

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t°

H 33° C

L 25° C

VIJAYAWADA

t°

H 35° C

L 26° C

TIRUPATHI

t°

H 36° C

L 26° C

Supreme Court Slams Govt Over Kanch Gachibowli Land Issue

Court Orders Immediate Environmental Restoration Plan

Supreme Court angry over tree felling
Warns CS, officials with jail threat
Seeks restoration timeline from govt
Bulldozers questioned post court notice
Next hearing scheduled for May 15



The Supreme Court delivered a stern rebuke to the Telangana government in the ongoing Kanch Gachibowli land controversy near Hyderabad Central University. A bench comprising Justice BR Gavai and Justice Augustine George Masih expressed serious concern over tree felling activities in the disputed lands, despite ongoing legal proceedings.

During the latest hearing, the court questioned the state's actions, criticizing the unauthorized cutting of trees and indicating that officials, including the Chief Secretary, could face jail time if accountability

is not ensured. "If you want to save them, explain how you plan to restore the destroyed 100 acres," the court demanded.

The bench instructed the government to file a detailed affidavit within four weeks, outlining how it will restore the environment, protect wildlife, and ensure such violations don't recur. It emphasized that not a single tree should be cut without explicit court permission.

The court also reacted sharply to the presence of bulldozers in the area even after its earlier directions,

questioning the government's seriousness in respecting judicial orders. On the government's defense, the state's legal representative claimed that opposition parties were spreading fake AI-generated videos to malign them on social media. The lawyer also added that only exempted trees were removed and all current work on the land had been halted.

The court maintained the "status quo" on the case and adjourned the matter for further hearing on May 15. Until then, the state is required to submit an actionable environmental restoration plan.



Phone Tapping Case: Sravan Rao Appears Again Before SIT

Hyderabad: The high-profile phone tapping case continues to unfold with fresh developments. Sravan Rao, MD of a prominent media house and listed as Accused No. 6 (A6) in the case, appeared once again before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) officials at Jubilee Hills Police Station today for questioning.

According to SIT sources, Rao is alleged to have played a key role in the surveillance operations carried out by the now-disbanded Special Intelligence Branch (SIB). It is claimed that accused officers Prabhakar Rao and Praneet Rao closely followed Sravan Rao's instructions while deciding whom to monitor, with no room for deviation.

Sravan Rao had initially fled abroad soon after the case came to light but returned to Hyderabad on March 29. Since then, he

has been questioned four times by SIT of-ficers. During today's session, he reportedly submitted two mobile phones, and officials have begun data recovery from the devices. The investigation is now focusing on identifying the masterminds behind the operation — specifically, who issued the orders for the phone tapping and for what purposes.

Sources indicate that Sravan Rao's testimony could lead to a wider investigation, potentially involving political leaders. Based on the information he provides, SIT may soon issue fresh notices to several individuals for questioning.

As the SIT digs deeper, more names and details are expected to surface, making this one of the most closely watched investigations in recent times in Telangana.

ED Raids Surana Group Premises in Hyderabad

Money Laundering Allegations Trigger Crackdown



ED raids start early Wednesday morning

Properties searched across major city areas

Linked to Surana, Saisurya companies

Money laundering and gold missing case

2012 CBI case under fresh scrutiny

Hyderabad:

In a major crackdown, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted surprise raids in Hyderabad early Wednesday morning. The searches targeted the residences and offices of key executives of the Surana Group, including Chairman Narender and MD Devender, in connection with alleged money laundering and illegal fund transfers abroad.

Simultaneous raids were carried out in prominent localities such as Secunderabad, Boinpally, and Jubilee Hills. ED officials, working in multiple teams, inspected around ten locations associated with Surana Group and its affiliate, Saisurya Developers. Saisurya Developers MD Satish's residence was also searched.

The action comes in the wake of serious allegations regarding the diversion of large sums of money and suspicious foreign transactions. Authorities are also probing links to earlier financial irregularities involving the group.

The Surana Group, which operates across sectors like real estate, entertainment, and power, had taken massive loans worth several thousand crores from SBI Chennai. In 2012, the Central

2 PAGE

Supreme Court Remarks a Slap to Govt: Harish Rao

BRS Leader Slams Congress Over Eco Damage

Harish Rao criticizes Congress leadership
SC remarks welcomed as eye-opener
Bulldozer actions condemned as reckless
CMP report exposed truth: Harish
Public must unite says BRS MLA

Hyderabad: Former Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao launched a sharp attack on the Congress government following the Supreme Court's strong remarks over the Kancha Gachibowli land issue. Calling the court's statements a "tight slap" to the Revanth Reddy-led administration, Harish Rao stated that the court proceedings made the environmental destruction by the Congress government clear to the entire nation.

In a public statement, Harish Rao welcomed the court's demand asking how the government plans to restore the 100 acres it allegedly



damaged. He credited the Central Empowered Committee's report for exposing the Congress government's intentions to "grab the lands

and destroy the environment."

He criticized the government for using bulldozers during holidays, showing complete disregard for environmental norms. "When a government becomes reckless just because it holds power, society and the judiciary are bound to intervene. Today's development is yet another example of that," Rao remarked.

Taking a direct jab at CM Revanth Reddy, Harish Rao said that destruction seems to be the government's default mode — recalling

2 PAGE

CM Revanth Reddy Arrives in Japan for 8-Day Tour

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has arrived in Japan as part of his official eight-day tour, aiming to explore investment opportunities and study advanced technologies. The delegation, which departed from Hyderabad last night, landed at Narita Airport this afternoon.



During the tour, CM Revanth will visit Tokyo, Mount Fuji, Osaka, and Hiroshima. He is also scheduled to attend the Industrial Expo in Osaka, where he will showcase Telangana's potential to global investors. In Tokyo, he is expected to hold meetings with key industrialists to attract investments into Telangana.

The tour will also focus on studying AI-driven innovations and Japanese technological advancements to help establish a Skill

University in Telangana. CM Revanth will invite Japanese businesses and institutions to collaborate in the state's development journey.

He is accompanied by Minister Sridhar Babu and senior officials. The visit will continue until April 22, aiming to strengthen Telangana-Japan economic ties.

Bhatti Vikramarka Inaugurates Singareni's Naini Coal Block in Odisha

Historic Milestone in Singareni Expansion

- First Singareni mine outside Telangana
- Bhatti lauds Singareni's national growth
- CM Revanth calls it golden chapter
- Odisha CM, Union Ministers thanked
- Jobs, power project plans underway



2 PAGE

Congress Protest and Dharna Today in Telangana

- Protests against political vendetta and ED raids
- Congress protesting at ED office today
- Opposition to charge sheet on Gandhi family
- Massive demonstrations against Modi's govt
- ED raids continue on Suran Group
- Tension grows over money laundering allegations



2 PAGE



Revanth Reddy Hails New Era with Singareni Coal Block Launch

- A Golden Path for Future Generations
- First Singareni mine outside Telangana
- Odisha’s Naini coal block inaugurated
- CM calls it a historic milestone
- Govt’s vision led to this expansion
- Boost for workers and state economy

Hyderabad/Angul (Odisha): Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy described the launch of Singareni’s coal mining operations in Odisha’s Naini coal block as a historic milestone, paving a golden path for future generations. In a message following the virtual inauguration of the



mine by Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, Revanth stated that this marked the dawn of a new era for Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) .

For the first time in its 136-year history , Singareni has begun coal mining outside Telangana, reflecting both ambition and progress. The Chief Minister praised the move as a shining example of the state government’s commitment and vision. “This expansion beyond state borders was possible only because of the proactive and transparent approach of the people’s government,” he noted.

The Naini coal block, located in Angul district of Odisha, has received all

necessary approvals, enabling SCCL to officially begin operations. Revanth Reddy hailed this development as a proud moment for the people of Telangana, underlining Singareni’s role as a crown jewel of the state and a lifeline for thousands of workers’ families .

He reiterated the government’s unwavering support for SCCL’s growth and future expansions, ensuring it continues to power not just Telangana but the nation as well. Congratulating Singareni and its workforce, he affirmed that this step would reinforce the company’s legacy and secure its relevance for generations to come.

1st Page Cont..

Bhatti Vikramarka Inaugurates Singareni’s Naini Coal Block in Odisha

Hyderabad/Angul (Odisha): Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka virtually inaugurated the Singareni Naini Coal Block in Odisha’s Angul district , marking a historic moment in Singareni Collieries Company Limited’s (SCCL) 136-year journey. This is the first time the Telangana-based coal giant has launched operations outside the state.

Calling it a “golden chapter” in Singareni’s history, Bhatti said this milestone is not only significant for Singareni but a proud occasion for all of Telangana. He emphasized that the Naini project represents the first step in Singareni’s nationwide expansion under transparent and people-centric governance. He extended his thanks to Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi and Union Ministers Kishan Reddy and Dharmendra Pradhan for their support in making the project a reality.

Bhatti congratulated the Singareni team for achieving this feat and promised efforts to provide employment opportunities for locals in Angul. He also announced plans for major CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiatives and preparations for a 1,600 MW thermal power plant in the region.

The inaugural event was attended by Telangana Energy Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Transco CMD Sri Krishna Bhaskar, local Odisha MLA Agasti Behera, and Singareni CMD N. Balaram .

Meanwhile, CM Revanth Reddy , in a message shared by the Telangana CMO, stated that the commencement of mining operations at Naini marks the beginning of a new era for Singareni. He called it a reflection of his government’s commitment and vision, adding that the project brings pride to all people of Telangana.

Focus on Non-Duty Liquor, Curb Drugs: Ranga Reddy Excise Deputy Commissioner

- Strict Action Ordered Against Illegal Liquor, Drugs
- Excise DC orders crackdown on liquor
- Target MDPL, farmhouses using liquor
- Focus on ganja, drugs in region
- Immediate charge sheets, vehicle auctions
- Contraband to be destroyed swiftly



Hyderabad: Ranga Reddy Excise Division Deputy Commissioner P. Dasharath has directed excise officials to intensify operations against non-duty paid liquor (NDPL), ganja, and drugs across the division. In a review meeting held at Apkara Bhavan on Wednesday, he stressed the need for strict enforcement and continuous surveillance.

Dasharath instructed the excise teams to act firmly if duty-evaded liquor is found in any part of Hyderabad. He emphasized special focus on farmhouses where MDPL is often consumed illegally and called for immediate raids and preventive actions .

He also ordered Excise Superintendents to prioritize curbing drug and ganja sales, particularly in hotspots across the Ranga Reddy region. For

every registered case, he demanded that charge sheets be filed promptly and seized vehicles be auctioned without delay. He also instructed officials to obtain orders for the immediate destruction of confiscated contraband .

The meeting saw participation from key officers including Assistant Commissioner R. Kishan, and Excise Superintendents Krishnapriya (Shamshabad), Ujjwala Reddy (Saroornagar), K. Naveen (Medchal), Fayazuddin (Malkajgiri), and Vijay Bhaskar Goud (Vikarabad), along with STF teams, SHOs, and other field officials.

Dasharath concluded by urging officials to maintain vigilance and coordination to eradicate illicit liquor and drug menace in the region effectively.

Supreme Court Remarks a Slap to Govt: Harish Rao

past incidents like house demolitions under the pretext of “Hydra” operations and now the bulldozing of green areas.

He emphasized that BRS has always respected the judiciary and submitted a detailed report with

evidence to the Central Empowered Committee. Concluding with a call for unity, he urged the people of Telangana to come together and teach a lesson to a government that, in his words, is “devouring trees instead of protecting them.”

ED Raids Surana Group Premises in Hyderabad

Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against the group, during which 400 kg of gold was seized. However, 103 kg of that gold later went missing from CBI custody. The Madras High Court recently ordered an investigation into this disappearance.

Wednesday’s ED raids are be-

lieved to be part of a broader investigation into these past and present financial irregularities. With the Surana Group having sold lands to various companies in Hyderabad, officials are also examining property dealings for possible links to money laundering.

direct response to what the party calls an attempt to suppress opposition through baseless charges.

Meanwhile, in Hyderabad, the ED (Enforcement Directorate) has continued its raids, this time focusing on the Suran Group of Companies, with Narender Surana (Chairman) and Devender Surana (MD) being investigated for money laundering and illegal foreign fund transfers. Searches are also ongoing at properties in Boyinapalli, including the Ariant Card Master Enclave. These raids add fuel to the growing tension, as the Congress leadership criticizes what they see as an abusive use of power .

