



1st Page Cont..

Weather Alert: Heavy Rains Predicted in Telangana

Mahabubabad, Mulugu, Jangaon, Hanamkonda, and Suryapet. Officials have urged residents in these regions to stay alert and take necessary precautions against possible weather-related disruptions. Authorities are also monitoring the situation closely and may issue further advisories if conditions worsen. Citizens are advised to avoid unnecessary travel and stay updated through official weather bulletins.

AI-Fabricated HCU Land Controversy: FIRs Filed Against Celebrities and Politicians

Artificial Intelligence (AI) to create and circulate fake photos and videos on social media, portraying a distorted narrative around the HCU land development.

Gachibowli Police have so far registered seven FIRs, targeting individuals accused of spreading misinformation using AI-generated content. Among those booked are well-known figures such as K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) of BRS, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, and celebrities like Raveena Tandon, John Abraham, and Dia Mirza. Former minister and MLA Jagdish Reddy is also named.

The police allege that fabricated visuals showed wildlife like peacocks and deer fleeing from bulldozers—a narrative that sparked massive online backlash. Authorities believe these visuals were deliberately manipulated using AI to mislead the public and incite unrest.

In addition to the named personalities, members of the BRS IT and social media teams are being treated as accused. Police have also registered cases against nearly 150 protestors, including activists from BJP, ABVP, and CPM, who staged demonstrations at HCU.

The state government had earlier expressed concern about AI-generated misinformation, calling it a “new-age menace” capable of misleading society and undermining development projects. The High Court has agreed to hear the case on April 24.

BRS GHMC Leaders Meet Today at Telangana Bhavan

Society office. The protestors expressed outrage over the display of former CM KCR’s photo, questioning how it could remain in a facility now governed by the Congress.

The activists allegedly demanded CM Revanth Reddy’s photo be put up instead, tearing down KCR’s portraits, BRS scheme stickers, and flex banners in the process. Staff members who intervened were reportedly physically assaulted during the confrontation.

This aggressive move has drawn sharp reactions and is expected to be a major point of discussion at the BRS meeting later today.

Telangana Moves HC Over HCU Fake Videos

a routine land development matter into a national-level controversy. The state has requested judicial direction to investigate and regulate the creation and sharing of such deceptive digital media, especially when aimed at disrupting public order and development.

The petition marks the first legal move against AI-fueled misinformation in Telangana.

Deputy CM Bhatti Orders Withdrawal of HCU Student Cases

TPN, Correspondent| Hyderabad

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu on Monday directed police officials to immediately withdraw the cases filed against students of the Hyderabad Central University (HCU). The directive came following a high-level meeting held at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, which included HCU Teachers’ Association representatives and members from civil society.

The discussion was part of a sub-committee review involving Ministers Duddilla Sridhar Babu and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, who joined Deputy CM Bhatti in evaluating the ongoing situation. In light of concerns raised by the academic and civil groups, Bhatti emphasized the need for sensitive handling of the issue and instructed officials to ensure that students are not unfairly targeted.

He specifically ordered

that steps be taken for the immediate withdrawal of cases filed against two students currently in judicial remand. Further, Bhatti directed the legal department to advise the police to proceed cautiously, ensuring that no legal complications arise during the process of case withdrawal.

The Deputy CM stated that the government is committed to protecting democratic rights and upholding the values of peaceful protest and academic freedom. He assured the stakeholders that the state would take all necessary steps to restore confidence among students and the academic community.

This move is being seen as an effort by the Telangana government to de-escalate tensions and reaffirm its commitment to student welfare amid the broader controversy surrounding the HCU land issue.

“Telangana Targets Two Lakh AI Engineers: Sridhar Babu”

- AI University part of Future City
- 70 GCCs launched last year
- Focus on industrial decentralization statewide
- Strengthening Singapore-Telangana tech collaboration

TPN, Correspondent| Hyderabad

Telangana’s ambitious technological vision received a major boost as IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu announced the government’s target to train two lakh Artificial Intelligence (AI) engineers. The announcement came during a courtesy visit by a high-level Singapore delegation, led by Consul General Edgar Pang, at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat on Monday.

The Minister briefed

the delegation on Telangana’s evolving position as a hub for emerging technologies.

He highlighted the ongoing efforts to skill the state’s youth and equip them to harness global AI job opportunities. Central to this vision is the upcoming AI University within the ‘Future City’ project, which is being developed to international standards.

Minister Sridhar Babu noted that Hyderabad is rapidly becoming a center for Global Capability Cen-



ters (GCCs), with around 70 new centers launched in the past year alone, covering sectors like IT and hospitality. He emphasized the state’s push to spread industrial development beyond Hyderabad, particularly to Warangal and Karimnagar.

The Minister invited

the Singapore delegation to collaborate in technology, skill development, and industrial sectors, encouraging them to promote Telangana’s investor-friendly ecosystem among Singapore-based enterprises.

The meeting was attended by Consul Vaish-

navi Vasudevan, First Secretary (Economic) Vivek Raghu Raman, and Denis Tam, Regional Director (India – South) of Enterprise Singapore, among others. The discussions marked a significant step in strengthening bilateral cooperation between Telangana and Singapore.

“Green Power, Ring Road, Musi Revival Our Priorities” – Dy CM Bhatti to Singapore Delegation

TPN, Correspondent| Hyderabad

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Monday emphasized that Green Energy, Regional Ring Road, Musi River Rejuvenation, and Education are top priority sectors for the Telangana government.

He made these remarks during a meeting with a Singapore delegation led by Consul General Edgar Pang at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat.

During the discussion, Edgar Pang expressed Singapore’s interest in strengthening economic ties with Telangana and sought the Deputy CM’s support and guidance. In



response, Bhatti stated that the state is keen to collaborate with Singaporean firms across key developmental sectors.

He detailed Telanga-

na’s focus on solar, hydro, and pumped storage energy under the state’s new green power policy. He also explained that under the “Young India Integrat-

ed Residential Schools” initiative, the state government is building international-standard schools in every assembly constituency. In the first phase,

₹600 crore has been sanctioned, with each school to be constructed across 25 acres, highlighting it as a dream project of the government.

The Deputy CM further added that with Telangana being a city-centric state with high urban population density, urban development remains a major focus. The Singapore delegation was briefed on how the state envisions infrastructure growth in line with global standards.

Also present were Political Consul Vaishnavi Vasudevan, First Economic Secretary of Singapore High Commission, and Special Secretary to Dy CM Krishna Bhaskar.

CMO Issues Key Directives on TTD Recommendation Letters



TPN, Correspondent| Hyderabad

The Telangana Chief Minister’s Office (CMO) has issued crucial instructions regarding recommendation letters for Tirumala temple visits. In line with the new guidelines released by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), public representatives have now been directed to submit

their recommendation letters strictly through the designated online portal.

Only the letters scanned and uploaded via the portal will be considered valid by TTD. VIP break darshans and ₹300 ticket darshan privileges will be granted exclusively based on these officially submitted letters.

The CMO emphasized that these updated pro-

cedures must be strictly followed by all concerned. The new system aims to ensure transparency and reduce the pressure surrounding VIP darshan requests. These guidelines are part of broader efforts by TTD to streamline the recommendation process and manage the heavy demand for special darshan slots in a more regulated and fair manner.

Telangana Excise Department Records Massive Revenue Growth

TPN, Correspondent| Hyderabad

Liquor sales in Telangana continue to surge, significantly boosting the state’s excise revenue. According to officials, liquor sales have increased by 7% compared to the previous year, contributing a substantial income to the Prohibition and Excise Department.

For the financial year 2024–25, the department generated a total revenue of ₹34,600 crore.

Additionally, applications for new liquor shop licenses brought in ₹264.50 crore. In total, excise taxes yielded an im-

pressive ₹70,000 crore in revenue.

Despite the overall growth, beer sales saw a 3% decline, with 531 lakh cases sold during the year. Officials attributed this drop to a 15-day supply halt by beer companies and a rise in beer prices, which slightly impacted consumer demand.

However, liquor sales increased by 2%, showing a steady annual growth trend. Authorities noted that liquor sales in Telangana have consistently risen year after year, making the sector a key revenue contributor for the state.



What Has BJP Done for Telangana?



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Telangana PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud launched a scathing attack on the BJP, questioning its contributions to the state despite winning 8 Lok Sabha seats. Addressing a press meet at Gandhi Bhavan, Goud alleged that the BJP-led central government has completely ignored Telangana in terms of budget allocations and fulfilling bifurcation promises. He pointed out that despite having two Union Ministers from Telangana—Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay—they have failed to even raise their voices for the state's issues. “Did they ever speak about the promises made in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act?” Goud questioned. He criticized the Centre for denying funds for Hyderabad Metro, resulting in the project slipping from the second to ninth position in the country. Furthermore, he slammed the central government for not allocating a single rupee for the revival of the Musi River, despite multiple requests. Goud also demanded to know why the BJP leaders haven't pushed for 42% reservations for BCs. He concluded by stating that the BJP's treatment of Telangana is akin to that of a “stepmother,” and urged people to recognize the party's indifference towards the state's genuine needs and development.

MP Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy Slams BJP-BRS Over Gachibowli Land Row



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Congress MP Chamal Kiran Kumar Reddy strongly countered the allegations and misinformation surrounding the Kanchanagachibowli land issue, accusing BJP and BRS of orchestrating a political conspiracy to divert public attention from welfare initiatives. Speaking informally to the media, the MP clarified that neither he nor Congress has any claim on the disputed lands and condemned efforts to incite HCU students and faculty. He said students were being misled by external forces who are using them as pawns in a larger conspiracy. He alleged that fake videos are being circulated, tagging Rahul Gandhi and KC Venugopal, to create an impression of internal dissent. “This is a psychological ploy by BJP and BRS to destabilize the government,” he said. Reddy also expressed displeasure over certain media reports misquoting Meenakshi Natarajan, the Congress in-charge, regarding the land issue, and said speculations are being portrayed as facts. He questioned why BRS fought over the 400-acre land for a decade if there was no deal with Billie Rao. He asserted that only statements from CM Revanth Reddy or Minister Sridhar Babu represent the official stance. Dismissing rumors about HCU relocation as baseless, he said reclaiming leased land for public development shouldn't be a problem.

Raja Singh Threatens Owaisi Brothers with Deportation

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
BJP Goshamahal MLA T. Raja Singh has sparked a fresh controversy with incendiary remarks aimed at the Owaisi brothers—AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi and MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi. Speaking at a public event, Raja Singh claimed that once the BJP forms government in Telangana, the Owaisi brothers would be “thrown into a dog cage and sent to Pakistan.” He accused the Owaisis of exploiting the Muslim community, stating that they had looted minority assets under the guise of religion. “They've stolen land in the name of the Waqf Board, expanding it from 4,000 to over 9.5 lakh acres by manipulation,” he alleged.

Kadiyam Srihari Accused of Land Grab

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Former Deputy Chief Minister and BRS leader Tatikonda Rajaiah has levelled serious allegations against Station Ghanpur MLA and ex-Minister Kadiyam Srihari, accusing him of attempting to illegally grab land in Devunoor village, located within his own constituency. Addressing the media, Rajaiah claimed that Srihari, along with his daughter Kavya and son-in-



law Nazir, is conspiring to seize these lands unjustly.

