







# KTR Says BRS Will Win If Elections Held Now

- KTR slams CM Revanth’s governance
- Claims people fed up with Congress
- BRS confident of sweeping elections
- Criticizes Modi’s policies as anti-poor
- BJP accused of religious divisiveness



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BRS working president and former minister K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) asserted that if elections were held in Telangana today, the BRS would return to power with a sweeping mandate. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan during Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations, KTR strongly criticized both the state and central gov-

ernments, targeting CM Revanth Reddy’s leadership and the BJP-led central administration.

KTR claimed that people of Telangana are already disillusioned with the Congress government under CM Revanth Reddy, and that the BRS is ready to storm back to power. He described the Modi government as anti-poor, stating that while

it opposes pensions, loan waivers, and free electricity for the underprivileged, it is quick to write off ₹16.5 lakh crore loans of corporate giants.

He also lashed out at Union Home Minister Amit Shah, saying invoking Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s name in Parliament has become mere political fashion. KTR accused the BJP of spreading communal ten-

sion and emphasized that leaders like Ambedkar are remembered for their con-

tributions to equality and justice—not for religious propaganda.

KTR’s fiery speech signals BRS’s renewed aggression as it positions itself

for a political comeback amidst growing criticism of the ruling Congress.

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## Dr. D Nageshwar Reddy Becomes First Indian to Receive “Legends of Endoscopy” Award from Japan

Koto Toyosu Hospital in Tokyo, Japan. Recognized for his extraordinary lifetime contribution to the field of Gastrointestinal (GI) Endoscopy, Dr. Reddy was felicitated by Dr. Haruhiro Inoue, Chairman of the Digestive Diseases Center at Showa University, in the presence of Dr. Shinji Tanaka, President of the Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society and Professor Emeritus, Hiroshima University.

During the event, Dr. Reddy performed live demonstrations of advanced endoscopic techniques to manage complex biliary and pancreatic conditions. His sessions highlighted cutting-edge technologies that are improving the precision and safety of GI procedures, reinforcing his role as a global innovator in the field.

Dr. Haruhiro Inoue praised Dr. Reddy’s contributions, noting that innovations like the Nagi stent have transformed patient outcomes in challenging clinical situations. “His legacy is one of excellence, innovation, and commitment to patient care,” he stated.

Expressing his gratitude, Dr. Reddy said, “It is a profound privilege to be recognized by Japan Gastroenterologists. This award is not just a personal honor but a testament to the collaborative spirit among endoscopists globally. My focus will remain on innovation, education, and service.”

This recognition marks another milestone in Dr. Reddy’s distinguished career and underlines the growing global stature of Indian medical professionals. It also reaffirms AIG Hospitals’ commitment to excellence in gastrointestinal healthcare and research.

## KTR Criticizes Congress for SC/ST Declaration Deception

contributed significantly to the creation of the Indian Constitution, which has strengthened the nation.

KTR emphasized that Ambedkar’s efforts ensured the country’s progress, including his vision for a unified state language for ease of governance. He acknowledged that Telangana’s former Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), worked in line with Ambedkar’s vision and brought forward initiatives like the Dalit Bandhu scheme.

Referring to Congress’ election promises, KTR questioned the party’s failure to implement the SC/ST Declaration made during previous elections.

He pointed out that Congress had failed to fulfill these promises, particularly in reservation in contracts, and citizens no longer trusted the party’s words. KTR also criticized Congress leader Revanth Reddy for misleading the people.

KTR concluded by expressing confidence that the BRS party would come to power in upcoming elections, riding a wave of support. He also commented on recent Supreme Court rulings against the Governor and the Speaker’s failure to take action against defecting MLAs.

## Telangana Implements SC Classification, Revanth Reddy Receives First GO Copy

Uttam Kumar Reddy also emphasized that SC reservations would be adjusted based on the 2026 population census.

Telangana has become the first state to implement SC classification following a Supreme Court ruling, highlighting the Congress party’s commitment to social equity. The move is expected to provide a more nuanced and fair distribution of resources and opportunities among the SC communities.

# Ponguleti: Dharani Benefited Landlords, Not Farmers

- Dharani portal favored landowners only
- BRS misused land reforms: Ponguleti
- Farmers suffered, unsure of ownership
- Bhubharati ensures public transparency
- Statewide launch planned from June 2

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy strongly criticized the previous BRS government’s Dharani portal, claiming it was designed to benefit landlords and influential elites rather than farmers. Speaking at the launch of the new

BhuBharati portal by CM Revanth Reddy, Ponguleti stated that the Dharani system had caused widespread unrest and uncertainty among common landowners.

He alleged that under Dharani, numerous irregularities took place, with land records manipulated in favor of the

powerful. “People spent sleepless nights, unsure of what would happen to their lands,” Ponguleti said. He accused the BRS regime of betraying farmers by implementing a system that lacked transparency and accessibility. In contrast, BhuBharati has been introduced as a public-friendly alterna-



tive. Ponguleti announced that the portal has been designed to handle logins from lakhs of users simultaneously and will be adapted continuously based on public feedback. He revealed that trial runs are already underway in select regions and the full

rollout across Telangana is scheduled for June 2.

The minister emphasized that BhuBharati aims to bring real reforms and transparency in land management, rectifying past wrongs and empowering genuine landholders.

# Rajiv Yuva Vikas Scheme Beneficiaries to Get Documents on June 2

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka announced a major update on the Telangana government’s prestigious Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme. He declared that documents will be distributed to the scheme’s beneficiaries at every mandal level on June 2, marking a significant milestone in the scheme’s implementation. Following the document distri-



bution, beneficiaries will undergo training sessions for three to seven days to

equip them with necessary skills and guidance to make effective use of

the scheme.

The Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme, aimed at economically backward classes (EBCs) and small traders, offers substantial loan subsidies. Applicants can receive:

- 100% subsidy on loans up to ₹50,000
- 90% subsidy on loans below ₹1 lakh
- 80% subsidy on loans between ₹1-2 lakhs

As of now, the application process ends to-

day, but several eligible individuals have reported technical issues while applying and are urging the government to extend the deadline.

Applications for the scheme are available on the official portal: <https://tgobmsnew.cgg.gov.in>. The government aims to empower youth and small entrepreneurs through this initiative by easing financial burdens and promoting self-employment.

# CM Revanth Chairs Crucial CLP Meet Today

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana government is holding a key Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting today under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. The session began at 11 AM at Novotel Hotel in Shamshabad, with cabinet ministers, MLAs, and MLCs in attendance.

According to sources, the meeting is centered around four major agenda items:

1. Implementation of the BhuBharati land portal

2. Distribution of Sanna Biyyam (fine rice)

3. Progress on the Indiramma Illu housing scheme

4. Deliberation on SC/ST sub-categorization

This meeting is crucial for finalizing the government’s action plans related to its flagship welfare programs.

These schemes are pivotal to the Congress government’s promises and are aimed at uplifting marginalized communities and bringing more transparency to land and housing allocations.



Party whips had already informed legislators in advance, ensuring full

participation in this strategic policy discussion. The government is ex-

pected to make announcements or decisions following the meet.



Kishan Reddy Slams Congress

They Murdered the Constitution



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy launched a scathing attack on the Congress party during Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary celebrations, accusing it of "murdering the Constitution" during the Emergency. Paying floral tributes at Ambedkar's statue, Kishan Reddy highlighted what he called the systematic humiliation of Ambedkar by Congress leaders throughout history. Speaking to the media, Kishan Reddy said, "It was under Indira Gandhi's rule that the Constitution written by Dr. Ambedkar was trampled upon. Congress imposed the Emergency and violated every democratic principle — it was nothing short of a constitutional murder." He added that the people had rightly taught Congress a lesson after the Emergency by voting it out of power. Drawing a contrast, Reddy said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is truly committed to Ambedkar's ideals, particularly by enhancing reservations and empowering the SC/ST communities. He also emphasized that the BJP government has respected and promoted constitutional values far more than previous regimes. The comments come amid ongoing political tensions in Telangana, with leaders from both parties trading sharp barbs over Ambedkar's legacy and the interpretation of constitutional principles.

Errabelli Warns Police

BRS Will Return to Power

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Former Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao issued a stern warning to the police on Monday during a tense incident at Devaruppala village. The conflict erupted during an event organized to unveil a statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, where Rao was invited as the chief guest. Upon his arrival, local police attempted to stop him from proceeding to the event, leading to objections from Ambedkar supporters. A scuffle broke out as the supporters pushed past police barriers and escorted Errabelli to the site. Eventually, he successfully unveiled the statue. Speaking at the event, Errabelli strongly criticized the police, questioning their aggressive behavior. He warned officials not to make mistakes, asserting that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) will return to power with certainty. He added that if he regains authority, he won't spare those responsible for today's misconduct. Errabelli's remarks reflect growing political tensions in the region, as parties gear up for the next electoral battle. His warning underscores BRS's confidence and signals a combative stance against perceived administrative overreach.



Minister Damodar's Explosive Remarks

on Own Party Leaders Spark Row



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha has triggered a political storm with his bold comments targeting leaders from his own party. In a candid statement, he alleged that the reins of power in the state are currently in the hands of leaders from North Telangana. Speaking to the media, Damodar said, "Whether it's flying in helicopters or deciding to buy them, the power lies solely with North Telangana leaders." He added that, despite being a minister, he hasn't flown in a helicopter even once. The minister further demanded the establishment of a helipad at the Hyderabad Cen-

tral Secretariat. His remarks have stirred intense debate, especially in light of ongoing criticism against some Congress ministers allegedly misusing government helicopters for short-distance travel and party activities. Damodar's pointed comments add fuel to the narrative of internal rifts within the party. At a time when Congress is attempting to project unity and governance efficiency, Damodar's statements have become a hot topic in political circles, raising questions about internal dynamics and regional imbalances within the ruling party.

Massive Scam in Group-1 Exam,

Alleges BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy has made sensational allegations, claiming a multi-crore scam in the recently conducted Telangana Group-1 examination. Demanding immediate cancellation of the exam, Kaushik Reddy questioned the irregularities in the evaluation and selection process. "How did results appear for 10 candidates who never wrote the exam?" he asked, slamming the government for not involving qualified professors in paper evaluation. Highlighting shocking discrepancies, he stated that in two exam centers where 1,497 candidates appeared, 74 were selected — an unusually high ratio.

