues related to the Centre's proposed delimitation exercise and the three-language formula under the National Education Policy (NEP).

Haasan strongly opposed the Centre's push for the three-language formula, which includes Hindi as a compulsory language alongside regional languages. He said, "They are creating Hindia. Whatever decision taken by the Centre will not be in favour of non-Hindi-speaking states. This decision, which is against federal principles, is unnecessary." The three-language formula has sparked controversy in Tamil Nadu, where many fear it is an attempt to impose Hindi on the state, disregarding regional linguistic diversity.

The actor-politician also pointed out the deep-rooted linguistic pride among Tamilians, stating, "Tamilians have lost their lives for a language. Don't play with those things. Tamilians, even children, know what language they need." His comments resonate with the long-standing cultural and linguistic sensitivities in Tamil Nadu, where there is a strong sentiment against imposing Hindi as a dominant language.

Haasan further criticized the proposed delimitation exercise, which aims to adjust parliamentary constituencies based on population. He questioned the need for such changes, asking, "Why are they repairing something that is not broken? Why are they sending democracy to the workshop for repair?" His concerns reflect fears that southern states, including Tamil Nadu, might lose seats in Parliament due to successful population control measures. During the meeting, Chief Minister Stalin echoed these concerns, suggesting that the delimitation exercise should be based on the 1971 Census for the next 30 years.

# S Jaishankar Arrives In London, Holds Bilateral Talks With UK PM

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India and Belgium are working towards finalizing a defence agreement by the end of this year to enhance cooperation between their armed forces and strengthen defence industrial collaboration. This announcement was made by Belgian Defence Minister Theo Francken on Tuesday during a media briefing in New Delhi.

Francken, alongside Belgian Foreign Minister Maxime Prévot, was part of a delegation led by Princess Astrid, which met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During the briefing, Francken described the agreement as a "very big step" towards establishing structural cooperation between the two countries' armed forces and creating a framework for collaboration between their defence industries.

Prime Minister Modi proposed the formation of a task force to expedite the process, urging both sides to finalize the agreement as soon as possible. "Your prime minister asked us to form the task force here in New Delhi and in Brussels to conclude the agreement before the end of the year," Francken



shared. In addition, Belgium plans to appoint a defence attaché at its embassy in New Delhi, which will serve as a point of contact for India's military and defence industries.

The proposed defence agreement is expected to boost cooperation between India and Belgium in various sectors, including defence technology, military training, and defence industry collaboration, aligning with both nations' shared interests in regional and global security.

Frænken emphasized the importance of mutual growth in defence capabilities between the two nations. He noted that both countries could learn from each other in terms of military technology, and he reiterated the need for "peace through strength" in today's geopolitical landscape.

Foreign Minister Prévot highlighted the evolving global situation, mentioning the shifting policies of the U.S. administration. He stressed the need to strengthen ties between Belgium and India, calling India a powerful democracy and emphasizing the importance of reinforcing their bilateral relations.

The proposed defence agreement is expected to boost cooperation between India and Belgium in various sectors, including defence technology, military training, and defence industry collaboration, aligning with both nations' shared interests in regional and global security.

## Accused seen dragging suitcase with Congress worker's body inside

- CCTV footage shows accused hauling suitcase on deserted road
- Victim Himani Narwal was allegedly strangled by a friend over a dispute
- Accused arrested; police investigating monetary angle in the murder

TPN Correspondent | Haryana

Days after Congress worker Himani Narwal was found murdered and stuffed inside a suitcase, chilling CCTV footage has surfaced showing the accused dragging the luggage on a deserted road.

The footage, recorded at 10:16 pm on February 28, shows a masked man hauling a hard-shell black suitcase. The body of Narwal, who was in her late 20s, was found near the Rohtak bus stand on Saturday. The accused, Sachin, believed to be a friend of the victim, was arrested earlier today. Police say he allegedly strangled Narwal with a mobile phone charger after a heated argument. Additional DGP K K Rao



stated that there was a monetary issue between them, but the exact

details are yet to be confirmed. "After strangling her, Sachin took

her jewellery and laptop, rode her scooter to Jhajjar to hide these items, and later returned to her home," said Mr Rao. He then stuffed her body into a suitcase, took an auto-rickshaw, and dumped the bag near the Sampla bus stand to mislead investigators.

Narwal was cremated on Monday evening after her family initially refused to perform the last rites until the accused was arrested. Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhopinder Singh Hooda spoke to Rohtak's Superintendent of Police regarding the investigation. Congress MLA BB Batra described Narwal as an active party worker and demanded strict punishment for those responsible for her murder.

## 'Defer delimitation exercise indefinitely,' Vijay tells union government

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK) President and actor Vijay on Wednesday strongly opposed any move to reduce Tamil Nadu's representation in the Lok Sabha based on population growth. He called for the number of seats in the Lok Sabha to be frozen indefinitely at 543, based on the 1971 Census figures, arguing that any changes that would lead to a reduction in the representation of Tamil Nadu and other South Indian states would be seen as "punishment."

Vijay's statement comes ahead of an all-party meeting chaired by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to discuss the issue. He emphasized that if South Indian states were to lose seats while states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar gained more due to population, it would be unfair. "Tamil Nadu and other South Indian states have invested heavily in education and population control measures over the past 50 years. A reduction in seats for these states would only punish them," Vijay said.

The actor-politician also strongly opposed using population alone as the basis for delimitation, pointing out that it was a flawed approach. He noted that the new Parliament building has seating arrangements for 888 members, which he believes suggests that the intention is to increase the number of Lok Sabha seats. Vijay stressed that increasing the number of MPs was not a pressing issue for ordinary citizens and that it should not be a priority.

Vijay argued that the number of Lok Sabha seats should be frozen, as the current population-based representation system has not seen



any changes in the last 50 years. He further stated that not all 543 MPs even have the time to ask questions in Parliament, proving that more seats are not necessarily needed.

Vijay also raised concerns over the appointment of Election Commissioners, suggesting that their selection process should be more transparent and carried out with consensus to ensure free and fair elections. He criticized the Centre for unilaterally choosing Election Commissioners and questioned the fairness of the process. In a political dig at the BJP, Vijay said that this issue would reveal which parties truly stand with the people of Tamil Nadu.

