



We'll Strike Inside Pakistan: Pawan

"Celebrities don't run the country, patriots like Murali Naik do"

Dy CM joins CM Naidu in Tiranga Rally along with MP Puradeswari

Pakistan attacking only after seeing India's development: Pawan Kalyan

Rally sees massive public support from Vijayawada citizens



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu saluted the armed forces for demonstrating the true fighting spirit of the country during Operation Sindoor. He announced that a rally is being organized across the state in solidarity with the soldiers, "irrespective of party affiliation." Speaking with pride, he said, "It is a matter of pride to be a grandson of Pingali Venkaiah, the designer of the national flag, who is in the hearts of all of us." Recalling a painful incident, the CM added, "Just hearing the name of Pahalgam brings back memories of that tragedy and makes my blood boil." His statement reflects both his deep respect for the armed forces and his emotional connection to the sacrifices made for the nation.

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Pawan Kalyan, delivered a powerful message at the Vijayawada Tiranga Rally, warning Pakistan that any attack on India will be met with retaliation inside their own homes. Asserting that Pakistan has consistently disturbed peace since the country's partition in 1947, Pawan Kalyan said their terrorist activities intensified only after witnessing India's growing development. Joined by Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu, BJP State President Smt. Purandeshwari, state ministers, MLAs, and leaders of TDP, Jana Sena, and BJP, the Deputy CM took part in the three-kilometer Tiranga Rally from Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium to Benz Circle on Friday. Thousands of citizens enthusiastically participated, waving national flags and chanting patriotic slogans like "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," echoing their solidarity with the armed forces and celebrating the success of Operation Sindhur. Speaking at the rally's conclusion, Pawan Kalyan remarked, "We have seen the horrors of Kasab's 72-hour attack. Pakistan is responsible for Mumbai,

Coimbatore, Gokul Chat, Jama Masjid, and Lumbini Park blasts. Our patience has been tested long enough. If they attack us, we will strike them in their own homes." He condemned the role of "pseudo secularists" who undermine the Indian Army and demanded that such voices be firmly silenced. "People who insult the army, regardless of their position, should be shut down. It is our duty to give strength to our soldiers by showing we are behind them." Pawan Kalyan also took a strong stance on the silence of celebrities in matters of national security, stating, "Celebrities are here to entertain, not govern. Don't expect patriotism from them. Patriots are like 23-year-old Murali Naik, who gave his life for the country. He is the real hero. His soul deserves peace, and we stand with his family." Reaffirming support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pawan Kalyan concluded, "We assure our full support to PM Modi. Murali Naik Amar Hai!" State Minister Nadendla Manohar, Government Whip in the Legislative Council Pidugu Hariprasad, along with several ministers, MLAs, and alliance leaders, were present at the emotionally charged event.

Op Sindoor is not over yet Whatever happened was just a trailer...

- BrahMos showed "daylight in the dark" to terrorists



TPN Correspondent | Gujarat

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has issued a powerful warning to Pakistan, declaring that "Operation Sindoor" is far from over and that what the world witnessed was only a trailer. Speaking from the Indian Air Force (IAF) base in Bhuj, Gujarat, Rajnath made it clear that if Pakistan continues to sponsor terrorism, it will be taught a befitting lesson. Addressing the Air Warriors and security personnel alongside Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, the Defence Minister praised the success of Operation Sindoor and emphasized India's evolving defence posture. "What you saw was only the trailer. The full movie will be shown when the time is right," he said, drawing strong applause from the troops.

He came down heavily on Pakistan for continuing to harbor terrorist groups. "Just like we monitor repeat offenders, we have put Pakistan on probation. Ceasefire doesn't mean their activities have stopped. If they continue, our forces will respond decisively—I repeat, decisively," Rajnath warned. Referring to the recent BrahMos missile operation, Rajnath proudly claimed that India's indigenously developed missile gave a strong signal to Pakistan. "There's a saying—'showing dots in broad daylight'. The BrahMos showed Pakistan daylight in the dark. In just 23 minutes, our Air Force crushed the terror hideouts that Pakistan was nurturing," he revealed, lauding the swift and effective execution of the mission.

India's Firm Anti-Terror Doctrine

Rajnath Singh highlighted the shift in India's security strategy, stating that the country now believes in delivering strong punishment rather than forgiveness for those involved in terrorism. "Operation Sindoor is not just a military name, it is a declaration of India's commitment to fight terror wherever it exists," he said. He further praised the bravery and determination of the armed forces. "You have shown the world that this was no symbolic strike.

Where Others Saw Policies, He Saw Opportunities

- ₹22,000 crore clean energy project launched in Anantapur
- Nearly 10,000 employment opportunities to be created
- AP aims to generate 72 GW renewable energy by 2029



TPN Correspondent | Anantapur

In a significant stride towards making Andhra Pradesh a clean energy hub, State IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh performed the Bhoomi Puja for a ₹22,000 crore hybrid integrated renewable energy complex to be developed by Renew Power in Betapalli village, Guntakallu constituency, Anantapur district. The project is expected to generate employment for around 10,000 people and contribute to both industrial growth and the transition to clean energy in the state. Addressing the gathering, Minister Lokesh said the foundation stone laid today marks not just a project launch but the beginning of a green energy movement. "This project will not just power the grids; it will energize the dreams of our youth. Renewable energy is not an industry—it is a movement and a bridge to future generations," he emphasized.

size. He praised Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's foresight in shaping policies that attracted leading players in the clean energy sector. "Where others saw policies, he saw opportunities. The ICE (Integrated Clean Energy) policy developed under his guidance has now become the blueprint for India's green revolution," Lokesh stated. He also recalled that within just eight months, clean energy giants such as Tata Power, NTPC Green Hydrogen, Vedanta Serentika, SAIL Industries, and Brookfield were brought to the state, demonstrating Andhra Pradesh's emergence as a preferred destination for green investments.

Employment Scope

The Renew Power energy complex will be developed in multiple phases. In the initial phase, ₹7,000 crore will be invested in setting up

587 MW solar, 250 MW wind, and 415 MW battery storage units. Eventually, the project will include 1800 MW of solar, 1 GW of wind, and 2000 MW of battery storage capacity. This massive facility is expected to provide approximately 10,000 direct and indirect job opportunities, significantly benefiting the local economy and advancing Andhra Pradesh's renewable energy goals.

Government's Mission

Minister Lokesh said Andhra Pradesh's green energy sector is undergoing a strong revival after five dormant years. "Companies that fled under the previous regime are returning under the people's government. Renew's return is a clear indicator of the Chandrababu brand's credibility," he said.



Dhanunjay, Krishnamohan Anticipatory Bail Rejected

- SC dismissal clears way for arrests in AP liquor scam
- ED seeks statement from Kasireddy, hearing on 19th May

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Key developments unfolded rapidly in the high-profile Andhra Pradesh liquor scam investigation on Friday as the Supreme Court dismissed anticipatory bail pleas of two main accused, Dhanunjay Reddy and Krishnamohan Reddy. The apex court observed that granting bail at this stage could obstruct the ongoing investigation, signaling an imminent arrest by police authorities. Both Dhanunjay and Krishnamohan, allegedly linked with the previous government's Chief Minister's office, have been under intense questioning by the SIT over the past three days. Their arrests have stirred political debates across the state. In a parallel development, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) court permitted recording the statement of Raj Kasireddy, a key figure believed



to be the mastermind behind the scam. Kasireddy has been ordered to file a counter affidavit, with the next hearing scheduled for May 19th. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has also joined the probe, filing a petition to record Kasireddy's statement concerning financial transactions connected to the case. The ED petition will be heard alongside the ACB proceedings on the 19th. Meanwhile, the ACB court

also heard the custody petition of Govindappa Balaaji, designated as A3 accused in the liquor scam. Balaaji, arrested three days ago and currently in remand, is sought to be kept in custody for about a week to extract vital information. The hearing on his custody petition was also adjourned to May 19th. The upcoming hearings on the 19th are expected to be critical in unraveling more details of this complex scam.



National Workshop on Land Record Digitization

- Union Minister Pemmasani and Minister Narayana attend key session
- NAKSHA pilot to digitize 9.5 lakh properties across 10 AP municipalities
- Aerial and field surveys already underway in major towns

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

A national-level workshop on land record digitization was conducted at the ITC Welcome Hotel in Guntur, bringing together key stakeholders from central and state governments. Union Minister Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar and Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration Minister Dr. P. Narayana participated in the event, which focused on the NAKSHA program — a flagship initiative of the Centre to modernize and digitize urban land records across the country. Minister Narayana, addressing the gathering, said the NAKSHA program is a crucial step toward transparent and efficient urban governance. He emphasized that the initiative complements Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Viksit Bharat

2047 vision and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's Swarna Andhra 2047 mission, both aimed at transformative development. As part of a pilot project, the Centre has selected 152 municipalities nationwide, including 10 in Andhra Pradesh. The project in the state will cover the digitization of 9.5 lakh properties across these 10 municipalities, spanning 10 square kilometers. An aerial survey has already been completed in eight municipalities, and it is currently underway in Eluru and Mangalagiri-Tadepalli Municipal Corporations. In addition, field surveys have been completed for over 6,000 government properties in areas like Kuppam, Ongole, and Anantapur. Of the 166 GPS rovers required for the field surveys, 158 have been made operational.

To support the large-scale survey operations, 643 field-level verification teams have been mobilized. Minister Narayana stated, "Once this mapping program is completed, it will enable systematic planning, improve urban tax collections, and resolve property disputes effectively." Officials from the Central Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Survey of India, and the State Urban Development Department participated in detailed technical sessions, where they reviewed the progress and shared strategies to complete the digitization work within the given timeframe. With strong support from the Central government, the state is aiming to successfully complete the pilot project and set a benchmark for land record modernization in the country.



Lepakshi Showrooms To Get Modern Look With Cultural Touch

- Designs approved for Delhi and Rajahmundry showrooms
- Sisodia to personally visit all showrooms in AP

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Special Chief Secretary for Handloom and Textiles, R.P. Sisodia, announced major modernization plans for Lepakshi showrooms, aiming to blend traditional handicrafts with modern retail aesthetics. In collaboration with the School of Planning, the government is redesigning showroom spaces to better showcase the richness of Andhra Pradesh's heritage and culture. On Friday, during a review meeting held at the Lepakshi headquarters in Vijayawada, Sisodia evaluated proposed showroom designs along with representatives from the School of Planning. He specifically reviewed the layout for a new Lepakshi showroom being established in Delhi and gave detailed suggestions. He emphasized that the architectural and interior elements must reflect Andhra's traditional handlooms, handicrafts, and broader Telugu identity. Similarly, showroom designs for Rajahmundry Airport were also reviewed, and discussions were held on the progress of a new showroom in Tirupati. Sisodia underscored that while embracing modern infrastructure, the core identity of Lepakshi as a custodian of Andhra's art and crafts must be preserved. Addressing Showroom Losses Despite the organization performing well overall, Sisodia raised concerns over certain showrooms that are currently

running at a loss. He conducted a meeting with showroom managers and reviewed the financial performance of each outlet. Questioning the gap between product quality and actual sales, he urged staff to identify core challenges such as outdated layouts, seasonal footfalls, or marketing gaps. "Every showroom must aim for profitability. Solutions exist, but they need to be acted upon. I will be personally visiting each showroom to assess conditions on the ground," Sisodia assured. Highlighting Craftsmanship and Packaging Sisodia began his visit by exploring the main exhibition center at Lepakshi headquarters, where he observed a wide range of traditional artworks. Organization MD Vishva briefed him on the background and creators of each piece. Impressed by the artisans' craftsmanship, Sisodia stressed the need to make such products accessible across India through Lepakshi showrooms. He also emphasized the role of premium packaging in boosting appeal and sales. "Attractive packaging is a vital aspect of marketing — there should be no compromise here," he said. State-level showroom managers and officials from Lepakshi's central office also participated in the review meeting. The modernization effort aims to position Lepakshi as a premier destination for authentic Indian handicrafts while enhancing commercial sustainability.