Kaushik further claimed that in one row of hall ticket numbers, 654 candidates scored identical marks, and similarly, 702 candidates in another sequence received the same score. "How is this even possible?" he questioned, calling for a CBI investigation into the scam. He also raised concerns about inconsistent hall ticket numbers between prelims and mains, asserting that no such discrepancy occurs in other states. "If BJP leaders truly care about Telangana's youth, they should push for a thorough probe," Kaushik demanded. His remarks have added to growing public outrage over alleged exam malpractice.



Addanki Dayakar Slams PM

Modi: "A Curse on Telangana"

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent remarks on alleged environmental destruction in Telangana have sparked intense political backlash. Responding sharply, Congress MLC Addanki Dayakar on Monday released a video statement condemning the PM's comments and calling him a "curse on Telangana." Modi, while speaking at a rally in Haryana, accused the Telangana Congress government of sending bulldozers into forests, harming nature and wildlife — calling it the "Congress model" of governance. Reacting to this, Dayakar accused the PM of deliberately attempting to divide the nation based on religion and region. "He acts like an agent working to split Hindus, Muslims, Christians, North, and South India," Dayakar charged. He questioned Modi's silence on violence in BJP-ruled

states, especially citing the example of Manipur, where widespread unrest occurred with no comment from the PM. Describing Modi's behavior as fascist and dictatorial, Dayakar claimed even international communities view him as such. He further alleged that the PM is attempting to curry favor with global powers, including the U.S., for personal political mileage. "Congress, under Rahul Gandhi's leadership, is working constitutionally in all states it governs," Dayakar asserted, adding that Modi's conspiracies against Telangana stem from the state's resistance to central overreach. The row continues to heat up, with Telangana Congress leaders standing united in their defense against what they describe as baseless and politically motivated attacks by the BJP-led Centre.



Just Like PV Was Targeted, We're

Facing a Similar Conspiracy":

Bhatti Vikramarka

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has alleged a joint conspiracy by BRS and BJP to destabilize the Congress government over progressive social reforms. Speaking to the media in Hyderabad, Bhatti said both parties are attacking the government due to fear of losing their political relevance in the wake of SC categorization and increased BC reservations. He drew parallels with the past, stating, "Just like former PM P.V. Narasimha Rao was obstructed when he tried to bring in land reforms, a similar conspiracy is unfolding today. Back then, the Jai Andhra movement was orchestrated to derail progress. Today, attacks on our SC and BC ini-



tiatives are no different." Bhatti emphasized that the Congress government has initiated a social revolution that threatens the existing power structures, prompting resistance from BRS and BJP. He asserted that Telangana's Bahujan communities stand firmly with the Congress and Rahul Gandhi, vowing to resist any attempts to block reforms that aim to uplift marginalized sections of society. His statement comes amid increasing political friction over caste-based policies and reservation debates.

Bandi Sanjay Slams Congress

Over Ambedkar Remarks

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Union Minister Bandi Sanjay stirred controversy on Monday with sharp remarks targeting the Congress party over its stance on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Speaking at an event, Sanjay accused Congress of hypocrisy, saying their current tributes to Ambedkar were like "murderers holding condolence meetings." He alleged that the Congress party once insulted Ambedkar and demanded that it issue an apology to backward and marginalized communities. "The same party that denied Ambedkar the Bharat Ratna awarded Padma Vibhushan to the person who defeated him in elections," Sanjay claimed. The minister also reignited the debate on food grain distribution in Telangana. He insisted that Prime Minister Modi's photograph be displayed at ration shops, citing that the central government supplies the rice. Responding to criticism that the Centre was sending coarse rice instead of fine quality, Sanjay countered



that all development funds in villages were being provided by the Union government. His comments have drawn strong reactions from opposition leaders, adding fuel to the ongoing political friction in Telangana.

Ambedkar Belongs to All, But

Closer to Telangana: Harish Rao

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
On the occasion of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Jayanti, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leaders organized grand celebrations across Telangana. Party members across all districts paid floral tributes at Ambedkar statues, commemorating the architect of the Indian Constitution. In a major event held at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad, BRS cadres gathered in large numbers. Former Minister T. Harish Rao participated in the celebrations held in Siddipet and offered heartfelt tributes. Speaking at the event, Harish Rao said, "Ambedkar belongs to everyone, but he is especially close to Telangana. True tribute is not just in offering flowers, but in living by his ideals and following his vision." He highlighted that Ambedkar's Constitution played a vital role in the formation of the Telangana state. Harish Rao emphasized the importance of preserving Ambedkar's principles of equality and social justice, urging citizens and leaders alike

to uphold those values in governance and society. His message resonated strongly with the attendees, reinforcing Ambedkar's deep connection with Telangana's political identity.





# Governor Bandaru Dattatraya Unveils Statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar & Babu Jagjivan Ram in Hyderabad

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Shri Bandaru Dattatraya, Hon'ble Governor of Haryana, participated as the Chief Guest at the grand unveiling ceremony of statues of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Shri Babu Jagjivan Ram, organized by VB Foundation at Rotary Colony, Kawadiguda, Hyderabad. The event, held on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, witnessed the

presence of several prominent dignitaries. Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Union Minister for Coal & Mines, Dr. I. Laxman, Member of Parliament, Kum. Rachanashree, Smt. Pavani Vinay Kumar, Smt. Supriya Naveen Goud, and Shri Ravi Chary, GHMC Corporators, graced the event as Guest of Honour. Former Corporators Sri Poosa Raju, Ramesh Ram, and Sri T. Ravinder

also participated in the programme. The ceremony was presided over by Smt. Bandaru Vijayalakshmi, Chairperson of VB Foundation, with Kailas Nagesh coordinating the proceedings. The event was marked by tributes to the legacy of both national leaders and their contributions to social justice, equality, and empowerment of marginalized communities.



## ADGP Mahesh M. Bhagwat Pays Tributes to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on Birth Anniversary

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Additional Director General of Police Shri Mahesh M. Bhagwat, IPS, paid rich tributes at a solemn ceremony held at the Director General of Police Office premises. Floral tributes were offered before a portrait of Dr. Ambedkar, the chief ar-

chitect of the Indian Constitution and a towering social reformer. The event was attended by officers and staff of the DGP office, who joined in honoring the legacy of the visionary leader. Addressing the gathering, Shri Bhagwat stated, "Educate, Unite and Agitate for your rights — this mantra given by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar continues to be a guiding light for all." He

emphasized the enduring relevance of Dr. Ambedkar's ideals of social justice, equality, and constitutional integrity, urging public servants to uphold these principles in their duties. Shri Bhagwat also reaffirmed the police department's dedication to safeguarding the rights and dignity of all citizens, especially the underprivileged and marginalized communities.

## Police Block MLC Kavitha's Visit to Ambedkar Statue, Sparks Tension

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
On the occasion of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Jayanti, BRS leader and MLC Kavitha attempted to pay her respects at the 125-foot tall Ambedkar statue near Tank Bund. However, her visit was interrupted when police prevented her from offering tributes at the monument. According to reports, police did not grant permission for Kavitha and other BRS leaders to enter the first floor of the statue for a formal tribute. This led to a brief standoff, with BRS leaders and workers chanting "Jai Bhim" and sitting in protest at the location. After a minor verbal altercation with the police, Kavitha and a few others were eventually allowed to go up to the first floor to offer their respects.



The incident raised tensions between the police and BRS leaders, drawing attention to the challenges faced by public figures during official com-

memorations. The reasons behind the police's actions remain unclear, and the situation has sparked a debate about the handling of such events.

## Tragic Incident in Chevella Two Children Die After Being Locked in Car

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a heartbreaking incident in Dam-rigaidda village, Chevella mandal, two young children tragically lost their lives after being accidentally locked in a car. The victims, Tanmayi Sri (5) from Pamen village and Abhinaya Sri (4) from Shabad Mandal, were relatives of Telugu Rambabu, who had come to attend a family wedding on April 30. On Monday afternoon, around 12:30 PM, the children got into a car parked outside the house, but their presence went unnoticed by the family members, who assumed they were playing outside. Around 2:00 PM, when family members checked the car, they found the two children unresponsive and



unconscious. They immediately unlocked the car and rushed them to the Chevella Government Hospital, where doctors confirmed the children's deaths. The tragic loss has left both families devastated, and the hospital premises were filled with the sounds of anguished cries from the grieving parents. This incident highlights the dangers of leaving children unattended in locked vehicles, especially during hot weather.

## Sunrisers Hyderabad Players Escape Fire Mishap at Hotel



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a shocking incident, players of the Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) team narrowly escaped a fire accident at their hotel in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. The players were staying at the Park Hyatt Hotel when a fire broke out. It is reported that the fire started on the first floor, causing panic among the hotel staff and guests. At the time of the fire, the SRH players were on the 6th floor of the hotel. Upon noticing the smoke, the hotel staff immediately evacuated the players and other guests. The players

were quickly moved to the team bus and taken to a safe location. Firefighters soon arrived at the scene and took control of the situation, trying to extinguish the flames. Although the details of the fire remain unclear, the prompt action of the hotel staff and the timely evacuation ensured that no major casualties or injuries occurred. This close call has raised concerns about safety protocols, but thankfully, the SRH team members are unharmed. Further information regarding the incident is awaited.

## Case Filed Against Malkajgiri MLA Marri Rajasekhar Reddy for Cheating

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a significant development, a cheating case has been filed against Marri Rajasekhar Reddy, the Malkajgiri MLA from the BRS party, in connection with a financial dispute. This incident comes as another blow to the ruling BRS, which has already witnessed several of its MLAs from the Greater Hyderabad region switching to the Congress party. The case was registered after a person named Yesu Babu alleged that Rajasekhar Reddy had cheated him in a payment deal. According to the complaint, the MLA, who had an agreement with Yesu Babu's company, Vision Property Management Services, to allocate 40 staff members to Arundhati Hospitals, paid only Rs. 30 lakh out of the agreed Rs. 50 lakh. Despite repeated demands for the remaining Rs. 20 lakh, there was no response from the MLA. Frustrated,



Yesu Babu approached the police, leading to the filing of a case under cheating charges. This case adds to the growing tensions within the BRS party as allegations of corruption and disputes involving party leaders continue to surface. Further investigation into the matter is ongoing.