Congress leaders have urged party workers and supporters to participate in large numbers in these protests. The party has voiced strong opposition to the ongoing political harassment and targeted actions against its leaders. The protests will be a

Congress Deceived People with Hollow Promises: MLC Kavitha Slams at Jagityal Meet



Congress cheated with free bus promise
Free bus promise, but no gold
Congress, BJP failed Telangana: Kavitha
MLA Sanjay must be questioned publicly
BRS only true voice of Telangana
Kavitha calls for grassroots awareness

Jagityal, Telangana: MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha lashed out at the Congress government, accusing it of deceiving women under the guise of free bus services. Addressing a preparatory meeting for the BRS Rajatotsavam Sabha, she claimed that the Congress failed to deliver its promise of giving a tola of gold under the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme , and instead used the free bus scheme for political mileage.

Participating in the wall writing campaign at Telangana Chowrasta, Jagityal, Kavitha urged people to attend the upcoming BRS Rajatotsavam in large numbers. She accused both Congress and BJP of betraying Telangana, stating that despite having 8 MPs each from Telangana, neither party ensured any significant budget allocation—“8 + 8 = Big Zero ,” she mocked.

She criticized MP Arvind and MLA Sanjay, questioning their political loyalty and visible confusion in aligning with BJP or Congress. Calling out MLA Sanjay, who switched from BRS, she urged people to confront him in every village for failing to bring development funds to Jagityal.

Kavitha hailed BRS and KCR as the true custodians of Telangana’s identity, saying it was only through KCR’s movement and leadership that Telangana statehood was achieved. She emphasized that BRS alone can protect the state’s dignity and called for strengthening local committees with diverse representation.

Concluding her speech, Kavitha said, “ Rajatotsavam is not just a BRS festival—it is Telangana’s festival ,” reaffirming the party’s commitment to the people and their aspirations.

Rajiv Yuva Vikas: Dy CM Bhatti Holds Key Meeting with Bankers

Govt to boost youth self-employment



Hyderabad: The Telangana government is accelerating efforts to empower unemployed youth through the Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme, with Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka holding a crucial meeting with state-level bankers on Wednesday. This initiative is part of the government’s multi-pronged strategy to create self-employment opportunities alongside filling up government jobs through notifications.

In the meeting, Bhatti emphasized the government’s focus on financial assistance to youth from SC, ST, BC, and minority communities through their respective cor-

porations. The goal, he said, is to ensure that the youth don’t just depend on government jobs but are also encouraged to start their own businesses with bank-supported loans.

The Deputy CM proposed a coordinated mechanism where banks extend loans under the scheme, with the government offering subsidies and support to make the ventures viable. Sources indicate that bankers responded positively, assuring cooperation in implementing the scheme effectively across Telangana.

This move is expected to bridge the unemployment gap and promote a culture of entrepreneurship among rural and urban youth alike.

Kishan Reddy Accuses Congress of Conspiring to Steal Crores in National Herald Case

- Congress involved in multiple corruption scandals, says Kishan Reddy.
- National Herald case aims to steal crores, he alleges.
- Sonia, Rahul Gandhi accused of using the paper for personal gains.
- Congress protests and dharnas are a shameful act.
- Criticizes Congress' handling of Gachibowli land issue.

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Union Minister Kishan Reddy has accused the Congress party of orchestrating a scheme to embezzle crores through the National Herald case. He alleged that Congress, which has been involved in major scandals like the Bofors, 2G, and Coal scams, is now using the National Herald newspaper as a front for illegal real estate deals.



Speaking to the media in Delhi on Wednesday, Kishan Reddy claimed that the real estate companies linked to Sonia and Rahul Gandhi had been receiving assets through the newspaper. He further accused Congress of corruption, stating that a loan of ₹90 crores was given to National Herald, only for ₹50 lakhs to be diverted to a real estate company.

He also criticized the Congress for resorting to protests and dharnas in an attempt to obstruct investigations, describing it as a shameful act. If Congress had confidence in the law,

they wouldn't need to protest, he asserted. The minister also addressed the Gachibowli land issue, criticizing the Telangana government for its actions, and suggested that the Congress was responsible for cutting trees in the area, which he called an example of their callousness.

Don't Undermine Me for Being Soft- MLA Yashaswini Reddy Fires Back!

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Palkurthi MLA Yashaswini Reddy has made strong remarks, cautioning others not to underestimate her just because she is soft-spoken. Speaking to the media on Wednesday at her camp office, she emphasized that she is always observing and will react appropriately when the time comes. She expressed frustration at being dismissed as "just a small girl" and pointed out that she won't tolerate derogatory comments anymore.



She also took a swipe at those making assumptions about her family, questioning, "Are they talking like this just because I am a woman?" She warned those who disrespect her that she would not shy away from confronting them and challenged them ahead of the local body elec-

tions in her constituency. Expressing confidence that Congress will come back to power in Telangana, Yashaswini also asserted that she has a clear vision for Palkurthi's development. In response to the criticisms from Congress leader Dayakar Rao, she urged him to maintain respect, particularly as he ages. She also

warned that if the current frustration continues in the government, the Congress party will have a stronger comeback.

These comments come after Dayakar Rao criticized her and the Congress government in a recent meeting. Yashaswini's fiery response indicates she is ready for any challenge ahead.

Bhuvanagiri MP Chamaala Kiran Kumar Reddy Sets a New Record

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Bhuvanagiri MP Chamaala Kiran Kumar Reddy has created a remarkable record by showcasing 100% attendance in all Parliament sessions since his election. His consistent presence has earned him the distinction of being in the top spot for attendance, setting him apart as a dedicated member. His engagement in parliamentary work has been significant, with him actively participating in 79 questions about key issues in his constituency and for Telangana.

Kiran Kumar Reddy's proactive stance also reflects his leadership, as he raised concerns regarding railway infrastructure, especially for workers, commuters, and artisans in Bhuvanagiri, Aleru, Janagaon, and Secunderabad. He highlighted the need for station stops for trains and the issue of railway underpasses, specifically on routes like Hyderabad to Rayagiri and Pochampalli, where weavers face challenges.

His hard work in Parliament is not just in terms of attendance, but also in pushing for Telangana's rights, pressing the ruling party for funds that the state is due. His efforts have also been noted in discussions, with 17 participations in debates, securing the second position for his contributions. MP Asaduddin Owaisi holds the top spot with 21 debates.

Kiran Kumar Reddy's commitment to both his constituency and to the people of Telangana has solidified his reputation as a dedicated and hardworking representative.



Ex-MLA Dr. N.V.S.S. Prabhakar Slams CM Revanth Reddy and Congress Government for Administrative Failures

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Dr. N.V.S.S. Prabhakar, a former MLA, launched a strong criticism of the Congress government in Telangana, accusing the administration of being in a state of failure. Speaking at a media briefing organized by the BJP at its state office, Prabhakar claimed that even Congress MLAs had lost confidence in the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He said that the CM's comments during the Congress Legislative Party (CLP) meeting reflected disappointment and hopelessness, indicating a lack of vision for the state's future.



Prabhakar stated that the gov-

ernment's cabinet lacked collective responsibility, with each minister making statements without coordination, leading to a situation where the CM was constantly deflecting decisions onto higher authorities. This, he argued, contributed to the confusion and chaos within the

administration. The economic situation of the state has reportedly reached a crisis point, with financial mismanagement evident in various sectors, including welfare, law and order, and public administration.

Criticizing the government's reliance on selling land and alcohol sales to boost state revenues, Prabhakar pointed out that these measures were signs of a deep financial crisis. He also highlighted the failure to conduct local body elections, which he claimed was a result of the government's inability to manage its finances effectively.

Prabhakar also took a jibe at the Congress leadership's polit-

ical strategies, calling the relationship between Delhi and Chennai a sham. He mocked the BRS-Congress ties, labeling it as a game of "wrestling in the streets", and said that the Congress and BRS were only pretending to work together while pursuing their own agendas. As part of his political commentary, Prabhakar urged voters in the upcoming Hyderabad local body elections on April 23 to vote according to their conscience. He specifically called for the defeat of the MIM (Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen) in these elections, describing it as the right moment to take action against the party's growing influence.

Former Minister Jagadish Reddy Criticizes Congress Government Over Krishna Water Issue

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Former Minister and MLA Jagadish Reddy has come down heavily on the Congress government in Telangana for its handling of the Krishna river water issue. In a media interaction on Wednesday, he said that the government's incompetence regarding the use and allocation of Krishna water has once again come to light. He referred to the recent findings of the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB), which confirmed that Andhra Pradesh is using 74% of the Krishna river's water, while Telangana is only utilizing 24%, even though it is entitled to more. Jagadish Reddy also criticized the government for not taking action, stating that even after the BRS had raised alarms, Andhra Pradesh continued to divert water, with the Telangana government doing nothing to stop it. He slammed Chief Minister K. Chan-

drashekhar Rao (KCR) and the ministers for their silence on the issue and questioned why they were not speaking out against Andhra Pradesh's water theft. Reddy also accused them of focusing more on personal gains, such as commissions, than on the welfare of farmers and the state's people. The former Minister pointed out that despite the serious water crisis, especially in the Krishna river basin areas, there had been no serious review meetings or solutions provided by the government. He also expressed disappointment that even drinking water was becoming a scarce resource but was being overlooked. Reddy reminded that under KCR's leadership, the government had used more than 38% of Krishna water in the past, and he warned that history would not forgive this government's failure to protect the state's rights.

Ponnam Prabhakar Slams BJP's Vendetta Against Gandhi Family



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Minister Ponnam Prabhakar strongly condemned the BJP government's actions against Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday, calling it a politically motivated vendetta. Leading a large protest in Husnabad town, the minister expressed his opposition to the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) charge sheets against the Gandhis, accusing the BJP of targeting them to suppress Congress' growing influence.

Ponnam, accompanied by Congress leaders and workers, sat on the road in protest, demanding an end to what he described as harassment by the ruling party. He criticized the ED's actions, highlighting the injustice done to Sonia Gandhi, especially her interrogation at the age of 85.

In his speech, Ponnam emphasized the failure of the BJP to address the nation's critical issues and their focus on harassing opposition leaders. He further pointed out the government's inaction against real economic offenders like Nirav Modi, while engaging in a political witch-hunt against the Gandhi family. Ponnam also criticized the privatization of public sector institutions like LIC, airports, and railways, accusing the BJP of serving corporate interests over the welfare of the common people.

He concluded by calling for unity among Congress workers to resist these unjust measures and pledged to continue the fight against the BJP's vindictive policies.

Minister Tummala Nagender Suggests Measures to Combat Crop Pests and Use Technology in Agriculture

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a significant move towards improving agriculture management in Telangana, Agriculture Minister Tummala Nagender has instructed officials to be proactive in identifying pests and crop damage early. During a meeting at the Secretariat with Agriculture Secretary Raghunandan Rao and Director Gopi, the minister emphasized the importance of early warning systems to alert farmers about pests and the impact of adverse weather on crops.

Minister Tummala urged officials to use satellite images to



estimate the crop area in advance and compare it with actual yields. The goal is to use AI technology to predict yields, improve crop procurement strategies, and better understand the impact of climate change on farming.

The government intends to work closely with technical companies to incorporate new technologies for the benefit of farmers.

In the meeting, representatives from ICRISAT and AgriVas explained the projects they have implemented in other states, which include pest identification, early warning systems, and crop yield estimation. The minister highlighted the need to adopt these technologies in Telangana, with an emphasis on early pest detection and improving crop yield prediction.

Furthermore, the government

plans to involve Agriculture Universities in satellite data usage to enhance research and operational efficiency. Minister Tummala assured that a decision would be taken in consultation with the Chief Minister, and necessary approvals would be obtained for collaboration with these companies.

Finally, Secretary Raghunandan Rao instructed the technical companies to prepare detailed reports on their technological capabilities, the required funding, and the potential benefits for farmers, ensuring that all necessary information is gathered before implementation.

Aqua Spirit Launches with a Splash: A New Pub Experience Arrives in Hyderabad

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The city's nightlife is about to get a refreshing upgrade as Aqua Spirit, an innovative new pub concept, officially opens its doors. Located at Hotel Daspalla, Jubilee hills, Aqua Spirit promises an immersive experience where classic pub culture meets modern mixology and coastal-inspired ambiance.

The launch was elegantly curated by Duo Soirée—Deepika Kewalramani and Ankita Jain—setting the stage for a vibrant and energetic vibe. With

great music, signature cocktails, and chic ambience, Aqua Spirit is set to be the go-to spot for party lovers.

Designed for the Senses Aqua Spirit isn't just a place to grab a drink — it's a sensory experience. With a sleek, ocean-themed interior, curated lighting, and a signature playlist inspired by global beach destinations, the space sets the tone for a new kind of evening out.

