

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t°

H 36° C

L 27° C

VIJAYAWADA

t°

H 37° C

L 28° C

TIRUPATHI

t°

H 37° C

L 27° C

# TDP HAS TO CHANGE STRATEGY ON IN-CHARGE MINISTERS

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Yes, this is the opinion circulating among TDP circles. In-charge Ministers are meant for the coordination of MLAs and the Ministers in a particular district. If there is a clash between the Minister and MLAs, they have to sort it out. Moreover, they have to utilize their powers for the development of the district through their portfolio. There is one more advantage in it. What is that? Whether TDP is utilizing it or not?

We all know that nowadays, politics are running based on caste equations. Based on the social equations only, the strategies have been evolving by the parties. TDP is having full support of the Kamma community, which is a naked truth. But, in terms of numbers, they are less. The majority of BCs are the backbone for TDP now and then. From NTR's time onwards, BCs were with TDP. In 2019, Mr. Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy got the support of BCs and succeeded in dividing the BC vote, damaging TDP badly. But in 2024, again BCs have supported TDP, which is evident in the voting pattern of all the constituencies.

YSRC had the support of Reddy and SC, ST, and minority vote bases. JanaSena had a strong base of Kapu and related communities. So here, TDP has to focus on consolidating the BC vote bank now, as per the experts' opinion. The allocation of districts to the Ministers as in-charges has to be in accordance with that target. But the allocation is not like that. For example, Setti Balija is a BC community with good numbers in the



Godavari districts. In Amalapuram, Kakinada, and Rajahmundry Parliamentary constituencies, they are in considerable number and, moreover, they are a deciding factor in many constituencies. Earlier, Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose and Chennuboyina represented this community in YSRC. Now, Mr. Vasamsetty Subhash is representing that community in the Cabinet. He has a good circle among the community and emerged as a leader based on that prospect only. Serving the community in the lines of his family heredity, he has emerged as a strong leader in that area. But he has been allocated Krishna district as In-charge Minister. What's the use in it? He cannot coordinate

senior MLAs and Ministers there, as a first-comer. There is a strong base of Kapu and Kamma voters. Instead of that, he can work as In-charge Minister for West Godavari, where the Setti Balija community is present. Likewise, Payyavula Kesav, who is Kamma, can be allocated Krishna district or Nimmala Rama Naidu can be at Krishna district. Distance is also a key factor. Mr. Kollu Ravindra has to go to Anakapalli as In-charge. Like this, due to many dissimilarities in these allocations, many leaders and cadre of TDP are requesting the leadership to look into the aspect of strengthening the BC vote base, keeping in view the future politics of Andhra Pradesh.

## DCCB POST @ Rs.10 Cr, PITHAPURAM AGAIN IN HEADLINES



Tummala Babu



Marreddy Srinivasa Rao

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In recent times, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued nominated posts to party workers of alliance parties. As per their understanding, major posts are for TDP, with a few for Janasena and BJP. As we all know, Mr. Marreddy Srinivasa Rao had worked as in-charge for Pithapuram. As he was the representative of Mr. Pawan Kalyan in that constituency, he gained more importance. He struggled to serve the people there. There were even comments that he was unable to fulfil that responsibility. Adding to that, there is a problem with TDP leader Mr. Varma. Last week, there was news that Mr. Marreddy had been appointed as DCCB Chairman. Many congratulated him on social media. But officially, the post went to Mr. Tummala Babu, who is the Chairman of the Kakinada Urban Development Authority. He was appointed to the KUDA Chairman post just four months ago. Nobody expected his name for DCCB, as he was already holding the KUDA position. But, surprisingly, it was allocated to him. Now, rumours are spreading that cash has allegedly exchanged hands in getting that DCCB post for Tummala Babu. Some people argued that there was no proposal for Marreddy for that post and that the campaign around him was an overreaction. After promoting his name, they are now spreading false propaganda regarding the allocation to Tummala

la Babu. Tummala Babu has good influence in the party. He became district president of Yuva Rajyam a long time ago. However, there was a rumour that he allegedly secured that post through payment. Moreover, there have been complaints about his attitude towards people and party cadre. A resident of Pithapuram said, "Though he is rich, he doesn't have the right character or attitude and doesn't behave like a leader. Even though he got the DCCB post despite already having the KUDA post, we don't understand what the party is deciding and on what grounds they are allocating posts. If Marreddy is not suitable, they could have given the post to another leader who has been working for the party for a long time or to those who have lost money by spending for the party. Whether they are considering loyalty, background, money, or association with top leaders, we are unable to understand." Meanwhile, Marreddy, who faced tough times rendering services in Pithapuram and dealing with pressure from the followers of Varma and Janasena groups, has been humiliated by this development. He hasn't spoken a word against the party. That is why a few argue that all these allegations are baseless. If Rs.10 crores indeed changed hands, then the big question is—whose hands did it go into? Allegations are surfacing that a top leader and a key figure in the party headquarters were involved.

## 91 Big Firms Ready for AP: Lokesh

- Each company to get a dedicated officer
- Target of 5 lakh jobs in 5 years
- ₹91,839 crore investment by 91 major companies
- Over 1.4 lakh jobs expected in initial phase
- Visakhapatnam to become next-gen IT hub

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## Our Treasury Must Grow: CM Naidu

- Chandrababu sets ₹1.34 lakh crore revenue target
- AI-based tax system, Data Lake to combat evasion
- Special panel for red sandalwood valuation

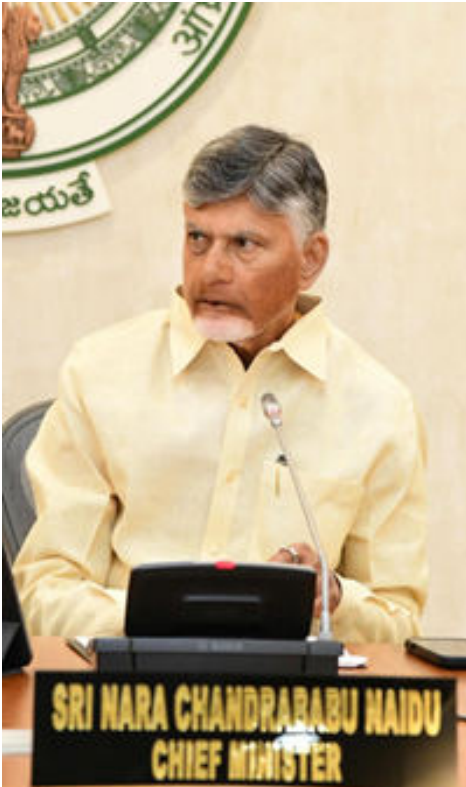
TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to adopt a comprehensive and technology-driven approach to significantly enhance Andhra Pradesh's financial strength. Chairing a high-level revenue review meeting at the Secretariat, Chandrababu emphasized the need for strategic planning based on a three-decade analysis of revenue trends and reinforced his commitment to increasing state income. The CM announced a bold revenue target of ₹1,34,208 crore for the financial year 2024-25. To achieve this, he proposed an AI-enabled tax infrastructure and instructed the estab-

lishment of a 'Data Lake' integrating data across departments. "We must ensure no room for tax evasion, and simultaneously provide seamless service to taxpayers," he said. He noted that while Andhra Pradesh ranks high in gold purchases, it has not translated proportionally into tax income, indicating the need for corrective steps. In a move to tap into the state's natural resources, Chandrababu called for the formation of a special committee to evaluate red sandalwood stocks and assess their market value globally. "This resource, worth thousands of crores, can be a great asset to the state's treasury if managed scientifically and transparently," he said. On the liquor front, the CM demanded strict action against illegal trans-

portation of alcohol from neighboring states and urged the strengthening of real-time tracking mechanisms for end-to-end liquor monitoring. He also flagged concerns over the transport department's underperformance in revenue generation compared to other southern states and directed officials to explore untapped sources of income. While appreciating the early signs of success from the new excise policy, Chandrababu stressed on further refinement to boost returns. Officials informed the CM that as of May 11, only ₹12,717 crore had been received from the Centre in the current financial year, which is 26% less compared to last year.

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# ISRO Set to Launch Strategic Satellite on 18th

- **Risat-1B to provide critical support to military surveillance**
- **Satellite equipped with all-weather, day-night imaging radar**

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is gearing up for a crucial launch this month with the PSLV-C61 mission scheduled for lift-off at 6:59 AM on May 18 from the first launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sullurpet, Tirupati district. This mission will place the advanced earth observation satellite Risat-1B into a targeted orbit. Scientists are currently in the final stages of preparation for the launch, which is being seen as a strategically significant step in India's space and defense programs. Risat-1B is equipped with a C-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), enabling it to capture high-resolution images of the Earth's surface regardless of weather conditions and time of day. This cutting-edge feature allows the satellite to function efficiently even



during cloudy conditions or at night, making it a vital tool for security and defense applica-

tions. With heightened tensions along the India-Pakistan border and the need for stronger surveillance capabilities, Risat-1B is expected to play a vital role in strengthening national security. The satellite will assist in tracking terrorist camps, monitoring enemy troop movements, and observing activity along border areas with extreme precision. Sources say the imaging capabilities of Risat-1B will give Indian military forces a strategic edge in real-time reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering. ISRO's continued development of such advanced observation satellites reflects India's growing prowess in space technology and its expanding focus on defense readiness from space. The PSLV-C61 launch will mark another milestone in ISRO's ongoing efforts to integrate space-based technologies with national security priorities.



## AP Reserves Non-Local Quota Exclusively For State Residents

**No more access to 15% quota in AP universities**

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a significant move following the completion of ten years since the bifurcation of the state, the Andhra Pradesh government has issued key orders restricting access to the 15 percent non-local and general quota in higher education institutions exclusively to students from Andhra Pradesh. This effectively ends the eligibility of Telangana students for admissions under the non-local quota in AP universities. The Telangana government had earlier issued similar orders, denying AP students access to the 15 percent non-local quota in its universities. Now, Andhra Pradesh has responded in kind. Higher Education Secretary Kona Shashidhar released three separate Government Orders (GOs) on Monday, providing detailed clarification on the definitions of local and non-local status for admissions into higher education, vocational courses, and common entrance tests. Under the new rules, 85 percent of the convener quota seats will continue to be reserved for local candidates, while the remaining 15 percent—previously shared with students from Telangana—will now be completely allocated to students from Andhra Pradesh.

As part of this realignment, the government has also restructured the regional divisions used for admissions. While the unified AP previously categorized students under the Andhra, Sri Venkateswara, and Osmania University regions, the new order has officially removed the Osmania University region from the equation. Admissions will now be conducted only within the Andhra University and Sri Venkateswara University regions. This move is expected to benefit Andhra Pradesh students who were previously competing with applicants from Telangana under the non-local quota. It also reflects a broader assertion of state-level autonomy in the wake of the decade-old bifurcation and aligns with similar steps taken by the Telangana government.

## Our Treasury...

*Continued from page 1*

Chandrababu urged all revenue-generating departments to exceed their targets and focus on making Andhra Pradesh financially self-reliant. "We need to transform our system with foresight, technology, and fiscal discipline. Our treasury must grow if the state is to progress," he concluded.

## CM Key Orders On ST Reservations In Tribal Areas

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has issued crucial instructions regarding the restoration of reservations for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in government jobs in tribal agency areas. In a high-level review meeting held on Saturday, the Chief Minister discussed measures for reviving the repealed Government Order (G.O.) No. 3, which previously provided 100% reservation for local tribals in these regions. During the review, officials briefed the Chief Minister on the legal complexities surrounding the issue, including the Supreme Court's earlier directives that led to the quashing of the GO in 2020. Various possibilities, legal advantages, and potential obstacles to reintroducing such a provision were thoroughly discussed. Chandrababu instructed officials to explore all viable options within the framework of the Constitution and judicial precedents. He stressed the need to take expert legal opinions at the national level and ordered immediate consultations with constitutional and legal experts. "We are fully committed to the rights and welfare of tribals in the agency areas," the Chief Minister asserted. "Reviving GO No. 3 or ensuring justice at an equivalent level, as we promised during the elections, is non-negotiable." He also directed officials to engage with tribal leaders and associations to understand their perspectives before moving forward with any legal or administrative steps. The review highlighted three broad strategies currently available for attempting the revival of the order, which will now be analyzed in-depth. The government's renewed focus on ST job reservations comes amid growing demand from tribal communities to restore the protective measures that once ensured their representation in public employment in the Scheduled Areas. With CM Chandrababu making it a priority issue, the state is expected to soon initiate a detailed legal and constitutional route to fulfill its commitment to tribal empowerment.

## 91 Big Firms Ready for...

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a significant boost to Andhra Pradesh's industrial ambitions, State IT and Electronics Minister Nara Lokesh announced that 91 large companies are ready to invest ₹91,839 crore and generate 1,41,407 jobs in the state. He emphasized that the government is committed to fast-tracking approvals and providing full support to these companies through a proactive, industry-friendly approach. In a review meeting held at his Undavalli residence with senior officials from the IT, Electronics, and RTGS departments, Lokesh revealed a key decision to assign one nodal officer for each large company. "This dedicated support system will accelerate approvals and make it easier for companies to establish operations without bureaucratic delays," he said. Highlighting the state's broader goal, Lokesh reiterated the government's vision of creating 5 lakh jobs in the IT and electronics sectors over the next five years. He directed officials to draft a comprehensive plan to transform Visakhapatnam into a cutting-edge IT hub. Additionally, he ordered the immediate release of pending incentives to IT firms and called for speeding

up the work on the Ratan Tata Innovation Hub. To further improve digital public services, the minister set a target to increase the number of services available on the 'Mana Mitra' app from 317 to 400 by month-end. He proposed the use of blockchain and QR code technology in official certificates and instructed officials to enable citizens to receive tax arrear details via WhatsApp. Lokesh also emphasized enhancing RTGS systems with real-time data points, KPIs, and information on both central and state government schemes. He instructed the department to strengthen weather reporting mechanisms and make robust preparations for the upcoming e-Governance National Conference to be held in Visakhapatnam on June 9–10. He further suggested the integration of all departmental data onto a unified platform powered by AI and recommended streamlining business processes through improved ease-of-doing-business measures. Lokesh also pushed for a common platform for all government GOs and apps to improve accessibility and public engagement. The meeting was attended by IT Secretary Katanneni Bhaskar, Special Secretary B. Sundar, EDB CEO Saikanth Verma, and other key officials.

