



India, Pak Agree To Ceasefire

Stop All Military Action On Land, Air, Sea

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
In a significant development after four days of intense cross-border hostilities, India and Pakistan have agreed to a ceasefire, halting all military actions on land, air, and sea effective from 5 PM on Saturday. The announcement came after Director Generals of Military Operations (DGMOs) from both countries engaged in discussions earlier in the day. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said, "DGMOs of India and Pakistan agreed that both sides would stop all firing and military action from 5 PM. Instructions have been given on both sides to give effect to this understanding." The DGMOs are scheduled to speak again on May 12 at 12 noon. The breakthrough was initiated

Ceasefire reached after DGMO-level talks; India calls it 'conditional'

by the Pakistani DGMO who reached out to India this afternoon, sources confirmed. However, they clarified that the ceasefire does not entail talks on other bilateral matters and is strictly limited to halting military operations. Despite the ceasefire, India has maintained a cautious stance. Government sources said the ceasefire is "conditional" and reaffirmed that India's position on diplomatic measures, including the suspension of the Indus Water Treaty, remains unchanged. "India remains fully prepared and ever-vigilant. Any further escalation by Pakistan

will be met with a decisive response," sources added. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar confirmed the development via a post on X (formerly Twitter), stating, "India and Pakistan have today worked out an understanding on stoppage of firing and military action. India will continue its uncompromising stance against terrorism in all its forms."

No change in India's stance on terrorism and Indus Treaty: Sources

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar also acknowledged the ceasefire, calling it a reaffirmation of Pakistan's commitment to peace in the region while protecting its sovereignty. This ceasefire comes in the backdrop of heightened

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Op Sindoor Messaging

India's Controlled Narrative Mirrors Its Precision Strikes



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India's official communication strategy surrounding Operation Sindoor has been as precise and calculated as the airstrikes it launched following the Pahalgam terror attack. Over a series of high-level government briefings, senior officials including Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, Colonel Sofiya Qureshi, and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, have carefully shaped a message of control, responsibility, and firm retaliation. Words like precision, measured, restrained, and calibrated have consistently defined India's tone, positioning New Delhi as a rational actor acting in self-defence against unprovoked aggression from Pakistan. Officials have clearly conveyed that India is not seeking escalation, but any provocation will be met with a tough and proportionate response. In the first government briefing on May 7 following the launch of Operation Sindoor, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh explained that the airstrikes were executed with "precision capability" using "niche technology weapons" to ensure zero collateral damage. "The point of impact at each of the target was a specific building or group of buildings," she stated, while reiterating that no military establishments were targeted, only terror infrastructure. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri echoed this stance, describing the strikes as "measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible." He emphasized that the original escalation in this latest conflict began with the brutal Pahalgam attack, in which 26 civilians were killed, and India's response was carefully considered. In subsequent briefings, Mr Misri continued to underscore the fact that India

had not targeted any military or civilian infrastructure, directly challenging Pakistan's claims of civilian targeting. "Pakistan is spreading falsehoods," he said, asserting that India's actions were defensive and only in response to provocation. He also criticized Islamabad for keeping its civil airspace open amid rising tensions, calling it "irresponsible." Wing Commander Singh, in her briefing on Saturday, stated that India's armed forces responded swiftly to Pakistan's drone attacks with "precision strikes" on identified military targets. These included radar sites, weapon storage facilities, and command centres in Pakistani locations such as Rafiqui, Murid, Chaklala, Rahim Yar Khan, and Sukkur. She repeated the word "precision" three times during her statement, reinforcing India's narrative of calculated action with minimal collateral impact. Throughout the briefings, India's messaging has underscored a clear theme: Pakistan has been the aggressor, while India has shown restraint. "India has been nothing but responsible in its response," Mr Misri said, while noting that Islamabad's reckless drone and shelling attacks had caused civilian casualties on the Indian side. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar's statements on social media have echoed the same carefully measured rhetoric. Calling India's strikes "targeted" and "measured", he emphasized that while India does not seek escalation, any such move will be met with firmness. The semantics used in these briefings highlight a broader diplomatic strategy: to frame India's actions as those of a responsible global power protecting its people, in contrast to Pakistan's irresponsible and aggressive behaviour.

Congress Demands All-Party Meet, Special Parliament Session on Ceasefire

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Following the dramatic announcement of a US-brokered ceasefire between India and Pakistan, the Congress party has called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to convene an all-party meeting to brief political parties and build national consensus. Congress General Secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh stated that this is a critical moment requiring collective political leadership. "In view of the unprecedented announcements from Washington DC, there is now a need, more than ever before, for the prime minister to chair an all-party meeting and take political parties into confidence," he said on X. He further demanded that the government convene a special session of Parliament to review and discuss the key events of the last 18 days, particularly the Pahalgam terror attack, and deliberate on India's response and future strategy. "We must demonstrate a collective national resolve," Ramesh emphasized.



The ceasefire announcement was made by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, stating that the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of both nations have agreed to cease all firing and military action on land, air, and sea from 5 pm today. The development came shortly after US President Donald Trump announced that India and Pakistan had agreed to a "full and immediate" ceasefire following intense diplomacy by the US. The talks involved US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who held calls with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, and Pakistani Army Chief General Asim Munir.

Uttam Vows Fast-Track Completion of Sita Rama, Sitamma Sagar Projects

Ministers hold key review meet at Jala Soudha

97% of main Sita Rama canal works completed

Forest clearance, land acquisition flagged as urgent



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday announced that the Congress-led Telangana government is firmly committed to completing the Sita Rama Lift Irrigation Project (SRLIP) and the Sitamma Sagar Multi-Purpose Project (SSMPP) on a fast-track basis, declaring both as critical to southern Telangana's irrigation future. Chairing a high-level review meeting at Jala Soudha, Uttam was joined by Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, along with senior irrigation officials. Former Yellandu MLA Gummadi Narasiah also participated, raising local issues.

Uttam Kumar Reddy emphasized that the Congress government, within 16 months, had achieved a significant breakthrough by convincing the Central Water Commission (CWC) to allocate 67 TMC of Godavari water to the Sita Rama project — a step neglected during the previous government's term. Officials presented the current status of works. 97% of SRLIP's main canal works have been completed, with three pump houses already tested successfully. The fourth pump house is nearing completion. However, pending issues remain, especially in land acquisition, forest clearance, and critical structures near tunnels and canals such as the Palair Link Canal, Sathupalli Trunk Canal, and

Enkoor Link Canal. Calling for urgency, the minister instructed engineers to speed up work, citing the ongoing working season. "We cannot afford any more delays. Move forward with full speed despite the constraints," he directed. Uttam asked senior officials to monitor land and forest clearance issues daily on-site and brief him personally on costs, progress, and pending land matters. "I want a complete picture – top to bottom," he said. On the Sitamma Sagar project, the minister noted efforts were underway to obtain pending environmental and forest clearances. He admitted that earlier works had proceeded

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Govt Sets Up Control Room For Citizens in Border States

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a significant move to assist citizens of Telangana currently residing in border states amid rising tensions, the Telangana government has announced the establishment of a control room at Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi. The control room aims to offer immediate help, vital information, and services to Telangana residents stranded or affected in these regions.

The control room will operate 24/7, ensuring continuous support for anyone requiring assistance. Dr. Gaurav Uppal, Resident Commissioner of Telangana Bhavan, emphasized that this initiative was taken to prioritize the safety and well-being of the state's citizens in light of the tense situation.

For those needing assistance, the following contact details have been provided:

- Landline: 011-23380556
- Vandana, Private Secretary & Liaison Head to the Resident Commissioner: 9871999044
- Hyder Ali Naqvi, Personal Assistant to the Resident Commissioner: 9971387500
- G. Rakshit Nayak, Liaison Officer: 9643723157
- CH. Chakravarthy, Public Relations Officer:



9949351270

The Telangana government has ensured that the control room will offer uninterrupted services, serving as a crucial lifeline for those in need of guidance or assistance.

Harish Rao Expresses Solidarity with Indian Soldiers

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BRS senior leader and former Minister T Harish Rao on Saturday attended a solidarity event for Indian soldiers at Malla Reddy Health City in Suraram, expressing strong support for the nation's security forces. Speaking at the event, Rao acknowledged the immense sacrifices made by Indian soldiers, emphasizing that borders are more than just geographical boundaries—they represent the safety and future of the country.

In his address, Harish Rao said, “Our soldiers fight to protect these borders, and it is our responsibility to stand by them.” He praised the event's organisers and highlighted the importance of unwavering commitment to national security.

Rao condemned terrorist activities, referencing tragic events like the Mumbai Taj Hotel siege and the global ramifications of terrorism emanating from Pakistan. He urged that patience had limits, stressing that India must prioritize the safety of its citizens above all else.

“For years, we have observed and endured. But now, the nation's security is our primary concern. Every young man and woman must be prepared to make sacrifices in times like these,” he stated.

The event also focused on the role of healthcare in supporting soldiers, with Malla Reddy Health University pledging to provide medical services to the armed forces as needed. Harish Rao underscored the significance of civilian contributions, such as blood donation drives, in supporting the military.



“We may not be on the battlefield, but ensuring that our soldiers receive the necessary medical care and support is a duty every citizen must uphold. Protecting the families of our soldiers is also our responsibility,” he concluded.

Centre sets chilli support price at ₹10,374 per quintal

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

In a significant move to support chilli farmers in Telangana, the Union Agriculture Ministry has fixed the chilli procurement price at ₹10,374 per quintal under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). Union Minister for Tourism and Culture, G. Kishan Reddy, issued a press release on Thursday announcing the decision.

The scheme aims to protect farmers from distress sales in the open market. If they are forced to sell their produce below the fixed price, the Central Government will provide the difference as financial assistance. This intervention is expected to bring relief to thousands of chilli growers across the state.

“Chilli is predominantly cultivated in several districts of Telangana including Khammam, Mahabubnagar, Jogulamba Gadwal, Bhadradri Kothagudem, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Suryapet, Warangal, Hanumakonda and Nagarkurnool,” said Kishan Reddy. He explained that he had written to Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on April 4, seeking support for chilli farmers suffering due to low market rates.

Responding to the appeal, the Agriculture Ministry agreed to implement the MIS for 25% of Telangana's estimated chilli production of 6,88,540 metric tonnes in 2024–25. The minister clarified that the scheme would only apply to chilli sold in Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs), and not through private channels or middlemen.

In an important clarification, Reddy stated that



the central and state governments would share the burden equally. The Centre will reimburse 50% of the price difference to the state, provided the state government initially deposits the shortfall amount directly into farmers' accounts.

He added that the intervention was prompted by reports of exploitation where middlemen were buying chillies at as low as ₹5,000–₹6,000 per quintal, far below the cost of production. “The state government should also take proactive measures to prevent such exploitation and ensure that farmers are not pushed into losses,” he said.

The Centre, he confirmed, is ready to implement the scheme in Telangana as per the MIS guidelines and has already written to the Union Agriculture Ministry to initiate necessary action.

Kavitha Calls for Miss World Rescheduling

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

BRS MLC K Kavitha on Saturday appealed to the Telangana government to consider rescheduling the upcoming Miss World Pageant in light of the ongoing global tensions. She emphasized that while the pageant is a matter of pride and has potential economic and cultural significance, its timing could send the wrong message about India's priorities.

Speaking on the issue, Kavitha said, “Miss World Pageant is being held by the Telangana government in the State, and the whole world is going to watch it. Amid the ongoing war-like situations, our image would not go well, and we would come across as a non-serious nation if it continues.”

The former MP clarified that the BRS was not opposed to the event itself but was only requesting a change in schedule. Drawing a parallel with cricket, she said, “We are not demanding the cancellation of the event, but I request the



rescheduling of the event, just like IPL was rescheduled in the past during sensitive times.” Kavitha's comments come at a time when other BRS leaders have also voiced concerns about the timing of high-profile entertainment events while military operations and security threats are intensifying. Her statement reflects a growing sentiment that such international events should be held in a more stable environment, preserving the country's image as a responsible global player.

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tensions following a deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir on April 22, where 26 civilians were killed. India blamed Pakistan for the attack and launched a retaliatory operation named Operation Sindoor, targeting nine terror bases in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Pakistan responded with drone and artillery

attacks, which were reportedly repelled by Indian forces. The ceasefire signals a temporary de-escalation, though both countries remain on high alert.

India's warnings that “any act of terror will be considered an act of war” continue to underline the government's uncompromising approach toward cross-border terrorism.

Uttam Vows Fast-Track Completion of Sita Rama, Sitamma Sagar Projects

without approvals, attracting a ₹53.41 crore NGT penalty, which the government is now working legally to cancel. A 282.8 MW hydroelectric component has been proposed to TG-GENCO and is under process.

He ordered engineers to review tunnel works near Palair, and questioned where exactly water flow was being obstructed. Engineers cited 80-90 acres of forest land still pending acquisition.

Responding to Gummadi Narsaiah's request for water supply to Yellandu, Uttam asked for a technical team to assess a link canal proposal without affecting current designs. Uttam concluded by assuring that the Congress government will deliver both projects in a time-bound and effective manner. “This government will do whatever is necessary to deliver these projects to the people,” he asserted.