39 District Court Staff Transferred Across AP

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Andhra Pradesh State High Court has issued orders transferring 39 district court staff members across the state. Among those transferred are 26 Chief Administrative Officers, 8 Senior Superintendents, and 5 other employees. According to the official notification, these staff members will be relieved from their current duties by the 21st of this month and are expected to assume their new responsibilities by the 28th. This administrative reshuffle aims to improve efficiency and streamline court operations throughout Andhra Pradesh. The High Court has emphasized the importance of a smooth transition to ensure continued effective functioning of district courts.

Whatever happened

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It was a message, a testament to your strength and resolve," he told the soldiers.

IMF Funds for Terror?

In a strongly-worded statement, the Defence Minister also questioned the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) decision to release a second tranche of \$1.023 billion to Pakistan under the Extended Fund Facility. "Pakistan is using IMF money to build terrorist infrastructure. This is not just a danger to India, but to global peace and stability," he warned, indirectly urging international institutions to reassess their support to Islamabad. The speech marks a sharp escalation in India's public messaging on its counter-terrorism stance and further cements the government's policy of strategic deterrence through firm military and diplomatic actions. With Operation Sindoor now being hailed as a turning point in India's counter-terrorism efforts, Rajnath Singh's statements serve as a strong signal to both domestic and global audiences that India will not hesitate to act with force when provoked.

Where Others Saw...

Continued from page 1

He reaffirmed the government's target of generating 72 GW of renewable energy by 2029 and its plan to create 20 lakh jobs over the next five years. Lokesh also announced that 16,347 teacher jobs will be filled through a Mega DSC recruitment next month. He added that projects like this would help reduce electricity costs and meet both state and national energy needs.

Investors and Local Support

Renew Power Chairman Sumanth Sinha lauded Andhra Pradesh's investor-friendly climate and

praised CM Chandrababu Naidu's leadership. He said the integrated project in Anantapur would be the largest renewable energy complex in the country and aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a "Viksit Bharat." Local MLA Gummanur Jayaram noted that the project will provide local farmers with land lease income up to ₹35,000 per acre and job opportunities for their children, ensuring both financial and social upliftment. This milestone project marks a decisive move toward energy transformation in Andhra Pradesh and strengthens the government's mission to position the state as a national leader in clean energy.

Cyclone Shakti May Hit AP Soon

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The India Meteorological Department has issued a high alert as Cyclone Shakti begins to take shape in the southern Bay of Bengal. The system, currently forming as a surface depression, is expected to intensify into a low-pressure area between May 20 and 22, and potentially develop into a full-fledged cyclone between May 23 and 28. The impact of this evolving weather system is already being felt across Andhra Pradesh, with the Disaster Management Department predicting moderate to heavy rains in several coastal and Rayalaseema districts over the next 48 hours. Districts including Alluri Seetharamaraju, East and West Godavari, Kadapa, Sri Satya Sai Puttaparthi, and Annamayya Rayachoti are experiencing gusty winds and persistent rainfall. Rainfall figures recorded so far include 54 mm in Amalapuram (Ambedkar Konaseema), 54 mm in Nidamaru (Eluru), and 42 mm in Kajulur (Kakinada). Amaravati villages have also reported rains with gusty winds. The weather department stated that the depression is currently active at 1.5 to 7.5 km altitude over the Bay of Bengal. Conditions are highly favorable for it to intensify further, and if it evolves as expected, Cyclone Shakti will be the first major cyclone of the 2025 season. Apart from Andhra Pradesh, the cyclone



is expected to affect Odisha and southern West Bengal, with gusty winds and heavy downpours likely across those regions. Neighboring Bangladesh, particularly Khulna and Chattogram, is also expected to face the cyclone's wrath if it strengthens. Additionally, the southwest monsoon is progressing faster than usual, likely to hit the Kerala coast by May 27, four days earlier than its typical onset date of June 1. The monsoon has already spread across parts of the southeast Arabian Sea, Maldives, Comorin region, South Bay of Bengal, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The authorities have urged residents in vulnerable areas to remain alert and follow safety advisories in the coming days.

Hariprasad Appointed Handicrafts Corporation Chairman

Venkat Royal congratulates, says Janasena rewards loyal leaders



TPN| C Shekar

Chittoor: Dr. Pasupuleti Hariprasad, Chittoor District Jana Sena Party President, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation. On this occasion, Chandragiri Constituency – Tirupati Rural Jana Sena President Venkat Royal met with Hariprasad and extended his heartfelt congratulations.

Speaking at the meeting, Venkat Royal expressed pride over the recognition given to committed party leaders. He stated that the appointment of Hariprasad is a clear reflection of Jana Sena Party President and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's promise to do justice to every worker and leader who has served the party with dedication.

"This appointment is not just a position, but a recognition of hard work, sincerity, and unwavering commitment to the party's mission," Venkat Royal said, adding that the Jana Sena will continue to stand by its grass-roots leaders and empower them.

Several Jana Sena leaders including Pratap Reddy, Yugandhar Royal, and Samara participated in the congratulatory event, marking the moment with celebrations and solidarity.



Liquor Case Politically Motivated: Perni Nani

TPN Correspondent | Krishna

Senior YSR Congress Party leader and former minister Perni Venkataramaiah (Nani) strongly criticized the Andhra Pradesh state government over the recent liquor case, alleging that it was purely politically motivated. Speaking to the media at the YSRCP central office in Tadepalli, Perni Nani said the case was a deliberate attempt by the ruling alliance to target party chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.

He pointed out that the Supreme Court's rejection of the bail petitions of Krishnamehan Reddy and Dhanunjaya Reddy included observations that clearly reflect the partisan attitude of the state administration. "The points raised in the Supreme Court's order clearly expose the intent behind this case. It's evident that the government is acting out of political revenge," he said.

Lashing out at Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Nani alleged that the same person who was arrested and jailed in the skill development scam is now misusing power to fabricate a liquor scam against YSRCP leaders. "This is nothing but retaliation. Creating such false cases shows the desperation of the TDP-JSP-BJP alliance," he added. He further remarked that it was foolish to think that YS Jagan would be intimidated by these tactics. "They can't scare a leader like Jagan with manufactured cases," he asserted.

Nani accused the coalition government led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan of orchestrating the case with the clear aim of implicating and possibly arresting Jagan. He warned that people would see through the political conspiracy and that such actions would only strengthen YSRCP's resolve.



Promotion For Nara Lokesh..?

- TDP to hold first-ever Mahanadu in Kadapa from May 27
- Buzz grows around creation of new post for Lokesh

TPN Correspondent |
Amaravati

The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) is all set to host its flagship annual event, Mahanadu, in Kadapa district — a first in the party's history. With the event scheduled to take place over three days from May 27, preparations are in full swing, and political heat is rising in the region as event to be at YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy's his home turf. Amid these developments, speculation is mounting over a possible promotion for Nara Lokesh, the party's IT and Education Minister. Reports suggest that the TDP leadership is likely to announce the creation of a new post — Executive President — exclusively for Lokesh, marking a key shift in internal party dynamics.

Though Lokesh currently holds the position of National General Secretary, it's said that he has expressed readiness to relinquish it, in line with the unwritten party tradition that no leader holds the same post



more than twice. If the Executive President role is formalized, Lokesh's elevation to it appears

almost certain. Party insiders note that Lokesh has already emerged as a cru-

cial figure in both the party and government. His hands-on approach, regular interaction with workers, and growing rapport with youth are seen as assets that the TDP wants to leverage more directly. Seniors in the party believe enhancing Lokesh's stature will further consolidate TDP's appeal, especially among young and educated voters.

Previously, there were calls from within the party to appoint Lokesh as Deputy Chief Minister, but Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu reportedly advised party leaders not to discuss it publicly. Instead, the focus has shifted to strengthening Lokesh's role within the organization.

With the Kadapa Mahanadu becoming the first major party event after the TDP's return to power in 2024, it is widely anticipated that this platform will be used to formally announce Lokesh's next chapter in party leadership — a move that could shape the future direction of the TDP.

YCP Complaints to Collector Over Illegal Mining



TPN Correspondent | Nellore

YSR Congress Party leaders, including Venkatagiri Coordinator Nedurumalli Ram Kumar Reddy, MLCs Parvatha Reddy Chandrasekhar Reddy and Meriga Muralidhar, submitted a formal complaint to Nellore District Collector Anand urging immediate action against rampant illegal mining and sand excavation in the district.

The delegation alleged that illegal sand mining is taking place in Saidapuram, and large quantities of sand are being transported unauthorizedly from Nellore city to other states in violation of mining regulations. They presented evidence of these activities, particularly illegal sand transportation from Kaluvai to neighboring states.

The Collector assured that legal action will be taken against those found violating rules. Speaking to the media, Ram Kumar Reddy and Muralidhar reiterated that no one is above the law, stating, "If benamis are involved in these irregularities, they too will be punished."

MLC Parvatha Reddy Chandrasekhar Reddy went further, alleging that since the TDP-led coalition government came to power, looting of sand, quartz, silica, and minerals has intensified. He alleged that rowdies, goons, and even drug addicts are being deployed to terrorize locals and obstruct any attempts to expose these illegal activities.

He linked the rise in murders and rapes in Nellore to the nurturing of anti-social elements by TDP leaders. "More than 20 murders have taken place in the past two months," he stated, blaming alcohol and ganja addiction promoted by unchecked criminal elements supported by the ruling party.

He warned that if these irregularities continue, complaints will be taken to the Central Government, and the YSRCP will begin a mass movement to expose and resist the exploitation and illegalities being committed under the current government. He reaffirmed YSRCP's commitment to standing by the common people against this alleged injustice.

Former YCP MLA Attacks Private Bus Conductor

TPN Correspondent | Madanapalle

Tension flared at the Bangalore Bus Stand in Madanapalle town on Thursday when former YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) MLA Nawaz Basha allegedly assaulted a private travel bus conductor, triggering sharp criticism and raising concerns over increasing rivalries among private transport operators.

According to eyewitness accounts and police reports, the incident occurred around 1:30 PM when a private travel bus, operated by conductor Harinath—also known as Madhusudana—arrived at the stand to pick up passengers. Harinath, a resident of Donabail in Madanapalle mandal, has been working as a conductor for a private travels service on the Bangalore–Madanapalle route for several years.

The altercation is said to have stemmed from a longstanding rivalry between Nawaz Basha's bus service and the one operated by Harinath. Sources indicate that both services often clashed over arrival and departure timings, frequently overtaking each other en route, creating friction between the two operators.

On Thursday, the situation took a violent turn when the former MLA, accompanied by more than 20 followers, allegedly confronted Harinath and physically assaulted him in full public view at the bus stand. Harinath later alleged that he was beaten for allowing his bus to reach before Basha's, and that such intimidation had happened before but never escalated to this level.

The injured conductor received treatment at the local government hospital and subsequently filed a complaint with the Madanapalle Town police. Responding promptly, Circle Inspector Chandra confirmed that a case has been registered against Nawaz Basha and his followers. Investigations are currently underway.

The incident has sparked outrage among the public and transport workers alike. Many are questioning the use of muscle power by political figures to influence private operations. With hundreds of private buses running between the Telugu states and neighbouring regions, competition among travel operators is known to be intense, but Thursday's events have shed light on the darker side of this rivalry.