## YCP failed to maintain even basic irrigation structures



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has accused the previous YSRCP government of gross neglect in maintaining critical irrigation infrastructure. Speaking on the current state of irrigation works, the minister highlighted that despite building projects worth thousands of crores, the previous administration failed to maintain even the most basic elements like canals, gates, and shutters. In an effort to reverse the situation, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has sanctioned ₹344 crore for the repair and maintenance of irrigation works, said the minister. Emphasizing the urgency, Nimmala Ramanaidu directed officials to ensure that vital operations such as hoeing, horse shoeing, and soil removal be completed swiftly. For projects costing more than ₹10 lakh, he ordered that short tenders be called and completed within seven days to avoid any delay. For minor works costing less than ₹10 lakh, the minister instructed that they be executed under the supervision of local irrigation associations to expedite the process. He further alleged that during the YSRCP regime, even basic upkeep such as applying grease or repairing gates was ignored. "We are correcting the previous government's mistakes and bringing the irrigation sector back on track," he declared. The minister also mentioned that the coalition government had earlier sanctioned ₹90 crore for emergency maintenance in June and ₹326 crore in September. Now, with this additional ₹344 crore, the efforts to restore and strengthen irrigation systems across the state are being accelerated. Minister Nimmala concluded by ordering all irrigation officials to monitor the progress personally from lower levels to the top, and complete all planned works by the end of May.

## Horticulture to Double in 5 Years "Target ₹1 Lakh Income Per Acre Per Year," says CM

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday emphasized that horticulture is the sector with the highest income potential for farmers, and directed officials to aggressively promote horticultural practices across the state, especially in areas outside the Godavari and Krishna Delta regions. He chaired a high-level review meeting on the horticulture sector at the state Secretariat and laid out an ambitious roadmap to double horticulture cultivation in five years. The CM proposed the development of 24 crop-based clusters focusing on 11 priority crops—chilli, banana, mango, oil palm, cocoa, dragon fruit, cashew, coffee, coconut, tomato, and onion—to support and stabilize the income of farmers. "We must aim to ensure that every farmer earns at least ₹1 lakh per acre per year through horticulture. We need to make Andhra Pradesh a leader in horticulture by focusing on high-demand crops like cocoa, oil palm, and coconut," said Chandrababu Naidu.

### Push for Cocoa and Micro Irrigation

Highlighting the global demand for cocoa,

CM Chandrababu set a target of cultivating it in one lakh acres. He stressed the need to train farmers in post-harvest management and value addition, including encouraging them to establish small-scale processing units to improve profitability. He also underlined the importance of micro irrigation, urging farmers to make full use of central and state subsidies. The CM directed that automation equipment be installed in existing drip irrigation systems, with special focus on SC, ST, and small farmers to maximize resource efficiency.

### Fruit Covers Yield Big Results

Officials briefed the CM on recent initiatives, noting that monthly horticulture conclaves are being held across districts to raise awareness. A notable success story was the distribution of fruit covers on subsidy at a cost of ₹32 crore, benefiting farmers cultivating fruits in 10,000 hectares. This initiative led to a whopping ₹120 crore increase in farmer income, officials reported. The review meeting was attended by Agriculture Minister Atchannaidu, Agriculture Mission Corporation Chairman Marreddy Srinivas Reddy, and other senior officials.



# Modi’s Speech Is Proof Of A New India: CM

TPN Correspondent |  
Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s latest speech to the nation, stating that it marks the emergence of a new ideology for India. In a message posted on his official X account, the TDP chief called the speech a strong warning to Pakistan-sponsored terrorists and a clear display of India’s growing strength and self-reliance. “Prime Minister Modi has not only delivered a speech, but shown a new path for the country,” Chandrababu said. He emphasized that while India stands for peace—especially on occasions like Buddha Purnima—lasting peace is only possible through strength. “We will walk on the path of peace, but we will have zero tolerance for



terrorism,” he added. Referring to ‘Operation Sindoor’, Chandrababu lauded the Indian Armed Forces for their swift and effective retaliation following the Pahalgam terror attack. He commended the use of indigenously developed drones and defense equipment during the operation, calling it a testament to India’s technological capabilities and strategic preparedness.

“This ‘Made in India’ defense technology has demonstrated our readiness for modern warfare and made every Indian proud,” he remarked. Highlighting the broader implications of the Prime Minister’s address, Chandrababu said that under Modi’s leadership, India is moving forward on a path of peace, strength, and national purpose. He urged citizens to re-

main united and always prioritize the nation’s interests. Pawan Kalyan backs PM Modi’s stance State Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party chief Pawan Kalyan also responded positively to the Prime Minister’s speech. He applauded the strong message delivered by Modi, particularly in the context of ‘Operation Sindoor’. Pawan Kalyan quoted the Prime Minister’s words, “Terrorism and talks cannot go together, terrorism and trade cannot go together, blood and water cannot flow together,” affirming his party’s support for the government’s firm stance on national security. Both leaders emphasized the importance of unity, resilience, and the development of indigenous defense systems as the country faces evolving security challenges.



## Jagan Visits Family Of Martyr Murali Naik

TPN Correspondent | Gorantla

YSR Congress Party chief and former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy on Tuesday visited the family of Veer-jawan Mudavat Murali Naik, the Agniveer soldier who was martyred during Operation Sindhur in Jammu and Kashmir. Jagan visited Kalli Thanda village in Gorantla mandal, where he met Murali Naik’s parents, Sriram Naik and Jyothibai, and consoled them. During his visit, Jagan announced that the YSR Congress Party would extend ₹25 lakh as financial assistance to the bereaved family. He praised Murali Naik for his supreme sacrifice and called him a symbol of bravery and patriotism, stating, “Murali Naik died a hero’s death. The country is forever indebted to his sacrifice. He is an inspiration to all of us.” Jagan also reminded that during his tenure as Chief Minister, his government had introduced a policy of providing ₹50 lakh ex-gratia to the families of soldiers martyred in the line of duty and expressed hope that the current coalition government would continue the same tradition. He added that his party will support Murali Naik’s family in all possible ways, and the ₹25 lakh announced is a small token of their solidarity. Meanwhile, Murali Naik was laid to rest with full state honours on Monday. The current Andhra Pradesh government announced ₹50 lakh, 5 acres of agricultural land, a government house, and a job for Murali Naik’s father as part of the compensation package. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha, and several other leaders also visited Kalli Thanda and paid tributes to the martyr. Pawan Kalyan had personally announced an additional ₹25 lakh assistance earlier. Today’s visit by YS Jagan further reaffirmed the collective respect and support extended by all parties to the grieving family of the brave soldier.

# JP Defends Modi’s Caution on Pakistan

TPN Correspondent |  
Andhra Pradesh

Loksatta Party founder and noted reformer Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan has offered a nuanced analysis of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s recent stance on Pakistan, stating that restraint and diplomacy are far more effective than aggressive retaliation in modern international affairs. His remarks come amidst public criticism that Modi has merely issued warnings to Pakistan instead of initiating stronger actions. Jayaprakash Narayan made it clear that war is not a viable solution and urged the country to learn from history. “Even superpowers like America could



not secure decisive victories in Afghanistan or Vietnam. War brings destruction, not resolution. We need maturity, not misadventure,” he emphasized. In a detailed analysis, JP Narayan said that India should focus on increasing its economic power, positioning itself alongside global leaders like the Unit-

ed States and China, rather than trying to equalize itself with Pakistan. “The real strength of India will be in its economy and global influence. Only then will our words carry weight,” he said. He strongly criticized provocative voices on social media and political elements using national security issues for short-term gains, cautioning that such actions are dangerous. “The people of Pakistan are not the enemy. It’s their ruling class that fails to learn. But their failure will also affect the region and us,” he added. Jayaprakash Narayan praised the Modi government, the armed forces, and the political system for responding to the recent crisis with restraint and maturity.

He highlighted how constructive criticism and responsible political discourse are vital, especially when dealing with national security matters. “This is not the time for war, as Modi rightly told Russia. We do need military strength—but to prevent wars, not to provoke them,” JP explained. He warned against reducing diplomacy to a show of aggression and stressed the importance of maintaining a long-term strategic vision. Calling on all parties and citizens to act with national interest in mind, Jayaprakash Narayan concluded that India’s global standing will improve not through aggression, but through calm, calculated, and strategic leadership.

# Babu Plans Port-Based Economy for AP

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has unveiled an ambitious plan to transform the state into a port-based economy by leveraging its 1,000+ km long coastline. During a review meeting held at the Secretariat on Monday, the Chief Minister discussed the progress of coastal infrastructure with Union Ports Secretary T.K. Ramachandran, along with other senior officials from the state and central governments. Chandrababu stated that the state intends to establish a port or fishing harbor every 50 kilometers along its coast. A key highlight of the meeting was the proposal to develop a shipbuilding and repair cluster in Dugarajapatnam, now part of Tirupati district, as originally agreed upon during the bifurcation of the state. According to initial feasibility reports, the shipbuilding cluster will be established on 2,000 acres of land, with 1,000 acres allocated for the core shipbuilding unit and another 1,000 acres for ancillary industries. The cluster will feature four dry docks, outfitting jetties, and ship lift facilities. It will be developed alongside a greenfield port in collaboration with the central government. The central government is expected to invest ₹3,500 crore, while the state government will handle land acquisition and site development. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) will be formed to implement the project, inviting top global firms to participate. The project is projected to attract ₹26,000 crore in investment, creating 5,000 direct and 30,000 indirect jobs. The Chief Minister made key suggestions for moving the project forward and directed officials to immediately begin preparatory work. He also requested the central officials to provide cost-effective cargo transport options at Visakhapatnam port. In addition to industrial development, cruise tourism opportunities were discussed. Officials outlined plans for cruise circuits in Polavaram, Srisaillam, and Nagarjuna Sagar regions. Chandrababu advised further study into developing these river cruise tourism circuits. The meeting was attended by several senior officials, including Minister BC Janardhan Reddy, as the government pushes forward its vision of a maritime-led economic transformation.



## Relief for YCP MP Mithun Reddy in Liquor Scam Case

### Supreme Court grants temporary relief

TPN Correspondent |  
Andhra Pradesh

In a significant development, YCP Rajampet MP PV Mithun Reddy has received a major relief in the ongoing liquor scam case. The Andhra Pradesh High Court had earlier denied anticipatory bail to Mithun Reddy, one of the main accused in the alleged liquor scam during the YCP regime. However, after Mithun Reddy approached the Supreme Court, the apex court has ordered a fresh hearing of his bail petition and directed the High Court to reassess the matter thoroughly. The Supreme Court took into account the fact that the High Court had not fully examined the evidence presented in the petition when it initially rejected the anticipatory bail request. As a result, the Supreme Court has instructed the High Court to revisit the case and issue appropriate orders.

Additionally, the Supreme Court has temporarily barred the Andhra Pradesh Police from arresting Mithun Reddy until the High Court conducts its fresh inquiry into the bail petition. The court observed that there was no concrete evidence linking Mithun Reddy directly to the liquor scam and emphasized that arrests should only be made based on reasonable and rational grounds, not in a mechanical manner once a case is registered. The Supreme Court also highlighted the need to consider the dignity of an elected Member of Parliament, suggesting that such factors should be taken into account when dealing with high-profile cases. This ruling grants Mithun Reddy a temporary reprieve, and the matter will now be reexamined by the Andhra Pradesh High Court, which will hear his bail petition again in the coming days.

# Honeymoon Phase Over for Govt: Gidugu Rudra Raju

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Senior Congress leader and CWC member Gidugu Rudra Raju launched a scathing attack on the Chandrababu-Pawan Kalyan-led coalition government, declaring that the “honeymoon phase” of their rule is already over. He alleged that the government has failed to begin implementing the guarantees made to the people during the elections. Rudra Raju expressed skepticism over the sincerity of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, stating, “Given the current state of affairs, there is no indication that they are serious about fulfilling their promises.” He further said that the public is growing increasingly disappointed with the early performance of the alliance. On the Amaravati capital development issue, Rudra Raju criticized the government’s plans to resume land acquisition. He strongly opposed the move, claiming that it is a veiled attempt at promoting real estate interests in the name of capital development. “Seven thousand acres are more than enough for Amaravati,” he asserted, questioning the logic and necessity behind further land acquisition. He accused the government of prioritizing land-related business deals over genuine development, warning that such actions would lead to further distrust among the people. Rudra Raju’s remarks come amid mounting scrutiny over how the new government will handle its ambitious commitments, particularly around Amaravati and key welfare programs.





# Vamsi Falls Ill in Jail, Gets Bail in Kidnapping Case

No relief as more cases keep him behind bars  
Vamsi granted bail in Satyavardhan kidnapping case  
Shifted to Vijayawada Govt Hospital with respiratory issues

**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**  
Former MLA and YSRCP leader Vallabhaneni Vamsi, who has been in judicial remand for 89 days in connection with multiple cases including the TDP office attack and kidnapping of Satyavardhan, has reportedly fallen ill while lodged in Vijayawada Central Jail. Suffering from throat infection and respiratory problems, he was shifted to the Vijayawada Government Hospital upon his request and court orders.