CA Exams Postponed Amid Indo-Pak Tensions

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Amid heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has officially announced the postponement of all CA examinations scheduled for May 2025. This decision has been taken in view of the sensitive security situation along the border and potential disruptions across various exam centres.

According to the original schedule, the CA Intermediate, Final, and Post Qualification exams were to be conducted from May 9 to May 14. Group 1 of the CA Intermediate exams was already underway, held on May 3, 5, and 7, while Group 2 exams were planned for May 9, 11, and 14. The ICAI, however, has now confirmed that these exams stand postponed until further notice.

In an official communication, the ICAI stated, “In light of the prevailing circumstances concerning national security and ensuring the safety of candidates and staff, it has been decided to defer all scheduled CA exams. Revised dates will be notified shortly.”

Students preparing for the exams are urged



to remain calm and stay updated through ICAI's official website, www.icai.org, for further notifications and the revised timetable. The institute has also advised candidates to avoid relying on unofficial sources for updates. As the situation along the Indo-Pak border remains tense, various institutions and state authorities are taking precautionary measures to avoid large public gatherings and ensure public safety.

Disarm Pakistan Of Its Nukes, Says Owaisi

- Owaisi calls Pakistan Army and establishment ‘liars’
- Slams Pakistan for misuse of Quranic verses
- Questions Pakistan’s ties with China, IMF loan

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president Asaduddin Owaisi on Saturday, May 10, strongly condemned Pakistan over its recent hostile actions and demanded that the country be disarmed of its nuclear weapons. He said the time has come for global powers to evaluate whether Pakistan should be allowed to continue possessing nuclear arms. Owaisi expressed outrage over the repeated attacks on Indian soil by Pakistan and accused its army and establishment of distorting Quranic teachings to justify their violence. “Pakistan is saying they are waging an Islamic war against Bharat. They should remember that 20 crore Muslims live in India,” he said. Referring to the shelling in border areas like Jammu and Kashmir’s Poonch district that killed innocent civilians, including children, Owaisi criticised Pakistan for using religion to mask its aggression. “Did they remember the Quran when they committed atrocities in Balochistan, Iran, Afghanistan and what was East Pakistan?” he asked. Owaisi also condemned terror attacks in India, linking them to Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in the name of Islam. “In our city, there was the Dilsukhnagar blast, Lumbini Park blast and Gokul Chat blast. Are they trying to say only they will go to heaven and 20 crore Muslims in India will not?” he said angrily. Targeting Pakistan’s economic situation, Owaisi



described the nation as “beggars” for depending on loans from the International Monetary Fund. “What has Pakistan done in the last 75 years? Who forced them to borrow one billion dollars from the IMF? Why are countries like the US, Germany, and Japan agreeing to fund them?” he asked. He also lashed out at Pakistan’s Jamaat-e-Islami for its alleged relationship with the Chinese Communist Party and questioned why Pakistan remains silent on China’s human rights abuses against Muslims. Owaisi concluded by appreciating the people living in India’s border areas for bravely facing Pakistani hostilities and urged the world to take a serious stance on Pakistan’s nuclear arsenal.

We Will Distribute State Wealth to Four Crore People, Not Loot Like KCR

TPN Correspondent | Kothagudem

In a powerful speech at the Aswarao-pet District Central Public Meeting in Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu targeted the previous TRS government for alleged corruption and unfulfilled promises, while emphasizing the ongoing and future welfare measures of the current government. He began by warning the public of “exploiters uniting for the rule of the nobility,” cautioning against unfair practices by political leaders who use state resources for personal gain. “Is it fair for you and your family to loot the state’s wealth?” he questioned, referring to the mismanagement under the TRS rule. Vikramarka highlighted the progress in welfare schemes, asserting that the government’s focus remains on distributing state wealth to all citizens, not just a select few. He praised the role of Aswarao-pet MLA Vin-napananthjo, who had successfully sanctioned six new substations to benefit farmers and consumers in the constituency, with an investment of ₹40 crore. Criticizing the TRS administration, Vikramarka stated, “The TRS has made a mess of the state in its ten years in power, pouring money into Kaleshwaram and increasing state debt by ₹7 lakh crore. We are focused on delivering what they promised but never fulfilled.” He also pointed to major achievements of the



current government, including the sanctioning of 4.5 lakh houses, the creation of 57,000 jobs in one year, and the provision of ₹9,000 crore for unemployment support. Further, Vikramarka emphasized the implementation of free rice and the promise of 200 units of free electricity for the poor, alongside increased medical and educational provisions for the public. The Deputy CM also reiterated the government’s commitment to improving living conditions for women and tribals, outlining measures like free bus travel for women and enhanced diet charges in hostels. He concluded with a call for better governance, focusing on equitable distribution of wealth to benefit the four crore people of Telangana.

Modiji, Wipe Pakistan Off The Map: Mallareddy

BRS MLA makes fiery remarks during ‘Operation Sindoor’ rally

TPN Correspondent | Medchal

In a fiery address that has drawn nationwide attention, former minister and BRS MLA Mallareddy called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to “break Pakistan into pieces and wipe it off the world map.” His controversial comments came during the ‘Operation Sindoor’ rally held at Mallareddy University in Suraram, within the Qutbullapur constituency of Medchal district. The solidarity event, organized in support of the Indian Army, saw the participation of several prominent leaders including former Minister Harish Rao, MLA KP Vivekananda, BRS party cadres, and hundreds of students. Tri-color flags waved high as the leaders led chants saluting the armed forces. Addressing the gathering, Mallareddy lashed out at Pakistan, accusing it of sponsoring terrorism. “We are still suffering because of Pakistan. They are sheltering and nurturing terrorists. Modiji, it’s time to finish Pakistan once and for all,” he said. He also emphasized that despite 75 years of independence, India continues to face repeated



threats from its western neighbor. Mallareddy’s speech took a patriotic tone as he appealed to citizens to be ready to sacrifice for the nation. “We may not be able to fight on the borders, but let us be ready to donate blood for our soldiers,” he urged the youth. Former Minister Harish Rao and MLA Vivekananda echoed similar sentiments in support of the army, emphasizing unity and national pride. The rally concluded with chants of “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” and waving of the national flag, reinforcing the theme of unflinching solidarity with the armed forces.

Vijayashanti Faces Flak for Tweet on Congress Role in Pakistan Wars

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

At a time when tensions are high along the Indo-Pak border, Congress MLC and actress Vijayashanti has sparked a controversy with a social media post highlighting the Congress party’s past role in confronting Pakistan. Her comments have drawn sharp criticism from various quarters, including political opponents and social media users, who accused her of politicizing national security. In her post, Vijayashanti stated, “There is no doubt that the Congress government has been at the forefront of curbing Pakistan, which is instigating terrorism against India, from the very beginning.” She referred to the 1965 war under then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War led by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, emphasizing that both conflicts were handled firmly by Congress governments. She further said, “It is always true that the next Indian governments will continue to act today and in the future, taking inspiration from them. However, although



some people are mentioning this issue for the political benefit of social media, I believe that even those few should understand that no one is looking at this issue from the perspective of politics.” Despite her clarification, many netizens and political observers criticized the timing of her remarks, suggesting they could undermine the current efforts of Indian forces amidst cross-border hostilities. Some accused her of trying to score political points during a time of national crisis. “What’s the point in glorifying past political regimes when our soldiers are currently on the frontlines?” questioned one user. Others argued that her tone seemed dismissive of the present government’s contributions and may appear divisive when unity is most needed. Meanwhile, Congress leaders have defended Vijayashanti, stating that she merely acknowledged historical facts and did not intend to make a partisan statement. However, the backlash reflects the sensitivity surrounding national security matters and the expectation that such issues remain above political rhetoric.

National Development Through Caste Enumeration

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A roundtable meeting was held today at Katriya Hotel, Somajiguda, organized by the Backward Classes Centre for Empowerment (BCCE). The event, chaired by BCCE Director and BJP Telangana State Spokesperson Virender Goud, focused on the topic of “Caste Enumeration; Future Construction of OBCs; Social Justice.” The meeting began with a moment of silence to honor those who lost their lives in recent terrorist attacks, setting a somber tone for the proceedings. The event saw key dignitaries in attendance, including Rajya Sabha Member and BJP OBC Morcha National President, Dr. K. Laxman, Uttar Pradesh State BC Welfare Minister Narendra Kashyap, National President of BC Welfare Association and Rajya Sabha Member R. Krishnaiah, Madhya Pradesh State Public Health Engineering Department Principal Secretary, IAS Parikippandla Narahari, former Chairman of the State BC Commission Vakulabhanam Krishnamohan, and a host of experts, educationists, and social



workers. Virender Goud’s Remarks: Virender Goud emphasized that the entire nation is now expressing support for the caste census following the Modi government’s commitment to conducting it effectively. He noted that this initiative would greatly aid in the empowerment and upliftment of

the OBCs (Other Backward Classes). Dr. K. Laxman’s Speech: Dr. Laxman pointed out that while the Congress party ruled the country for many decades, they failed to carry out a caste census despite the significant presence of BCs in the country. He explained that the welfare of BCs was largely ignored under the previous

regime. He further highlighted that after the Modi government assumed power, a series of welfare programs were introduced for the benefit of BCs. Narendra Kashyap’s Input: Uttar Pradesh’s BC Welfare Minister, Narendra Kashyap, stressed the development of BCs under the leadership

of the Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh. He encouraged BCs to excel both economically and politically, stressing the importance of their active involvement in the nation’s development. R. Krishnaiah’s Call to Action: R. Krishnaiah noted that while the struggle for caste enumeration has been ongoing for many years, the previous government failed to act. He criticized the Congress for politicizing the issue, while praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi for acknowledging and acting on the demand for a caste census. Krishnaiah urged everyone to support the initiative and raise awareness among the public about its significance. The roundtable meeting highlighted the urgent need for caste enumeration as a crucial step towards empowering the OBCs and ensuring social justice in India. Leaders and experts across the political spectrum united in their call for action, emphasizing that caste enumeration will play a pivotal role in the nation’s development and in providing equitable opportunities for all.

Pakistan Cybercriminals Target India with Dangerous Malware

- ‘Dance of the Hillary’ spreading through WhatsApp
- Malware threatens personal, banking information
- Pakistani hackers use WhatsApp to send malicious links
- Cyber police advise not to respond to suspicious messages

TPN | V Krishna Kumar
Hyderabad, May 11: In light of increasing cyber threats, Indian cyber experts have raised alarms over a new malware campaign aimed at stealing sensitive personal and banking information. The malware, known as “Dance of the Hillary,” is being spread by Pakistani cybercriminals through platforms like WhatsApp, Face-



book, and email. Cybersecurity officials warn that this dangerous malware is often sent via suspicious messages from unknown numbers, and once down-

loaded, it can steal banking passwords, credit card details, and other private data. It also poses a risk to personal files, with potential for remote access, device

slowdown, and even crashing of devices. Authorities have urged citizens to be vigilant and avoid clicking on unfamiliar links or responding to suspicious messages, especially those that claim to be from people known to them. The Cyber Police Department has set up special teams across commissionerates to monitor the situation and investigate the spread of this malware. In the wake of heightened border tensions, police are advising the public to exercise extra caution and avoid engaging with any unusual communications, whether via WhatsApp or other platforms. Cybercriminals, both foreign and local, continue to target Indian users, putting sensitive data at risk.

Raids on Mango Godowns in Malakpet Uncover Use of Harmful Chemicals



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A joint operation by Task Force Police and GHMC Food Safety officials led to significant seizures of artificially ripened mangoes in Malakpet. The raids followed complaints about the use of harmful chemicals like calcium carbide, ethylene, and calcium acetylide to hasten the ripening process of mangoes, posing a health risk to consumers. Mangoes worth approximately Rs 60,000 were seized from a godown in Salim Nagar, while another raid at a godown in

Shalivahana Nagar resulted in the confiscation of mangoes valued at Rs 3.50 lakhs. Two traders were arrested for selling the chemically treated fruits, which have been linked to skin, lung, and other health problems. Food safety officials emphasized that despite the ban on calcium carbide, traders continue to illegally use it, prioritizing profit over public health. Officials warned that consuming such fruits could lead to serious health issues, urging the public to avoid mangoes harvested with harmful chemicals.

2.35 Kg Ganja Seized Near Secunderabad Railway Station

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a coordinated raid led by Enforcement CI Chandrashekar Goud, 2.35 kilograms of ganja was seized near the Secunderabad railway station. Acting on a tip-off, the enforcement team intercepted a group of individuals allegedly transporting the contraband in the vicinity. Alongside the ganja, four mobile phones and one two-wheeler were confiscated during the operation. The total value of the seized marijuana is estimated at ₹1.5 lakh. The accused—Farida Khan, Md Salam, Md Salman, and

Asis Khan—were taken into custody and handed over to the Secunderabad Excise Police Station for further investigation and legal action. Excise Enforcement Director Shahnawaz Qasim, Deputy Commissioner Shastri, and Assistant Commissioner Anil Kumar Reddy commended the efforts of the enforcement team for swiftly acting on the information and preventing the distribution of illegal substances.