Rajaiah demanded a thorough judicial probe into the matter, preferably under a sitting judge, to uncover the alleged land grabbing and conspiracy. He warned that if justice is not delivered, he and his party (BRS) will initiate a legal battle to protect the land and expose the alleged misuse of power. “These lands belong to the people, and any attempt to encroach upon them will be re-

sisted strongly,” Rajaiah said, calling for immediate intervention from authorities. Notably, there has been no response yet from Kadiyam Srihari or his supporters regarding these explosive accusations. The silence has only fueled political speculation and stirred discussions within the constituency and state political circles. The issue is expected to gain further traction in the coming days.

Political Firestorm

Jeevan Reddy Slams Sanjay Kumar's Re-Entry



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a sharp political attack, former MLC Jeevan Reddy lashed out at Jagtial MLA Sanjay Kumar over his recent rejoining of the Congress party. Jeevan Reddy, who has long opposed Sanjay's return, accused him of using his past political power to harass Congress workers during his tenure with the BRS. He alleged that Sanjay Kumar, who once oppressed Congress cadre and the general public while in power, has now opportunistically re-entered the Congress after losing his political grip. “He exploited authority for a decade, tormented our workers, and now wears a Congress mask to re-establish dominance,” Reddy fumed. Jeevan Reddy further expressed discontent over the party leadership giving prominence to political entrants from other parties, sidelining loyal veterans who have toiled for decades. He demanded that future promotions of government schemes and constituency responsibilities be handled exclusively by these new entrants. Declaring he would never bow to anyone, Jeevan Reddy asserted his right to voice opinions openly. “I've fought and sacrificed for this party. No one can silence me,” he emphasized, signaling continued resistance to Sanjay Kumar's position in the party. This intensifies the internal rift in the Congress ahead of the elections.

MLC Kavitha to Stage Protest at Indira Park

“BC Icon Deserves Respect: Kavitha's Resolute Stand”

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha will stage a one-day protest on Tuesday at Indira Park, Hyderabad, demanding the installation of a statue of Mahatma Jyotirao Phule in the Telangana Assembly premises. The demonstration, organized jointly by Telangana Jagruthi and United Phule Front (UPF), will take place from 10 AM to 5 PM. Kavitha has been at the forefront of this cause, calling Phule the “spiritual beacon” for Backward Classes (BCs) and emphasizing the need to honor him appropriately in the state's highest legislative platform. Despite repeated appeals to Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad and round-table meetings across districts, the demand has not been met, prompting intensified agitation. On Monday, Telangana Jagruthi leader Naveen Achari and UPF Co-Convener Bolla Shiva Shankar reviewed arrangements at Indira Park. They asserted that the government must not neglect BC sentiments and must act before April 11 — Phule Jayanti. Shiva Shankar warned that continued government apathy would lead to escalated protests. He urged thousands, especially from BC communities, to join Kavitha in solidarity, saying the fight for respect and rightful representation will persist until justice is served.



Verbal Duel Turns Animalistic in Telangana Politics

“Yes, I'm a Loyal Dog, Not a Cunning Fox”: Palla Fires Back

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The political war of words in Telangana has intensified with BRS MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy launching a fiery counterattack on Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari. In a sensational statement, Palla said, “Yes, I'm a dog – a loyal one to KCR who trusted me. But I'm not a cunning fox who switches parties for power.” Responding to Srihari's earlier remarks likening him to a “stray dog”, Palla called Srihari a “gutta nakka” (cunning fox) who won with BRS support but defected to Con-



gress for personal gain. He accused Srihari of betraying the very party that gave him a political identity. Addressing party workers during a prepa-

ratory meeting in Jangaon ahead of the BRS's silver jubilee rally on April 27 in Elkathurthy, Palla reaffirmed his loyalty to the people and BRS. He said, “I will stand as a watchdog for the rights of the people and the party, and fight like a racing hound to protect public lands.” He also slammed the Congress government for failing to fulfill its election promises and vowed to continue questioning them both inside and outside the Assembly. The battlelines between BRS loyalists and recent defectors appear more charged than ever.

Raghunandan Slams Meenakshi–Revanth Rift, Targets BRS

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
BJP Medak MP Raghunandan Rao launched a sharp attack on the Congress party's internal affairs and Telangana's current political landscape. Speaking to RTV, he criticized Congress in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan for conducting reviews at the state Secretariat instead of party headquarters Gandhi Bhavan. He said such actions should be left to the Chief Minister and not party observers.

Highlighting the growing rift between CM Revanth Reddy and Meenakshi, he urged the Congress high command to address the issue. “Is Revanth the CM or not? Is he being sidelined? Or will Congress replace him?” he asked. He also targeted both Congress and BRS, calling them “partner thieves”, accusing them of taking turns looting the state. On the Waqf Board Bill, he assured legal action, stating that the BJP has taken similar steps

on national issues like Article 370. Addressing the Hyderabad MLC elections, he questioned why Congress isn't contesting if it believes it has public support. He appealed to councilors to vote consciously, especially those who switched parties. On the HCU controversy, he condemned the arrests of BJP leaders and demanded equal access. “BJP will fight 100%, everywhere,” he asserted.





Ex-Cop Prabhakar Rao Key in Phone Tapping: SIT



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a significant development in the sensational phone tapping case, Telangana police have submitted a strong counter to the anticipatory bail plea of former IPS officer Prabhakar Rao, accusing him of being the central figure behind the illegal surveillance operation. The public prosecutor (PP) stated that Rao, while serving as OSD in the SIB, had set up and operated the Special Operations Team (SOT) with the primary aim of tapping phones. The SOT allegedly targeted opposition leaders, government officials, businessmen, and realtors, not only invading privacy but also extorting money. The PP accused Prabhakar Rao of misusing his position, promoting officials through forged documents, and evading investigation even after retirement. Interpol has issued Red Corner Notices, and the PP noted that Rao turned to the High Court only when options ran out. Meanwhile, Sharavan Rao, another accused, is set to appear before the SIT for the third time tomorrow. Despite repeated notices, he allegedly failed to submit the relevant cellphones used during the previous elections. The High Court has adjourned Rao's bail hearing to April 15, with more critical revelations expected after tomorrow's SIT session.

Hair Hope Turns Horror: Big Scam Exposed



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
A bizarre and shocking scam has come to light in Hyderabad's Old City, where a man posing as a hair regrowth expert duped hundreds under the pretense of curing baldness. The accused, identified as Vakeel, originally hailing from Delhi, set up a salon named Bigg Boss in the bustling streets of Old City. Promising to grow hair on bald heads using a "miracle formula," Vakeel started drawing crowds with bold claims and aggressive word-of-mouth marketing. Customers were lured in with the assurance that hair would regrow on bald scalps. As part of the process, Vakeel shaved customers' heads and applied unidentified chemical substances, charging ₹200 per person. The scheme quickly gained traction with long queues forming daily outside the salon. However, the miracle turned into a medical nightmare. Many customers began experiencing severe side effects, including rashes, burns, and infections—some even required hospitalization. Realizing they were victims of a hoax, angry customers turned against the self-styled hair expert. Local police have initiated an investigation into the scam after multiple complaints were filed. Authorities are also examining the chemical substances used, and legal action is likely to follow. The case highlights the need for public awareness and strict regulation in the wellness and beauty industry.

DGP Dr. Jitender IPS Reviews Half-Yearly Crime Meeting

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Dr. Jitender IPS chaired the Half-Yearly Crime Review Meeting at the DGP Office on Monday. Senior police officers including DG Intelligence B. Shivadhar Reddy IPS, DG CID Shikha Goel IPS, ADGs, IGs, Commissioners of Police, SPs, and other senior personnel participated. Dr. Jitender, addressing the gathering, emphasized the importance of earning public trust through visible policing and community engagement. He directed officers to prioritize high-quality investigations to improve conviction rates and urged effective use of Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS). He also asked policewomen to promote women's empowerment and safe-



ty awareness. DG CID Shikha Goel IPS, in her presentation, reported a 4.9% decline in crime in the second half of 2024 compared to the first. She stated that all major crimes—except burglaries—have declined.

The crime detection rate improved from 57% in 2023 to 76% in 2024, while disposal of UI cases rose by 20.49%. **Various officers shared insights on policing initiatives:**
• Sudheer Babu IPS (Rachakonda CP): Visible policing strategies
• Amber Kishore Jha IPS (Ramagundam CP): Conviction improvement
• Sunil Datt IPS (Khammam CP): Quality investigations
• Swetha Reddy IPS (DCP, CCS): Disposal of long-pending cases
• Vijay Kumar IPS (DCP, West Zone): Cyber crime trends
• Dr. Praneeth IPS (DCP, Madhapur): Recent murder probe
Other key officers including Mahesh M Bhagwat IPS, Sanjay Kumar Jain IPS, and Swati Lakra IPS actively participated.

Congress Govt Earns Praise for Free Fine Rice Scheme: MLA Medipalli Satyam



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Congress MLA Medipalli Satyam lauded Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's government for its historic initiative of distributing fine rice free of cost to the poor, calling it a milestone in Telangana's welfare history. Speaking to the media, Satyam emphasized that

for the first time in the state's history, the Congress government filled poor people's plates with fine rice, bringing joy and dignity to their lives. He criticized the previous BRS government for allegedly neglecting the rice quality distributed to the underprivileged. He also hailed the CM's symbolic gesture of participating in Sri Rama Navami celebrations at Bhadrachalam and sharing a meal at a poor man's house, terming it a heartwarming act that reflected genuine concern for the poor. Satyam appreciated the CM's announcement to fill university posts and recruit professors, as well as the successful execution of DSC for teacher recruitment, transfers, and promotions. He credited the Congress government for ushering in a new era in the education sector and achieving what previous regimes couldn't. "While coarse rice went astray, it is fine rice that now satisfies poor households," he remarked.

GHMC Town Planning Staff Allege Harassment by Dalit Chetana Sangham Head

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Employees of the GHMC Town Planning Department have submitted formal complaints to senior state government officials, alleging harassment and false accusations by an individual operating under the name of a social organization. The employees, mostly from Dalit communities, expressed deep concern over the continued mental and professional distress caused by Naveen, who claims to be the President and Founder of Dalit Chetana Sangham. Led by Bhagyanagar GHMC Employees Union Working President B. Sridhar, the staff submitted petitions to the Chief Secretary, City Police Commissioner, GHMC Commissioner, Chief City Planning Officer, and Zonal Commissioners on Monday. According to the union, Naveen has been black-mailing lower-level Dalit employees in the Town Planning department, making baseless allega-



tions, obstructing duties, and even demanding money. The union stated that multiple police cases are pending against him in areas like Amberpet and Chilakalguda, filed by building owners. They emphasized that such false claims without any evidence are demoralizing employees and impacting departmental functioning. The union has demanded an immediate investigation and legal action against the individual. The complaint was formally handed over to Secunderabad Zonal Commissioner Ravi Kiran.

Minister Sridhar Babu

Congress Will Win Most Seats in LB Nagar

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Minister Sridhar Babu asserted that the Congress party will win a majority of divisions in the LB Nagar constituency, as he launched development works worth ₹110 crore on Monday. Emphasizing the Congress government's commitment to improving infrastructure in every constituency, the Minister said this is central to their governance. He also stated that as part of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's vision, efforts are underway to bring Godavari river water to the twin cities, addressing the rising urban

population's water needs. However, the event turned chaotic in Kothapet division, where leaders and supporters of both Congress and BRS staged massive show-of-strength rallies during the inauguration. Supporters of local Congress leader and MLA Sudheer Reddy clashed with BRS cadres, raising aggressive slogans and creating tension. Adding to the political heat, BJP MP Etela Rajender also attended the inauguration, triggering further unease among party workers present. The situation escalated to a point



where it appeared violence could erupt. Police intervened swiftly and with difficulty, shifted politi-

cal leaders to another venue in the LB Nagar constituency to continue the event peacefully.