Vamsi's lawyers informed the SC/ST Special Court that he has been unwell for some time, experiencing difficulty in breathing and speaking. Acting on the court's instructions, the jail authorities transferred him to the hospital for medical tests and treatment. The court also directed Vamsi's counsel to file a memo detailing his health condition. Meanwhile, in a partial relief, the SC/ST Special Court granted bail to Vamsi in the Satyavardhan kidnapping case, fol-

lowing the third bail petition filed by his legal team. Along with Vamsi, four others named in the case were also granted conditional bail after the court heard arguments from both sides. However, Vamsi's release is still uncertain, as four more criminal cases are pending against him. Despite the bail, officials confirm that he will remain in judicial custody until those matters are resolved. Sources say the prolonged incarceration and mounting le-

gal troubles have taken a heavy physical and mental toll on the former MLA. After nearly three months in prison, Vamsi is said to have visibly weakened — with white hair, a faded beard, and a frail frame. Party insiders and observers say the "Red Book blow" (a reference to the chargesheet and harsh legal action) has left him reeling, with many blaming the provocations and decisions made during Jagan Mohan Reddy's regime. Political circles are abuzz with



speculation that TDP General Secretary Nara Lokesh is determined to keep Vamsi behind bars, and that the current bail order may not offer any real respite. Despite a legal breakthrough, Vamsi remains ensnared in multiple legal entanglements, and his immediate release appears unlikely.

## MLA Maddipati Secures Funds for Kidney Operation of Janasena Activist's Wife



**TPN Correspondent | Amaravati**  
In a heartwarming act of support, Gopalapuram MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju has successfully secured Rs. 6.3 lakh from the

Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for the kidney transplant operation of Satya Lakshmi, wife of Jana Sena activist Unnamatla Ramesh. The family, from Anantapalli village in Nallajarla mandal, faced a dire situation when Satya Lakshmi was diagnosed with severe kidney issues. Doctors recommended an urgent transplant, but the family's financial situation made it impossible for them to afford the treatment. Upon learning of the family's predicament, MLA Maddipati Venkata Raju took immediate action. He initially ensured that they received Rs. 2 lakh from the CMRF. However, this amount was insufficient to cover the expenses, so he followed up with CMRF officials, who granted an additional Rs. 3.6 lakh. Despite this, the family had already spent heavily on previous treatments and could not afford the remaining balance. Recognizing the urgency, MLA Maddipati personally met Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and successfully arranged for an additional Rs. 6.3 lakh to be sanctioned for the operation. The MLA also promised to provide his own financial support if needed, ensuring that the family could move forward with the necessary treatment without further hindrance.

## AP Liquor Scam Accused Balaji Arrested

SIT nabs Bharathi Cements director in Mysore  
Total arrests in liquor scam case reach five

**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**  
In a significant development in the Andhra Pradesh liquor scam, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has arrested Govindappa Balaji, a key accused in the case. Acting on concrete intelligence, officials detained Balaji in Mysore and are now transporting him to Vijayawada with a transit warrant. Govindappa Balaji, who currently holds the position of Director at Bharathi Cements Company, is believed to have played a crucial role in the scam. His arrest marks the fifth so far in the high-profile case that continues to rattle political and business circles in the state. Officials have not yet revealed further details about Balaji's role, but sources indicate that more revelations may emerge during his interrogation in Vijayawada. The SIT is continuing its probe and more arrests are expected in the coming days as the investigation deepens.



## The Strength Of Soldiers Must Be Backed By Divine Power

**TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada**  
Jana Sena Party senior leader and Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, Shri Nandendra Manohar, said that the valor of Indian soldiers in Operation Sindoor has demonstrated the country's strength and unity. Speaking to the media after performing special prayers at Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Temple in Vijayawada, he emphasized that the strength of Indian soldiers must be accompanied by divine energy. He was joined by Legislative Council Government Whip Shri Pidugu Hariprasad and other party leaders in offering prayers at Indrakiladri. "Operation Sindoor has dealt a strong blow to terrorists who murdered 26 innocent tourists in Pehalgam. The unity of the country was visible once again during this moment. Our prayers are for the courage of the soldiers and divine blessings to stand by them," Shri Manohar stated. As per the instructions of Deputy Chief Minister and Jana Sena Party President Shri Pawan Kalyan, party leaders and cadres have been performing special prayers across Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and other states. "We are praying that our soldiers are not only equipped with strength and weapons but are also supported by the divine spirit of Durgamma," Manohar added. He said that Jana Sena Party has always stood at the forefront in promoting nationalism and infusing patriotic spirit in the youth. "Pakistan's repeated ceasefire violations and recent terrorist attacks reveal its true colors. At this critical time, the strength of the divine will further empower our brave soldiers. Jana Sena leaders are offering prayers at temples, churches, and mosques



alike for national unity and the wellbeing of the armed forces," he said. Legislative Council Whip Shri Pidugu Hariprasad added, "The struggle and sacrifice of our jawans on the borders is unparalleled. Their commitment ensures our peace. Following our party president's directions, we prayed that the strength of Goddess Durga stays with our army. Jana Sena's mission is to ignite nationalism among youth and the public." Palakonda MLA Sri Nimmaka Jayakrishna, NTR District President Sri Samineni Udayabhanu, Krishna District President Sri Bandreddy Ramakrishna, Programme Management Committee Chairman Sri Kalyanam Siva Srinivas, State Secretary Sri Ammisetti Vasu, and other key leaders including Sri Akkala Gandhi, Sri Vegulla Leela Krishna, Smt. Pothireddy Anitha, Sri Bolisetty Srikanth, Sri Bolisetty Vamsikrishna, Sri Badita Shankar, Smt. Tirupati Anusha, Sri K.S.N. Murthy, and Sri Thakur Ajay Varma also participated in the prayer program.

## Four Killed in Palnadu Road Accident

*Agricultural labourers from Prakasam district dead*

**TPN Correspondent | Palnadu**  
A tragic road accident early this morning near Shivapuram in Vinukonda mandal of Palnadu district has claimed four lives and left several others injured. The incident occurred when a lorry coming from the opposite direction collided with a Bolero vehicle transporting papayas. Three people died on the spot, while another succumbed to injuries en route to the hospital. All the deceased have been identified as agricultural labourers from Gaddamidapal-

li village in Yerragondapalem mandal, Prakasam district. According to preliminary information, they were travelling for work at the time of the accident. The local police responded swiftly, conducted rescue operations, and rushed the injured to nearby hospitals. Medical treatment is currently underway. A case has been registered, and the police have launched an investigation to determine the cause of the collision. The tragic news has cast a pall

of gloom over Gaddamidapalli village, where the victims hailed from. Villagers are in deep shock over the untimely loss of their fellow residents. Minister Nara Lokesh, expressing deep sorrow over the incident, conveyed condolences to the bereaved families. He directed the concerned authorities to ensure the best medical care for the injured and promised that the government will stand by the affected families and extend necessary support during this difficult time.

## Cooldrink Van Overturns On Vijayawada-Machilipatnam Highway

**TPN Correspondent | Krishna**  
A van loaded with cool drink cases overturned on the Vijayawada-Machilipatnam National Highway on Monday, injuring three people onboard. The mishap occurred due to a sudden tire burst, reportedly triggered by overspeeding, which caused the driver to lose control and flip the vehicle. The accident took place while the van was en route from Vijayawada to Machilipatnam. With a heavy load of soft drink cans and bottles, the van skidded off balance when the tire

burst, overturning and scattering its cargo across the highway. Locals and motorists rushed to the scene following the incident. While some tried to assist the injured, others were seen hurriedly collecting the fallen cool drink bottles and cartons. Eyewitnesses noted that many individuals carried away multiple cases before authorities arrived. This behavior was caught on video and is now making rounds on social media, drawing sharp reactions online.

The injured were quickly shifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. Police reached the spot soon after receiving information and examined the scene. They confirmed that the cause appeared to be overspeeding combined with a tire burst. The damaged van was cleared from the road to restore normal traffic flow. Police have initiated an investigation and are also reviewing the viral footage to identify those who looted the goods instead of helping the victims.



## MSME Park Launched in Peddapuram

Park to cover 29 acres, aims to generate 5,000 jobs

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

In a major step towards industrial and employment growth in Andhra Pradesh, State Ministers Angane Satya Prasad and Gottipati Ravi Kumar, along with District Collector Shanmohan and Peddapuram MLA Nimmakayala Chinnarajappa, laid the foundation stone for a Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Park at ADB Road in Peddapuram Assembly Constituency on Tuesday. The park will be established under the aegis of APIIC with an investment of ₹13 crore.

Speaking at the event, Revenue Stamps and Registration Minister Angane Satya Prasad hailed Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu as a visionary leader who works for future generations. He highlighted the CM's slogan of "One Entrepreneur Per Family", aimed at boosting employment and the economy. "Just as his earlier call for one IT employee per household proved transformative, this initiative too will show results," he said.

Satya Prasad added that the MSME parks are key to achieving "Swarnandhra" through Vision-2047, and that the government is offering significant subsidies in investment support, electricity charges, and other benefits to encourage entrepreneurship among youth.

Electricity Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar emphasized the state's focus on linking industrial development with agriculture. He said the government plans to set up MSME parks in all constituencies, helping local industries thrive and generating jobs for at least 10 youth per unit. He credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India vision as the inspiration behind the initiative.

District Collector Shanmohan noted that the Peddapuram MSME Park will be the largest among the seven MSME parks being established across Kakinada district constituencies. Spanning 29 acres, it will include plots with essential infrastructure such as roads, power supply, and water facilities. He added that construction will begin soon and the park is expected to be operational within the next year. Local MLA Nimmakayala Chinnarajappa expressed gratitude for the park being sanctioned to Peddapuram. He said that over 5,000 youth could find employment through the park, and urged aspiring entrepreneurs to make use of the government's support and invest in small and medium enterprises.

The event was also attended by Kauda Chairman Tummalam Ramaswamy, Joint Collector Rahul Meena, former Municipal Chairman Raja Suribabu Raja, Peddapuram RDO K. Sriramani, APIIC Zonal Manager M. Ramana Reddy, and DLDO KNV Prasad Rao, among other officials and public representatives.



## All job card holders should be given work



TPN Correspondent | Eluru

Eluru District Collector K. Vetrivel on Tuesday emphasized the need to ensure employment for every job card holder under the National Employment Guarantee Scheme. During her inspection of a ₹25 lakh irrigation pond construction project in Sanigudem village of Denduluru mandal, she directed officials to focus on both progress of work and the welfare of laborers.

Collector Vetrivel instructed that adequate facilities be arranged at the worksite considering the scorching summer. "Drinking water and buttermilk must be made available to workers, and all precautions must be taken to prevent sunburns," she said. To minimize exposure to heat, she recommended that work be carried out between 6 am and 10 am. She reiterated that employment guarantee works not only provide livelihood to rural laborers but also play a crucial role in the development of village infrastructure, including roads, drainage systems, and irrigation facilities. She instructed that no eligible worker with a job card should be left without work.

The visit was attended by RDO M. Achyuta Ambarish, DWAMA PD K.V. Subbarao, Tahsildar B. Sumati, YMPDO K. Sridevi, APO P. Fatima, Village Sarpanch Sannipalli Ramakrishna, Panchayat Secretary N. Ravi Kishore, former Sarpanch Yelamarthi Srinubabu, Village Secretariat staff, MGNREGS technical staff, ASHA workers, and several village leaders.

# VIP Letters to Be Accepted in Tirumala from May 15

*Break darshans allowed for AP, TG public reps' letters*



TPN Correspondent | Tirupati

In a key announcement, Andhra Pradesh Endowments Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy declared that VIP recommendation letters will once again be accepted

in Tirumala from May 15, allowing break darshans based on these letters from public representatives of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

This announcement marks

a reversal of the earlier decision by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), which had suspended break darshans based on recommendation letters from May 1 to July 15, citing overwhelming summer pilgrim rush. The suspension had affected recommendation letters from board members and public representatives, allowing break darshans only for protocol-level VIPs.

Speaking to the media, Minister Anam clarified that the TTD has now decided to reduce the suspension period, and from Thursday, public representatives' recommendation letters will be honored once again for facilitating break darshans. The initial TTD decision drew considerable attention and concerns,

especially from political representatives and officials across the Telugu states. With this latest move, the government appears to be responding to that feedback by reinstating access, albeit slightly delayed. The break darshan facility is a significant means for elected officials to assist devotees in securing expedited access to the deity, particularly during high-demand seasons such as summer. The revised move is expected to ease tensions and restore a crucial channel for facilitating pilgrim convenience through elected representatives.

Further clarification from TTD authorities is expected regarding the updated guidelines and daily quotas for break darshan tickets under recommendation letters.

## MP Vemireddy Inaugurates Water Plant

*VPR Amrut Dhara launched in Kondapuram mandal*

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Nellore MP Sri Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, hailed for his philanthropic works, inaugurated the VPR Amrut Dhara Water Plant in Bhimavarapadu village of Kondapuram mandal on Tuesday. Accompanied by Udayagiri MLA Kakarla Suresh, the plant was launched under the auspices of the VPR Foundation in SC Colony.

The event began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by symbolic distribution of purified water to local women, marking the plant's aim to provide fluoride-free drinking water. Addressing the gathering, MP Vemireddy said that while setting up water plants is one part of the effort, maintaining them consistently is the real challenge. For this, a dedicated team has been appointed to en-



sure smooth operations.

In a compassionate gesture, Vemireddy also revealed that he had distributed 150 tricycles to differently-abled individuals across the constituency. "Seeing those who were once confined to their homes now moving freely in public brings immense hap-

piness," he said, reiterating his commitment to stand by the underprivileged always.

MLA Kakarla Suresh praised Vemireddy, stating, "He gives without anyone asking. This water plant is like a weapon to fight the fluoride issue troubling the region." He thanked the MP for

the consistent developmental initiatives under the VPR Foundation.

MP Vemireddy and MLA Kakarla were warmly welcomed by the villagers. Among those present at the event were former ZP Chairman Ponnu Boyana Chanchala Babu Yadav, Mandal Convener Mavilla Omkaram, Botla Gunta Haribabu, ex-ZPTC Dama Maheshwara Rao, Jana Sena coordinator Kotte Venkateswarlu, Yarava Krishnaiah Naidu, Chaganti Krishna, Jupally Raja Rao, Polineni Chandrababu, Telecom Advisory Committee members Tatikonda Anusha and Pusala Vengapa Naidu, Kondalarao Alлика Madhu, BJP Mandal President Mallikarjuna, TDP Mandal Convener Narayana, Ganta Narasimhulu, Jana Sena Mandal President Akula Venkat, and former MPP Polineni Chandra.