Signature Drinks & Coastal Flavors From artisanal cocktails crafted by

award-winning mixologists to a carefully selected menu featuring seafood-inspired bites and gastropub favorites, Aqua Spirit aims to delight both drink and food enthusiasts.

“We envisioned Aqua Spirit as more than just a pub — it's a vibrant, social destination where the energy of water and nightlife converge,” says Raghunandan Chowdary, Owner of Aqua Spirit. “Whether you're here for a quiet evening or a lively gathering, our goal is to create memorable moments with every visit.”



Minister Sridhar Babu Reaffirms Trust in Supreme Court on Kancha Gachibowli Land Issue



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Telangana IT and Industries Minister Sridhar Babu has responded to the Supreme Court's strong observations in the Kancha Gachibowli land case, stating that the state government fully respects and trusts the judiciary. The Supreme Court, in a recent hearing, criticized the state's actions of unauthorized tree felling and emphasized that environmental protection cannot be compromised.

The apex court directed the Telangana government to submit a detailed plan within four weeks on how it intends to restore the environment, including specifics on reforestation, animal habitat protection, and the timeline for completion. It also maintained status quo on the land and adjourned further hearing to May 15.

Minister Sridhar Babu assured that the government would act in line with the court's orders. He clarified that the land legally belongs to the government, and accused opposition parties of attempting to manipulate public opinion with doctored videos. He also criticized the BJP leaders for spreading misinformation and expressed disappointment that Prime Minister Modi echoed these claims without verifying the facts.

Addressing the controversy around IAS officer Smita Sabharwal's retweet, the minister said that the government will take necessary legal steps. He reiterated the state's commitment to both legal compliance and environmental responsibility.

KTR Hails Supreme Court's Orders as a Victory for Environmental Protection

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Former Minister and BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) reacted to the Supreme Court's latest interim orders on the controversial Kancha Gachibowli tree-cutting case, calling it a major victory for environmental activists.

The Supreme Court, during the hearing, took serious note of the unauthorized cutting of trees across 100 acres near the Central University campus. When the court questioned if proper permissions were obtained, the state's counsel argued that action was taken under the WALTA Act using self-clearance. Unconvinced, the court rebuked the state for trying to justify such actions and demanded a detailed tree restoration plan, including measures for forest replantation and wildlife protection, to be submitted within four weeks. The case will next be heard on May 15.

Responding via X (formerly Twitter), KTR wrote, “The Supreme Court's order to restore forest land and ensure safety of wildlife in Kancha Gachibowli is a remarkable victory for everyone fighting to protect the environment.” He added that BRS welcomes the court's decision and hopes the Congress-led Telangana government gains some wisdom from these directives.

KTR emphasized that the judgment underscores the need for accountable governance and sustainable development, especially when it comes to safeguarding the green cover and biodiversity in urban areas.



Police Serve Notice to IAS Officer Smita Sabharwal Over Retweet on Kancha Gachibowli Land Issue

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Senior IAS officer and Telangana Tourism Secretary Smita Sabharwal has been issued a police notice for a retweet linked to the controversial Kancha Gachibowli land issue, which has recently sparked heated debates online and in political circles.

The Telangana Police claim that several social media posts, allegedly based on AI-generated or fake visuals, aimed to defame the state government over alleged environmental destruction near Hyderabad Central University (HCU). As part of an ongoing investigation, authorities are serving notices to various YouTubers, news websites, and individual users involved in spreading what they term as “fake propaganda.”



Smita Sabharwal landed in trouble for retweeting an AI-generated image originally posted by the handle @HiHyderabad

on March 31. The image showed bulldozers and animals like peacocks and deer, presented in a style similar to animated film “Ghibli”, allegedly depicting environmental damage near HCU. Citing that the image was not authentic, Gachibowli police issued a notice to Sabharwal under Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) Section 179, which pertains to questioning witnesses during an investigation.

According to SHO Mohammed Habibullah Khan, Sabharwal may be called to record her statement as part of the probe. As of now, there has been no official response from Smita Sabharwal, and public attention is sharply focused on how the senior bureaucrat will react.

Rs. 40 Lakh Worth Drugs and Vehicle Seized in Hyderabad: OG Kush Smuggling Busted



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a major crackdown on narcotics, the Excise Enforcement STF 'B' team seized drugs worth Rs. 40 lakh, including the high-end variety OG Kush, a synthetic drug imported from the United States. Along with the narcotics, a Skoda car and foreign liquor bottles were also seized.

According to Joint Commissioner Syed Yasin Khureshi, the contraband included 500 grams of OG Kush, 1 kg of ganja, 6 grams of charas, 4.38 grams of hashish synthetic drugs, and five bottles of imported liquor.

The bust took place near the Kachiguda railway station around 2 PM on Wednesday, when SI Sandhya and her team intercepted a drug exchange happening between two suspects — one

on a bike and the other in a Skoda car. The OG Kush variety is notably cultivated in California and Florida, USA, and is among the premium narcotics illegally smuggled into India. The arrested individuals have been identified as Pratish Bhatt and Jai Surya.

Khureshi emphasized that the accused were transporting the narcotics from Bengaluru to Hyderabad, indicating a wider network of cross-state drug trafficking. The operation was a coordinated effort involving STF 'B' team leader Pradeep Rao, CI Biksha Reddy, and SIs Sandhya and Balaraju.

The accused have been booked, and further investigation is underway to uncover the broader network behind the smuggling.

ED Chargesheet Names Sonia, Rahul Gandhi; TPCC Calls for Statewide Protest

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a significant political development, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has named Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in its chargesheet related to the National Herald money laundering case. The prosecution complaint has been filed in the Delhi Rouse Avenue Court, which will hear the matter on April 25.

In response, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) chief Mahesh Kumar Goud has issued a strong call to party cadres to join a massive protest. He alleged that Sonia and Rahul Gandhi's names were included with political vendetta, not based on facts. The TPCC will stage a dharna outside the ED office in Hyderabad on Thursday at 10 AM.

Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that this is a clear example of how central agencies are being misused by the BJP-led NDA government to target opposition leaders.

Echoing this sentiment, the All India Congress Committee (AICC) has called for nationwide protests in front of ED offices. Party leaders have condemned the Modi government's tactics of political harassment, accusing it of trying to suppress dissent through central agencies.

Congress vowed to continue its fight until the names of Sonia and Rahul Gandhi are removed from the chargesheet, asserting that the voice of democracy cannot be



Jayasudha Appointed Chairperson of Gaddar Telangana Film Awards Jury

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Renowned actress Jayasudha has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Jury for the Gaddar Telangana Film Awards, instituted by the Telangana state government. The announcement was made during a jury meeting held on Tuesday, where Jayasudha stated that she views this responsibility as a challenge and is committed to conducting a fair and unbiased selection of awardees.

FDC Chairman Dil Raju, who was present at the meeting, urged the jury members to select winners who can bring national recognition to Telugu cinema. He highlighted that this is the first time in 14 years that film awards are being presented by the



government and noted that even in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh, there wasn't such enthusiastic participation.

Dr. S. Harish, Managing Director of the Telangana Film Development Corporation, revealed that the government has formed a 15-member expert jury, headed by Jayasudha. The awards, named after revolutionary balladeer Gaddar, have received an overwhelming 1,248 nominations across various categories. Of these, 1,172 are individual entries, while 76 are in segments such as feature films, children's films, debut works, documentaries, short films, film criticism, and books. The screening process for these nominations will commence on April 21, and jury members discussed plans for reviewing entries across all categories to ensure deserving talent is recognized.

CM Revanth Reddy Congratulates Telangana Police for Topping National Rankings



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy extended heartfelt congratulations to the Telangana Police Department for securing the top rank in the country for its outstanding performance. As per the recently released India Justice Report-2025, Telangana emerged No. 1 among 18 states with a population of over one crore in terms of best policing practices.

The report, compiled by reputed organizations including Tata Trusts, Centre for Social Justice, and Common Cause, recognized Telangana Police for its transparency in case registration, control of crime, and strict action against offenders.

In a statement, CM Revanth Reddy lauded the relentless efforts of the police force and said this honor reflects their dedication to maintaining law and order, and ensuring justice and safety across the state. He emphasized that this achievement is a moment of pride not just for the police department, but for every citizen of Telangana.

The CM highlighted that the state police have excelled in maintaining peace, implementing transparent policing methods, and ensuring quick and fair justice delivery. He praised the department for playing a crucial role in safeguarding the state's democratic values through disciplined and people-centric policing.

Telangana Launches ‘Bhoo Bharati’ Pilot Project in Four Mandals Today

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The Telangana government today launched its prestigious ‘Bhoo Bharati’ pilot project in four mandals across the state, aiming to streamline land management, ensure transparency in land rights, and promote eco-friendly usage of agricultural land.

The pilot project has been initiated in Venkata Puram (Mulugu district), Nelakondapalli (Khammam), Lingampet (Kamareddy), and Khajipur in Maddur mandal (Narayanpet district).

‘Bhoo Bharati’ is a comprehensive land reform initiative focused on modernizing land records, restoring ownership rights, and simplifying the registration process. Through this program, the government will digitally update and manage land records, providing farmers and citizens with easy access to verified land information.

Officials stated that this project will also help spread awareness among farmers about sustainable land practices, energy-saving techniques, and environmental protection. The program is expected to pave the way for technology-driven, climate-conscious agricultural development in the state.

The Telangana government considers ‘Bhoo Bharati’ a key step in building a transparent and efficient land governance system. If the pilot proves successful, the initiative will be extended to all districts in the coming months.



Roof Debris Falls on Student in Government School, Serious Injuries Reported



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
A tragic incident occurred at the Munnoor Somaram Government Primary School in Vikarabad district, where roof debris fell on a first-grade student, causing severe injuries.

The incident took place on Wednesday morning when 6-year-old Shireesha, a first-grade student, was injured by falling ceiling tiles. The debris struck her head, ear, and legs, leading to serious injuries.

Quickly responding, the school's teachers, along with the girl's parents, rushed her to Maa Sharada Hospital in Vikarabad for treatment. Dr. Rajasekhar is providing medical care to the young student.

The details of the incident are still unfolding, and authorities are expected to investigate the causes behind the accident. This unfortunate event highlights concerns over the condition of school infrastructure in some areas.

Minister Konda Surekha Reviews Pending Issues with Endowment Department Officials



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a detailed review meeting held at the Secretariat, Minister Konda Surekha met with senior officials of the Endowment Department to discuss long-pending issues in the Devasthanam (Endowment) department.

The minister thoroughly examined several key matters, particularly focusing on pending legal disputes related to the department's land. When the minister inquired about the details of land disputes, the officials provided relevant information.

Regarding the ongoing court cases, the minister directed the officials to work towards resolving these issues promptly and suggested organizing a follow-up meeting to ensure progress on the matter.

Further, the minister sought detailed information on the digitalization of services at the state's temples. She emphasized the need to improve transparency and urged officials to explore innovative ways to enhance services in temples that currently don't utilize modern technology.

The meeting also focused on how to make temple services more transparent and efficient, particularly in areas where technology has yet to be implemented.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyar, Commissioner Sridhar, Additional Secretary Krishna Veni, and other senior officials from the department.

Rs. 4.50 Lakh Worth of Ganja Seized, Three Accused Arrested

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a major drug bust, Rs. 4.50 lakh worth of ganja was seized by the Hyderabad Enforcement B Team led by CI Chandrashekhar Goud. The operation took place near Nampally Extra Uni Auto Gas based on reliable information about a ganja sale happening in the area.

Two individuals from Odisha's Malkangiri district, Rajasariya and Manoj Kumar, were arrested for bringing 8.44 kilograms of ganja to Hyderabad for sale. They were caught red-handed while the drug deal was in progress.

While these two individuals have been apprehended, a third suspect, Hameed, a resident of Secunderabad, remains at large, according to the CI.

The seized ganja is valued at approximately Rs. 4.50 lakh. Authorities are continuing their investigation into the network involved in the drug trafficking.



KTR Visits Former BRS MLA Shakeel's Residence to Offer Condolences



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) visited the residence of former Bodhan MLA Mohammed Shakeel in Hyderabad today to offer his condolences following the untimely demise of Shakeel's mother.

Accompanied by former Armoor MLA A. Jeevan Reddy, KTR spent time with Shakeel and his family, expressing sympathy and support during their time of grief.

thy and support during their time of grief.

Earlier, former Nizamabad MP and MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha, along with her husband Anil Kumar, also visited Shakeel's residence to pay respects and console the bereaved family.

Meanwhile, it is known that Shakeel was served police notices shortly after his return from Dubai. Sources suggest that he may soon be summoned for questioning in connection with an ongoing investigation. KTR's visit, coming amidst both personal loss and political scrutiny* surrounding the former MLA, is being seen as a show of solidarity within the party leadership.

