



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 33 °C L 25 °C	H 35 °C L 26 °C	H 36 °C L 26 °C

Supreme Court Serious on Kancha Gachibowli Lands Issue

- Supreme Court orders immediate work halt.
- High Court to submit interim report.
- Government questioned on legal violations.
- Chief Secretary added as respondent.
- Next Supreme Court hearing April 16.
- High Court stay extended to April 7.



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Supreme Court has ordered an immediate halt to all activities on the disputed Kancha Gachibowli lands near the Hyderabad Central University (HCU). During a hearing today, the court directed the Telangana High Court to submit an interim report and adjourned the session until the afternoon.

At 3:40 PM, Justice Gavai's bench reviewed the High Court registrar's report and strongly questioned the state government on how it could take the law into its own hands.

Expressing serious concerns, the Supreme Court added the state's Chief Secretary as a respondent and demanded an explanation for the urgency in carrying out activities on the land. The court has ordered the Telangana government to file an affidavit and scheduled the next

hearing for April 16.

Meanwhile, the Telangana High Court has postponed the hearing on related petitions to April 7. Vat Foundation and HCU students had filed Public Interest Litigations (PILs) regarding the land. During yesterday's hearing, the High Court had ordered a one-day halt on all activities. In today's session, the Advocate General sought more time to file a counter, leading the court to extend the stay order until April 7.

Additionally, a petition was filed seeking an order to prevent the sale of the disputed land. The High Court acknowledged the request and postponed the hearing to April 7 while issuing notices to the government to submit a counter.

With the Supreme Court and High Court both taking strict stands, the issue of Kancha Gachibowli lands remains under intense legal scrutiny.

HCU Lands Issue: High Court Shocks Revanth Government

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

A petition was filed in the Telangana High Court seeking orders to prevent the sale of 400 acres of land in Kancha Gachibowli. The court postponed the hearing to April 7 and directed the government not to cut trees on the disputed land. It also issued notices to the government, instructing it to file a counter.

The petitioner's lawyer presented evidence in court, alleging that despite

the stay order, trees were being removed from the 400-acre land. The High Court took serious note of this and reiterated that no trees should be cut until further orders.

The sale of 400 acres near Hyderabad Central University (HCU) has sparked widespread protests. Students, opposition leaders, and activists are urging the government to withdraw its decision, fearing that the land will be turned into a concrete jungle. Several petitioners



have even approached the Supreme Court regarding this issue.

The Supreme Court is also set to hear the HCU land dispute today. It has directed the Telangana

High Court registrar to submit a report on the case. Additionally, the Supreme Court ordered the Chief Secretary to ensure that no trees are cut on the disputed land until

- High Court halts land sale temporarily.
- Trees must not be cut down.
- Government ordered to file counter.
- Protests against land sale continue.
- Supreme Court demands case report.

further orders.

With both the High Court and Supreme Court actively intervening, the Kancha Gachibowli land issue has become a major legal and political controversy in Telangana.



CM Orders Probe Into AI Videos, HCU Protests

- Police tracking viral video creators.
- Government denies HCU land destruction.
- Students protest against alleged deforestation.
- Vigilance investigates IPL ticket scandal.
- Cases filed against fake social media posts.

TPN, Correspondent | V.Krishnakumar

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has taken a serious stance on the Hyderabad Central University (HCU) controversy, ordering an investigation into viral social media videos and photos that allegedly depict the destruction of greenery and wildlife on the university

campus. The government claims these visuals were generated using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to mislead the public and provoke unrest.

Following the protests against the alleged destruction of a 400-acre green belt at HCU, videos surfaced on social media showing

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TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Supreme Court has expressed strong disapproval of Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's recent comments in the Assembly regarding by-elections. Revanth Reddy had stated that even if MLAs switch parties, there would be no by-elections in the state.

Justice B.R. Gavai reacted sharply, questioning why contempt notices were not issued when similar statements were

- Supreme Court questions Revanth Reddy's remarks.
- Statements undermine anti-defection law provisions.
- Court warns of possible contempt charges.
- Assembly statements hold legal significance.
- Revanth advised to exercise restraint

made earlier. He noted that since no action was taken previously, such remarks are being repeated. The judge advised the

Chief Minister to exercise restraint in his statements, warning that otherwise, his comments might be considered con-



tempt of court.

The Supreme Court observed that the remarks made by the Chief Minister in the Assembly un-

dermine the spirit of the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, which deals with

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BRS Vows to Reclaim HCU Land, Slams Congress Govt Over Controversy

- KTR accuses Congress of land grabbing.
- Warns buyers against purchasing disputed land.
- Supports HCU students' ongoing protests.
- Promises eco-park for Hyderabad's future.



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Trump's Tariff Tornado India Caught in the Storm, but Some Sectors Find Shelter

- India hit with a 26% tariff, higher than Japan and South Korea
- Pharmaceuticals, semiconductors, and copper spared from new US duties
- Textile and electronics sectors may benefit amid higher levies on rivals



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Mother Poisons Three Children in Ameenpur, Planned to Kill Husband

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Mother Poisons Three Children in Ameenpur, Planned to Kill Husband

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a shocking case, a woman in Ameenpur poisoned and killed her three children to live with her lover. The accused, Rajitha (38), also planned to murder her husband but failed in her attempt.

Rajitha was married to Chennayya, a water tanker driver, and worked as a school teacher. The couple had three children. During a 10th-grade school reunion, Rajitha rekindled her friendship with Shivakumar, which led to an extramarital affair. Wanting to be with her lover, she devised a plan to eliminate her entire family.

On the night of March 27, Rajitha mixed poison in curd and served it to her children. Her husband, however, ate only

dal and left for work. When he returned home at 11 PM, he was devastated to find their children dead. Meanwhile, Rajitha feigned stomach pain and was rushed to the hospital.

Initially, the police suspected Chennayya, but during the investigation, Rajitha's crime was exposed. The police confirmed that she murdered her children and planned to kill her husband next. They also detained Shivakumar for questioning.

Sangareddy SP revealed that Rajitha was unhappy in her marriage due to a 20-year age gap with Chennayya. The police arrested both Rajitha and Shivakumar and remanded them in custody. The case has shocked the local community.

High Court Relief for KCR as Rail Roko Case Dismissed

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major relief for Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) chief and former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), the Telangana High Court has dismissed the Rail Roko case filed against him during the Telangana statehood movement.

On October 15, 2011, as part of the agitation for a separate Telangana state, a large-scale Rail Roko protest was held in Secunderabad. The police registered a case and arrested several leaders at the time. The case had remained pending in the Special Court for People's Representatives until now.

During the hearing, the

public prosecutor argued that the Rail Roko was organized following KCR's call for protest. However, KCR's legal counsel contended that he was not present at the location when the Rail Roko occurred and that the case against him was baseless. After reviewing the arguments, the High Court ruled in favor of KCR and dismissed the case against him.

The verdict has come as a major relief for KCR, with BRS leaders and supporters welcoming the decision. They have hailed the court's judgment as a victory for justice and an acknowledgment of KCR's role in the Telangana movement.

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CM Orders Probe Into AI Videos, HCU Protests

deer and peacocks fleeing in fear due to JCB machines, with some animals reportedly dying. These visuals sparked outrage among students and netizens under the hashtag #SaveHCU. However, IT experts have now confirmed that many of these videos were AI-generated, leading the CM to order strict action.

The Cyberabad Cyber Crime and IT wings have been instructed to trace the creators and spreaders of these misleading videos. The police are now collecting IP addresses of those responsible for making these visuals viral and are preparing to register cases against them.

Meanwhile, the Gachibowli police have registered four cases based on complaints from Congress leaders and NSUI members, alleging that BRS leaders are spreading false information about the government on social media. Additionally, two individuals have been booked for flying drones over the university premises. The police have issued them notices under Section 41 of the CrPC.

As investigations into AI-generated videos, student protests, and social media misinformation continue, political observers believe the controversy will remain a hot topic at the national level.

Supreme Court Anger Over

Revanth Reddy's By-Election Remarks

anti-defection laws. The bench pointed out that statements made in the Assembly carry significant weight compared to public speeches at rallies like Ram Leela Maidan.

The court further warned that saying by-elections wouldn't occur despite party defections amounts to mocking the constitutional provisions. It stressed that such statements should not be repeated and suggested that the Chief Minister be cautious in his future remarks.

With the Supreme Court's strong stance, Revanth Reddy's comments have triggered a serious legal and political debate in Telangana.

DGP Dr. Jitender IPS Interacts with Assistant Collectors

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

Director General of Police, Telangana, Dr. Jitender, IPS, held an interactive session with the 2023 batch Telangana cadre IAS officers at the DGP office on Thursday. These officers are currently undergoing an orientation program in Hyderabad.

During the session, Dr. Jitender emphasized the significance of inter-departmental coordination to enhance public service delivery and citizen welfare. He highlighted the importance of seamless collaboration between the

police and other government departments to ensure efficient governance and address public concerns effectively.

The DGP underscored the crucial role of law enforcement in maintaining social order and security while stressing the need for administrative officers to work closely with the police. He encouraged them to adopt a proactive approach in governance, facilitating a safer and more responsive administrative framework for Telangana. Dr. Jitender also shared insights on the evolving challenges in



law enforcement and governance, urging the young officers to develop a holistic perspective while handling administrative responsibilities. He stressed that effective governance

requires teamwork, innovation, and citizen-centric policies. This interaction was part of ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation between various government departments, fos-

tering a unified approach to governance. Such engagements aim to create a well-integrated system that prioritizes public welfare and enhances service delivery across the state.

Bondada Group CMD Dr. Raghavendra Rao Receives Royal Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognized for his exceptional leadership and contributions to industry and society

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Dr. Bondada Raghavendra Rao, Chairman and Managing Director of Bondada Group, has been honored with the prestigious "Royal Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Royal Club Association at its 8th Anniversary event. The award acknowledges his visionary leadership, unwavering dedication, and significant contributions to industry, busi-



ness growth, and societal development. The grand event witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitar-

ies, including Royal Club Association President Chinamilli Satyanarayana, Vijayawada Central MLA

Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao, High Court Advocate Kaligineedi Chidambaram, and Anu Group of Hospitals Chairman Gajula Ramesh, who served as the Chief Guest. Their presence highlighted the significance of the occasion and the impact of Dr. Raghavendra Rao's contributions.

Under his leadership, Bondada Group has achieved remarkable growth, driving innova-

tion, economic progress, and community empowerment. His relentless pursuit of excellence has positioned the company as a key player in its sector while also fostering broader national development. This prestigious recognition celebrates Dr. Raghavendra Rao's enduring impact and serves as an inspiration for future generations to follow his path of dedication, innovation, and service.

BRS Vows to Reclaim HCU Land, Slams Congress Govt Over Controversy

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has declared that if his party returns to power, it will reclaim the 400 acres of Hyderabad Central University (HCU) land in Kancha Gachibowli and convert it into an eco-park. He accused the Congress-led Telangana government of attempting to hand over the land to real estate interests and warned potential buyers that any purchase would be futile as BRS would take back the land.

Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, KTR slammed

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for treating the land as a commodity and stated that his party would develop a world-class eco-park on the site. He expressed solidarity with HCU students protesting against the alleged land encroachment and hailed their efforts as a continuation of Telangana's historic student movements. He criticized the government for ignoring the protests and warned that if the decision was not reversed, BRS would mobilize thousands for a march to HCU.