Security Tightened at Turkish Consulate in Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In view of heightened tensions, police have deployed heavy security at the Consulate General of the Republic of Turkey in Jubilee Hills. The move comes amid intelligence inputs and public sentiment following reports that Turkey has supplied drones to Pakistan, a matter that has drawn nationwide attention. Surveillance has been significantly stepped up around the consulate. CCTV cameras have been installed to monitor the premises continuously, and local police have imposed restrictions in and around the area to prevent any un-

toward incidents. The security arrangements were triggered after reports surfaced that India had shot down around 400 Pakistani drones along the border. It is alleged that a substantial number of these drones were supplied by Turkey to Pakistan. The development has led to increased vigilance, with the police anticipating possible public protests targeting the Turkish mission. Officials have confirmed that the security measures are precautionary and aimed at maintaining law and order. Citizens have been urged to cooperate with the authorities and avoid any activities that could lead to unrest.

Alpha Zola Worth ₹6.5 Lakh Seized in Attapur, One Held



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major crackdown, the Rangareddy Excise Enforcement Team seized 615 grams of Alpha Zola, a controlled psychotropic substance, during a raid at a residence in Radhakrishna Nagar, Attapur. The seizure is estimated to be worth ₹6.50 lakh in the illegal market. According to AES Jeevan Kiran, the raid was conducted based on credible information at House No. 3-4-103, where the team found Alpha Zola stored in the residence of one Lal Shivraj Goud. Upon interrogation, the accused revealed that the substance was handed over to him by one Venkataiah Goud of Shadnagar for distribution.

While Lal Shivraj Goud was taken into custody, a case has also been registered against Venkataiah Goud, who is currently absconding. Further raids are underway to trace his whereabouts. Excise officials confirmed that strict legal action is being initiated against both individuals under the relevant sections of the NDPS Act. AS Jeevan Kiran, CS Subhash Chandra, SAIL Venkatesh, Akhil Kumar, and other enforcement staff were part of the operation. Excise Enforcement Director Shahnawaz Qasim, Deputy Commissioner Dasharath, and Assistant Commissioner R. Kishan praised the team for its swift and effective action.

Omega Hospital CEO Caught Buying Cocaine in Hyderabad

- CEO Chigurupati Namrata arrested with 53 grams of cocaine
- Paid ₹5 lakh online for the drugs, say police
- Rayadurgam police book her under NDPS Act

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a major drug bust, the CEO of Omega Hospital, Dr. Chigurupati Namrata, was arrested by Rayadurgam police on Friday, May 9, while she was taking delivery of 53 grams of cocaine. The arrest was made following a tip-off that led police to the spot during the handover of the narcotics. According to police reports, Dr. Namrata had paid ₹5 lakh online to a drug supplier identified as Vansh Dhakkar. The cocaine was delivered to her in Hyderabad by a delivery agent named Balakrishna, also known as Rampyar Ram,

who works under Vansh. Both Namrata and Balakrishna were apprehended during the exchange. During the operation, police seized 53 grams of cocaine, ₹10,000 in cash, and two mobile phones. Following her arrest, Dr. Namrata reportedly confessed during interrogation that she had spent nearly ₹70 lakh on purchasing drugs over a period of time. Rayadurgam CI confirmed that both the doctor and the delivery boy have been arrested and remanded. Police have registered a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. Officials are currently investigating further to uncover the larger drug supply chain and potential connections to wider narcotic networks operating in Hyderabad.



Security Tightened in Hyderabad: Drones, Fireworks Banned

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Hyderabad and Cyberabad police have stepped up security measures across the city, announcing strict restrictions on the use of drones and fireworks. The decisions were taken in light of public safety and ongoing security concerns, especially around sensitive zones like airports and public areas. Cyberabad Police Commissioner Avinash Mohanty has issued orders banning drones, paragliders, and other flying objects within a 10-kilometre radius of the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad. These restrictions are effective immediately and will remain in force till June 9. The commissioner emphasized that the move aims to protect flight operations and passen-

ger safety. He warned that any violation of these orders would lead to stringent legal action. Meanwhile, Hyderabad Police Commissioner CV Anand announced a city-wide ban on the bursting of firecrackers in both Hyderabad and Secunderabad. The ban is particularly enforced in public spaces and cantonment areas. Citing safety concerns, the commissioner said that loud firecracker noises could create panic or be misinterpreted as acts of terrorism, especially in view of the tense situation on the India-Pakistan border. CV Anand appealed to citizens to show restraint and cooperate with the authorities to maintain peace. He also made it clear that those violating the ban will face legal consequences.

Women’s Groups Protest Miss World Event

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A tense situation unfolded at the Gachibowli Stadium as several women’s organizations staged a protest against the upcoming Miss World competition. Activists from groups including the Progressive Women’s Association gathered near the venue demanding the immediate cancellation of the event and the departure of international participants. Raising slogans such as “CM down, down,” the protestors voiced their opposition, calling the event regressive and disrespectful to the dignity of women. The protest disrupted the otherwise smooth prepara-

tions for the pageant, which is scheduled to commence soon. Police personnel deployed at the stadium swiftly intervened to prevent escalation. Leaders of the protesting women’s groups were detained and shifted to nearby police stations to restore order in the area. Authorities have not yet responded to the demands, but security has been intensified around the stadium in anticipation of further protests.



Vivekananda Aks CM to focus on safety, not Beauty Pageants

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

BRS Whip and MLA KP Vivekananda launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Saturday, criticizing his focus on organizing a beauty pageant while the country grapples with heightened military tensions. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, he questioned the government's priorities in the current national security climate.

Paying homage to Andhra Pradesh soldier Murali Nayak, who was killed in a Pakistani attack, Vivekananda expressed deep respect for the Indian Army and said the entire nation stood united with its defense forces. He clarified that the BRS is not against cultural events like beauty pageants but emphasized that such programs must be held in peaceful times, not when the country is on edge due to external threats.

Highlighting the government's announcement of a three-tier security plan for the pageant, the BRS leader asked, "What is the need for such arrangements when essential services are being disrupted in a war-like atmosphere?" He said the state's governance under Revanth Reddy resembled a reckless gamble and accused him of ignoring pressing public issues.



Vivekananda raised concerns about the steep rise in prices of essential commodities and the disruption caused by the temporary closure of airports and ports, adding to the anxiety of the public. He questioned the government's inaction in helping Telangana students stranded in Punjab and Srinagar, asking, "Is there any plan to bring them back safely?"

He also criticized the suspension of Operation Kagar and the withdrawal of forces from Karregutta hills, calling it a strategic misstep. According to Vivekananda, while the entire country is united in backing the armed forces, the Chief Minister appears more invested in fashion shows than public safety.

Special Puja Held at Bhadradri for success of Operation Sindhur

TPN Correspondent | Bhadradri Kothagudem

A special puja was conducted at the Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Temple in Bhadrachalam today as part of Operation Sindhur,

under the direction of the Telangana State Government and the Commissioner of Endowments. The ceremony aimed to pray for the success of the operation and for the overall safety, peace, and prosperity of the nation. Devasthanam Executive Officer Ramadevi announced that the special rituals, including cow puja, Sudarshana Homam, and prayers to Swamy,



Amma, and Anjaneya Swamy, were organized with the hope of ensuring peace in the country. Temple officials, priests, and devotees took part in the program, offering prayers for the continued safety of India and the success of efforts to combat terrorism and maintain national security.

Worker Dies Under Suspicious Circumstances at CCI

TPN Correspondent | Tandur

In a tragic incident, Hussain Hali, a contract worker on night duty at CCI Cement Company, passed away under suspicious circumstances at the company's pump house, located on the outskirts of Karan Kot village in Tandur mandal. Hussain reportedly fell unconscious while performing his duties, and his fellow workers, noticing the situation, immediately alerted the company management. The news of his death spread quickly, leading to protests by workers, politicians, trade union leaders, and family members of the deceased. They gathered in front of the company gate, demanding justice for Hussain Hali's family and proper compensation. Trade union leaders voiced strong ob-



jections, calling for accountability and compensation for the worker's family. Local authorities were informed, and the police arrived at the scene, shifting the body to Tandur Government Hospital for a postmortem. A case has been registered, and investigations are underway to determine the cause of death. As the investigation continues, workers are calling for justice and transparency in the handling of the case.

RTC MD Sajjanar Praises Journalists for Reporting at Borders

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

RTC MD and senior IPS officer Sajjanar on Saturday expressed his admiration for the journalists who risk their lives to report from the country's borders amidst hostile conditions. Speaking at a public event, Sajjanar praised the media personnel for their dedication, emphasizing the critical role journalism plays in bridging the gap between the government and the people. He described journalism as "a sword on a sword" and acknowledged the courage and perseverance of journalists working in challenging environments.



Sajjanar highlighted that reporting from areas affected by enemy attacks on the borders is not an easy task, and these journalists work tirelessly to broadcast facts and inform the public, no matter the risks involved. "It's not uncommon for these journalists to venture into regions where the enemy army has attacked, bringing the truth to the people. Their courage and commitment to their duty deserve immense recognition," Sajjanar stated. He concluded by showering praise on the journalists for their unwavering dedication and resilience in the face of adversity.

Indira Sauragiri Jal Vikas Scheme for Tribal Development

TPN Correspondent | Nagarkurnool

A review meeting was held on Saturday by District Collector Badawat Santosh to discuss the Indira Sauragiri Jal Vikas Scheme aimed at the development of tribal farmers in Nagarkurnool. The meeting was attended by officials from various departments, including Horticulture, Groundwater, ITDA, and the District Forest Officer, to plan the implementation of the scheme, which will cover 6 lakh acres of fallow lands with an investment of ₹12,600 crore. The scheme will provide



water and electricity facilities to agricultural lands, benefiting 2.10 lakh Chenchu tribals. The plan includes drilling bore wells, setting up solar power facilities, and providing drip irrigation systems to cultivate horticultural crops such as dragon fruit, avocado, mango,

and lemon. Groundwater officials were directed to conduct a survey and prepare the necessary bore wells, while horticulture officials were instructed to ensure adequate fruit plants and irrigation systems for the farmers. District SP Vaibhav Gaikwad Raghunath, DFO Ro-

hit Gopidi, and Achampet MLA Rikudu Vamsikrishna also participated in the meeting. Afterward, they inspected the helipad site at the Tribal Welfare Gurukul School in Mannanur and the arable lands in Macharam village. They reviewed the areas identified for borehole drilling and discussed the venue for the Chief Minister's meeting in Macharam. The scheme is set to be launched as a pilot project in Mannanur on May 18 by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, and officials have been urged to work around the clock to ensure its success.

Irrigation Engineer Caught Taking ₹60,000 Bribe in Telangana

TPN Correspondent | Sircilla

A major bribery case came to light in Telangana on Friday, May 9, as the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested Arram Reddy Amarender Reddy, Executive Engineer of the Irrigation Department, Division No. 7 in Sircilla, for allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe of ₹60,000 from a contractor.

According to ACB officials, the bribe was demanded in exchange for clearing a pending bill of ₹50 lakh related to construction work completed by the complainant last year. Acting on the complaint, the ACB laid a trap and caught Amarender Reddy red-handed while he was accepting the bribe amount.



Following his arrest, Amarender Reddy was taken into custody and will be produced before the ACB Court. An official investigation into the matter is currently underway to determine the full extent of the misconduct.

The ACB has reiterated its commitment to rooting out corruption from government departments and has urged the public to report any such incidents. Citizens can file complaints through the Toll-Free Number 1064, WhatsApp at 9440446106, Facebook (Telangana ACB), or by visiting the official ACB website. Authorities have assured complete confidentiality for whistleblowers.

HC Hears PIL Against Colleges Conducting Classes During Summer Break

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The Telangana High Court on May 7 heard a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging private junior colleges for conducting academic classes during the summer vacation. The PIL was filed by advocate Bandela Kranthi Kumar, who represented the petitioner, arguing that private colleges were flouting the guidelines set by the Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE). The vacation bench, consisting of Justices Surepalli Nanda and J Srinivas Rao, took up the PIL as a lunch motion and posted the case for hearing on May 14. The PIL alleges that both physical and online classes were



being held by private junior colleges during the summer holidays, contrary to the stipulated academic calendar. During the hearing, the petitioner's counsel, CR Sukumar, sought directions from the court to stop private colleges from conducting classes, whether physical or virtual, during the holidays. He argued that the TGBIE's academic calendar is designed to pro-

vide necessary breaks to students for their mental health and overall well-being, allowing them to rejuvenate before the next academic session. A special government pleader from the office of the Advocate General informed the court that no private junior college in Telangana was conducting academic classes during the summer vacation. However, he added that the

intermediate board could not control private institutions running tuitions and coaching classes during the vacation period. Sukumar pointed out that excessive academic sessions without breaks lead to mental health issues, including stress, anxiety, burnout, and depression, as evidenced by a March 2023 study by the Telangana Intermediate Board. He emphasized that courts, like other institutions, observe vacations to prioritize mental health, and educational institutions should do the same. The bench directed the junior colleges to file a counter in response to the PIL and postponed the judgment until May 14.