Transport union representatives have condemned the incident, demanding swift and impartial legal action. "This is a blatant misuse of political influence and must not be tolerated. Authorities should ensure that justice is delivered without delay," a senior private travel association member stated.



Mahanadu Set to Make History in Kadapa

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

TDP Polit Bureau Member Srinivas Reddy declared that the Mahanadu 'Pasupu Panduga' to be hosted in Kadapa city is set to become a historic event, ushering in a new era of development for the district and Rayalaseema as a whole.

Speaking at a press conference held at his office in Kadapa on Thursday, Srinivas Reddy said that a comprehensive review meeting on Mahanadu arrangements was conducted in Vijayawada two days ago under the leadership

of Chief Minister and TDP National President N. Chandrababu Naidu and TDP National General Secretary and State Minister Nara Lokesh. He emphasized that Mahanadu will mark the beginning of Kadapa's journey toward progress over the next four years. "Minister Lokesh has given a clear indication that the Rayalaseema region will be developed as promised during his padayatra," he stated.

Reddy mentioned that large-scale arrangements are being made to ensure the smooth conduct of the event. "As per the CM's instructions, we are involving every TDP leader across

the district to make Mahanadu unforgettable. Leaders from across the state are expected to attend, and necessary arrangements for accommodation, transportation, and security are being put in place," he added.

Outlining the schedule, he said the party will focus on internal organizational matters on May 27, discuss the development agenda on May 28, and conclude with a massive public meeting on May 29. In preparation, advance Mahanadu meetings will be held at the constituency level to mobilize public participation and fine-tune logistics.

Krishna District SP Gangadhar Rao In Crime Review Meet

Public drinking, hooliganism must be tracked with drone surveillance
Swift FIRs, action on women's safety cases directed by SP
Push for a ganja-free Krishna district with drone beats and targeted arrests

TPN Correspondent | Krishna
Krishna District Superintendent of Police, Shri R. Gangadhar Rao, IPS, held a detailed crime review meeting today at the District Police Office Conference Hall. Senior officers including Additional SP Admin Shri V.V. Naidu, Additional SP A.R.B. Satyanarayana, and sub-divisional police officers participated.
SP Gangadhar Rao appreciated the district police for successfully handling high-security arrangements during visits by the President, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, and the Chief Minister. He stressed that this success was a result of collective effort.
The SP issued key directives to enhance crime control across the dis-

trict:
Use of Drone Cameras: Police must deploy drones to monitor public areas, especially for identifying alcohol consumption in public, anti-social activities, and for surveillance in deserted zones. He said, "Drone cameras should act like invisible eagle eyes."
Immediate Site Inspections: Officers were told to visit scenes of road accidents, murders, and thefts immediately, assess causes, and formulate preventive action plans.
Women's Safety and Shakti App: Police should quickly register FIRs in women and child-related cases, investigate swiftly, and file charge sheets without delay. Shakti Teams must visit remote areas and educate the public

on downloading and using the Shakti app, ensuring short response times to complaints received through the app.
VIP Grievance Redressal: Complaints from the CMO, Deputy CM, and Ministers should be resolved with utmost priority through the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS).
Rowdy Sheetters Surveillance: Regular monitoring and record updates of known criminals and rowdy sheetters are essential. Their movements must be assessed closely.
Cannabis Eradication Drive: The district police must act as per the state government's action plan to make Krishna district cannabis-free. Drone patrols should be intensified in deserted areas. Forward and backward links in ganja cases must be un-



covered, and accused arrested swiftly.
Summer Theft Prevention: With schools on holiday and many families out on travel, SP Rao instructed an increase in night beats. Locked houses should be regularly monitored, and CCS teams must step up their vigilance.
Fingerprint Checks: Duty constables should check suspects and history-sheetters using the fingerprint MSCD (Mobile Security Check Device).

Traffic and Accidents: Accident-prone zones should have barricades and signage. Officers must analyze accident data, set up visible policing during peak accident times, and ensure continuous vehicle checks to enforce traffic rules.
Cybercrime Monitoring: The SP concluded that cybercrime is on the rise, and a dedicated district-level cybercrime team has been formed to tackle this growing threat.

Octopus Mock Drill At AP Secretariat



TPN Correspondent | Guntur
In a high-alert security measure, Andhra Pradesh's elite counter-terror force OCTOPUS (Organisation for Counter Terrorist Operations) conducted a mock drill in the early hours of Thursday at the State Secretariat in Velagapudi village, Tullur mandal, Guntur district. The exercise, which began at 1:30 am on May 16, 2025, was aimed at testing preparedness to prevent terrorist attacks on vital government installations.
The drill was carried out on the orders of Andhra Pradesh IG (Operations) Sri Srikanth IPS and under the supervision of Guntur SP Satish Kumar IPS. Tullur DSP Murali Krishna and Octopus DSP Sri Tirupathaiah oversaw the operations on the ground, with support from local police officials.
OCTOPUS, a specialised wing of the Andhra Pradesh Police, is known for its expertise in neutralising terrorist threats without endan-

gering public safety, VVIP security, or government institutions. These forces are highly trained in high-risk, high-stakes counter-terror operations.
The purpose of the mock drill was to simulate real-time responses, assess logistical challenges, and improve coordination and communication among the forces. It is part of a regular preparedness protocol to maintain operational readiness in the face of potential threats.
Several key police personnel participated in the exercise including Tullur CI Srinivasa Rao, CIs Anjaiah and Koteswara Rao (Traffic), RIS Nageshwar, Lakshman, and Venkateswara Rao. A total of 40 personnel from the Octopus force, STF teams, and local police participated in the joint drill.
Authorities stated that such drills will continue to be conducted at sensitive locations to ensure the safety of the public and government institutions.

PM Modi's leadership gives strong warning to terrorists

MP Keshineni Shivnath praises Op Sindoor success, salutes soldiers

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Vijayawada MP Keshineni Shivnath hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his ability to take the right decisions at the right time, especially in dealing with Pakistani terrorists who underestimated Indian women and the nation's strength. Speaking at the Tiranga rally held in Vijayawada on Friday evening, he praised the Indian Army for its decisive action under Modi's leadership that led to the success of Operation Sindoor, sending a strong message to Pakistan.
Thousands of people, including Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Ministers Satyakumar Yadav and Nadendla Manohar, BJP State President Daggupati Purandeswari, and several MLAs, marched from Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium to Benz Circle, waving the national flag and expressing sol-



idity with the armed forces and Prime Minister Modi. MP Keshineni recalled the sacrifice of Murali Nayak, who lost his life defending the country, saying his memory will forever be cherished by the people. He emphasized that the Tiranga rally was organized to demonstrate national unity and integrity amid recent threats. Keshineni pointed out that the Pahalgam conspiracy was

masterminded by Pakistani terrorists frustrated by India's progress under Modi's leadership. He assured that the Indian Army stands ready to respond firmly if Pakistan attempts any further provocations. He also extended his gratitude to all citizens who participated enthusiastically in the Tiranga rally, reinforcing the spirit of patriotism across the city.

ACP Tilak Arrests Accused Who Stabbed Woman 23 Times

TPN Correspondent | NTR District
In a shocking case from Nandigama, ACP Tilak has successfully apprehended Achi Narasimha Rao, alias Peddababu, who brutally stabbed a woman to death 23 times on May 1st. The victim, identified as Mallela Durga Sravanthi, resided near KVR College and was allegedly involved in an extramarital affair with the accused.
ACP Tilak revealed that the murder occurred following a dispute between the two over financial transactions. The accused, who was on the run, was caught through a clever operation by the police team. Nine previous cases were registered against Achi Narasimha Rao, indicating a history of criminal



activity. During the investigation, police seized the murder weapon — a knife — along with the accused's cellphone and car. These pieces of evidence are currently being processed as part of the ongoing case. The accused was produced before the media and

is set to appear in court soon. ACP Tilak also praised the efforts of CI Naidu, SI Abhimanyu, and their team for their dedication in cracking this case promptly. The investigation continues as authorities prepare for further legal proceedings.

Vamsi Remanded in Fake Patta Case

• Nujveedu court sends Vamsi to judicial custody till May 29

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Former Gannavaram MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi has been remanded to judicial custody till May 29 by the Nujveedu court in connection with the fake house patta distribution case. The court passed this order on Friday following an investigation into the alleged distribution of forged land documents in Bapulapadu mandal, located in Eluru district.
Alongside Vamsi, his close aide Mohan Ranga Rao has also been remanded in the same case. Both are accused of distributing fraudulent housing pattas, reportedly misleading several beneficiaries under the guise of government schemes.
The court also approved a Production Transit (PT) warrant against the two, allowing author-

ities to further interrogate them in connection with the case. The move is expected to accelerate the investigation and may bring more facts to light regarding the extent of the alleged scam.
Although Vallabhaneni Vamsi has received bail in other pending cases, he continues to remain in custody due to judicial remand orders issued in this particular case. With multiple legal hurdles still pending, his chances of release appear limited at this stage.
The authorities are intensifying their probe, and further developments are expected in the coming days as they scrutinize the scale and potential beneficiaries of the fake patta network allegedly linked to the former legislator and his associates.

Gudivada Bus Stand Turns Into Pond After Rain

CPM stages protest demanding immediate reconstruction

TPN Correspondent | Krishna
Light rain in Gudivada town early Friday morning led to major inconvenience as the Gudivada bus stand turned into a virtual pond, disrupting transportation. Passengers were left stranded, unable to board buses due to water stagnation inside the stand.

In response, the CPM party staged a unique protest by standing in the stagnant water at the bus stand, demanding the immediate reconstruction of the long-neglected facility. CPM Gudivada Division Secretary RCP Reddy led the protest and expressed severe dissatisfaction over the govern-

ment's continued negligence. He recalled that former Transport Minister Nandamuri Harikrishna had once envisioned the development of Gudivada bus stand, which serves as a crucial hub for surrounding constituencies in Krishna district. However, RCP Reddy noted that despite multiple changes

in government over the years, the bus stand's condition has only worsened. He criticized the previous YSRCP government for only renovating the garage while ignoring the main passenger area. "The bus stand looks like an ocean after even a brief rain," he said, demanding that the newly formed coalition government take immediate action. "The coalition has completed a year in power, but there has been

no step taken towards improving this important facility," RCP Reddy added. He warned that the CPM will launch a larger movement if the government does not begin construction without delay. Leaders of the Farmers' Association, Gowrisetti Nageswara Rao, Building Workers Union leader Konda Surendra Rajini, and others also participated in the protest.

Goenka Donates Gold Ornaments to Lord Venkateswara

Kati Hastam and Varada Hasta crafted from 5 kg of gold

TPN Correspondent | Tirumala
In a grand act of devotion, prominent industrialist and IPL franchise owner Sanjeev Goenka has donated gold ornaments worth ₹7 crore to Lord Venkateswara at Tirumala. The donation includes Kati Hastam and Varada Hasta — significant decorative ornaments crafted from nearly five kilograms of pure gold. The gold items were formally handed over to Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Additional Executive Officer Venkaiah Chowdhury, in a ceremonial offering. These ornaments are designed to embellish the idol of the deity and reflect Goenka's deep spiritual connection and reverence for Lord Venkateswara. Sanjeev Goenka, well known in business circles as the chairman of the RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group, is also the owner of the IPL franchise Lucknow Super Giants (LSG). His recent philanthropic gesture has come at a time when his team is navigating a challenging season in the Indian Premier League. At last year's mega IPL auction, Goenka made headlines by purchasing star cricketer Rishabh Pant for a record-breaking ₹27 crore — the highest-ever bid in the history of the tournament. However, Pant has not lived up to expectations this season, underperforming despite the hefty price tag and the added responsibility of captaincy. So far, the Lucknow Super Giants have played 11 matches and are positioned seventh on the points table with five wins. With only three games remaining, the team's path to the playoffs looks increasingly difficult, requiring not just victories but favourable results from other matches as well. Even amid the turbulence of the sporting season, Goenka's substantial donation to the temple has drawn praise from devotees and religious circles, who see it as a sign of unwavering faith and generosity.