Anukrishna Hospital Raided, License Suspended for 60 Days

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
District authorities from the Health, Revenue, and Police Departments conducted surprise raids on Anukrishna Hospital following orders from the District Collector. The crackdown came after it was discovered that the hospital was operating with an expired PC-PNDT certificate, violating regulatory norms. District Health Officer Uma Gouri confirmed that the hospital management had failed to renew the certificate, yet continued operations using an outdated one. As a result of this serious lapse, authorities have imposed a fine of ₹5 lakh on the hospital and temporarily suspended its license for 60 days. In addition, legal cases have been filed against the hospital administration, and medical equipment within the premises has been seized, officials said. The action sends a clear message that violations of medical regulations will not be tolerated, particularly in sensitive areas like prenatal diagnostics. Further investigation is underway, and the hospital will remain under scrutiny until full compliance is ensured.

TS High Court Verdict on Dilsukhnagar Blast Case Expected Today



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The Telangana High Court is set to pronounce its verdict today in the 2013 Dilsukhnagar bomb blast case that left *18 people dead* and over *150 injured. The **National Investigation Agency (NIA), which probed

the case, identified **Yasin Bhatkal*, the co-founder of Indian Mujahideen, as the key conspirator. A special NIA court had earlier sentenced *five accused to death* for their involvement in the deadly twin blasts in Hyder-

abad's Dilsukhnagar area. The convicts challenged the verdict in the High Court, prompting a detailed hearing. With arguments concluded, the *High Court will deliver its judgment on April 8*. The blasts, which shook the city

on *February 21, 2013*, were one of the deadliest terror attacks in Hyderabad. The upcoming verdict is expected to have significant legal and public impact, especially for the victims' families who have awaited justice for over a decade.

"Sridhar Babu Vows Skilled Workforce Drive in Telangana"

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
In a strong push to enhance employability and industrial readiness, Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu announced a strategic roadmap to transform the state's youth into a globally competitive skilled workforce. The Minister visited the Young India Skills University located at the Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI) in Gachibowli on Monday. After reviewing the university's progress, he emphasized the importance of aligning



training modules with industry needs to ensure students are job-ready upon graduation. Sridhar Babu stated that Telangana

has immense youth potential and the government is committed to unlocking it through targeted skilling. He stressed the need for constant industry-academia collaboration in designing dynamic curricula that reflect real-world demands. Special focus, he said, would be placed on equipping students from rural areas with not only technical but also soft skills. He also directed officials to work in tandem with institutions like TASK (Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge), the Digital Employment

Exchange of Telangana (DEET), and other premier research and education centers to build a robust skill development ecosystem. The review meeting was attended by Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, Deputy Secretary Bhavesh Mishra, Skill University Vice Chancellor Subba Rao, OSD Chaman Mehta, and other dignitaries. All stakeholders pledged active support to make Telangana a talent powerhouse catering to national and global industry demands.

Telangana Amarnath Yatra: Grand Arrangements for Saleshwaram Jatara in Nagarkurnool



TPN,Correspondent|Nagarkurnool
District Collector Badavath Santosh has directed officials to make elaborate arrangements for the upcoming Saleshwaram Jatara, popularly known as the Telangana Amarnath Yatra, to be held on April 11, 12, and 13 in the deep forests of Nallamala. In a coordination meeting held on Monday at the Integrated District Office Complex, the Collector, along with Additional Collector Devasahayam and DFO Rohith Gopidi, instructed department heads to ensure all facilities are provided to the thousands of devotees expected to attend. He emphasized setting up drinking water supply, sanitation, traffic regulation, and security.

Special focus was laid on deploying medical teams and PHCs, ensuring solar lighting, and placing firefighters and fire engines on alert. The Panchayat department was asked to maintain cleanliness, while RTC was directed to arrange sufficient transport facilities. The Forest Department was told to ensure road connectivity to the hill shrine. The Collector also announced that Achampet RDO will serve as the nodal officer for the event. Given the shrine's spiritual importance to the Chenchu tribes and the large influx of devotees, the administration aims to conduct the Jatara smoothly without any untoward incidents.

BRS Pays ₹8 Crore to TSRTC for Silver Jubilee Public Mobilization



TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has taken a major step in its preparations for the upcoming Silver Jubilee celebrations, with the party high command shifting focus towards mass public mobilization. As part of this, the BRS has approached the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) seeking to rent 3,000 buses to ferry supporters to the grand event. On Monday, a delegation led by BRS General Secretary Ravula Chandrasekhar Reddy, BRSV President Gellu Srinivas Yadav, along with Tungabalu and Kuruvu Vijay Kumar, met TSRTC Managing Director V.C. Sajjanar. During the meeting, the BRS representatives handed over a

cheque worth ₹8 crore as advance payment for the bus rentals. This move comes at a politically sensitive time, as the ruling Congress party had previously accused BRS of denying RTC buses for opposition rallies when it was in power. Now, with BRS in the opposition and the Congress in government, all eyes are on how the Revanth Reddy administration will respond—whether it will approve the large-scale transportation request or set restrictions citing administrative reasons. The bus mobilisation is seen as a key factor in showcasing BRS's grassroots strength during its landmark celebration.

South Central Railway GM Arun Kumar Jain Reviews Rail Safety Measures Across the Zone

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
South Central Railway (SCR) General Manager Shri Arun Kumar Jain conducted a comprehensive review meeting today on rail operational safety and strengthening work systems across the zone. The review, held via video conference from Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad, included Additional General Manager Shri Neeraj Agarwal and Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) from all six divisions—Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, and Nanded. Focusing on enhancing safety protocols, Shri Jain emphasized strict adherence to Railway Board's safety guidelines and urged all departments to maintain vigilance during train operations. He categorically instructed that no shortcuts should



be taken and every safety rule must be followed meticulously. The GM reviewed progress of ongoing safety drives related to tracks and signalling systems, and assessed safety action plans of the Mechanical, Engineering, and Signal & Telecommunication departments. He also evaluated the availability and deployment of fire extinguishers and smoke detection

equipment. In particular, he examined safety compliance at work sites under the Amrit Station development program, ensuring that construction activities align with safety protocols. He directed officers to promptly respond to any unusual observations to prevent untoward incidents, underlining a zero-tolerance approach towards safety negligence.

Sri Rama Pattabhishekam Begins in Bhadrachalam

TPN,Correspondent|Bhadrachalam
The grand Sri Rama Pattabhishekam rituals commenced with traditional fervor at the historic Bhadrachalam temple. The temple priests completed all the arrangements in advance for the sacred ceremony, which follows the celestial wedding of Lord Rama and Sita held on Sri Rama Navami. On Monday morning, the deities—Lord Rama along with Sita and Lakshmana—were brought to the Pattabhishekam mandapam. Amidst chanting of Vedic hymns by purohiths and in the presence of thousands of devotees, the ceremonial coronation of Lord Rama is being held as a visual spiritual treat. Yesterday, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his wife partici-



pated in the Sri Rama Navami Kalyanam and presented silk robes and traditional offerings (talambralu) on behalf of the state government. Today, Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan is attending the Pattabhishekam event and offering pattu

vastrams (silk robes) to the deity, continuing the tradition of state representation in the sacred annual festival. The temple town is brimming with devotees and spiritual fervor during this auspicious celebration.

Social Justice is the Telangana Government's Mission: Minister Seethakka

TPN,Correspondent|Hyderabad
Telangana Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Seethakka emphasized that social justice is the core objective of the state government and that Telangana is emerging as a role model for inclusive development. She addressed the national-level Chintan Shivir on Social Justice and Empowerment, chaired by Union Social Justice Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar, held in Dehradun on Monday. Seethakka highlighted Telangana's progressive steps to ensure equal opportunities in social, economic, and political spheres for marginalized communities. She noted that the state assembly unanimously



passed two key bills—one to increase reservations for BCs to 42% based on population, and another long-pending SC classification bill. The Minister outlined Telangana's efforts towards the welfare of senior

citizens, differently-abled individuals, and transgender persons. She requested greater support from the Centre for these initiatives. Under schemes like Rajiv Yuva Vikasam, 25,000 youth will be supported with self-employment opportunities at a cost of ₹300 crore. She also mentioned that last year, the government spent over ₹3,056 crore to provide pensions to 32.69 lakh senior citizens and is actively establishing Maitri clinics for transgenders across districts, with 44 appointed as traffic assistants. Top officials including Anita Ramachandran and Joint Director Shailaja also participated.



Illicit Liquor Tragedy in Kamareddy: 15 Hospitalized, 4 Critical

TPN,Correspondent|Kamareddy
A major tragedy unfolded in Durki village of Nasrullabad mandal, Kamareddy district, after 15 people fell seriously ill due to consumption of spurious liquor. The victims, who consumed the contaminated toddy, were immediately rushed to Nizamabad Government Hospital, where four of them are said to be in critical condition, according to doctors. The affected individuals reportedly began be-

having abnormally, and locals claimed that several victims appeared to lose their mental balance, sparking panic in the village. This incident adds to the growing list of fatalities and health crises caused by adulterated liquor across the state in recent months. Upon receiving the information, district authorities and police rushed to the spot, reviewed the situation, and are investigating the source of the illicit brew. Locals are de-

manding strict action against those responsible and called for immediate measures to curb the production and sale of spurious liquor. The incident underscores a serious public safety concern, with increased calls for government intervention to prevent such tragedies from recurring. The condition of the hospitalized individuals continues to be closely monitored.

India's Window in Trump Tariff Era

On April 2, US President Donald Trump shook the foundations of the post-World War II global trade order by announcing sweeping tariffs across the board, with some targeted country-specific measures that surpassed even the expectations of his staunchest business backers. The global markets responded with shock, plummeting by 10% in the US alone, while the Federal Reserve is now expected to hold off on any planned interest rate cuts, fearing inflation. Analysts are drawing dramatic parallels to the Great Depression of the 1930s, highlighting the potential economic upheaval such trade policies may induce. While countries around the world have expressed concern and maintained their right to retaliate, most have refrained from taking immediate action—except China, which imposed reciprocal 34% tariffs on US imports. However, due to China's larger export volume, the intent appears more strategic—targeting Trump's support base in the agriculture belt to create political discomfort ahead of the elections. Europe's response is fragmented. The European Commission leans towards retaliation, but key nations like Germany and France, mired in political transitions and internal instability, prefer to tread cautiously and negotiate tariff reductions. Meanwhile, Canada and Mexico, who already faced tariffs under Trump's earlier moves targeting steel and aluminum, were excluded from the latest wave of 10% across-the-board tariffs—likely due to their deep integration with the US economy under the USMCA. In Southeast Asia, Singapore's Prime Minister delivered a stark assessment, declaring the death of the multilateral global trade order and warning that smaller nations may lose out significantly if trade deals become predominantly bilateral, as multilateral frameworks erode.