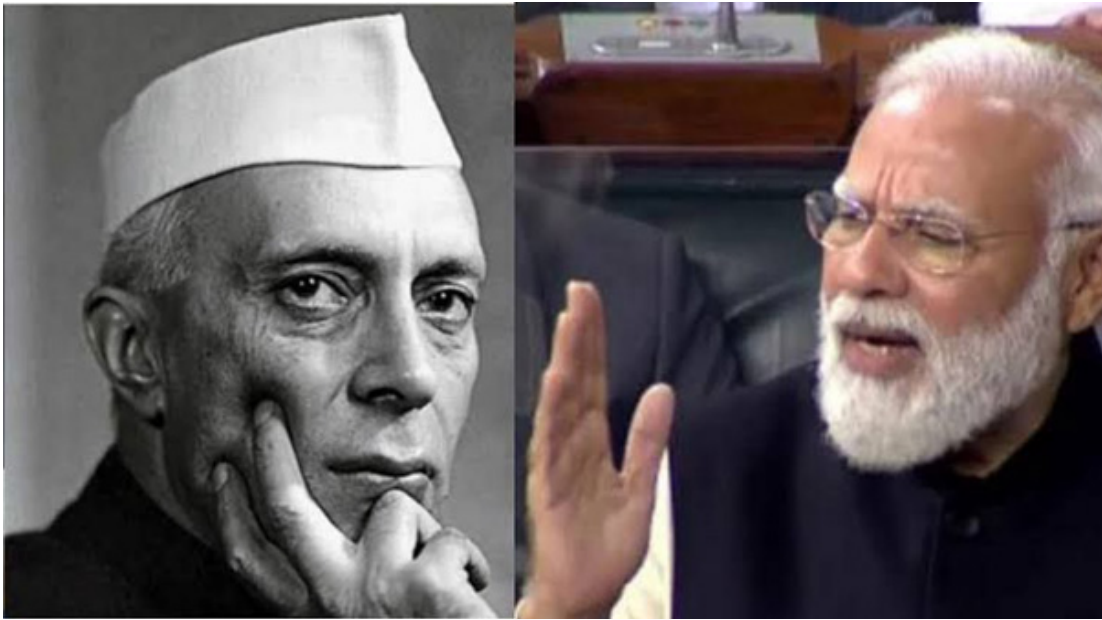
Leadership and Governance

“Modi’s Nation-First vs Nehru’s Statesmanship Philosophy ”

As India continues its journey toward becoming a global power, the importance of firm, visionary leadership that prioritizes the national interest cannot be overstated. Today, more than ever, India requires a leader who puts the security, sovereignty, and well-being of its citizens above ideological posturing and global image management. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has exemplified this approach through decisive action, assertive foreign policy, and a clear commitment to India’s strategic and economic interests. His leadership reflects a break from the historical tendencies that often compromised the country’s core priorities. Nehru’s approach was driven by idealism and caution, Modi’s is rooted in realism and deterrence. This shift has not only restored national pride but also strengthened India’s position on the global stage.

Nehru’s international acclaim at the expense of Nation

It is important to reflect on the legacy of past governance, particularly during Jawaharlal Nehru’s leadership of the Congress Party. While the Congress claims Nehru was key in shaping post-independence India, his administration made choices that weakened the country’s strategic position. Nehru’s guidance often led the Congress to neglect or undermine national interests. Major issues, such as the Kashmir conflict, inadequate military preparedness that led to the 1962 defeat against China, and an overly idealistic foreign policy, left India vulnerable during critical moments. The focus on international reputation over practical national policy has had lasting conse-



quences. Nehru’s era saw the armed forces constrained by political indecision and poor strategic insight. The conflict with China exposed serious flaws in military readiness, leadership coordination, and political will. Despite warnings from military leaders, Nehru’s government failed to adequately equip the military or provide clear directives, resulting in a humiliating defeat that impacted the nation significantly.

Nehru compromised the military for his ideological objectives.

Nehru’s reluctance to give the armed forces operational autonomy severely undermined India’s defense capabilities during his tenure. Senior military leaders were often sidelined, strategic warnings ignored, and critical decisions made without adequate consultation with defense experts. The disastrous outcome of the war with China was not merely a military failure—it was a failure of political leadership that chose ideology and diplomacy over preparedness and decisive action. The army was constrained by bureaucratic control and lacked the



Dr. Buragadda Srinadha
Author, Former National consultant for NRHM, Ministry of Health, Govt of India

support needed to defend the nation effectively.”

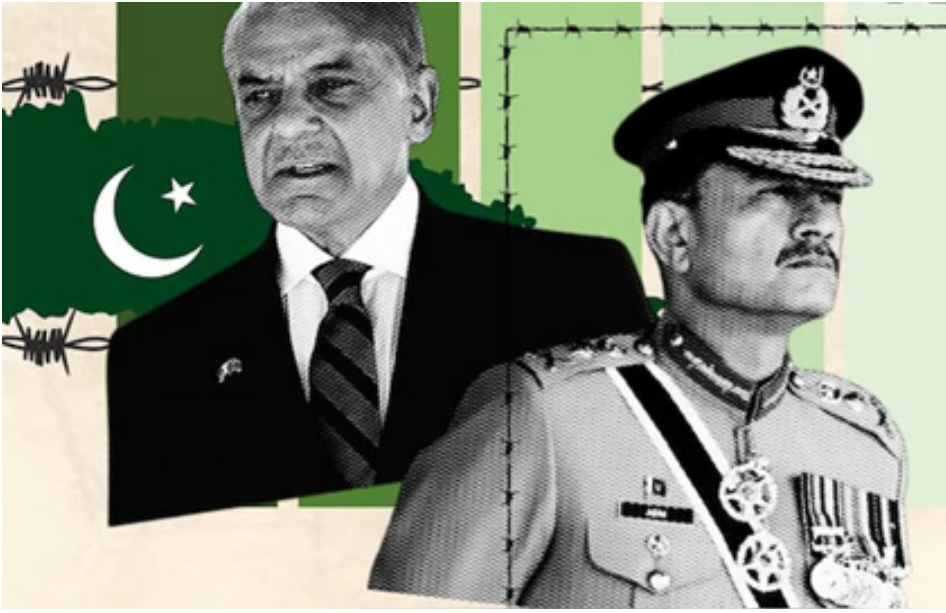
Undue diplomacy might indicate a lack of strength.

Today, India must reject the model of symbolic diplomacy and embrace leadership rooted in realism, accountability, and strength. The country needs leaders who not only defend its borders but also uplift its people, build its institutions, and assert its rightful place on the world stage—without compromise.

Congress needs to progress beyond the Philosophy of diplomacy preached by Nehru.

The historical missteps and policy failures of the Congress party have cast a long shadow over India’s development. The legacy of indecisive governance, flawed security strategies, and misplaced priorities continues to affect the nation’s progress even today. In many ways, the sins of the Congress era have been a curse on the nation—leaving behind unresolved conflicts, institutional decay, and a weakened strategic posture that later governments have had to work tirelessly to correct.”

It is time for the Congress party to break free from the outdated diplomatic framework set by Jawaharlal Nehru—a model rooted in idealism and global image-building at the cost of national interest. India’s evolving strategic environment demands pragmatism, strength, and a clear-eyed approach to diplomacy, not nostalgia for a bygone era. Clinging to Nehruvian foreign policy dogma continues to hinder the party’s ability to address present-day realities and national security imperatives.”



India’s Strategic Shift: Calculated Pressure in Response to Pakistan's Escalation

The April 22 Pahalgam attack, marked by brutal religious and gender profiling, crossed India’s tolerance threshold, prompting the swift convening of the Cabinet Committee on Security. While India’s response emphasized diplomatic, political, and economic measures, it also opened the window for calibrated military planning under a broader doctrine of strategic escalation.

Operation Sindoor marked a significant evolution in India’s military posture. Moving beyond earlier surgical strikes, this operation showcased India’s ability to assert escalation dominance without full-scale war. Named symbolically, ‘Sindoor’ conveyed a sacred red line—a cultural symbol of both sanctity and retribution—indicating that India’s patience had limits.

The operation targeted terrorist infrastructure across a 700 km stretch, striking high-value locations like Bahawalpur, Muridke, and Sialkot—centres linked to groups like Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba. Striking these targets near civilian and military hubs signaled a shift: India would no longer limit action to proxies but target the infrastructure that sustains them.

The strategic optics were also crucial. Women officers played a visible role in post-strike briefings,

symbolizing India’s inclusive, modern military and aligning with the national grief over the loss of civilians, particularly widowed women. This narrative projected India’s ideological contrast with Pakistan’s regressive gender norms.

Pakistan’s response—a failed drone and missile strike on Indian bases—was neutralized by advanced air defence systems, including the S-400. India retaliated with strikes on air defence assets in Lahore and Rawalpindi, exposing vulnerabilities in Pakistan’s military radar network.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has escalated cross-border attacks along the LoC, targeting civilians. India’s response has remained focused on counter-bombardment and tactical interdiction, avoiding civilian harm while degrading enemy positions.

With the Indian Navy reportedly threatening Pakistan’s maritime trade routes, pressure is mounting. India must maintain this calculated, multi-domain pressure to force strategic recalibration in Islamabad—without slipping into uncontrolled escalation.

India’s strategy now rests on sustained, visible readiness and the resolve to respond decisively without provoking full-scale conflict.

India 2025: Brace for Scorching Heatwaves and Intense Monsoons

In May 2024, Churu in Rajasthan reached a blistering 50.5°C, highlighting the increasing severity of India’s summer heatwaves. With over 37 cities enduring temperatures above 45°C, life and livelihoods were severely affected across the country. Maharashtra even had to restrict public gatherings due to the soaring heat. Now, in 2025, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicts a repeat of these extreme conditions, with more intense and prolonged heatwaves forecast for the April–June period, particularly in western India, where 7–8 extra heatwave days are expected.

Interestingly, the IMD also anticipates an above-normal Southwest Monsoon with around 5% excess rainfall, raising questions about the coexistence of extreme summer heat and surplus rainfall. This paradox can be explained through interconnected climatic patterns and long-term global warming trends.

The World Meteorological Organization confirmed 2024 as the hottest year on record, with global temperatures exceeding the pre-industrial average by more than 1.5°C. India, too, saw early heatwaves by February 2025, driven by a broader warming trend that has raised average land temperatures by nearly 0.8°C since the early 1900s. This warming not only intensifies heatwaves but also increases atmospheric moisture, laying the groundwork for heavy and erratic monsoon rains.

The current ENSO (El Niño–Southern Os-



cillation) state is neutral, with earlier weak La Niña conditions fading. ENSO neutrality is likely to persist through October, allowing normal moisture inflow during the monsoon. Similarly, the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remains neutral, neither aiding nor hindering rainfall.

A key contributor to monsoon strength this year is reduced Eurasian snow cover, especially in the Himalayas and Tibetan Plateau. Lower snowpack reduces land reflectivity, causing faster surface warming and enhancing the land-sea temperature contrast. This leads to stronger south-westerly winds, which may intensify the monsoon.

In sum, India’s 2025 climate outlook demonstrates how long-term warming and evolving short-term weather patterns interact, setting the stage for both brutal summer heat and potentially dangerous flooding during the monsoon. Strategic planning for heat and flood resilience is essential as climate volatility becomes the new normal.

Operation Sindoor and the Rise of India’s New War Doctrine

Operation Sindoor marks a turning point in India’s strategic and military doctrine. Launched on the night of May 6–7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, the operation showcased India’s evolving capabilities in precision warfare, joint military coordination, and restrained yet resolute response.

Nine high-value terror targets were hit with surgical precision—five in Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (Muzaffarabad, Kotli, Bhimber) and four deep within Pakistan (Sialkot, Muridke, Bahawalpur). These locations housed key Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed infrastructure. About 70% of the targets were neutralised by the Indian Army using drones and advanced guided munitions, while the Indian Air Force complemented the assault with standoff precision strikes on the remaining targets.

Importantly, the operation avoided direct strikes on Pakistani military installations, demonstrating India’s strategic restraint. This calibrated use of force drew global support, with Israel affirming India’s right to self-defence, and the UAE and US urging restraint and dialogue. However, restraint must not be misread as weakness; future provocations may invite more intense responses.



Pakistan, true to form, responded with misinformation—falsely claiming to down Indian jets and capture soldiers. These fabrications were swiftly debunked, revealing Pakistan’s attempts to distract from its military setbacks and mislead its domestic audience.

The operation achieved several strategic goals: degrading Pakistan’s terror infrastructure, demonstrating inter-service synergy, delivering a strong message of deterrence, and signalling that India will no longer tolerate sanctuaries for terrorism, no matter how deep inside enemy territory.