## NDA govt ended Hindu-Muslim riots in Bihar: Nitish Kumar

TPN Correspondent | Bihar

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Tuesday asserted that his NDA government had successfully put an end to frequent Hindu-Muslim clashes in the state. Speaking during a debate on the motion of thanks to the governor's address, Kumar highlighted the government's measures, including the fencing of graveyards and bringing perpetrators of communal riots to justice, as key steps in improving law and order in Bihar.

Kumar, who is seeking a fifth consecutive term in office during the upcoming assembly elections, began his address by reminiscing on Bihar's law and order situation prior to the NDA's rise to power in 2005. He stated, "Before we came to power in 2005, the law and order situation was so pathetic that people feared for their safety." His remarks aimed to emphasize the drastic improvements made under his administration, particularly in terms of restoring peace and security in the state.

The chief minister claimed that the proactive steps taken by his government, including efforts to address communal tensions and the installation of security measures, had ensured a decline in religious violence. He specifically cited the fencing of graveyards, a step that was perceived as a preventive measure to curb the illegal encroachment of these sites, and the prosecution of those involved in past communal riots as significant actions that contributed to improved peace and stability in Bihar.



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However, as Kumar continued his speech, opposition members began raising angry slogans, challenging his assertions about the law and order situation. The tension in the assembly underscored the deep political divisions over the state's governance, with opposition leaders questioning the effectiveness of the government's policies and leadership.

With assembly elections looming later this year, Kumar's remarks are likely to play a significant role in shaping the discourse around law and order and communal harmony in the state.



# Trump Announces Reciprocal Tariffs on India and Other Nations

- reciprocal tariffs on India and others from April 2.
- Targets high tariffs on US exports, India's 100% auto tariff
- Move escalates trade tensions, impacting economic relations

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

US President Donald Trump has reiterated his criticism of what he calls the "very unfair" tariffs imposed by India and other countries and announced plans to impose reciprocal tariffs on these nations, effective April 2. Trump's statement was made during his address to a Joint Session of Congress, marking the first of his second term.

Trump pointed to nations like India, China, and the European Union, which he claims have imposed significantly higher tariffs on US exports than the US charges in return. "Other countries have used tariffs against us for decades, and now it's our turn to start using them against those other countries," Trump declared. He further criticized India, saying, "India charges us auto tariffs higher than 100 percent."

Echoing his stance on inequitable trade policies, Trump reiterated that the United States would soon implement reciprocal tariffs on countries, including India and China. He noted that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Washington, he made it clear that India would not be exempt from the new tariff measures. "Nobody can argue with me on this," Trump added confidently.

The new policy, set to take effect on April 2, will impose tariffs on imports from foreign



countries that match the tariff rates those countries impose on US exports. Trump emphasized the principle of reciprocity, stating, "Whatever they tariff us, other countries, we will tariff them. That's reciprocal – back and forth."

Trump's remarks come after the US administration imposed tariffs on imports from Mexico, Canada, and China, citing issues like illegal immigration and drug traffick-

ing. These moves have been met with international criticism, including from Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Trudeau accused Trump of trying to cripple Canada's economy while also "appeasing" Russia over its actions in Ukraine.

The new tariff measures are expected to escalate global trade tensions and may have significant implications for international economic relations.



## Very dumb thing to do: Trudeau after US imposes 25% tariffs

TPN Correspondent | Canada

In response to the U.S.'s recent decision to impose new tariffs, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has expressed strong criticism, calling the move "a very dumb thing to do." Speaking to Canadians, Trudeau stated that while it's not common for him to agree with the Wall Street Journal, he found it necessary to acknowledge their viewpoint on the matter. "Donald, they point out that even though you're a very smart guy, this is a very dumb thing to do," said Trudeau in his speech.

The prime minister's remarks came just a day after Canada retaliated with its own import taxes in response to the U.S. tariffs. Trudeau emphasized the negative consequences of the tariff escalation, particularly the impact it would have on the relationship between the two neighboring countries. He also highlighted the broader geopolitical implications, stressing that the ongoing dispute was precisely what global adversaries wanted to see: two close allies fighting each other.

The controversy over tariffs marks the latest chapter in the tense trade relations between the U.S. and Canada. The U.S. tariffs, which are part of broader efforts by President Donald Trump to impose stricter trade measures on various nations, have drawn sharp rebukes from Canadian officials. Trudeau's comments reflect a broader sentiment in Canada, where leaders are expressing concern that the trade conflict could harm both economies and their long-standing partnership.

Trudeau's speech came in the presence of key ministers, including Foreign Affairs Minister Melanie Joly, Finance Minister Dominic LeBlanc, and Public Safety Minister David McGuinty, who are all working to navigate the ongoing trade tensions. As both countries continue to grapple with the new tariff measures, the prime minister remains adamant that the issue can be resolved through diplomacy and cooperation, rather than escalating hostilities.

## Hardest Part Is.. : Sunita Williams Discusses Unexpectedly Long Space Stay

NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore have been aboard the International Space Station (ISS) since June 2024, initially arriving on a Boeing Co. Starliner spacecraft for a test flight. Their mission, which was intended to last about a week, turned into an unexpectedly extended stay due to technical difficulties with the Starliner. As a result, NASA declared it too risky to bring them back home on the same craft, leaving the astronauts in space for what has now been almost 10 months.

The pair are now set to return to Earth in March 2025 on a SpaceX mission, but their prolonged time in orbit has drawn significant attention. While the extended stay has led to political commentary from figures like former President Donald Trump and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk, both Williams and Wilmore have downplayed the impact of politics on their mission.

Wilmore dismissed political claims, stating, "The words they said, well, that's politics... From my standpoint, politics has not played into this at all." He further explained that there was little information on any potential offers to return them to Earth earlier, con-



trary to Musk's claims of offering to bring them back sooner.

In response to Musk's suggestion that the ISS should be retired early, Williams emphasized that the station was still performing at its best. "We're actually in our prime right now," she said, adding that discontinuing the ISS ahead of its planned 2030 retirement would not be the right decision.