RPCCS 2025 Calendar Unveiled by Rachakonda Police Commissioner



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The 2025 Calendar of the Rachakonda Police Cooperative Credit Society (RPCCS) was unveiled today at the Rachakonda Police Commissionerate office by Rachakonda Police Commissioner & RPCCS President, Shri Sudheer Babu, IPS.

While addressing the gathering, Commissioner Sudheer Babu emphasized the importance of swiftly starting the 2024-25 audit for RPCCS and urged the members to ensure that interest on Thrift deposits and dividends on shares are distributed to the members promptly.

The event was attended by RPCCS Vice President Shri Shiva Kumar (Addl. DCP, Admin), Treasurer Balraj, Directors Shri Sangi Valaraju, Ravinder Reddy, Suvarna, Lakshmi Prasanna, and Society Accounts Officer Shri Pradeep Kumar.

This initiative aims to ensure the smooth functioning and financial health of RPCCS while benefiting its members through timely financial returns and services.

Employees Protest Over Non-Payment of Salaries, Demand Action from MLA



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a troubling development from Torur Mandal in Mahabubabad district, workers are expressing their deep dissatisfaction over the non-payment of their salaries for the past few months. The workers, hailing from Charlapalle village, are facing severe financial hardships due to the delay in their pay, and they have voiced their concerns strongly.

In a desperate move, the workers decided to approach Congress MLA Yashaswini Reddy to plead for their pending wages. However, the situation took a tense turn when police and Congress workers reportedly blocked the workers from reaching the MLA, leading to a confrontation.

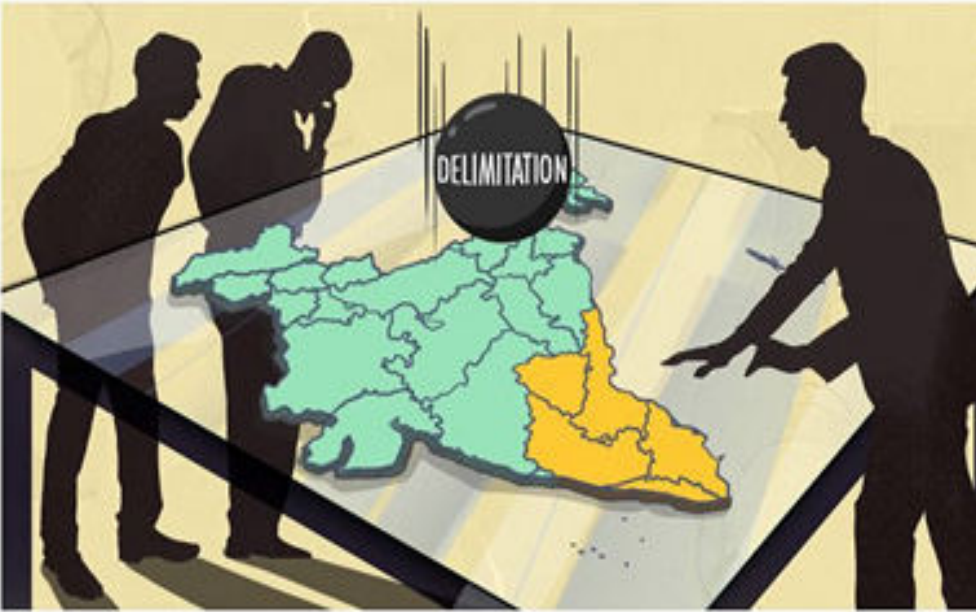
The workers, in their protest, have demanded immediate justice from the government, citing that the non-payment of salaries has left their families struggling to make ends meet. They have called for urgent intervention to resolve their issues and ensure their due salaries are paid without further delay.

The situation has led to growing unrest in the area, with workers urging the authorities to take swift action to address their grievances.

Delimitation Dilemma: Bridging India’s North-South Divide After a 50-Year Freeze

The 50-year freeze on the delimitation of parliamentary constituencies in India, initiated during the Emergency in 1976, has now erupted into a politically sensitive debate—pitting southern and northern states against each other. Originally enacted to ensure balanced development amid differing population growth rates, the freeze is now being questioned for fostering deep representational inequities. As highlighted by scholar Ravi K Mishra in his book *Demography, Representation and Delimitation*, the current discourse is clouded by misinformation and oversimplification.

Delimitation refers to redrawing constituency boundaries based on population, a task governed by Articles 81 and 82 of the Constitution. While Article 81 defines the composition of the



Lok Sabha, Article 82 mandates seat readjustments after every census. Historically, the strength of the Lok Sabha has been gradually increased

to reflect population changes, but the 42nd Amendment froze this adjustment until 2001, later extended by the 84th Amendment to 2026.

This freeze, though politically expedient, has led to glaring disparities. Some MPs now represent less than 500,000 constituents, while others serve more than three million. Southern states, which have successfully implemented population control measures, fear that they will be penalised with reduced representation, while states with higher fertility rates gain more seats.

The southern political leadership—from the Congress’ Shashi Tharoor to TDP’s Chandrababu Naidu and DMK’s MK Stalin—have voiced strong opposition, arguing that penalising prog-

ress would undermine federal principles. Critics warn that the exercise could fracture India’s political fabric, with Justice KM Joseph and historian Ramachandra Guha cautioning against potential damage to Indian federalism.

Had delimitation proceeded incrementally, as originally envisioned, the transition might have been smoother. But the long pause has created a high-stakes situation. Moving forward, policymakers must approach the 2026 delimitation with consensus, transparency, and constitutional wisdom—balancing demographic realities with the integrity of India’s federal structure. The looming challenge now is not just numerical parity but political equity and national unity.

India should reconsider its decision to shelter Sheikh Hasina

In a recent meeting of the Consultative Committee on External Affairs, held in March, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar acknowledged a growing anti-Hasina sentiment in Bangladesh that culminated in her ouster on August 5 last year. While the Indian government was aware of the shifting political winds in Dhaka, Jaishankar candidly admitted that New Delhi lacked the leverage to influence internal developments in Bangladesh. He stated that India’s role was limited to offering counsel and not exerting any real pressure—a significant indication that Sheikh Hasina’s political decline was largely the result of internal dynamics, not external interference.

This admission brings into focus the contentious question of India’s decision to grant asylum to the former Bangladeshi Prime Minister. Her continued stay in India has added strain to an already sensitive diplomatic relationship with Bangladesh’s interim government. While New Delhi may have acted out of humanitarian or political consideration, the move has complicated its standing with the new leadership in Dhaka.

Unlike her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman—who remains an iconic figure in India for his leadership during Bangladesh’s liberation in 1971—Sheikh Hasina does not enjoy the same level of popular support or emotional resonance within the Indian political landscape. Mujibur Rahman’s historical stature helped foster deep bilateral goodwill; however, Hasina’s controversial political legacy and perceived authoritarianism have made her a more divisive figure, both domestically in Bangladesh and in the broader region.



Her presence in India, therefore, puts New Delhi in a difficult position. On one hand, it must weigh humanitarian considerations and long-standing ties with the Awami League; on the other, it risks alienating a new regime in Dhaka that is already seeking to reframe its foreign policy priorities. For India, navigating this situation requires a delicate diplomatic balance—supporting regional stability while avoiding actions that may be interpreted as interference. As South Asia’s geopolitical landscape continues to evolve, Hasina’s asylum may serve as a test of India’s ability to manage complex regional transitions with tact and strategic foresight.

Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025: A Constitutional Crossroad for Minority Rights

The enactment of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, has sparked intense concern among minority communities, legal experts, and civil society, as it marks a significant shift in how Waqf properties—donated land meant for religious and charitable purposes—are governed. Waqf, rooted in the Islamic concept of *Sadqa-e-Jaaria* (continuing charity), traditionally ensures that once a property is designated for divine purposes, it cannot be sold, gifted, or transferred. The new amendment, however, facilitates the conversion of Waqf land into private or government property, triggering fears of widespread dispossession.

This legislative move starkly contradicts long-standing constitutional principles and judicial pronouncements, notably the Supreme Court’s assertion that “once Waqf, always Waqf.” The law also undermines Article 26 of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees every religious denomination the right to manage its own affairs. Moreover, the removal of the requirement that the Waqf Board CEO be a Muslim, and the inclusion of non-Muslims in key Waqf bodies, has raised questions about the erosion of minority autonomy.

The comparison with the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD), which recently removed non-Hindu employees, underscores the perceived double standards in the treatment of religious institutions. While Waqf properties are now vulnerable to state appropriation, similar protections are fiercely upheld in other religious contexts.



Adding to the concern is the empowerment of district collectors—government appointees—to adjudicate Waqf disputes. This is problematic since the government itself is often a party to these disputes. Traditionally, such matters were determined by Waqf Tribunals, guided by survey commissioners and established legal processes. The amendment bypasses these mechanisms, increasing the likelihood of biased or flawed outcomes.

The new law is also based on misconceptions—chief among them being that Waqf Boards arbitrarily declare land as Waqf. In reality, the declaration involves a structured process involving government oversight. Claims that the Waqf Board could have declared Parliament as Waqf property are not only misleading but intended to inflame public sentiment.

MS Dhoni: A Legend at the Crossroads of Legacy and Reality

In the emotionally charged arena of modern sport, public opinion can shift dramatically. A hero can become a villain in a matter of matches. Fans who once idolized a player are often quick to turn on them after a string of poor performances. Unfortunately, this seems to be the case with MS Dhoni — once hailed as a cricketing king, now facing harsh criticism as both he and his team, Chennai Super Kings (CSK), struggle.

At 44, Dhoni is no longer the dynamic force he once was. Once a master tactician and fearsome finisher, his recent performances have left fans disappointed and pundits perplexed. CSK, under his leadership, has appeared rudderless, with defeats piling up and morale visibly sagging. Even Dhoni’s brief return as captain against Kolkata Knight Riders failed to inspire the turnaround fans hoped for.

Social media, never kind during downturns, has mocked the legend. Memes showing an aging Dhoni in a wheelchair, still holding a bat for CSK, are cruel reminders of how quickly reverence can turn into ridicule. De-

spite his reduced role, sponsors and PR teams are working hard to sustain the Dhoni brand. Critics argue that his batting strike rate is artificially inflated by his placement in the lower order, where he scores a few big hits in lost causes—adding little to the team’s actual chances.

The situation has drawn sharp commentary. Former Indian opener K. Srikkanth accused CSK of living off nostalgia and urged bold, unconventional decisions. Cricket writer Boria Majumdar warned that even the most celebrated brands risk losing shine if they don’t evolve, calling CSK’s current gameplay a relic of a bygone era of T20 cricket.

Yet, amidst the criticism, Dhoni’s loyal fans remain. To them, he is “Thala”—a leader beyond the scoreboard. But admiration must be tempered with realism. Respect should never turn into blind worship. To preserve Dhoni’s legacy, it’s vital to remember him for his triumphs, not let his image be eroded by unwise decisions made in the twilight of a remarkable career.



IAS Officer Reposted AI Image Sparks Probe

Senior IAS officer Smita Sabharwal has received a notice from Cyberabad Police for reposting an AI-generated image related to a controversial 400-acre land parcel in Kancha Gachibowli, near the University of Hyderabad. The land, claimed by the Telangana government, has been at the center of protests over its proposed auction for urban infrastructure and IT development.

On March 31, Sabharwal reshared an image originally posted by another user on ‘X’ (formerly Twitter). The AI-generated image depicted earthmoving equipment on the land, along with two deer and a peacock—an apparent nod to the ecological concerns raised by protesters.

Following the repost, police issued a notice to Sabharwal under Section 179 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) on April 12. This section empowers the police to summon an individual as a witness in an investigation. Officials clarified that the notice was procedural, not accusatory, and aimed at gathering information.

Smita Sabharwal, a Telangana-cadre officer, currently serves as Principal Secretary of the Department of Tourism and Culture. While she did not comment publicly on the matter, her repost has fueled debate on the responsible use of social media by civil servants, es-



pecially in sensitive land disputes.

The land in question is under legal scrutiny, with proceedings ongoing in both the Telangana High Court and the Supreme Court. The state government has maintained that it rightfully owns the land and intends to use it for developmental projects. However, environmental activists and the University of Hyderabad Students’ Union have raised strong objections, citing the area’s ecological significance.

Protesters argue that converting the land into an urban zone would damage local biodiversity, including habitats for various species, as highlighted in the viral AI image. The image’s realism, despite being artificial, helped amplify public sentiment around preserving the site.