Looking ahead, India must brace

for asymmetric escalation from Pakistan—particularly proxy strikes using drones or targeting critical infrastructure. Drawing lessons from Ukraine, where drones dominate the battlefield, India must urgently invest in drone warfare, counter-drone systems, and AI-driven command structures.

Operation Sindoor reflects a clear shift in India’s defence posture—from reactive to preemptive, from incremental to decisive. Sustaining this transformation requires continued military modernisation, urgent defence reforms, and constant preparedness. In a region fraught with irrational actors and shifting alliances, only credible power ensures peace.



This is no ceasefire: Omar Abdullah posts clip of air defence tackling Pak drones

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The fragile ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan collapsed within hours on Saturday, as Pakistan violated the truce with unprovoked artillery shelling, drone activity, and sporadic firing across Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and parts of Rajasthan.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed shock and disbelief as multiple explosions were heard in Srinagar. “What the hell just happened to the ceasefire? Explosions heard across Srinagar!!!” he posted on X (formerly Twitter), along with a video capturing the blasts. “This is no ceasefire. The air defence units in the middle of Srinagar just opened up,” he added.

The violations came shortly after Pakistan and India had agreed to halt all military action—on land, in the air, and at sea—following a call between the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) at 3:30 PM IST. The ceasefire was scheduled to take effect from 5:00 PM the same day. Pakistan’s Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar confirmed the agreement, saying Islamabad welcomed the truce and was ready for meaningful engagement.

However, by evening, Pakistan resumed aggressive actions. Artillery shelling was reported in the Akhnoor, RS Pura, and Rajouri sectors along the International Border. Ceasefire violations also occurred along the LoC in the Palanwalla sector. Drones were sighted and shot down in Rajasthan’s Pokhran and Baramulla in Kashmir, where suspicious UAVs continued to be observed. Blackouts were enforced in Srinagar, Baramulla, and Katra as precautionary measures, and air raid sirens were triggered in Jammu’s Samba district.

In Punjab, drone activity was reported in Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, and Hoshiarpur, prompting local administrations to urge residents to stay indoors and implement voluntary blackouts.

Reacting to the breach, Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi condemned Pakistan’s actions, calling it a “rogue nation that can never be trusted.” She highlighted that the violation happened “in less than 3 hours” of the truce agreement.

With rising tension and renewed cross-border hostilities, the hope for de-escalation has been dashed, raising concerns about further escalation and the safety of civilians in border regions.

In show of solidarity with armed forces, Tamil Nadu CM Stalin leads 4-km long rally

TPN Correspondent | Chennai

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin led a massive 4-kilometre rally in Chennai on Saturday to express solidarity with the Indian Armed Forces engaged in Operation Sindoor against terror infrastructure in Pakistan. The march began at 5 PM from the office of the Director General of Police (DGP) and concluded at the War Memorial along Kamaraj Promenade on Marina Beach, drawing a large turnout of supporters. As the rally unfolded, a surprise announcement from India and Pakistan declared a ceasefire, halting ongoing military actions across land, air, and sea. Despite the development, Stalin emphasized the importance of unity and the state’s support for the troops. “Tamil Nadu marched in solidarity with the Indian Armed Forces. The ceasefire is a welcome step — may peace endure. Our heartfelt salute to the courage of those who guard our borders,” he wrote on social media.

The rally echoed a similar event held earlier this week by Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who also demonstrated support for the military amid rising tensions along the border. In an unexpected gesture, Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi—often at odds with Stalin on several political issues—commended the Chief Minister for organizing the grand public rally. Ravi stated that the event reflected the “unequivocal solidarity



of eight crore people of Tamil Nadu” with India’s armed forces. He added, “Our nation stands united and resolute alongside our armed forces, reaffirming our unwavering commitment to wipe out all nodes of terror and safeguard our national sovereignty.”

The public demonstration, held just hours before the ceasefire took effect at 5 PM, served as a strong message of civilian unity and national pride. It reinforced a broader sentiment across political and public spheres in India—supporting the military while cautiously welcoming peace with Pakistan. The rally also comes as Stalin’s government prepares to step into its fifth year, with the CM continuing to target opposition parties like the BJP and AIADMK, even as he champions national unity during a critical moment in the country’s security narrative.

India confirms ceasefire with Pakistan; all military action, firing halted from 5pm onwards: FS Misri

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The Directors General of Military Operations (DGMO) of India and Pakistan have agreed to halt all military actions across land, air, and sea starting from 5 PM on Saturday, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri confirmed. The announcement came after US President Donald Trump revealed that India and Pakistan had agreed to a “full and immediate” ceasefire following talks mediated by the United States.

According to Misri, the Pakistani DGMO reached out to the Indian DGMO at 3:35 PM earlier on Saturday to discuss the ceasefire, marking a significant de-escalation in the tense situation between the two nations. Both sides have agreed to refrain from further military operations, signaling a potential step toward reducing the risks of an all-out conflict.

This development followed days of heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, which saw the two countries targeting each other’s military installations. The escalation began with Indi-



an precision strikes in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in response to the April 22 Pahalgam attack, which was linked to cross-border terrorism. Pakistan responded with drone strikes aimed at several locations in India, including critical installations.

The US-mediated ceasefire agree-

ment is expected to bring some relief to the region, which had been grappling with the threat of further escalation. President Trump’s announcement was welcomed internationally, as both India and Pakistan had previously shown a willingness to engage in dialogue, but tensions had remained high despite numerous calls for peace.

While the ceasefire marks a crucial step toward de-escalation, the future of India-Pakistan relations remains uncertain, and the international community will be closely watching to see if both countries can maintain the peace and move towards a more stable and cooperative relationship.

PM Modi Asserts India’s Stand: Ceasefire Conditional on Sovereign Terms

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India agreed to the May 10 ceasefire with Pakistan strictly on its own terms, sources have confirmed, underscoring that the breakthrough came without any third-party mediation. The understanding was reached following high-level consultations involving Prime Minister Narendra Modi, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

According to senior government sources, Prime Minister Modi firmly conveyed to both NSA Doval and Minister Jaishankar that any ceasefire arrangement with Pakistan must align fully with India’s strategic and operational interests. This directive shaped the tone and outcome of the bilateral communication that followed between the military leadership of both countries. The pivotal moment came at 3:35 PM IST on Sat-



urday when the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of Pakistan placed a call to his Indian counterpart. During the call, the two sides agreed to halt all military activity across land, air, and sea, with the ceasefire taking effect from 5:00 PM IST the same day. Orders were issued immediately across military commands on both sides to enforce the halt

in operations.

The backdrop to this development included a string of high-level communications over the past few days between Indian and US officials. However, Indian officials insist the ceasefire was a bilateral move initiated by Pakistan and finalized without direct foreign mediation. In particular, Paki-

stan’s NSA and Air ISI Chief Asim Malik had reached out to NSA Doval following India’s Operation Sindoor, which reportedly inflicted heavy damage on cross-border terror infrastructure.

Despite parallel diplomatic engagement with the US, India maintained full control over the ceasefire narrative. Prime Minister Modi was kept continuously updated throughout the process, with both Doval and Jaishankar ensuring that the Indian position was uncompromising.

The DGMOs of both nations are scheduled to speak again at 12:00 PM IST on May 12 to assess the implementation of the ceasefire and address any violations or emerging issues. The latest truce, while providing immediate relief from hostilities, also sends a clear message: India remains open to peace, but strictly on its own terms.

Pakistan Violates Ceasefire Hours After Agreement

Triggers Blackouts and Drone Activity Across Border States

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a dramatic turn of events, Pakistan violated the recently announced ceasefire with India just hours after both nations formally agreed to halt hostilities along the International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC). Multiple ceasefire violations were reported on Saturday evening in Jammu and Kashmir—including Srinagar, Rajouri, Baramulla, and Akhnoor—as well as parts of Punjab and Rajasthan.

According to sources, the Border Security Force (BSF) has been directed to respond with full force to any provocations. Artillery shelling by the Pakistan Army was reported in the Akhnoor, Rajouri, and RS Pura sectors, while drone activity and multiple explosions were confirmed in Baramulla and Srinagar. A drone was shot down in Pokhran, Rajasthan, and another in Baramulla, prompting the enforcement of blackouts across affected areas.

The violations occurred shortly after India confirmed that it had agreed to a ceasefire following talks initiated by Pakistan and mediated indirectly by the U.S. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had announced that the Directors General of



Military Operations (DGMOs) of both countries agreed to halt all military actions by 5:00 PM on Saturday.

However, by evening, chaos returned. Aerial activity and drone sightings triggered blackouts in Baramulla, Srinagar, and even Katra—the base camp for the Vaishno Devi shrine. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah voiced outrage on social media, tweeting, “What the hell just happened to the ceasefire? Explosions heard across Srinagar!!!” He followed up with, “This is no ceasefire. The air defence units in the middle of Srinagar just opened up,” sharing a video showing the active interception of an aerial threat.

India, Pakistan agreed to immediate ceasefire: Trump announces amid escalating tensions

- **The breakthrough followed a night of US-brokered talks led by President Trump**
- **Talks on broader issues are planned at a neutral location**
- **DGMOs will reconnect on Monday**

TPN Correspondent | Washington

In a dramatic and unexpected turn of events, India and Pakistan agreed to a full and immediate ceasefire on Saturday evening, just hours after intense hostilities had rocked the region. The breakthrough came after a night of US-mediated talks, with confirmation from both nations and key American officials.

The first public indication of a resolution came at 5:25 pm IST, when US President Donald Trump announced via his social media platform, Truth Social, that both countries had reached an agreement to halt all military actions. “After a long night of talks mediated by the United States, I am pleased to announce that India and Pakistan have agreed to a FULL AND IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE. Congratulations to both countries on using Common Sense and Great Intelligence,” Trump posted.



Shortly after, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio confirmed the development on X (formerly Twitter), revealing that he had spoken to India’s External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Pakistan’s Army Chief Asim Munir earlier that day. Rubio praised both Prime Ministers, Narendra Modi and Shehbaz Sharif, for choosing the path of peace and added that talks would soon begin on a wide range of issues at a neutral venue.

Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar also confirmed the ceasefire in a public statement. Citing Pakistan’s commitment to peace despite recent drone and missile exchanges, Dar said, “Pakistan and India have agreed to a ceasefire with immediate effect.”

India’s confirmation came at 6:00 pm

through a statement by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri. He detailed that the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) from both sides spoke at 3:35 pm IST and agreed to halt all military activities—on land, in the air, and at sea—starting from 5:00 pm IST. Both sides have since issued directives to their armed forces to uphold the agreement.

Misri also noted that the DGMOs would speak again at noon on Monday to review the situation and discuss further steps.

The ceasefire marks a significant shift in the volatile relationship between the two nuclear-armed neighbors and offers a rare moment of optimism in a long-strained dynamic.

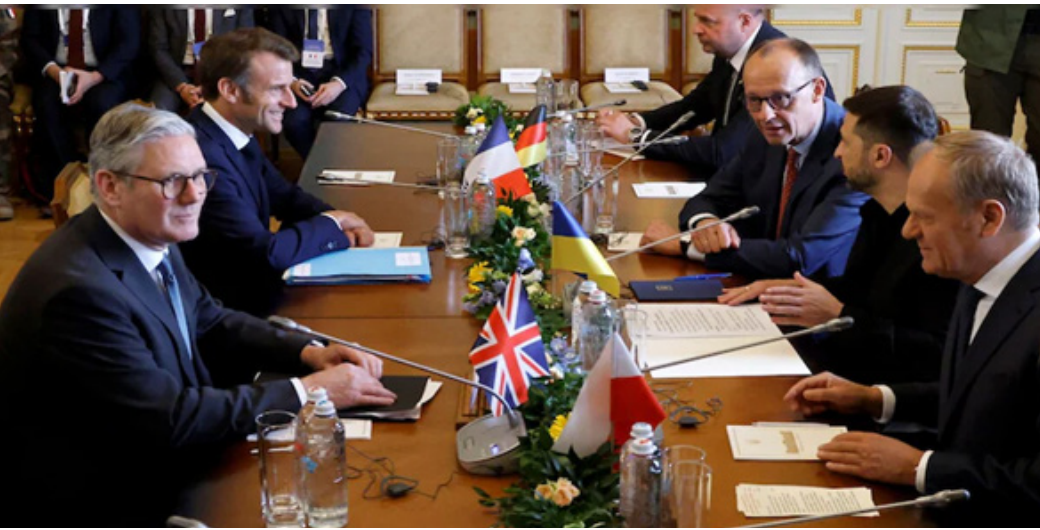
European Leaders Join Zelenskiy in Kyiv, Push for 30-Day Ceasefire Amid War Escalation

TPN Correspondent | Kyiv

In a powerful display of unity, the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, and Poland met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in Kyiv on Saturday to push for an immediate, unconditional 30-day ceasefire in the ongoing war with Russia. The joint visit comes just a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted Chinese President Xi Jinping and other allies at a Victory Day parade in Moscow, sending a clear signal of defiance amid growing Western pressure.