However, while both astronauts have shown remarkable resilience, Williams acknowledged that the most challenging aspect of their extended stay has been the uncertainty for loved ones back home. "I think the hardest part is having the folks on the ground have to not know exactly when we're coming back," she said, highlighting the emotional toll the delay has caused for their families.

## If war is what US wants, we're ready: China says fentanyl 'flimsy excuse' to raise tariffs

TPN Correspondent | Beijing

China has strongly criticized the United States' decision to raise tariffs on Chinese imports, calling the fentanyl issue a "flimsy excuse" to justify the tariff hikes. In a statement posted on social media platform X, the Chinese Foreign Ministry rebuffed Washington's claims that China has not taken adequate steps to combat the fentanyl crisis, stressing that the U.S. is solely responsible for the situation within its borders.

The Chinese government emphasized that, contrary to U.S. accusations, Beijing had made significant efforts to help tackle the fentanyl problem. However, these efforts, according to the ministry, have not been acknowledged by the U.S. Instead, China claims that Washington has used these actions as a pretext to escalate tariffs, viewing it as a form of blackmail and punishment for China's cooperation. "We have taken robust



steps to assist the U.S. in dealing with the issue," the statement read. "But the U.S. has smeared us and used pressure tactics, which will not resolve the problem."

The Chinese Foreign Ministry further stressed that the approach of coercion, threats, and pressure would not work on China. "If the U.S. truly wants to solve the fentanyl issue, the right approach is to consult with China and treat each other as equals," it added. The ministry warned that the U.S. was miscalculating by resorting to maximum pressure tactics.

In a response to the U.S. tariffs, the Chinese Embassy in Washington warned that Beijing is prepared for any conflict, whether trade, tariff, or otherwise. "If war is what the U.S. wants, be it a tariff war or any other type of war, we are ready to fight till the end," the embassy posted.

The tensions stem from the recent increase in U.S. tariffs on Chinese imports, rising from 10% to 20%, following accusations that China has not done enough to prevent fentanyl shipments from entering the U.S.

## Bangladesh got 'no official response' from India on Hasina's extradition request: Yunus



TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

Bangladesh's interim government Chief Adviser, Muhammad Yunus, has revealed that Dhaka sent formal letters to India requesting the extradition of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, but received no official response from New Delhi. Yunus, in an interview with UK-based Sky News, asserted that Hasina would face trial for "crimes against humanity" in Bangladesh, with the state-run BSS news agency reporting his statements.

Hasina, 77, fled Bangladesh on August 5 last year amid a massive student-led protest that led to the collapse of her 16-year rule under the Awami League. Following her departure, the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) issued arrest warrants for Hasina and several of her close associates, including former ministers, military officers, and civil officials, accusing them of crimes against humanity and genocide.

Yunus emphasized that Hasina, along with her family and associates, would face trial either in person or in absentia, even if she remains in India. Despite Bangladesh's formal communication to India, Yunus confirmed that the Indian government had not responded officially to the extradition request. Last year, India acknowledged receiving a "note verbale" from the Bangladesh High Commission but refrained from commenting on the matter. The accusations against Hasina involve her use of security forces and police to orchestrate the abduction, torture, and murder of hundreds of activists. However, Hasina denies the allegations, claiming political persecution. Yunus also criticized the "House of Mirrors," a secret jail where detainees were allegedly tortured and murdered, calling it "the ugliest thing" he had ever seen.



# After Ten Days of Decline, Markets Bounce Back: Tariff Optimism Fuels Rally, Sensex +740, Nifty +254

The ten-day losing streak has come to an end. Domestic markets gained heavily on Wednesday. They surprised investors with a spectacular rally. Despite mixed signals from the international community, our benchmark indices started with a gap-up. The US government said that Trump would consider reducing tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China, and the dollar's value fell. On the other hand, investors bought on the expectation that the US Fed would cut interest rates and valuable shares were available at attractive prices. They invested in metal, media, tourism, PSE and PSU bank shares. In total, Nifty rose by 254 points and Sensex by 740 points.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 72,989 in the previous session, opened at 73,005 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 72,894. It reached an intraday high of 73,933. It finally closed at 73,730 with a gain of 740 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 22,073, reached a low of 22,067 and a high of 22,394. It rose by 254 points in total and closed at 22,337. The Nifty Bank rose by 244 points to settle at 48,289.

In the Nifty50, 46 companies gained while 4 lost. Metal, PSE, media, PSU bank, tourism, energy, defence, commodities and auto stocks were the top gainers. Adani Ports, Tata Steel, Adani Enterprises, Mahindra and Mahindra were the top gainers. Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank, HDFC Bank and Shriram Finance were the biggest losers.

Today, the market breadth has completely shifted in favor of buyers. Out of 2967 shares traded, 2461 gained. 436 lost. Shares of 14 companies reached 52-week highs while 124 reached 52-week lows. Shares of 290 companies simultaneously touched the upper circuit.

Ola Electric Company received an incentive of Rs. 73.7 crore under the PLI Auto Scheme. The Union Cabinet approved Rs. 3880 crore for the Jeevala Arogya Scheme. With this, shares of Hester Biosciences rose. Shares of Adani Group companies surged today. Shares of Adani Green and Adani Energy rose by 10%. Citi has given a buy rating to Lupin with a target price of Rs. 2260. 13 lakh shares changed hands in ICICI Bank. Jefferies maintains buy rating on Adani Wilmar with a target price of Rs 370. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Tata Steel. Avanti Feeds debuts in pet food market under the name Avanti First. Jindal Drilling shares rise 8% after Jindal acquires Pioneer for \$75 million. Motilal Oswal maintains buy rating on DCB Bank with a target price of Rs 150. Bharti Airtel has been given a buy rating with a target price of Rs 1950. MindTech India MD and CEO Anand Balakrishnan resigns from his posts. Rail Vikas Nigam gets letter of acceptance worth Rs 729 crore for a project. Jefferies gives buy rating to Varun Beverages with a target price of Rs 715

## Tata Steel

Tata Steel is a global leader in steel production with diversified operations in India and internationally. It manufactures a broad range of steel products, serving sectors like automotive, construction, and consumer durables. Domestic infrastructure spending and urbanization. Global steel demand from emerging markets. Commodity price volatility and cyclical downturns in the steel industry. Long-term growth potential remains positive if infrastructure demand sustains and cost management initiatives continue.



conomic cycles. Positive, with long-term prospects linked to domestic infrastructure and export performance, though subject to cyclical fluctuations.