Dr. Chikkam Ramakrishna Balaji Awarded Ph.D. in Civil Engineering

Innovator of Eco Epo-seal sustainable construction material

TPN Correspondent | Rajahmundry
Dr. Chikkam Ramakrishna Balaji has been awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Civil Engineering by the prestigious Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Nagpur. His doctoral research led to the development of Eco Epo-seal, a novel sustainable ancillary construction material with strong industrial applications, marking a significant advancement in eco-friendly construction technologies. Dr. Balaji's research, which includes several international publications, addresses critical sustainability challenges in modern infrastructure and earned him a patent for Eco Epo-seal, underscoring the innovation's practical value. An alumnus of VNIT Nagpur (M.Tech in Construction Technology) and NIT Rourkela (B.Tech in Civil Engineering & Management), Dr. Balaji has also gained valuable industry experience at Larsen & Toubro Construction. Hailing from Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Balaji brings pride to his hometown and the academic community with his commitment to sustainable engineering. We congratulate Dr. Chikkam Ramakrishna Balaji on this remarkable achievement and wish him success in his future endeavors.



Star Hotels Planned To Boost Tourism In Vizianagaram

Sunray Group to invest ₹100 crore in resorts, convention center
Govt to allocate 3.6 acres for three-star hotel near Savaravalli
Bhogapuram Airport progress inspected by Ajay Jain and officials

TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram
As part of efforts to boost tourism in Vizianagaram district, Special Principal Secretary to the Tourism Department, Ajay Jain, said the government is giving top priority to hotel and resort infrastructure, anticipating a surge in tourist footfall following the development of the Bhogapuram International Airport. On Friday, Ajay Jain toured Bhogapuram mandal along with District Collector Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and inspected various tourism infrastructure projects. He reviewed the ₹100 crore beach resort project being developed by the Sunray-Avani Group at Reddykamcheru, as well as the construction of a large convention center at Kavulavada by the same group. Sunray Group MD Rajababu briefed the officials that the center will accommodate up to 3,000 people and generate employment for around 300 individuals. Jain also visited the golf course, beach resorts, and greenhouses developed by the group in the same region. He instructed the Collector to send proposals for allocating 3.6 acres of government land in Savaravalli for setting up a three-star hotel project adjacent to the Sunray Resort, aimed at expanding affordable tourist accommoda-



tions and generating government revenue. He further suggested submitting proposals for constructing a star hotel on Roads and Buildings Department land in Vizianagaram town. The plan includes a guest house attached to the hotel, which could serve dual purposes—boosting tourism while generating income for the department. During his visit, Ajay Jain also reviewed the progress of housing construction in the district. He urged officials to accelerate housing work, pointing out that additional assistance has already been announced. Murali, Project Director of the Housing Development Corporation, presented the progress to the officials.

Later, Ajay Jain inspected the ongoing works at Bhogapuram International Airport along with the District Collector. GMR Group CEO Manmoy Roy received the delegation and provided a detailed overview of the terminal features. Jain expressed satisfaction with the pace of construction and said the airport would be a major driver of tourism development in the region. Regional Tourism Director G.V.B. Jagadish, District Tourism Officer Kumaraswamy, RDO Kirti, Bhimili RDO Sangeet Madhur, Tahsildar Suresh, and Visakhapatnam DTO Madhavi also participated in the inspection tour.

Pendurthi Public Problem Forum Receives Over 120 Complaints

APOILFED Chairman Gandhi Babji urges officials to act promptly

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam
On 16-05-2025, the Pendurthi Constituency Level Public Problem Solving Forum was held at the Telugu Desam Party Office in Pendurthi. The event was organized under the leadership of APOILFED Chairman, Visakhapatnam District Parliament President, Pendurthi Constituency In-charge, and former MLA Shri Gandhi Babji. People from across the constituency gathered and submitted approximately 120 complaints. It was observed that the majority of the grievances were related to revenue issues. During the forum, officials were instructed to coordinate with the concerned departments and ensure speedy redressal of the problems. Leaders, activists, and supporters from the Pendurthi area actively participated in the program, reflecting the communi-



ty's trust and hope for effective governance.

Tiranga Rally Marks Op Sindoor Victory in Srikakulam



TPN | Rajasekhara
Srikakulam: A grand Tiranga Rally was held in Srikakulam city to celebrate the success of Operation Sindhur, drawing widespread participation from the public and political leaders alike. The rally was organized as a mark of respect and national pride for the brave sol-

diers who successfully carried out the operation, eliminating those responsible for attacks on innocent Indians. Gondu Swathi Shankar, the Srikakulam Constituency Telugu Women President, stated that this is a moment of immense pride for every Indian. "Operation Sindhur is a testament to

our armed forces' courage and commitment. We all stand united in honor of their sacrifice," she said during the rally. The celebration saw enthusiastic participation from alliance party leaders, including Etcherla MLA and BJP District President Siripuram Tejeswara Rao, Birilangi Mohan, TDP's former city presidents Madarapu Venkatesh and Dr. Paidi Sindhura, and Janasena leader Pecini Chandramohan. They expressed happiness over the successful operation and praised the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had earlier termed Operation Sindhur as a proud achieve-

ment for the nation. The rally began at the local Seven Road Junction and proceeded through Suryamahala before concluding at the Ramalakshmana Junction. The event witnessed participation from leaders of various political parties, retired army personnel, social service organizations, and hundreds of common citizens. Participants carried national flags, raised slogans in support of the Indian Army, and celebrated the spirit of unity and patriotism. The successful conduct of the Tiranga Rally stood as a powerful symbol of public solidarity with the armed forces and national pride.

Student Dies After Fall from terrace

Incident at KRP Space Central School raises serious safety questions

TPN | C Shekara
Sullurpeta: A heartbreaking incident occurred at the KRP Space Central School in Pulicat Nagar Colony, Sullurpeta, a residential area for ISRO SHAR employees, on Thursday, May 15. A tenth-grade student, Ishrat Ali, accidentally fell from the school terrace while playing. He was critically injured in the fall and was immediately shifted to Ramachandra Hospital in Chennai for treatment.

Despite the efforts of the medical team, Ishrat succumbed to his injuries on the morning of May 16. The incident has plunged the school community and Ishrat's family into deep mourning. Parents and residents are now questioning the school's management and safety measures in place at the time of the accident. One of the major concerns being voiced is why the school was open during the summer

holidays when regular sessions are not expected. The incident has highlighted serious gaps in student safety and supervision, especially considering that the accident happened on the terrace, an area often deemed high-risk for unsupervised children. Adding to the anguish of the parents is the silence from school authorities and SHAR officials. As of now, no statement has been issued by either the

school administration or ISRO SHAR representatives. The lack of response has intensified public outrage and led to growing pressure for an investigation into the incident. The community now awaits answers — not only about how the accident occurred but also why the safety of students was seemingly compromised in an institution run within a high-security and prestigious scientific facility.

Trump’s Global Gambit: A Wartime Display of the ‘Art of the Deal’



In a whirlwind fortnight of dramatic geopolitical shifts, US President Donald Trump has delivered what might be seen as a wartime demonstration of his famed “Art of the Deal” — albeit in ways that many traditional diplomats would call unorthodox.

Trump’s actions over the past two weeks have undeniably lowered global tensions, even if the methods have raised eyebrows. From shaking hands with Syria’s President Ahmad Al-Sharaa — a man once listed as a global terrorist — to lifting sanctions on Syria in exchange for strategic gains, Trump has made clear he’ll deal with anyone, even adversaries, if it means closing a deal. The rumored payoff? A potential Trump Tower in Damascus.

Meanwhile, the process to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict is quietly unfolding in Istanbul. Though Trump offered to at-

tend the summit, President Putin declined. Turkish President Erdogan has taken the reins and even brokered peace with Kurdish separatists, ending a 40-year insurgency.

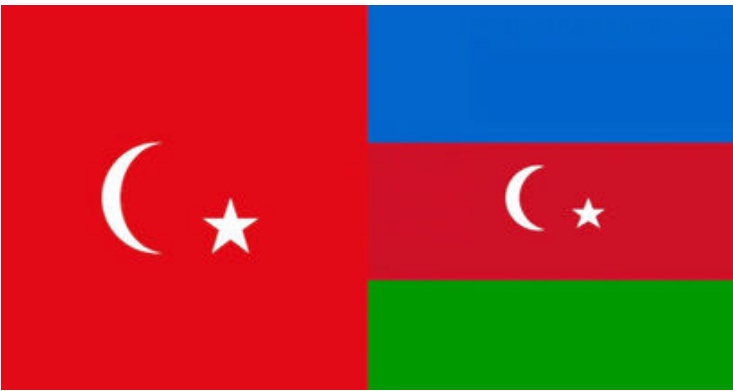
Trump’s moves in the Middle East have been equally abrupt. He halted US operations against Yemen’s Iran-backed Houthis after negotiating safe passage for US ships in the Red Sea. He also secured the release of a US hostage from Hamas, though at the cost of bypassing Israel in the talks—effectively allowing hostile forces to continue confronting Israel.

In another diplomatic twist, Trump cooled tensions with China by ending the US-China tariff war after secret talks in Geneva. But perhaps his boldest intervention came in South Asia, where he stepped into a volatile India-Pakistan conflict, averting what

could have escalated into nuclear war.

However, India finds itself walking a diplomatic tightrope. Though economically and militarily stronger than Pakistan, it faces rising skepticism from Islamic nations and increasing pressure from Trump, who suggested business retaliation — including discouraging Apple from manufacturing in India.

For India, the path forward is clear: double down on economic growth, scale up manufacturing, and fast-track global trade partnerships. With ongoing trade talks in the US, New Delhi must maintain strategic focus and avoid being boxed in by Trump’s transactional approach to diplomacy. In today’s global landscape, technological dominance and manufacturing capacity are the real instruments of power — and India is well-positioned to wield both.



Tourism and Terrorism Can't Coexist: Why Turkey and Azerbaijan Risk Losing India's Goodwill

In 2024, Indian tourists became a powerful force in the global tourism market, injecting over ₹4,000 crore into the economies of Turkey and Azerbaijan. However, the growing national sentiment in India, spurred by recent events, is shifting. The April 2025 terror attack in Pahalgam, allegedly backed by Pakistan-based terror groups, and the subsequent support from Turkey and Azerbaijan for Pakistan’s stance have led to widespread calls for boycotting travel to these nations.

Both countries, despite reaping substantial financial benefits from Indian tourism, have repeatedly sided with Pakistan, a state recognized globally for its support of terrorism. In the wake of the Pahalgam massacre, in which 26 innocent Indian tourists were killed, Turkey and Azerbaijan’s continued solidarity with Pakistan has sparked outrage in India. Instead of condemning the terror attacks, both countries criticized India’s military response, Operation Sindoor, which targeted terror camps in Pakistan.

This hypocrisy has led many Indians to reconsider their travel choices. Despite their allure due to scenic beauty, affordability, and social media promotion, Turkey and Azerbaijan have increasingly become symbols of the moral dilemma facing Indian travellers. As a result, a grassroots boycott movement has gained momentum, with travel companies like EaseMyTrip and PickYourTrail suspending bookings to these countries. This boycott could potentially cost Turkey and Azerbaijan billions in lost tourism revenue.