The broader context reveals that the US's move is rooted in long-standing concerns about China's exploitation of WTO provisions, which helped it dominate 32% of global manufacturing through state subsidies and technology transfers. Now, as the US retreats from globalised trade norms, volatility in trade policy is expected to continue, driven by internal political motives. The American domestic landscape remains deeply polarized, with protests against govern-



ment policies breaking out. Yet, Trump's base remains firmly behind him, muting significant Republican dissent. With Republicans controlling both chambers of Congress, institutional checks and balances are compromised. Radical right-wing elements are increasingly influencing decision-making. One such figure, Laura Loomer, is reportedly linked to the recent firings of key personnel from the National Security Council and NSA. This radical reshaping of internal governance further complicates US policymaking and its international engagement.

In this shifting landscape, India faces both risk and opportunity. The US is India's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade exceeding \$200 billion and a \$45 billion surplus in India's favor. While the protective US stance will close doors

for some nations, it may open others for those like India, who can reposition themselves smartly. Notably, Indian goods currently face 26% tariffs, significantly lower than the 54% and 46% tariffs levied on Chinese and Vietnamese products, respectively. This differential offers a competitive advantage—if India can swiftly negotiate sector-specific deals. India appears to be acting accordingly. Following a February 13 meeting between the Indian Prime Minister and President Trump in Washington, both nations agreed to pursue a bilateral trade pact. Talks have already begun, with the Indian Commerce Minister visiting the US and reciprocated by an Assistant US Trade Representative visiting India. A framework has been established, and detailed discussions across key sectors are now underway

Parliament's Performance vs. Pretense

For two consecutive days during the recently concluded Budget session, Parliamentarians sat from 11 am till 4 am the next morning, clocking an exhausting 17 hours. It may seem like democracy is working overtime, but a closer look reveals a far more cynical performance. These all-night sessions, rather than symbolizing democratic vitality, masked a disturbing erosion of parliamentary accountability. As columnist Vir Sanghvi once put it, Parliament is slowly turning into a "deep, dark chamber"—a metaphor disturbingly apt for what transpired. Take, for instance, the debate on the imposition of President's Rule in Manipur. Although the notification was issued on February 13 and Parliament reconvened on March 10, the discussion was postponed until the session's final stretch, that too well past midnight. The Lok Sabha granted it a mere 44 minutes, while in the Rajya Sabha, despite allocating three hours, the ruling BJP used just two minutes of its 75-minute quota. Astonishingly, the BJP's own floor leaders cut short their speaker midway—exemplifying a level of indifference that borders on contempt. The budget session was also marked by moments that demonstrated the resilience of the Opposition, even as procedural neglect continued unabated. In the Rajya Sabha vote on the Waqf Bill, the Opposition tallied an impressive 95 votes. Had a few members not been medically advised against traveling—such as JMM's Shibu Soren and Mahua Majhi, or NCP's Sharad Pawar and AITC's Subrata Bakshi—the count might have touched 100. One Opposition vote was lost due to a technical glitch, yet the strength on display sent a strong message. Meanwhile, the constitutional requirement for a Deputy Speaker in the Lok Sabha remains unmet, even 300 days after the current term began. Article 93 mandates the election of a Deputy Speaker "as soon as may be," but the government appears content to leave the post vacant, a pattern now becoming institutionalized. The systematic side-lining of the Opposition continued unabated. Not a single Opposition notice was admitted for discussion—something that hasn't happened since December 2023. The last Calling Attention Motion was accepted in July 2024, concerning floods in Kerala. Since then, attempts by the Opposition to raise urgent issues such as youth unemployment and voter ID duplications were met with silence. Faced with a communication blockade, the Opposition adopted a tactical shift—brief walkouts replacing longer protests. MPs would exit the House for 10–30 minutes, register their dissent, and return. It was a smart maneuver, drawn from the late Sitaram Yechury's playbook, signaling protest without derailing proceedings. Prime Minister Modi's absence during the Waqf Bill vote was another symbolic moment. With him abroad, he neither supported nor opposed the bill—nor even abstained. History will record his silence. Amidst the high drama, lighter moments reminded everyone that Parliament is also a human space. Forty-eight MPs across 17 parties attended the 15th LAMP (Legislative Assistants to MPs) Convocation at the India International Centre, praising young interns for their year-long contributions. Two DMK MPs found time to launch books—Tiruchi Siva released a compilation of his WhatsApp good morning messages, while Dr. T. Sumathy unveiled her work on Beatrice Webb. Amusingly, both launches were scheduled simultaneously at different venues. Finally, all eyes were on Amit Shah, who emerged as BJP's top performer—piloting three major bills, speaking for 45 minutes on Waqf (though not its pilot), and making rare cafeteria appearances to interact across party lines.

Startups Need More Than Scale

India's entrepreneurial landscape finds itself at a crossroads, caught between the buzz of billion-dollar valuations and the quieter call for true innovation. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal recently stirred debate by questioning whether India's startup ecosystem is content creating delivery apps rather than pioneering transformative technologies. His comments—criticised by some and praised by others—shine a light on a deeper issue: the difference between upstarts and genuine startups. The distinction is more than semantics; it's about ambition, originality, and a willingness to innovate at the edge rather than replicate existing ideas. Consider Vinod Khosla, a pioneering technologist and venture capitalist who once returned to Delhi before heading back to Silicon Valley to ride the digital wave. His passion lies not in copying successful models but in creating new ones—in AI, biotech, and energy. India needs that mindset. The term "startup" has become synonymous with rapid scaling and high valuations, yet many of India's celebrated unicorns are essentially local adaptations of global ideas. Flipkart mirrored Amazon, Paytm echoed PayPal, and Zomato resembled Yelp. They were smart businesses but not disruptive innovators. This "this of that" culture, as investor



Kashyap Deorah put it, has become dominant—fueled by venture capitalists chasing quick returns and media obsessed with valuation milestones. But true startup culture must be rooted in novelty, intellectual property, and a hunger to solve global problems. India has examples that

fit the mold: InMobi, which turned down a Google acquisition and competes globally in mobile advertising; I-flex Solutions, later bought by Oracle; and Zoho, quietly taking on Microsoft. Yet these firms, despite their scale and substance, lack the glamour associated with unicorn head-

lines. India hasn't produced a Google or a Tesla—not yet. But unlike China, which is investing heavily in home-grown tech breakthroughs like DeepSeek, India's ecosystem often orients itself around consumer growth and service models, not scientific breakthroughs. It wasn't always this way.

India has a strong legacy of research through institutions like CSIR, DRDO, and ISRO, which have quietly driven world-class innovation. What's missing now is the bridge between scientific progress and entrepreneurial action. There's a need for entrepreneurs who not only dream big but risk big—those who seek patents over press coverage and breakthroughs over branding. Historical figures like Jamshedji Tata, who built a steel plant in colonial India, or Verghese Kurien, who revolutionized dairy with Amul, exemplify the spirit of innovation and endurance. They operated before "startup" became a buzzword, yet they were more revolutionary than many modern ventures. Risk-taking must be encouraged in the right context, with entrepreneurs distinguishing between gamble and vision. India must also shed the entitlement culture in startup circles—expecting state support, subsidies, and soft landings—while ignoring the grit and patience real innovation demands. Several less-publicized Indian companies like MOSChip in semiconductors or Intellect Design Arena in fintech have created real value without noise. These firms deserve recognition, if not for their size, then for their staying power and focus on intellectual property



LPG, CNG Prices Hiked Nationwide

In a significant move affecting households across the country, the government on Monday announced a steep hike in the prices of domestic cooking gas (LPG) and compressed natural gas (CNG), alongside an increase in excise duties on petrol and diesel. Effective from April 8, 2025, the price of an LPG cylinder has been raised by Rs 50, while CNG will cost Re 1 more per kilogram in the national capital and nearby regions. The hike applies to both Ujjawala beneficiaries — who received free LPG connections under the government's flagship scheme for the poor — and general consumers. As per the new rates, Ujjawala consumers in Delhi will pay Rs 553 for a 14.2-kg cylinder, up from Rs 503, while general users will now have to shell out Rs 853 per cylinder.

The announcement was made by Union Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, who attributed the hike to the rising input costs, including a nearly 4% increase in natural gas prices last week. He emphasized that the revisions were necessary to keep pace with global pricing trends and maintain the sustainability of supply. This marks the first price revision for LPG since March last year, when rates were actually reduced by Rs 100 per cylinder, offering temporary relief to consumers. However, with inflationary pressures mounting again and international energy costs rising, the government has opted to increase both product prices and fuel taxes to manage fiscal needs.

The revision in CNG prices will impact public transport, delivery services, and personal mobility costs, particularly in urban areas where CNG is widely used. Additionally, the decision to raise excise duties on petrol and diesel is expected to have a broader impact on transportation costs and commodity prices, potentially fueling inflationary trends. While the government views these changes as a necessary step to boost revenue and manage fiscal deficits, the hikes are likely to spark political and public reactions, especially as they affect lower- and middle-income households directly. The full impact of these changes will unfold in the coming weeks as consumers and transport sectors adjust to the new rates.

President Murmu Begins Portugal State Visit

President Droupadi Murmu arrived in Lisbon on Sunday, April 7, 2025, marking the beginning of a significant four-day State Visit to Portugal and the Slovak Republic. This visit, the first of its kind by an Indian President in nearly three decades, underscores India's renewed diplomatic focus on Europe at a time of global economic realignment. The timing of President Murmu's tour is especially crucial, coinciding with recent trade policy shifts, particularly new tariffs imposed by the United States, which have disrupted global supply chains and are reshaping international commerce. Against this backdrop, India is actively expanding its engagement with European nations to bolster cooperation in trade, technology, education, sustainability, and innovation. Upon her arrival at Lisbon's Figo Maduro military airbase, President Murmu was welcomed with warmth and ceremony by Puneet



R. Kundal, Ambassador of India to Portugal, and Joao Ribeiro de Almeida, Portugal's Ambassador to India. The reception reflected the growing importance both countries place on their bilateral relationship, which

has seen positive momentum in recent years. During her stay in Portugal, President Murmu is expected to engage in a series of high-level meetings, cultural exchanges, and public events aimed at enhancing

mutual understanding and deepening ties between the two democracies. The visit is expected to pave the way for new partnerships, particularly in areas of digital transformation, green energy, and youth exchange programs. It also serves to highlight India's broader strategy of fostering relationships beyond its traditional allies, positioning itself as a proactive global player in an increasingly multipolar world. After concluding her engagements in Portugal, President Murmu will travel to the Slovak Republic for the second leg of her tour, further emphasizing India's commitment to strengthening its presence and partnerships across Central and Eastern Europe. Her visit is not just ceremonial but represents a deeper diplomatic intent to align India's growth trajectory with likeminded nations that share democratic values and a vision for sustainable global development.