## Adani Power

Adani Power is a leading private power generation company in India, primarily focused on thermal power but increasingly investing in renewable energy. It is part of the larger Adani Group, which has a diversified business model across energy, infrastructure, and logistics. Expansion in renewable energy capacity and modernization of existing plants. Government policies promoting increased power generation. Regulatory uncertainties and environmental compliance challenges. High debt burden impacting short-term profitability. Mixed in the near term due to market volatility and regulatory risks, but long-term growth will depend on successful transition to renewable energy and effective debt management.



## NTPC

NTPC is India's largest power utility, predominantly operating in thermal power generation with a growing portfolio in renewable energy. It benefits from long-term power purchase agreements and regulated tariffs. Expansion into renewable energy projects. Government initiatives for increased power capacity. Regulatory changes and fuel price volatility. A defensive stock with stable long-term growth, bolstered by its transition to renewables.



## JSW Steel

JSW Steel is one of India's top steel manufacturers with a significant presence in both domestic and export markets. It offers a diversified product mix, catering to infrastructure, automotive, and industrial sectors. Increased demand from infrastructure projects and a rebound in global steel markets. Strategic investments in technology and capacity expansion. Exposure to raw material price volatility and global eco-



## JSW Energy

JSW Energy, part of the JSW Group, focuses on power generation through a mix of thermal and renewable energy sources. The company is actively expanding its renewable portfolio to capitalize on the global shift toward clean energy. Increased capacity in solar and wind energy. Government support for renewable energy initiatives. Volatility in fuel prices for thermal generation and project execution risks in renewable ventures. Positive long-term outlook as the company shifts more towards renewable energy, though near-term performance may be affected by market and regulatory dynamics.



# RBI appoints Dr Ajit Ratnakar Joshi as new Executive Director



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Dr. Ajit Ratnakar Joshi as its Executive Director (ED), effective from March 3, 2025. Dr. Joshi's extensive career spans over three decades, with significant expertise in the fields of statistics, information technology, and cyber risk management. Prior to his promotion, he served as the Principal Adviser in the RBI's Department of Statistics and Information Management.

Dr. Joshi has a rich background in the compilation of macroeconomic statistics and policy formulation. He has contributed to numerous committees and working groups that focused on these critical areas. Additionally, he has shared his knowledge as a faculty member at the Institute of Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad, where he helped shape the next generation of banking and financial professionals.

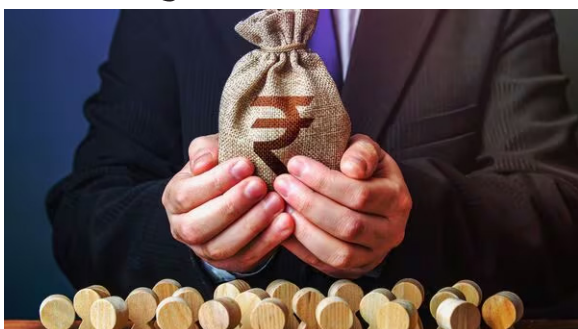
As Executive Director, Dr. Joshi will oversee the Department of Statistics and Information Management as well as the Financial Stability Department, two key areas crucial to the RBI's operational and regulatory framework. His leadership is expected to enhance the RBI's efforts in strengthening statistical analysis, improving financial stability, and addressing the evolving challenges in the financial sector.

Dr. Joshi holds a master's degree in statistics from Nagpur University, a Ph.D. in monetary economics from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, and a Diploma in Development Policy and Planning from the Institute of Economic Growth in Delhi. Furthermore, he is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Banking and Finance (CAIIB), which adds to his credentials in the banking and finance sector.

With his vast experience and academic qualifications, Dr. Joshi's appointment as Executive Director is poised to bring valuable insights and leadership to the RBI, particularly in areas crucial to the country's financial and economic stability. His appointment is seen as a positive move towards strengthening the RBI's capacity to address emerging challenges in the Indian financial system.

# India's high-net-worth individuals grow 6% to 85,698, projected to hit 93,753 by THIS year

India has seen a notable rise in its population of high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs), those possessing assets over \$10 million, with the number increasing by six percent in 2024. According to Knight Frank's \*Wealth Report 2025\*, the number of HNWIs in India reached 85,698 last year, up from 80,686 in 2023. This growth highlights the country's expanding wealth landscape and economic potential.



The report projects that the number of HNWIs in India will continue to rise, reaching 93,753 by 2028, further solidifying the nation's position as a key player in global wealth creation. This increase in the HNWI population reflects India's long-term economic growth, rising investment opportunities, and the evolving luxury market. It is a sign of the country's growing prosperity, driven by strong economic fundamentals and an increasingly affluent elite class.

Shishir Bajjal, Chairman & Managing Director of Knight Frank India, emphasized that India's growing wealth underscores its economic resilience and long-term growth potential. This surge in wealth is not just about scale but also reflects a shift in the investment preferences of India's elite. The country's affluent individuals are diversifying their portfolios, investing in everything from real estate to global equities.

India's billionaire population has also seen significant growth. As of 2024, the country is home to 191 billionaires, an impressive rise from just 7 in 2019. Of these, 26 billionaires joined the ranks in the last year alone. The combined wealth of India's billionaires is estimated at USD 950 billion, ranking the country third globally, following the US (USD 5.7 trillion) and Mainland China (USD 1.34 trillion).

Looking ahead, Knight Frank predicts that India's influence in global wealth creation will only strengthen in the coming decade, driven by entrepreneurial dynamism, global integration, and emerging industries. This growth represents both the nation's economic vibrancy and its increasing prominence in the global wealth ecosystem.

# SEBI Eases Nomination and Asset Transmission Rules

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced a new circular to streamline the nomination process and asset transmission procedures in the Indian securities market. The updated guidelines aim to provide greater flexibility and ease for investors, particularly those with single-holding accounts.