## Mother, Grandmother Kill Infant Over Second Marriage Plans

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

In a shocking and inhumane incident, a five-month-old baby girl was murdered by her own mother and grandmother in Narasinghapuram village of Pithapuram mandal, Andhra Pradesh. The gruesome act was allegedly committed with the intention of removing the child as an "obstacle" to the mother's remarriage within her caste.

According to police reports, Shailaja and Satish, a couple from different castes, had eloped and married two years ago. The family did not approve of the inter-caste union, especially Shailaja's mother. The couple later had a daughter named Yashwitha. However, following disputes between the couple, Shailaja returned to her maternal home with the child.

After returning, her mother Annaram began persuading her to remarry a man from their caste. Believing that the presence of the child would hinder this plan, the mother and grandmother plotted the baby's murder. On May 6, they allegedly

strangled baby Yashwitha and disposed of her body in a nearby well. To mislead the police and create a diversion, the duo tried to pass off the incident as an act of black magic. Shailaja filed a complaint stating that unknown persons had killed the child through occult rituals. They even staged a scene outside the house by placing a mug, lemons, and other objects typically associated with sorcery.

However, inconsistencies in their statements and their suspicious behavior led the police to intensify their investigation. Upon further questioning, both women confessed to the crime, admitting they killed the child to pave the way for Shailaja's second marriage.

The police have registered a case of murder and taken both the mother and grandmother into custody. The incident has triggered outrage in the region, with locals expressing deep shock and anger over the murder of an innocent child in the name of caste and remarriage.



## MLA Vijayasri Seeks House Plots for Irakam Island Poor



TPN | C Shekar

**Tirupati, May 14:** Sullurpet MLA Dr. Nelavala Vijayasri has urged the district administration to allocate house plots for the underprivileged residents of Irakam Island, who face extreme hardships due to a lack of basic infrastructure. On Tuesday, she submitted a petition to District Joint Collector Shubham Bansal, requesting land and housing arrangements at Pudikuppam in Tada Mandal, located along the banks of Pulicat Lake.

Speaking at the occasion, the MLA explained that the people of Irakam Island are cut off from road access, especially during the rainy season. "Children are forced to travel by boats to attend school, which not only causes daily hardship but also leads to frequent accidents," she said. In view of these challenges, she appealed to the district administration to allocate funds for the construction of new houses and plots in Pudikuppam so that the island's poor could be resettled in safer, more accessible locations. Dr. Vijayasri was accompanied by TDP leaders from Tada Mandal during the submission of the petition.



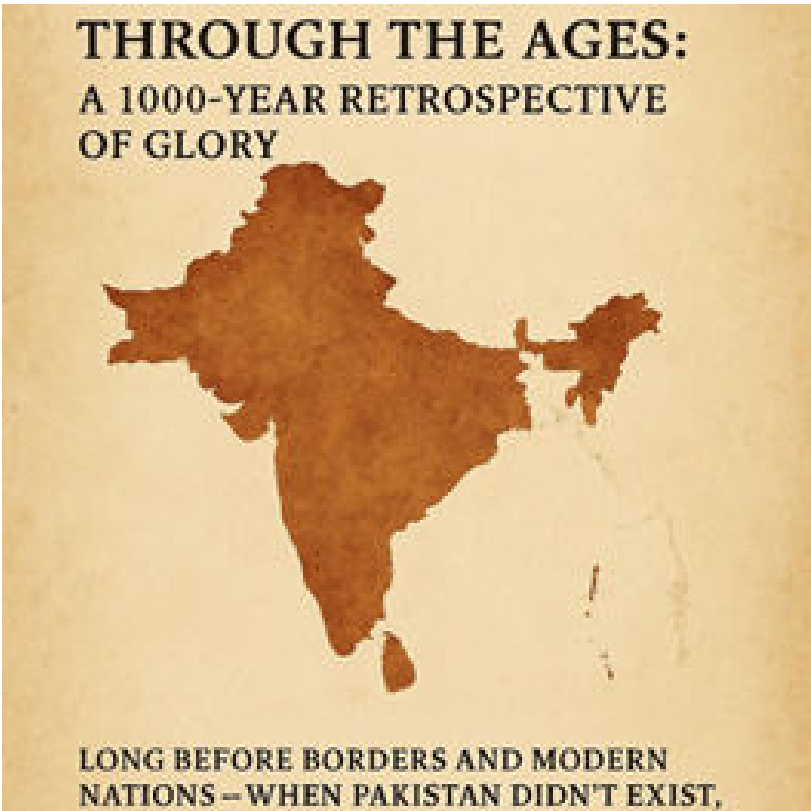
# Trump References ‘1000-Year Conflict’ in Kashmir

## Akhand Bharat: A Look at Millennium Era Glory Before Pakistan Existed

If Donald Trump indeed said something along the lines of “after 1000 years, a solution can be arrived at the Kashmir issue,” it is likely a metaphorical way of referencing how long and difficult the conflict has been—or feels. He’s known for hyperbolic constructed statements, often leaving room for broad interpretation. The Kashmir conflict, as a modern geopolitical issue, is only about 75 years old, arising after the Partition of British India in 1947. 1000 years ago (around 1025 CE), there was no Pakistan, no India in the modern political sense, and no “Kashmir issue” as a national dispute. The Indian subcontinent was a cultural and civilizational entity with a mix of kingdoms, philosophies, and religions. 1000 years back it was grand Aknada Bharat

**Akhand Bharat: A Civilizational Concept not political**

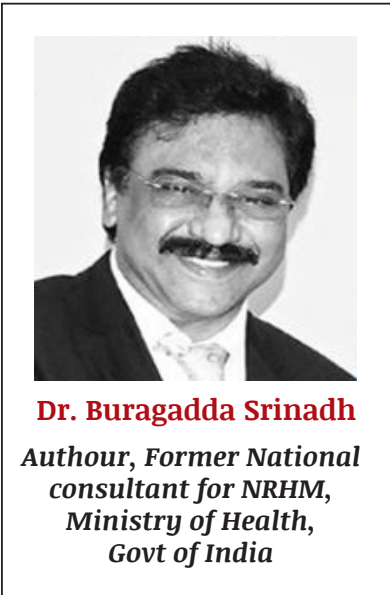
“Akhand Bharat” (Undivided India) is an ideological and cultural concept promoted primarily by Hindu nationalist organizations like the RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh). It envisions a unified region encompassing Modern-day India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sometimes extending to Nepal, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka It’s based not on modern political borders but on a shared cultural, spiritual,



and civilizational history that predates colonial divisions. Historically, the subcontinent was united under various empires (e.g., Maurya Empire under Ashoka, Gupta Empire, Mughal Empire), but always with regional autonomy and pluralism. Spiritually and philosophically, the Indian subcontinent shared languages (Sanskrit, Pali), faith systems (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism), and ideas that crossed borders freely.

**The magnificent Akhand Bharat from a millennium ago**

In public discourse today, the term Akhand Bharat is once again entering mainstream conversations—but what does it truly mean? A thousand years ago, the land we now call Bharat or India was not a patchwork of isolated territories, but a civilizational unity spanning vast regions of South Asia. This was Akhand Bharat—a term that evokes the idea of an undivided India, bound not just by geography but by shared cultural, spiritual, and historical values. From Gandhara in the northwest to



Kalinga in the east, and from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, the subcontinent was deeply connected by language, trade, religion, and philosophical traditions. While political boundaries shifted over time, the idea of Bharat remained intact through common civilizational threads—Sanskrit, dharmic philosophies, and a worldview rooted in coexistence. Akhand Bharat is not merely a political concept; it is a cultural memory of unity, harmony, and collective identity that predates colonial disruptions. As we reflect on our history and redefine our future, revisiting the spirit of Akhand Bharat reminds us of what once was—and what could be again. It is a call to rediscover shared

heritage, mutual respect, and a deeper understanding of the subcontinent’s true historical context.

**India’s past 1,000 years— Scientific and Intellectual Advancements**

—are filled with rich cultural, political, and scientific developments. While colonial narratives often emphasized decline, modern scholarship reveals that many regions of India flourished in arts, trade, and learning. Here’s a broad overview of India’s glorious past a millennium ago: Mathematics and Astronomy: Indian scholars like Bhaskara II (12th century) wrote seminal works like Lilavati and Siddhanta Shiromani, advancing algebra, arithmetic, and astronomy. Medicine and Ayurveda: Traditional systems like Ayurveda continued evolving, with texts building on earlier works like Charaka Samhita and Sushruta Samhita. Education Centers: Universities like Nalanda and Vikramashila were major centers of Buddhist and Hindu learning until their destruction by invaders like Bakhtiyar Khilji.

**What Did Trump Likely Mean?**

If Trump referred to a “1000-year” timeline or made statements about a solution to the

Kashmir issue after such a long period, it’s best interpreted as rhetoric—an exaggeration to express how longstanding and difficult the issue seems. He is endorsing “Akhand Bharat”, or is there any such ideological visions for him.

Akhand Bharat believe that the fragmentation of the Indian subcontinent has led to decades of political instability, extremism, and suffering for ordinary citizens—particularly in Pakistan and Bangladesh. Many argue that these populations have been caught in a prolonged struggle between oppressive military regimes and radical militant groups. “The people of Pakistan and Bangladesh deserve peace, prosperity, and freedom from fear . “If a unified South Asian vision can provide that, then it is worth serious consideration.”

Trump’s reference to a “1000-year conflict” in Kashmir may be interpreted by some as an acknowledgment of the deep-rooted challenges in the region, but also as a sign of the international community’s growing interest in seeking long-term solutions.

While the idea of Akhand Bharat is often debatable , its proponents argue that it is less about political takeover and more about cultural reintegration, economic collaboration, and shared peace among neighboring nations.

## End of an Era: Kohli and Rohit’s Test Retirements Signal New Transition for Indian Cricket



In a monumental moment for Indian cricket, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma have officially retired from Test cricket, closing a defining chapter in the sport’s modern history. Kohli, 36, and Rohit, 38, will continue to represent India in ODIs, but their departure from red-ball cricket marks a critical transition phase for the national team — one filled with both challenges and opportunities.

Over the past decade, the duo shaped India’s dominance in the Test arena. Kohli, with his aggressive leadership and unwavering commitment to the longest format, redefined India’s identity in global cricket. Scoring 9,230 runs in 123 Tests with 30 centuries, he also became India’s most successful Test captain with 40 wins. His relentless energy, passion, and fierce support for fast bowlers fueled a new brand of Indian Test cricket that found success overseas, most memorably in Australia in 2018–19.

Rohit Sharma, on the other hand, was a late bloomer in Test cricket. After years of inconsistency, he reinvented himself as an opener in 2019 and brought calmness and class to the top order. With 4,301 runs in 67 Tests, his centuries in

challenging conditions, such as in Chennai and The Oval, showed his maturity in the format. As captain post-Kohli, he led India to the WTC final — falling short, but carrying forward the team’s competitive spirit.

Together, Kohli and Rohit bridged two cricketing generations. They stepped up following the retirements of legends like Tendulkar and Dravid, and now leave behind a team in flux. Their exit comes at a time when India lacks similarly experienced successors. Shubman Gill, 25, is expected to take over the Test captaincy. While he and young talents like Yashasvi Jaiswal and Sarfaraz Khan show potential, the team is still finding its new identity.

India’s upcoming five-match Test series against England will be the first major test for this new era. Without Kohli’s fire and Rohit’s stability, the squad must evolve quickly, both in mindset and performance.

Their retirements mark more than the end of two great careers — they signify the start of a tough but crucial rebuilding phase for Indian Test cricket.



## PM Modi’s Firm Doctrine: No Talks, No Trade with Terror

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s powerful address to the nation on Monday night laid down a clear, uncompromising policy direction: India will no longer entertain diplomacy or economic engagement alongside terrorism. His words — “Terror and talks cannot go together, terror and trade cannot go together, and water and blood cannot flow together” — have drawn a definitive line in India’s geopolitical approach, particularly concerning Pakistan.

This bold message comes on the heels of Operation Sindoor, India’s swift and precise military response to the gruesome April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam. The operation, involving the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, struck nine terror-linked targets across Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and deeper inside Pakistani military installations, including Karachi’s Malir cantonment and key radar stations in Lahore. The downing of a Pakistani Mirage jet further underscored India’s readiness to escalate, if provoked.

Unlike previous retaliations, Operation Sindoor was not about emotional retribution. It was a calculated and restrained military strike, targeting only infrastructure linked to terror operations while deliberately sparing civilian zones. This restraint, paired with devastating effectiveness, speaks volumes about India’s evolving military doctrine — rooted in precision, indigenous capability, and strategic clarity.

India’s use of homegrown defence systems such as the Akash air defence missile and advanced counter-drone technology showcased the country’s growing self-reliance in defence, as well as its tactical edge. The operation sent a message that India no longer relies on external validation or permission to act decisively against threats to its sovereignty.

Modi also called out Pakistan’s public glorification of slain terrorists through state funerals, highlighting the state’s complicity in cross-border terror. He made it clear that the only topics India is willing to discuss with Islamabad are the end of terrorism and the return of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Even foundational treaties like the Indus Waters Treaty are now “on the table,” signaling a willingness to reconsider long-standing agreements if terrorism persists.

Importantly, Modi clarified that the ceasefire after Operation Sindoor was initiated at Pakistan’s request, countering international speculation of external mediation, including from the United States.

With Operation Sindoor, India has set a new precedent in regional engagement — one defined not by diplomatic ambiguity but by assertive clarity. The onus now lies squarely on Pakistan to choose peace, or face continued consequences under a new Indian doctrine.