## Telangana Home Guards Face Salary Delay and Financial Struggles

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Home Guards in Telangana are facing severe financial difficulties as they have yet to receive their salaries for the month, despite the 13th of the month passing. The delay has left around 16,000 Home Guards in the state grappling with economic hardships. Home Guards in Telangana perform crucial duties, including crowd control, traffic management, event security, and election duties, often working alongside regular police personnel. However, despite their significant contributions, the government has not recognized them as regular employees. As a result, they are not entitled to benefits like TA, DA, HRA, or even uniform allowances. Additionally, retired Home Guards do not receive any financial benefits, and though the government recently announced health cards for them, the implementation of this initiative has not yet been carried out, further adding to their concerns. The Home Guards have expressed their frustration over the ongoing delays, highlighting the lack of recognition and support from the state government.



## HYDRA Issues Notices for Illegal Land Activities in Rangareddy District



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a crackdown on illegal land activities, the Hyderabad Development and Regulation Authority (HYDRA) has issued notices in the Madhapur Division, specifically in the 107 Guttal Begumpet area of Navabharat Nagar in the Sherlingampally constituency, Rangareddy District. The notices were issued after complaints about unauthorized land developments came to light. This action follows a recent incident where an obstruction was placed on the road leading from Boraband Hitech City to Kakatiya Hills, drawing the attention of HYDRA Commissioner Ranganath. On Monday, the authorities took swift action by posting HYDRA notices in Navabharat Nagar, warning residents and land developers of the illegal activities in the area. The notice pertains to Survey Number 63 in Madasapoor Guttal Begumpet and Navabharat Nagar, where construction and land modifications have been carried out without the necessary permits. Authorities have warned that legal action will be taken against those involved in illegal land dealings and unauthorized construction, stressing that such activities will not be tolerated.



# Kavitha Slams Police Over Dalit Arrests in Kamareddy

- Kavitha questions CM Revanth’s governance
- Police brutality on Ambedkar Jayanti condemned
- Dalits humiliated, clothes forcibly removed
- Demands action, suspension of guilty cops
- SC/ST atrocity case sought on officials

**TPN Correspondent | Kamareddy**  
BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha strongly condemned the alleged police brutality against Dalits in Kamareddy district’s Lingampet mandal during Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations. She questioned whether the state was functioning under Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s Constitution or CM Revanth Reddy’s personal rule. Speaking on the incident, Kavitha expressed out-

rage over reports that Dalits were arrested and humiliated by police merely over flexis installed for Ambedkar Jayanti. “How dare the police strip and arrest Dalits? Who is giving them the confidence to act with such cruelty?” she demanded. Kavitha accused the government of targeting Dalits deliberately, stating that this was not a law-and-order issue but a case of blatant oppression. She demanded immedi-



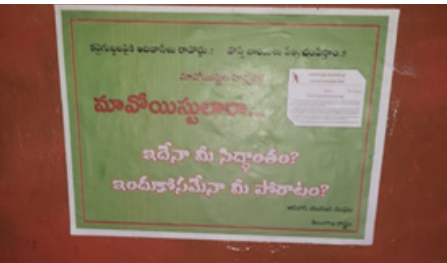
ate suspension of the police officers involved and called for strict action under the SC/ST Atrocities Act. Furthermore, she urged the state government to issue a public apology, emphasizing that such

actions undermine the principles Ambedkar stood for and insult the community. The MLC maintained that the government’s silence on the issue reflects complicity and a lack of commitment to social justice.

# Anti-Maoist Posters Create Stir in Mulugu District

**TPN Correspondent | Mulugu**

In a dramatic turn of events, anti-Maoist posters have surfaced in several areas of Eturunagaram Mandal in Mulugu District, Telangana. The posters, purportedly from the Adivasi Youth Association, have raised a wave of controversy. These posters, displayed prominently at main junctions and RTC bus stands, accuse the Maoists of hindering the movement of Adivasis by planting bombs to stop them from entering the forests. The posters boldly question the Maoists’ rationale, asking, “Is the killing of Adivasis your ideology? Is this the purpose of your struggle?” The posters also carry a stern warning against the Adivasis approaching Karri-



gutta, with threats of bomb blasts if they

do. The message critiques the Maoists’ so-called “unannounced war” on the Adivasis, condemning their violent tactics. The posters express outrage over the exploitation of the tribal community in the name of the Maoist movement, with a line reading, “Maoists, are you ever going to stop your bloodlust?” These anti-Maoist messages have sparked significant attention, with locals reacting strongly to the provocative content. The incident highlights growing tensions between the tribal communities and Maoist groups in the region.

# Provocative Remarks Land Chikoti Praveen in Legal Trouble; Case Filed in Nalgonda

**TPN Correspondent | Nalgonda**

A case has been registered against Chikoti Praveen at the Nalgonda One Town Police Station for allegedly making provocative remarks during a Hanuman Shobha Yatra. Based on multiple complaints received, the Nalgonda police took suo motu cognizance and filed a case against him under Sections 196, 299, and 192 of the BNS (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita). According to police sources, the comments made by Praveen during the yatra were deemed to incite unrest and disturb public harmony. The authorities are currently examining the nature and context of his statements to proceed with the in-



vestigation. This development adds to the list of controversies surrounding Chikoti Praveen, who has often been in the limelight for his outspoken views and public activities. Further legal action will depend on the outcome of the ongoing inquiry.

# Tandur MLA Manohar Reddy Pays Tribute to Dr. Ambedkar on 134<sup>th</sup> Jayanti

**TPN Correspondent | Vikarabad**

In observance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s 134th birth anniversary, Tandur MLA Manohar Reddy paid a heartfelt tribute at the Ambedkar Junction in the town of Tandur, Vikarabad district. The MLA laid a floral garland at the statue of Dr. Ambedkar to commemorate his contributions to society. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Manohar Reddy emphasized the importance of remembering Dr. Ambedkar’s vision and principles, urging everyone to take inspiration from his ideals. He highlighted that it is the responsibility of every individual to uphold the values Dr. Ambedkar stood for. He also mentioned that the state government, following Ambedkar’s spirit, has introduced various welfare schemes aimed at the empowerment and well-being of Dalits, further enhancing their rights and opportunities in society.



# Hailstorm Causes Massive Crop Loss in Janagaon District, MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy Assures Support

**TPN Correspondent | Janagaon**

Janagaon district witnessed severe damage to crops due to a sudden hailstorm that hit the region yesterday. Reports indicate that crops over hundreds of acres were destroyed, with fields affected by the violent weather conditions. Upon learning about the extent of the damage, local BRS MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy immediately visited several affected villages on Monday morning to assess the situation. During his visit, he consoled the farmers who had lost their crops

and assured them of his support. The MLA also took immediate action by speaking with government officials over the phone, urging them to address the issue. He assured the farmers that the matter would be brought to the attention of the state government, and efforts would be made to ensure compensation for those who had suffered crop losses. Palla Rajeshwar Reddy reassured the affected farmers, promising that steps would be taken to provide them with the necessary relief.



# Telangana CM K. Revanth Reddy Orders Drafting of Bill for Gig Workers’ Job Security

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**

In a significant move for gig and platform workers, Telangana Chief Minister K. Revanth Reddy has directed the state government to prepare a draft bill aimed at providing job security and other benefits to these workers. The Chief Minister issued these instructions after reviewing the safety and welfare measures for gig workers. CM Revanth Reddy emphasized that the bill should ensure that gig workers are entitled to insurance and other



necessary rights. He instructed the Labour Department to create the bill with provisions that offer adequate protection to workers. The draft bill is to be made available

online to gather public feedback and suggestions, which will then be incorporated into the final version. Additionally, CM Revanth Reddy called for a new law that facilitates coordination between companies and aggregators, ensuring the welfare of gig workers. He has set a deadline for the final draft of the bill to be prepared by the 25th of this month, signaling the government’s commitment to improving the working conditions and security of gig workers in the state.

# Auto Unions Donate to Support BRS Rajotsava Celebrations in Warangal

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**

As the BRS party celebrates completing 25 years since its formation, it is gearing up to host a grand Rajotsava (silver jubilee) event in Warangal. The event, scheduled for the 27th of this month at Elkathuthurti, will be addressed by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and is expected to witness a large turnout of supporters from across the state. The party has already begun preparations for the event, aiming for a massive congregation of people from all over Tel-

angana. KCR has instructed party leaders, former ministers, and elected representatives to mobilize a large crowd for the occasion. In a show of support for the event, auto unions in the region have contributed to the celebrations. On Monday morning, members of the Auto Drivers Union presented a cheque for Rs. 26,000 to K. T. Rama Rao (KTR), the BRS working president, at the Telangana Bhavan. This gesture signifies the growing enthusiasm and participation of various sectors in the party’s milestone event.



# Pillar Collapse at Sitarama Project Raises Concerns Over Quality Standards

**TPN Correspondent | Bhadradri kothagudem**

In a concerning development, the super passage pillar of the Sitarama Project in Mulkalapalli Mandal, Bhadradri Kothagudem district, has collapsed. The incident, which occurred ten days ago, was only recently brought to light. Authorities had kept the matter under wraps, opting to carry out repairs quietly after the side rivetment of the canal was damaged. The issue was uncovered when livestock herders were prevented from using the route, drawing attention to the collapse. The pillar, which was constructed at a cost of approximately Rs. 5 lakh, has raised questions regarding its construction quality. Experts have noted that the absence of water in the canal prevented any immediate danger, but had water been flowing, the pillar could have collapsed entirely. The pillar is set to be rebuilt at an estimated cost of Rs. 5 lakh, and the



responsibility for the incident has been assigned to the contractor. Authorities have stated that they will remain vigilant to prevent such oc-

currences in the future, emphasizing the need for stricter quality control in future projects.



# Trump’s Tariff U-Turn Rattles Globe

In a stunning reversal, US President Donald Trump has put a temporary pause on his sweeping reciprocal tariffs—except those aimed at China—sending ripples across global markets and evoking comparisons to the erratic rule of medieval sultan Muhammad bin Tughlaq. While this partial ceasefire has calmed some immediate anxieties, the unpredictable manner in which these economic policies are being implemented and revoked continues to deeply unsettle financial markets and global stakeholders. Trump had earlier launched an all-out trade war, threatening punitive tariffs on imports from nearly every major economy. However, in his latest move, he has narrowed the scope, leaving only China facing the brunt of new tariffs—now raised to a whopping 125%, while other countries are being subjected to a 10% tariff for the next 90 days. The sudden narrowing of this economic offensive has been widely interpreted as both arbitrary and reactive.