Under the new regulations, investors with single-holding demat accounts now have the option to opt out of nomination both online and offline. Depository Participants (DPs), rather than the Depositories themselves, will facilitate the online opt-out process for both new and existing investors.

Additionally, the new rules offer more flexibility for investors. Nominees can now be changed an unlimited number of times, providing greater control over the nomination process.

## Transmission

## of Assets Made Simpler

SEBI has also revised the transmission of assets rules for joint account holders. In the event of a joint account holder's death, the assets will automatically be transferred to the surviving joint holders without the need for fresh Know Your Customer (KYC) verification. However, the existing KYC must be updated to complete the process.

Surviving holders will also have the opportunity to update key details, such as their ad-

dress, mobile number, email, and bank account information during the asset transmission process.

## Phased Implementation

The new rules will be implemented in a phased manner, starting from March 1, 2025, and are expected to conclude by September 2025. These changes are set to make the securities market more accessible, efficient, and investor-friendly.



## Banksy's Reimagined The Singing Butler Sells for \$5.5 Million at Auction



A rare reimagining of Jack Vettriano's iconic painting "The Singing Butler" by street artist Banksy fetched nearly £4.3 million (\$5.5 million) at a Sotheby's auction in London on Tuesday. The sale of the piece, titled "Crude Oil (Vettriano)," came just a day after the announcement of the death of Scottish painter Jack Vettriano, aged 73. Vettriano's original "The Singing Butler" depicts a couple dancing on a windswept beach, accompanied by a butler and maid holding umbrellas. It became a commercial sensation after it was sold in 2004 for £744,800, setting a Scottish auction record. The image also went on to become the UK's best-selling print reproduction, outselling works by Monet and Van Gogh. Banksy's version, however, flips the romantic narrative into a stark environmental commentary. In "Crude Oil (Vettriano)," often dubbed "Toxic Beach," the artist adds a sinking oil tanker and two men in hazmat suits unloading toxic waste onto the beach. The piece critiques press-

ing issues like pollution, environmental damage, and the capitalist-driven destruction of nature. The artwork was sold by Mark Hoppus, bassist for the band Blink-182, who had purchased it years earlier. Hoppus, speaking at the auction, noted that his family had deeply appreciated the work but hoped to use some of the proceeds to support up-and-coming artists. He also pledged a portion of the sale's proceeds to Los Angeles-based medical charities and the California Fire Foundation, following the wildfires in the state earlier this year. Banksy's "Crude Oil (Vettriano)" was first exhibited in his 2005 show "Crude Oils: A Gallery of Remixed Masterpieces, Vandalism, and Vermin." Sotheby's described the work as "more relevant today than ever" due to the increasing frequency of environmental disasters. Meanwhile, tributes have poured in for Vettriano, whose work resonated with fans around the world, despite being rejected by some art critics.

## PepsiCo vs Coca-Cola: The Latest Chapter in the Cola Wars



The rivalry between Coca-Cola and PepsiCo, two of the world's leading beverage giants, has flared up again with a new advertising clash. PepsiCo India recently launched its "Anytime is Pepsi Time" campaign, directly taking aim at Coca-Cola's "Half-Time" campaign in the context of the ongoing ICC Champions Trophy tournament. Coca-Cola's "Half-Time" campaign, which debuted a month ago across TV and digital platforms, positions the drink as the ideal beverage to enjoy during half-time breaks of cricket matches. In contrast, PepsiCo has cleverly flipped the script, urging consumers to enjoy Pepsi "any time" — emphasizing that no pause is necessary to savor the refreshment. Pepsi's latest campaign evokes nostalgia for its iconic 1996 "Nothing Official About It" ad campaign, which starred cricket legends like Sachin Tendulkar, Vinod Kambli, and Mohammad Azharuddin. At the time, Pepsi boldly took on Coca-Cola's official sponsorship of the cricket World Cup, with the

tagline suggesting that Pepsi was the drink for the people, not the official sponsors. "Nothing Official About It" became a cultural moment, and PepsiCo is clearly trying to channel that same effortless cool with its new campaign. The rivalry between Coca-Cola and PepsiCo is one of the most storied in advertising history. The 'Cola Wars' reached their peak in the 1980s, with Pepsi launching the famous "Pepsi Challenge" — a blind taste test where consumers preferred the sweeter taste of Pepsi over Coke. In response, Coca-Cola famously introduced "New Coke" in 1985, only to face backlash when consumers demanded the return of the original formula, which was rebranded as "Coca-Cola Classic." While both brands have histories dating back to the late 19th century — Coca-Cola launched in 1886 and Pepsi in 1893 — their rivalry continues to fuel creative marketing and bold advertising moves, with each trying to outdo the other in the battle for global dominance.

## Scroll Smarter: Why Reddit is the Thinking Person's Social Media

Tired of political debates that go nowhere and movie discussions that end at 'mass or class'? Maybe it's time you discovered Reddit - where the internet actually thinks.



Yansi Gopisetty

Reddit is the internet's best-kept secret and a goldmine for curious readers who love a good debate. If you've never heard of it, don't worry - you're not alone. Reddit quietly operates as a massive global forum where people discuss everything, from serious political issues to bizarre conspiracy theories. Think of it as a WhatsApp group, but without the "Good morning" messages. Instead of endless reels and one-sided debates - Reddit offers real conversations where people actually think before they comment, well, most of the time. The platform



is made up of topic-specific communities called subreddits, where users post news, opinions, thoughts, questions, gossip, and memes while others respond with insightful or sometimes sarcastic comments. Now, why should you, a reader interested in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana politics, care about Reddit? Because this is where real, unfiltered discussions happen - without paid promotions, screaming debates, or viral propaganda that often

plague mainstream platforms.

If politics feels too heavy, Reddit also happens to be a paradise for cinephiles. Unlike YouTube comments that just say "goosebumps", Reddit's film communities break down every frame, dialogue, and hidden meaning in a movie. It's not just for politics and movies. Reddit has communities for everything under the sun - cricket debates, stock market trends, startup advice, space exploration,

memes, or even niche topics like conspiracy theories and historical mysteries, there's a subreddit for you. But since anyone can post, be wise in choosing communities, fact-check before believing anything, and remember: upvotes don't always mean truth. Fact-check before believing.