# PM Modi pays visit to Adampur Airbase, interacts with soldiers

## PM Modi Hails Air Force at Adampur Base, Warns Pakistan of Retaliatory Doctrine

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday visited the Adampur air base in Punjab, a strategic Indian Air Force facility that recently played a crucial role in retaliatory strikes against Pakistan. Addressing air force personnel, he praised their courage and discipline during the recent escalation and reaffirmed India's unwavering stance on national security and counterterrorism.

Modi lauded the Indian armed forces for their role in Operation Sindoor, calling it a turning point in India's military doctrine. "This is not just an operation; it is a declaration of our strength, policy, and intent," he said, adding that its echoes are being heard globally.

Calling the armed forces the pride of the nation, the Prime Minister said, "Every Indian is proud of you. I have come here to have your darshan; this is a blessing. You have written history." He emphasized that the chant of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' is not a war cry but an oath that inspires both action and sacrifice.

Highlighting the impact of India's strikes, Modi said, "We trampled terrorists in their homes. Pakistan tried to target this base but failed. Their plans were crushed. Terrorists now realize there is no safe place for them in Pakistan. Their godfathers know the cost of casting an evil eye on India will be massive destruction."

The Prime Minister also declared

that India would not tolerate nuclear blackmail and that the country makes no distinction between terrorists and those who sponsor them. "India's 'Lakshman Rekha' is clear—any terror attack will receive a definitive reply on our terms," he stated, calling Operation Sindoor the "new normal" in India's military posture.

He also commended the forces for taking precautions to ensure civilian air traffic was not affected during India's strikes, emphasizing the professionalism of the Indian military.

Asserting that India is a land of both Gautam Buddha and Guru Gobind Singh, Modi concluded with a stern warning: "If there is another attack, India will respond—firmly, decisively, and on our own conditions."



## BJP Launches 10-Day Nationwide 'Tiranga Yatra' to Honour Armed Forces, Opposition Cautions Against Politicisation

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday, May 13, kicked off a 10-day nationwide 'Tiranga Yatra' to pay tribute to the Indian armed forces and commemorate the success of Operation Sindoor. The campaign, launched in the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, aims to evoke national pride and celebrate India's military response to cross-border terrorism.

Operation Sindoor, executed on May 7, targeted terror camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the killing of 25 tourists and a Kashmiri pony operator. The BJP's yatra is designed to amplify the message of national unity and resilience in the face of terrorism.

The yatra, which will continue until May 23, includes bike rallies, flag-hoisting ceremonies, public meetings, and outreach events in towns and cities across India. BJP leaders and cadres are participating in large numbers, waving the national flag and paying homage to the bravery of India's armed forces.

However, the initiative has drawn criticism from opposition leaders

who caution against politicising the military. Tejashwi Yadav, leader of the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and former deputy chief minister of Bihar, expressed reservations about the BJP's approach.

"I am proud of our armed forces for their strong response to terrorism," Yadav said, "but I firmly believe that the military should not be dragged into politics. Taking credit for the success of a military operation undermines the professionalism of our defence forces."

Yadav, currently Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Assembly, reiterated his call for a special session of Parliament to allow all elected representatives — including Prime Minister Modi — to express appreciation for the military in a bipartisan manner.

He acknowledged that other INDIA bloc leaders, like Sharad Pawar, had called for an all-party meeting instead, but stressed that the shared sentiment across parties was clear: to honour and support the armed forces. As the Tiranga Yatra moves forward, it continues to stir debate — symbolising national unity for some and political opportunism for others.

## India expels Pak High Commission staffer over activities outside official role

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant diplomatic move, India on Tuesday expelled a staff member of the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi, declaring the individual persona non grata for engaging in activities beyond the scope of their official duties. The official has been ordered to leave the country within 24 hours, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed in a statement. The expulsion comes at a time of heightened tensions between India and Pakistan following Operation Sindoor, a coordinated Indian military response targeting nine terrorist infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). The strikes were launched after the deadly Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, which claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly civilians and tourists.

A formal demarche was issued to the Charge d'Affaires of the Pakistan High Commission, communicating India's strong objection to the unnamed official's conduct. The MEA did not publicly disclose the nature of the activities or the diplomat's identity but stated the actions were inconsistent with the official's diplomatic status.

This latest step follows a series of retaliatory diplomatic measures initiated by India in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack. On April 23, India announced the scaling down of Pakistan's High Commission



staff in New Delhi from 55 to 30. In addition, all Pakistani Defence, Naval, and Air advisors were expelled, with a seven-day deadline to exit the country. India also recalled its diplomatic personnel from Islamabad.

Further intensifying pressure, India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty, a key water-sharing agreement brokered by the World Bank in 1960. The treaty's suspension will remain until Pakistan provides credible and irreversible assurance to cease its support for cross-border terrorism. Moreover, the Attari-Wagah border checkpoint was closed for cross-border travel, with an exception for those who had already entered India with valid documents, allowing them to return by May 1, 2025.

Although military tensions have de-escalated following a mutual agreement to cease hostilities across land, air, and sea announced on Saturday, diplomatic friction remains high. India's expulsion of the Pakistani diplomat signals its continued firm stance against any activities perceived as undermining national security or supporting terrorism.

## India Reaffirms Kashmir Stance, Dismisses Trump's Mediation Claim

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India firmly reiterated its unchanged position on the Jammu and Kashmir issue in response to recent remarks made by U.S. President Donald Trump. Addressing the media on May 13, 2025, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasized that Jammu and Kashmir remains a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan, and there is no room for third-party mediation.

"The Government of India has a long-standing national position that any matters relating to Jammu and Kashmir are to be resolved bilaterally between India and Pakistan. This policy has not changed," Mr. Jaiswal asserted. He added that the only unresolved issue is the vacation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), which India considers illegally occupied.

The clarification comes in the wake of President Trump's social media claims that the U.S. had successfully mediated a ceasefire between the two nuclear-armed neighbors, following India's Operation Sindoor—a targeted military campaign against terror infrastructure inside Pakistan and PoK. Mr. Trump also linked the ceasefire to the possibility of advancing trade relations between the U.S. and India. Rejecting this claim, the MEA spokesperson stated unequiv-



ocally that no discussions on trade had taken place in the conversations between Indian and U.S. leaders following the operation. "The issue of trade did not arise in any of the discussions between our leadership and their counterparts," Mr. Jaiswal said.

Further distancing India from any suggestion of nuclear escalation, he declared, "Operation Sindoor was conducted entirely within the conventional domain. We do not respond to or recognize nuclear blackmail." He also warned other nations against endorsing nuclear threat narratives, which, he said, could undermine global stability.

Jaiswal clarified that the ceasefire announced on May 10 was the outcome of direct communication between the Directors-General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan. "There was no role for any third-party mediation in this decision," he stressed.

## Shashi Tharoor Praises PM Modi for Handling India-Pakistan Conflict and Operation Sindoor

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Senior Congress leader and Member of Parliament Shashi Tharoor on Tuesday lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership during the recent escalation between India and Pakistan, describing the handling of the conflict and the execution of Operation Sindoor as "extremely well-managed."

In an interview with NDTV, Tharoor praised the Prime Minister's decision to address the nation following India's military action in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 people dead. "It is the duty of our Prime Minister to speak to his people during critical times," he said, adding that while Mr. Modi regularly connects with citizens through his monthly radio program Mann Ki Baat, moments of national crisis warrant more direct engagement.

"I am glad he came on television, looked the nation in the eye, and addressed the big issues. Whether it was during Covid or now in times of war, such moments require leadership and clarity," Tharoor emphasized.

Operation Sindoor, which began in the early hours of May 8, targeted nine terror camps and infrastructure sites across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Tharoor commended the precision and planning of the strikes, calling them "meticulously executed."



"I give full marks to the operation — from its naming to its execution. It was clearly a product of strategic military planning, not a haphazard or impulsive response," he stated.

Tharoor also underscored the importance of the message India has sent through these actions. "The message is clear — we are no longer willing to tolerate cross-border terrorism. The more they (Pakistan) push, the greater the consequences they will face," he warned.

Despite a ceasefire agreement being reached on Saturday at 5 PM, Pakistan reportedly violated the terms within hours, heightening the fragility of the peace. Nevertheless, Tharoor stressed the importance of India's resolve, noting that Pakistan now understands the price of provoking India.

In conclusion, the Congress MP urged the Prime Minister to continue addressing the nation directly during times of national security threats or crises, saying, "Every time the country faces such moments, the people deserve to hear from their leader."



# Trump Begins West Asia Tour with Grand Welcome from Saudi Crown Prince



TPN Correspondent | Washington

President Donald Trump commenced his four-day West Asia tour on May 13, 2025, with a high-profile visit to Saudi Arabia. The former U.S. President was warmly welcomed by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman at Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport. This visit marks a significant diplomatic engagement between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia, focused on pressing issues like Iran's nuclear ambitions, the Gaza conflict, oil prices, and regional security cooperation.

Air Force One was ceremonially escort-

ed by Royal Saudi Air Force F-15 fighter jets as it entered Saudi airspace. Upon arrival, Trump was served traditional Arabic coffee by attendants in ceremonial dress, setting a tone of grandeur for the visit. A formal lunch at the Royal Court followed, with several top American business leaders in attendance, including Elon Musk, Stephen Schwarzman, and Larry Fink. Musk, in particular, plays a key role in Trump's government efficiency initiative, which aims to cut down waste and fraud in federal operations.

Later in the day, Trump was scheduled to attend a U.S.-Saudi investment

conference and a state dinner. Saudi officials emphasized the importance of the partnership, with Investment Minister Khalid al-Falih stating that U.S.-Saudi cooperation often leads to "great things." The Crown Prince is expected to seek deeper cooperation on energy and technology, including arms deals and AI development.

The visit comes amid ongoing instability in the region. While Saudi Arabia has increased oil production to help Trump curb inflation in the U.S., their economy relies on higher oil prices, raising questions about the sustainability of such cooperation. Meanwhile, Trump's diplomatic approach has unsettled Israel, as key decisions—such as halting U.S. airstrikes against Yemen's Houthis—have reportedly been made without prior Israeli consultation. Trump's decision to exclude Israel from his first Middle East stop has also drawn attention. Analysts suggest this signals a shift, with Gulf states currently enjoying closer ties to Trump than Israel does. Trump aims to revive normalization talks between Saudi Arabia and Israel, but Saudi demands—like U.S. security guarantees and progress on Palestinian statehood—may hinder swift progress, especially amidst the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict.



## Russia Downed Malaysian Airline MH17 In Ukraine, Rules UN Aviation Body

TPN Correspondent | Ottawa

In a landmark ruling on Monday, May 13, 2025, the United Nations aviation body—the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)—officially held Russia responsible for the 2014 downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 over eastern Ukraine. The Dutch government confirmed the decision, marking a critical development in the long-standing international effort to seek justice for the 298 passengers and crew members who lost their lives.

Flight MH17 had departed from Amsterdam bound for Kuala Lumpur on July 17, 2014, when it was struck by a surface-to-air missile in airspace controlled by pro-Russian separatists amid intense conflict in eastern Ukraine. The aircraft was flying at cruising altitude when it was shot down, killing all on board. The tragedy drew global condemnation and sparked years of investigations and legal proceedings.

This recent ICAO decision stems from a case initiated by Australia and the Netherlands in 2022. While the ICAO lacks the power to enforce punitive measures, its rulings carry significant moral and diplomatic weight among its 193 member states. In the coming weeks, the

council will deliberate on possible reparations and further diplomatic steps.

Dutch Foreign Minister Caspar Veldkamp welcomed the ruling, calling it "an important step towards establishing the truth and achieving justice and accountability for all victims of Flight MH17, and their families and loved ones." He also emphasized that the verdict sends a strong message to the international community: nations cannot violate international law without consequences.

The ICAO's decision builds on earlier findings. In November 2022, a Dutch court convicted two Russians and a Ukrainian in absentia for their roles in the attack. Moscow dismissed the verdict as "scandalous" and reiterated that it would not extradite its citizens for prosecution.

Australia and the Netherlands are now urging the ICAO to press Russia into negotiations regarding reparations for the victims' families. Though the path forward remains diplomatically complex, the ruling marks a significant moral victory for advocates of accountability and international justice. The ICAO has not yet issued an official public response.

## Baloch Rebels Claim 71 Attacks Across Pakistan, Urge Global Action Against Islamabad

The Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) has claimed responsibility for a sweeping wave of attacks across Pakistan's Balochistan province, marking one of the most extensive escalations in the region in recent years. In a statement released on Sunday, the BLA said it had conducted 71 coordinated assaults across more than 51 locations as part of its ongoing 'Operation Herof'. The group targeted Pakistani military installations, intelligence hubs, police stations, and key transport routes, calling the campaign a direct response to Islamabad's continued exploitation of Balochistan and its alleged support for global terrorism.



According to the BLA, the strikes took place in areas including Kech, Panjgur, Mastung, Quetta, Zamuran, Tolangi, Kuluki, and Nushki. The rebel group claimed its operatives used a combination of ambush tactics, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), sniper fire, and direct assaults to carry out the attacks. The operations reportedly led to the seizure of several security posts and disrupted the movement of mineral convoys, which the group accuses Pakistan of looting from Baloch land.

In its statement, the BLA rejected ac-

cusations of being a proxy force for any foreign power, asserting that its struggle is rooted in Baloch nationalism and self-determination. It labeled Pakistan a "breeding ground" for international terrorism and urged the global community, particularly India, to take concrete steps to isolate Islamabad diplomatically and economically.

The group warned that continued tolerance of Pakistan's alleged terror activities could destabilize South Asia further, hinting at the potential for increased regional conflict if the in-

ternational community remains passive. "A new order has become inevitable," the BLA stated, suggesting that the current geopolitical framework in South Asia is unsustainable as long as Pakistan continues its current policies. The statement comes at a time of heightened security concerns in the region, with Pakistan facing internal unrest and economic challenges. The BLA's renewed offensive and direct appeals to India and the global powers could complicate regional diplomacy, especially as tensions along Pakistan's borders continue to simmer.