The global community is grappling with the unprecedented nature of Trump’s policy-making. Economists and political observers are drawing attention to how critical financial decisions are being made and reversed



with alarming casualness. There’s no modern parallel to this kind of high-stakes economic improvisation in international trade policy. The bilateralization of the trade war—now essentially a standoff between the

US and China—has left analysts puzzled. Was this reversal driven by sheer unpredictability, or was it a strategic retreat in response to the severe backlash from equity and bond markets? Some believe Trump may have been

influenced by feedback from key business leaders and economic advisors, as well as public concern in the US about the impact of his tariffs. Others suggest that this was part of a long-orchestrated plan to economically

isolate China while keeping the rest of the world on relatively neutral ground. However, that theory is hard to reconcile with the initial universal scope of the tariff plan. Sustaining a tariff war with China, without affecting other economies, is far from simple in an interconnected global supply chain. During Trump’s first term, the US had already imposed tariffs on a wide range of Chinese goods, and many expected Trump 2.0 to double down. Yet the flip-flop nature of these decisions has left many questioning whether there is any coherent strategy at all. The uncertainty unleashed by this chaotic approach is particularly damaging. Long-term economic planning, investment, and supply chain management all depend on policy stability and predictability—elements now clearly missing. While a policy can be announced or revoked within days, rebuilding trust and trade infrastructure takes years, if not decades. In the end, Trump’s claim that he hopes for a “good deal with China” only adds another layer of ambiguity. As global markets brace for the next twist, the world watches with concern, unsure of whether diplomacy or disruption will define the next phase of this economic drama.

## Ambedkar’s Vision of Manuski and Dignity



Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s idea of manus (human) and manuski (human dignity) was rooted not just in Western liberal humanism, but in a deeper, vernacular, and performative understanding of what it means to be human in a caste-based society. His concept of humanness was not merely biological — it was social, ethical, and enacted through dignity, justice, and equality. On April 14, Ambedkar Jayanti, it’s worth revisiting how central these concepts were to Ambedkar’s political and philosophical vision, especially in the context of Dalit liberation.

In his 1925 speech to the Mumbai Province Bahishkrut Parishad in Belgaon, Ambedkar called on Dalits to fight for their manuski — to not just live, but to live with dignity. He posed a fundamental question to the Untouchables: “Do you want sukh (comfort) or manuski?” (Bahishkrut Bharat, Feb 3, 1928). This was not a rhetorical question. Ambedkar was pointing out that dignity, not mere survival or comfort, was the foundation of full personhood. To reclaim manuski, Ambedkar emphasised political representation, social transformation, and the annihilation of caste. He understood that Hinduism, structured on rigid human hierarchies, offered no path to dignity for Dalits. In his seminal — though undelivered — speech Annihilation of Caste (1936), he argued that dismantling caste was essential to creating a society in which manuski could be universally shared. But Ambedkar’s vision did not stop at political change. He and his followers

- **Nitimatta/Naitikta (ethics)**
- **Svabhimān (self-respect)**
- **Svavalamban (self-dependence)**
- **Shila (character)**
- **Ijjat (dignity)**
- **Mansikta (mental ability)**
- **Abhu (honour)**

engaged in a multi-pronged strategy to regenerate Dalit society — educational reform, legal action, social uplift, and religious conversion — all aimed at both external liberation and internal transformation. For Ambedkar, manuski had to be cultivated, not just granted. Importantly, the term humanity in English doesn’t fully capture the depth of manuski in the Dalit context. In Marathi, manuski draws from multiple moral and emotional registers: Together, these formed the foundation for dignified Dalit personhood — a humanity forged in struggle, not bestowed by privilege. Ambedkar’s vision remains a radical blueprint for justice, challenging India to rethink what it means to be truly human.

## Can Mamata Weather the Job Storm

As the 2026 West Bengal Assembly election approaches, a political storm threatens to shake Mamata Banerjee’s once-impregnable stronghold. The Supreme Court’s decision to nullify over 25,000 teaching appointments tied to the 2016 recruitment scam has delivered a seismic blow to the Trinamool Congress (TMC), raising questions about Banerjee’s credibility and deepening discontent among her traditional support base — the middle class and rural aspirants. This verdict doesn’t just signify a legal setback; it risks becoming an electoral turning point. Banerjee built her political brand by championing “Ma, Mati, Manush” — the mother, the soil, and the people — and for years, she enjoyed robust support from a broad coalition of urban middle-class voters and rural families. But with thousands of livelihoods wiped out in a single court order, faith in the system has cracked. The scandal’s impact extends far beyond the jobholders. When

multiplied by dependents and families, over a crore people are directly or indirectly affected — especially in suburban and rural Bengal, where government teaching jobs are prized for their stability. These communities now feel betrayed, and the TMC’s promise of governance and meritocracy lies in tatters. Urban anger is simmering too. Kolkata’s middle class, which once embraced Banerjee for her anti-elitist and reformist persona, is disillusioned. The arrest of former minister Partha Chatterjee and revelations of rampant bribery have only intensified outrage. Teachers who followed the rules, only to be dismissed, are protesting — and their voices are echoing across Bengal’s education ecosystem. Signs of political erosion are already visible. Despite winning 29 Lok Sabha seats in 2024, the TMC trailed in 47 of Kolkata’s 144 municipal wards and lost two Assembly segments. Incidents like the R G Kar rape-murder case have fur-

ther dented Banerjee’s image as a protector of the common people. Yet, while the TMC is wounded, the BJP is not fully poised to capitalize. The party’s state leadership is fractured and lacks a charismatic face who can rival Banerjee’s populist appeal. Leaders like Suvendu Adhikari and Sukanta Majumder are attacking with full force, but translating this into votes requires a unified strategy and clear vision, something the BJP still struggles with. Meanwhile, Banerjee is attempting to reclaim lost ground by portraying herself as the victim of a BJP-CPI(M) conspiracy, a narrative that often garners sympathy in Bengal. Historically, her ability to turn adversity into advantage has kept her politically afloat. Ultimately, the 2026 election could hinge on whether Banerjee can rebuild trust — or whether the BJP can finally present a compelling alternative. Either way, West Bengal is bracing for a political showdown unlike any in recent memory.





# Gujarat ATS, Coast Guard Seize ₹1,800 Crore Worth of Drugs in High-Seas Operation

In a major anti-narcotics operation, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) jointly seized 300 kilograms of suspected methamphetamine valued at ₹1,800 crore after smugglers dumped the contraband into the Arabian Sea and fled across the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), officials said on Monday.

The overnight operation was conducted on April 12-13 in the Arabian Sea near the IMBL off the Gujarat coast, based on specific intelligence received by the Gujarat ATS. Acting swiftly, the ICG diverted one of its ships from the Western Region to intercept the suspect vessel.

According to an official release, the Coast Guard ship managed to locate the suspicious boat despite challenging visibility conditions. Upon spotting the approaching patrol vessel, the smugglers quickly jettisoned their cargo into the sea and escaped across the IMBL, taking advantage of their proximity to international waters and the distance between the vessels at the time of detection.

“The ICG ship deployed its sea boat immediately to recover the jettisoned narcotics while commencing a hot pursuit of the fleeing vessel,” the release stated. However, due to the geographical constraints and the swift movement of the smugglers, interception



could not be achieved.

Despite the challenges of operating in darkness and rough seas, the Coast Guard successfully recovered the dumped contraband. The narcotics, believed to be methamphetamine, were brought ashore to Porbandar and handed over to the Gujarat ATS for further investigation.

Officials noted that this operation marks the 13th successful joint mission by the Gujarat ATS and the Indian Coast Guard in recent

years, highlighting the strong synergy and coordination between the two agencies in safeguarding national interests and coastal security.

The seizure underscores the persistent threat of drug trafficking through maritime routes and the increasing need for coordinated intelligence-led operations. Investigations are ongoing to trace the origins and intended recipients of the consignment, and efforts are underway to identify and apprehend the smugglers who escaped into international waters.



## Priyanka Gandhi Likely to Be Elevated

The Congress party is reportedly considering a significant move to elevate Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to the post of vice president as part of a broader push for structural reforms within the organisation. While an official decision is yet to be made, party insiders say discussions around her formal promotion have intensified in recent weeks.

Currently, Priyanka Gandhi serves as the General Secretary of the party, though she does not hold any specific organisational charge. Despite this, she has been actively involved behind the scenes, particularly in driving new initiatives aimed at strengthening the party's grassroots network.

One of her major recent contributions is a pilot project focused on empowering district Congress presidents, beginning with Gujarat. This initiative aims to decentralise decision-making and increase the responsibilities of district-level leaders, giving them greater authority and autonomy to make impactful changes at the local level. If the pilot proves effective in Gujarat, the Congress plans to expand the model to other states across the country. Party sources view this project as a reflection of Priyanka Gandhi's growing strategic role within the organisation. Her ability to steer internal reforms, especially at a time when the Congress is trying to revamp its structure and operational efficiency, is being seen as a key asset for the party's revival efforts.

The proposed changes go beyond just her elevation. The Congress is reportedly preparing for a set of broader organisational reforms aimed at streamlining internal systems and improving functionality at all levels. The leadership believes that such reforms are essential to strengthen the party ahead of crucial electoral battles, including the upcoming state and national elections.

According to insiders, while Priyanka Gandhi's new designation is yet to be finalised, her increasing involvement in shaping policy, internal structures, and grassroots strategies signals a clear shift in her influence within the party. Her elevation to vice president could serve as both a symbolic and strategic move, reinforcing the Gandhi family's central role while also introducing a more reform-oriented leadership style.

As discussions continue, many within the party view her potential rise as a much-needed catalyst for revitalising the Congress and aligning its future course with evolving political dynamics.

## Golconda Blue Diamond Set for Auction

A rare and radiant 23.24-carat vivid blue diamond with a rich Indian royal legacy is poised to capture global attention at Christie's Magnificent Jewels sale in Geneva. Known as The Golconda Blue, the diamond is expected to fetch between USD 35 million and USD 50 million (approximately Rs 300-430 crore), making it one of the most valuable blue diamonds to be auctioned in recent years.

The gem hails from the legendary Golconda mines, located in present-day Telangana, India—historically renowned for producing some of the finest and rarest diamonds in the world. Its exceptional quality, deep blue hue, and royal provenance add to its prestige and desirability among collectors and connoisseurs.

The Golconda Blue was once part of the illustrious royal collections of the Maharajas



of Indore and Baroda. Now mounted in a contemporary ring crafted by acclaimed Parisian designer JAR (Joel Arthur Rosenthal), the diamond continues its legacy by blending regal history with modern artistry.