KTR strongly attacked Revanth Reddy, calling him a "real estate broker"

and accusing his government of arrogance. He also ridiculed Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka for dismissing concerns about wildlife on the HCU campus, mocking his claims that images of animals were artificially generated. He accused the Congress of exploiting court holidays to carry out illegal activities, including cutting down trees despite High Court and Supreme Court orders.

Taking a dig at Rahul Gandhi, KTR recalled that BRS had previously facilitated his visits to HCU but now, under Congress rule, students were fac-



ing police brutality. He urged Gandhi to visit HCU again and answer to the students. KTR reaffirmed that BRS would reclaim the land and preserve Hy-

derabad's green spaces. He called it a fight for the city's future and vowed to continue standing with students and environmental activists.

Trump's Tariff Tornado India Caught in the Storm, but Some Sectors Find Shelter

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

US President Donald Trump has unleashed one of the steepest tariff hikes in American history, imposing a universal 10% import duty and slapping higher levies on 60 nations. India has been hit with a 26% tariff on exports to the US, putting it among the hardest-hit countries, though some sectors have managed to escape the worst of the impact. Despite strong personal ties between Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India did not receive any special exemptions. The tariff is higher than the 20%

imposed on the European Union, 24% on Japan, and 25% on South Korea, but significantly lower than China's 54% levy. While India's rate was initially listed as 26%, a White House annex later indicated a possible increase to 27%. However, experts believe India can navigate these new trade barriers without severe economic distress.

Bernstein analysts suggest India is more likely to negotiate than escalate trade tensions. The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) estimates that the tariffs will impact India's GDP by only 0.1% in the short

term, thanks to strong domestic manufacturing and government policies like the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Pharmaceuticals, Electronics, and Textiles Find Relief

Trump's tariffs exempted pharmaceuticals, semiconductors, and copper, providing relief to some of India's key export sectors. The pharmaceutical industry, which supplies 30% of the US's generic drug demand, welcomed the move, citing the importance of affordable medicines in global healthcare. India's electronics sec-

tor also emerged in a better position than rivals China and Vietnam, which face tariffs of up to 54% and 46%, respectively. Industry leaders believe this could give India an edge in manufacturing. Similarly, the textile industry is expected to gain as competitors like Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Cambodia face steeper levies, making India a more attractive sourcing hub for US buyers.

Steel and Auto Sectors Face the Heat

India's steel, aluminum, and auto-related exports will bear the brunt of the tariffs, with levies reaching up to 25%. While steel and aluminium were

previously taxed under Section 232, the new reciprocal tariffs could further restrict access to the US market. Industry leaders warned that the move could trigger dumping of excess steel into India from countries now facing stricter US trade barriers.

Trump's Justification and Global Reactions

Announcing the tariffs, Trump defended the move, calling it a "discounted reciprocal tariff" aimed at countering India's high duties on American goods. He acknowledged his friendship with Modi but insisted that India needed to offer a fairer trade balance.

Supreme Court Stay on Tree Cutting: Harish Rao Criticizes CM Revanth



1. SC stays tree cutting in Kanch lands.
2. Harish Rao welcomes Supreme Court ruling.
3. Government questioned over deforestation.
4. SC demands report by April 16.

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
BRS leader Harish Rao welcomed the Supreme Court's verdict on the Gachibowli Kanch lands, which imposed a stay on tree cutting in the disputed area. The Supreme Court made critical observations about the removal of trees, questioning the government's haste in executing the operation.

The court took suo motu cognizance of the matter, with the High Court Registrar personally inspecting the site and submitting a report. The report confirmed that around 100 acres of land had been cleared, raising serious concerns. The Supreme Court asked why trees in a forested area were removed without necessary approvals and directed the gov-

ernment to submit a detailed report by April 16. Reacting to the verdict, Harish Rao criticized Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, calling it a major setback to his impulsive decisions. "Yesterday, he faced backlash over party defections, and today, the Supreme Court has reprimanded him over the Kanch lands issue. Just be-

cause he is in power doesn't mean he can act arbitrarily—the law will not remain silent," Harish Rao tweeted. He further hailed the verdict as a victory for students, environmentalists, and activists fighting to protect the green cover. "Congratulations to all those who stood up for the environment," he added.

Telangana Govt to Comply with Supreme Court Orders: Bhatti Vikramarka

1. Supreme Court halts action on Kanch lands.
2. Telangana Deputy CM assures compliance.
3. Govt to submit report before deadline.
4. Police instructed to be lenient on students.



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Following the Supreme Court's reprimand to the Telangana government over the Kanch Gachibowli land issue, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has assured full compliance with the court's orders. The Supreme Court has directed the state government to halt all activities related to the land until further notice. Addressing the media, Bhatti Vikramarka stated that the government respects the judiciary and will strictly adhere to the Supreme Court's directives. He expressed confidence that justice would prevail and confirmed that the required information would be submitted to the court within the stipulated timeframe. Additionally, he instructed Cyberabad Commissioner and Additional DGP Intelligence to handle student protests with restraint and not resort to harsh measures. Meanwhile, Minister Sridhar Babu also responded to the court's ruling, reaffirming that the Telangana government will fully abide by the Supreme Court's decision. He emphasized the government's trust in the judiciary and expressed optimism that justice will be served. With the state government now under scrutiny, all eyes are on the upcoming Supreme Court proceedings and the administration's response to the legal and public outcry surrounding the Kanch lands.

BRS Will Stay in Opposition for 30 Years: Balmoor Venkat

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Congress MLC Balmoor Venkat strongly countered BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao's (KTR) recent remarks on the Kanch Gachibowli land issue. KTR had earlier stated that if BRS returns to power, they would not honor land sales in the area. Responding to this, Venkat claimed that BRS would remain in the opposition for at least 30 years and that the people would never forgive them for their past governance. Taking a dig at KTR, Balmoor Venkat said, "You are talking about reclaiming lands after three and a half years, but have you forgotten that people snatched away your power 15 months ago? KTR is still under the illusion of being in power." He further alleged that BRS leaders are fueling student protests with false propaganda out of fear

that the government will reclaim lands allocated to private entities during their tenure.

Venkat also pointed out an internal power struggle within the BRS leadership, mentioning conflicts



between Kavitha, KTR, and Harish Rao. He asserted that the Congress government, under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is ensuring that 400 acres of land remain with the government rather than being privatized, calling it a significant legal victory.

Supreme Court Verdict on HCU Land: A Blow to Government – Raghunandan Rao

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Kanch Gachibowli land issue in Rangareddy district has sparked major controversy, with the Supreme Court taking serious note of the matter. The court questioned the necessity of cutting down trees for development and expressed anger at the Chief Secretary (CS), asking if the state government had ordered the deforestation. Reacting to the Supreme Court's remarks, BJP MP Raghunandan Rao stated that his party stands firmly with the students of Hyderabad Central University (HCU). He credited the



court's ruling to the relentless fight of HCU students against the government's actions. Addressing the media

in Hyderabad, he assured that BJP would also fight to protect university land. Raghunandan Rao reminded the government that according to the WALTA Act, even cutting a single tree requires permission. He questioned how hundreds of trees were removed without approval. He criticized the government's overconfidence, stating that the Supreme Court's verdict serves as a slap in the face for the administration. He urged the government to comply with the court's orders and immediately halt all activities on the disputed land.

BRS Leader's Shocking Comments: Offers Support to Congress Govt



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
BRS Legislative Council Opposition Leader Sirikonda Madhusudhana Chary made unexpected remarks regarding the Congress government on Thursday while addressing the media at Telangana Bhavan. He accused the Congress of being synonymous with betrayal and deception, particularly in its treatment of the Backward Classes (BCs). Madhusudhana Chary recalled how Congress had promised 42% reservations, a ₹20,000 crore annual budget, and a BC sub-plan under the Kamareddy BC Declaration. However, despite being in power for over a year and a half, none of these promises have been implemented. He pointed out that in the previous budget, ₹9,000 crore was allocated, but not even half of it was spent. This year, ₹11,000 crore has been allotted, but there is skepticism about how much will actually be utilized. He also criticized the Congress for conducting a caste census only after a court directive, which he claimed was flawed. Additionally, he reminded that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had promised to take an all-party delegation to Delhi for BC welfare discussions but later ignored the commitment. His remarks have stirred political circles, hinting at a possible shift in opposition dynamics in Telangana.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar counters Union Minister's claims.

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar has strongly countered Union Minister Bandi Sanjay's recent remarks on BC reservations. Sanjay had accused the Congress government of introducing the BC Reservation Bill solely to benefit Muslims and insisted that implementing 42% BC reservations was the responsibility of the state government. Responding to these claims, Ponnam Prabhakar demanded an official statement from the BJP-led central government affirming that states alone are responsible for BC reservations. He criticized Bandi Sanjay for selectively targeting Muslim reservations while ignoring similar policies in BJP-ruled states. The minister also questioned the BJP's alliance with the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in Andhra Pradesh, asking if the BJP planned to revoke the 4% Muslim reservation there. Additionally, he pointed out that Muslim reservations exist in Delhi as well, challenging BJP leaders to clarify whether they intend to abolish them nationwide. Ponnam Prabhakar's strong rebuttal has intensified the political debate, putting pressure on the BJP to clarify its stance on BC and Muslim reservations at both state and national levels.



Vijayashanti Slams BJP Over HCU Land Controversy

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Congress MLC Vijayashanti has strongly criticized the BJP over its stance on the Hyderabad Central University (HCU) land controversy. Addressing the media, she accused the BJP of hypocrisy, questioning why the party remained silent when 400 acres of land near HCU were allocated to the IMG company in 2004 by then-Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Vijayashanti pointed out that IMG, owned by billionaire Bill Rao, was originally given the land to develop a sports complex. However, when the company attempted to misuse the



land, Telangana BJP leaders did not raise any objections. She reminded that in 2004, the BJP was in an alliance with the Telugu Desam Par-

ty (TDP), which facilitated this land transfer. She further alleged that while the Congress government fought legally to reclaim these 400 acres and deposit the revenue into the state treasury, BJP leaders are now falsely portraying this as a crime. She accused the BJP of double standards, asking why they did not see the 2004 land deal as illegal or unjust back then. Vijayashanti concluded by stating that Telangana society is questioning the BJP's opportunistic politics and demanding answers regarding its inconsistent stance on land allocations.



Telangana Congress Leaders Meet Sonia Gandhi in Delhi

1. Discussion on BC reservations and Wakf Bill takes center stage.
2. Meeting held at Parliament Central Hall amid ongoing sessions.
3. Prominent state ministers and MPs participate in the talks.

TPN, Correspondent | New Delhi
As Parliament sessions continue, key Telangana Congress leaders met AICC chairperson Sonia Gandhi at the Parliament Central Hall on Thursday morning. The meeting coincided with the introduction of the Wakf Bill in Rajya Sabha today. Several Telangana leaders, who were in

Delhi to participate in the BC reservations protest at Jantar Mantar, seized the opportunity to hold discussions with Sonia Gandhi. The delegation included TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, Ministers Konda Surekha, Ponnam Prabhakar, Whips Birla Ilaiah, Aadi Srinivas, BC MLAs, and MPs Chamal Kiran Kumar

Reddy, Kadiyam Kavya, and Anil Kumar Yadav. The meeting focused on key legislative issues and party strategies. The leaders expressed their commitment to ensuring BC reservation implementation and discussed future political plans for Telangana.