## 2 Indian Students Killed in Tragic Car Crash in US, Indian Consulate Extends Support

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Two Indian students studying in the United States lost their lives in a tragic car accident in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, last week. The victims were identified as 23-year-old Saurav Prabhakar and 20-year-old Manav Patel, both enrolled at Cleveland State University in Ohio. The fatal crash occurred on the morning of May 10, when their vehicle veered off the road, collided with a tree, and subsequently struck a bridge along the Pennsylvania Turnpike.



According to local authorities, the incident took place around 7 a.m. near the Reading Interchange in East Cocalico Township. Saurav Prabhakar was driving the car at the time, while Manav Patel was in the passenger seat. Both young men were declared dead at the scene. The Lancaster County Coroner's Office confirmed that they succumbed to multiple traumatic injuries and ruled their deaths as accidental.

A third, unidentified occupant was also present in the vehicle. This individual survived the crash and was transported to Reading Hospital for treatment. Details about their condition have not yet been released.

The news of the students' untimely deaths has sent shockwaves through the Indian community abroad and at

home. The Consulate General of India in New York expressed its sorrow and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. "Deeply saddened to learn about the unfortunate road accident in which two Indian students from Cleveland State University, Manav Patel and Saurav Prabhakar, lost their lives," the consulate posted on X (formerly Twitter). It added that it is in close contact with the victims' families and is providing all necessary assistance during this tragic time.

Friends and fellow students have also begun expressing grief and sharing tributes on social media, remembering the duo as ambitious and warm-hearted individuals who had come to the U.S. in pursuit of their academic dreams.

The incident serves as a somber reminder of the vulnerability of young international students far from home and highlights the importance of community and institutional support during such critical moments.

## Anthony Albanese Sworn in for Second Term as Australian Prime Minister



TPN Correspondent | Sydney

Anthony Albanese was officially sworn in as Prime Minister of Australia for a second term on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, following a sweeping victory by his center-left Labor Party in the recent national elections. The swearing-in ceremony, conducted by Governor-General Sam Mostyn, took place at Government House in Canberra and also included the formal appointment of his cabinet.

Albanese's win marks the formation of the largest Labor government since Australia's federation in 1901. The party secured at least 92 out of 150 seats in the House of Representatives, according to preliminary results from the Australian Electoral Commission. His come-from-behind victory has been attributed to a voter backlash against global instability, much of it linked to policies introduced by U.S. President Donald Trump, particularly in areas of trade, foreign relations, and climate diplomacy.

The opposition Liberal Party faced a major defeat, with its leader Peter Dutton losing his seat. In response, the party appointed Sussan Ley as its new leader, making her the first woman to lead the federal Liberal Party. The Liberals also lost several

urban seats to independent female candidates who campaigned on platforms advocating for climate action and gender equality.

In his new cabinet, Albanese retained key ministers in positions such as treasury, foreign affairs, defence, and trade, signaling a commitment to continuity. Michelle Rowland has taken over as attorney-general, Murray Watt was named environment minister, and Tanya Plibersek was appointed minister for social services.

Industry leaders welcomed the cabinet announcement, with Business Council of Australia CEO Bran Black praising the government's stability and calling for environmental law reforms. He emphasized the importance of international trade to the economy, particularly amid ongoing global geopolitical uncertainties.

Prime Minister Albanese is set to begin his second term with key diplomatic engagements. He will travel to Indonesia on Wednesday and later attend the inauguration mass of Pope Leo XIV in Rome. During the visit, he is also expected to meet European leaders, including European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, to discuss trade and economic cooperation.



# Markets Retreat Sharply; Sensex Sheds 1,281 Points as Geopolitical Fears and Profit-Booking Weigh Heavy.

Domestic stock markets suffered heavy losses on Tuesday. Benchmark indices lost half of yesterday's gains. The indices, which started in a gap-down, were shaken as investors rushed to take profits. Although defense stocks were strong, IT, FMCG, auto and private bank shares dragged down the indices. On the other hand, changing geopolitical equations around the world are causing concern. Overall, Nifty rose by 346 points and Sensex by 1281 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 82,429 in the previous session, opened at 82,249 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 81,043. It reached an intraday high of 82,572. It finally closed at 81,148, losing 1281 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,864, touched a low of 24,547 and a high of 24,973. It closed at 24,578, down 346 points. The Nifty Bank rose 442 points to settle at 54,940.

In the Nifty50, 13 companies gained while 37 lost. BEL, Jio Finance, Hero Moto, Dr Reddy's, and Sun Pharma were the top gainers. Infi, Eternal, Power Grid, HCL Tech, and TCS were the biggest losers. Media, PSU Bank, Pharma, and Healthcare indices rose. IT, FMCG, Auto, Private Bank, Oil, Metal, Finance, and Realty indices rose.

Market breadth is in favor of buyers on NSE today. Out of a total of 2959 shares traded, 1948 gained and 937 lost. 43 shares touched their 52-week high and 10 shares touched their 52-week low. 199 stocks reached the upper circuit and 31 stocks reached the lower

circuit.

Tata Motors has released its fourth quarter results. Net profit fell 51.2% to Rs 8,470 crore from Rs 17,353 crore. Revenue fell marginally to Rs 1.19 lakh crore from Rs 1.20 lakh crore. April CPI inflation was 3.16 percent. Shares of Gensal Engineering rose 5% after MD Puneet Singh Jaggi resigned. Siemens Q2 net profit fell 27.4% to Rs 503 crore from Rs 803 crore. The rupee settled at Rs 85.34 against the dollar. 13 lakh shares changed hands in Nuvoco Vistas. Jefferies has given a buy rating to UPL with a target price of Rs 810. 32 lakh shares changed hands in Bajaj Housing. CLSA has given a hold rating to Tata Steel with a target price of Rs 145. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Canara Bank. It is noteworthy that CLSA has given an outperform rating to Hindalco with a target price of Rs 815. Arcade Developers' net profit has grown by 70% from Rs 19.6 crore to Rs 33.3 crore. Jubilant Ingrevia's net profit increased from Rs.29 crore to Rs.74 crore. GAIL India's net profit fell by 47% to Rs.2049 crore from Rs.3867 crore. Hero Moto's net profit increased by 6.4% to Rs.1016 crore from Rs.1081 crore. 32 lakh shares changed hands in Bajaj Housing.

**1. Kalyan Jewellers India**  
Kalyan Jewellers is one of India's leading jewellery retailers, known for its wide range of gold, diamond, and other precious jewellery. The com-



pany has been expanding its footprint both domestically and internationally. Kalyan Jewellers is aggressively expanding its store network, focusing on tier-2 and tier-3 cities in India to capture growing demand. The company also plans to strengthen its presence in the Middle East. Investments in its online platform and digital marketing aim to enhance customer engagement and boost sales through e-commerce. The company is focusing on lightweight and affordable jewellery to attract younger customers and increase market share in the non-bridal segment. Kalyan Jewellers aims to capitalize on rising gold prices and festive demand in India. Its expansion strategy and focus on digital sales are expected to drive growth, though volatility

in gold prices remains a risk.

## 2. Apar Industries



Apar Industries is a leading manufacturer of conductors, cables, and specialty oils, serving sectors like power, telecommunications, and automotive. Apar is investing in expanding its manufacturing facilities to meet growing demand for power transmission cables and specialty oils. The company aims to increase its export markets, particularly in North America and Europe, for its conductor and cable products. Investments in eco-friendly products, such as low-loss conductors, align with global sustainability trends. Apar Industries is well-positioned to benefit from India's infrastructure push and global demand for renewable energy solutions. However, raw material price fluctuations could impact

margins.

## 3. Hero MotoCorp



Hero MotoCorp is India's largest two-wheeler manufacturer, producing motorcycles and scooters for domestic and export markets. Hero is scaling up its EV portfolio under the Vida brand, with plans to launch new electric scooters and expand charging infrastructure. Investments in premium motorcycles to compete with rivals like Bajaj and TVS. Focus on increasing exports to Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. : Hero MotoCorp is poised for growth in the EV and premium segments, supported by rural market recovery. Regulatory scrutiny (e.g., a 2023 investigation into fund diversion) and competition remain challenges.

## 4. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)



BHEL is a state-owned engineering and manufacturing company specializing in power equipment, railways, and defense products. BHEL is expanding into non-thermal segments like railways (e.g.,

Vande Bharat trains) and defense equipment to reduce reliance on thermal power. Efforts to streamline operations and reduce expenses to improve profitability. Investments in solar and green hydrogen technologies to align with India's clean energy goals. BHEL's strong order pipeline and diversification efforts are positive, but high expenses and delays in project execution could hinder profitability.

## 5. Escorts Kubota (ESCORT)



Escorts Kubota is a leading manufacturer of tractors, construction equipment, and railway components, with a strong presence in India's agricultural sector. Demand for EVs and cost-saving equipment by e-commerce and consumer goods companies has indirectly supported Escorts' construction equipment segment. Escorts Kubota is launching advanced tractors with higher fuel efficiency and smart technology to cater to modern farming needs. Collaboration with Kubota Corporation to introduce precision agriculture solutions and expand product offerings. Targeting higher exports to Africa and Southeast Asia, leveraging Kubota's global network. Escorts Kubota is well-placed to benefit from India's agricultural modernization and rural economic recovery. However, monsoon variability and input cost pressures could pose risks.

## Paytm Shares Drop 5% as Ant Group Plans Rs 2,066 Crore Stake Sale



Shares of One97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, saw a significant decline of 5% during Tuesday morning trading after news emerged that Ant Group, the financial services affiliate of Alibaba, plans to offload up to 4% of its stake in the company, valued at approximately Rs 2,066 crore.

The stock plummeted by 4.99% to Rs 823.10 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), while at the National Stock Exchange (NSE), it fell by 4% to Rs 830.55.

Sources revealed that Ant Group intends to sell up to 25.5 million shares of One97 Communications through bulk deals on both BSE and NSE on May 13. This sale of 4% of the company's stake would reduce Ant Group's holding in the digital payments firm.

At the end of the March quarter, Ant Group (Netherlands) Holding BV owned 9.85% of Paytm, according to shareholding data. This move by Ant Group is part of its strat-

egy to offload its holdings, which has triggered concerns in the market, leading to the drop in Paytm's stock price.

Goldman Sachs (India) Securities Pvt Ltd and Citigroup Global Markets India Pvt Ltd have been appointed as the placement agents for the stake sale.

Ant Group, previously known as Ant Financial, has been under significant pressure to restructure its investments in several global ventures, including Paytm. The stake sale comes at a time when Ant Group has faced regulatory challenges in China and is looking to optimize its international portfolio.

Investors and market analysts are closely monitoring the developments, as this large-scale sale could impact Paytm's stock price further in the short term. The announcement also underscores the volatility in the fintech space, with major shareholders making strategic adjustments amidst regulatory and market changes.

## India's Major Ports Achieve Record Cargo Handling in FY 2024-25

India's major ports have set a new milestone by handling a record 855 million tonnes of cargo in FY 2024-25, marking a 4.3% growth compared to 819 million tonnes in FY 2023-24, as per the Ministry of Ports and Shipping. This surge in cargo traffic was fueled by significant increases across key sectors, including container throughput (up by 10%), fertiliser cargo (up by 13%), petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL) (up by 3%), and miscellaneous commodities (up by 31%).

In terms of commodity handling, POL topped the charts, with 254.5 million tonnes (29.8% of total cargo), followed by container traffic at 193.5 million tonnes (22.6%) and coal at 186.6 million tonnes (21.8%). Other commodities, including iron ore, pellets, and fertilisers, contributed significantly to the overall growth.

Notably, Paradip Port Authority (PPA) and Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) sur-



passed the 150-million-tonne mark for the first time, solidifying their status as major maritime trade hubs. Additionally, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) achieved a record by handling 7.3 million TEUs, reflecting a remarkable 13.5% year-on-year growth.

In terms of port-led industrialization, Indian ports have allocated 962 acres of

land, expected to generate Rs 7,565 crore in FY 2024-25, with lessees set to invest Rs 68,780 crore in future developments. Private sector involvement has also grown significantly, with investments in public-private partnership (PPP) projects tripling from Rs 1,329 crore in FY 2022-23 to Rs 3,986 crore in FY 2024-25.

Operationally, the ports saw a 36% improvement in Pre-Berthing Detention (PBD) time compared to FY 2023-24, while the total income of major ports grew by 8% to Rs 24,203 crore. Operating surplus also rose by 7% to Rs 12,314 crore.

Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, credited these achievements to the ministry's focus on modernizing infrastructure, improving operational efficiency, and fostering private sector participation, helping India's ports meet growing trade demands.

## India's Gold Prices Witness Fluctuations: Rate And Overview

Gold prices in India saw a dip on May 12, 2025, marking a one-week low, but have since shown some recovery today, May 13, 2025. The price of 24-carat gold has been set at ₹9,562 per gram, while 22-carat gold stands at ₹8,765 per gram, and 18-carat gold is available for ₹7,172 per gram. These prices reflect ongoing fluctuations in the market, influenced by both global economic conditions and domestic demand. Despite the price drop in recent days, gold remains a popular investment option, particularly in India, where it continues to be seen as a safe haven for investors looking to hedge against inflation and economic uncertainty.

Across major cities in India, including Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Delhi, the prices for gold are generally



consistent. While the prices are the same in these cities for the three key types of gold—24K, 22K, and 18K—local taxes and specific market conditions may lead to slight variations in the final price. This makes it essential for gold buyers and investors to stay updated on the most current rates. In India, gold has always been a significant part of the culture, especially in the form of jewelry, and is often purchased during auspicious occasions like weddings, festivals, and other celebrations.

The demand for gold in India remains high, even amid fluctuations in prices. As an investment, gold is perceived as a stable asset that holds its value over time. Its role as a hedge against inflation and a store of wealth continues to make it a preferred option for many, especially during periods of financial uncertainty. Despite short-term volatility, gold's long-term value continues to attract both individual investors and institutions alike.