Rahul Gandhi Launches White T-Shirt Yatra

In a bold move to spotlight youth-centric issues, Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Monday joined the Congress party's 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' padyatra in Bihar's Begusarai district. The campaign, symbolized by a call to wear white t-shirts, aims to highlight the pressing concerns of unemployment and inflation that continue to affect Bihar's youth. Gandhi, who represents Rae Bareli in Parliament, called upon young people across the state to don white t-shirts as a visual form of protest to pressure the central and state governments into addressing the crisis of joblessness and migration. Accompanying him on the yatra was NSUI national in-charge and former JNU student leader Kanhaiya Kumar, who hails from Begusarai. Their joint appearance underscored the Congress party's renewed push to connect with the youth and grassroots issues ahead



of the 2025 Bihar assembly elections. The yatra drew significant local support and media attention as Gandhi walked alongside students, unemployed youth, and party workers through the streets, engaging with

citizens and listening to their grievances. Meanwhile, the political rhetoric intensified as Union Minister and BJP MP from Begusarai, Giriraj Singh, hit back at the Congress campaign, accusing the party of failing to

eliminate poverty during its decades of rule. He praised the developmental work under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, claiming that the current administration is focused on real, measurable progress. The Congress campaign, however, positions itself as a people's movement to reverse the trend of mass migration from Bihar due to lack of opportunities, inadequate wages, and stagnant job creation. By choosing Begusarai — a politically symbolic and industrially significant region — the Congress appears to be laying the groundwork for a youth-focused narrative in the run-up to elections. The 'White T-shirt' movement is expected to continue across multiple districts, signaling the party's intent to take its battle against unemployment directly to the streets and amplify grassroots voices on national platforms.

Dubai Crown Prince to Visit India



Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai and also the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE, is set to embark on his first official visit to India on April 8 and 9, 2025. This high-level diplomatic engagement comes at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and is expected to further enhance the strategic partnership between India and the United Arab Emirates. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the Crown Prince will hold key meet-

ings with top Indian leaders including Prime Minister Modi, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. One of the highlights of the visit will be a "working lunch" hosted by Prime Minister Modi in honor of the Crown Prince on April 8, reflecting the significance of the bilateral relationship. Apart from political engagements, Sheikh Hamdan will participate in a business roundtable aimed at exploring new opportunities to deepen economic and investment ties between the two

nations. He will be accompanied by a high-powered delegation consisting of ministers, senior government officials, and leading members of the UAE business community, signifying the focus on economic diplomacy and cross-sectoral collaboration. This visit is being closely watched by analysts as India and the UAE continue to strengthen their comprehensive strategic partnership, which has seen a rapid expansion in trade, energy cooperation, and technological exchange in recent years.

Modi Inaugurates Pamban Bridge, Targets DMK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated India's first vertical lift sea bridge — the Pamban rail bridge — in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu, hailing it as a "symbol of the union of technology and tradition." The state-of-the-art bridge connects Rameswaram island to the mainland and marks a major infrastructure milestone in the region. However, the inauguration wasn't without political undertones, as Modi took a veiled swipe at the ruling DMK government in Tamil Nadu, particularly noting the absence of Chief Minister M. K. Stalin from the event.

In his address, Prime Minister Modi not only underscored the technological importance of the bridge but also wove in cultural and linguistic references, playing the "Tamil pride" card amid ongoing debates over the "three-language formula" in the state. He urged the Tamil Nadu government to embrace regional language in higher education and medical training, suggesting that Tamil should be introduced as a medium of instruction for medical courses. "Many states across the country have started medical education in the mother tongue. Now,

even the sons or daughters of the poorest mothers who have not studied English can become doctors. I would also request the Tamil Nadu government to start medical courses in the Tamil language," he said.

Modi further highlighted the central government's contribution to health-care infrastructure in the state, noting that 11 new medical colleges had been established in Tamil Nadu in recent years. He emphasized the global interest in Indian culture and heritage, stating that the government is making dedicated efforts to ensure that Tamil language and culture are promoted worldwide.

The Prime Minister's remarks come at a politically sensitive time, with Tamil Nadu's DMK-led government often at odds with the Centre over language policies and federal autonomy. The Pamban event thus became both a showcase of national development and a platform for subtle political messaging. Modi's pitch for Tamil pride is seen as a strategic outreach to the Tamil electorate, especially ahead of key elections, attempting to blend cultural reverence with infrastructural progress.



"Oil Prices Are Down, There Is No Inflation": Trump Doubles Down On Tariffs

- **Global markets plunge amid trade war fears.**
- **Fed Chair warns tariffs may raise inflation.**
- **Trump urges interest rate cuts, blames Powell.**

TPN Correspondent | US

U.S. President Donald Trump has defended his administration's tariff policies, stating that the U.S. economy remains resilient despite mounting concerns over a global economic downturn. Trump's comments come as stock markets across Asia and Europe experienced sharp declines following the announcement of new tariffs, sparking fears of a looming trade war.

In a post on his social media platform, Truth Social, Trump assured Americans, "Oil prices are down, interest rates are down, food prices are down, there is NO INFLATION." He emphasized that tariffs already in place were bringing in billions

of dollars to the U.S. from other nations, particularly those he has called out for "abusing" the U.S. in past trade deals. Trump singled out China, calling it "the biggest abuser of them all" and accused the country of raising its tariffs by 34% in retaliation.

China, in response, announced new tariffs on U.S. imports starting April 10 and threatened to take legal action against Washington at the World Trade Organization. Chinese officials also expressed their displeasure, stating that U.S. tariffs were "economic bullying" and would only serve America's interests, harming global trade relations.

The trade tension has led to a significant market sell-off. Eu-



ropean indices dropped dramatically, with Paris and London down nearly 6%, while Asian markets also experienced heavy losses. The Nikkei 225 in Japan halted trading due to panic selling, and India's Sensex and Nifty indices saw their worst drops in months, losing over 5% in early trade.

Amid these developments, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell warned that Trump's tariffs

could push inflation up and slow economic growth. Despite this, Trump urged Powell to cut interest rates to stimulate the economy, accusing him of "playing politics" in his role at the Fed.

As global markets reel from the fallout of these tariffs, Trump remains firm, urging Americans to "be strong, courageous, and patient" as his policies continue to shape global trade dynamics.



Myanmar Faces Thunderstorms as Earthquake Devastation Worsens

TPN Correspondent | Bangkok

People in Myanmar's earthquake-stricken regions are bracing for thunderstorms late Sunday, with heavy rains and strong winds disrupting ongoing rescue and relief operations. The storms have added to the suffering of those who lost their homes in the March 28 earthquake, forcing many to sleep in the open under harsh conditions.

Myanmar's state-run MRTV issued a warning on Sunday evening, forecasting scattered showers and thunderstorms across the country for the next week. "The public is advised to be aware of the possibility of untimely rain accompanied by strong winds, lightning, hail, and landslides," MRTV stated. The weather is expected to worsen, with daytime temperatures reaching 38°C (100°F) by mid-week.

The earthquake, with a magnitude of 7.7, struck near Mandalay, Myanmar's second-largest city. The epicenter hit several regions and states, including the capital Naypyitaw, leaving a significant trail of destruction. As of Sunday, Myanmar's military government confirmed 3,564 deaths, with 5,012 injuries and 210 people still missing.

The disaster severely affected infrastructure, leaving many areas without power or telephone services and damaging roads and bridges. These conditions have hampered efforts to assess the full scale of the damage. Rescue teams were forced to halt electrical equipment temporarily due to the rain, but operations continue despite the challenges posed by the weather.

As rain and strong winds caused further collapses of buildings, rescue workers faced additional obstacles. Reports indicate that at least 80 bodies were found at the Great Wall Hotel in Mandalay after rubble was cleared on Sunday afternoon, though this has yet to be confirmed.

The earthquake's impact is far-reaching, with over 5,000 buildings, 1,800 schools, and numerous religious sites and infrastructure damaged. The recovery and relief efforts are ongoing, but the full extent of the devastation remains unclear due to the challenging conditions.



Gold Prices Dip Worldwide in Wake of Market Downturn

TPN Correspondent | US

Precious metals continued their upward trajectory in March, with both gold and silver posting significant gains. Comex gold, in particular, surged past the psychological \$3,100 mark, reaching a new all-time high.

The bullish sentiment surrounding these precious metals was largely fueled by growing concerns over the potential fallout from U.S. tariffs, which have been a source of economic uncertainty. Investors flocked to safe-haven assets like gold and silver, seeking stability amid these turbulent conditions. Additionally, the anticipation of interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve further supported the positive outlook for precious metals. Lower interest rates typically reduce the opportunity cost of holding non-yielding assets like gold, making them more attractive to investors.

Gold's performance, driven by these factors, reflects the broader market sentiment that fears of economic instability are growing. Investors tend to turn to gold during periods of economic uncertainty due to its historical reputation as a store of value. Silver, too, mirrored gold's upward movement, gaining in tandem as market participants sought out both metals in response to global economic pressures.

As the outlook for the global economy remains clouded by trade tensions and shifting monetary policies, the precious metals market is expected to remain volatile. However, the steady demand for gold and silver suggests that they will continue to perform well as investors look for ways to hedge against the uncertainties ahead.

BAPS Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi Celebrates Ram Navami with Grandeur

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The BAPS Hindu Temple in Abu Dhabi recently celebrated Ram Navami and Swaminarayan Jayanti with remarkable devotion and grandeur, marking a significant moment for cultural and spiritual unity in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Devotees from various regions gathered at the temple to participate in a day filled with devotional and cultural activities, reflecting the deep spiritual significance of these occasions.

According to Pujya Brahmavihari Swami, the head priest of the temple, the celebrations began early in the day with Ram Bhajans from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., followed by the Shri Ram Janmotsav Aarti at noon.



The event witnessed an overwhelming turnout, with devotees and visitors coming together to honor Lord Ram and Bhagwan Swaminarayan. The celebrations emphasized unity, peace, and the eternal values of Hinduism, resonating

beyond borders.

A highlight of the event was a special cultural presentation by BAPS, staged to resemble the sacred confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati. Through a combination of mu-

sic, drama, and storytelling, young artists brought the life and virtues of Lord Ram to the stage, captivating the audience with their performances.

The temple, known for fostering interfaith harmony and spiritual devotion, continues to be a beacon of global Hindu pride. Ram Navami, the festival celebrating the birth of Lord Ram, is one of the most revered events in Hinduism. Lord Ram, considered the seventh avatar of Lord Vishnu, symbolizes virtue, justice, and righteousness. Ram Navami occurs on the ninth day of the Shukla Paksha of Chaitra, which falls between March and April in the Hindu calendar. It is also celebrated as part of the larger Chaitra Navaratri festival, a time for devotees to express devotion and seek divine blessings.

South Korea to Set June 3 Date for Presidential Election Following Yoon Suk Yeol's Removal



South Korea's cabinet is expected to finalize June 3, 2025, as the date for a presidential election after the impeachment of President Yoon Suk Yeol for his brief martial law declaration last week, according to Yonhap news on Monday, April 7, 2025.

The final decision, though not legally required, will be made during a cabinet meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2025. The meeting is necessary to approve a public holiday for the election, a decision that is

expected to be officially confirmed. An unnamed government official told Yonhap that the cabinet's meeting will be key in setting the date for the upcoming election.

Yoon Suk Yeol was removed from office by South Korea's Constitutional Court after being found guilty of violating his official duties. The impeachment stemmed from his issuance of a martial law decree on December 3, 2024, which involved the deployment of troops to block

parliamentary sessions. This action, which was seen as an overreach of power, led to widespread protests and calls for his resignation.

Under South Korean law, if a sitting president dies or is removed from office, a new presidential election must be held within 60 days. While the reports citing June 3 as the election date have circulated widely, the date will not become official until it is declared by the acting president, Prime

Minister Han Duck-soo.

The issue of Yoon's removal has sparked intense debate and protests across the country. Thousands rallied in support of the ousted president, calling for his reinstatement and expressing concerns over what they perceived as an overstep of judicial power. Despite the public unrest, the legal process has continued to unfold, with the cabinet now preparing for the next steps toward a new election.