Heavy Rains Lash Hyderabad, Minister Issues Key Directives to GHMC Officials



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
A sudden spell of heavy rains lashed Hyderabad, bringing much-needed relief from the sweltering summer heat. However, the downpour led to severe waterlogging across the city, causing traffic congestion and inconvenience to commuters. Following the heavy rains, Hyderabad In-Charge Minister Ponnab Prabhakar issued crucial directives to GHMC (Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation) officials. He instructed them to take all necessary precautions to ensure public safety and minimize disruptions caused by water accumulation. The minister emphasized that officials across all six GHMC zones must remain on high alert. He ordered immediate action in areas prone to waterlogging, including the Secretariat, Raj Bhavan Road, Masab Tank, and other critical locations. GHMC engineering teams have been tasked with clearing water from affected areas without delay to restore normalcy in the city.

Heavy Rains Cause Charminar Plaster to Fall, GHMC Takes Action

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Hyderabad witnessed a sudden shift in weather this evening as heavy rains lashed the city, bringing much-needed relief from the intense summer heat. However, the downpour led to severe waterlogging in several areas, causing traffic congestion and inconvenience for commuters. Traffic police swiftly intervened to clear the jams and restore normal movement. In an unexpected turn of events, the iconic Charminar suffered minor damage due to the heavy rains. Plaster from one of its minarets, near the Bhagalakshmi temple side, crumbled after an hour-long downpour. Fortunately, no casualties were reported as the area was vacant at the time. Following the incident, GHMC officials promptly initiated restoration efforts. They are also monitoring other heritage structures in the city to assess potential damage caused by the heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, waterlogging in multiple areas prompted emergency response teams to take action, ensuring that affected roads were cleared as quickly as possible.



OU & HCU Students Lay Siege to Secretariat Over Land Auction



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Protests over the proposed auction of 400 acres of land in Gachibowli, within the Hyderabad Central University (HCU) limits, intensified as students took to the streets in large numbers. The agitation, which has been growing over the past few days, saw heightened tensions today as students clashed with police. At HCU, a tense atmosphere prevailed as students continued their demonstrations. In an attempt to curb the unrest, the police resorted to forcibly arresting several protesters. Yesterday, a lathi charge was carried out on the students, further fueling their anger. Meanwhile, in retaliation against the protest bans imposed at both HCU and Osmania University (OU), students from both institutions attempted to lay siege to the Telangana Secretariat. The protesting students demanded an immediate halt to the land auction and warned the government of larger-scale protests if their demands were ignored. Slogans condemning the government's decision echoed as tensions continued to mount.

CM Revanth Reddy Receives Sensational Letter from Union Minister

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
The 400-acre land dispute in Gachibowli has become a major political flashpoint. On Wednesday, Union Minister Kishan Reddy, along with MPs, submitted a representation to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, urging him to intervene in the Hyderabad Central University (HCU) land issue. In response, Dharmendra Pradhan sent a letter to Telangana CM Revanth Reddy on Thursday, urging the state government to withdraw the proposed land auction. He highlighted that the land in question houses 700 species of medicinal plants and 220 species of birds, stressing the need to preserve the ecosystem. The letter also questioned how the government planned the sale without conducting an official survey and demanded clarity on boundary demarcations. Pradhan suggested that the Telangana government allocate alternative land for industrial infrastructure instead of using ecologically sensitive HCU land.



Dr. Praveena Emmadi Unveils New Interior Design Book

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Renowned author and interior design expert Dr. Praveena Emmadi, along with Dr. Mani Pavitra and Author Venu Bhagvan, has announced the launch of her latest book, Praviz Interiors: Eco-Friendly Products. This book offers a fresh perspective on modern interior design, sustainable décor choices, and space optimization, making it a must-read for homeowners, designers, and décor enthusiasts. "This book is more than just about interior design—it's about creating soulful, personalized spaces," said Dr. Praveena. "With practical tips, stunning visuals, and expert advice, I hope to inspire readers to rethink and transform their living spaces." The book covers timeless design principles, real-life case studies, color palettes, and expert styling techniques to help readers create aesthetically pleasing yet functional homes. To mark the occasion, Dr. Praveena host-



ed an exclusive book launch event on April 2nd at T-Hub, Hyderabad, attended by notable figures in design and literature. A celebrated author and interior design expert, Dr. Praveena has helped numerous individuals craft spaces that reflect their personality and style. Praviz Interiors: Eco-Friendly Products is her latest contribution to the world of design.

7-Year-Old Boy Brutally Murdered in Attapur

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
A shocking crime has surfaced in Attapur, Hyderabad, where a 7-year-old boy was brutally murdered. His body was found near Mir Alam Tank, with severe head injuries caused by stones. Local police reached the crime scene after being alerted by residents. Investigators identified the victim as Mohammad Rahim, a resident of Necklace Road. Authorities are analyzing missing person reports from nearby police stations to determine how the child ended up in Attapur. The motive and identity of the attackers remain un-

known. A special team has been formed to track down the suspects, while forensic experts are examining the crime scene. The gruesome murder has left local residents in shock as the investigation continues.



German Woman's Assault Was Pre-Planned, Key Investigation Findings

TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad
Shocking details have emerged in the Hyderabad German woman assault case, revealing that the accused, Mohammad Abdul Aslam (25), pre-planned the crime. Investigation confirms that Aslam deceived the victim by pretending to be a trustworthy family man. Aslam, the son of a local political leader, has a criminal history. At 19, he was booked under POCSO for assaulting a minor but was acquitted in 2022. After working as a driver in Dubai, he returned to Hyderabad a year ago and was unemployed since.

Pre-Planned Assault



March 31 (Ramadan day), Aslam roamed Hyderabad with his friends in a car. He spotted the German woman and her friend at Mandamallamma

Crossroads. Posing as a friendly acquaintance, he convinced them to get into his car. Near Mamidipally, he dropped the minors and her friend, luring them into taking selfies. Under the pretense of taking a U-turn, he drove the woman to an isolated location, where he sexually assaulted her. Legal Action & Victim's Statement Police presented Aslam in Rangareddy court, which remanded him until April 16. The victim's statement was recorded before a judge, and her friend's testimony was also documented. Authorities may conduct a virtual cross-examination if required.

Telangana Weather Alert

Heavy Rains Expected in Several Districts



TPN, Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Hyderabad Meteorological Department has predicted heavy rains across Telangana for the next four days, issuing an orange alert in several districts. Vanaparathi and Adilabad will experience rainfall today.

A cyclonic system over Chhattisgarh and a trough extending from Odisha to Comorin are influencing these weather changes. The temperature is expected to drop by Thursday afternoon, with dense clouds forming across the state.

Rains will be moderate to heavy, with hailstorms in Mahbubnagar, Narayanpet, Gadwal, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, and Vanaparathi on April 3 and 4. Winds will blow at 30-50 km/h in Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Hyderabad, and Adilabad, with a risk of lightning strikes.

Residents have been advised to stay indoors during storms and seek shelter in safe locations. Humidity will increase to 80% at night, reducing the intense heat experienced in recent days.

Harish Rao Unveils Statues, Slams Revanth Reddy at BRS Public Meeting



TPN Correspondent | Nagarkurnool

During his visit to Mudwin village in Kalwakurthy, Nagarkurnool district, Finance Minister Harish Rao handed over a house to a poor family. Later, at Boyinapalli, he unveiled the statues of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and Sevalal Maharaj.

Speaking at the BRS public meeting, he emphasized the significance of these leaders, stating that Ambedkar's Constitution made Telangana's formation possible. He lauded KCR's initiatives, including the 125-foot Ambedkar statue and renaming of the Secretariat after him. He also highlighted the Telangana government's efforts in granting ST reservations, constructing Banjara Bhavan, and elevating tribal hamlets to Panchayat status.

Harish Rao heavily criticized Revanth Reddy's leadership, accusing him of failing to implement loan waivers and halting pension payments. He alleged that Congress misled the public with false promises and failed to support farmers, students, and unemployed youth.

Challenging Revanth Reddy's governance, Harish Rao urged people to recognize BRS's contributions and stand by the party for Telangana's continued development.

Tensions Rise Over Pharma City Land Survey as Farmers Protest



TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy

The Pharma City land survey in Nakkarta Medipally village, Yacharam Mandal, Rangareddy district turned tense as farmers strongly opposed government officials marking land boundaries.

Despite claims of a court-issued stay order, officials proceeded with the survey, attempting to place boundary stones. This led to a massive outcry from local farmers, who gathered in large numbers to protest.

Police intervened and arrested several farmers, shifting them to the local police station. The incident reflects growing unrest among both farmers and students, who are actively opposing the government's moves to acquire land for Pharma City and Hyderabad Central University (HCU) projects. With public resentment escalating, opposition to CM Revanth Reddy's administration continues to intensify across various sections of society.

BRS Silver Jubilee Celebrations: KCR Holds Key Meeting with Karimnagar, Adilabad Leaders

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

As part of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Silver Jubilee celebrations, party chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) convened a meeting with key leaders from Karimnagar and Adilabad districts at his Erravalli residence on Thursday. The discussions primarily revolved around the arrangements for the public meeting in Warangal on April 27, along with other anniversary events. During the meeting, KCR provided guidance to senior party members, out-

lining the roadmap for the upcoming programs. BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), former MPs Boinpally Vinod Kumar and Joginapally Santosh Kumar, and several MLAs and district leaders were present.

Other notable attendees included former ministers Gangula Kamalakar and Koppula Eshwar, MLC L. Ramana, and MLAs Dr. Kalvakuntla Sanjay, Padi Kaushik Reddy, Anil Jadhav, and Kova Lakshmi. District BRS presidents from Karimnagar (G.V. Ramakrishna Rao), Siricilla



(Thota Agayya), Adilabad (Jogu Ramanna), and Mancherial (Balaka Suman) also participated.

Additionally, former MLAs and state leaders such as

Sri Rama Navami Procession

Hyderabad Police Issue Key Guidelines

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Ahead of Sri Rama Navami, Hyderabad Police Commissioner C.V. Anand held a review meeting with officials from various departments at Draupadi Gardens, Seetarambagh to ensure smooth conduct of the Shobha Yatra. Commissioner Anand emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and ensuring that the procession proceeds without any disruptions. He assured that the Hyderabad police will deploy heavy security from start to finish to prevent any untoward incidents. He urged citizens and festival organizers to cooperate with the authorities.

Considering past experiences, the narrow procession routes often make it difficult for large Tusker vehicles to pass through. Hence, Anand suggested that organizers conduct a trial run in advance.

Additionally, he warned against playing songs or speeches that may offend other communities and instructed that the entire procession will be monitored via CCTV cameras. He also stated that any drone usage requires prior police permission.

The police urged all devotees and organizers to follow the rules and celebrate the festival with devotion and discipline.



Telangana Government Invites Applications for New Bar Licenses



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana government has invited applications for new bar licenses at locations where old bars were previously closed due to various reasons. The Excise Commissioner, Chevuri Harikiran, issued a notification announcing the revival of 40 bars whose licenses had been revoked.

As per the notification, five bars in Adilabad, one in Karimnagar, four in Warangal, two in Khammam, one in Nalgonda, five in Mahbubnagar, one in Medak, four in Nizamabad, and two in Ranga Reddy district will be reinstated. However, due to MLC elections within GHMC limits, applications for 15 bars in this region will not be accepted at this time.