This shift reflects a deeper ideological divide, with Turkey’s President Erdoğan embracing a neo-Ottoman worldview, often siding with Pakistan on critical issues, including Kashmir. Azerbaijan, aligned with Turkey, has mirrored this posturing, prioritizing religious bloc politics over global principles like counterterrorism and human rights.

As India asserts its growing global influence, the country’s citizens are becoming more conscious of how their choices, including travel, reflect their values. Turkey and Azerbaijan must reconsider their positions, or they risk losing India’s goodwill permanently. India’s citizens will continue to support destinations that respect its sovereignty and uphold the fight against terrorism.

The Rise of Indigenous Defence Under PM Modi: A New Era of Strength and Sovereignty



Pakistan launched a large-scale provocation, sending hundreds of drones and missile-like systems across India’s western border. This attack, accompanied by artillery shelling, aimed to overwhelm India’s defences. However, India’s response was swift and measured, with the Armed Forces deploying indigenous missile systems, AI-driven drones, and smart munitions. The retaliation, precise and impactful, marked a significant milestone in India’s growing defence sovereignty under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Defence sovereignty is a cornerstone of national independence. Prime Minister Modi has prioritized self-reliance in defence, reducing dependence on foreign military suppliers. A key example of this vision is the Akashteer system, a fully automated Air Defence Control and Reporting System developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). Additionally, India’s INS Vikrant, the country’s first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier, represents a major achievement in naval strength, solidifying India’s place among nations capable of building their own aircraft carriers.

Modi’s leadership has also ensured strategic

procurements, like the Russian S-400 air defence system, which was secured despite external pressures, particularly from the United States. Furthermore, the Rafale fighter jets from France have significantly boosted India’s air capabilities, providing a decisive advantage over Pakistan’s F-16s.

India’s domestic defence manufacturing has grown exponentially. Today, 60% of India’s arms and ammunition are produced domestically, a significant rise from a decade ago. Major companies like Adani, Tata, and L&T now manufacture cutting-edge radar systems, artillery, and advanced defence equipment, contributing to India’s self-reliance.

The success of the “Make in India” initiative is evident. In FY 2023–24, India’s defence production reached Rs 1.27 lakh crore, with defence exports touching a record Rs 21,083 crore, showing a 30-fold increase in the past decade.

Under Modi, India has redefined its defence strategy, strengthening its military autonomy and ensuring a robust, self-sufficient future for its armed forces.



After Operation Sindoor: The Growing Threat of 'Al Qaeda India'

Following India’s swift response to Pakistan’s provocations in Operation Sindoor, a new and concerning development has emerged. The group Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) has made a chilling declaration, urging Muslims to wage a ‘holy war’ against the Indian government, which it claims is targeting mosques and settlements in Pakistan. This renewed threat signifies AQIS’s attempt to reassert its presence, particularly after a period of relative dormancy.

Formed in 2014 by Ayman Al-Zawahiri, AQIS initially focused on targeting American and Pakistani forces. However, following the death of its leader Asim Umar in 2019, the group shifted its focus, increasingly directing its attacks towards India. This was further evidenced in 2022, when Indian authorities uncovered a network linked to AQIS in Assam, aimed at inciting insurgency in India’s eastern regions. The UN’s 2024 report also noted the increasing cooperation between AQIS and Pakistan-based terror groups, raising alarms about the growing coordination of these groups under Pakistan’s influence.

Despite these threats, the international community remains divided on the issue. UN reports have consistently failed to mention key Pakistani-backed groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), a result of Pakistan’s pressure on the body. This manipulation of global narratives to shield terror outfits is part of a long-standing strategy employed by Pakistan, which continues to use terror as a geopolitical tool.

The resurgence of AQIS and its calls for violence must be taken seriously by India. The group’s recent statement, combined with its established networks in Assam and potential support from Pakistan’s intelligence agencies, could lead to coordinated attacks within India. Pakistan’s motive is clear: to further destabilize India, ignite religious tensions, and force India back to the negotiating table.

India must bolster its intelligence efforts, engage in international consultations, and adopt advanced technologies like AI and facial recognition to monitor and neutralize threats. Vigilance and cooperation are key in countering this new wave of terrorism.



Operation Sindoor reflects PM's firm determination, pin-pointed intelligence: Amit Shah

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday praised Operation Sindoor as a striking example of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decisive leadership, backed by precise intelligence coordination and the formidable firepower of India's armed forces.

Speaking at the inauguration of a new Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) in New Delhi, Shah emphasized how the success of the recent operation against terror infrastructure in Pakistan-occupied regions was made possible by seamless coordination between various intelligence units and India's military establishment.

"Operation Sindoor reflects the strong and unwavering determination of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It is a perfect example of how pin-pointed intelligence and unmatched military capabilities can work together to neutralize threats to national security," Shah stated during the event.

The Multi-Agency Centre inaugurated today is designed to enhance real-time intelligence sharing and foster deeper collaboration among India's central and state-level security and intelligence agencies. Shah said such advancements are necessary in a rapidly evolving threat environment where cross-border terrorism and hybrid warfare tactics are becoming more sophisticated.

"This centre is not just a building—it's a commitment to protect India with speed, accuracy, and unity. It symbolizes our effort to create an impenetrable security architecture across the country," he added.

Shah highlighted that Operation Sindoor, which followed the deadly Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives, demonstrated India's ability to strike with precision and restraint. He said the mission was a pre-emptive and targeted response that avoided civilian harm while delivering a strong message to those who harbor or support terrorism.

Lauding the armed forces, Shah credited their infallible firepower and operational expertise in ensuring the mission's success, while also commending the intelligence agencies for identifying and confirming high-value targets.

The Home Minister concluded by reiterating the government's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and reaffirmed that India will continue to strengthen its internal security mechanisms while pursuing peace through strength and vigilance.

India's Big Diplomatic Push: MPs To Brief Countries About Paks Terror Exports

Launches Diplomatic Offensive to Expose Pakistan's Terror Links

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a significant escalation of its diplomatic outreach, the Indian government is planning to dispatch multi-party delegations of Members of Parliament (MPs) to major world capitals to directly brief foreign governments and institutions about Pakistan's alleged role in the recent Pahalgam terror attack and its broader terror ecosystem.

The move, spearheaded by the Narendra Modi-led government, marks a rare instance where elected representatives across the political spectrum will serve as diplomatic envoys. Their mission: to counter Pakistan's global narrative and build international consensus against cross-border terrorism.

The initiative comes amid heightened tensions following the April 22 Pahalgam attack, which claimed 26 lives, and India's retaliatory precision strikes under 'Operation Sindoor' against terror infrastructure in Pakistan-occupied territories. Officials involved in the planning said the delegations will stress that these strikes were



aimed strictly at terror hubs, not civilian targets.

This diplomatic campaign is also seen as a response to attempts by Pakistan to internationalise the Kashmir issue, a stance reinforced by recent comments from U.S. President Donald Trump. India maintains that Kashmir is a bilateral issue and opposes any third-party involvement.

"The goal is to present hard facts and clear evidence to the international community, dismantling the false narrative Pakistan has

been trying to build," a senior government source said.

The Ministry of External Affairs, along with intelligence and defence agencies, is preparing detailed dossiers including maps, satellite imagery, intercepted communications, and testimonies linking Pakistani entities — particularly the ISI — to terrorism in India. Indian embassies abroad will play a crucial role in facilitating these visits by arranging high-level meetings and offering logistical and strategic support.

MPs will also highlight Pakistan's long-standing strategy of using terrorism as a tool of state policy. Specific evidence related to recruitment networks, financial channels, and safe havens for terror groups will be presented to strengthen India's case.

This diplomatic offensive is not only aimed at diplomatically isolating Pakistan but also at fortifying India's position at upcoming global forums, including the United Nations, G20 summits, and other bilateral negotiations.

10 Killed In Manipur Encounter Were Involved In Cross-Border Insurgent Activity

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a major counter-insurgency operation, the Assam Rifles neutralized 10 "suspected cadres" and seized a significant cache of weapons after a gunfight in Manipur's Chandel district, near the India-Myanmar border, on Wednesday, according to army sources.

The encounter unfolded near New Samtal village when an Assam Rifles patrol came under unprovoked fire from armed individuals dressed in camouflage fatigues. The troops retaliated with what officials described as a "precise, measured, and calibrated" response, leading to the deaths of 10 assailants.



Initial intelligence assessments suggest that the neutralized individuals were engaged in cross-border insurgent activity. Efforts are currently underway to confirm their identities and potential affiliations with known insurgent groups operating in the region.

Following the firefight, the securi-

ty forces launched a combing operation in the surrounding area, uncovering a significant arsenal. The recovered weapons include seven AK-47 assault rifles, one M4 assault rifle, one RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) launcher, and four single-barrel breech-loading rifles. In addition, a large stockpile of ammunition and combat gear was seized, indicating that the group was heavily armed and potentially preparing for further action.

The operation marks a major success for Indian security forces in a region that has long been a hotspot for insurgent activities, particularly those with cross-border connections to Myanmar-based groups. The Indo-Myanmar border has been a

known corridor for arms smuggling and insurgent movement, making it a high-priority area for security agencies.

The situation in the region remains tense but under control, army officials confirmed. Surveillance has been intensified along the border, and security forces are working closely with the civil administration and intelligence agencies to maintain peace and prevent further escalations.

The operation underscores the ongoing challenges India faces in maintaining border security in the northeast and highlights the increasing coordination between military and civilian agencies in countering insurgency threats in sensitive border areas.

"Blind Lust To": Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti's Spat Over Pak Water Pact CM Omar slams Mehbooba over Tulbul navigation issue

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

A sharp political spat erupted on social media between Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and his predecessor Mehbooba Mufti over the revival of the long-stalled Tulbul Navigation Project, following the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) by India after the Pahalgam terror attack.

Chief Minister Abdullah called for the resumption of the Tulbul Project, which aims to enhance navigability on the Jhelum river and improve downstream hydropower generation. The project, located on the Wular Lake in Bandipora, was halted in 2007 after Pakistan objected under the IWT.

Taking to social media, Abdullah argued that with the treaty suspended, the project should move forward. "The Wular lake project was abandoned due to pressure from Pakistan. With the IWT in abeyance, this is the right time to reclaim our right," he said.

However, Mehbooba Mufti, leader of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), sharply criticised Abdullah's statement, calling it "provocative and irresponsible" at a time when tensions remain high following India's cross-border Operation Sindoor. "Such rhetoric risks reigniting conflict and inter-



nationalising the issue. Water must be a source of life, not a weapon," she posted.

In response, Abdullah accused Mufti of pandering to Pakistani sentiment and ignoring the historic injustice of the IWT to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "Opposing an unfair treaty is not warmongering. It's about restoring the rights of J&K," he stated, adding that the IWT has long denied the region its rightful use of water resources.

Mufti fired back by questioning the National Conference's shifting political loyalties and invoking Sheikh Abdullah's past political stances. She defended the PDP's consistent opposition to the IWT's terms while emphasizing peaceful means and the return of hydroelectric projects to the state.

The war of words comes amid recent hostilities between India and Pakistan following the Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians.

Public pressure forced govt to announce caste census: Rahul Gandhi in Darbhanga

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Thursday reiterated his commitment to securing reservation for marginalised communities in private institutions, stating that he would "fight until the Central and state governments implement it."