Christie's International Head of Jewelry, Rahul Kadakia, highlighted the stone's unmatched significance, calling it “one of the rarest blue diamonds in the world.” He compared The Golconda Blue to other celebrated diamonds of Golconda origin, such

as the Archduke Joseph Diamond and the Princie Diamond, both known for their noble lineage and exceptional brilliance.

“Exceptional noble gems of this caliber come to market once in a lifetime,” Kadakia remarked, underscoring the rarity and importance of the diamond. He emphasized that its royal heritage, exquisite color, and remarkable size make it a treasure of global and historical importance.

For India, The Golconda Blue is more than just a gemstone—it is a tangible link to the country's illustrious past, evoking images of princely states, royal courts, and a flourishing diamond trade centered in the Golconda region. The upcoming auction is not just a sale, but a moment of cultural significance, as one of India's finest jewels prepares to change hands on the world stage.

## Karun Nair Disappointed Despite IPL Half-Century

Karun Nair, the experienced Vidarbha batter, made a strong comeback in the 2025 Indian Premier League (IPL) with a scintillating knock of 89 runs off 40 balls. His performance, however, came in a losing effort as Delhi Capitals succumbed to Mumbai Indians in their latest encounter. Despite his remarkable innings, which included his first IPL half-century in seven years, Nair remained disappointed, emphasizing that individual performances hold little value if the team does not win.

The 33-year-old, who had been absent from the IPL for three years, was brought in as an Impact Player and delivered a solid contribution. However, he refused to dwell on his personal achievement during the post-match interview. Nair expressed his disappointment with the outcome, underscoring the importance of team success over individual milestones. “We play to win the match, so there is disappointment. No matter how much we score, if the team does not win, then there is no value of it,” he remarked, adding that winning was his primary focus.

The knock was a welcome return for Nair, especially after a long absence from the IPL, but he felt his efforts were futile as Delhi Capitals couldn't finish the job. He noted how important it was for the set batters to stay at the crease for longer periods. “Obviously, it was easier for the set batter to play than for the new batter,” Nair explained. “It was very important for a set batter to continue, but we lost wickets at regular intervals, making it tough to chase down the target.”

Despite the loss, Nair acknowledged Mumbai Indians' strong bowling performance, which



kept the Capitals under pressure throughout the match. He pointed out that the team struggled to form partnerships, an essential aspect in T20 cricket. “We were all looking to score runs quickly, but we couldn't stitch together partnerships,” he added.

The batter remains hopeful that his team will learn from this defeat and continue their momentum in future games. Nair's perspective on the loss reflects his commitment to the team's success and his determination to contribute to their winning efforts in the coming matches.

## Anti-Waqf Violence Spreads in Bengal

Violent protests over the Waqf (Amendment) Act continue to escalate in West Bengal, with fresh reports of unrest emerging from a second district. After days of clashes in Murshidabad's Jangipur area, the tension has now reportedly spread to parts of Malda, raising alarm among authorities and prompting urgent legal and security interventions.



On Monday, a plea was filed in the Supreme Court seeking a court-monitored Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the violence. Filed by advocate Shashank Shekhar Jha, the petition calls for immediate action to protect lives and properties at risk due to the ongoing unrest. It also urges the court to ensure accountability and transparency in the investigation.

The situation first turned violent in Murshidabad on Saturday when protests against the Waqf (Amendment) Act took a violent turn. Protesters set fire to multiple vehicles, and visuals from the scene showed flames and thick smoke engulfing parts of Jangipur. The violence left at least three people dead and over 100 arrested. Authorities fear that unchecked misinformation could inflame tensions further.

Following the clashes, the Calcutta High Court held an urgent hearing on a court holiday and ordered the immediate deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) in Murshidabad. The division bench led by Justice Soumen Sen stated that the court could not remain a si-

lent spectator and stressed the constitutional responsibility to protect civilians during such crises.

Jawed Shamim, Additional Director General (Law and Order), said on Monday that the administrations of both Murshidabad and Malda are working in coordination to restore peace. So far, 210 arrests have been made, and law enforcement has launched efforts to prevent the spread of rumors.

Nineteen displaced families have returned to their homes, and some businesses have resumed operations. Police are using loudspeakers to encourage residents to resume normal activities and urging calm amid ongoing investigations.

The violence, which began as a protest against legal amendments, has taken a deadly turn and now risks spiraling into a wider law-and-order crisis. With unrest spreading to more districts, the state's response and the outcome of the Supreme Court plea will be crucial in determining the next steps toward restoring peace.





## Sheikh Hasina sends a ‘play with fire, you burn too’ warning to Yunus govt

Saying ‘their audacity astonishes me’

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was ousted from office last year, issued a strong warning to the country’s interim caretaker government on Tuesday, cautioning that “if you play with fire, it will burn you too.” Hasina’s remarks come in the wake of increasing threats to ban her long-standing political party, the Awami League, which has been a central force in Bangladesh’s politics for decades.

In a virtual address from India, where she has been living since fleeing Bangladesh last August, Hasina condemned the interim government for its audacity in attempting to erase the Awami League’s historical role in the country’s independence struggle. She specifically accused Professor Muhammad Yunus, who has been linked to efforts undermining the Awami League, of erasing the party’s contributions to the Liberation War.

Hasina, 77, emphasized that the Awami League, founded in 1948, was instrumental in securing the rights of the people of East Pakistan, which later became Bangladesh. She reminded the public that the country’s independence in 1971 was achieved under the leadership of her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father of the nation, and through the organizational strength of the Awami League. “The name of the country where they now live was given by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib,” Hasina said, reinforcing her father’s role in uniting the people of Bengal and securing the nation’s freedom.

The call to ban the Awami League, led by Hasina’s supporters, has been met with resistance from rival political groups like the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). While some extreme right-wing factions continue to demand the party’s disbandment, the proposal has failed to gain substantial backing from other major political players in Bangladesh.

Hasina also addressed the violence that erupted in 2024, which resulted in significant casualties among Awami League activists, police officers, and members of minority communities. Reflecting on the human toll of the crisis, Hasina questioned the actions of the current regime and warned that their attempts to suppress her party could have dire consequences.

As political tensions escalate in Bangladesh, Hasina’s statements underscore the growing divide and the uncertain future of the country’s political landscape.

## Russian missile attack on Ukraine’s Sumy: More than 30 people killed, at least 84 injured

- Missiles reportedly used cluster munitions for maximum damage.
- Sumy, near Russian border, seen as key military zone.
- Ukraine shares evidence with ICC; war crimes probe underway.



TPN Correspondent | Ukrain

In the deadliest strike on Ukraine this year, two Russian ballistic missiles devastated the northern city of Sumy on Sunday, killing at least 32 people and injuring over 80, according to Ukrainian officials. The brutal attack, which occurred on Palm Sunday, drew widespread condemnation from Ukrainian leaders and prompted fresh calls for international action against Moscow.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy posted a harrowing video on social media showing bodies lying on the street near a charred bus and destroyed cars. “Only scoundrels can act like this. Taking the

lives of ordinary people,” Zelenskyy said, adding that the strike targeted civilians on a religious holiday when many were heading to church.

The Russian government has not issued a statement regarding the attack, and Reuters noted that no immediate response was received from Russian authorities.

Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said the missiles struck a busy street where people were out in vehicles, on foot, or in nearby buildings. He labeled it a “deliberate destruction of civilians” on a day of religious significance. Zelenskyy’s chief of staff, Andriy Yermak, revealed that the

missiles used in the attack contained cluster munitions, further indicating a deadly intent to cause maximum civilian casualties.

Sumy, a city of around 250,000 people located just 25 kilometers from the Russian border, has previously been a military hub for Ukrainian operations. Though Kyiv’s cross-border offensives into Russia last year were largely repelled, the region remains a sensitive target.

Maryana Bezuhla, a Ukrainian lawmaker known for her candid criticism of the military leadership, suggested on Telegram that the strike may have followed a

leak regarding a potential troop gathering in the area. However, this claim remains unverified.

This attack comes just weeks after another missile strike on Kryvyi Rih—Zelenskyy’s hometown—that killed 20 people, including nine children.

Ukraine’s Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha confirmed that Kyiv is sharing detailed evidence of the strike with international partners and institutions. The International Criminal Court in The Hague, which Ukraine joined officially this year, is currently investigating such incidents as potential war crimes under international law.

## China Halts Rare Earth Exports Amid Escalating US Trade War, Threatens Global Supply Chains

TPN Correspondent | US

As tensions between the United States and China intensify, Beijing has suspended the export of several key rare earth elements, metals, and magnets—critical materials used across industries such as defense, electronics, automotive, aerospace, and semiconductors. The move, seen as a strategic response to President Donald Trump’s latest tariff hike on Chinese goods, threatens to disrupt global supply chains and significantly impact American manufacturers.

According to a report by The New York Times, Chinese authorities are currently drafting a new regulatory framework for rare earth exports. While this system is being developed, shipments of these crucial materials have been halted at several Chinese ports. Once implemented, the new system may permanently restrict access to these materials for select companies, particularly American military contractors.

China, which produces about 90% of the



world’s rare earth elements, has placed seven categories of medium and heavy rare earths—such as samarium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, lutetium, scandium, and yttrium—on an export control list. These elements are vital for manufacturing high-tech equipment, including missiles, EV motors, jet engines, and semiconductors. The United States, by contrast, has only one rare earth mine and remains heavily dependent on Chinese imports.

Beijing imposed these new export restrictions on April 2, coinciding with its broader retaliatory package against the US, which includes increased tariffs and specific product bans. While not an outright ban, China now requires special export licenses to ship rare earths and associated finished products abroad. Industry experts warn that the licensing system is currently underdeveloped, raising concerns about prolonged delays and dwindling international supplies.

The decision underscores China’s strategic use of its dominance in the rare earth sector as a geopolitical tool. Lockheed Martin, Tesla, and Apple are among major US companies that rely on Chinese rare earths. Though the US maintains some stockpiles, they are insufficient to sustain long-term defense manufacturing.

## Tim Cook’s Viral Video Explains Why Apple Still Builds iPhones in China Despite Rising US Pressure

Apple CEO Tim Cook is once again in the spotlight as a resurfaced 2024 video gains traction online, offering rare insight into why the tech giant continues to manufacture iPhones in China instead of shifting operations to the United States. In the widely shared clip, Cook challenges the long-held assumption that Apple’s presence in China is driven by low labour costs.