Bloodbath on D-Street

Sensex Suffers 2,200+ Point Fall; Global Recession Jitters Rattle Investors



Domestic stock markets were shaken. They lost heavily on Monday. Fears of a global economic recession due to President Trump's tariffs and retaliatory tariffs have shaken the indices. The US markets' collapse on Friday affected Asian and Indian indices on Monday. Investors sold their shares due to fear. It is difficult to say the fall in metal and realty shares. Media, auto, commodities, banking and finance shares fell by 4%. On the other hand, the dollar, rupee and bitcoin also rose. Gold, which is considered a safety investment, also fell. The fear index India VIX rose by 66% in the wake of geopolitical tensions, indicating uncertainty. In total, Nifty fell by 742 points and Sensex by 2226 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 75,364 in the previous session, opened at 71,449 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 71,425. It reached an intraday high of 73,403. It finally closed

at 73,137, down 2,226 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 21,758, hit a low of 21,743 and a high of 22,254. It fell by a total of 742 points to close at 22,161. The Nifty Bank fell by 1,642 points to settle at 49,860.

2 companies gained while 46 lost in the Nifty50. Hindustan Unilever and Zomato were the top gainers in the Nifty. Trent, Tata Steel, JSW Steel, Hindalco, Shriram Finance were the biggest losers. Metal and realty rose by 5 to 6 percent. Media, auto, commodities, manufacturing, finance, private bank, infra, bank and healthcare shares fell by more than 3 percent. Oil, energy, pharma, consumption, IT, PSE and FMCG fell by more than 1 percent.

Market breadth on NSE today turned in favour of sellers. 327 stocks rose. A total of 2640 shares fell. Shares of 18 companies touched 52-week highs. 645 shares reached 52-week lows. 26 shares touched the upper circuit and

384 shares touched the lower circuit.

Shares of HPCL, BPCL and Indian Oil companies rose by 6% from their daily lows as Brent crude oil fell to a four-year low. The rupee weakened by 61 paise to settle at 85.84 against the dollar. The Centre increased duty on petrol and diesel by Rs 2 each. Fear Index IndiaWIX rose by 66% today to 22.84. This gives an idea of the uncertainty that is going to prevail. Indian markets have fared better compared to the fall in Asian and European markets. They fell by 13% while Nifty and Sensex fell by only 3.5%. Morgan Stanley has given Reliance an overweight rating with a target price of Rs 1606. HSBC has given a buy rating to Ventive Hospitality with a target price of Rs. 854.

Kalyan Jewellers India Ltd (KALYANKJIL)

Kalyan Jewellers has been on investor radar recently with strong momentum in stock price performance. The company is benefiting from robust wedding season demand and increasing footfall across its showrooms. Its expansion strategy into tier-2 and tier-3 cities is yielding positive results. The company reported healthy growth in Q4 sales and margin improvement. Recent buying interest pushed the stock up nearly 9% in a single session, supported by institutional activity and an upgrade by analysts. Investors remain optimistic due to strong brand positioning and a growing customer base.



NTPC Ltd (NTPC)

NTPC, India's largest power generation company, continues to maintain a stable outlook backed by steady generation and capacity addition. The company is actively transitioning into renewables, with plans to scale up solar and wind energy projects significantly in the coming years. It recently announced commissioning of several renewable power plants and is looking at green hydrogen as a future growth driver. The stock has shown resilience during market volatility, with analysts giving it a long-term buy rating due to predictable earnings and strong government support.



Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (POWERGRID)

Power Grid has been a consistent performer in the utilities space, known for its stable financials and dividend payouts. The company is central to India's power transmission infrastructure and continues to receive approvals for new inter-state transmission projects. It is also investing in grid modernization and smart metering infrastructure. The stock has attracted defensive buying recently amid market volatility. Analysts favor Power Grid for its predictable cash flows, healthy return ratios, and robust balance sheet.



SBI Cards and Payment Services Ltd (SBICARD)

SBICard has faced some short-term headwinds due to rising delinquencies in unsecured lending and cautious investor sentiment around consumer finance. However, its strong affiliation with SBI and wide customer base gives it a solid moat. Recent quarterly results showed modest growth in card spends and active customer base, although margins were slightly compressed due to rising costs. Analysts suggest cautious optimism, especially as the digital payments sector continues to expand rapidly in India. The company is working on improving collections and diversifying its credit card portfolio.



Central Depository Services Ltd (CDSL)

CDSL continues to benefit from increasing retail participation in equity markets. With over 10 crore demat accounts, it has a significant market share in depository services. The company has posted strong earnings growth in recent quarters, supported by higher transaction volumes and record account openings. Market volatility tends to boost activity in the depository business, helping CDSL's topline. With digitalization in Indian markets deepening and IPO activity



expected to rise, CDSL is well-positioned for continued growth. Analysts remain bullish, with many suggesting it as a structural long-term play.

Government Hikes Excise Duty on Petrol and Diesel by ₹2 per Litre



On Monday, the Government of India announced an increase in excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre, effective from April 8, 2025, as per a notification issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

As per the official order, the excise duty on petrol has been raised to ₹13 per litre, while diesel will now attract an excise duty of ₹10 per litre. The change comes as part of the government's ongoing efforts to manage its revenue and control economic conditions.

Despite the hike in excise duties, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas assured the public that there would be no direct impact on consumers. The ministry confirmed that the retail prices of petrol and diesel would not increase, meaning the financial burden will not be passed on to the common man.

The government's decision follows a series of fiscal measures, including the scrapping of the windfall profit tax on domestic crude and fuel exports in December 2024. This tax, initially imposed on July 1, 2022, was removed as global oil prices continued to decline, easing pressure on the domestic fuel market.

The excise duty hike is expected to impact government revenues positively, but the assurance of stable fuel prices aims to maintain public confidence, especially as global oil markets remain volatile.

The increase in excise duties comes at a time when global fuel prices are experiencing fluctuations, and the government is balancing economic policy measures with efforts to shield the common people from price shocks. As the country continues to navigate through economic challenges, these regulatory measures will play a key role in ensuring that the energy sector remains stable, while the government's fiscal health is maintained.

India's Automobile Retail Sales Grow 6.46% in FY25, Markets Show Strong Performance

India's overall automobile retail sales in FY25 (April 2024 to March 2025) experienced a growth of 6.46% compared to the previous year, with passenger vehicles (PV) growing by 4.87%, two-wheelers (2W) rising 7.71%, and commercial vehicles (CV) experiencing a slight decline of 0.17%, according to data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) on April 7, 2025.

Rural markets showed a stronger performance, with two-wheelers increasing by 8.39% in rural areas, compared to a 6.77% growth in urban markets. Three-wheelers in rural regions rose by 8.70%, significantly outperforming the 0.28% growth in urban areas. Similarly, passenger vehicles performed better in rural belts, with a 7.93% growth, compared to a 3.07% increase in urban markets.

For the month of March 2025, overall auto retail sales declined 0.7% year-on-year (YoY) but saw a 12% improvement on a month-on-month (MoM) basis. The early-month weakness, caused by the Kharman period, was offset by a surge in the final week, fueled by events like Navratri, Gudi Padwa, Eid, and year-end depreciation benefits.

Segment-wise, two-wheelers saw a decline of 1.7%, while three-wheelers and tractors decreased by 5.6% and 5.7%, respectively. However, passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles showed growth, rising by 6% and 2.6% YoY, respectively. FADA president C.S. Vigneshwar praised the adaptability and resilience of India's auto retail sector, noting the strong performance in rural areas as a key highlight. He also commented on March's sales performance, emphasizing the impact of positive triggers in the final week of the month.

Additionally, Vigneshwar stressed the importance of setting mutually attainable targets between original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and dealers to avoid confusion and financial strain. He highlighted that excessively high targets, set without proper agreement, could hinder sustainable growth and customer satisfaction.

Tata Motors, despite a nearly 3% drop in stock value, continues to gain attention with its strong product strategy, particularly in the electric vehicle (ePV) market.



Rupee Slips to 85.63 Against US Dollar Amid Global Trade War and Market Slump



The Indian rupee fell by 19 paise to 85.63 against the US dollar in early trading on Monday, as the currency market reacted to the global trade war triggered by the US's reciprocal tariffs and China's retaliatory measures. The ongoing trade tensions sent shockwaves through global equity markets, causing them to crash to their lowest levels in years.

Forex traders noted that despite a sharp drop in crude oil prices and a weaker US dollar, the Indian rupee struggled to find support due to persistent foreign fund outflows. The ongoing sell-off in global markets contributed to these outflows, which added pressure on the domestic currency.

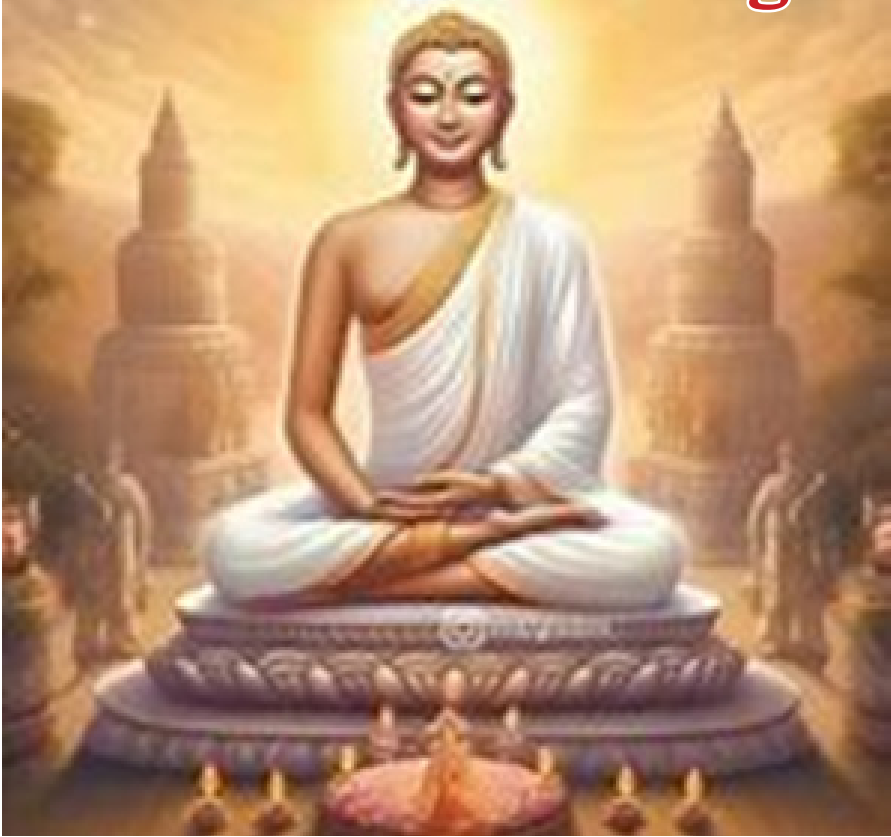
Market analysts have highlighted that the global economic uncertainty, driven by the US-China tariff dispute, has created a volatile environment for emerging market currencies, including the rupee. The continued turmoil in equity markets worldwide is adding to the pressure on the rupee, which has struggled to gain stability in the face of global economic challenges.