The Kyiv summit marked the first time British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk traveled together to Ukraine. As their train arrived, a platform screen greeted them with the message: “Bravery Express.” The leaders paid tribute at a war memorial alongside Zelenskiy before beginning high-level talks.

U.S. President Donald Trump also joined the diplomatic push, holding a phone call with the five leaders on Saturday. Trump has taken a more urgent tone in recent weeks, pressing both sides for a



ceasefire. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha confirmed that Kyiv and its allies are prepared to begin a full land, air, and sea ceasefire starting Monday, if Moscow agrees.

Trump has warned Russia that failure to agree to the ceasefire could lead to heightened sanctions, and even hinted at withdrawing U.S. support for peace talks if progress stalls. European officials echoed this stance, with a French diplomatic source saying that rejection by Russia would trigger new coordinated sanctions from the EU and the U.S.

While Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov acknowledged the ceasefire proposal, he insisted that Western military aid to Ukraine must stop as a condition. Ukraine has rejected this demand, citing ongoing Russian aggression.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian officials reported that Russian attacks continued despite a short-term ceasefire declared by Putin from May 8–10, calling it a “sham.” Reports from the Zaporizhzhia frontline confirmed continued shelling and casualties.

Saudi Foreign Minister Urges S Jaishankar, Pak Minister To De-Escalate Tensions

Amid escalating military tensions between India and Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United States have intensified diplomatic efforts to promote regional stability and avert further conflict.

On Saturday, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah held separate telephonic conversations with Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Pakistan’s Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar. According to a statement from Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the talks centered on reducing tensions and halting ongoing military confrontations. Prince Faisal emphasized the Kingdom’s dedication to regional security and its balanced relationships with both India and Pakistan.

“During the calls, discussions focused on efforts to de-escalate tensions and end ongoing military confrontations. His Highness affirmed the Kingdom’s com-



mitment to the security and stability of the region,” the Saudi ministry noted in a post on X.

The diplomatic outreach was echoed by the United States. Secretary of State Marco Rubio also spoke separately with Jaishankar, Ishaq Dar, and Pakistan Army Chief General Asim Munir. The U.S. State Department said Secretary Rubio urged

both sides to re-establish direct communication to prevent miscalculations and reiterated America’s willingness to support constructive dialogue.

“Secretary Rubio reiterated that both parties must find ways to de-escalate the current situation and re-establish direct communication,” the statement read. He emphasized that the U.S. remains ready to assist in launching talks aimed at preventing future conflict.

In his own statement, Jaishankar confirmed the conversation with Rubio, reaffirming India’s measured and responsible approach to the current hostilities.

Tensions flared after Pakistan reportedly launched attacks on 26 Indian locations early Saturday. In response, Indian forces conducted targeted retaliatory strikes on four Pakistani airbases. Intermittent firing has continued along the Line of Control (LoC).



"To All Illegal Aliens": Trump Launches Paid Self-Deportation Program

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former President Donald Trump unveiled a controversial new immigration initiative Friday, signing an executive order to launch a federally funded self-deportation program. The plan offers free one-way flights and a financial incentive—referred to as an “exit bonus”—to undocumented immigrants who voluntarily and permanently leave the United States.

In a statement released on the White House website, Trump blamed undocumented immigrants for a surge in crime and violence, calling the situation a “full-scale invasion.” In a post on Truth Social, Trump warned of harsh penalties for those who choose not to participate in the program.

“Illegal aliens who stay in America face punishments, including sudden deportation, in a place and manner solely of our discretion,” Trump wrote. “TO ALL ILLEGAL ALIENS: BOOK YOUR FREE FLIGHT RIGHT NOW!”

The program features both a reward for those who leave and strict consequences for those who remain. Trump warned that undocumented immigrants who decline to self-deport may face significant jail time, property confiscation, wage garnishment, and surprise deportations. The announcement follows earlier remarks made by Trump on Monday, where he told reporters, “We’ll pay each one a certain amount of money, and we’re going to get them a beautiful flight back to where they came from.”

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem provided additional details, stating that the Department of Homeland Security will operate a \$1,000 stipend program. The payment will be issued once an individual’s return to their country of origin has been confirmed through the CBP Home app, a tool used for tracking immigration compliance. In a video shared Friday, Trump added, “As long as it’s not here, you can go anywhere you want.” The self-deportation initiative has already sparked heated debate, with critics calling it inhumane and others seeing it as a strategic policy to address illegal immigration without mass detentions or deportation raids.

Would consider de-escalation if India stops attack: Pak foreign minister

TPN Correspondent | Lahore

Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar stated on Saturday that Islamabad would consider de-escalating tensions if India halts further military attacks. However, Dar emphasized that Pakistan’s military is currently operating on a defensive stance and has only taken minimal actions so far.

In a statement to Geo News, Dar noted, “Pakistan will consider de-escalation if India stops further attacks. However, if India launches any further strikes, our response will follow.” He described Pakistan’s current military actions as proportionate, stating that while the nation is prepared for more significant measures, the current actions represent the minimum response.



Dar also criticized India’s actions over the past few days, calling it a “circus” and reaffirming that Pakistan had no choice but to retaliate. He stressed, “We will not let India claim hegemony,” adding that Pakistan’s operations would end depending on India’s actions.

Information Minister Atta Tarar echoed Dar’s stance, stating that de-escalation was in India’s hands. “It is in the hands of India... If India de-escalates, we will follow,” Tarar told the BBC. He further explained that Pakistani troops are stationed along the borders in response to India’s military actions.

Dar, who also serves as the Deputy Prime Minister, defended Pakistan’s decision to take military action after India’s precision strikes on Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the Pahalgam attack in April. This attack had cross-border links and escalated tensions between the two countries. Following the Indian strikes, Pakistan launched a wave of drone attacks targeting multiple locations in India, including Jammu and Kashmir and Gujarat, on Friday night. The Indian defense ministry confirmed that attempts to hit vital installations, including airports and airbases, had been successfully thwarted.

Tata Communications: Strong Fundamentals Amid Volatility-A Long-Term Buy on Dips.

PORTFOLIO



This time we are discussing TATA COMMUNICATIONS which is a large-cap Company with a market capitalization of Rs.43 Thousand Crores. As you are all aware it is a Tata Group Company engaged in Telecommunication Services.

SOME BASIC DATA:

Face Value Rs.10
Capital Rs.285 Crores.
No of Shares : 285000000 (Twenty Eight Crores Fifty Lakh Shares)

LATEST FINANCIALS RESULTS :

It declared its annual results for the year ended 31-03-2025 on 22-04-2025. The Net Profit for March quarter compared to December quarter increased from Rs.236 Crores to Rs.1040 Crores with an EPS of Rs.36.50. The Yearly Net Profit increased from Rs.969 Crores to Rs.1836 Crores from 2024 to 2025 with an EPS of Rs.64.44. In spite of good financial results, the share price

nose dived from Rs.1600 (before the result date) to Rs.1515 as on 09-05-2025 because of macro economic uncertainties and reduction in EBITDA margin. But the Company is confident about future prospects and the improvement in EBITDA margin in future.

PLUS POINTS:

The following strong points make it a compelling buy:

1. An EPS of 64.
2. Return on Equity of 61% - This indicates effective and efficient utilization of its Net Worth.
3. Operating Cash Flow is positive from 2022 - This indicates tight control on receivables and efficient inventory management.
4. Good Dividend yield of 1.65% - It declared a Dividend of Rs.25 per share for 2025. The Company has not declared ex-dividend date yet.

5. PE is just 24 against Industry PE of 41.
6. 52 Week high is Rs.2175. Present Price is Rs.1515.
7. Tata Group Company with no close competitors.
8. Promoter Holding of 59%.
9. 30% Holding of FIIs and DIIs put together.
10. Net Block increased from Rs.11520 Crores to Rs.14014 Crores from 2021 to 2025 with WIP of Rs.1005 Crores. It indicates there growth trajectory is intact.

MINUS POINT.

The minus point is high Debt Equity Ratio of 3.60. This high leverage issue should be taken up with Management in the ensuing AGM.

BROKERAGE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Name of the Broker	Date of Report	Target
Icici Securities	11-03-2025	Rs.1840
Geojit Services	03-04-2025	Rs.1927
Motilal Oswal	23-04-2025	Rs.1660

The first two reports were given before yearly results. The third report was given after declaration of yearly results.

FINAL WORDS :

Whatever the merits of the Company and whatever the targets of the brokerage houses, the existing geopolitical situation should be kept in mind. We also advise SIP method of buying or staggered buying. Avoid Lump sum buying. We always advise with a long term horizon.

Paleti Hari Prasad

Fundamental Analyst,
+ 91 8179656259

Rupee rises 17 paise to close at 85.41 against U.S. dollar

The Indian rupee rebounded on Friday, May 9, 2025, closing 17 paise higher at 85.41 (provisional) against the U.S. dollar, following reported intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to prevent excessive depreciation in the wake of heightened geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan.

Earlier in the day, the rupee had opened weak at 85.88, reacting to the recent surge in cross-border hostilities and broader risk aversion in financial markets. It traded between a low of 85.88 and a high of 85.32 during the session before ending at 85.41, recovering significantly from Thursday's steep fall of 81 paise — the rupee's sharpest single-day loss in over two-and-a-half years.

According to forex market participants, the initial weakness was triggered by fresh cease-



fire violations and missile and drone attacks by Pakistan across the western border, which India said were effectively repelled. The volatility also coincided with rising global crude oil prices and a correction in domestic equity markets.

Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan,

noted, "The rupee opened weak due to geopolitical concerns and rising oil prices, but recovered as the RBI reportedly sold dollars in the spot market and as the U.S. dollar index corrected slightly."

The U.S. dollar index, which measures the greenback against six major currencies, was down 0.26% at 100.38. Meanwhile,

Brent crude futures climbed 1.80% to \$63.97 per barrel, adding pressure on the Indian currency due to increased import costs.

Despite Friday's recovery, analysts warned that the rupee may remain under pressure in the near term if hostilities persist. "We expect the rupee to trade with a negative bias. Rising crude oil and sustained geopolitical risk could weigh on sentiment, although any signs of de-escalation or continued foreign investor inflows may provide some cushion," Choudhary added.

In the equity markets, the BSE Sensex fell 880.34 points (1.10%) to close at 79,454.47, and the NSE Nifty dropped 265.80 points to 24,008. FIIs remained net buyers, investing ₹2,007.96 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data.

India-U.K. Free Trade Agreement to Reshape Auto Tariffs, Boost Exports, and Cut Social Security Costs



The India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is poised to bring significant changes to bilateral trade, particularly in the automobile sector, agriculture, and labor mobility. A senior Indian government official revealed that the agreement includes a structured reduction of import tariffs on vehicles over the next 10 to 15 years, with a nuanced approach to quotas based on vehicle types.

For internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, quota bands will be determined by engine capacity, while electric vehicles will be categorized based on their price. However, the agreement explicitly excludes "futuristic cars" and "low-cost" vehicles from tariff concessions, signaling a targeted liberalization approach rather than a blanket reduction.

Beyond automobiles, the FTA incorporates the mutual recognition of electronic certificates of origin, a move expected to simplify export processes and reduce bureaucratic hurdles for Indian businesses. Officials anticipate this change will give India a competitive edge in key agricultural and marine exports, including grapes, mangoes, and seafood, aligning Indian exporters with global market leaders in these categories.

Importantly, the agreement protects India's interests by excluding sensitive agricultural commodities such as dairy, apples, oats, and edible oils, as well as industrial products like smartphones, optical fibres, and precious metals. In the medical devices sector, tariffs will only be reduced — not eliminated — and only starting from the sixth year of the agreement.

A parallel arrangement, the Double Contribution Convention, was also finalized and will take effect alongside the FTA. This convention addresses a long-standing issue faced by Indian temporary workers in the U.K. and their employers, who are required to contribute around 20% of the worker's salary to U.K. social security — benefits they are rarely eligible to receive due to short stays. The new agreement is expected to save Indian workers and businesses approximately ₹4,000 crore annually.

With tariff relief, improved export mechanisms, and labor cost savings, the India-U.K. FTA marks a significant milestone in strengthening bilateral economic ties while safeguarding key domestic sectors.

India's Credit Rating Upgraded to 'BBB' by Morningstar DBRS on Strong Reforms and Economic Stability

Global sovereign credit rating Agency Morningstar DBRS has upgraded India's Long-Term Foreign and Local Currency — Issuer Ratings from 'BBB (low)' to 'BBB' with a 'Stable' trend, marking a significant boost to India's global economic standing. The announcement was made by the Ministry of Finance on Friday, highlighting the country's ongoing structural reforms, fiscal discipline, and robust economic growth as key reasons for the upgrade.

The agency also upgraded India's Short-Term Foreign and Local Currency Issuer Ratings from R-2 (middle) to R-2 (high), with a Stable outlook.

Morningstar DBRS cited several factors driving the positive ratings revision. Central to the decision were India's large-scale infrastructure investments, rapid digitalisation, and effective fiscal consolidation. These efforts have led to a steady decline in debt levels and fiscal deficits, while sustaining a high average GDP growth of 8.2% during FY22 to FY25. India's macroeconomic environment has remained stable, with manageable inflation, a range-bound rupee, and a sound external balance.