“The popular conception is that companies come to China because of low labour costs. I’m not sure what part of China they go to, but the truth is China stopped being the low labor cost country years ago,” Cook says in the video.

Instead, Cook emphasizes China’s unparalleled manufacturing infrastructure and skilled workforce as the real reasons behind Apple’s deep-rooted production presence there. He highlights the scale and precision required to manufacture Apple devices — processes that demand specialised tooling engineers and high-level materials handling capabilities. According to Cook, while it may be difficult to gather a roomful of such engineers in the US, China could fill several football fields with them.

The video has gone viral amid rising political

calls in the US to repatriate manufacturing jobs. President Donald Trump recently expressed a desire for tech companies like Apple to start producing more devices domestically. The White House has also pointed to Apple’s planned \$500 billion US investment as a potential signal of shifting priorities.

However, industry experts caution that Apple is unlikely to bring large-scale manufacturing back to the US anytime soon. Reports from Bloomberg suggest that the US lacks the skilled labor, supplier ecosystem, and infrastructure necessary to support Apple’s complex production needs at scale.

Meanwhile, Apple is making moves to diversify its supply chain. India has emerged as a key partner in this strategy. Apple, through contract manufacturer Foxconn, is expanding a 300-acre iPhone plant in Bengaluru.

## Meta Faces Landmark Antitrust Trial Over Instagram and WhatsApp Acquisitions

TPN Correspondent | Newyork

Meta Platforms Inc is heading into a historic antitrust trial that could potentially force the tech giant to divest Instagram and WhatsApp — two of its most valuable platforms. The trial, which begins Monday, marks a major test for the Federal Trade Commission’s (FTC) efforts to rein in Big Tech.

The case stems from a 2020 lawsuit filed during former President Donald Trump’s administration, accusing Meta — then Facebook — of engaging in anti-competitive practices by acquiring Instagram in 2012 and WhatsApp in 2014. The FTC alleges these deals were part of a strategy to eliminate competition and maintain Meta’s monopoly in the social media space.

According to the FTC, CEO Mark Zuckerberg’s long-held belief that “it is better to buy than compete” guided Facebook’s acquisition strategy. The agency claims Meta pursued a pattern of buying up emerging rivals to neutralize



threats, especially during a shift from desktop to mobile platforms.

Instagram, purchased for \$1 billion, and WhatsApp, acquired for \$22 billion, were instrumental in helping Facebook adapt to mobile and stay relevant with younger users. The FTC argues that Meta used these acquisitions and internal policies to stifle innovation and deter competition.

However, the FTC’s case hinges on a narrow market definition that excludes major players like

TikTok, YouTube, and Apple’s iMessage — something experts say could weaken their argument. Meta counters that it faces intense competition and accuses the FTC of rewriting the rules years after clearing the acquisitions.

In a statement, Meta said, “The FTC’s case defies reality. Instagram, Facebook, and WhatsApp compete daily with TikTok, YouTube, iMessage, and more. This lawsuit threatens innovation and sends a message that no deal is ever final.”



## Market Outlook and Stock Picks

# Sectoral Momentum Amid Global Trade Shifts



sumer durables, FMCG, public sector enterprises and oil companies rose last week. It is better to stay away from IT stocks.  
**Stock Recommendations**  
**Power Grid:**



These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a few months, have now gained momentum. They have taken support at the crucial Rs. 250 level and turned around. Relative strength is also increasing. Investors should take a position above Rs 300 with a target price of Rs 322/330 in this counter, which closed at Rs 304 last Friday. A stop loss is mandatory at Rs 292.  
**Gujarat Gas Limited:**  
This counter, which has been in a downtrend since the beginning of 2024, has been forming a base since February this year. It is continuing to remain stable at Rs 380. Investors should enter this counter, which



closed at Rs 428 last Friday with a profit of 5.9%, at Rs 410/420 with a target price of Rs 490. A stop loss is mandatory at Rs 400.

**Patanjali Foods:**



This stock is performing well even in a losing market. Momentum and relative strength are good. It has been moving in the Darvas box pattern at Rs 1800 for a few months. Investors should take a position in the Rs.1850 range with a target price of Rs.2150 in this counter, which closed with a gain of 4.1% last Friday. Stop loss should be placed at Rs.1810.

**Laurus Lab:**  
These shares have been in an uptrend



for a few months. They are currently moving in a range bound at the highest level. Short-term momentum is good. Average volume is increasing. Investors should take a position in the Rs.600 range with a target price of Rs.655 in this counter, which closed with a gain of 7.4% last Friday. Stop loss at Rs.585 is mandatory.  
**Jindal Stainless**  
These shares have been in a downtrend for a few months. Since the volume is registering less, it seems that the fall is likely to stop. Investors should take positions at Rs 530/540 with a target price of Rs 610 in this counter, which closed at Rs 542 with a gain of 5.8% last Friday. A stop loss at Rs 520 is mandatory.



## Indian Shrimp Exporters Get Relief as US Pauses Higher Tariff

India's seafood exporters are gearing up to ship 35,000 to 40,000 tonnes of shrimp to the United States after President Donald Trump temporarily paused a planned tariff hike. The proposed reciprocal duty of 26% was rolled back to 10%, bringing a wave of relief to exporters and ensuring continued trade momentum.

K.N. Raghavan, Secretary General of the Seafood Exporters Association of India, told PTI, "There is a lot of relief now as we are at par with other exporters to the US. The shipments that were held back will now be processed." According to him, nearly 2,000 containers of shrimp, which had been delayed due to tariff uncertainty, are now being readied for export.

Trump's decision on April 9 to hold off on the tariff hike, just a week after it was announced, gives Indian exporters a crucial 90-day window to fulfil existing orders without facing additional costs. This decision retains a 10% blanket tariff on seafood imports from most countries, excluding China, which continues to face a steep 145% duty.

Currently, Indian shrimp exports to the US are subject to an effective customs duty of 17.7%, which includes a 5.7% countervailing



duty and 1.8% anti-dumping duty. Under delivery duty-paid (DDP) arrangements, Indian exporters typically absorb these costs themselves, making the temporary pause even more significant for preserving profit margins on already contracted shipments. Despite the tariff concerns, the US remains India's largest shrimp market, both in terms of volume and value. In the 2023-24 fiscal year, India exported shrimp worth \$2.7 billion to the United States. Encouragingly, industry sources have reported no decline in orders.

The Seafood Exporters Association is now urging the Indian government to push for long-term solutions during upcoming trade negotiations, particularly focusing on establishing a level playing field for India's seafood industry before the 90-day tariff pause expires.

The temporary relief has re-energized the sector, offering exporters a window of opportunity to maintain strong trade ties with their largest customer.

## China's Exports Surge Ahead of Looming U.S. Tariffs

China's exports saw an unexpected and sharp rebound in March 2025, jumping 12.4% year-on-year in dollar terms, according to data released by the country's customs authority on Monday. The growth, which comes just ahead of major tariff hikes announced by the United States, marks a significant reversal from the 3% decline recorded in February.

The latest numbers surpassed all estimates in a Bloomberg survey of analysts, where the median forecast had predicted a more modest 4.6% increase. This performance highlights China's aggressive push to ship goods before fresh trade barriers take effect, particularly with exports to Southeast Asia reaching near-record levels.

Economists suggest that the spike is largely driven by front-loading activity, as exporters rushed to fulfill orders before Washington's new tariff measures are enforced. The U.S. administration under President Donald Trump has recently escalated its trade stance on China, reintroducing and expanding duties on a wide range of Chinese goods as part of its broader "America First" trade policy.

The Chinese government is closely monitoring the situation. In a statement earlier on Monday, the Commerce Ministry called on the U.S. to "correct its mistakes" and to "heed rational voices" that support stable trade relations. The Ministry also warned

that the tariff hike would likely disrupt global supply chains and hurt consumers and businesses on both sides.

Meanwhile, the rise in exports is seen as a temporary boost amid a more uncertain long-term outlook. Analysts caution that while March's numbers reflect strong external demand and proactive exporter behavior, the upcoming tariffs could result in a



slowdown over the next quarter, particularly if retaliatory measures are implemented or trade tensions escalate further.

This export rebound comes at a crucial time for China's economy, which is working to regain momentum after periods of sluggish domestic consumption and external uncertainty. Strong export figures may offer short-term relief, but the threat of a prolonged trade standoff with the U.S. remains a major concern for Beijing and global markets alike.

# India's Manufacturing Sector Shows Late FY25 Uptick, But FY26 Q1 Outlook Mixed

India's industrial production showed signs of recovery towards the end of the financial year 2024-25, backed by strong performances in high-frequency indicators such as the manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections, and e-way bill generations, according to a recent report by the Bank of Baroda (BoB).

The report indicated that these positive signals suggest a rebound in production in the closing months of FY25. "Given the latest improvement in manufacturing PMI for March 2024, along with a pick-up in e-way bill generations and GST collections, we expect production to have reported some improvement towards the end of the last fiscal year," the report noted.

However, the outlook for the first quarter of FY26 remains cautious. BoB warned of emerging headwinds, particularly due to uncertain

global trade dynamics. Export growth remains a significant risk factor, especially amid geopolitical and economic volatility, including continued tensions between the United States and China.

The report also emphasized that the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) recent decision to reduce policy interest rates could serve as a tailwind for the manufacturing sector by lowering borrowing costs and incentivizing investment and production. Additionally, a 90-day pause announced by the Trump administration on the imposition of new country-specific tariffs, alongside a decline in global commodity prices, has further buoyed near-term expectations.

Nonetheless, India's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data for February 2025 revealed a more nuanced picture. IIP growth slowed to 2.9%, down from 5.6% in February 2024 and

5.2% in January 2025. The decline was broad-based, affecting key sectors such as mining and electricity, with the manufacturing segment also seeing moderate weakening.

Within manufacturing, industries like basic metals, motor vehicles, chemicals, and apparel reported lower output, while pharmaceuticals, textiles, and electronics registered modest growth. Among use-based classifications, only capital goods saw year-on-year growth, whereas consumer durables, infrastructure, and non-durables declined.