As legal and public battles unfold, this incident underscores how digital content, even AI-generated, can influence high-stakes policy debates and lead to official action—even against senior bureaucrats.



Govt Bans 35 Unapproved FDC Drugs

In a significant regulatory move, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has banned the manufacture, sale, and distribution of 35 fixed-dose combination (FDC) drugs across India. These include commonly used painkillers, nutritional supplements, and anti-diabetic medications that were found to be unapproved under existing drug safety regulations.

The CDSCO has issued formal directions to all State and Union Territory drug controllers, instructing immediate action to halt the circulation of these FDC drugs. The regulatory body emphasized the need for stringent adherence to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and its associated rules, urging regional authorities to ensure full compliance.

Fixed-dose combination drugs are pharmaceutical formulations that contain two or more active ingredients in a single dosage. While some FDCs are developed for convenience and enhanced therapeutic benefits, unregulated combinations can pose serious health risks due to potential interactions, incorrect dosages, or lack of clinical validation.

The banned list includes a mix of widely available products, prompting an urgent review of approvals previously granted at the state level. CDSCO has also directed local drug regulators to assess their internal processes for granting licenses to such formulations, many of which were found to be lacking in proper clinical evaluation and central authorization.

Officials highlighted that several of these combinations were being sold in violation of national safety norms, with some manufacturers bypassing the requirement for CDSCO approval by securing licenses from individual states. The crackdown aims to curb such regulatory loopholes and ensure that only thoroughly evaluated and approved drugs reach the market.

Public health experts have welcomed the move, calling it a necessary step to protect consumers from potentially unsafe drug combinations. They also called for better awareness among healthcare providers and pharmacists about the dangers of prescribing or selling unapproved FDCs.

The CDSCO has indicated that further investigations are underway, and more such actions could follow to uphold drug safety standards in the country.

India, China Near Deal on Kailash Yatra

Indian and Chinese officials are intensifying efforts to finalize an agreement to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, which has remained suspended since 2019. With the deadline to select pilgrims approaching next month, both sides are pushing for a breakthrough within weeks, sources familiar with the talks confirmed.

The annual pilgrimage, which typically runs from June to September, was halted first due to the COVID-19 pandemic and then indefinitely postponed following rising tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), especially after the Galwan Valley clashes in 2020 that claimed lives on both sides.

Recent discussions between the two governments have focused on restoring the route, rebuilding



necessary infrastructure, and ensuring logistical readiness for the smooth movement of pilgrims. Sources said the dialogue is progressing steadily, with outstanding issues being narrowed down.

Officials from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) have confirmed that a high-level meeting

is scheduled next week to assess preparations and finalize modalities, pending the outcome of talks with Beijing.

India had previously conducted the Yatra through two routes: one via Lipulekh in Uttarakhand and another through Nathu La in Sikkim. It remains to be seen

whether both routes will reopen or if one will be prioritized based on infrastructure and security assessments.

The pilgrimage to Kailash Mansarovar in Tibet is considered sacred by Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Bon followers. The Yatra attracts hundreds of Indian devotees annually, and its resumption would mark a significant moment in India-China people-to-people relations—despite continued political and military friction.

Observers note that the reopening of the Yatra could also signal a thaw in bilateral ties, which have remained strained post-2020. However, Indian officials are cautious and stress that any progress on the Yatra does not substitute for broader diplomatic resolution on border issues.

India to Grow 6.5%, Tops Globally

India is set to grow by 6.5% in 2025, retaining its position as the fastest-growing major economy, according to the latest report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Despite a slight dip from the estimated 6.9% growth in 2024, India’s economy continues to show strong momentum driven by robust public spending and a supportive monetary policy environment.

The report, titled Trade and Development Foresights 2025 – Under Pressure: Uncertainty Reshapes Global Economic Prospects, was released on Wednesday. It warns of a slowing global economy, with worldwide growth projected to shrink to 2.3% in 2025 due to rising trade tensions, financial instability, and pervasive economic uncertainty.

UNCTAD attributed India’s resilience to recent economic decisions, including the Reserve Bank of India’s move in February to cut interest rates by 25 basis points—the first such cut in five years. The rate cut is expected to stimulate household consumption and encourage private sector investment, contributing to the country’s growth trajectory.

South Asia as a region is forecast to grow at 5.6% in 2025. This outlook is bolstered by declining inflation rates, which allow central banks in the region to adopt more accommodative monetary policies. However, UNCTAD cautioned that food price volatility



and complex debt challenges continue to weigh on economies like Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The global economic environment, the report notes, is under strain. Escalating trade disputes and unpredictable policy shifts are disrupting supply chains, delaying investments, and reducing job creation. Trade policy uncertainty is reportedly at its highest in decades.

For developing nations, particularly the most vulnerable ones, the risks are amplified. Many face a trifecta of external financial stress, high debt burdens, and slowing domestic growth—posing serious threats to their developmental progress.

Amid this turbulence, UNCTAD highlights the growing importance of South-South trade. With developing countries now accounting for about one-third of global trade, deeper economic integration among them could offer much-needed resilience and growth opportunities in the coming years.

SC Questions Inclusion of Non-Muslims in Waqf Bodies

The Supreme Court on Wednesday raised critical questions about the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, particularly challenging the constitutional validity of allowing non-Muslims to be part of waqf administrative bodies. A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna conducted a detailed two-hour hearing on a batch of nearly 100 petitions challenging the contentious law.

The court asked the Centre whether Muslims could be permitted to serve on the governing boards of Hindu religious endowments, drawing a sharp comparison to the provisions now allowing non-Muslims to participate in waqf governance. “Can there be reciprocal participation? Would the same principle apply in Hindu endowments?” the Bench inquired, urging the government to respond.

The 2025 amendment, passed earlier this year, has stirred significant controversy. It de-recognized the category of “waqf-by-user”—a status historically granted to properties used informally but continuously for religious or community purposes—and granted state governments the authority to determine whether a property belongs to the Waqf Board or is government-owned.

One of the most contentious changes introduced by the Act is the inclusion of non-Muslims in waqf administrative bodies, a move critics argue violates the religious autonomy guaranteed under Article 26 of the Constitution. The petitioners argued that such provisions infringe upon the minority community’s right to manage its own religious institutions.



During the proceedings, CJI Khanna expressed concern over recent communal violence in West Bengal, which has been linked to tensions arising from the Act’s enforcement. He described the reports as “very disturbing” and said the situation demanded careful judicial scrutiny.

The Centre, represented by the Solicitor General, defended the law as a reform measure aimed at improving transparency and administration in waqf properties, but the Bench sought clearer justifications for the sweeping changes.

The court has reserved further hearings for next month and asked the government to file a detailed response. The case could have far-reaching implications on the interpretation of religious rights, minority protections, and state intervention in religious institutions across India.

China now faces up to 245% tariffs from US: White House

- **China hits back with 125% tariffs and export restrictions on key materials.**
- **Despite tensions, China posts 5.4% Q1 growth and strong industrial output.**
- **China seeks backing from India and EU to counter US pressure.**

TPN Correspondent | Washington

The trade war between the United States and China has escalated further, with the US announcing a 245% tariff on Chinese goods. The White House attributed the move to China's retaliatory actions, as tensions continue to mount between the two global superpowers. The announcement coincided with President Donald Trump authorizing an investigation into the national security risks posed by the US reliance on imported critical minerals, such as cobalt, lithium, nickel, and rare-earth metals, used in smartphones, electric vehicle batteries, and military equipment.

Trump's executive order highlights the US's dependence on foreign sources for these materials, warning that such reliance makes the country vulnerable to supply chain disruptions. The White House argued that these risks threaten



national security, technological growth, and economic prosperity. In response to the growing tensions, the US had already imposed a 145% tariff on Chinese imports, while China retaliated with a 125% tariff on American goods and restrictions on the export of certain products used by aerospace and

military contractors.

On the Chinese side, a senior official acknowledged that the US tariffs were exerting pressure on China. However, China's economy showed resilience, with first-quarter growth exceeding expectations at 5.4%, industrial output rising

by 6.5%, and retail sales climbing 4.6% year-on-year. Despite these positive figures, Beijing warned that the global economic environment was becoming increasingly complex and severe, calling for more efforts to stimulate growth and consumption.

President Trump, however, maintained that China must take the first step in negotiations, stating that "the ball is in China's court." He has repeatedly criticized China, along with other countries such as India and Brazil, for imposing higher tariffs on American goods than the US imposes on theirs.

In response, China has imposed its own tariffs and restrictions, including a suspension of imports of sorghum, poultry, and bone-meat from the US. The tariff war has also led Beijing to seek support from India and the European Union, as it seeks to counterbalance US economic influence.



Biden Slams Trump Administration's Social Security Overhaul, Warns of Lasting Damage

TPN Correspondent | Newyork

In his first public address since leaving office, former U.S. President Joe Biden strongly criticized the Trump administration's handling of the Social Security Administration (SSA), calling recent changes "destructive" and "breath-taking" in scale. While Biden refrained from naming Donald Trump directly, his remarks at the National Conference of Advocates, Counsellors and Representatives for the Disabled (ACRD) in Chicago were pointed and unambiguous.

Biden alleged that the current administration—led in part by tech billionaire Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency—is pushing through a massive overhaul of the SSA, resulting in significant staff reductions and drastic policy shifts. "There are 7,000 employees out the door already. They're about to push thousands more," Biden said, expressing concern over how these actions are affecting millions of Americans who rely on the agency.

The former president likened the administration's approach to that of a disruptive startup, saying, "They're following that old line from tech startups—'move fast, break things.' Well, they're certainly breaking things." He further condemned the effects of these personnel cuts, especially in the agency's tech division, which he claimed had been "cut in half," leading to website crashes and limited access to critical online services.

Biden also accused Republicans of undermining Social Security as a strategic move to raid its trust fund to finance tax cuts for billionaires and large corporations. "They want to wreck it so they can rob it," he asserted, warning that the push to make the 2017 tax cuts permanent could cost the nation \$5 trillion, further inflating the national debt.

Addressing the growing political divide, Biden said, "It's never been this bad. Roughly 30% of this country has no heart. But we can't walk away from fairness—that's the America we believe in."

In response, the Social Security Administration denied Biden's claims, accusing him of "lying" and asserting that Trump remains committed to protecting Social Security, citing a \$16.5 million investment in modernizing phone services and a proposal to eliminate taxation on benefits.

India Rejects Religious-Based Parameters for UN Security Council Reform

Advocates Regional Representation

TPN Correspondent | United Nations

India has strongly opposed attempts to introduce new parameters like religion and faith for representation in a reformed United Nations Security Council (UNSC), asserting that this approach undermines the established principle of regional representation. India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador P. Harish, made this statement during the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) on UNSC reform, emphasizing that regional representation has been the accepted basis for UN representation.

Harish noted that efforts to stall meaningful UNSC reforms, such as claims that a larger Security Council would be inefficient, were misguided. He argued that a reformed Council with proper working methods and accountability mechanisms



would be effective in addressing global challenges. Harish further stressed that without expanding both permanent and non-permanent categories, any reform would fail to address the fundamental inequities of the existing system, perpetuating the status quo.

Speaking on behalf of the G4 nations—Brazil, Germany, Japan, and India—Harish reaffirmed that regional representation remains

crucial for UNSC reform. The G4 rejected the introduction of religious affiliation as a criterion for representation, calling such proposals counterproductive and overly complex. The G4 nations highlighted the outdated nature of the current UNSC structure, asserting that the geopolitical landscape has drastically changed since the Council's formation, necessitating reform. The G4's proposed reform model calls for an increase in the number

of Council members from 15 to 25 or 26, with 11 permanent members and 14 or 15 non-permanent members. India, having served as a non-permanent member in 2021-22, emphasized that expanding only the non-permanent category would not shift the power dynamics within the Council, reinforcing the dominance of existing permanent members.

Additionally, the G4 stressed the importance of text-based negotiations for achieving real UNSC reforms, urging the UN Chair to initiate these negotiations promptly. The Group reiterated that the decision on permanent membership must be made democratically by the General Assembly. Meanwhile, the Uniting for Consensus (UfC) group and the Arab bloc voiced their own positions on expanding non-permanent seats and ensuring equitable Arab representation, respectively.