In the past few weeks, the rupee has witnessed significant fluctuations as a result of global trade tensions, which have led to increased investor caution. The uncertainty around the ongoing trade war, coupled with concerns about an economic slowdown, has resulted in capital outflows from India's equity and bond markets.

On the positive side, crude oil prices have seen a decline, which would typically provide some relief to India's import bill and, in turn, support the rupee. However, the overall global financial instability has overridden this potential benefit, leaving the rupee vulnerable to further declines.

As global equity markets continue to reel from the impact of trade disputes, the outlook for the rupee remains uncertain. Forex experts have urged the Indian government and central bank to closely monitor the situation and take necessary measures to safeguard the currency from further depreciation.

Mahavir Jayanti 2025: Date and Meaning



Mahavir Jayanti, the most sacred festival for the Jain community, will be celebrated this year on April 10, 2025 (Thursday). It marks the birth anniversary of Lord Mahavir, the 24th and final Tirthankara in Jainism—a revered spiritual teacher and enlightened soul who showed the path of non-violence, truth, and renunciation. Observed annually on the 13th day of the Chaitra month as per the Hindu lunar calendar, the date varies each year and typically falls between March and April. Also known as Mahaveer Janma Kalyanak, this festival is not only a day of celebration but also a deep reflection on the teachings and life of Lord Mahavir, who was born in 599 BCE in Kundagram, now in Bihar. He was born to King Siddhartha and Queen Trishala, and lived a royal life until he turned 30. Despite his position as a ruler, Mahavir experienced a spiritual awakening and chose to renounce worldly pleasures, embarking on a quest for truth and enlightenment. Through intense meditation and penance, he eventually attained Kevala Jnana (omniscience) and became a guiding light for followers of Jainism. His core principles—Ahimsa (non-violence), Satya (truth), Asteya (non-stealing), Brahmacharya (celibacy), and Aparigraha (non-possessiveness)—form the foundation of Jain philosophy and ethics. On Mahavir Jayanti, devotees engage in prayers, processions, charitable acts, and visits to Jain temples, where the life and teachings of Mahavir are celebrated and remembered. Statues of Mahavir are bathed ceremonially in a ritual called abhisheka, and sermons are delivered to inspire people to walk the path of righteousness. The festival serves as a reminder to live a life of compassion, simplicity, and spiritual discipline, in line with Mahavir’s timeless message to the world.

Non-Veg Biryani Delivered During Navratri



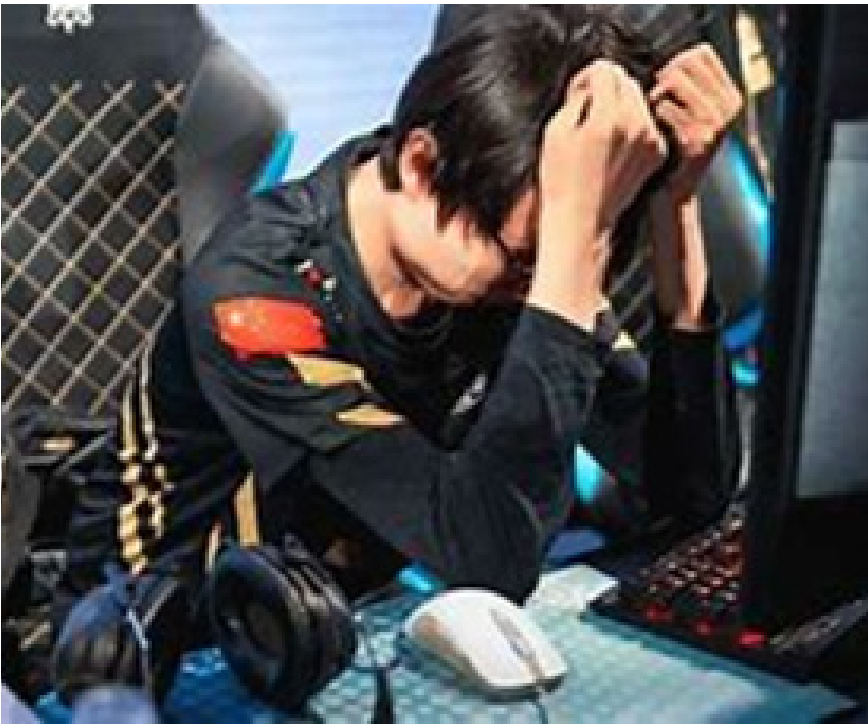
A woman from Noida has sparked controversy online after alleging that she was delivered chicken biryani instead of the vegetarian biryani she ordered through Swiggy during the Navratri festival. The incident, which took place on April 4, involved a meal from the popular restaurant Lakhnavi Kabab Paratha. The woman, identified as Chhaya Sharma, posted a video on social media expressing her distress over receiving non-vegetarian food during the holy period of Navratri, when many people abstain from meat. Her post quickly went viral, drawing sharp reactions from users across platforms and prompting a wave of outrage, especially given the religious sensitivities associated with the festival. In response to the uproar, the Uttar Pradesh Police took swift action by taking one of the restaurant’s staff members into custody for questioning. The incident has reignited the conversation around food delivery ac-

countability and the importance of accuracy in orders, especially during religious observances. While Swiggy has not issued a formal statement as of now, the platform is expected to investigate the matter internally. Meanwhile, Lakhnavi Kabab Paratha is also facing heat online, with many calling for stricter checks and greater sensitivity in handling such orders. This episode has highlighted the potential for seemingly small mistakes to escalate into major controversies, particularly in culturally and religiously significant contexts. Users on social media debated whether legal action was warranted, while others stressed the need for better training of delivery and restaurant staff to avoid such incidents in the future. As the investigation continues, the situation has become a talking point not just in Noida, but across the country, reflecting broader concerns over food labeling, consumer rights, and respect for religious practices.

Chinese Gamer Sues Over Insults

A bizarre yet thought-provoking case has emerged from China, where a longtime gamer has sued a gaming company after claiming that virtual bullying led to his depression. The player, going by the pseudonym Qiaoben, has been playing the multiplayer strategy game Three Kingdoms Kill Online for 15 years and currently holds the highest rank in the game. Despite his skill and achievements, Qiaoben alleges that he became the target of constant humiliation from other players who, after each defeat, would mock him by hurling virtual items like eggs and straw sandals at his in-game character. These symbolic acts, often used to insult opponents in East Asian culture, reportedly affected his mental health to the point that he plunged into depression. He blames the game developers for enabling such forms of

emotional harassment and filed a lawsuit demanding accountability. The game, developed by a Hangzhou-based company and released in 2009, typically involves 4 to 8 players and runs for 10 to 30 minutes per session. Qiaoben’s story has reignited global debate around the psychological impacts of excessive gaming and toxic behavior in online communities. While some argue that the responsibility lies with the game makers to moderate in-game conduct and limit abuse mechanics, others point to personal responsibility and the need for digital resilience. The case underscores how the virtual world, though intangible, can have tangible consequences on mental well-being. It also raises critical concerns about how game design and user interaction features might unintentionally fuel harassment. As gaming



continues to be a central part of modern life, especially in countries like China, this incident

serves as a stark reminder of the blurred lines between entertainment and emotional damage.

BBMP Revises Residential Parking Tax



The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has officially revised the parking tax structure for residential buildings, with changes coming into effect from April 1, 2025. This update primarily targets both covered and stilt parking areas and is based on the Unit Area Value (UAV) system—a method used to calculate property taxes by considering the property’s location, usage type, and built-up area. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath introduced the proposal last month, seeking public feedback within a seven-day window. The new system aims to create a more uniform and transparent taxation policy, especially for private parking spaces that were of-

ten inconsistently taxed under the previous framework. While this revision may bring some benefits to commercial establishments such as shopping malls—thanks to a clearer, standardized valuation—experts believe residential property owners, particularly apartment dwellers with designated parking, may face a greater tax burden. The move is being seen as part of BBMP’s larger strategy to boost civic revenue and reduce discrepancies in tax collection across the city. According to civic analysts, while the updated UAV model simplifies tax calculations and improves compliance, it could also place additional financial pressure on homeowners, especially those in areas classified un-

der higher tax slabs. The BBMP maintains that the revision will ultimately help streamline municipal revenue and improve urban infrastructure, but concerns remain over the lack of awareness and sudden implementation of the policy. Residents are advised to review the new UAV-based tax rates to understand how their annual property tax bills will change and ensure they are prepared for potential increases. As Bengaluru continues to urbanize rapidly, with more vertical residential complexes emerging, the impact of this revised parking tax policy could be significant, making it essential for property owners to stay informed and engaged with municipal regulations.

Can You Spot the Hidden Cat?

A new brain teaser has taken the internet by storm, daring users to spot a cleverly hidden cat in a messy, cluttered room. Shared widely across social media, particularly by the handle @piedpiperlko, the image has left countless viewers scratching their heads and zooming in repeatedly, trying to uncover the elusive feline hiding in plain sight. This viral optical illusion isn’t just a fun challenge – it’s a test of sharp vision, attention to detail, and perceptual agility. At first glance, the room appears to be an everyday, chaotic living space filled with scattered books, pillows, furniture, and miscellaneous objects. But somewhere in this visual chaos lies a cat, expertly camouflaged among the items. The teaser has prompted users to jokingly claim they’ve unlocked “superhuman vision” upon finding the pet, while others are left stumped after several attempts. Brain teasers like this one are more

than just internet fun—they actively engage the brain, enhance focus, and sharpen cognitive skills. Optical illusions, in particular, manipulate how our eyes and brain interpret visual cues, creating a fascinating disconnect between perception and reality. The challenge has sparked online debates and shared frustration as users attempt to beat the illusion, some claiming to see the cat instantly while others take minutes. The hidden cat teaser serves as a reminder that sometimes the obvious can be the hardest to see, and even a simple image can become a complex puzzle when framed just right. Whether you find the cat in seconds or stare at the image for ages, the viral post proves once again that our brains love a good mystery—and that not everything is as it first appears. So, are you ready to put your observation skills to the test and prove you have “superhuman” vision?