If you're tired of news that feels like a rerun and movie debates that never go beyond box office numbers, Reddit is your upgrade. It's where facts get more love than clickbait, where politics is discussed without panelists yelling, and where a simple movie thread can turn into a full-blown thesis, and one click can take you from serious policy talk to a heated debate on the best Maggi flavor. So jump in, explore, and stay curious—you might just find the most interesting conversations happening in the unlikeliest corners of the internet.

- How to navigate Reddit: Lurk for a while, read posts, and observe how discussions flow. Upvote smart discussions, ignore the noise.
- To get started, check out these subreddits: r/india for national issues, r/andhra\_pradesh and r/hyderabad for local updates, r/IndiaCricket for cricket fans, r/tollywood for all things Telugu cinema.

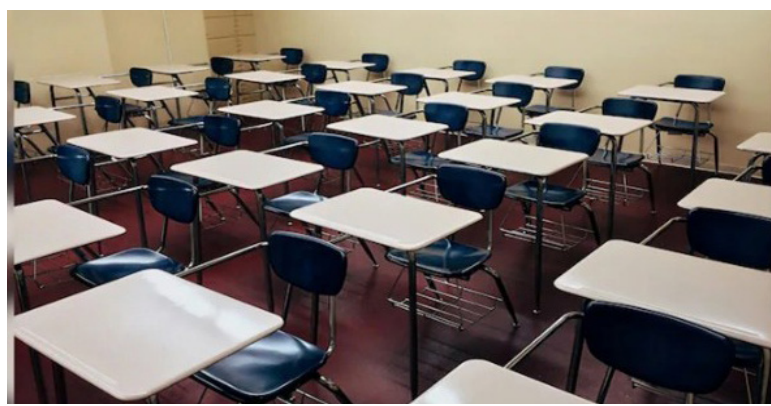
## Social Media Giants Urge Australia to Reconsider YouTube Exemption for Children's Ban

Social media giants, including Meta Platforms (owner of Facebook and Instagram), Snapchat, and TikTok, have called on the Australian government to reconsider its decision to exempt YouTube from new laws that restrict social media access for children under the age of 16. The legislation, which passed in November, imposes some of the world's toughest restrictions on social media platforms, requiring companies to either prevent minors from logging into their services or face hefty fines up to AUD 49.5 million (\$31 million or roughly Rs. 269 crore). Under the current law, YouTube is exempted from the ban, as it is seen as a key educational tool and is the only platform permitted for children when part of a family account with parental supervision rights. However, Meta, along with TikTok and Snapchat, argues that YouTube should not be exempt, pointing out that minors using the platform are exposed to the same risks as other social media sites. YouTube, like its competitors, offers algorithmic content recommendations, social interaction features, and potential exposure to harmful content. Meta expressed its concerns in a blog post, stating that YouTube's exemption contradicts the stated purpose of the legislation. It called on the government to ensure that the law is applied equally to all social media services, urging a consistent approach across the industry. TikTok raised similar concerns, arguing that the decision to

exempt YouTube is "illogical, anticompetitive, and short-sighted." The company urged the government to ensure that no platform receives preferential treatment. Likewise, Snapchat echoed this sentiment, calling for fair and impartial application of the rules. Experts in mental health and extremism have also raised alarms about YouTube, arguing that the platform can expose children to addictive and harmful content, including material that can be just as dangerous as what is found on other social media sites. With increasing scrutiny on how social media affects young people, these companies are urging Australia to revise its approach to ensure a level playing field.



## School In England Removes Mirrors From Toilets To Get Students Back In Class



A school in England has sparked controversy by removing mirrors from its toilets to address what it sees as an issue with students spending too much time in the restrooms. Grant Edgar, headteacher of William Farr Comprehensive in Welton, explained that the decision was made to prevent students from gathering in large groups and potentially delaying their return to class. According to Mr. Edgar, mirrors in the toilets often encourage students to spend excessive time there, which affects punctuality and creates discomfort for others who need to use the facilities. "Mirrors can encourage students to spend too much

time in toilets often in large groups," he stated, adding that this could cause some students to feel uncomfortable. The decision has sparked a variety of reactions from parents. Some have expressed frustration, with one parent commenting, "They're just mirrors, aren't they? We have mirrors at home, why can't we have them in school?" Others have called the move "silly," "a bit extreme," and "strange." Despite the criticism, Mr. Edgar defended the measure, emphasizing that the school had faced challenges during transition times and that the absence of mirrors would help keep students focused and on time for their lessons. For students who require mirrors for medical purposes, the school has made provisions, stating they can request a mirror at the reception. This is not the first time mirrors have been removed from school bathrooms for similar reasons. In January 2024, a middle school in North Carolina removed bathroom mirrors due to concerns about students using class time to create TikTok videos. In 2023, Christopher Whitehead Language College in Worcester replaced mirrors in girls' toilets with posters warning against the harmful effects of makeup. While the decision has generated debate, the school maintains that the goal is to help students make the most of their learning time and reduce distractions.



## Champions Trophy: New Zealand Beats South Africa by 50 Runs, Set to Face India in Final



New Zealand secured a dominant 50-run victory over South Africa in a thrilling semi-final to reach the Champions Trophy final, where they will face India on Sunday in Dubai. Rachin Ravindra (108 off 101 balls) and Kane Williamson (102 off 94 balls) led the

charge with impressive centuries, helping New Zealand post a mammoth total of 362/6, the highest score in Champions Trophy history. Daryl Mitchell (49), Glenn Phillips (49\*), and Michael Bracewell (16) contributed in the final 10 overs, adding 112 runs to the total.

In reply, South Africa, despite a fighting century from David Miller (100\* off 67 balls) and fifties from Rassie van der Dussen (69) and Temba Bavuma (56), fell short, finishing at 312/9. Mitchell Santner was the standout bowler for New Zealand, taking 3/43 to help restrict the Proteas.