In rural Telangana, 25 bar licenses have been notified. Additionally, in Meerpet Municipality, a notification has been issued to set up a new bar at a previously closed bar location, according to Saroor Nagar Excise Superintendent Ujwala Reddy.

The application fee has been set at ₹1 lakh, while the bar license fee is ₹42 lakh in urban areas. In Kodangal Municipality, within CM Revanth Reddy's constituency, the Excise Deputy Commissioner Dasharath confirmed that applications are open for a new bar at the old location, with an annual license fee of ₹30 lakh.

The government has set April 26 as the final deadline for submissions.

Celebrations at HCU as Supreme Court Halts Land Work

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Students of Hyderabad Central University (HCU) erupted in celebrations after the Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to all activities on the disputed Kanchan Gachibowli lands, including tree cutting.

For weeks, HCU students had been protesting against land clearing, demanding the preservation of biodiversity. With the Supreme Court ruling in their favor, they celebrated by singing and dancing in the rain, expressing their joy over the

verdict.

BRS leaders also reacted on social media, calling it a victory for students. The ruling came as a major setback for the government, as the Supreme Court criticized the authorities over their actions regarding the land.

HCU students vowed to continue their fight to protect the environment and biodiversity. Their determination to safeguard the land has strengthened, with many asserting that the court's ruling was a step in the right direction.



Telangana Government Supports Farmers with Loan Waivers and Bonuses

1. Telangana grants ₹500 per quintal bonus for paddy.
2. Minister Ponguleti emphasizes farmer-friendly policies.
3. State waives ₹2 lakh loans for over 25.65 lakh farmers.
4. Government assures procurement of every grain, urges farmers to avoid middlemen.

TPN Correspondent | Khammam

Highlighting the BRS regime's failures, the minister stated that the Congress government was elected to restore "Indiramma Rajyam" (welfare rule) and has already waived ₹2 lakh farm loans for 25.65 lakh farmers. He assured that every grain of paddy will be procured and advised farmers not to fall prey to middlemen. Minister Ponguleti also visited the newly built Gangamma Temple, offering prayers and

donating ₹50,000 for temple development. Additionally, he consoled bereaved families in various villages, promising government support. During his tour, he inaugurated several development projects in Kusumanchi Mandal and reassured accident victims of assistance. Many local leaders, including Gidangula Corporation Chairman Rayala Nageshwara Rao, and Congress members participated in the events.



Pawan Kalyan: The Consensus Builder India Needs

The Indian political landscape is vibrant and ever-evolving. Like the stock market, each political cycle introduces both critical and trivial issues that dominate national discourse. Two recent topics that have become national issues and have also created sharp regional and political divides are Delimitation and the National Education Policy. With Bihar, Kerala, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu state assembly elections fast approaching, these topics continue to stir up the centre-state federalism debate and provoke regional sentiments. At this critical juncture, Pawan Kalyan emerges as a unique political leader who can become a troubleshooter and a consensus builder between BJP and non-BJP parties, as well as bridge the North – South divide on these contentious topics.

Regional Sensitivity and National Vision

Pawan Kalyan's role has been instrumental in bringing the NDA government to power at both the state level in Andhra Pradesh and at the national level; he brought the TDP-BJP unity back into the fold during the 2024 elections. With JanaSena's 100% striking rate electoral success, Pawan Kalyan has positioned himself as the leader of a state party with national relevance. The mass appeal of Pawan Kalyan transcends the Telugu States and extends to other southern states, including Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, not to mention the crowds he attracted during the Maharashtra Assembly elections. Unlike most regional parties and leaders, Pawan Kalyan has the ability to engage with national parties, particularly BJP, without losing his regional identity. This dual approach makes him an ideal candidate to mediate and dialogue on sensitive national issues that require both regional sensitivity and national vision.

Delimitation: The North – South Debate

The topic of Delimitation is set to become a campaign tool, a political debate, an ideological rivalry, and a potential game changer for the future of Indian politics. The Southern States feel that delimitation based solely on population figures would unfairly penalize states that have successfully implemented population control measures, thereby undermining the principles of federalism. Another issue raised by the Southern States is that the Delimitation exercise might result in a reduction of their Lok Sabha seats, while states in North India, especially Uttar Pradesh, will see an increase in their Lok Sabha seats, giving them more political power.

The Ideal Mediator: Trouble Shooting the BJP and Non-BJP Differences

Pawan Kalyan connects well



with both BJP and regional parties. While he is currently part of the NDA, including TDP, he enjoys goodwill among the leaders of the southern states, including KTR from the BRS and the Left Parties; he recently met the CM of Karnataka, Siddaramaiah; he is well received both in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; he campaigned for Shiv Sena –NCP-backed candidates in recently held Maharashtra Assembly Elections and is approachable to the BSP in Uttar Pradesh.

Pawan Kalyan was born, brought up, and educated across various regions in the South. He speaks Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Hindi, English and, to an extent, Marathi. He is quite familiar with the nuances and details of the regions of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu. Pawan Kalyan understands the deep-rooted concerns of the Southern States regarding the representation, federalism and revenue contribution disparities.

Pawan Kalyan offers a balanced approach, combining southern perspectives with national interests, paving the way for potential negotiations on a fair formula. Alternatives from increased Rajya Sabha seats for the Southern States or a weighted representation, a middle ground can be achieved. With his ability to engage both the BJP and non-BJP parties, he can serve as a neutral voice capable of brokering a fair solution.

NEP—Balancing the Regional and Ideological Divide

The National Education Policy has been received with mixed opinion, with the BJP-governed states pushing for the 3-language policy, while the non-BJP states, es-



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pecially in the South, have raised concerns about Hindi imposition and centralization versus federalism in the education policy. Historically, Dravida political parties have strongly opposed the Hindi language imposition and contested the centre, be it Congress in the past or BJP at present.

Why Pawan Kalyan Can Lead the NEP Dialogue

Pawan Kalyan has been a strong proponent of addressing regional aspirations without compromising national integrity and sovereignty. He has been vocal about the importance of Telugu and regional languages in education and governance, making him a credible voice in the South. He was the earliest to give a call for the skill census and strongly advocated for skill-based education in the national education policy, which was publicly acknowledged by then Minister of Education Shri Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal. Pawan Kalyan's focus on vocational training and skill development aligns with the goals of the NEP, allowing him to serve

as a bridge between the supporters and critics of the NEP. Pawan Kalyan brings in the possibility to facilitate a discussion for a customized state-level implementation of the NEP without losing its essence while respecting the regional linguistic identities.

The need for a new consensus builder of the nation

Mediation and consensus building have played a key role for India since its struggle for independence. In the modern Indian polity, PV Narasimha Rao successfully stitched a coalition to steer India through economic reforms in the early 1990s, Atal Behari Vajpayee led a coalition in the late 90s, and Pranab Mukherjee was the Congress party's go-to person for troubleshooting. However, the present-day political atmosphere in India lacks a strong consensus builder who can navigate through BJP's national agenda and regional aspirations.

Pawan Kalyan has a rare ability to make his policy opposition clear, when necessary, yet remain amicable enough to forge alliances with political opponents to get things done or achieve the goals. Pawan Kalyan can become the face of the new consensus builder of the nation—he is not entirely dependent on BJP like some allies, which allows him to speak independently; in the past, he had differences with BJP and TDP about the special status issues of Andhra Pradesh; he opposed playing the national anthem in the cinema halls, opposed the imposition of any language, and opposed the idea of privatizing the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, etc. Last but not least, Pawan Kalyan commands a massive appeal among the youth, giving him a moral authority to speak on policies related to the future of the youth, including education.

Conclusion—A National Role Beckons

Pawan Kalyan is already an established leader in Andhra Pradesh. His ability to connect across ideological and regional divides, engage the national and regional parties, and bridge the North-South divide makes him a potential national leader. Pawan Kalyan can carve a significant space in national politics as a leader who can foster dialogue, forge alliances across ideologies, harmonize regional aspirations & national unity, and build consensus in an increasingly fragmented polity. As 2026 Delimitation approaches with major political challenges, India will need leaders who can mediate rather than polarize, ensure calm over chaos—and Pawan Kalyan has all the ingredients to emerge as India's much-needed political troubleshooter and become the new consensus builder of the nation.



PM Modi's Thailand Visit: Can India Change The Regional Game With BIMSTEC?

The 6th BIMSTEC Summit, taking place in Bangkok, Thailand, promises to be a critical moment for regional cooperation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will meet key leaders from the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), but the timing could prove challenging. Myanmar is grappling with internal conflict, Thailand has recently faced a devastating earthquake, and tensions between India and Bangladesh may overshadow the summit's potential outcomes.

BIMSTEC, established in 1997, includes seven member states: Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Thailand. The bloc represents 1.73 billion people and a combined GDP of \$5.2 trillion. Initially focused on Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, Myanmar joined in 1997, followed by Nepal and Bhutan in 2004. The bloc aims to enhance cooperation across various sectors, such as trade, energy, transport, and counterterrorism.

One of the summit's key developments will be the Maritime Transport Cooperation Agreement, which is set to improve trade and travel across the Bay of Bengal. Additional Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the Indian Ocean Rim Association and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) will further solidify regional ties and security.

BIMSTEC aspires to emulate the success of ASEAN, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Like Europe with the EU and Africa with the African Union, regional cooperation remains a significant goal for BIMSTEC nations. Historically, the Bay of Bengal served as a thriving hub of trade, and BIMSTEC has the potential to revive these connections. However, unlike SAARC, BIMSTEC offers a unique bridge between South Asia and Southeast Asia, particularly aligned with India's "Neighbourhood First" and "Act East" policies.

India, the largest member of BIMSTEC, plays a central role in driving regional prosperity and covers much of the bloc's operational expenses. While BIMSTEC offers exciting opportunities, it has struggled to make substantial progress, with in-person meetings and breakthroughs being infrequent. Trade agreements, including the long-delayed free trade agreement, remain elusive. However, regional connectivity projects like the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP) are helping improve infrastructure, although challenges like Myanmar's ongoing civil unrest have hindered their full realization.

Furthermore, India is advocating for a preferential trade agreement within BIMSTEC, a potential stepping stone toward a comprehensive free trade agreement. Security and energy cooperation are also gaining momentum, as evidenced by MoUs on grid interconnections and India's involvement in BIMSTEC's energy center in Bengaluru. These efforts aim to enhance cooperation in energy-rich nations like Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

The summit comes with a significant diplomatic challenge—Bangladesh's strained ties with India. Bangladesh's interim government, led by Muhammad Yunus, has cultivated closer relations with China, which has caused tensions with India. Yunus' recent comments about Bangladesh's strategic role and its relationship with China have further strained relations, leading many to speculate that PM Modi's meeting with Yunus might only be a brief exchange of pleasantries.

Trump Just Changed The Very Meaning Of Tariffs

A New Era of Protectionism

President Donald Trump marked a significant moment in trade history by declaring it "Liberation Day," a day when American industry was reborn. This bold announcement introduced a series of reciprocal tariffs aimed at addressing what he described as unfair trade practices from both friendly and adversarial nations. As markets reacted to this shift, Asia's stock markets tumbled, and gold prices soared. Trump's renewed focus on tariffs is poised to reshape the global trade landscape, significantly altering relationships between nations.