Speaking at a public rally in Darbhanga, Bihar, Gandhi took sharp aim at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of working against the interests of OBCs, EBCs, Dalits, and minorities, who collectively form what he called the "90% of India."

"The current government is not working for the benefit of the majority population. PM Modi is against the 90% — the backbone of this country," Gandhi declared, referring to historically disadvantaged communities.

He said that the Centre's recent move to announce a caste-based census was not an act of political will, but a response to mounting public pressure. "It was only because of the voice of the people — the vast majority — that the



government agreed to the caste census," he claimed.

Rahul Gandhi also outlined his vision for educational reforms, pledging a "complete overhaul" of the country's education system once the Congress comes to power at the Centre and in Bihar. He argued that current policies favour the elite and fail to serve the interests of students from backward and economically weaker sections.

"We will not allow a system that denies opportunity to those from humble backgrounds," he said. "When Congress forms the government, we will ensure that educa-

tion becomes accessible, inclusive, and aligned with the aspirations of every Indian — not just the privileged few."

Calling for affirmative action in the private sector, Gandhi stressed that social justice must extend beyond government jobs. "We need reservations not just in public institutions, but also in the private sector, where opportunities are expanding but inequality persists," he said.

The Congress leader's remarks are part of a broader campaign to position his party as the champion of social equity ahead of upcoming elections in Bihar and nationally.

Trump Secures \$200 Billion in UAE Deals, Launches AI Partnership During Abu Dhabi Visit

TPN Correspondent | Riyadh

In a major diplomatic and economic development, U.S. President Donald Trump on May 15, 2025, announced over \$200 billion in deals with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), including a significant agreement to deepen cooperation in artificial intelligence (AI). The announcement came after Trump's high-profile meeting with UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at Qasr Al Watan in Abu Dhabi.

A key component of the package is a \$14.5 billion commitment from Etihad Airways to purchase 28 new Boeing aircraft, including the next-generation 787 and 777X models, powered by GE Aerospace engines. The White House emphasized that this deal would strengthen the longstanding commercial aviation partnership between the two nations, bolster U.S. manufacturing, and drive exports.

Etihad, Boeing, and GE Aerospace have yet to publicly comment on the deal. However, U.S. officials underscored its importance as a strategic win that supports American industry while reaffirming close economic ties with the Gulf state.

During the visit, President Trump was also awarded the UAE's highest civilian honour—the Order of Zayed—by President Sheikh Mohamed, highlighting the symbolic and strategic weight of the trip.

Another headline-grabbing outcome of the visit was the formal launch of the



“U.S.-UAE AI Acceleration Partnership,” a bilateral framework aimed at advancing technological collaboration. Both leaders participated in the unveiling of a massive 5-gigawatt AI campus in the UAE, which, once operational, will be the largest AI-focused facility outside the United States.

The White House stated that the AI agreement includes provisions for the UAE to invest in, construct, or finance data centers in the U.S. that match the size and computing power of those in the UAE.

It also includes commitments to align UAE national security regulations with U.S. standards, particularly in protecting sensitive American-origin technologies from diversion or misuse. This marks a turning point for UAE-U.S. tech cooperation, especially after years of limited access to advanced U.S. chips due to the Gulf state's close trade ties with China. With these agreements, the UAE is poised to become a major global AI hub, while the U.S. reinforces its strategic foothold in the region.

Russia and Ukraine Hold First Direct Peace Talks in Three Years

- **Zelenskyy Stresses Ceasefire as Top Priority**
- **Agree to swap 1,000 prisoners of war each**



For the first time in over three years, Russian and Ukrainian negotiators met face-to-face in Istanbul on Friday, marking a potential turning point in the prolonged conflict that has ravaged Eastern Europe since February 2022. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy emphasized that his government's "number one priority is a full, unconditional and honest ceasefire."

The high-stakes talks, hosted by Turkey, brought representatives from both nations to the negotiation table at Istanbul's historic Dolmabahçe Palace, accompanied by a Turkish delegation. Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan addressed the gathering at the outset, expressing hope that the discussions could lead to meaningful de-es-

calation and the foundation for a durable peace agreement.

The meeting is the first direct interaction between the two sides since March 2022, when a short-lived peace process collapsed weeks after Russia launched its full-scale invasion. Since then, communication has been limited to indirect channels or third-party mediation.

Ukrainian President Zelenskyy reiterated his nation's stance ahead of the talks, stating, "Our number one priority is a full, unconditional and honest ceasefire that halts all violence, restores security to our citizens, and opens the door for broader reconciliation."

While neither side has outlined specific negotiation points, Turkish officials said the agenda likely includes proposals for a ceasefire, humanitarian access, prisoner exchanges, and the status of contested territories, including the Donbas region and Crimea.

Russian and Ukrainian sources have not confirmed whether any formal agreements were signed or frameworks were adopted during the session. However, both delegations acknowledged the significance of meeting in person after years of bitter fighting and escalating hostilities.

International observers are cautiously optimistic but remain wary. Past attempts at dialogue have faltered amid mistrust, shifting battlefield dynamics, and geopolitical posturing.

Turkey, which maintains strategic ties with both Kyiv and Moscow, is positioning itself as a neutral facilitator, pushing for continued engagement between the two nations. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has long advocated for diplomacy over military solutions in the region.

As the war continues to take a heavy toll—both in terms of human lives and global stability—the Istanbul talks may represent a fragile but crucial opening for a path toward peace.

Gaza Death Toll Rises as Trump Ends Middle East Visit Without Israel Stop

TPN Correspondent | Gaza

At least 70 Palestinians, including 22 children, were killed in Israeli airstrikes across Gaza on Friday morning, as U.S. President Donald Trump concluded his Middle East tour without visiting Israel. The fresh wave of bombings, particularly in northern Gaza, adds to the mounting death toll as the conflict enters its third month.

According to Gaza's Health Ministry, at least 50 people, including children, died in strikes around Jabaliya. Indonesian Hospital received 48 bodies, while Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis reported at least 16 more casualties. Strikes also targeted Deir al-Balah and the outskirts of Khan Younis, leaving hundreds displaced and infrastructure in ruins.



The Israeli military has not issued an immediate statement regarding the latest attacks, which extended well into Friday morning. Eyewitnesses described scenes of chaos and panic, with civilians fleeing on foot, by car, or on donkey carts. "The army entered upon us, bombing, killing,

We got out of the house with difficulty... we didn't take anything," said Feisal Al-Atar, a resident displaced from Beit Lahiya.

The renewed assault comes despite earlier hopes that President Trump's tour of Gulf nations could help mediate a ceasefire or reopen humanitarian aid channels into Gaza, which has remained under a strict Israeli blockade since early March. Trump did not include Israel on his itinerary.

U.N. humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths has accused Israel of "deliberately" blocking humanitarian aid, worsening conditions for civilians in Gaza. Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated his government's commitment to escalating the war until Hamas is "completely destroyed."



Lahore High Court Adjourns Imran Khan's Bail Hearings in May 9 Riot Cases

TPN Correspondent | Lahore

The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Thursday adjourned hearings on the bail petitions filed by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former Prime Minister Imran Khan in eight cases linked to the May 9 riots. The adjournment came after the prosecution requested more time, citing the need to conduct photogrammetric and polygraph tests.

A two-member bench headed by Justice Syed Shahbaz Ali Rizvi presided over the session. During the hearing, the prosecution informed the court that an anti-terrorism court had granted permission for photogrammetric and lie detector tests to be conducted at Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail, where Khan is currently held. They urged the court to delay bail proceedings until these tests are carried out.

However, Imran Khan's legal counsel, Barrister Salman Safdar, strongly opposed the delay. He questioned the relevance of conducting such tests nearly two years after the alleged incidents and argued that investigations can proceed without keeping the accused in custody. Despite the objections, the bench postponed the hearing until May 27 and called for further arguments from both parties.

Earlier, on November 27, an anti-terrorism court had rejected Khan's bail in the same eight cases. His legal team maintains that the prosecution has failed to establish any direct link between Khan and the alleged offenses outlined in the First Information Reports (FIRs). The petitions argue that Khan has been falsely implicated as part of a politically motivated campaign, even though he was in the custody of the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) when the events occurred.

The defense contends that the only charge levied against Khan is one of "abetment," which, according to them, is vaguely defined and unsupported by concrete evidence. They further assert that inconsistencies in the investigative narrative have previously led to the dismissal of similar charges and requested the high court to overturn the trial court's decision and grant bail.

Meanwhile, PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan denied any backdoor deal involving Imran Khan's legal troubles. Speaking outside the Parliament House, he insisted that political issues must be resolved through open dialogue rather than secret arrangements. He confirmed that talks had taken place but declined to share specific details.

Pakistan minister calls for 'dialogue' with India, warns over Indus Waters Treaty: 'Act of war'

TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

In a significant diplomatic statement, Pakistan's Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar has called for a revival of the "composite dialogue" framework with India to resolve long-standing bilateral issues. His remarks come in the aftermath of heightened military tensions between the two nations following India's counterterrorism operation earlier this month.

Addressing the Senate on Thursday, Dar confirmed that the current ceasefire agreement with India has been extended until May 18. However, he emphasized that a political and diplomatic dialogue is inevitable for addressing the "problems between the two neighbours."

Dar's remarks follow a period of intense hostilities. India launched precision airstrikes under 'Operation Sindoor' on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 lives. In response, Pakistan attempted retaliatory strikes on Indian military installations on May 8, 9, and 10. The skirmishes culminated in a temporary ceasefire agreement reached on May 10 after four days of cross-border missile and drone strikes.

While Pakistan is advocating for the resumption of composite dialogue — a structured framework initiated in 2003 under then-President Pervez Musharraf encompassing eight key areas, including Kashmir, Siachen, Sir Creek, terrorism, trade, and people-to-people contacts — India has made it unequivocally clear that talks with Pakistan will only take place on two fronts: the return of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and ending terrorism.

Dar revealed that the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of both nations are scheduled to establish contact again on May 18, signaling a potential channel for de-escalation or further coordination on military matters.

Markets End Flat with Mild Losses; Profit Booking Caps Weekly Gains Amid Mixed Global Cues

Domestic stock markets ended with moderate losses on Friday. Investors preferred to take profits on the back of consecutive gains. The indices lost in the beginning due to mixed signals from international markets. Later, they continued in a range-bound mode. Realty, media, finance and FMCG stocks weighed on the indices. Overall, Nifty fell by 42 points and Sensex by 200 points. Investors were happy this week on the back of easing tensions between the US and China and a ceasefire between India and Pakistan.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 82,530 in the previous session, opened at 82,392 on Friday. It touched an intraday low of 82,146. It reached an intraday high of 82,514. It finally closed at 82,330, down 200 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 25,064, touched a low of 24,953 and a high of 25,070. It closed at 25,019, down 42 points. The Nifty Bank settled at 55,354.

In the Nifty50, 25 companies gained while 25 lost. BEL, Tata Consumer, Bajaj Auto, Adani



Enterprises, Hindustan Unilever were the top gainers. Bharti Airtel, HCL Tech, Infosys, JSW Steel, Shriram Finance were the top losers. In-

dia Vicks fell 16.65 percent. Realty, media, finance, FMCG, consumption, oil indices were in the red. IT, healthcare, and metal indices were

in the red.

The market breadth turned in favor of sellers on NSE today. Out of a total of 2971 shares traded, 1969 gained and 911 lost. 57 shares touched their 52-week high and 8 touched their 52-week low. 175 reached the upper circuit and 33 reached the lower circuit.