Given the global economic landscape, investors are advised to keep an eye on the gold market, as price fluctuations can create both opportunities and risks. Gold's status as a trusted investment asset continues to make it an important part of financial portfolios.



## Earth’s Oxygen to Vanish in 1 Billion Years, Supercomputer Simulation Predicts

A recent study led by scientists at Toho University in Japan predicts that Earth’s oxygen-rich atmosphere will vanish in approximately one billion years, making complex life unsustainable. Using advanced NASA planetary modeling and running over 400,000 simulations, researchers forecast how the Sun’s continued brightening will ultimately lead to the collapse of Earth’s biosphere.

As the Sun ages, it will grow hotter and more luminous, setting off a chain reaction on Earth. The rise in surface temperatures will cause

widespread water evaporation, disrupting the planet’s climate and ecosystems. This change will weaken the carbon cycle — the process that regulates carbon dioxide and supports plant life — eventually leading to a halt in photosynthesis. As a result, plants will die, and oxygen production will cease.

Without oxygen, Earth’s atmosphere will begin to resemble its state before the Great Oxidation Event more than two billion years ago — high in methane and devoid of breathable air. This transformation would make the planet unin-

habitable for humans and most known life forms. The study, published in Nature Geoscience, is titled “The Future Lifespan of Earth’s Oxygenated Atmosphere.” Kazumi Ozaki, Assistant Professor at Toho University and lead author of the study, explained that the findings refine previous estimates, which suggested the biosphere could last for two billion more years. According to Ozaki, earlier predictions were based on long-term geological models focusing on the depletion of CO2 and solar heating. However, this new study provides a more precise time-

line for when oxygen will begin to vanish rapidly.

While microbial life might persist in the altered atmosphere, complex organisms, including humans, would not survive. The research highlights the long-term instability of Earth’s environment and serves as a reminder of the finite window for life as we know it. In the grand scale of cosmic time, one billion years may seem far off, but the findings offer a sobering glimpse into Earth’s distant future — and the ultimate fate of our planet’s biosphere.



## Ray-Ban Meta Smart Glasses Launched in India with AI Features and Camera Capabilities



Ray-Ban Meta Smart Glasses, developed in collaboration with EssilorLuxottica and Meta, were officially launched in India on Monday. Combining classic Ray-Ban aesthetics with modern technology, these smart glasses are designed to offer hands-free convenience for photography, music, communication, and augmented reality features.

Starting at ₹29,900, the glasses are available in Skyler and Wayfarer designs in a Shiny Black color. The Wayfarer Matte Black model is priced at ₹32,100, while the Skyler Chalk Grey and Wayfarer Matte Black variants with enhanced finishes cost ₹35,700. Pre-orders have begun, and the smart glasses will go on sale starting May 19 via Ray-Ban.com and leading eyewear retailers in India.

The glasses feature a 12-megapixel ultra-wide camera built into the frame, alongside five microphones and open-ear speakers. The camera allows users to take high-resolution photos (3,024 x 4,032 pixels) and record 1080p videos up to 60 seconds long. An LED indicator lights up during recording for privacy awareness. These media files can be shared directly to Meta platforms like Facebook and Instagram or through the Meta View app to other apps.

Ray-Ban Meta Glasses also support first-person livestreaming, enabling users to broadcast in real time on Facebook and Instagram. Powered by Qualcomm’s Snapdragon AR1 Gen1 chip and equipped with 32GB internal storage, they offer up to 4 hours of battery life on a single charge and an additional 32 hours with the charging case. They also feature an IPX4 water resistance rating.

Meta’s built-in AI assistant adds powerful voice features. Users can say “Hey Meta” to identify songs via Shazam, translate conversations in real-time between English, Spanish, French, or Italian, and get contextual information about their surroundings using the glasses’ camera and live AI feed.

The glasses support voice commands for sending DMs, making audio/video calls, and playing music from apps like Spotify, Apple Music, and Amazon Music. With voice-to-search capabilities, users can request specific songs, albums, or artists, making the Ray-Ban Meta Glasses a true blend of fashion and futuristic tech.

## McDonald’s Chef Reveals Why Their Coffee Tastes So Good

McDonald’s is famous for its burgers and fries, but for many, its coffee is the real star. Fans across social media often praise McCafe coffee as better than what many cafes serve — and now, the fast-food giant’s secret is finally out.

A curious customer once asked online, “Why is McDonald’s coffee almost always better tasting than anything I brew myself?” Many echoed similar sentiments, calling it “the best one-dollar coffee in the world.” For years, coffee lovers have tried to replicate McDonald’s coffee at home, often without success. Now, corporate chef Mike Lingo has revealed why.

According to Lingo, the secret lies in McDonald’s exclusive coffee blend. “We use 100% Arabica beans sourced from Rainforest Alliance-certified farms or farms



in our McCafe Sustainability Improvement Platform program,” he told Food & Wine. This medium-dark roast is crafted especially for McCafe and is not available elsewhere. The blend features a full body and notes of fruit, floral tones, and chocolate — a flavor profile difficult to duplicate.

But it’s not just the beans that make a difference. McDonald’s ensures quality at every step. Each outlet grinds coffee beans on-site, preserving freshness and enhancing the flavor. For hot coffee, they use a traditional hot brew method, while iced coffee is made using the Japanese iced brew technique. These methods

are designed to bring out the rich flavors of the coffee.

Employee training also plays a major role. McDonald’s baristas are trained to maintain consistency and precision in brewing, which ensures every cup meets a high standard, regardless of the location.

“We’re focused on doing the little things right — from selecting top-quality beans to using the best roasting techniques and equipment,” Lingo explained. “It’s our attention to detail that brings out that signature McCafe flavor.”

So, if you’ve been wondering why your homemade cup doesn’t quite match up, it’s likely because McDonald’s coffee is the result of a carefully crafted process — and a blend you simply can’t buy in stores.

## ‘Drone Pakodas’ Take Off Online Amid Indo-Pak Tensions: A Quirky Taste of Patriotism

Amid the ongoing Indo-Pak standoff and public concern over drone threats, a unique culinary twist has captured the imagination of netizens — “drone pakodas.” This unusual yet patriotic snack became a viral sensation after retired Lieutenant General KJS Dhillon shared a photo of it on social media platform X (formerly Twitter).

Posting the image with a spirited caption, Gen Dhillon wrote, “Drone Pakodas – a new snack in the Air Defense Regiment. Jai Hind.” The pakodas, humorously shaped like miniature drones, instantly caught attention for their creative design and timely context. As conversations around national security and airspace defense dominate the headlines, this light-hearted take offered a moment of levity for an anxious public.

The post quickly garnered thousands of reactions, with users praising both the creativity and the general’s sense of humor. Many cele-



brated the fusion of food and patriotism, calling it “classic desi innovation.” Memes and jokes flooded the platform, with users suggesting that “drone pakodas” be added to army canteens or served during Republic Day celebrations. Some even speculated whether this was a subtle dig at enemy surveillance efforts

— cleverly masked as comfort food.

While tensions remain high along the border, this viral snack has sparked a broader conversation on how humor and culture can play a role in national morale. The idea of food reflecting current events is nothing new in India, but the timing and symbolism of these “drone pakodas” struck a particular chord with the public.

Lieut Gen Dhillon, known for his candid presence on social media, has often used humor to connect with the public on serious matters. His post about the snack not only reflects the mood of the moment but also showcases how Indians continue to find humor and resilience, even during challenging times.

In the face of real drones and rising geopolitical strain, the “drone pakoda” has become a bite-sized symbol of national spirit — crunchy, clever, and unmistakably desi.

## Dare to Visit Deadman’s Island? The Terrifying British Isle of Bones and Forgotten Souls

Roughly 40 miles from the bustling streets of London lies a chilling and largely forgotten corner of history — Deadman’s Island. Unlike typical travel destinations known for scenic beauty or cultural heritage, this island is infamous for something far darker. Scattered with skeletons, open coffins, and remnants of long-deceased souls, Deadman’s Island stands as a haunting monument to a tragic past.

Few have dared to set foot on the island in the past two centuries. According to The Mirror, Deadman’s Island was used between the 18th and 19th centuries as a final destination for prisoners. These unfortunate individuals, often sick or dying, were transported by ship and abandoned on the island with no hope of return. With no proper burials or memorials, their bodies were left to decay in the open — their bones now litter the ground, exposed by erosion and time.



Today, the island remains eerily untouched. Human remains — including bones and even teeth — are still visible to those who manage to glimpse the site. The silence is deafening, broken only by the occasional cry of seabirds circling overhead. The island is off-limits to the public, adding to its mystique and preserving its gruesome history.

The name “Deadman’s Island” is not symbolic — it is chillingly literal. The decaying coffins and skeletal remains serve as grim reminders of how society once treated its most vulnerable. This desolate landscape tells a story of neglect, suffering, and forgotten lives, offering a stark contrast to the vibrant cities just a few miles away.

While some thrill-seekers and paranormal enthusiasts may fantasize about visiting such a place, most would think twice. Deadman’s Island is not a tourist attraction; it is a haunted graveyard of history — one that demands respect and reflection rather than exploration.

For those curious about the darkest corners of the past, Deadman’s Island remains a powerful symbol of cruelty and decay — an unmarked memorial to those whose voices were never heard, whose lives were never honored, and whose remains now speak louder than words.



# Australia Announces Squad for WTC Final Against South Africa

Australia has announced their 15-player squad for the highly anticipated World Test Championship (WTC) final against South Africa, set to take place at Lord's in June. As defending champions, Australia aims to make history by becoming the first team to win multiple WTC finals.

The squad sees the return of all-rounder Cameron Green, who is back after undergoing back surgery. Additionally, Matt Kuhnemann, a left-arm spinner, has also been included. Both players are expected to play significant roles in Australia's quest to defend their title.

Brendan Doggett, who was named the Sheffield Shield player of the final, will serve as a travelling reserve. The squad remains largely unchanged from the one that dominated their last summer campaign, where they defeated Sri Lanka 2-0 and India 3-1.

Pat Cummins' side enters the final with strong momentum, having won four of their six series in the WTC cycle. This includes an impressive series victory against Sri Lanka, followed by a memorable win against India for the first time in a decade. Australia's only drawn series came against England in the 2023 Ashes and against West Indies in 2023-24.



South Africa, led by Temba Bavuma, topped the WTC standings with an impressive 69.44% points percentage, securing eight wins from 12 Tests. Australia, with a points percentage of 67.54%, finished second with 13 wins from 19 matches.

Selectors have opted for the same squad for Australia's subsequent Caribbean tour, where Beau Webster has retained his place following a strong start to his Test career. Sam Konstas also makes a return after leaving the Sri Lanka tour early to finish the do-

mestic season with New South Wales.

The WTC final will be a thrilling contest between two cricketing powerhouses, with both sides eager to lift the coveted trophy.

Australia squad for the WTC final: Pat Cummins (c), Scott Boland, Alex Carey, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Usman Khawaja, Sam Konstas, Matt Kuhnemann, Marnus Labuschagne, Nathan Lyon, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Beau Webster. Travelling reserve: Brendan Doggett.

# Novak Djokovic Parts Ways with Coach Andy Murray After Six-Month Partnership

Novak Djokovic has officially ended his coaching partnership with former world number one Andy Murray after just six months. The split comes after a disappointing run of results for the Serbian tennis star this season.

In a heartfelt statement, Djokovic thanked Murray for his efforts, saying, "Thank you, coach Andy, for all the hard work, fun, and support over the last six months, on and off the court. I really enjoyed deepening our friendship together." The decision follows a series of underwhelming performances by Djokovic, raising questions about his form heading into the upcoming major tournaments.

Djokovic, a 23-time Grand Slam champion, had hoped that Murray's experience and insight would help him refine his game and regain his dominance. However, despite the



duo's collaborative efforts, Djokovic struggled to find his peak form in the early part of the season, prompting both to reassess their working relationship.

The split marks another twist in Djokovic's ever-evolving coaching career. The Serbian star has worked with various coaches over the years, including Marian Vajda, who has

been a long-term mentor to Djokovic. Murray's brief tenure, while marked by moments of insight, ultimately did not yield the expected results.

Murray, a three-time Grand Slam champion, has been praised for his tactical acumen and ability to guide players through challenging times. His experience on the ATP circuit offered Djokovic valuable perspectives, but the partnership did not translate into the desired improvements for Djokovic.

As the season progresses, Djokovic will be looking for new coaching guidance as he prepares for the prestigious grass-court events and the upcoming Grand Slam tournaments. While Murray's coaching career continues to evolve, Djokovic now faces the challenge of finding the right direction to get his game back on track.

# Preity Zinta Slams Distasteful Question Linking Maxwell's Form to Marriage Rumour

Actor and Punjab Kings co-owner Preity Zinta lashed out at a social media user on Tuesday (May 13, 2025) after being asked an inappropriate and sexist question during a fan interaction on X (formerly Twitter). The user asked Zinta whether Australian cricketer Glenn Maxwell's underwhelming IPL 2025 performance for Punjab Kings was due to not marrying her — a comment that sparked sharp criticism from the actor.

The now-viral comment read, "Mam, Maxwell ki aapse shadi nahi hui isiliye vo aapko team se accha nahi khelta tha?" ("Ma'am, did Maxwell not play well for your team because he didn't marry you?"). The question, apparently posed in jest, clearly angered Zinta, who took the opportunity to address the deeper issue of sexism and gender bias in sports and business.

**Responding firmly, Zinta wrote:** "Will you ask this question to the male



team owners of all teams, or is this discrimination just towards the women? I never knew how difficult it is for women to survive in corporate setups until I got into cricket."

**She continued:** "I'm sure you asked this question out of

humour, but I hope you can actually look at your question and understand what you are trying to say, because if you really understand what you're trying to say, it's not pretty! I think I have earned my stripes by working very hard for the past 18 years, so please give me the respect I deserve & stop with the gender bias. Thank you."