Additionally, the resilience of India's banking system was



noted as a major contributor. The report lauded the high capital adequacy ratios and a significant drop in non-performing assets, now at their lowest level in 13 years, reflecting better financial sector governance and economic recovery.

The Finance Ministry welcomed the rating upgrade, emphasizing it as recognition of the government's reform agenda and prudent economic management. "India's commitment to economic reforms and macro stability is being recognised globally," the ministry said.

Looking ahead, Morningstar DBRS hinted at potential further

upgrades if India continues to implement growth-enhancing reforms that lift investment rates and reduce public debt as a share of GDP. While India's public debt remains high, the agency noted that it is largely denominated in local currency and benefits from long maturity structures, which limits risks to debt sustainability.

Morningstar DBRS's rating scale is aligned with those used by Fitch and S&P, with suffixes like 'high' and 'low' instead of the more common plus/minus notations. The current upgrade reflects growing investor confidence in India's long-term economic trajectory.

Scientists Use Underwater Volcano To Improve Eruption Prediction

Scientists are turning their attention to Axial Seamount, an underwater volcano located off the Pacific Northwest coast, to sharpen their ability to forecast volcanic eruptions. Positioned on the Juan de Fuca Ridge, Axial Seamount is known for its frequent yet harmless eruptions, offering a unique testing ground for refining prediction models without endangering human life.



According to Bill Chadwick, a volcanologist and research professor at Oregon State University, the volcano is expected to erupt sometime between now and the end of 2025. He notes that Axial Seamount resembles the Hawaiian volcanoes in that it emits very fluid lava and shows a telltale inflation of the seafloor, similar to a balloon expanding before bursting. “At Axial, the seafloor is actually rising, and that’s a big signal,” Chadwick told NBC.

Despite this activity, the eruptions pose no immediate threat. “There’s no explosion or anything,” Chadwick explained. “Even if you were out on a boat directly above the volcano, you probably wouldn’t even know it was erupting.” This makes Axial Seamount an ideal, low-risk natural laboratory for studying volcanic behavior.

The absence of human settlements in the area simplifies the data collection process. Without interference from buildings, infra-

structure, or emergency responses, scientists can focus on pure geophysical signals such as ground deformation, gas emissions, and seismic activity. These factors make it easier to understand the precursors to an eruption and test the reliability of prediction models.

The insights gained from Axial Seamount are expected to have far-reaching applications, particularly in enhancing the monitoring of land-based volcanoes. By refining the indicators of volcanic unrest in a controlled environment, scientists can better anticipate eruptions in more hazardous locations around the world—ultimately aiding in disaster preparedness and potentially saving lives.

As scientists continue to monitor Axial Seamount closely, the data they collect will serve as a benchmark in the global effort to advance eruption forecasting and reduce the destructive impact of future volcanic events.

Foreign Tourist Offers Rs 2,000 After Delhi Auto Driver Refuses Fare, Viral Moment Wins Hearts

A heartwarming video featuring a foreign tourist and a Delhi auto rickshaw driver has gone viral on social media, receiving widespread praise for its display of kindness and generosity. The video, shared on Instagram, shows the tourist, Tara Ingram, asking for change after a ride. However, in an unexpected act of kindness, the auto driver refuses to take the fare, telling her in Hindi, “Koi baat nahi, jaaiye aap” (It’s okay, go ahead). He then reassures her in English, saying, “Don’t worry.”



Surprised and moved by his gesture, Tara asks, “Are you sure?” At this point, a passerby overhears the exchange and confirms that the driver genuinely does not want the fare. Tara, deeply touched, requests the passerby to translate her message to the driver. She expresses her gratitude for his honesty and kindness, and insists on offering him Rs 2,000 as a token of appreciation.

“That’s very, very kind of him. I wanna do something nice for him. I’m gonna give him something for his kindness,” she says. As the passerby conveys her words to the driver, the auto

driver is visibly humbled and replies with, “May your family be blessed.” When asked about his family, he shares that he has four children.

Since the video was shared, it has garnered over 2 million views and more than 221,000 likes. The interaction has captivated Instagram users, who have expressed admiration for both the auto driver’s selflessness and the woman’s generous response.

Many users praised the genuine human connection in the video,

with one commenter writing, “You would have possibly paid off this entire day’s earnings. It wouldn’t have made a financial difference to you, but it would have made a LOT of difference for him!” Others highlighted how this gesture showcases the goodness of India amidst negative portrayals in the media.

This wholesome moment continues to spread positivity, showing the power of kindness and the importance of appreciating the little things that make a big difference.

Threads Begins Testing Video Ads to Boost Business Reach and Engagement



Meta’s microblogging platform, Threads, has taken its advertising efforts a step further by introducing video ads to help businesses expand their reach and engage more users. First announced at the Interactive Advertising Bureau NewFronts 2025, this move builds on the platform’s earlier efforts, which began testing ads in January 2025.

In this latest update, a select group of advertisers will soon be able to display video-based ads between user posts in the Threads feed. The ads will be clearly marked with a “Sponsored” label at the top right corner, similar to ads on Instagram. Users will be able to interact with these video ads just like regular posts by liking, commenting, reposting, and sharing the content. When a user taps on the ad, it will expand into full-screen mode, allowing them to engage with the video more closely.

Meta has confirmed that video ads on Threads will support aspect ratios of both 16:9 and 1:1, ensuring that businesses can pres-

ent their creative content in a variety of formats. Additionally, a floating action button (FAB) will be included on the ads, providing users with the option to redirect to the brand’s website for more information or to make a purchase.

The introduction of video ads on Threads aligns with Meta’s broader strategy to monetize the platform, following the successful launch of traditional ads earlier this year. While Meta has yet to provide specifics on the pricing or frequency of these video ads, the move is seen as an opportunity for businesses to connect with a wider audience and create more dynamic campaigns.

With the expansion of ad offerings on Threads, advertisers can now leverage Meta’s Advantage+ or Manual Placement tools, which automatically activate ads for eligible campaigns. This development underscores the platform’s growing potential as a marketing tool for businesses looking to increase their visibility and interaction with users.

Apple Silicon Reveal Codenames for M5, M6, M7 Chips and AI Server Processors

Apple’s transition to in-house Silicon chips has been one of its most significant moves in recent years, starting in 2020 with the unveiling of its first Apple Silicon processor. By mid-2023, Apple had completed the full transition from Intel chips to its own M-series processors, and now, details of its upcoming chips have surfaced online. According to a Bloomberg report, the tech giant is working on the next generations of its Apple Silicon chips, including the M5, M6, M7, and dedicated AI server processors.

The M5 chip, expected to launch later this year, will power new MacBook Pro and iPad Pro models. However, the real buzz surrounds the M6 chip, codenamed Komodo, which will likely arrive in 2026. This chip will continue to build on the performance gains seen with the M-series processors, likely delivering even more power and efficiency for Mac devices.

Additionally, Apple is reportedly developing the M7 chip, codenamed Borneo, which could debut in 2027. This chip will power future Mac computers and is expected to be the seventh iteration of the M-series family.



Beyond the M-series chips, Apple is also working on a new “advanced Mac chip” with the codename Sotra, though little is known about its features and release timeline. Another significant development involves Apple’s plans to develop dedicated chips for its AI servers. The project, internally referred to as Baltra, aims to enhance Apple’s ability to process AI requests remotely, offloading certain tasks from user devices to servers. These AI server chips could feature up to eight times the number of cores found in the current M3

Ultra chip, signaling a major leap in processing power.

Apple’s push into dedicated AI chips for its cloud servers could significantly improve the performance of AI-driven features across its ecosystem, enhancing capabilities like Siri, on-device processing, and more. With the AI server chips set for completion in the coming years, Apple’s future looks poised to focus heavily on improving its cloud-based AI services, alongside its powerful in-house hardware.

Amul’s Topical Pays Tribute to Indian Armed Forces and Women Officers Post-Operation Sindoor

Amul India has once again made waves with its topical doodle, this time reflecting on the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan. The dairy brand, known for its sharp and satirical illustrations, paid tribute to the Indian Armed Forces and the two women officers, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh and Colonel Sofiya Qurechi, who briefed the nation about India’s successful Operation Sindoor. The operation, which targeted terror hubs across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, garnered widespread attention and praise.

In the latest doodle, Amul’s iconic blue-haired girl can be seen saluting the two women officers, standing proud at their podiums after the press briefing. The backdrop depicts aerial strikes and explosions, symbolizing the military operations that unfolded in the wake of escalating tensions between the neighboring countries.



Amul’s message, “Send them packing,” references the bold steps taken by the Indian Armed Forces to address cross-border ter-

rorism and deliver a decisive response to Pakistan’s actions. The doodle adds a layer of tribute to the women officers for their leadership and courage in speaking to the media, providing crucial updates on Operation Sindoor. Singh and Qurechi’s role in the operation’s communication brought attention not only to the mission’s success but also to the growing role of women in India’s military and defense sectors.

The illustration has garnered praise from various quarters for its timely and thoughtful portrayal of a national issue, further showcasing Amul’s knack for capturing the pulse of the nation with its unique blend of humor and patriotism. The company’s doodles often provide a creative commentary on political and social issues, and this one is no exception, celebrating the strength and resolve of the Indian Armed Forces, especially the women leading from the front.

IPL 2025 Resumption: Bengaluru, Chennai, and Hyderabad Shortlisted as Venues

As the IPL 2025 season faces an unexpected suspension due to rising cross-border tensions between India and Pakistan, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is working on plans for the tournament's resumption. The IPL, which was suspended for a week on May 9, could resume with the remaining 16 fixtures at three southern Indian venues—Bengaluru, Chennai, and Hyderabad—should the Indian government approve, according to ESPNcricinfo.

The BCCI's decision to choose these venues comes after considering various factors, including regional safety and logistics. The tournament was suspended after escalating tensions between the neighboring countries made it challenging to continue as planned. The BCCI had initially scheduled the IPL 2025 to conclude by May 25, with the final set to be held at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

After the suspension announcement, teams began disbanding, with many overseas players making arrangements to return to their respective countries. A majority of these players are expected to fly out by the end of May 10, which presents a logistical challenge for the BCCI if the tournament is to resume. However, team officials remain optimistic about the possibility of bringing the overseas players back, though there is no certainty about extending the tournament beyond the original window.

If the IPL 2025 does resume in May, it is like-



ly that the remaining fixtures will be played in a condensed timeframe. Teams and officials are preparing for the possibility of resuming the season after the May 25 window, but some overseas players may have prior commitments, including the World Test Championship final between Australia and South Africa at Lord's, starting June 11.

Out of the 58 scheduled matches for IPL 2025, 57 were completed before the suspension, with the 58th match, between Punjab Kings and Delhi Capitals at HPCA Stadium in Dharamshala, being called off after 10.1 overs due to the rising tensions.

Ayush Shetty and Unnati Hooda Exit Semifinals at Taipei Open

Rising Indian shuttlers Ayush Shetty and Unnati Hooda saw their impressive runs come to an end at the BWF Taipei Open Super 300, with both players losing in their respective semifinal matches on Saturday. The tournament, with a prize pool of USD 240,000, marked a significant milestone in their careers despite their losses.

Ayush Shetty, 20, who had a stand-out performance in the earlier rounds, battled fiercely but was defeated by local favorite and world No. 7 Chou Tien Chen. The match ended with scores of 18-21, 17-21 in favor of Chou, a seasoned player with nearly two decades of experience on the international circuit. Ayush, a bronze medallist at the 2023 World Junior Championships, started strong with aggressive forecourt play and a sharp lead of 8-4 in the first game. However, a few unforced errors allowed Chou to catch up, and from a 10-9 deficit, Chou took a narrow lead at the break. Despite Ayush's continued attacking play, Chou's experience and consistency in crucial moments helped him clinch the first game at 21-18 and eventually the match.

In the women's singles, Unnati Hooda, the winner of the 2022 Odisha Masters and 2023 Abu Dhabi Masters, faced top seed and world No. 8 Tomoka Miyazaki from Japan. Hooda showed early promise, securing a 7-3 lead with powerful smashes and strong net play. However, Miyazaki's resilience and strategic play turned the match around, with Hoo-



da struggling to maintain momentum. The first game ended 19-21, and despite a strong start to the second game, Hooda faltered under pressure, losing 11-21 in 43 minutes.

Both Ayush and Unnati displayed remarkable skills throughout the tournament, with Ayush defeating high-profile players such as Lee Chia Hao, Kidambi Srikanth, and Brian Yang. Although their campaigns ended in the semifinals, their performances in Taipei have put them on the map as promising talents in Indian badminton.

Rory McIlroy's victory at the Masters last month, where he defeated England's Justin Rose to secure his first major title since 2014, has significantly changed his outlook on upcoming tournaments. The triumph not only gave him his fifth major title but also completed his career Grand Slam, joining golf legends like Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods, and Gary Player. As McIlroy prepares for next week's PGA Championship at Quail Hollow, the Northern Irish golfer reflects on how his win at Augusta will influence his mindset going forward.