Texmaco Rail released its fourth-quarter results. Net profit fell 12% to Rs.40 crore from Rs.45 crore. The rupee strengthened slightly against the dollar and settled at 85.51. Sterlite Technologies' net loss narrowed to Rs.40 crore from Rs.82 crore. HSBC has given a buy rating to Lupin with a target price of Rs.2300. Nomura has maintained a buy rating for Crompton Consumer with a target price of Rs.444. Apollo Tyres has been given a neutral rating with a target price of Rs 490. Morgan Stanley has given an equal weight rating to IndusInd Bank with a target price of Rs 755. Hyundai Motors' net profit fell 3.7% to Rs 1,677 crore from Rs 1,614 crore. BHEL's net profit was Rs 504 crore and revenue was Rs 8,993 crore. Mazdak Shipbuilders shares rose 12% today. 10 lakh shares changed hands in HDFC Bank.

Apple Remains Committed to India for iPhone Production, Shifting U.S.-Bound Manufacturing



Apple Inc. has reaffirmed its commitment to India, continuing with plans to shift a significant portion of iPhone production for the U.S. market from China to India. Despite ongoing global production challenges, the tech giant is moving forward with its strategy, according to sources familiar with the discussions between Apple and the Indian government.

The company's plans for India remain unchanged, with a substantial part of iPhone manufacturing still taking place in China. However, Apple intends to produce iPhones destined for the U.S. market in India. Currently, India's factories, including those run by major contract manufacturers like Foxconn and Tata Electronics, contribute around 40 million units per year, representing approximately 15% of Apple's annual production.

While manufacturing iPhones in the United States is considered too expensive and unfeasible at present, the shift of U.S.-bound production to India aligns with Apple's broader strategy of diversifying its supply chain and reducing dependency on China.

Apple has been ramping up its investment in India, with production facilities in Tamil Nadu, where iPhones are assembled by Foxconn, and Karnataka, where Tata Electronics operates Pegatron Corp's manufacturing plants.

Tata and Foxconn are both expanding their production capacity in India, with new plants under construction to accommodate increased iPhone production. This shift is in line with Apple's push to make India a significant manufacturing hub for its products, as the company seeks to mitigate risks associated with its reliance on Chinese manufacturing.

The commitment to India comes despite trade tensions and global supply chain disruptions. Apple's decision reflects its strategic focus on securing a diversified and more resilient manufacturing base, leveraging India's favorable labor costs and growing industrial infrastructure. With these investments, Apple is positioning India as a key player in its global manufacturing ecosystem, ensuring continued growth and supply chain stability.

India's Trade Deficit Widens to Five-Month High as Exports Rise by 9%

India's trade deficit widened to USD 26.42 billion in April 2025, reaching its highest point in five months. This increase in the trade gap was driven by a 19.12% rise in imports, which reached USD 64.91 billion compared to USD 54.49 billion in the same month last year. At the same time, exports for April grew by 9.03%, reaching USD 38.49 billion.

The growth in exports was driven by strong performances in sectors such as electronics, engineering goods, tobacco, coffee, marine products, tea, textiles, rice, gems and jewelry, spices, petroleum products, and pharmaceuticals. However, the surge in imports outpaced export growth, particularly due to higher crude oil and fertilizer shipments. The import of crude oil rose by 25.6% to USD 20.7 billion, and gold imports increased by 4.86% to USD 3.09 billion.

The widening trade deficit marked the largest gap since November 2024, when it stood at USD 31.77 billion. Despite the rising trade deficit, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal expressed optimism about the country's export prospects. He highlighted that India had started the year on a strong note and was focused on ex-



panding trade with 20 countries and six key commodities. Barthwal also mentioned that several free trade agreements (FTAs) would be concluded soon, further boosting trade prospects.

In addition to merchandise exports, India's services exports also saw significant growth in April, rising to an estimated USD 35.31 billion from USD 30.18 billion in the same month of

2024. The strong export performance, especially in the services sector, continues to offer a positive outlook for India's overall trade balance despite the challenges posed by rising imports.

As India focuses on increasing its export momentum, the government is hopeful that the current trends will continue, ensuring a productive year for the country's trade sector.

India's GDP growth revised downward to 6.3% for 2025

Country remains one of fastest-growing large economies

The United Nations has revised India's GDP growth forecast for 2025 to 6.3%, down from the previous projection of 6.6%. Despite this downward adjustment, India remains one of the fastest-growing large economies, supported by strong private consumption, public investment, and robust services exports, according to the UN's "World Economic Situation and Prospects as of Mid-2025" report.

The report highlights that global economic conditions are precarious, with heightened trade tensions and increasing policy uncertainty. The recent surge in tariffs, particularly by the United States, threatens to raise production costs, disrupt global supply chains, and exacerbate financial instability. Nevertheless, India's growth continues to be driven by resilient domestic consumption and strong government spending, which are expected to support the economy in 2025, despite the moderation in growth.

While India's GDP growth rate is projected to slow from 7.1% in 2024 to 6.3% in 2025, the country is still set to outpace many other large economies. The report also notes that India's inflation rate is expected to slow to 4.3% in 2025, staying within the central bank's target range. Unemployment in India remains stable, although gender disparities in employment highlight the need for greater inclusivity in the workforce.



On the global front, the report forecasts global GDP growth at just 2.4% in 2025, a sharp decline from 2.9% in 2024. This slowdown is expected to impact both developed and developing economies, with major economies like the United States and China facing growth downgrades. The report also stresses the importance of strengthening multilateral cooperation to tackle global challenges such as trade friction, rising tariffs, and geopolitical tensions.

Despite global challenges, India's economic resilience positions it as a key player in the global economy moving forward.

How a Bengaluru Techie Built a ₹1 Crore Net Worth Before 30

A Bengaluru-based engineer has taken the internet by storm with his inspiring story of financial transformation, shared on the Personal Finance India subreddit. Starting with a modest ₹2.4 LPA (₹15,000/month) salary in 2018 at age 23, he now boasts a net worth of over ₹1 crore — all before turning 30.

“This isn’t a boast, it’s my story,” he clarified, describing his humble beginnings. Raised in a low-income household where his father earned ₹7,000–₹8,000 and his mother ₹5,000–₹7,000, money was always tight. Despite the odds, he attended a private school and later aced the JEE, enrolling in a local private engineering college. The deciding factor?



A college bus route that guaranteed a window seat. He pursued Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) but

quickly found himself more interested in hands-on projects than theory. “Grades didn’t matter much. I played with bots and hit an 8 CGPA with minimal effort,” he wrote.

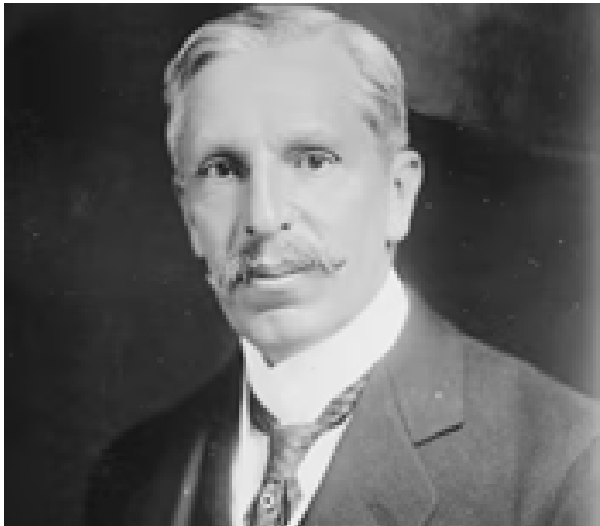
His real passion emerged in his third year: programming. After graduating, he joined a service-based company, one of only 35 selected from a pool of 400 students. His starting salary was ₹2.4 LPA, and life in a PG involved hard work, frugal living, and learning from peers—some of whom confused coding with copy-pasting.

The turning point came during COVID-19. After being ghosted by a Big 4 firm, he landed a ₹12 LPA role. Then, the 2022 job market boom saw

him crack 13 offers. He chose a product-based company offering ₹32 LPA, and stock grants took his total compensation to ₹45–50 LPA. Despite this leap in income, he remains grounded. “I use a 2019 Android phone, wear office tees, and sport ₹250 shoes—with ₹1,000 insoles,” he joked. He now invests ₹71,000 monthly via SIPs and grew his portfolio from ₹31.6 lakhs in 2023 to over ₹1 crore in 2025.

His advice? “Stay frugal where it matters, splurge where it counts, never underestimate compounding, and stay humble.” His goal: financial independence by 35–40 and retiring before 45, choosing peace over paychecks.

Pedro Lascuráin: The President With the World’s Shortest Term Shorter Than Your Lunch Break



In the annals of political history, Pedro Lascuráin holds a unique and bizarre record—serving as Mexico’s president for less than an hour. His presidency on February 19, 1913, remains the shortest in world history, lasting between 15 to 45 minutes. While the brevity of his term might sound unbelievable, it was a result of a political crisis that plunged Mexico into turmoil.

Born in Mexico City in 1858, Lascuráin was a lawyer who rose through the political ranks, eventually becoming the mayor of Mexico City in 1910. However, his unexpected leap to the presidency was less about ambition and more about unfortunate timing. In 1913, Mexico was embroiled in chaos after President Porfirio Díaz stepped down, leading to the brief presidency of Francisco Madero. But Madero’s administration came to an abrupt end when General Victoriano Huerta orchestrated a coup.

As the foreign minister at the time, Lascuráin was in line to succeed Madero. When Huerta forced Madero and his Vice-President to resign, he needed a figurehead president to legitimize his rise to power. Lascuráin, reluctantly, stepped in and assumed the presidency, only to appoint Huerta as interior minister—a move that paved the way for Huerta’s consolidation of power. After completing this act, Lascuráin promptly resigned, handing the reins over to Huerta.

In a shocking betrayal, Huerta had Madero and Vice-President José María Suárez executed, solidifying his authoritarian control. Lascuráin, however, managed to escape the violence and chaos that ensued. Unlike Huerta, who was eventually exiled after facing rebellion, Lascuráin returned to his law practice, living a quiet life until his death in 1952.

Though his presidential term was brief, Lascuráin’s involvement in this dramatic political episode left a lasting impact on Mexican history.

From Ice Baths to Treadmills: 6-Year-Old Adwik Paul and His Unbelievable Morning Routine

At an age when most children are immersed in cartoons, playtime, and school, 6-year-old Adwik Paul is redefining what discipline and fitness can look like for kids. A video of the young fitness enthusiast has taken social media by storm, showing his intense and highly structured morning routine—one that would put many adults to shame.

The viral video begins not in the morning, but at 8 PM the night before, when Adwik prepares for the next day with a cold face dip in ice water infused with lemon wedges—a practice followed by wellness devotees much older than him. But for Adwik, this is just the start.

His real day kicks off at 5:20 AM, when his father asks him, “Chalna hai gym ya chutti karni hai?” (Are we going to the gym or skipping today?). Without hesitation, the sleepy but determined boy replies, “Chalna hai”



(Let’s go). By 6 AM, the father-son duo is on the way to the gym.

Once there, Adwik’s workout begins around 6:35 AM with a walk on the treadmill. His fitness routine includes push-ups, high knees, squats with dumbbells, leg raises, and a proper warm-up and cool-down. It’s not just impressive—it’s professional. After their gym

session, they return home, and Adwik seamlessly transitions into school prep mode, heading out by 8:35 AM.

The caption on the post reads, “Day 110/75 – A day in the life of 6-year-old Adwik!” The video has already garnered over three million views, with countless comments praising the child’s discipline and commitment. Many viewers described him as an “inspiration,” and some even humorously admitted feeling embarrassed about their own routines in comparison.