For countries like India, the conse-

quences of these new tariffs could be severe. The US's 26% tariff on Indian exports, along with a 25% baseline tariff on automobiles, threatens to disrupt various industries. India's electronics, pharmaceuticals, and gems and jewelry sectors are especially vulnerable. With Indian pharmaceuticals making up a substantial portion of the US market for generic drugs, this move could lead to significant price hikes, damaging the competitiveness of Indian exports. Sectors like textiles and jewelry, which have historically thrived due to lower production costs, are also at risk, with India losing its edge to cheaper competitors like Viet-

nam and China. In total, India's economy could face a \$31 billion blow, with the broader global supply chain suffering as well.

Although Trump's tariff policies are often viewed as extreme, they aren't entirely unprecedented. Former President Joe Biden, while pursuing his own protectionist measures, maintained many of Trump's tariffs, especially on China. Biden's industrial policies aimed at bolstering domestic manufacturing helped fuel a boom in factory investment by 2023. Critics of Trump's tariffs argue they disproportionately burden consumers, raising

prices on goods, while American businesses struggled with supply chain disruptions. The economic fallout from these tariffs was seen in sectors like agriculture, where US farmers suffered due to retaliatory tariffs from China. Yet, despite these challenges, Trump's approach of viewing trade as a zero-sum game continued to resonate with many of his supporters.

Trump's methods contrast with those of previous administrations, which focused on multilateral trade agreements. For instance, Obama's Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) sought to balance economic power in the



Asia-Pacific region, but opposition from both sides of the political spectrum led to its collapse. In contrast, Trump and Biden shifted the focus to bilateral agreements and strategic decoupling, highlighting a fundamental shift in US trade policy. Biden's "friend-shoring" approach further emphasized alliances with trusted partners rather than adversaries like China.

India Evaluates Impact of Trump's Reciprocal Tariffs

India is carefully assessing the impact of the reciprocal tariffs imposed by the Donald Trump administration, which include additional ad-valorem duties ranging from 10% to 50% on imports from all trading partners. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry stated on Thursday, April 3, 2025, that it is engaging with key stakeholders, including Indian industries and exporters, to gather feedback and evaluate the situation.

The government's response comes in light of the Trump administration's recent trade policy shift, which includes a 27% tariff on certain imports. While acknowledging the potential challenges posed by these new trade measures, India is also exploring opportunities that may emerge from the policy change. The Ministry emphasized that its approach aligns with the vision of Viksit Bharat, which aims for a developed and self-reliant India. "We are carefully examining the implications of the various measures and announcements made by the President of the USA," ANI quoted the ministry as saying. The statement further highlighted that the government is proactively assessing strategies to mitigate any adverse effects while identifying potential trade advantages. The US administration's executive order on reciprocal tariffs marks a significant shift in global trade dynamics, impacting multiple countries, including India. As one of the largest trading partners of the US, India is



expected to adopt a balanced approach, focusing on both safeguarding its exports and leveraging new trade opportunities. Industry experts believe that while higher tariffs on Indian exports to the US could pose short-term challenges, they may also open doors for diversification of trade markets and strengthening domestic manufacturing. The government's engagement with exporters and industry leaders aims to de-

velop a comprehensive strategy to navigate these evolving trade conditions. As global trade tensions continue to unfold, India's response to these tariffs will be crucial in determining its economic resilience and long-term trade strategies. Further discussions between Indian and US trade representatives are anticipated in the coming weeks to address the implications of the new tariff policies.

Jaishankar Stresses Terrorism and Trafficking at BIMSTEC Meet

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar emphasized the urgent need to tackle terrorism, human trafficking, and illicit narcotics trade during the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on April 3, 2025. Addressing his counterparts, he called for a more ambitious approach to regional cooperation in light of increasing global instability.

Jaishankar highlighted the importance of addressing real-world challenges such as cybersecurity, counter-terrorism, and organized crime through robust policy frameworks. "We need to create the necessary frameworks to deal with them effectively," he stated, stressing that BIMSTEC nations must work collectively to confront these threats.

Reflecting on the changing global order, Jaishankar noted that the dominance of a few powerful nations in shaping international policies is a thing of the past. He asserted that developing nations must collaborate to navigate contemporary geopolitical challenges. "The era when a few powers underwrote the international system is now behind us. What we make of our prospects is very much dependent on ourselves," he remarked, underscoring the importance of regional partnerships.

Jaishankar also pointed out that the Bay of Bengal region shares common interests and concerns that must be addressed col-



lectively. He acknowledged that historical factors had previously hindered regional development but urged BIMSTEC nations to leverage their shared past and modern technological advancements to boost connectivity, trade, and investment. Despite BIMSTEC's potential, Jaishankar admitted that the region's economic performance remains below expectations. "Whether it is connectivity, trade, investment, or services between BIMSTEC members, we are performing below our real potential," he said. He urged nations to har-

ness both traditional strengths and emerging technologies to overcome obstacles and drive economic growth. As BIMSTEC marks its 28th year, Jaishankar reaffirmed India's commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and ensuring that the organization plays a vital role in shaping a secure and prosperous future for its member states. The meeting concluded with discussions on enhancing trade relations, security cooperation, and economic integration among BIMSTEC countries.

Dy CM Shinde to Vet Files Before CM Fadnavis



In a significant political move, the Maharashtra government has mandated that all official files must now be vetted by Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde before being forwarded to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis for approval. The directive was issued by Chief Secretary Sujata Saunik on March 18, marking a shift in administrative protocol. This decision appears to be a strategic

effort to maintain political balance between the two leaders, reviving a system previously in place during 2023 when files were first cleared by the then two Deputy Chief Ministers—Ajit Pawar and Devendra Fadnavis—before reaching the Chief Minister, Eknath Shinde. The arrangement was originally introduced after Ajit Pawar, formerly the Leader of Opposition, joined the Shinde-led

government on July 2, 2023, along with several Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLAs. The latest directive aligns with the earlier framework, wherein Deputy CM Pawar, who held the finance portfolio, processed files before sending them to Fadnavis, who oversaw the home, law, and judiciary departments, before the documents reached CM Shinde for final approval. By reinstating a similar procedure, the government aims to ensure smoother administrative functioning while maintaining equilibrium among the state's key political players. The move has sparked political discussions, with some viewing it as an attempt to strengthen Shinde's role in governance, while others see it as a power-balancing act between the CM and his deputy. The directive could influence decision-making speed and coordination within the government, particularly in crucial sectors such as finance, law, and infrastructure. As Maharashtra navigates political complexities ahead of the upcoming elections, this administrative restructuring is likely to shape the state's governance dynamics in the months to come.



Vijay Slams Waqf Bill, Demands Withdrawal

Actor and Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief Vijay has strongly criticized the Waqf (Amendment) Bill passed in the Lok Sabha, calling it "anti-democratic" and demanding its immediate withdrawal. In a sharp statement on Thursday, Vijay accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led central government of engaging in "anti-Muslim politics" and warned that if the bill was not repealed, his party would stand in solidarity with the Muslim community in their legal struggle to protect Waqf rights. His remarks come amid growing opposition from various political groups and Muslim organizations, including the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), which have also pledged to challenge the bill through legal means.

The controversial bill has sparked widespread criticism, with opponents arguing that it undermines the autonomy of Waqf boards and restricts the management of Waqf properties, which are meant for religious and charitable purposes in the Muslim community. Critics claim that the amendments interfere with community rights and are part of a broader pattern of policies targeting minority institutions. The BJP government, however, has defended the bill, asserting that it aims to streamline Waqf management and ensure transparency in land administration. Despite these assurances, protests have erupted in various parts of the country, with Muslim organizations and opposition parties viewing the bill as an infringement on religious freedoms. Vijay's intervention in the matter adds political significance, especially as TVK continues to expand its influence in Tamil Nadu's political landscape. His vocal stance aligns with his broader efforts to position himself as a leader who advocates for social justice and minority rights. Given his massive fan following and emerging political clout, his statement is expected to add momentum to the ongoing resistance against the bill. As protests intensify, legal challenges are also likely to follow, potentially escalating the controversy further. With tensions rising, the demand for a rollback of the bill is gaining traction, setting the stage for a prolonged political and legal battle over Waqf rights in India.

How BJP Secured TDP, JD(U) Support for Waqf Bill

The decision of traditionally secular parties like the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Janata Dal United (JD(U)) to back the contentious Waqf Amendment Bill has raised questions, given their historical divergence from the BJP on issues concerning Muslims. However, behind-the-scenes negotiations and strategic assurances from the BJP played a key role in bringing these allies on board. Both parties, which rely heavily on Muslim support, have previously opposed BJP-backed policies such as the Uniform Civil Code. However, sources indicate that senior BJP ministers engaged in extensive discussions with TDP and JD(U) leaders before the bill's introduction, convincing them of its importance.

Apart from these two parties, BJP also reached out to coalition partners like Chirag Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party and Jayant Chaudhary's Rashtriya Lok Dal, explaining that the bill aimed to safeguard Muslim interests and ensure women's rights rather than create religious divisions, as the opposition had claimed. While the allies broadly agreed, they expressed concerns about certain provisions, especially those affecting existing Waqf properties and potential encroachments on state governments' rights.

To address these concerns, the bill was sent to a Joint Parliamentary Committee, which recommended 14 amendments, including significant inputs from JD(U) and TDP. JD(U) pushed for ensuring the law would not apply retrospectively, preventing interference with existing mosques and religious sites. They also insisted that states must be consulted before making decisions on Waqf land, emphasizing that land remains a state subject. Meanwhile, TDP advocated for greater autonomy for state governments and proposed appointing senior officials above the collector level to handle disputes. They also sought an extended timeline for uploading Waqf-related documents on official portals to facilitate better compliance.

These modifications helped the BJP secure the backing of its allies, ensuring smoother passage of the bill in Parliament. While the move has sparked political debates, it also underscores the BJP's efforts to consolidate its coalition and navigate opposition from minority groups while pushing forward its legislative agenda.





PM Modi holds talks with Thai counterpart Shinawatra ahead of BIMSTEC summit

TPN Correspondent | Bangkok

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Bangkok on Thursday, April 3, 2025, for a two-day visit to attend the 6th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) summit. During his visit, PM Modi held delegation-level talks with his Thai counterpart, Paetongtarn Shinawatra, to strengthen bilateral ties and discuss key issues of mutual interest.

The discussions between the two leaders are expected to focus on enhancing cooperation in areas such as trade, security, tourism, and cultural exchange, building on the long-standing relationship between India and Thailand. Both nations share a commitment to regional stability and development, and their collaboration within the BIMSTEC framework is vital for fostering greater economic and technological integration in the Bay of Bengal region.

Before the talks, PM Modi was given a Guard of Honour, marking the official beginning of his visit. Following this, the Prime Minister had the opportunity to witness a captivating Ramakien performance — the Thai version of the ancient Ramayana epic. The performance was a spectacular display of Thai cultural heritage, symbolizing the deep historical and cultural ties that bind India and Thailand. PM Modi's visit to Bangkok holds significant importance in strengthening India's engagement with Southeast Asia, particularly through multilateral forums like BIMSTEC. The summit, which brings together countries from the Bay of Bengal region, provides a platform to address pressing regional challenges and foster collaboration in areas ranging from connectivity to climate change. As India continues to deepen its strategic and economic partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region, Prime Minister Modi's engagement with Thailand and other BIMSTEC members will play a key role in shaping future regional dynamics. The talks with Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra are expected to pave the way for enhanced cooperation and a closer India-Thailand relationship moving forward.

Donald Trump Unveils Reciprocal Tariffs On Countries, Escalates Trade Tensions

- Trump imposes sweeping tariffs, with some as high as 50%, targeting key global trade partners.
- China faces a 34% tariff, while the EU, India, and Japan see significant trade restrictions.
- Additional 25% duties on automobiles escalate tensions with Europe and Asia.