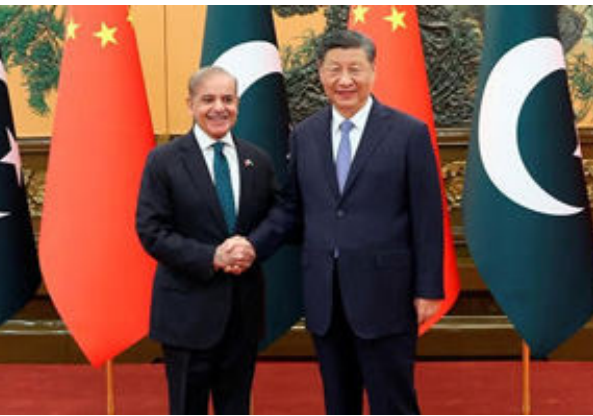
Shehbaz Sharif Hails China as Pakistan's 'Most Sincere Friend' for IMF Bailout Support

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Terming China as Pakistan's "most sincere friend," Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday expressed deep gratitude towards Beijing for its vital role in securing Pakistan's recent agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Speaking at a ceremony organized for Pakistani agriculture graduates selected for specialized training in China, Sharif highlighted the critical nature of China's economic support in stabilizing the country's struggling economy.

Under the new initiative, 1,000 Pakistani agriculture graduates will be trained in China in advanced farming techniques, digital crop management, and climate-resilient agricultural practices. The program will roll out in phases, with the first batch of 300 students set to depart soon for a three-month training course. Two more groups will follow over the next year.

Sharif praised China's continuous support, noting particularly the one-year extension of a \$2 billion loan repayment granted last month, which helped bolster Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves during a period of acute financial strain. This move, alongside financial backing from Saudi Arabia and the UAE, enabled Pakistan to secure a \$7 billion bailout package



from the IMF in September 2024, staving off a looming balance of payments crisis.

"China is Pakistan's most sincere friend and it played a decisive role in stabilising Pakistan's struggling economy," the Prime Minister said. He emphasized that the IMF bailout would not have been possible without China's unwavering assistance.

Reflecting on his recent visit to China, Sharif shared that he was impressed by the advancements in agricultural research and innovation in Chinese universities. Inspired by what he witnessed, he initiated the program to send Pakistani students to learn and benefit from China's expertise.

Israeli Fighter Jet Drops Munition Near Gaza Border Community Due to Technical Malfunction

An Israeli Air Force fighter jet unintentionally dropped a munition near the southern Israeli community of Nir Yitzhak, located close to the Gaza border, due to a technical malfunction, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) confirmed on Tuesday. Fortunately, no injuries or casualties were reported.

In an official statement, the IDF said, "A short while ago, a munition fell from an IDF fighter jet that was on its way to a mission in the Gaza Strip. The munition landed in an open area near Nir Yitzhak due to a technical malfunction."

The incident occurred approximately two miles from the Gaza border, in a largely unpopulated area adjacent to the 550-resident community, according to Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics. Emergency protocols were swiftly activated, and military units secured the area to ensure public safety.

The mishap coincided with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's rare visit to Gaza, where he met with troops in northern Gaza amid the military's ongoing operations in the region. Addressing soldiers on the frontlines, Netanyahu declared, "They are striking the enemy and Hamas will continue to suffer blow after blow. We insist that they release our hostages and we insist on achieving all of our war objectives." The IDF resumed its offensive against Hamas on March 18, effectively end-



ing a two-month ceasefire that had briefly de-escalated hostilities. Since then, Israeli forces have made significant territorial advances across Gaza, leading to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of residents amid intensified air and ground assaults.

Top Israeli officials, including Netanyahu, have maintained that only sustained military pressure will compel Hamas to release the remaining hostages held since the conflict began. The war, which has resulted in extensive casualties and destruction, continues to draw international attention and concern over the humanitarian toll.

The IDF has launched an investigation into the technical failure that caused the accidental munition drop, aiming to prevent similar incidents during ongoing and future operations.

Markets Rebound as Nifty Breaks 23,300; Banking & FMCG Lead Rally Amid Tariff Relief

Domestic stock markets gained moderately on Wednesday. The benchmark indices, which initially moved in a range-bound manner, recovered after noon. Investors continued to invest in banking, media, oil and FMCG stocks. They were especially enthusiastic about buying large-cap stocks. Overall, the indices recovered to the extent that the level of implementation of Donald Trump's tariffs fell. Nifty rose by 108 points and Sensex by 309 points. It is noteworthy that Nifty broke the 23,300 resistance.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 76,734 in the previous session, opened at 76,996 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 76,543. It reached an intraday high of 77,110. It finally closed at 77,044 with a gain of 309 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,344, touched a low of 23,273 and a high of 23,452. It closed at 23,437, up 108 points. The Nifty Bank rose 738 points to settle at 53,117.

In the Nifty50, 33 companies gained while 17 lost. IndusInd, Axis Bank, ONGC, Trent, Adani Ports were the top gainers. Maruti, Hindalco, Tata Motors, Infi, NTPC lost the most. Today, PSU Bank, Media, Private Bank, Oil, Finance, FMCG, Realty, Consumption, Metal indices gained the most. Pharma, Healthcare, Auto indices lost slightly.

The market breadth on NSE today completely shifted in favor of buyers. Out of 2977 stocks traded, 2068 gained and 834 lost. 54 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 11 stocks touched their 52-week lows. 126 reached the upper circuit and 30 reached the lower circuit.



The rupee strengthened slightly against the dollar and settled at 85.68. Nuama has given a buy rating to ICICI Lombard with a target price of Rs. 2100. It is noteworthy that ICICI Prudential Life has been given a neutral rating with a target price of Rs. 650. Aditya Birla Real Estate has been given a buy rating with a target price of Rs. 2700. China has announced that it will be ready for talks if Donald Trump respects it. Swaraj Engine's net profit in Q4 grew by 29% to Rs 45.4 crore from Rs 35.2 crore. Caffeine Technologies acquired 51% stake in Ascent Fund Services. Crude oil prices fell today. Gold prices crossed Rs 95,000 and reached a lifetime high. ICICI Prudential Life's net profit rose by 122.3% to Rs 386 crore from Rs 173.6 crore. Max India will raise Rs 125 crore through rights issue. GAIL has reduced APM gas allocation to Adani Total Gas by 15%. Birla Estates has registered a booking value of Rs 8,000 crore in FY25.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL)

BPCL has been showing strength lately, supported by a fall in glob-

al crude oil prices and strong refining margins. The stock saw a rebound from recent lows due to investor optimism about government support to offset any losses from falling crude. Analysts like HSBC have maintained a Buy rating. Positive in the medium term, especially if crude oil prices stay subdued. Watch for Q4 results and further government decisions on oil marketing policies.



Emami Ltd

The stock has remained steady with minor volatility. Emami is expanding its product range in the Ayurveda and personal care segments. The company has seen consistent rural demand despite market fluctuations. Long-term outlook remains stable, backed by strong brand recall and diversified FMCG portfolio. A good defensive stock in volatile markets.



Mankind Pharma

Mankind Pharma has shown resilience and out-performance in the pharma sector. The company reported strong earnings and robust growth in chronic therapies. Expanding in international markets and increasing focus on OTC products. Positive growth trajectory. Strong fundamentals and domestic market share make it a good long-term candidate.



Indian Bank

The stock has been performing in line with other PSU banks. Q4 results expected to reflect improvement in asset quality and loan book growth. Benefiting from government's push for PSU bank reform and credit growth. Positive, though subject to interest rate trends and macroeconomic stability. Valuations remain attractive among PSU banks.



Sundaram Finance

The stock is seeing steady investor interest due to its conservative lending and strong financials. Asset quality remains robust with controlled NPAs. Growth driven by vehicle finance and infrastructure loans. Stable and consistent performer. A good option for long-term investors looking for quality NBFCs



India's Organic Exports Surge 34.6% in FY 2024-25 to Reach USD 665.96 Million



India's organic product exports witnessed a robust growth of 34.6% in the financial year 2024-25, rising to USD 665.96 million from USD 494.8 million in the previous fiscal, according to data released by the Commerce Ministry. This sharp increase is attributed to rising global demand for Indian organic products, particularly in developed markets, including categories like pulses, essential oils, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

In terms of volume, exports grew over 4% to reach 368,155 tonnes during the fiscal. Officials noted that this upward trend reflects increasing international preference for Indian organic items, supported by consistent quality and compliance with global standards. The demand surge has opened new avenues for Indian farmers and exporters to strengthen their presence in key markets.

Among the key segments driving this growth, organic pulses stood out with exports increasing to USD 17.89 million in 2024-25 from just USD 5.25 million in the previous year. Organic essential oils also witnessed a jump in demand, with exports rising to USD 12.35 million from USD 4.52 million. Similarly, exports of fresh fruits and vegetables climbed to USD 9.2 million, doubling from USD 4.52 million in 2023-24.

To further enhance India's organic export potential, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has made significant revisions to the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP). These changes aim to make the regulatory framework more farmer-friendly while aligning it with global standards to support the country's target of reaching USD 2 billion in organic food exports by 2030.

The NPOP serves as India's central standard for organic production and certification, ensuring harmonisation with international regulations. Its credibility has been crucial in enabling Indian organic products to access foreign markets with ease. With increasing export figures and policy reforms in place, India's organic sector is poised for further expansion, offering both economic and environmental benefits.

US Tariffs on China Open Rare Export Opportunity for Indian Small Manufacturers: GTRI Report

The recent imposition of a 125 per cent import tariff by the United States on Chinese goods has unexpectedly created a rare short-term export window for Indian small manufacturers, according to a new report by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) released on Wednesday.

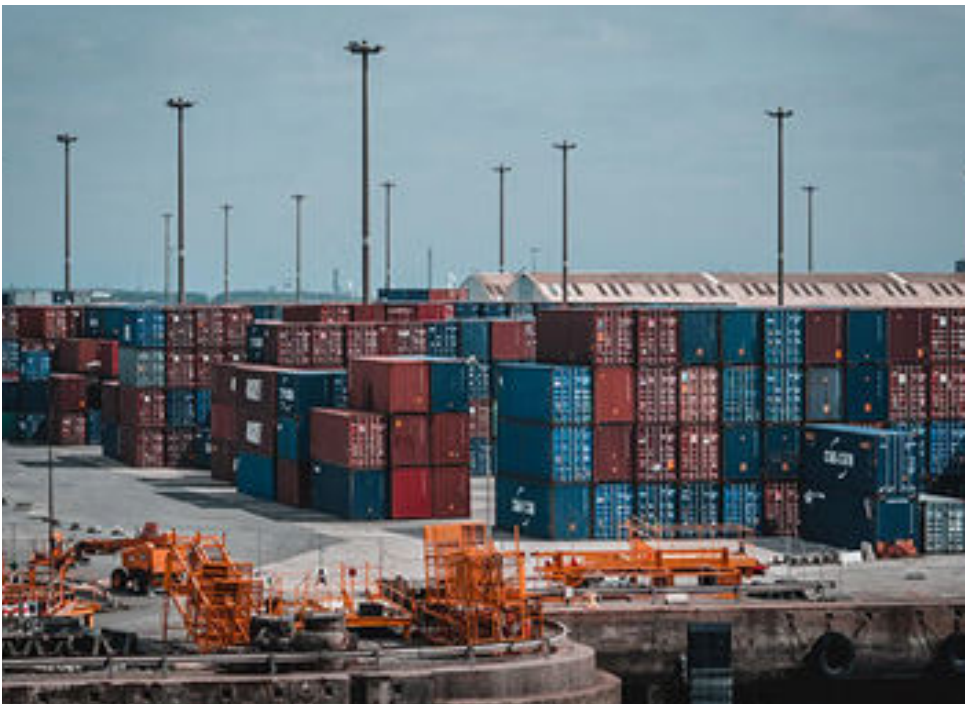
The GTRI notes that this sharp increase in US tariffs presents an opening for Indian producers to expand their presence in the American market, particularly in sectors where China has traditionally dominated. In 2024, the US imported over \$148 billion worth of tariffed goods, with China accounting for \$105.9 billion, nearly 72 per cent of the total. By contrast, India's share was just \$4.3 billion, or 2.9 per cent.

"Indian producers already manufacture many of these products—such as locks, plasticware, and kitchenware—but largely at a small scale," the GTRI said. With the right government support, including export incentives, easier access to financing, and compliance certifications, Indian MSMEs could scale up to meet demand in the US market.

Among the high-potential products identified for export growth are:

Fireworks: US imports worth \$581 million annually, with China supplying 96.7%. India's current share is just \$0.24 million.

Plastic tableware and kitchenware: US imports total \$4.97 billion,



with China contributing 80%. India's share is 0.49% (\$171.65 million). Rising post-tariff prices (from \$1.25–\$16 to \$2.81–\$36) offer scope for clusters in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman, and Gujarat to step in.

Locks: US imports are worth \$1.196 billion, with China supplying 66.3%. India's current share is \$30.7 million (2.57%).