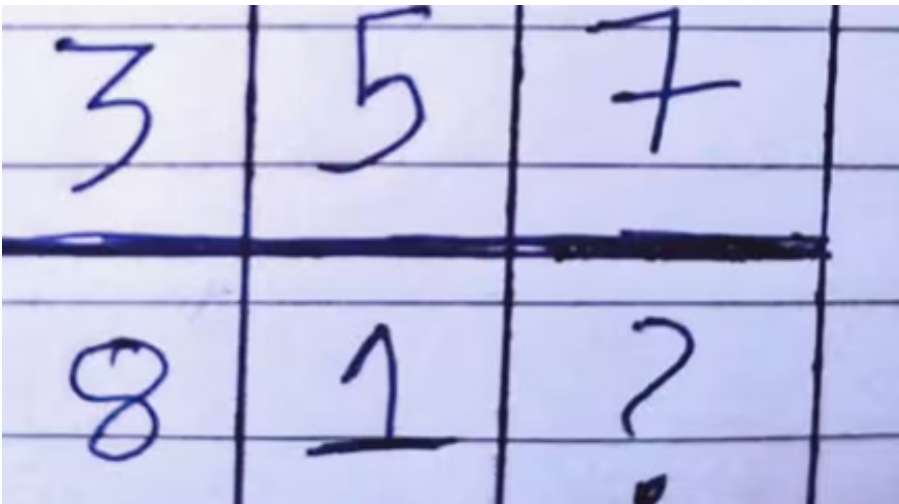
Overall, IIP growth for the fiscal year to date stands at 4.1%, down from 6% in the same period last year. While positive domestic signals provided a lift at the end of FY25, the mixed global environment suggests a cautious start to FY26 for India's manufacturing sector.





## Viral Puzzle Stumps Internet Sleuths

A seemingly simple number puzzle has captured the internet's attention—and its collective frustration. Shared by Brainy Quiz, a popular account on X (formerly Twitter), the teaser presents a 3×3 number grid with one crucial blank square represented by a question mark. While it looks basic at first glance, solving the pattern behind the missing number has proven to be anything but easy. Brain teasers like this have long been a popular way for people to challenge their logic and sharpen their thinking. They offer a satisfying escape from daily routines and, more importantly, give your brain a much-needed stretch. For some, cracking these puzzles is a casual habit; for others, it's an obsession. And with social media offering instant access to global puzzles, communities now form around solving the toughest ones—just like this one. This latest viral grid has managed to hook everyone from casual browsers to self-proclaimed



math whizzes. Many report trying multiple patterns—adding, subtracting, multiplying rows and columns—only to come up short. What's maddening for many is the simplicity of the setup: how can something so compact stump so many people? Brainy Quiz dropped the teaser without an immediate answer, only encouraging users to "spot the pattern" and share their guesses. As replies flood in, so do a variety

of theories, some brilliant, some wildly off-track, and all part of the fun. The puzzle's virality proves once again that the internet loves a good brain challenge—especially when it's wrapped in the mystery of one little missing number. If you're brave enough to give it a go, dive in and join the thousands who've taken on the challenge. Just don't be surprised if you end up second-guessing yourself before that "aha!" moment hits.

## Laid Off at 40? You're Not Alone

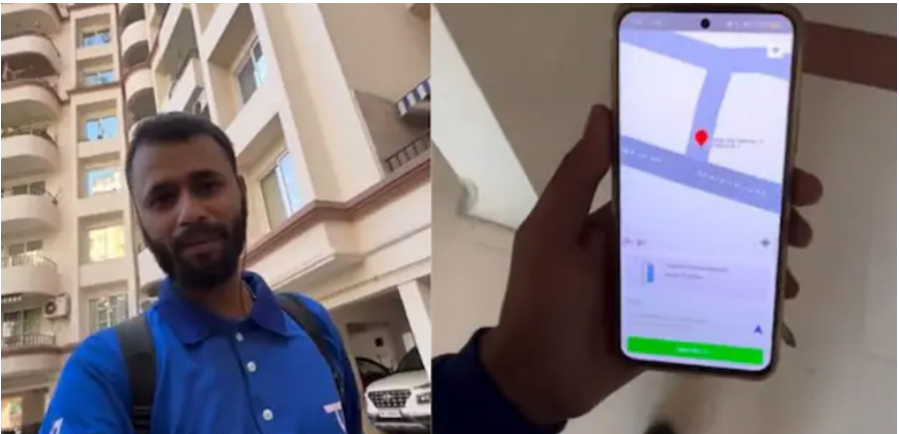
In a candid and timely reflection on today's job market, Bombay Shaving Company CEO Shantanu Deshpande recently addressed a growing and unsettling trend—professionals in their 40s facing layoffs across industries. Calling it a "global phenomenon," Deshpande highlighted how individuals in this age group, often in the peak of their earning years, are increasingly being let go by companies seeking to cut costs. Deshpande described the 40s to early 50s as a "golden salary period"—a time when professionals typically command high salaries after decades of experience. However, it's also when financial responsibilities tend to peak, with expenses like children's education, home loans, and elderly parents' healthcare pressing hard. Being laid off during this time can be not just a financial jolt but an emotional one too. The conversation struck a chord online, with many sharing personal stories. One Instagram user, Shweta Gadia, shared how she lost her job at 42 despite having an impressive professional profile. Since then, she's been struggling to find a role that matches her experience and expectations. Her story, among many others, reflects a larger shift in hiring dynamics—companies now often lean toward younger employees who cost less and are perceived as more adaptable in today's fast-changing digital environment.



Deshpande's post aims to shed light on what many professionals experience silently: the feeling of becoming "unhirable" after a certain age, not because of lack of skill, but due to shifting industry priorities. The CEO encouraged companies to take a more holistic view when hiring and retaining talent and emphasized the importance of upskilling, networking, and maintaining visibility in one's industry. The discussion underscores a need for open dialogue around age and employment—especially in a rapidly evolving market where even seasoned professionals are finding themselves on shaky ground.

## Lazy or Smart? Porter Video Divides Internet

A light-hearted yet thought-provoking video shared on social media has sparked an online debate about convenience culture and customer expectations. A Porter delivery agent recently went viral after posting a clip narrating what he called an "amazing" order — delivering a small package from one tower to another in the same residential complex, barely a two-minute walk apart. The video, shared by user Azhar Jafri shows the delivery agent standing near Tower 17, from where he picked up the package. He then pans the camera to Tower 19, pointing out that it's hardly a short stroll away. The package contained a couple of game controllers, and the delivery agent quipped, "These people are so lazy," while showing the handoff location. The video's text overlay humorously read, "Porter mein aaya aalas ki delivery waala order" (A delivery order full of laziness came on Porter), poking fun at how hyperlocal convenience apps are now being



used for even the shortest of errands. The caption added by the uploader — "Lucknow ke nawab chale gaye, nawabi chhod gaye" (The Nawabs of Lucknow are gone, but their royal habits remain) — only added to the comedic spin, prompting laughs from some and raised eyebrows from others. While many found the situation funny and a bit excessive, others jumped to the customer's defense, noting that modern delivery apps are built on the promise of ul-

tra-convenience — and the customer was simply using a service they paid for. A few users even speculated that the delivery might have been requested for someone with mobility issues or time constraints. As debates swirl over whether this reflects peak laziness or smart use of tech, one thing is clear: what began as a simple two-minute delivery has become a reflection of the larger conversation on how far we're willing to go — or not go — for convenience.

## Apple Leads Tech Rally on Tariff Relief

Apple shares surged over 6% in Frankfurt trading after the U.S. government granted tariff exclusions on smartphones, computers, and other electronics imported predominantly from China. The move sparked a broader rally in tech stocks across both U.S. and European markets, signaling investor optimism about easing trade tensions and cost pressures on consumer electronics. The tariff exemptions come as a relief for major tech manufacturers that rely heavily on Chinese supply chains. Apple, with a significant portion

of its production based in China, stands to benefit directly from the reduced import costs, potentially improving profit margins and stabilizing product prices for consumers. Other tech giants followed suit in the upward momentum. Nvidia climbed more than 3%, buoyed by strong AI demand and positive sentiment in the chipmaking sector. Dell Technologies posted a 6.3% gain, and Dutch semiconductor equipment maker ASML advanced 2.8%, reflecting broader investor confidence in the global tech ecosystem.

## Raghunandan Kamath's Journey to Rs 300 Crore

From humble beginnings in a small Karnataka village, Raghunandan Kamath rose to become one of India's most beloved entrepreneurs, building Naturals Ice Cream into a Rs 300-crore brand without any formal education or aggressive marketing. Kamath, the son of a mango vendor, tapped into his roots and instincts to craft a business that combined tradition with innovation, creating a unique space in India's competitive ice cream market. After moving to Mumbai in his youth, Kamath joined his brother's restaurant business but soon realized his true passion lay in creating desserts, especially fruit-based ones. Drawing inspiration from his family's fruit-selling legacy, he began experimenting with seasonal fruits and natural ice creams—free from artificial colors and preservatives. In 1984, he opened his first Naturals



Ice Cream outlet in Juhu, Mumbai, with just five flavors: mango, sitaphal (custard apple), jackfruit, banana, and chikoo (sapodilla). It was a modest shop attached to his father's South Indian restaurant. What set Naturals apart was its commitment to quality and word-of-mouth marketing. Kamath believed the product would speak for itself, and he was right. As customers kept coming back for more, the brand grew steadily, driven by authenticity, consistency, and customer trust. Despite having no formal training in business or advertising, Kamath's

entrepreneurial instincts were spot on. Over the years, Naturals expanded across the country with over 150 outlets, retaining its family-run ethos and focus on fruit-based, handmade ice creams. Kamath's inspiring journey proves that success doesn't always follow a straight path through business schools or big capital. Sometimes, it's the taste of home, a dedication to quality, and a deep understanding of your roots that can turn mangoes into millions. Kamath passed away in May 2024, but his legacy continues to delight generations of ice cream lovers across India.



Netflix is reportedly experimenting with a new search tool powered by OpenAI, aiming to revolutionize how users discover content on the platform. According to The Verge, this AI-driven feature will allow users to search using natural language prompts, going beyond traditional filters like name, genre, or actor. This means that instead of typing in specific titles or actor names, viewers can describe what they're in the mood for — such as "a feel-good romantic comedy with a strong female lead" or "dark thrillers with plot twists like Gone Girl." The AI tool would then parse these prompts and deliver a curated list of matching content. The move is seen as part of Netflix's broader push to enhance user experience and content discoverability in an increasingly crowded streaming landscape. With thousands of titles available, many users often struggle to find

something that suits their mood or preferences — a gap this AI integration aims to bridge. The feature is reportedly still in its testing phase and may be rolled out to a limited number of users before a wider launch. It leverages OpenAI's advanced language model capabilities to interpret subtle emotional or thematic nuances in user queries — a significant leap from traditional keyword-based search engines. This marks one of the latest examples of how generative AI is being integrated into consumer platforms to personalize and simplify everyday digital experiences. While Netflix has yet to make an official announcement, the early buzz suggests that content discovery on the platform might soon get a lot smarter — and more intuitive. If successful, Netflix's AI-powered search could set a new standard for recommendation and discovery in the streaming world.