## Achanta Sharath Kamal Announces Retirement After WTT Contender Chennai



Indian table tennis legend Achanta Sharath Kamal has announced that the upcoming WTT Contender Chennai, from March 25 to 30, will be his final tournament as a professional athlete. The 42-year-old, who made his international debut in Chennai, will conclude his illustrious career in the same city. Sharath Kamal has an impressive legacy, winning 13 Com-

monwealth Games medals, including six golds, and two Asian Games bronze medals. Despite his remarkable achievements, including participation in five Olympic Games, he has yet to win an Olympic medal. As the highest-ranked Indian at world number 42, Kamal expressed hope that the younger generation will carry forward his dream of Olympic success.

## Rejuvenated Virat Kohli Ready to Conquer New Peaks



Virat Kohli's 84-run knock in India's Champions Trophy semi-final against Australia showcased his determination to overcome past challenges. While his century would have been his 25th in a chase, his measured approach was just as effective. Kohli tamed spinners, a long-standing Achilles' heel, and demonstrated

his readiness for more challenges. His disciplined batting against Australia's Adam Zampa and others highlighted his adaptability, particularly on a slow Dubai pitch. India head coach Gautam Gambhir praised Kohli's tactical approach, while Steve Smith acknowledged his exceptional chasing abilities. Kohli,

with 5999 runs in successful chases, continues to dominate ODI run chases, even surpassing 8000 career runs in the process. Kohli's focus on singles and patience, rather than aggressive strokes, helped settle his nerves and maintain control. His rejuvenation is clear—Kohli is back, more determined than ever to conquer new heights.

## East Bengal vs FK Arkadag AFC Challenge League: Live Streaming Details



Indian football giants East Bengal will face Turkmenistan's FK Arkadag in the first leg of the AFC Challenge League quarter-finals on March 5, 2024. The match will take place at Salt Lake Stadium, Kolkata, starting at 7:00 PM IST. Despite being eliminated from the Indian Super League playoffs, East Bengal has been in excellent form

in the continental competition, topping Group A of the West region. However, they will face a tough challenge against FK Arkadag, the 2024 Turkmenistan champions, who went undefeated in their domestic league. While the match will not be televised in India, fans can catch the live streaming on the FanCode app and website.

## Champions Trophy: Ravindra, Williamson Tons Propel NZ to 362/6 Against South Africa in Semis



Rachin Ravindra and Kane Williamson's centuries guided New Zealand to a formidable total of 362 for six against South Africa in the second semi-final of the Champions Trophy on Wednesday. Ravindra's 108 off 101 balls and Williamson's 102 off 94 balls, along with contributions from Daryl Mitchell (49) and Glenn Phillips (49\*), helped New Zealand set a daunting target. Lungi Ngidi (3/72), Kagiso Rabada (2/70), and

Wiaan Mulder (1/48) were the standout bowlers for South Africa. With the winner of this match set to face India in the summit clash on Sunday in Dubai, New Zealand's strong batting display has set the stage for an exciting finale. **Brief Score:** New Zealand: 362/6 in 50 overs (Rachin Ravindra 108, Kane Williamson 102; Lungi Ngidi 3/72).

**Teams:** New Zealand: Santner (c), Young, Ravindra, Williamson, Mitchell, Latham (wk), Phillips, Bracewell, Henry, Jamieson, O'Rourke. South Africa: Bavuma (c), Ricketton, van der Dussen, Klaasen (wk), Miller, Markram, Mulder, Jansen, Maharaj, Rabada, Ngidi.

## Special Olympics Bharat Sends Off 49-Member Contingent to World Winter Games

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Special Olympics Bharat organized a grand send-off ceremony for the Indian contingent heading to the 2025 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Turin, Italy, from March 8 to 15. The 49-member team, including 30 athletes and 19 support staff, was honored at the Major Dhyani Chand National Stadium in New Delhi. Dignitaries such as Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Mansukh Mandaviya, Special Olympics Bharat President Dr. Mallika Nadda,

and Executive Director Dr. VK Mahendru attended the event. Indian athletes will compete in six sports disciplines: Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Floorball, Short-track Speed Skating, Snowboarding, and Snowshoeing, among 1,500 athletes from 102 countries. Minister Mandaviya and Dr. Nadda praised the athletes for their dedication and determination, wishing them success. The athletes were also gifted traditional Himachali woollen caps for good luck.





## India's First Film Festival in Montana Celebrates Cultural Diversity



The Consulate General of India in Seattle, in partnership with the Montana World Affairs Council, hosted the first-ever 'Festival of Indian Cinema' in Missoula from March 2-4, 2025. The event, held at the University of Montana, featured screenings of popular Indian films like English Vinglish, Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara, and Raksha Bandhan. Over 500 students from 33 schools participated in the Montana Academic World Quest 2025, where India was the 'Theme Country.' Along with the film festival, interactive sessions on Indian classical dance, music, and digital payment platforms were organized. The event aimed to deepen students' understanding of India's cultural richness. The winning students will visit India later this year.

## 'Kanchana 4': Lawrence's Biggest Venture Yet!



Lawrence, who achieved a superhit with 'Kanchana' in 2011, followed it up with 'Kanchana 2' in 2015, which grossed 120 crores and became a blockbuster. As the franchise gained immense popularity, Lawrence increased the budget for each successive film. For 'Kanchana 4', a massive 65 crores have been allocated. This

time, Lawrence aims to make the film a huge success both in terms of content and box office collections. Pooja Hegde will be seen playing a 'deaf' character in the movie. Lawrence plans to release the film either by the end of this year or the beginning of next year, aiming for it to be his biggest hit yet.

## 'Agent' to Stream on Sony Liv from March 14



Akhil Akkineni's action-packed spy thriller Agent, directed by Surender Reddy, will be available for streaming on Sony Liv starting March 14. The film follows Ricky, a talented RAW agent assigned a dangerous mis-

sion by Colonel Mahadev, the leader of a secretive organization known as The Devil. As Ricky works covertly to complete the mission, former RAW agent Dharma, alias God, plots to destroy India, leading to unexpected

twists in the story. The movie stars Akhil Akkineni alongside Malayalam superstar Mamootty, Dino Morea, Sakshi Vaidya, Denzel Smith, and Vikramjeet Virk. Their performances add excitement to the

film. Written by Vakkantham Vamsi, with screenplay by Surender Reddy, Agent is produced by Ramabrahmam Sunkara, Ajay Sunkara, and Pathi Deepa Reddy under AK Entertainments and Surender 2 banners.