Hand tools (pliers, spanners): US market worth \$1.138 billion. China holds 52.9%, while India contributes 17.7% (\$202 million).

The GTRI stressed that to capitalise on this limited-time opportunity, India's small-scale industrial base must rap-

idly build capacity and scale. The report recommends:

Enhancing RoDTEP and duty drawback rates for key products.

Assistance from DPIIT and MSME Ministry to modernise clusters and meet US standards.

Launching an online facilitation cell to guide MSMEs through compliance and regulatory hurdles in the US market.

The window may not stay open for long, the report warned, underscoring the need for swift and coordinated action.

Sensex and Nifty Rebound as Banking Stocks Lead Rally; FIIs Return Amid Cooling Inflation

The Indian stock markets staged a strong comeback on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, reversing early losses to close firmly in the green. The benchmark BSE Sensex surged over 300 points to settle just below the 77,050 mark, while the NSE Nifty50 advanced more than 100 points to end the session at 23,437.



This positive shift in market sentiment was primarily driven by renewed buying in heavyweight banking stocks and the return of foreign institutional investors (FIIs). The upbeat mood was further supported by encouraging macroeconomic data, particularly retail inflation, which dropped to a nearly six-year low in March. This has sparked hopes of additional rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the near future.

Among the top gainers on the 30-share Sensex were IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank, Adani Ports, Asian Paints, and Bharti Airtel. On the flip side, Maruti Suzuki, Infosys, Tata Motors, Larsen & Toubro (L&T), and NTPC ended the session with losses.

The broader market also reflected bullish trends, with the Nifty Bank index rising 1.41 per cent. Sector-wise, the PSU Bank index outperformed with a 2.37 per cent gain, followed by the Media index, which climbed 1.88 per cent.

Exchange data revealed that FIIs made a strong comeback, pumping in Rs

6,065.78 crore into Indian equities on Tuesday. This infusion of foreign capital played a crucial role in boosting investor confidence.

Commenting on the market movement, Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, stated, "Despite global market consolidation and escalating tariff tensions, Indian markets showed resilience. The drop in consumer price inflation (CPI) to near six-year lows has strengthened expectations of future rate cuts, adding a layer of optimism."

He also noted that while the earnings season has begun on a quiet note, investor caution may lead to profit-booking at higher levels.

On the global front, European markets traded in the red, mirroring the trend in US markets from the previous session. Asian markets were mixed, with indices in South Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong closing lower, while China's Shanghai Composite ended in positive territory. Meanwhile, Brent crude rose 0.91 per cent to \$65.22 per barrel.

Why Bullet Trains Look Like Birds

As India anticipates the arrival of its first bullet train, one feature continues to intrigue the public: its long, bird-like nose. More than just a striking design, this aerodynamic shape is rooted in nature — inspired by the kingfisher bird.

Bullet trains, especially Japan's Shinkansen models, are known to reach speeds up to 300 km/h. At such high velocities, early models encountered a problem: a loud sonic boom whenever the train entered a tunnel. The air pressure built up and exploded out the other end, causing discomfort and concern among people living nearby.

The breakthrough came in the 1990s, thanks to Eiji Nakatsu, an engineer at Central Japan Railway and an avid birdwatcher. Observing how kingfishers dive into water with barely a splash, Nakatsu saw the potential for a similar design in trains. The kingfisher's beak, perfectly evolved to cut through both air and water with minimal resistance, became the inspiration for a revolutionary redesign.

By reshaping the train's nose to mimic the kingfisher's beak, engineers managed to eliminate tunnel booms, reduce air resistance, and improve energy efficiency. The latest Japanese ALFA-X Shinkansen even features a 22-meter-long nose, not just for style, but to improve stability, comfort, and safety. This innovation has since influenced bullet



trains around the world. While metros like Delhi's do not require such features due to lower speeds and frequent stops, even they create air displacement felt as gusts on platforms — a reminder of the physics at play. India's Vande Bharat trains are also adopting similar aerodynamic designs, blending speed with efficiency. Their pointed noses are more than just sleek — they reflect the global shift toward nature-inspired, energy-efficient transport design. Ultimately, what began as a problem in train noise evolved into a symbol of biomimicry, showing how solutions in engineering often come from the natural world.

Pilot's Chicken Joke Delights Passengers

A Delta Air Lines pilot has gone viral for turning a routine safety announcement into a hilarious and heartfelt moment mid-flight, leaving passengers — and now social media users — smiling from ear to ear. The now-popular video, captured by a passenger and shared widely online, shows the pilot standing in the aisle addressing everyone with a mix of professionalism and personal charm. After reassuring travelers about the safety of the flight, he added a funny and very relatable twist.

"Once again, I can assure you that we are going to do things absolutely 100% safe, secure, and get you there," the pilot began. Then, with perfect comedic timing, he added, "I am married – 33 years. My wife, 4 kids, 2 dogs, 8 chickens. She is tired of going out and taking care of those chickens in the cold."

The unexpected confession drew immediate laughter from passengers, creating a light, cheerful atmosphere on board. Viewers online were equally delighted, praising the pilot's humor and sincerity, with many calling the announcement "the most relatable thing ever." While flight safety announcements are generally serious, it's not uncommon for crew members to use humor to put passengers at ease — and this pilot nailed it. His quirky comment not only reassured passengers but also reminded everyone that pilots, too, have lives and loved ones waiting for them at home. Social media users have flooded the comment



sections with praise, saying the airline should promote more such moments to improve the in-flight experience. Some even joked that they'd feel safer flying with a pilot who needs to get home to chickens. In a world where travel can often be stressful, moments like this help lighten the mood — proving that sometimes, a little humor and honesty can go a long way.

Dolo-650: India's Go-To Pain Pill

A witty observation by a doctor has gone viral on social media, shining a spotlight on India's growing dependence on the popular over-the-counter pill, Dolo-650. Dr. Palaniappan Manickam, a gastroenterologist and health educator, remarked that "Indians take Dolo-650 like it's Cadbury Gems," comparing the frequent use of the pill to the way children snack on colourful candies — casually and frequently.

While humorous, his comment reflects a serious trend. Dolo-650, a paracetamol-based medication, has become a household name across India, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic. Its effectiveness in managing fever, headaches, and body aches made it a go-to remedy during mass vaccination drives, when



people were advised to take paracetamol to ease post-vaccine symptoms. The pill contains 650 mg of paracetamol and works by blocking the release of prostaglandins — chemicals that trigger pain, inflammation, and fever. Though it is safe when used within recommended doses, doctors warn

against the casual or excessive intake of Dolo-650 without proper medical guidance. Health experts are increasingly concerned about India's pill-popping culture, particularly the tendency to self-medicate. Overuse of paracetamol can lead to liver damage, especially if taken in large amounts or mixed with

other medications that stress the liver. Despite its reputation as a "safe" drug, like all medicines, Dolo-650 carries risks if misused.

According to Forbes, pharmaceutical company Micro Labs has sold over 350 crore tablets of Dolo-650, a staggering figure that underscores the scale of its consumption across the country. While the medicine continues to serve a vital role in everyday healthcare, medical professionals urge the public to exercise caution and consult a doctor when symptoms persist.

In a country where access to medication is often easier than access to healthcare, the Dolo-650 phenomenon is a reminder of how critical responsible drug use is — even with the most familiar of pills.

Influencer's Tiger Kiss Sparks Outrage



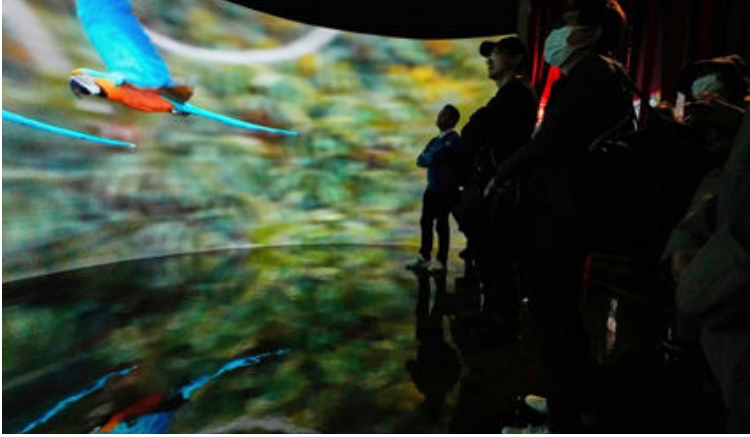
A viral video of a Pakistani influencer attempting to kiss a chained tiger has triggered a heated debate online, with critics slamming the act as reckless, unethical, and dangerous. The video, posted on Instagram by Lahore-based content creator **Nouman Hassan**, shows him leaning in to kiss the tranquil-looking tiger, which remains chained and still throughout the stunt.

While some users praised Hassan's boldness, the majority of viewers were alarmed. Comments ranged from expressions of fear to calls for accountability. "This is dangerous," wrote one user, while another added, "Tigers are not pets. Wild animals need respect, not performance." The video has garnered more than **230,000 views** since it was shared and has reignited conversations around the private ownership of exotic animals in Pakistan. Despite wildlife protection laws that prohibit keeping animals like tigers and leopards as pets, enforcement remains weak, allowing the illegal trade and private captivity of such creatures to continue largely unchecked. This isn't the first time Hassan has stirred controversy. In previous videos, he's been seen **riding a tiger**, guiding it through an open space, with caged lions visible in the background. Another clip showed him sitting casually next to a cheetah on a couch. The cheetah quickly reacted, scratching him and forcing him to retreat — a moment that only intensified concerns about the treatment and safety of exotic animals in domestic environments. Animal rights activists have raised serious concerns over the welfare of these creatures. Captive wild animals are often kept in cramped, inadequate conditions, lacking proper nutrition, stimulation, and medical care.

Osaka Expo 2025 Opens with Vision

The much-awaited Expo 2025 in Osaka officially opened on Sunday with a grand musical performance where over 10,000 people sang Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, symbolizing global peace and unity. The international event is expected to run for six months and aims to bring the world together at a time marked by international tensions and conflicts.

Held on Yumeshima Island—a reclaimed area in Osaka Bay once used as an industrial waste landfill—the Expo carries the theme "Designing Future Society for Our Lives." This ambitious project envisions a world transformed through innovation, sustainability, and cooperation. The exposition is a massive collaboration with over 150 countries and global organizations participating, making it a significant international affair. Japan hopes this event will present futuristic ideas and encourage global



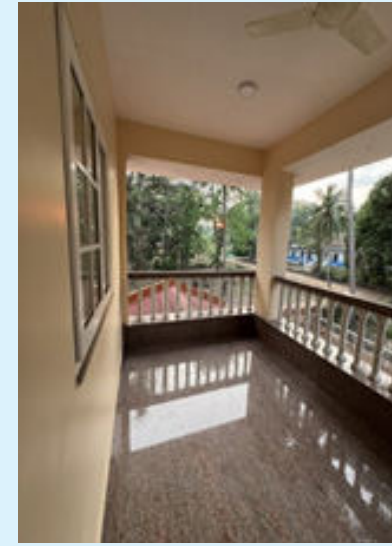
partnerships to tackle modern-day problems like climate change, energy scarcity, aging populations, and healthcare challenges. Exhibits will focus on cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, biotechnology, clean energy, and smart city concepts. The Expo promises to offer not

just displays but immersive experiences, including virtual environments and AI-guided tours.

This is Osaka's second time hosting a World Expo, the first being in 1970, which introduced visitors to innovations like video phones and moving walkways. The 2025 edition seeks to be even more groundbreaking, showcasing practical technologies designed to improve everyday life.

Japan also views the Expo as a chance to rejuvenate its tourism sector and boost the regional economy, particularly in the Kansai area. Millions of international and domestic visitors are expected to attend over the next six months.

In essence, the Osaka Expo 2025 offers more than just exhibitions—it serves as a global stage for shaping ideas, building collaborations, and imagining the societies of tomorrow.