RCB Pile Up 221 Against MI as Patidar, Kohli Shine

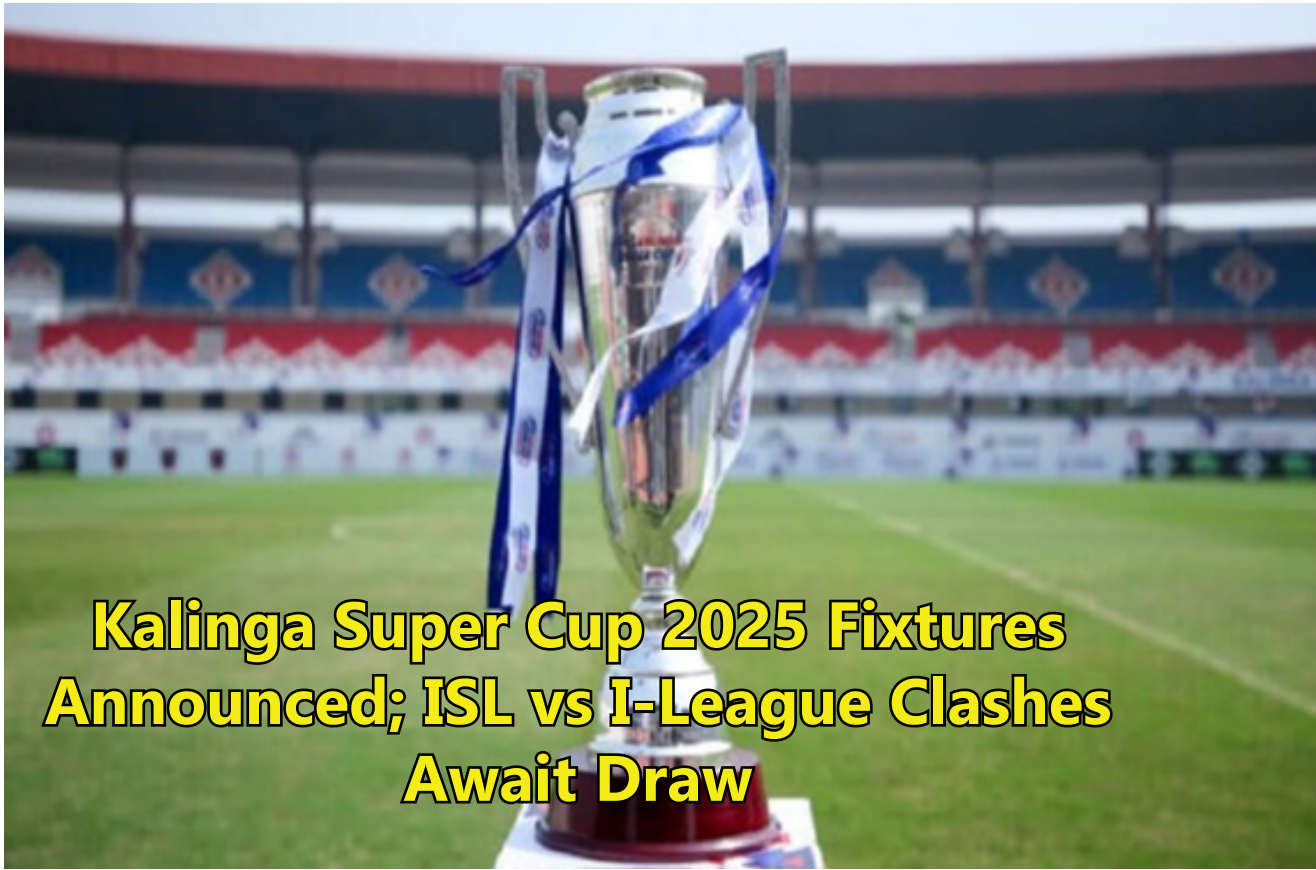


Royal Challengers Bengaluru posted a formidable 221/5 against Mumbai Indians in their IPL 2025 clash at the Wankhede Stadium on Monday. Skipper Rajat Patidar led from the front with a blistering 64 off 32 balls, while Virat Kohli anchored the innings with a fluent 67 from 42 deliveries. Devdutt Padikkal added quick runs with a 22-ball 37, setting a strong platform.

The late onslaught came from Jitesh Sharma, who smashed 40 off just 19 balls after arriving in the 15th over, propelling RCB to a powerful finish. Despite the onslaught, returning pacer Jasprit Bumrah stood out for MI, conceding only 29 runs in his four overs. MI will now need a strong response to chase down the challenging total in what promises to be a high-scoring thriller.

Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 Kicks Off in Goa

The Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 National Finals kick off on April 8 in Goa, with Dempo SC facing Chennaiyin FC in the tournament opener. The boys' finals feature eight teams, split into two groups, including top academies like Mohun Bagan, Reliance Foundation, and international invitees Norwich City FC. This year marks a milestone with the inaugural girls' national finals, starting April 9, comprising eight state teams nominated by the AIFF. Group matches for boys are scheduled on April 8, 10, and 12, while girls play on April 9, 11, and 13. Matches will be held at SAG Benaulim and Utorda, with the grand finale on April 15 at Raia Football Ground. Organized by Dream Sports Foundation, the championship promises a platform for India's top young football talent.



Kalinga Super Cup 2025 Fixtures Announced; ISL vs I-League Clashes Await Draw

The Kalinga Super Cup 2025 will be held from April 20 to May 3 at the Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, featuring 16 teams—13 from the ISL and 3 from the I-League (Churchill Brothers, Inter Kashi, Gokulam Kerala). The I-League clubs will take on the top three ISL seeds—Mohun Bagan SG, FC Goa, Bengaluru FC, with those pairings to be drawn on April 9. The Champion's Prize: Spot in 2025-26 AFC Champions League Two (Preliminary Round) Defending Champions: East Bengal FC Stay tuned for the I-League vs ISL draw results on April 9!

Inter Kashi Stun Rajasthan United to Stay in I-League Title Race



Inter Kashi pulled off a dramatic 3-1 win over Rajasthan United at the Kalyani Municipal Stadium to keep their I-League 2024-25 title hopes alive. Prasanth Karuthadathkuni opened the scoring in the 12th minute, but Rajasthan's Alain Oyarzun equalised in the 69th. With the match seemingly headed for a draw, Inter Kashi struck twice in stoppage time — David Humanes Munoz in the 90+4th minute and Matija Babovic in

the 90+7th — to snatch victory. Inter Kashi finish the league with 39 points, one behind leaders Churchill Brothers, and now await the AIFF Appeals Committee's verdict on their match against Namdhari FC. Meanwhile, title rivals Gokulam Kerala crashed out after a 3-4 defeat to Dempo SC. The win capped a thrilling end to Inter Kashi's season, marked by resilience and high-stakes drama.

Phantom Stars Clinch Inaugural TTSL Maharashtra Title; Teen Talents Shine Bright



Phantom Stars dominated the Table Tennis Super League (TTSL) Maharashtra 2025, emerging as unbeaten champions after a 14-8 win over PBG Pune Jaguars in the final at NSCI, Mumbai. The team won all seven ties across the league and knockout stages, powered by standout performances from Deepit Patil, Arnav Kshirsagar, and Onkar Jog. The league also highlighted emerging stars, with Divyanshi Bhowmick (PBG Pune Jag-

uars) and Prateek Tulsani (Mumbai Mozartt) named Best Women's and Men's Players overall. Bhowmick, just 14, remained undefeated in singles and doubles despite her team finishing runners-up. Mumbai Mozartt secured third place after a spirited comeback against Century Warriors. With a prize pool of ₹6.25 lakh, TTSL Maharashtra—an initiative by Ultimate Table Tennis—offered a professional platform for Maharashtra's brightest young paddlers and grassroots talent.

National Women's Archery Tournament to Celebrate 150th Birth Anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda

The first-ever Adi Shakti – National Women's Archery Competition will take place from April 8–10, 2025, at Ambaji in Gujarat's Banaskantha district, to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. Held under the motto "Sankalp ni Shakti thi Safalta na Shikhar par" (From the Power of Resolve to the Pinnacle of Success), the tournament will showcase the talents of women archers from across India. Key Highlights: • Event Name: Adi Shakti – National Women's Archery Competition

- Dates: April 8–10, 2025
- Venue: GMDC Ground, Ambaji, Gujarat
- Participants: 550 women archers from 28 states and 8 Union Territories
- Categories: Recurve and Compound
- Prize Money: ₹41.52 lakh total across both categories
- Cultural Touch: Over 100 local artists will perform devotional acts to honor the divine presence of Goddess Amba, blending tradition with sport in the holy town of Ambaji, a revered Shaktipeeth.

Legacy & Future: The tournament will now be held annually in Gujarat, signifying a major boost to the state's sporting identity and ambitions to emerge as a national sports hub.





Samantha Stuns in Saree Comeback



Samantha Ruth Prabhu made a show-stopping return to traditional wear, proving that sarees aren't just for festive occasions. In a rare and refreshing appearance, she donned a stunning cream saree paired with a chic golden midriff belt, effortlessly highlighting her silhouette. The ensemble was equal parts minimal and majestic. Her understated styling—soft open hair and simple golden earrings—elevated the look with quiet confidence. No dramatic flair, no over-the-top accessories—just pure elegance and poise. This appearance

wasn't just a fashion moment; it was a statement. Samantha reminded everyone that simplicity, when paired with confidence and grace, can be just as powerful as a bold couture look. Her saree comeback was subtle yet unforgettable—and absolutely worth the wait. Samantha Ruth Prabhu made a show-stopping return to traditional wear, proving that sarees aren't just for festive occasions. In a rare and refreshing appearance, she donned a stunning cream saree paired with a chic golden midriff belt, effortlessly highlighting her silhouette.

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Akhil 6 Surprise on His Birthday



Akhil Akkineni turns 31 on April 8, and fans are in for a birthday treat! The makers of his next film, tentatively titled Akhil 6, have planned a grand reveal to celebrate. Directed by Murali Kishor Abburu and produced by Sithara Entertainments and Annapurna Studios, the film's intense pre-look poster has already sparked excitement. The poster features Akhil holding a silver dagger, with the tagline: "No war is more violent than love." This powerful line hints at an emotional, action-driven storyline. The official title glimpse will drop on his birthday, adding to the buzz. Music for the film is composed by Thaman S. Akhil 6 marks Akhil's return after Agent (2023), as he aims to deliver a gripping cinematic experience that blends love, war, and raw emotion.



Charan's PEDDI Hits a Naatu Sixer

Ram Charan teams up with *Uppena* director Buchi Babu Sana for *PEDDI*, a rural action drama that's already generating major buzz. Unveiled on Charan's birthday, the title and first-look posters received an overwhelming response. Now, the *First Shot Glimpse*, released on Sri Rama Navami, takes the hype up a notch. The glimpse opens with a powerful scene—PEDDI striding into a crick-

et ground, beedi in mouth, bat over shoulder, met with roaring cheers. It's pure mass appeal. He dashes through fields with raw athleticism before launching a cricket ball with a thunderous swing, setting the tone for an explosive narrative. The visuals promise grit, strength, and



style—all wrapped in a rural backdrop. PEDDI is clearly not just a character—it's a storm in the making.

Bobby-Hrithik Project in the Works



As Bollywood increasingly collaborates with South Indian talent, Telugu directors are becoming hot property. With Sandeep Reddy Vanga's success setting the trend, another major name may soon join the league—director Bobby. Known for commercial blockbusters like *Waltair Veerayya* and *Daaku Maharaj*, Bobby is reportedly gearing up for his Bollywood debut. Post-*Daaku Maharaj*, he took a brief break and recently met superstar Hrithik

Roshan. Sources say Bobby pitched a story that Hrithik responded to positively. While the full script is still under wraps, the actor has given a preliminary green signal to the concept. If the project materializes, it could mark a powerful North-South collaboration and a fresh cinematic experience for fans. All eyes are now on whether Bobby's next big update will be his official Bollywood entry—with Hrithik in the lead.

Tom Cruise's Final Mission Begins

Tom Cruise returns in *Mission: Impossible – The Final Reckoning*, the eighth and possibly final chapter in the iconic spy franchise. The newly released trailer delivers a thrilling mix of nostalgia and danger, showcasing Cruise's Ethan Hunt hanging off a WWII plane and even passing out mid-stunt. As the world faces chaos from a rogue AI called "The Entity," Ethan gathers his team for one last, desperate mission. The trailer revisits memorable stunts and emotional milestones from previous films, hinting at deep betrayals and compromised loyalties. A chilling voice-over declares, "Everything you were, everything you've done, has come to this." With the odds stacked im-



possibly high, Ethan's final mission could be his most dangerous yet—if he choos-

es to accept it. Fans are in for a spectacular, high-stakes sendoff.