The tariff rollback is expected to alleviate some of the inflationary pressures that have been affecting the tech hardware market. Analysts note that the timing of this exemption is critical, as it may also influence pricing strategies ahead of key product launches and the year-end holiday season. Market watchers suggest that this policy shift could mark a more pragmatic trade stance by the U.S., at least in the tech sector, where global interdependence on manufacturing and innovation is deeply entrenched.





**LSG Posts 166/7 Against CSK in IPL 2025**

Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) set a total of 166/7 in their IPL 2025 match against Chennai Super Kings (CSK) on Monday. Captain Rishabh Pant was the standout performer for LSG, scoring 63 runs off 49 balls. Pant brought up his fifty in style with a one-handed six over deep mid-wicket. Opener Mitchell Marsh contributed with 30 runs off 25 balls. After being asked to bat first, LSG struggled in the early overs, losing two

wickets during the powerplay. The CSK seamers, Khaleel Ahmed and Anshul Kamboj, took one wicket each in the first six overs to put LSG on the back foot. Ravindra Jadeja, CSK's senior spinner, finished with figures of 2/24 in his three overs, helping to restrict LSG's scoring. Despite the setbacks, Pant's innings guided LSG to a competitive total. LSG: 166/7 in 20 overs (Pant 63; Jadeja 2/24).

## ISSF South American Swing: Second Leg Begins in Lima



The second leg of the ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun stage kicks off in Lima, Peru, at the Las Palmas range on Tuesday. Close to 400 athletes from 43 countries, including a 35-member Indian team, will compete in 15 events across Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun disciplines over the next week. India, which finished second to China in the first leg in Buenos Aires, Argentina, with four golds and eight total medals, is aiming to continue its strong per-

formance. The rivalry between the two nations is expected to heat up in Lima. Indian shooters to watch include Manu Bhaker, Suruchi, and Sainyam in the women's air pistol, and Saurabh Chaudhary, Varun Tomar, and Ravinder in the men's air pistol. The competition will feature top shooters from countries like China, the USA, Italy, Germany, and more. All finals will be streamed live on the official ISSF YouTube channel.

## Uday Kumar Aims to Conquer World 10K Bengaluru with Unbreakable Spirit



Uday Kumar's journey is one of resilience, proving that true strength comes from within. A Kolkata-based contractual worker, Uday's life took a tragic turn during the 2015 Durga Puja holidays when an accident led to the amputation of his left leg. Despite being declared 91% disabled, Uday chooses to see himself as "91% abled," embodying the strength of human will. In the face of adversity, Uday found his passion in marathons. Since 2017, he has completed over 80 races across 16 states. His achievements extend beyond running—he has

conquered mountaineering feats like climbing Kanchenjunga and Mount Kilimanjaro, along with skydiving and scuba diving, earning the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award. Now, Uday is set to take on the TCS World 10K Bengaluru on April 27, 2025. After a personal best of 1 hour and 35 minutes in his first Bengaluru race, he is determined to beat his record and finish within 1 hour and 20 minutes. His story is a powerful reminder that the only limits we have are the ones we place on ourselves.

## Alcaraz Triumphs in Monte Carlo, Clinches First Title

Carlos Alcaraz overcame a slow start to defeat Lorenzo Musetti 3-6, 6-1, 6-0 in the Monte Carlo Masters final, securing his first title at the prestigious event. The Spaniard's victory, his sixth Masters 1000 trophy, marks his first major win since his 2024 Wimbledon triumph. Musetti took an early lead, breaking twice in the opening set as Alcaraz struggled with his forehand. However, Alcaraz regained his composure in the second

set, hitting with more power and accuracy to win five consecutive games. Musetti, who had played several long matches earlier in the week, began to tire under Alcaraz's relentless pace. The final set was one-sided as Alcaraz broke early and took full control. Musetti's physical struggles were compounded by a medical timeout, and Alcaraz closed out the match for a dominant win, showcasing his resilience and skill on clay.



## Diksha Dagar Posts Another Top-10 Finish at SA Women's Open

Diksha Dagar continued her strong form in South Africa, securing a Top-10 finish at the SA Women's Open with a final round of 4-under 68, totaling 8-under 280 for the tournament. Her rounds of 72-71-69-68 in windy conditions at Erinvale Country and Golf Estate marked her second consecutive Top-10 finish in South Africa, following a T-9 in Joburg. This performance adds to her solid season, which also includes a runner-up finish in Morocco and a T-11 in New South Wales.

Pranavi Urs also impressed, finishing T-11 with a 7-under total after shooting 69 on the final day. Rookie Avani Prashanth finished T-50 with an even-par total, while Tvesa Malik ended T-58. Frenchwoman Perrine Delacour claimed her second LET victory, finishing 14-under par, with Casandra Alexander and Kelsey Bennett following closely behind. Diksha Dagar, alongside Wales' Chloe Williams, rounded out the Top-10 at 8-under par.







## Gulzar’s Daayra Revisits Hyderabad Tragedy

Meghna Gulzar is set to direct *Daayra*, a gripping crime drama inspired by the 2019 Hyderabad gang rape and murder case that shocked the nation. The film, produced by Jungle Pictures, stars Kareena Kapoor Khan and Prithviraj Sukumaran in lead roles. Announced recently, *Daayra* aims to take a realistic approach to the sensitive subject, portraying intense characters shaped by the horrific incident. Meghna, known for

her powerful storytelling in films like *Raazi* and *Sam Bahadur*, co-writes this project with Yash and Sima. Currently in pre-production, the film seeks to shed light on the social and emotional impact of the case, while also exploring justice and societal accountability. With a strong cast and Meghna’s impactful direction, *Daayra* promises to be a poignant and powerful cinematic experience, reigniting conversations on gender violence and legal reform.



## Nani’s HIT 3 Promises Relentless Action



Starring Nani as Arjun Sarkaar, has arrived — and it’s a dark, intense ride from start to finish. Directed by Sailesh Kolanu, this gritty crime thriller begins with the harrowing abduction of a baby, setting off a brutal chain

of events where Sarkaar takes justice into his own hands. Nani portrays a cop who’s merciless with criminals yet composed in his personal life, showcasing a powerful duality that elevates the film’s emotional stakes. The trailer

teases a relentless manhunt filled with blood, vengeance, and raw emotion. His performance, especially in the climax, is described as goose-bump-inducing. The visuals are intense, the atmosphere is ominous, and the

action sequences are savage. Srinidhi Shetty plays Nani’s love interest, bringing a touch of warmth and charm to the otherwise grim narrative. *HIT 3*\* hits cinemas on May 1 and promises a gripping cinematic experience.

## Nidhhi Agerwal Responds to Comparison

Actress Nidhhi Agerwal, known for her role in *iSmart Shankar*\*, is awaiting the release of her two big Telugu films. Though she rose to fame quickly, her journey slowed down, and comparisons with rising star Sreeleela began. Many fans have questioned why Sreeleela has done multiple films back-to-back while Nidhhi seemed to take a step back. Reacting to the comparison, Nidhhi responded on social media saying, *“After iSmart, I did a hero*

*film, three Tamil films and signed HHVM. I take my time and pick scripts I believe in. I may go wrong sometimes, but I’m here to stay. Don’t worry about me.”* Interestingly, while Sreeleela had a rapid rise, her recent flops have slowed her momentum. She currently has no major films lined up. On the other hand, Nidhhi has promising projects like *\*Hari Hara Veera Mallu\** and *\*Raja Saab\**, which could redefine her career path.



## Kingston: A Haunting Sea Tale

*Kingston*, a Tamil fantasy horror adventure directed by Kamal Prakash, stars G.V. Prakash Kumar in his 25th film as an actor. The movie, which began streaming on ZEE5 yesterday, revolves around a coastal village, Thoovathur, and a haunting mystery tied to a man named Bosayya who was killed and buried by the villagers in 1982. After his watery burial, strange deaths of fishermen begin to occur, sparking fear of his vengeful spirit. King, the protagonist, grows up

with his grandfather after his father’s death at sea. As an adult, he works under a ruthless man named Thomas and becomes determined to bring peace to his people. Believing that removing Bosayya’s coffin from the sea will end the curse, he sets out on a dangerous mission with his friends. The film combines sea adventure with horror but lacks emotional depth and strong storytelling, making it a mediocre watch despite its interesting premise.

## Ajith's 'Good Bad Ugly' Hits Century

Ajith Kumar’s latest action-comedy thriller *\*Good Bad Ugly\** is storming the box office, entering the ₹100 crore club within just four days of its release on April 10. Directed by Adhik Ravichandran, the film showcases Ajith in a triple role — as Good, Bad, and Ugly — and has earned the highest opening day collection for a Tamil film in 2025, grossing ₹28.5 crore on day one across 2,400 shows.

The film, Ajith’s 63rd, received strong reception across Tamil Nadu and fea-

tures high-octane action sequences choreographed by international stunt experts. Trisha plays the female lead, while Arjun Das portrays the antagonist.

*\*Good Bad Ugly\** was made on a grand budget of ₹270–300 crore. Netflix has acquired the digital streaming rights for a reported ₹95 crore, with streaming expected to begin in May. Trade analysts suggest that if current momentum continues, it could become one of the biggest Tamil hits of 2025.



## Another Death Threat to Salman Khan



Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has once again received a serious death threat. A message was sent to the WhatsApp number of the Worli Traffic Department in Mumbai, stating, “Salman, we will kill you at your home or blast your car with a bomb.” Following this, the Worli police registered a case against an unidentified person and launched an investigation. Police are currently trying to trace the origin of the message and determine

whether the threat is genuine or a hoax. In the past, Salman Khan has faced multiple threats from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. Due to ongoing security concerns, he is already under tight police protection. This latest threat has raised fresh concerns about his safety. Authorities are now reviewing his security measures to ensure his protection. The incident has shocked fans and industry members, who have expressed concern and support for the actor during this time.