TPN Correspondent | Washington

In a bold move reflecting his "America First" agenda, US President Donald Trump on Wednesday unveiled a broad set of tariffs aimed at various nations across the globe. These tariffs, some as high as 49 percent, are part of Trump's ongoing efforts to reshape US trade policies and restore what he claims has been the country's exploitation by both friendly and adversarial nations for decades.

Speaking from the White House Rose Garden, Trump expressed frustration over what he described as the historic mistreatment of the United States by its trading partners. He stated, "For decades, our country has been looted, pillaged, raped, and plundered by nations near and far, both friend and foe alike." The president's tone was combative as he highlighted the tariffs as a necessary step to reclaim the country's economic prosperity. Trump's most severe levies were directed at key global players, including a 34 percent tariff on imports from China, 26 percent on India, 24 percent on Japan, and 20 percent on the European Union. These moves are expected to have a significant impact on global trade flows.

The tariffs, which span a wide range of goods, are seen as a direct challenge to the existing global trading system. Trump defended the measures, claiming that the tariffs would help American industry recover and bring back manufacturing jobs that he argues were outsourced to other countries. "This is Liberation Day," Trump declared, calling the day a historic moment when America would "reclaim its destiny." He further framed the tariffs as



part of a broader effort to restore American economic strength, saying that it would "forever be remembered as the day American industry was reborn."

Alongside these new tariffs, Trump also announced the imposition of additional 25 percent duties on automobiles, a move that further complicates relations with key allies, especially in Europe and Asia. The new tariffs target numerous countries, including some of the US's largest trade partners, and have the potential to spark retaliation and trade wars, disrupting global supply chains. The sweeping changes threaten to upend existing trade agreements and could lead to significant price hikes for consumers in the US.

The tariffs cover a wide variety of products, ranging from elec-

tronics and agricultural products to machinery and raw materials. Countries like Vietnam, Taiwan, South Korea, and Thailand are among those facing heavy tariffs, with Vietnam seeing a staggering 46 percent rate. Other nations, such as Cambodia and Lesotho, have tariffs as high as 49 and 50 percent, respectively. The new tariffs also extend to nations from every corner of the globe, including emerging economies like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nigeria, as well as long-standing US allies like the United Kingdom and Israel, both of which will face tariffs of 10 percent.

In total, the tariffs will affect a broad spectrum of global trade, signaling a potential shift in US trade relations that could have long-lasting effects on the global economy. Economists and trade

experts have warned that these tariffs could have unintended consequences, including higher consumer prices in the US, disruptions in supply chains, and retaliatory tariffs from other countries. Trump's unilateral approach to international trade has raised concerns about escalating tensions, particularly with China, which could result in a prolonged trade war.

Trump's announcement came just days after the implementation of auto tariffs and follows a series of contentious trade negotiations with major global economies. As the situation develops, the full impact of these new tariffs remains to be seen, but it is clear that Trump's economic policies will continue to shape US foreign relations and global trade dynamics in the years to come.

China Opposes US Tariffs, Vows Countermeasures in Escalating Trade Dispute



TPN Correspondent | Beijing

China has strongly condemned the latest round of tariffs imposed by the United States, vowing to take "countermeasures" to protect its rights and interests. The Chinese government's reaction came after US President Donald Trump implemented a series of new levies on imports, including a 10 percent tariff on global goods and an additional 34 percent tariff specifically targeting China.

The Commerce Ministry in Beijing issued a statement expressing firm opposition to the tariffs, which it described as violations of international trade rules. It argued that the measures would seriously harm the rights and interests of affected countries, warning that they would have far-reaching consequences for global economic development. The ministry also accused the US of engaging

in "unilateral bullying" and called for the immediate cancellation of the tariffs.

In retaliation, China has imposed its own tariffs on US agricultural products, including soybeans, pork, and chicken, with rates as high as 15 percent. These moves are part of a broader trade dispute that has the potential to damage both economies. China's fragile economic recovery, already hindered by a debt crisis in the property sector and low consumer spending, now faces further pressure from these new tariffs.

Trump has defended the tariffs, labeling them "reciprocal" in nature. However, experts have criticized his administration's claim that other countries' tariffs on US goods are far more damaging than they actually are. China, in its statement, rejected the idea of reciprocity and emphasized that the US had long benefited from international trade, urging Washington to pursue dialogue to resolve the dispute.

The Chinese government stressed that there are no winners in a trade war, reiterating that protectionism is not a viable solution. It pointed out that raising tariffs has never effectively resolved the US's own economic challenges, and warned that the global economy will suffer as a result.

In addition to these new levies, the US also imposed a 25 percent tariff on steel and aluminum imports, a sector in which China is the world leader in production, though it is not a major exporter of steel to the United States.

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu Arrives in Hungary Amid ICC Arrest Warrant

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu arrived in Hungary's capital early Thursday (April 3, 2025), receiving a warm red carpet welcome despite facing a warrant for his arrest issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC). This marks only the second foreign trip Netanyahu has made since the ICC issued the arrest warrant in November 2024.

The arrest warrant was issued for Netanyahu in connection with alleged war crimes linked to Israeli military operations in Palestinian territories. The ICC's decision has drawn significant international attention, with calls for accountability growing as political leaders and human rights organizations highlight the severity of the allegations.

Netanyahu's visit to Hungary comes as part of ongoing diplomatic engagements, but his presence in Hungary has drawn controversy. Hungary, led by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, has historically been a strong supporter of Israel and has maintained close political ties with Netanyahu's government.



Orbán's government has rejected the ICC's jurisdiction and criticized its decision, underscoring Hungary's staunch support for Israel amidst the international legal challenges faced by Netanyahu.

Despite the ICC warrant, Netanyahu continues to assert that the charges against him are politically motivated and part of a broader international campaign against Israel. His visit to Hungary highlights the political dynamics at play, as Hungary's government has repeatedly expressed opposition to the ICC's activities, particularly when it

comes to issues concerning Israel's security and military operations.

As Netanyahu navigates the legal and diplomatic challenges posed by the ICC, his travels are expected to remain under scrutiny, with the international community closely watching any potential consequences or actions resulting from the arrest warrant. The Prime Minister's visit to Hungary highlights the complex intersection of international law, geopolitics, and diplomacy that continues to shape the global response to the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Markets End Lower Amid Tariff Concerns; IT Sector Hit Hard.



Domestic stock markets suffered a moderate loss. Benchmark indices started in a gap-down on Thursday after US President Donald Trump announced tariffs. Investors started selling after global markets crashed suddenly and negative signals came from Asian markets. They started buying again after it was known that the impact of tariffs would be minimal and pharma companies were excluded. After that, the markets, which had covered some losses, continued to be range-bound until the end. The Nifty IT index bled. It fell by 4.5%. Pharma, healthcare and bank indices were hit. Overall, the Nifty ended 82 points lower and the Sensex 322 points lower.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 76,617 in the previous session, opened at 75,811 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 75,807. It reached an intraday high of 76,493. It ended at 76,295, down 322 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 23,150, touched a low of 23,145 and a high of 23,306. It closed at 23,250, down 82 points. The Nifty Bank rose 294 points to settle at 51,597.

In the Nifty50, 22 companies gained while 26 lost. Power Grid, Sun Pharma, Ultratech Sem, Cipla, Shriram Finance were the top gainers. TCS, Tech Mahindra, HCL Tech, Infi, ONGC were the biggest losers. Pharma, healthcare, PSU bank, CPSE, media, PSE, bank, private bank, consumption and energy sector indices rose. IT, auto, metals, oil, finance and realty indices fell.

Market breadth on NSE turned in favour of buyers. Out of a total of 2963 shares traded, 2057 gained and 829 lost. Shares of 37 companies touched 52-week highs and 24 shares touched 52-week lows. 287 shares touched the upper circuit and 25 shares touched the lower circuit.

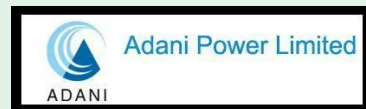
The rupee strengthened by 7 paise against the dollar to settle at 85.44. Ipca Laboratories shares gained the most in 13 months today. Ola Electric announced that it will deliver vehicles on the same day of registration. 14 lakh shares changed hands in BHEL. Jindal Steel acquired Allied Stripes. IDFC Bank shares rose to a ten-month high today. Bank of India's deposit growth was 10.6% in FY25, loan growth was 13.6%. Crude oil prices fell by 3% today. Dhanalakshmi Bank's Q4 deposits grew by 12% to Rs 16,013 crore. Bank of Baroda's deposits grew by 9.3% to Rs 12.42 lakh crore. 11 lakh shares changed hands in Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services. Some experts have estimated that India's GDP may decline by 50 basis points with the 26% tariffs implemented by Trump. Reliance Industries will build a biogas plant in Andhra Pradesh.

UltraTech Cement Ltd.
UltraTech Cement, India's largest cement manufacturer, has been experiencing steady demand, driven by infrastructure projects and real estate recovery. The company recently announced capacity

expansions and strategic acquisitions to strengthen its market dominance. Despite fluctuating raw material costs, UltraTech has managed to maintain profitability through operational efficiencies and cost optimizations. The stock has been relatively stable, with minor corrections due to overall market sentiment. Analysts continue to maintain a positive outlook, given the increasing cement demand across urban and rural regions.



Adani Power Ltd.
Adani Power has been at the forefront of India's energy sector, benefiting from rising electricity demand and increased coal availability. The company has secured long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) that provide revenue stability. Recent expansion plans, including new thermal and renewable energy projects, are expected to boost future earnings.



The stock has seen strong momentum, supported by favorable government policies and sectoral tailwinds. However, investors remain cautious about regulatory risks and fluctuations in fuel costs. Overall, Adani Power is well-positioned for long-term growth, especially as India accelerates its energy transition.

Punjab National Bank (PNB)
PNB, one of India's leading public sector banks, has been focusing on improving asset quality and expanding its loan book. The bank recently reported a decline in non-performing assets (NPAs), reflecting improved credit discipline. Additionally, PNB's digital banking initiatives and expansion into retail lending have been driving business growth.



However, the stock has faced volatility due to concerns over interest rate fluctuations and sectoral challenges. Analysts maintain a neutral-to-positive outlook, citing improving fundamentals and government support for PSU banks.

Adani Enterprises Ltd.
Adani Enterprises, the flagship company of the Adani Group, continues to expand aggressively across multiple sectors, including infrastructure, airports, green energy, and mining. The company has been making strategic investments in data centers, hydrogen projects, and logistics, positioning itself as a diversified business conglomerate.



Despite market fluctuations, Adani Enterprises has maintained investor confidence with its long-term vision and high-growth business segments. The stock has been volatile but remains a key watch for long-term investors, especially given its expansion into emerging industries.