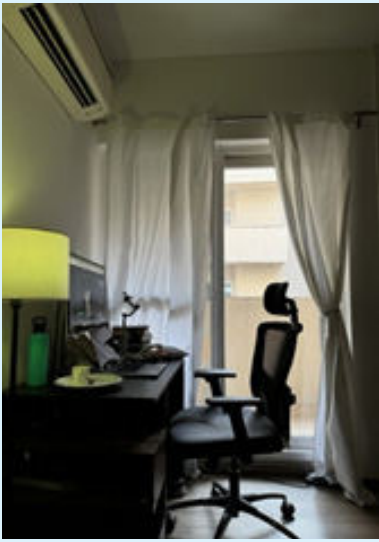
Man Swaps Noida for Cheaper Goa

A recent social media post has gone viral after a man shared his experience of relocating from Noida to Goa, highlighting the massive difference in his monthly rent and quality of life. The man, who goes by Raj on X (formerly Twitter), posted a side-by-side comparison of his old apartment in Noida and his new home in Goa. In Noida, he was shelling out ₹64,000 a month for a flat that offered a rather dull view. He had earlier shared a sarcastic photo of that view, jokingly

calling it "dreamy" while sitting in the balcony. Now, Raj has moved to Goa, and his rent has dropped to just ₹19,000 per month. He also posted a picture of his new place, which features a covered patio and overlooks a peaceful stretch of trees. In the caption, he said, "Update: moved to Goa. 19k/month rent is so worth it." When asked about the shift in lifestyle and amenities, Raj shared that he moved only two weeks ago and found his apartment

last week. He mentioned that the transition has been smooth and that he hasn't experienced any hostility from the locals so far. Another follower asked about practical issues like WiFi and power cuts. Raj responded positively, saying the apartment comes with an inverter and a working internet connection, already set up by the landlord. His post prompted others to join the conversation. One person shared, "I also moved from Noida to South Goa in 2023. Pay-

ing ₹15,000 for a fully furnished 2BHK!" The post reflects a larger trend among young professionals and remote workers, who are choosing places like Goa for affordability, better surroundings, and relaxed living—something city life often lacks. Raj's decision to swap a high-rent metro for a quieter, more affordable location resonates with many seeking a better work-life balance in today's remote-first world.





Delhi Capitals Edge Rajasthan Royals in Super Over Thriller

In a nail-biting IPL 2025 encounter on April 16 at Delhi's Arun Jaitley Stadium, Delhi Capitals (DC) clinched victory over Rajasthan Royals (RR) in a Super Over after both teams scored 188 in their allotted 20 overs.

DC's innings was anchored by Abhishek Porel's 49 off 37 balls, while RR's chase was led by Yashasvi Jaiswal's half-century. With

the match tied, the Super Over saw DC successfully chasing down RR's target, securing a dramatic win.

This thrilling finish marks the first Super Over of the IPL 2025 season, showcasing the competitive spirit and excitement the tournament brings to cricket fans worldwide.

IGU Hosts National Golf Camp Ahead of German International Amateur



The Indian Golf Union (IGU) has launched a national squad camp at Jaypee Greens from April 14 to 19, gathering 10 of the country's top amateur golfers. The camp serves as preparation for the German International Amateur Championship, set for May 1-4 at the Berliner Golf & Country Club Motzener in Mittenwalde.

Selected talents include Arin Ahuja, Rakshit Dahiya, Sukhman Singh, Kanav Chauhan, and others. The IGU initiated the National Squad System last year to

enhance India's global golf presence.

IGU Director General Maj. Gen. Bibhuti Bhushan (Retd) emphasized the camp's holistic approach—combining technical training with fitness, physiotherapy, sports psychology, and nutrition.

Golfer Sukhman Singh praised the initiative, saying it provides world-class support to help athletes grow stronger physically and mentally. The camp also fosters team spirit, a vital element for international success.

Suruchi Singh Clinches Second Straight World Cup Gold; Silver for Manu Bhaker

Teen sensation Suruchi Inder Singh continued her golden streak, winning her second consecutive ISSF World Cup gold in the women's 10m air pistol event in Lima, Peru. The 18-year-old from Jhajjar tallied 243.6 in the 24-shot final, outshining Olympic medalist Manu Bhaker, who took silver, finishing 1.3 points behind. China's Yao Qianxun claimed bronze.

India topped the medal standings with three medals on the day, including a bronze from Saurabh Chaudhary in the men's 10m air pistol. Suruchi and Manu had shown strong form in qualification, finishing second and fourth, respectively. In the finals, Suruchi's consistency and high 10s proved



decisive, as Manu faltered slightly in the latter stages.

Manu congratulated Suruchi, expressing pride in the progress of In-

dian shooters. Suruchi's meteoric rise, which began at the nationals last December, cements her status as a rising star in Indian shooting.

Pomona Fairgrounds to Host Cricket at LA28 Olympics After 128-Year Gap

Cricket is set to return to the Olympic stage at the 2028 Los Angeles Games, with the fairgrounds in Pomona, Southern California, officially announced as the host venue. This marks the sport's Olympic comeback after a 128-year hiatus.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has approved six men's and six women's teams for the T20 format, with 90-player quotas per gender. Each team can field up to 15 players. The complete tournament schedule will be released closer to the Games.

ICC Chair Jay Shah hailed the development as a major milestone, noting that cricket's inclusion in the fast-paced T20 format will help captivate new global audiences. He also thanked LA28 and the IOC for their support.

Cricket's Olympic return was confirmed in October 2023, alongside baseball/softball, flag football, lacrosse (sixes), and squash. T20 cricket has previously featured in events like the Asian Games and the 2022 Commonwealth Games.



Chennai's Rivaan Dev Preetham Shines in Spanish Karting Series

Chennai's 11-year-old karting prodigy Rivaan Dev Preetham impressed once again at Round 2 of the Champions of the Future Academy Programme in Spain. The only Indian to win a race at the FIA Motorsport Games, Rivaan overcame early setbacks to secure P11 in the first final and P5 in the second heat among 37 global competitors.

Despite a poor qualifying due to strategy missteps, the reigning Micro Max National champion bounced back with



a best lap of 1:02.442 and finished P11 in the second final, earning 22 points overall. Backed by Redbrick Constructions, Sankar Group, and Chaicup, the Grade 6 student from Lady Andal House of Children is targeting a third consecutive national title this year.

Having also placed 8th overall in the 2024 World Motorsport Games, Rivaan now looks ahead to Round 3 in Italy (July 2-6), followed by races in Hungary, Qatar, and Abu Dhabi.

Jharkhand, Punjab FC Win Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 Titles

Jharkhand FA and Punjab FC emerged as champions at the Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 National Finals held at the RAIA Sports Ground, Goa. In a spirited girls' final, Jharkhand edged past Odisha FA 1-0, thanks to Anamika Sanga's 20th-minute strike. Skipper Chandani Kumari led a resolute defence to secure the title.

In the boys' category, Punjab FC successfully defended their crown with a commanding 2-0 win over Mohun Bagan Super Giant. Subham Gurung opened the scoring in the 10th minute, while Ashish Lohar sealed the win with a second-half goal.

The event was graced by In-



dian football legends Subrata Paul and Bhaichung Bhutia, along with top Goan dignitaries. Chandani called the tournament a "perfect platform" for aspiring footballers, praising the organisation and expressing hopes of representing India one day. The Dream Sports Championship continues to spotlight grassroots football talent nationwide.

Hockey Punjab Clinch 15th Senior Men's National Championship Title

Hockey Punjab triumphed in the 15th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2025, defeating Hockey Madhya Pradesh 4-1 in the final held in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. Led by captain Hardik Singh and coach Rajinder Singh, Punjab avenged their only tournament loss to Madhya Pradesh, showcasing resilience and tactical maturity.

After finishing second in Pool A, Punjab edged out Hockey Haryana 3-2 in the quarters and secured a 4-3 semifinal win over hosts Uttar Pradesh. Jugraj Singh starred with five goals



overall, including a brace in the final, while Arajjeet Singh Hundal added three crucial goals throughout the tournament.

Coach Rajinder Singh described the earlier defeat as a turning point, saying it fueled the team's determination. Skipper Hardik praised the squad's unity and fighting spirit. Punjab, who were title-winners in 2023 but exited early last year, reclaimed their dominance in emphatic fashion.



Pawan Kalyan Film Faces Delay Again

Hari Hara Veera Mallu, starring Power Star Pawan Kalyan, is once again facing possible delays, making it one of the most postponed films in Telugu cinema history. Initially announced in January 2020, the film has already had six release date changes, with the latest scheduled for May 9, 2025.

However, fresh reports suggest the release may be pushed back again due to pending scenes and VFX work. Pawan Kalyan is also reportedly suffering from severe back pain, affecting the shoot schedule further. Despite no official word from the makers, fans are preparing for another disappointing delay.

The movie, directed by Krish Jagarlamudi and Jyoti Krishna, is produced by AM Ratnam and is planned in two parts. Nidhhi Agerwal plays the female lead in this long-awaited historical action drama, which has kept audiences waiting for over five years with no certainty of release in sight.

Rajamouli-Mahesh Film Glimpse Soon



Expectations are sky-high for director S.S. Rajamouli's next film with superstar Mahesh Babu. Touted as a global adventure drama, this marks Mahesh's 29th film. Though the makers have stayed silent so far—apart from a few leaked location photos—buzz is building rapidly among fans. According to sources, a glimpse video is now being planned. Unlike a simple title reveal, this teaser will showcase Rajamouli's grand vision with heavy graphics and a western cinematic style. It's expected to feature Mahesh's look and hint at the adventure elements of the story. Mahesh will reportedly play a world-traveling character—unlike anything seen before. The video may drop in June or July. Priyanka Chopra and Prithviraj Sukumaran are rumored to have key roles. M.M. Keeravani will compose the music, and KL Narayana is producing under Sri Durga Arts.

Suriya-Pooja's Retro Look Revealed

Kollywood star Suriya and Pooja Hegde team up for the much-awaited film "Retro", directed by Karthik Subbaraj. The movie is set to release on May 1, and expectations are high due to the fresh combination and unique concept. This marks Pooja's return to South cinema after a long gap.



The teaser received a strong response, and the recently released song further boosted the buzz. As the release nears, the makers unveiled a few on-set stills, which are now going viral. Suriya and Pooja sport retro looks that perfectly match the film's title. Pooja's vintage styling, in particular, has caught fans' attention. Produced by 2D Entertainment and Stone Bench Films, the film features a stellar cast including Nazari, Jayaram, Prakash Raj, Karunakaran, Vidyashankar, and Joju George. Following the Kanguva setback, Suriya fans are pinning hopes on this stylish period drama.

Tamannaah, Kalyan Ram Set for Clash

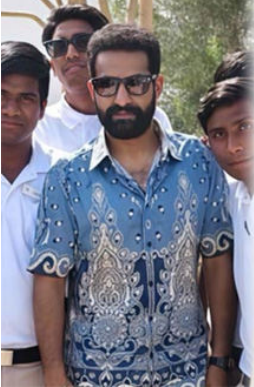


After a quiet few weeks at the box office, this weekend brings a promising double feature. First up is 'Odela 2', hitting screens on Thursday. The supernatural thriller stars Tamannaah and is directed by Sampath Nandi. The plot revolves around a restless soul wreaking havoc in a village until a divine feminine power intervenes. With strong promotions and buzz in trade circles, the film could follow the success path of Virupaksha or Ma Oori Polimera 2—if early reviews are positive.

On Friday, Kalyan Ram's 'Arjun S/O Vyjayanthi' makes its debut. Backed by Jr NTR, who also graced the pre-release event, the movie is generating strong interest. Touted as a commercial entertainer, the emotional climax featuring Vijayashanti is expected to strike a chord with audiences. Both films cater to different tastes—intense thriller vs emotional drama—and offer a refreshing break for cinema lovers, potentially making this a win-win weekend at the box office.

NTR's ₹85K Shirt Goes Viral

Young Tiger Jr NTR recently took a vacation to Dubai with his family. During the trip, a few lucky fans met him and clicked photos together. While NTR appeared simple in a blue floral shirt, the internet was quick to notice something unusual—the price of that shirt!



The shirt, from the luxury Italian brand Etro, is estimated to cost a whopping ₹85,000. This revelation left fans shocked, with many commenting, "Only NTR can pull this off!" and praising his classy style. On the film front, NTR has

wrapped up shooting for his Bollywood debut War 2. He is set to join director Prashanth Neel's next from April 22 and will later start working on Devara 2 with Koratala Siva. From fashion to films, NTR continues to stay in the spotlight.

Mrunal Thakur's Bold Floral Glam

Actress Mrunal Thakur is turning heads with her stunning appearance on the latest cover of Cosmopolitan India, just ahead of her upcoming film Dacoit with Adhvi Sesh. The movie revolves around two estranged lovers reunited by fate and a series of thrilling heists. But off-screen, Mrunal is making her own statement—not through action sequences, but through bold fashion choices and heartfelt honesty. For the shoot, she flaunts a mix of styles, from a sporty white mini dress with sneakers to a striking floral-back outfit, balancing street charm with high-end glam. Beyond the fashion, it's her candid take on love that resonates. Mrunal reveals she hasn't been dating lately but is inspired by deep, lasting love—the kind that endures across borders and battles odds. With this photoshoot, she proves she's as fearless in her expression as she is in her acting.