Zinta's response received widespread support from fans and fellow professionals, with many applauding her for calling out the casual sexism women in sports and leadership roles continue to face.

On the cricketing front, Zinta's team, Punjab Kings (PBKS), has had a strong IPL 2025 season so far. With seven wins, three losses, and one no-result, they currently sit third on the points table with 15 points. The team's top-order, led by Prabhsimran Singh, Priyansh Arya, and captain Shreyas Iyer, has been in exceptional form, keeping PBKS well on course for a playoff spot.

# Ahmedabad to Host IPL 2025 Final; Mumbai Likely to Host Playoff Match



The final of the 2025 edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) will be held at the iconic Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on June 3, 2025, as per the revised schedule released by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). This announcement has generated excitement among fans, as Ahmedabad's massive stadium will play host to the much-awaited conclusion of one of the most popular cricket leagues in the world.

In addition to the final, the IPL 2025 playoffs will be spread across multiple venues. The eliminator match is scheduled for May 30, with the two qualifiers to be held on May 29 and June 1. According to reports, Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium is expected to host one of the playoff matches, providing a fitting backdrop for the high-stakes encounters

leading up to the grand finale.

The final will mark the climax of what promises to be an action-packed season, with teams battling it out for a chance at the coveted IPL trophy. While the venues for the playoffs are yet to be officially confirmed, the use of iconic stadiums like the Narendra Modi Stadium and Wankhede will add to the grandeur and excitement of the competition.

The revised schedule was shared late on Monday night, with the BCCI confirming the dates and the major venues for the IPL 2025 playoffs. As anticipation builds for the final, cricket fans across the country are eager to see which team will emerge victorious and claim the title of IPL champions for the 2025 season.

# Carlo Ancelotti to Take Over as Brazil's Head Coach After Leaving Real Madrid

Carlo Ancelotti, the highly decorated coach of Real Madrid, is set to take over as the head coach of Brazil's national football team, according to an announcement by the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) on May 12, 2025. The legendary coach, widely regarded as one of the best in football history, will officially begin his tenure after the Spanish league concludes on May 25.



Ancelotti's appointment marks a historic moment for Brazil, as he becomes the first foreign coach to lead the national team in a century. The CBF's decision to bring in Ancelotti is seen as a significant step in their goal to restore Brazil's dominance in world football. CBF President Ednaldo Rodrigues emphasized the importance of Ancelotti's leadership, calling it a statement of intent to reclaim Brazil's place at the top of international football.

The announcement comes after Brazil's national team struggled to find consistency in the post-Tite era. The team has faced challenges, including the loss of form from key players like Neymar, who has been recovering from an ACL injury. Brazil currently sits fourth in the South American World Cup qualifiers and needs to secure a top-six finish to guarantee a spot in the

2026 World Cup.

Ancelotti, 65, will replace Dorival Júnior, who was dismissed after a series of disappointing performances, including a 4-1 loss to Argentina. Ancelotti will take charge ahead of Brazil's upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Ecuador and Paraguay in early June. Despite having a contract with Real Madrid until 2026, Ancelotti's move to Brazil is expected to be facilitated with an early termination of his contract.

Ancelotti's illustrious career includes stints at top clubs across Europe, including AC Milan, Chelsea, Paris Saint-Germain, Bayern Munich, and Everton, in addition to his successful time at Real Madrid, where he won multiple Champions League titles. His appointment marks a new chapter for Brazil as they aim to rejuvenate their footballing fortunes.





# Upendra Dazzles as Surya Kumar in Ram Pothineni’s #RAPO22

The buzz around #RAPO22, the upcoming action entertainer starring Ram Pothineni, continues to rise with every new reveal. Directed by Mahesh Babu P, who made a stellar debut with Miss Shetty Mr. Polishetty, the film is being produced by the renowned Mythri Movie Makers, known for backing high-quality pan-India projects. Adding to the excitement is the casting of Bhagyashree Borse as the female lead.

Now, the spotlight shifts to Kan-nada superstar Upendra, whose character Surya Kumar was recently introduced through a striking poster. In the image, Upendra is seen exuding charisma, surrounded by a storm of flashbulbs, capturing attention with a magnetic pose that hints at power, intensity, and intrigue. His look immediately grabbed fans’ interest and has added a new layer of anticipation around the film. The makers also confirmed that a title glimpse for #RAPO22 will be unveiled on May 15, further fueling excitement.

Ram Pothineni, known for his high-energy performances, is set to portray a completely unconventional character in this film. Sporting a stylish and edgy new makeover, Ram is stepping into a role unlike any he has done before. His transformation and screen presence are expected to be among the film’s biggest highlights. Combined with Mahesh Babu P’s fresh storytelling approach and Mythri Movie Makers’ top-tier production quality, #RAPO22 is shaping up to be a visual and emotional rollercoaster.

The film also features music by the dynamic composer duo Vivek–Merwin, while Siddhar-



tha is handling the cinematography, promising a visually rich experience that matches the scale and ambition of the story.

With a strong cast, a gripping narrative, and striking visuals teased in early promotional content, #RAPO22 is positioning itself as a highly awaited release in Indian cinema. As the countdown to the title reveal begins, fans are bracing for more surprises, action, and style in what promises to be a standout film in Ram Pothineni’s career.

# Rajinikanth’s Body Double Takes the Spotlight for Major Portions of ‘Coolie’ Shoot

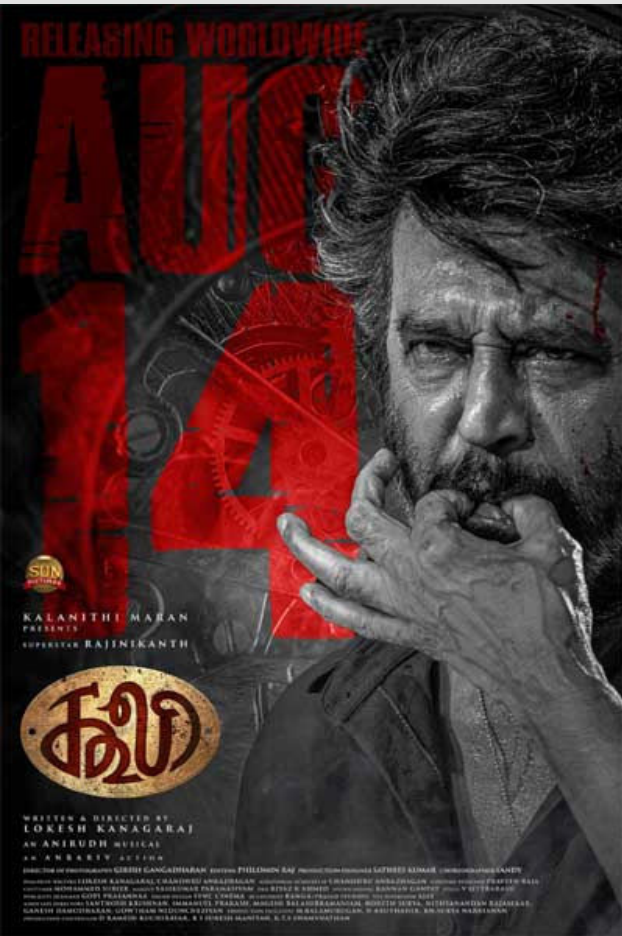
Superstar Rajinikanth’s much-anticipated film Coolie, directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, is making waves yet again — this time due to an intriguing update from behind the scenes. While the project has already captured fan excitement with its stylish promos and high-octane expectations, a fresh revelation about the film’s shoot schedule has added a surprising twist.

According to industry reports, Rajinikanth allotted 70 days for the shooting of Coolie. However, it appears that the iconic actor was physically present on set for significantly fewer days than anticipated. Reports suggest that a body double stepped in for nearly 45 of those 70 shooting days, indicating that a major chunk of the film — possibly the more physically intense action sequences — was completed without Rajinikanth directly in front of the camera.

While it is common in cinema to use stunt doubles for action-heavy portions, especially for senior actors, the sheer number of days — 45 out of 70 — has sparked widespread curiosity and conversation among fans and film observers. This revelation hints at Coolie being action-packed and heavily stylized, staying true to Lokesh Kanagaraj’s signature filmmaking style, known for slick visuals and dynamic sequences.

Despite the use of a body double, fans are confident that Rajinikanth’s iconic charisma and unmatched screen presence will be preserved. With clever camera work, seamless editing, and advanced visual effects, the audience may hardly notice the difference, ensuring the final product maintains the grandeur expected from a Rajini film.

Coolie marks a significant collaboration be-



tween Rajinikanth and Lokesh, a director who has carved a niche for gritty and compelling narratives. The pairing has already raised expectations sky-high, and every new detail — even behind-the-scenes updates — is being closely followed.

As the film nears completion, fans are eagerly awaiting a teaser or trailer to see how this ambitious project is shaping up. Whether or not the heavy use of a body double affects the film’s impact remains to be seen, but one thing is certain: Rajinikanth’s aura is set to dominate the screen once again.

# Midnight Chills: Final Destination Returns with ‘Bloodlines’ in Indian Theatres



In a rare cinematic event for a Hollywood horror film, Final Destination: Bloodlines, the sixth and final installment of the iconic thriller franchise, is set to premiere with midnight shows across India on May 15, 2025. Cities like Hyderabad, Vijayawada, and Vizag will host the special 11:59 PM screenings — a privilege usually reserved for major Indian star-driven blockbusters, signaling the franchise’s enduring popularity.

The Final Destination series, which debuted in 2000, carved out a unique space in the horror-thriller genre with its signature premise: death itself is the antagonist. The chilling concept of individuals foreseeing fatal accidents in their dreams — only to meet gruesome ends in reality despite their attempts to escape fate — captured audiences with its unsettling unpredictability and imaginative death sequences. The success of the first film led to four sequels in 2003, 2006, 2009, and 2011, each upping the ante with more elaborate and shocking scenarios.

Now, 15 years later, the saga returns with Final Destina-

tion: Bloodlines, promising the most intense and visually disturbing chapter yet. The trailer hints at elevated gore, darker themes, and mind-bending fatal setups that stay true to the series’ disturbing yet captivating roots. With dubbing in Telugu and other Indian languages, the film aims to reach a broader regional audience.

Though the film franchise consists of six movies, the origin of Final Destination lies in a ten-part book series, all of which became bestsellers. It also inspired two comic book adaptations, expanding the eerie universe beyond the screen. For fans who have followed the franchise for over two decades, the arrival of Bloodlines marks the end of an era — a mix of excitement and nostalgia hangs in the air.

As fans gear up for these special late-night shows, one thing is clear: Final Destination: Bloodlines isn’t just another horror film — it’s the final chapter of a legacy that terrified and thrilled an entire generation. Whether it ends in closure or chaos, one can expect the ride to be as deadly and unforgettable as ever.

# Pawan Kalyan Set to Resume OG Shoot

In an exciting update for fans of Power Star Pawan Kalyan, the star is all set to resume the shoot of his much-awaited film OG tomorrow. The actor has been working diligently to wrap up his ongoing film projects, promising a series of back-to-back cinematic delights for his dedicated audience.

The production of OG, directed by Sujeeth, has been progressing steadily, and after a brief pause, the shoot is now set to pick up pace once again. The latest update reveals that Pawan Kalyan will join the sets tomorrow, with plans to complete his portions in just a few days. This news comes as a major boost for his fans, who have been eagerly awaiting the film’s swift completion and a potential early release.



OG is shaping up to be an intense period gangster drama that promises to captivate audiences with its compelling story and powerful performances. Alongside Pawan Kalyan, who plays the central character, the film also stars Emraan Hashmi as

the antagonist, adding a layer of intrigue and intensity to the plot. The talented cast also includes Priyanka Arul Mohan, Arjun Das, Sriya Reddy, Prakash Raj, Harish Uthaman, and Shaam in pivotal roles.

Fans are already buzzing with excitement as they look forward to seeing Pawan Kalyan in yet another powerful role. Known for his dynamic presence on screen, the actor’s involvement in OG has been a highlight of the film’s production, and with his return to the sets, expectations are at an all-time high.

With Pawan Kalyan back at work, fans can expect to see this much-anticipated film come to life soon. The film is set to make waves upon its release, adding to the ever-growing legacy of the Power Star’s career.

# Cannes Film Festival 2025 Enforces Strict Dress Code: Nudity and Oversized Clothing Banned

The 78th Cannes Film Festival officially kicks off today, May 13, 2025, and with it comes a significant update to the prestigious event’s dress code. The organizers have implemented new rules for the iconic red carpet, now banning both full nudity and oversized clothing for the first time in the festival’s history.

The primary reason behind these strict guidelines is to maintain the festival’s esteemed reputation. According to the organizers, allowing individuals to appear in provocative outfits or excessively bulky attire could tarnish the image of Cannes, which is known for its glamour and sophistication. The aim is to prevent any degradation of the festival’s iconic identity while ensuring that it remains an event that upholds dignity and respect for all participants.



Another major concern surrounding oversized clothing, especially items like long gowns and large decorative pieces, is the potential for discomfort and safety issues. Such garments can impede mobility, making it difficult to walk or sit properly, which could disrupt the event’s flow and cause discomfort to other guests. This can also raise

safety concerns, particularly in the crowded environment of the red carpet.

The decision to introduce these changes follows a series of recent incidents that have sparked controversy in the fashion world. One such event was the appearance of Bianca Sensori at the Grammy Awards earlier this year, where her revealing outfit

led to widespread discussion and criticism. This incident, among others, pushed Cannes organizers to enforce stricter regulations.

In an official statement, the festival organizers clarified that their goal is not to control anyone’s personal style, but rather to ensure that the event remains a dignified and safe space for all. The new dress code applies to all attendees, with the assurance that those who do not comply will be denied access to the red carpet.

With this change, the Cannes Film Festival seeks to uphold its long-standing tradition of elegance and respect while adapting to modern sensibilities, ensuring that its red carpet remains a celebration of cinematic achievement rather than a forum for controversy.