Rupee Closes Stronger Against Dollar After Trump Tariffs

The Indian rupee closed stronger against the US dollar on Thursday, recovering from early losses triggered by the latest tariff announcement from US President Donald Trump. The currency strengthened by 7 paise to settle at 85.44 per dollar, bouncing back after opening at 85.75—its sharpest opening drop since March 10. On Wednesday, the rupee had closed at 85.51 per dollar. Trump's decision to impose steep reciprocal tariffs on major trading partners, including China and the European Union, initially rattled markets. However, investor sentiment stabilized later in the day, helping the rupee erase its early losses. Brent crude prices also declined, falling 3.2% to \$72.52 per barrel amid a broader market sell-off. The drop in oil prices provided

some relief for import-dependent economies like India, as energy products, including oil and natural gas, were exempted from the new US tariffs. "There is considerable uncertainty around implementation and how other countries will retaliate," said Abhishek Goenka, Founder & CEO of India Forex & Asset Management. The US has introduced significantly higher reciprocal tariffs than expected, imposing a minimum 10% duty on all imports while introducing additional levies on 60 countries. For India, the Trump administration has determined that tariffs, factoring in currency manipulation and trade barriers, should be as high as 52%, according to Goenka. The first phase of these tariffs, a baseline 10% duty, will take effect



on April 5, while the higher tariffs targeting India, China, and the EU will come into force from April 9. Addressing an event titled 'Liberation Day' at the White House, Trump defended the move, stating that the tariffs were necessary to counter "unfair trade policies" that have weakened US manufacturers and disrupted supply chains. He described the new levies as his strongest action yet against what he called an "imbalanced" global trade system.

NCLT rejects insolvency plea against Zomato over Payment Dispute

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Delhi on Thursday dismissed an insolvency plea filed against food delivery giant Zomato by uniform supplier Nona Lifestyle over an alleged payment default of ₹1.64 crore.

The tribunal rejected the plea on procedural grounds, stating that Nona Lifestyle had failed to comply with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). It ruled that the company had not properly served the mandatory notice under Section 8 of the IBC before filing the case. The original plea was previously dismissed in November 2024 after Nona Lifestyle's lawyer failed to appear for the hearing. When the company later sought to restore the case, the tribunal denied the request, stating that an invalid plea could not be revived. Nona Lifestyle, a business-to-business apparel manufacturer, had sought to initiate a Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) against Zomato, alleging non-payment for uniforms and merchandise, including ICC World Cup 2023 apparel. According to the company, Zomato placed multiple orders in 2023 for rider uniforms, trousers, and World Cup jerseys but later delayed payments and refused deliveries, citing storage issues. The plea included details of specific purchase orders, such as an order dated July 18, 2023, for 32,724 rider t-shirts, generat-



ing five invoices worth ₹16.47 lakh. While Nona Lifestyle delivered 11,210 t-shirts, the remaining 21,500 were not accepted due to payment disputes, leaving the undelivered stock in the supplier's warehouse. Another order from June 6, 2023, for 35,000 t-shirts worth ₹51.45 lakh also faced delivery delays, attracting penalties under Zomato's agreement. Nona Lifestyle further alleged that Zomato pressured it into offering discounts through "threats and warnings" and later refused to accept remaining World Cup jerseys, citing a "failed campaign." Since the jerseys were custom-made, they could not be resold. Zomato denied the allegations, stating that Nona Lifestyle repeatedly missed delivery deadlines, triggering contractual penalties. It argued that the delays caused "substantial reputational and goodwill damage" and maintained that it only paid for delivered jerseys after adjusting penalties and advance payments.

Will Nike & Adidas prices rise after Trump's new tariffs?

The latest reciprocal tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump, particularly the 46% duty on Vietnam, are expected to disrupt the supply chains of major global footwear brands like Nike and Adidas. With Vietnam being a key production hub, these tariffs may lead to higher consumer prices and impact the country's \$44 billion export market. Vietnam plays a crucial role in the global footwear industry, with nearly half of Nike's shoes and 27% of Adidas products manufactured there. According to Bloomberg, Vietnam contributes over \$20 billion in annual revenue for the two brands combined. The newly imposed tariffs could force price hikes as shifting supply chains is not a viable option for performance footwear due to specialized manufacturing requirements. Nike has already projected a decline in its

gross margin this quarter due to tariffs imposed on China and Mexico. Analyst Poonam Goyal from Bloomberg Intelligence stated, "I can't see how prices to consumers don't go up." Apart from Nike and Adidas, Vietnam is also a key supplier for brands like Uniqlo, H&M, and Gap. The US remains Vietnam's largest export market, benefiting from previous trade shifts during Trump's first term. However, Trump's long-standing criticism of Vietnam's trade practices suggests further trade measures could be in store. Vietnam's appeal to global brands lies in its low labor costs, skilled workforce, and stable transport routes. However, with Trump's renewed tariff policies, the country's booming footwear and apparel industry may face significant challenges in the coming years.



Air India's legacy Boeing 777 Returns with New Look

Air India has received the first of its legacy Boeing 777-300ER aircraft after a major revamp, unveiling a fresh look with upgraded interiors. Officials stated that the remaining 12 planes in the fleet will be overhauled by the end of the year. The refurbishment of the aircraft, conducted in Singapore, took around 50 days. The delay in the refit, which was initially planned for last year, was attributed to supply chain issues. However, Air India has now undertaken a heavy refresh of its older aircraft, enhancing cabins with new seats, carpets, cushions, and entertainment systems while also fixing broken seats. Air India operates 13 legacy Boeing 777s, which are primarily used for ultra-long-haul flights exceeding 14 hours. These flights connect major destinations such as Toronto and Vancouver in Canada and Newark, New York, San Francisco, and Chicago in the US. The airline's fleet comprises 67 wide-body aircraft, including 19 B777-300ERs (6 leased

from Etihad Airways), 8 B777-200LRs (5 leased from Delta Air Lines), 7 B787-9s, 27 legacy B787-8s, and 6 A350-600s. The first legacy B787 is scheduled for a retrofit in April. On the narrow-body front, Air India operates 14 A321neos, 94 A320neos, 13 A321ceos, 4 A320ceos, and 6 A319s. As part of Air India's \$400 million retrofit initiative, the first upgraded A320neo has already resumed service, with all 27 A320neos expected to be overhauled by the third quarter of this year. Air India MD and CEO Campbell Wilson stated that all legacy wide-body aircraft are expected to be refurbished by mid-2027. He acknowledged ongoing supply challenges, including shortages of engines for narrow-body aircraft, seat supply issues, and sourcing difficulties for fuselage components. "Reality is that it is going to remain a supply-constrained market, not just for Air India or India but worldwide, for another four to five years. We are victims of the circumstances, as is every other airline," Wilson remarked.

Trump's New Tariff Plan Sparks Debate



President Donald Trump has announced sweeping tariffs, imposing a 10% duty on all imports into the United States. Additionally, higher tariffs will apply to around 60 countries and trade blocs with significant trade deficits with the U.S. Among the hardest-hit are China and the European Union, which face tariffs of 34% and 20%, respectively. During his announcement, Trump displayed a plaque outlining the calculation method, stating that the tariffs reflect "approximately half of what they are and have been charging us." He emphasized that

the new policy aims to counteract tariffs, non-monetary trade barriers, and other trade imbalances. The internet quickly analyzed the numbers, with many observers noting a pattern. Several netizens, including investment expert Julian Klymochko and logistics CEO Ryan Petersen, suggested that the tariff rates are derived by dividing the U.S. trade deficit with a country by the value of imports from that country. Critics argue this formula lacks economic logic. Klymochko called it the "biggest economic blunder of all time," while others labeled it "incomprehensible."

Despite the backlash, White House trade adviser Peter Navarro projected that the new tariffs would generate \$600 billion annually, making it the largest tax increase since World War II. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent stated that the tariffs could be adjusted through negotiations. The policy has triggered intense debate globally, with foreign leaders and economists scrambling to assess its impact. As nations calculate their retaliatory measures, the economic ramifications of Trump's tariff strategy remain uncertain.

The Delhi Metro, often regarded as the city's lifeline, has once again found itself in the spotlight—not for its efficiency, but for an unexpected in-transit performance. A viral video shows a man breaking into an impromptu song and dance inside a metro coach, leaving fellow passengers amused and surprised. The 33-second clip, originally posted on Reddit, captures the unidentified commuter standing near the coach door, singing and dancing as he waits for his stop. The performance caught the attention of other passengers, some of whom looked on in disbelief, while others quickly pulled out their phones to record the spectacle. The video's caption humorously noted, "You don't need any subscription to binge-watch in Delhi Metro." The clip has since gained traction online, drawing laughter and lighthearted reactions from netizens. Many found it entertaining, calling it a refreshing break from the usual hustle of daily commutes. Others poked fun at the unexpected entertainment, comparing it to the growing trend of unusual metro incidents, including public fights, fashion statements, and spontaneous performances. As Delhi Metro continues to be a hub of viral moments, this latest clip adds to the list of amusing encounters commuters experience on their daily rides.



Delhi Metro Passenger's Impromptu Dance Goes Viral

Train Passenger's Foot-on-Tray Photo Sparks Debate



A viral photo of a woman resting her bare foot on a train's tray table has sparked an online debate about civic sense and public etiquette. Shared on social media, the image shows the woman lying across multiple seats, with one foot on a seat and the other on the tray table. She also placed her bags on the table, leaving some questioning whether she had booked the entire row or was simply making herself comfortable. The post quickly gained traction, drawing mixed reactions. Some netizens criticized the act as disrespectful, highlighting a broader issue of poor public behavior. One user remarked, "This is why Indians are looked down upon—poor public manners and hygiene." Others pointed out similar behavior worldwide, with one commenter sharing, "I saw a white lady do the same on a

flight from Philadelphia to Dallas." Meanwhile, some defended the woman, arguing that long train journeys with cramped seating often make passengers uncomfortable. One user wrote, "If seats are empty, what's wrong with sitting comfortably?" Another added, "People complain about everything without understanding the situation." The debate also extended to social class and economic growth, with a comment stating, "Many people have gained wealth but lack etiquette. The IT industry has contributed to this." Despite the controversy, the post has amassed over nine lakh views, proving once again how simple actions in public spaces can ignite widespread discussions on social norms.

Elon Musk Reacts to Sleep Study



A new study has drawn a strong link between poor sleep quality and an increased risk of brain shrinkage and Alzheimer's disease. Researchers suggest that improving sleep habits could delay or even reduce the risk of cognitive decline, sparking widespread discussion about the importance of rest. The study comes at a time when hustle culture continues to glorify sleepless nights, with many high-profile entrepreneurs known for sacrificing rest to maximize productivity. One such figure is Elon Musk, who has long been associated with intense work schedules and minimal sleep. As the CEO of Tesla, SpaceX, and Neuralink, Musk has often described working late into the night, even sleeping on factory floors to meet deadlines. However, the billionaire's response to this latest research suggests he may be rethinking—or at least acknowledging—the potential risks of his sleep habits. Reacting to the study, Musk

posted a simple but telling response on social media: "Uh oh." His comment quickly gained traction, with many users chiming in about the long-term effects of chronic sleep deprivation. Experts emphasize that sleep plays a crucial role in brain health, memory consolidation, and overall well-being. Studies have consistently shown that inadequate sleep can accelerate cognitive decline and contribute to neurodegenerative conditions like Alzheimer's. While Musk's work ethic has inspired many, this research raises questions about the long-term impact of sleep deprivation on even the most high-performing individuals. Musk's reaction, whether serious or in jest, highlights the growing awareness of sleep's role in maintaining cognitive function. With science continuing to underline the necessity of quality rest, the study serves as a reminder that even the world's busiest minds may need to prioritize sleep for long-term health.