McIlroy, who is ranked number two in the world, has not been a reigning major champion for ten years. His success at the Masters has lifted a weight off his shoulders, and he is approaching the

PGA Championship with a newfound sense of ease. "I'm obviously going to feel more comfortable and a lot less pressure," McIlroy said. He added that he is returning to a venue he loves, having won four PGA Tour titles at Quail Hollow, making the upcoming challenge even more exciting.

While McIlroy's victory has boosted his confidence, he is aware of the tough competition ahead. World number one Scottie Scheffler, fresh off a dominant win at the CJ Cup Byron Nelson, is considered a major contender. Scheffler himself acknowledged McIlroy's impressive form and expressed excitement for the upcoming showdown. Alongside them, two-time PGA Championship winner Justin Thomas, US Open champion Bryson DeCham-

beau, and defending PGA champion Xander Schauffele are all expected to be in the mix.

Another player to watch is Jordan Spieth, who aims to complete his own career Grand Slam. Spieth, recovering from left wrist surgery, is coming into form at the right time, particularly after a strong finish at the Byron Nelson. Spieth, who has already won the Masters, US Open, and British Open, will look to add the PGA Championship to his resume.

As McIlroy enters this year's PGA Championship, he knows that the road ahead will be filled with fierce competition, but his Masters victory has undoubtedly shifted his approach, making him a more relaxed and formidable contender.

Rory McIlroy's Major Shift After Masters Victory Ahead of PGA Championship



Madhura Dhamangaonkar Wins Gold at Archery World Cup Stage 2, Boosting India's Medal Tally to Four

Madhura Dhamangaonkar made history on Saturday at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 by claiming her first individual World Cup gold with a thrilling 139-138 victory over the USA's Carson Krahe. This remarkable win helped elevate India's medal tally to four at the tournament.

The 24-year-old, who had been unranked in the World Archery standings due to a three-year absence from international competition, faced an uphill battle in the final. After a costly seven-point shot in the third end, she was trailing 81-85. However, displaying incredible composure, Madhura recovered by dropping only one point in the fourth end to level the score at 110-110.

In the final round, she held her nerve, delivering two perfect 10s – both X-ring shots – and a 9 to narrowly edge Krahe by one point, sealing her victory in a nail-biting finish. This gold medal was her third of the tournament, following a silver in the women's team event and a bronze in the compound mixed team event



alongside Abhishek Verma.

India's overall performance at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 was impressive, with four medals in total. The men's compound team, consisting of Abhishek Verma, Ojas Deotale, and Rishabh Yadav, clinched a gold after defeating Mexico 232-228 in the final. They had earlier edged past Denmark 232-231 in a thrilling semi-final.

In the women's compound event, the Indian team, made up of Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Madhura Dhamangaonkar, and Chikitha Taniparthi, secured silver after a 221-234 loss to a dominant Mexican team. Despite the one-sided final, the Indian women delivered solid performances throughout the tournament.

Additionally, Madhura and Abhishek Verma's bronze in the compound mixed team event rounded off India's successful outing. With compound archery set to debut at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, India's growing strength in the sport bodes well for future Olympic ambitions.

RCB Confirms Safe Return of Players and Staff Amid IPL Suspension Due to India-Pakistan Tensions

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) has confirmed the safe return of its players and support staff to Bengaluru following the suspension of IPL 2025 due to escalating India-Pakistan tensions. The match between RCB and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) scheduled for Friday at the Ekana Cricket Stadium was called off as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) paused the tournament for one week. The decision was made in light of the growing cross-border tensions that have affected public safety and security.

In a statement released on social media, RCB expressed gratitude for the swift coordination and support from the BCCI, local authorities, and police, ensuring the safe return of all personnel. "Our players and extended staff have safely returned to Bengaluru and are now homebound to their respective cities and countries," the franchise shared, along with photos featuring prominent players such as Virat Kohli, Yash Dayal, and Josh Hazlewood.

This move comes after a similar operation on Friday when Punjab Kings (PBKS) and Delhi Capitals (DC) players, along with other IPL personnel, were safely transported from Dharamshala to New Delhi. A special Vande Bharat train was arranged to evacuate players, support staff, match officials, and broad-



cast teams after the IPL 2025 match between PBKS and DC was called off in the 11th over due to air and drone strikes from Pakistan, which led to power outages in nearby regions.

With Dharamshala being a no-fly zone, all personnel were safely transported to Jalandhar by bus and then boarded the train to New Delhi. Upon arrival in New Delhi, players and staff were provided secure transport to their homes in different cities and countries.

The IPL 2025 season remains on hold, and it is uncertain when it will resume as the situation continues to unfold. However, the safety of players and staff remains the priority for the BCCI and the IPL authorities.



Dude First Look Unveiled: Pradeep Ranganathan Goes Intense in Pan-India Action Drama

Riding on the success of Love To-Rday and Dragon, actor-director Pradeep Ranganathan is all set to make his mark in a new genre with Dude, a high-stakes Pan-India film produced by Mythri Movie Makers. Currently in production, this intense action drama is directed by debutant Keerthiswaran and promises a fresh cinematic experience.

The film's title and powerful first-look poster were unveiled today, generating significant buzz across social media. The poster features Pradeep in a raw, wounded avatar, gripping a mangalsutra with intense emotion. This stark and symbolic visual hints at a story built on themes of personal loss, emotional depth, and a quest for redemption or revenge.

Marking her next big move after the massive success of Premalu, Mamitha Baiju stars opposite Pradeep in what appears to be a performance-driven role. Her pairing with Pradeep has already sparked excitement among fans, and the film is being closely watched for how it will further her rising stardom.

Adding gravitas to the ensemble is veteran actor Sarath Kumar, who takes on a crucial role in the storyline. His presence is expected to bring emotional weight and dramatic intensity to the film.

Behind the scenes, the film boasts a strong technical crew. Cinematographer Niketh Bommi is on board to craft the visual tone of the film, while Sai Abhyankkar, known for his experimental and evocative compositions, is composing the music. Expectations are high for the soundtrack, which is likely to blend emotion and intensity to match the film's themes.



Dude is being produced simultaneously in five languages—Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Hindi—targeting a wide national audience. The makers have announced a grand theatrical release during Diwali 2025, aiming to capture the festive box office season.

With a compelling first look and a strong cast and crew, Dude is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated releases of the year.

Thudaram Breaks Records, Becomes Highest-Grossing Film in Kerala

In a remarkable turn of events, Thudaram, the latest Malayalam blockbuster starring Mohanlal, has overtaken L2: Empuraan to become the highest-grossing film in Kerala. Surpassing expectations, the film has grossed an impressive ₹83 crores in the state alone, with a distributor share of ₹36 crores—an astonishing achievement that solidifies its place in Mollywood history.

Released just a month after the record-breaking success of Empuraan, Thudaram has proved to be a game-changer, setting a new benchmark for regional cinema. With its strong narrative, powerful performances, and emotional depth, the film has resonated deeply with audiences, translating into massive box office numbers both domestically and internationally.

The movie is now well on track to become the first Malayalam film to gross ₹100 crores solely within Kerala—a historic milestone that no other film has achieved so far. This feat not only reaffirms Mohanlal's legendary status but also reflects the growing strength of Malayalam cinema in regional markets.

At 64, Mohanlal—fondly known as Lalettan—continues to defy industry norms, delivering consecutive blockbusters and reinforcing his title as the undisputed emperor of Malayalam cinema. With



Thudaram, he has now delivered industry hits across five consecutive decades, showcasing his enduring popularity and unparalleled box office pull.

The film has also made a significant impact overseas, crossing the \$10 million mark globally. This makes Thudaram only the second Malayalam film after Empuraan to achieve this distinction, highlighting its universal appeal and Mohanlal's strong international fan base.

Directed by a talented team and backed by positive word of mouth, Thudaram has become more than just a film—it's a cultural phenomenon. As it continues its record-breaking run, all eyes are now on its journey to the ₹100 crore milestone in Kerala and how far it can go beyond that.

Subham Earns Praise but Struggles with Low Theatrical Occupancy

Samantha Ruth Prabhu's latest Souting, Subham, has opened to glowing reviews and positive word of mouth, but box office turnout has so far been underwhelming. Directed by Praveen Kandregula, the horror comedy has impressed early viewers with its engaging storytelling and Samantha's strong performance.



Confident in their product, the makers took a bold step by launching paid premieres two days before the official release. This strategy aimed to build early buzz, and it succeeded in generating considerable attention across social media platforms. Early audiences praised the film's unique blend of humor and horror, and many lauded Samantha's charismatic screen presence.

Despite the positive reception, the film is facing an unexpected hurdle—low occupancy in theatres across key markets. While fans and critics have responded favorably, this appreciation hasn't yet translated into high footfall, leaving the film's commercial prospects in a delicate spot as the weekend approaches.

Industry observers believe the primary reason for the lukewarm turnout is the absence of a male superstar or major commercial face that typically drives mass audiences to cinemas. While Samantha is one of the leading actresses in Indian cinema, Subham relies more on content than star power to draw crowds.

Another factor could be the genre itself—horror comedies tend to have a niche appeal, and unless marketed strongly or backed by a huge name, they often struggle to pull large audiences initially. However, films like these can benefit from strong word-of-mouth momentum, especially if weekend collections improve and audiences begin turning up based on reviews and personal recommendations.

With the weekend underway, the film still has a window to recover and pick up steam. If Subham continues to earn praise and attract positive buzz, there's a chance it could build traction and perform better in the days to come.

All eyes are now on the weekend numbers to see whether critical acclaim can eventually spark a box office turnaround.

Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari Shines in Re-Release

The timeless Telugu classic Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari, starring Megastar Chiranjeevi and the iconic Sridevi, proved its lasting appeal once again with a successful re-release marking its 35th anniversary. Originally released on May 9, 1990, the film has now been re-introduced to audiences in remastered 4K and 8K HD formats, drawing nostalgic fans and new viewers alike.



Despite being aired countless times on television over the years, the magic of the film continues to captivate. Audiences turned up in large numbers to experience the fantasy adventure on the big screen, helping it earn an impressive ₹1.75 crore on its opening day. Special interviews featuring Chiranjeevi, director K. Raghavendra Rao, and producer Ashwini Dutt added to the buzz, creating a celebratory atmosphere around the re-release.

The film, considered a landmark in Telugu cinema, was instrumental in redefining Chiranjeevi's on-screen image and continues to be remembered for its memorable music, visual effects, and unique storyline. Its re-release success comes at a time when re-released films rarely see strong box office returns, especially compared to modern fan-driven re-releases of films starring Pawan Kalyan, NTR, or Prabhas. Yet, Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari held its ground,

earning praise and respectable collections.

Interestingly, Samantha Ruth Prabhu's new horror-comedy Shubham, released on May 9 as well, has also made its presence felt. Despite being a smaller film, it managed to collect ₹1.5 crore on its opening day—a strong figure considering its scale and limited star power. This places Shubham close behind Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari in terms of opening-day collections, showing that good content can find its audience.

Both films—one a nostalgic re-release and the other a fresh experiment—are being appreciated for different reasons. While Chiranjeevi's classic showcases the undying love of fans, Shubham is being celebrated as a promising effort in content-driven cinema. As both continue their run, industry watchers are eager to see what records they may set in the days to come.

Skipping May 30: A Strategic Pause for Big Telugu Releases?



Until recently, May 30 was shaping up to be a blockbuster date for Telugu cinema, with major releases like Vijay Deverakonda's Kingdom and Pawan Kalyan's Hari Hara Veera Mallu vying for attention. However, a mix of production delays and the country's tense socio-political climate has prompted both film teams to reconsider their release plans.

Insiders reveal that although posters still mention May 30, the actual release dates for both films remain tentative. In the case of Kingdom, post-pro-

duction work is still underway, with music composer Anirudh yet to complete the background score. While this alone could justify a delay, the broader issue is the escalating unrest across parts of India—particularly in the North—which has led to declining theatre attendance and public events being scaled back.

For Hari Hara Veera Mallu, the stakes are even higher. Aiming for a pan-India release, producer AM Ratnam reportedly feels that the current environment is not conducive to launching such a large-scale film. Pro-

motional campaigns, dubbing schedules, and national-level reach are all being impacted. With little time to prepare adequately and safety concerns looming, the team is now eyeing a safer and more strategic release window in June.

With these major contenders stepping aside, the spotlight on May 30 now shifts to Bhairava, starring Belamkonda Sai Sreenivas, Manchu Manoj, and Nara Rohit. As a remake with a moderate budget, the film doesn't face the same risks and could benefit from being the only mass enter-

tainer releasing that weekend. If it garners positive word-of-mouth, Bhairava could capitalize on the lack of competition and fill the gap left by bigger projects.

In the grand scheme, deferring releases may turn out to be a smart move for big-budget films. Releasing during a calmer period in June could ensure higher turnout, better media coverage, and a stronger box office performance. Under normal circumstances, May 30 might have been ideal—but in 2025, waiting appears to be the wiser path forward.