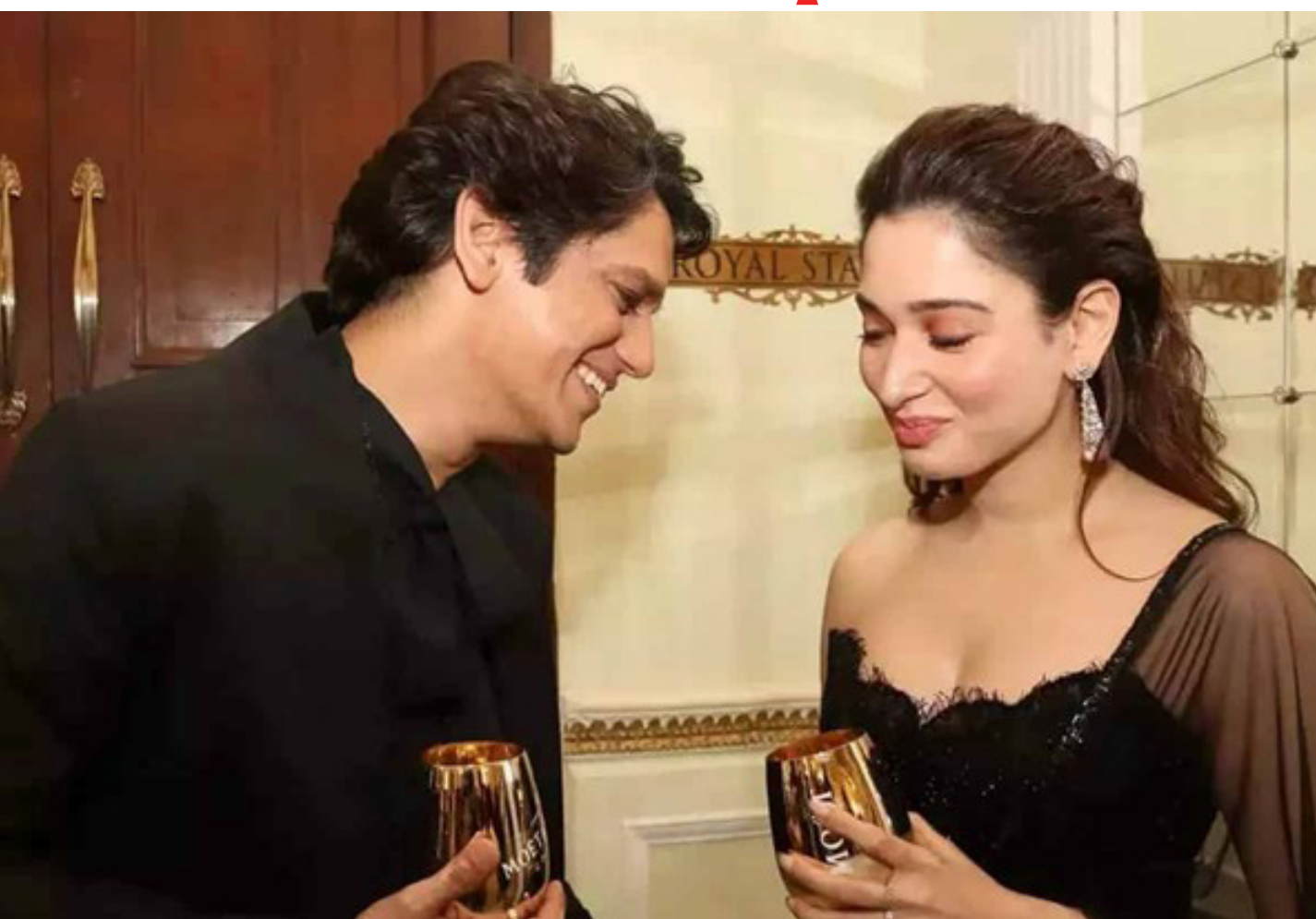
## Nayanthara Requests Fans and Media to Drop 'Lady Superstar' Title



Actress Nayanthara, often referred to as 'Lady Superstar' by her fans, has requested the media and audiences to address her simply as Nayanthara from now on. In a heartfelt statement, she thanked her fans for their immense love and support throughout her career. While acknowledging that the title "Lady Superstar" was born from the affection of her fans, Nayanthara shared that it meant a lot to her. However, she humbly expressed

her desire to be called by her name, Nayanthara, as it holds a special place in her heart and represents who she is both as an actor and as an individual. She emphasized that while titles and accolades are meaningful, they could sometimes create a barrier between the stars and their work. Nayanthara reiterated that the bond of love with her fans is what truly matters, and she remains committed to entertaining them with her work in cinema.

## Tamannaah and Vijay Varma's Breakup



Rumors have emerged surrounding the breakup of Tamannaah Bhatia and Vijay Varma, who had been dating for two years. Sources suggest their busy schedules and personal differences led to the split, though neither has confirmed it. An alleged reason for the breakup is Ta-

mannaah's desire to settle down, as she reportedly grew impatient with the relationship's pace. Speculation also suggests that her controlling nature created tension, causing frequent disagreements. The couple met on the sets of Lust Stories 2, where their on-screen chemistry

blossomed into a real-life romance. Despite the breakup, both actors remain focused on their careers, with Tamannaah working on Odela 2 and Vijay starring in Ul Jalool Ishq. Fans continue to await an official statement from the duo to address the rumors.

## Yami Gautam Opens Up About Turning Down a Big-Budget Film



Bollywood actress Yami Gautam has revealed that she turned down a big-budget film due to her preference for content-driven cinema. In a recent interview, Yami shared that she prioritizes scripts that resonate with her, emphasizing that every professional decision is a conscious one. While she did not disclose the film's title, she explained, "I value the time I spend on projects that truly connect with me." Yami also expressed gratitude for the respect and appreciation she receives for her work, rather than just the film's scale. She further highlighted her instinctive approach to script selection, aiming for versatility and avoiding comfort in repeating past roles.