Netflix Expands Language Options for TV Viewers

Netflix has introduced enhanced language options for television users, allowing viewers to access the full range of available subtitles and dubbing languages for any title. The update aims to make the platform's global catalog more accessible, especially as nearly a third of its total viewership comes from non-English language content. The move comes in response to increasing demand for multilingual access, with Netflix stating that it receives thousands of language availability requests every month. Previously, TV users could only choose from a limited selection of languages, but the new update ensures

broader access across its extensive catalog. Popular international titles such as South Korea's *Squid Game*, Spain's *Berlin*, and Germany's Oscar-winning *All Quiet on the Western Front* have drawn global audiences, thanks in part to their availability in multiple languages. Netflix currently provides subtitles in 33 languages and audio dubbing in 36 languages, though availability varies by title. With this expansion, Netflix continues to strengthen its position as a global streaming giant, catering to the diverse linguistic preferences of its subscribers worldwide.



PR Sreejesh Leads Player Development Workshop for Pro Kabaddi Stars

Mashal Sports, the organizers of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL), successfully conducted the 'PKL Level Up' Player Development Workshop to help kabaddi players grow beyond the mat.

The event featured renowned speakers, including Olympic medallist PR Sreejesh, Alpi Chaudhari from Meta India, content creator Deepak Pareek, and sports psychologist Dr. Chaitanya Sridhar. The sessions covered personal branding, media handling, and mental fitness for professional athletes.

PR Sreejesh emphasized teamwork and resilience, stating, "Real growth comes from failure. The ones who persist and improve ultimately succeed." He also highlighted the importance of off-field conduct, including social media presence and personal values.

Dr. Chaitanya Sridhar stressed mental preparedness for handling pressure and injuries. PKL Commissioner Anupam Goswami called such initiatives crucial for shaping the future of kabaddi and inspiring young players.

The workshop marked a significant step in enhancing players' careers beyond their on-field performances.



World Boxing Cup Brazil 2025: Manish Rathore, Hitesh, Abhinash Jamwal Storm into Semifinals

Indian boxers Manish Rathore, Hitesh, and Abhinash Jamwal put on dominant performances in their quarterfinal bouts at the World Boxing Cup Brazil 2025 on Thursday, securing their spots in the semifinals.

In the 65kg category, Jamwal outclassed Germany's Denis Brill with a unanimous decision. Hitesh, competing in the 70kg category, also secured a convincing win over Italy's Gabriele Guidi Rontani.

Manish Rathore faced a tough challenge against Australia's Paris Olympian Yusuf Chothia in the 55kg category but showcased resilience, earning a 3:2 split decision victory.

In the semifinals,

- **Rathore will face Nursultan Altynbek (Kazakhstan),**
- **Hitesh will take on Makan Traore,**
- **Jamwal will fight Gianluigi Malanga (Italy).**

Meanwhile, Jadumani Singh Mandengbam advanced to the 50kg semifinals, while India's challenge in the 75kg, 85kg, and 90+kg categories ended.

KKR Crush SRH by 80 Runs to Bounce Back in IPL 2025



Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) stormed back to winning ways with a dominant 80-run victory over Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in their IPL 2025 clash at Eden Gardens on Thursday. Batting first, KKR put up an imposing total of 200/6 in their 20 overs. Venkatesh Iyer led the charge with a blistering 60 off 29 balls, while Rinku Singh's unbeaten 36 off 18 deliveries provided the finishing touch. In response, SRH suffered a disastrous start, losing wickets in quick succession. Impact substitute Vaibhav Arora rattled their top-order, leaving them reeling early in the chase. While debutant Kamindu Mendis and Heinrich Klaasen attempted to fight back, their dismissals ended any hopes of a turnaround. Klaasen managed a quick 33 off 21 balls, but SRH fell well short, getting bowled out for 120. This loss marks SRH's third consecutive defeat in the tournament, raising concerns about their form moving forward.

Kriish Tyagi Prepares for Junior Grand Slam Journey

17-year-old Kriish Tyagi, India's top-ranked junior tennis player, is gearing up for a pivotal season as he prepares to compete in Junior Grand Slams. His schedule includes tournaments in Malaysia, Thailand, and the French Open, followed by Wimbledon and the US Open.

Recently, Tyagi played at the SM Krishna Memorial Open in Bengaluru but faced an early exit. Despite the loss, he remains focused, citing altitude differences and match rhythm as key challenges. Earlier, he made a strong run to the ITF M25 Ahmedabad Open semifinals, reaffirming his ability to compete at higher levels.

Discussing the transition to senior circuits, Tyagi highlighted the importance of crucial points and mental composure. He also credited support from the Tennis Association, which has provided wildcards into key events. With a packed calendar ahead, the young star is optimistic about his Grand Slam ambitions and India's rising tennis talent.



Diksha Dagar Returns to South Africa for Joburg Open

Indian golfer Diksha Dagar is set to compete in the Joburg Open, returning to the country where she secured her maiden Ladies European Tour (LET) title at the 2019 South African Open. She is currently fifth on the Order of Merit after a strong season, finishing runner-up at the Lalla Meryem Cup and T-11 at the New South Wales Open. Joining her in Johannesburg are fellow Indians Pranavi Urs, Avani Prashanth, and Tvesa Malik. Pranavi finished T-14 in New South Wales, while rookie Avani has been consistent, making the cut in all three starts. Tvesa, a past winner on the Sunshine Ladies Tour, looks to regain form. The Modderfontein Golf Course, known for its challenging water hazards, hosts a 132-player field, including 38 LET winners. Defending champion Chiara Tamburlini aims to retain her title in the 72-hole stroke play event, which sees a cut after 36 holes.



Umpires, Match Officials Announced for Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 Qualifier

The ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 Qualifier will take place in Pakistan from April 9-19, with six teams competing for two spots in the prestigious tournament.

A panel of 10 umpires has been appointed, including Saleema Imtiaz, the first Pakistani woman on an ICC umpiring panel. Other notable umpires include Masudur Rahman Mukul and Shatira Jakir Jesy (Bangladesh), Sarah Dambanevana (Zimbabwe), and Donovan Koch (Australia).

The match referees for the event are Ali Naqvi (Pakistan), Shandre Fritz (South Africa), and Trudy Anderson (New Zealand).

ICC Senior Manager - Umpires and Referees, Sean Easey, expressed confidence in the officials, emphasizing their experience and preparation. He highlighted the tournament as a crucial step for teams on their path to the World Cup.



GD Birla Memorial Masters Badminton Tournament Set to Begin

The 31st edition of the GD Birla Memorial Masters Inter-Club Badminton Tournament will take place at Bombay Gymkhana from April 4-6 and 8-12. Recognized as the premier veteran badminton tournament, it continues to attract top veteran players from various districts. Organized by Badminton Gurukul, the event has seen significant growth, with over 20 teams and more than 150 individual entries this year.

Ayaz Bilawala, Organizing Secretary, expressed his excitement about the tournament's rising stature, highlighting the veteran community's enthusiasm. Supriya Devgun, Founder & MD of Badminton Gurukul, emphasized the tournament's role in promoting badminton culture among veteran athletes, making it a marquee event in the circuit.



Balakrishna on Aditya 369: Fans Go Wild!

The trend of hosting pre-release events for re-released films is catching on, and Nandamuri Balakrishna made it even more special at the Aditya 369 re-release event. Produced by Sridevi Movies and directed by Singeetam Srinivasa Rao, Aditya 369 remains a landmark sci-fi film in Telugu cinema. Speaking at the event, Balayya reminisced about how the film was crafted

with future generations in mind. He credited the visionary storytelling and Sri Krishnadevaraya's role as the film's core, which audiences still cherish. Balakrishna also hinted at something fans have been eagerly waiting for, without giving them a chance to ask—leaving them thrilled and celebrating. With the hype building, the re-release of Aditya 369 is set to be a grand affair!



Jonita Gandhi's Juno Look Oozes Diva Energy!

If music had a dress code, Jonita Gandhi just redefined it! The powerhouse singer, known for Arabic Kuthu and What Jhumka?, turned heads at the Juno Awards in Vancouver—not just with her voice but with her dazzling ensemble. Styled by Manish Malhotra, Jonita wore a mesmerizing golden, blue, and pink sequined dress that flowed like a dream. The elegant hooded design added a regal touch, making her look like a high-fashion sorceress casting a musical spell. Under the stage lights, her shimmering outfit seemed to groove along with her performance. Jonita didn't just own the stage—she commanded it with diva energy. If fashion and music had a love child, it would be taking notes from her!



Siddhu Jonnalagadda's Jack Trailer Promises Action and Laughs

The trailer for Jack, starring Star Boy Siddhu Jonnalagadda, has finally dropped, giving fans a glimpse of an action-packed comedy directed by Bommarillu Bhaskar. Featuring Vaishnavi Chaitanya as the female lead, the film blends humor with thrilling action sequences.

The plot follows Jack, a private agency agent tasked with hunting down four terrorists. Meanwhile, Prakash Raj's character is also on the same mission, leading to a high-stakes clash. Will they work together to complete their objective? And how does Vaishnavi Chaitanya's role tie into the story?

The 3-minute, 6-second trailer showcases Siddhu's signature wit, intense action, and an engaging background score by Sricharan Pakala. Produced by BVSN Prasad, Jack has heightened anticipation ahead of its release. Stay tuned for more updates!



Nayanthara Joins Yash's Thriller Toxic Ahead of Test Release



As Test, Nayanthara's much-anticipated sports drama, gears up for its Netflix premiere on April 4, 2025, the actress has already dived into her next project. She recently joined the shoot for Toxic, an action-packed thriller starring KGF star Yash and directed by Geetu Mohandas. Spotted at the Mumbai airport, Nayanthara's role in the film remains under wraps, but insiders

hint it could be a game-changing character. The film features an ensemble cast, including Kiara Advani, Huma Qureshi, Tara Sutaria, and Akshay Oberoi. Backed by Venkat K. Narayana and Yash, Toxic is a high-budget venture, reportedly costing over Rs. 200 crore. Set for a worldwide release on March 19, 2026, in multiple languages, including English, the film promises to be a thrilling cinematic spectacle.

Vaani Kapoor Shares Glamorous Backstage Moments

Vaani Kapoor dazzled at Vivienne Westwood's debut show in India, wearing a stunning golden bodycon gown. The Khel Khel Mein actress shared a behind-the-scenes video on Instagram, offering fans a glimpse into her transformation for the event. The clip showed her make-up artists and stylists working on her look, followed by her posing for pictures and walking the red carpet.



The video also captured a lighthearted moment where Vaani dealt with lipstick stains on her teeth, humorously calling herself a "vampire." She demonstrated a quick hack to remove excess lipstick, earning praise from fans. Beyond fashion, Vaani is making headlines for her upcoming film Abir Gulaal with Fawad Khan, set to release on May 9, 2025. A teaser featuring the duo in a romantic rain-soaked scene has already created buzz among fans.

Catherine Tresa's Phani Held a 5-Day Snake Audition!



Telugu actress Catherine Tresa is set to shine in Phani, a psychological thriller directed by VN Aditya. Produced by Dr. Meenakshi under O.M.G. Productions, the film marks the banner's debut. The motion poster was launched in Hyderabad by legendary director Raghavendra Rao, adding to the film's growing anticipation. VN Aditya shared that Phani started as a small project but transformed into a global film after Catherine joined. She dedicated herself to the role, even attending special workshops. One of the film's most unique aspects is its use of a real snake. To ensure the perfect reptilian co-star, the team held a five-day audition, using three cameras to evaluate different snakes before selecting a black pine. Phani promises a thrilling cinematic experience!