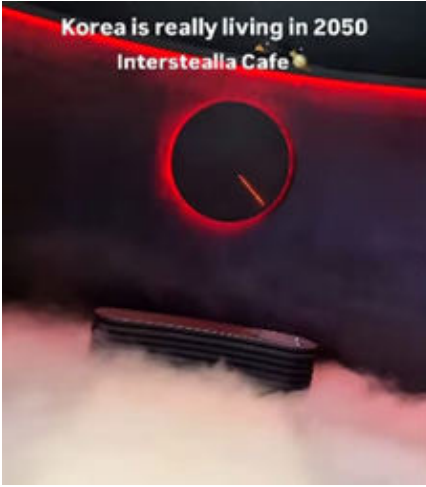
One user wrote, “Never seen a child so enthusiastic about the workout. God bless the duo.” Another added, “You are a champ! Lots of power to you.”

Adwik’s story proves that while it’s never too late to start a fitness journey, it’s also never too early.

Step Into the Future: South Korean Café Inspired by Sci-Fi Aesthetics

Imagine walking into a café that feels like you’ve stepped straight into a scene from a sci-fi movie. In South Korea, there’s a café that offers just that—a futuristic design that brings to mind Christopher Nolan’s *Interstellar*. This innovative space is not only drawing attention for its unique look but also for its enticing menu, which has quickly become a favorite among visitors.

The café is divided into four sections, each designed to feel like a work of art. From the moment you enter, you’re transported to another world, with an atmosphere that feels both futuristic and otherworldly. According to one Instagram user, “This is a futuristic café space. From the



moment you step inside until the moment you leave, you’ll feel as if you’ve entered a scene from a movie.”

But it’s not just the design that’s



capturing attention. The café’s desserts are also a highlight. The “Forest,” a green chocolate mousse cake topped with a delicate white pavlova, is a favorite among patrons and is priced at

12,000 Won (approximately Rs 700). Another standout dessert is “Water,” a melt-in-your-mouth jelly that’s as visually stunning as it is delicious, priced at 9,000 Won (around Rs 500).

This café is not just about coffee; it’s an experience. The combination of cutting-edge design and mouthwatering desserts makes it a must-visit for those looking for a unique spot that feels like it’s ahead of its time.

As one Instagram user put it, “Korea is really living in 2050.” If you’re ever in South Korea, this futuristic café offers a glimpse into what the future of dining might look like.

Middle Class Can’t Afford: Jaipur Parent Sparks Outrage Over ₹4.27 Lakh Fee for Class 1

The escalating cost of private school education in India has once again come under scrutiny, with a Jaipur parent highlighting the exorbitant fees charged by schools for basic admission. In a viral post on X (formerly Twitter), the father shared a breakdown of the fee structure for his daughter’s Class 1 admission, which amounts to an eye-watering ₹4.27 lakh for the year.

The fee details included ₹2,000 for registration, ₹40,000 for admission, ₹5,000 for refundable caution money, ₹2.52 lakh for annual tuition, ₹1.08 lakh for bus charges, and ₹20,000 for books and uniforms. The total cost for the entire academic year adds up to ₹4,27,000. In his post, the parent expressed frustration, stating, “This is the price of quality education in India. Can you af-

FEE STRUCTURE FOR THE ACADEMIC SESSION 2024-25					
Day Scholar- Grade 1 to 5 (8:00 am - 2:15 pm)					
For New Admission (All Classes)		School Fee	Meal Charges	Total Annual Fee	Monthly Fee through Grayquest in 9 equal installments
Registration Fee	: 2,000				
Admission Fee (1 Time)	: 40,000				
Caution Money (Refundable)	: 5,000				
Grade 1 to 5		2,52,900	Not Provided	2,52,900	28,100
					1,28,450

ford it even if you earn ₹20 lakh a year? No.”

The post quickly gained traction on social media, with many users echoing the concerns about the burden of private school fees on middle-class families. One user questioned the justification for such high fees, particularly for items like admission fees

and uniforms, which seem to be recurring costs. Another user humorously pointed out that, with fees this high, “the second most popular birth control method is school fees.”

Others reflected on how the fee structure in India starkly contrasts with countries that offer quality education and health-

care through tax payments. Some even raised concerns about the long-term financial impact of such fees, with one user commenting, “Multiply this with 12 and add a 10% hike every year. Does this school give direct entry to civil services?”

While some acknowledged the issue of rising education costs, others noted that the quality of education justifies the price. However, it remains clear that for many, the escalating cost of education is making it harder for the middle class to afford a basic, quality education for their children.

IPL 2025 Resumes with RCB vs KKR Clash; Spotlight on Virat Kohli After Test Retirement

The IPL 2025 resumes this Saturday following a 10-day break caused by India-Pakistan border tensions, with Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) set to face Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in a high-stakes encounter at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium. All eyes will be on Virat Kohli, who recently announced his retirement from Test cricket, making this his first appearance since the decision.



RCB currently sit second on the points table with 16 points from 11 games and are on the verge of securing a playoff spot. KKR, on the other hand, are sixth with 11 points from 12 matches, making this a must-win to keep their playoff hopes alive. The sudden break may have disrupted momentum for both sides, but RCB enter the match on the back of a four-match winning streak, while KKR had won two of their last three.

Rajat Patidar, leading RCB in the absence of Faf du Plessis, appears fit after recovering from a finger injury. The team will miss Devdutt Padikkal and pacer Josh Hazlewood due to injuries, but the return of foreign stars such as Phil Salt, Liam Livingstone, Tim David, Romario Shepherd, and Lungi Ngidi bolsters the squad.

Virat Kohli remains the focal point, with fans expected to wear white jerseys in tribute to his illustrious Test career. Kohli, known for

his intensity, will be keen to deliver a commanding performance and silence speculation around his sudden retirement from the longer format.

KKR's campaign has been inconsistent, primarily due to a misfiring batting line-up. Apart from Ajinkya Rahane and youngster Angkrish Raghuvanshi, most KKR batters have failed to fire, including big names like Andre Russell and Venkatesh Iyer. However, their bowling unit—featuring Varun Chakravarthy, Sunil Narine, and Harshit Rana—has managed to hold its own. England all-rounder Moeen Ali will miss the match due to illness.

The Chinnaswamy pitch has offered surprising assistance to bowlers this season, though recent weather and the long break may influence conditions. Both sides will need to adapt quickly as the IPL heads into a decisive phase.

Barcelona claim 28th LaLiga title after 2-0 win at Espanyol

Barcelona have clinched their 28th La Liga title after a commanding 2-0 win over city rivals Espanyol on Thursday, thanks to a sensational goal from teenage sensation Lamine Yamal and a stoppage-time strike by Fermin Lopez. The win puts Hansi Flick's side seven points ahead of second-placed Real Madrid with just two games remaining, securing the title and completing a superb domestic treble for the Catalan giants.



expect them to keep that fire."

Yamal, just 17, once again stepped up on a big occasion. His brilliant curling strike in the 53rd minute broke the deadlock in a tense derby and mirrored his Euro 2024 semi-final stunner for Spain against France. With eight league goals this season, including strikes against Real Madrid and Atletico, Yamal continues to show he thrives under pressure.

Fermin Lopez added a second goal deep into stoppage time to wrap up the victory, as Barcelona celebrated their second league triumph in six years—again at Espanyol's ground, just like in 2023. This time, instead of chaos, the home team turned on sprinklers to disrupt the celebrations, forcing Barca players off the pitch swiftly.

"Now it's time to celebrate," said Barcelona coach Hansi Flick, praising his squad's hunger for improvement. "It's in our DNA to want more, and I

Espanyol, fighting to avoid relegation, gave a spirited performance and even had chances in the first half. Javi Puado came close to scoring, but Wojciech Szczesny made a crucial save. However, a red card for Leandro Cabrera, after an elbow on Yamal, tilted the game firmly in Barcelona's favor.

Despite a hostile atmosphere and fans throwing objects after Barca's second goal, the youngest squad in La Liga wrapped up a remarkable season that few believed possible, especially following Kylian Mbappe's move to defending champions Real Madrid.

Celebrations were kept brief on the pitch due to security concerns, but Flick confirmed the team celebrated joyfully in the dressing room. "When I see people smiling, I enjoy it. The players deserve this," he said, marking a triumphant end to an extraordinary campaign.

Jasmine Paolini Makes History, Reaches Rome Final After Stunning Comeback

Italy's Jasmine Paolini etched her name into the history books on Thursday as she became the first Italian woman in 11 years to reach the final of the Italian Open. With a gritty and passionate performance, Paolini defeated American Peyton Stearns 7-5, 6-1 in front of a roaring home crowd in Rome.



The 29-year-old, currently ranked world number five, follows in the footsteps of her doubles partner Sara Errani, who last made it to the final in 2014 before falling to Serena Williams. For Paolini, the win marks a dream come true. "It's a dream to be here, to play in Italy, and to play the final," she said emotionally after the match.

However, her path to the final was anything but smooth. Much like her quarter-final clash, where she came back from a set and 4-0 down against Diana Shnaider, Paolini started slowly. Stearns raced to a 3-0 lead in the first set, quieting the home crowd and putting the Italian under immediate pressure. By the time Stearns led 4-1, it seemed the American was poised to take control.

But Paolini refused to go down without a fight. Saving multiple set points, she clawed her way back to level the set at 5-5, letting out a triumphant scream that reignited the crowd. Riding the wave of energy, she reeled off four consecutive games to take the

opening set after more than an hour of intense play.

From there, the momentum was all Paolini. With aggressive shot-making and precise winners, she broke Stearns twice to go up 4-1 in the second set. The American had no answers as her confidence waned and errors crept in. On match point, Stearns sent a forehand wide, and Paolini raised her arms in victory to the sound of a jubilant Roman crowd.

"You gave me a boost," Paolini told the fans. "I struggled at the beginning, but point by point, we turned it around together."

Paolini now awaits the winner of the semifinal between China's Zheng Qinwen and American star Coco Gauff, with the final set for Saturday.

2025 World Test Championship Final to Feature Record Prize Money

The winners of the 2025 World Test Championship (WTC) will be awarded a record prize of \$3.6 million, more than double the \$1.6 million that was handed to Australia for winning the final against India in 2023. The significant increase in prize money underscores the International Cricket Council's (ICC) commitment to elevating the profile of Test cricket, reflecting its efforts to grow the competition.



The 2025 final will see Australia take on South Africa at the historic Lord's Cricket Ground, with the match set to begin on June 11. In addition to the champions' share of \$3.6 million, the losing finalists will receive \$2.1 million. This marks a sharp rise from the \$800,000 received by the runners-up in the previous two editions of the WTC.

The prize money boost highlights the ICC's ongoing focus on Test cricket, aiming to build on the momentum created by the first three cycles of the nine-team competition. South Africa made a strong finish in the current cycle, clinching 69.44 percentage points with a 2-0 home series win over Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Defending champions Australia followed closely behind with 67.54 points, while India, despite leading the standings for

much of the competition, finished with 50.00 points.

Australian captain Pat Cummins expressed pride in his team's achievement, stating, "We are enormously proud to have the opportunity to defend the World Test Championship, especially at Lord's. It's a testament to all those involved across the past two years who have worked incredibly hard to reach the final."

South African skipper Temba Bavuma also acknowledged the significance of the event, saying, "Everyone understands the importance of Test cricket, and the World Test Championship lends context to this vital format of the game. Lord's is a fitting venue for this mega fixture, and all of us will be out there trying to give our best against Australia."

The 2025 final is shaping up to be a thrilling contest between two of the best teams in Test cricket.

Pro Kabaddi League Season 12 Player Auction Set for May 31-June 1 in Mumbai

Mashal Sports has officially announced that the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 12 Player Auction will be held on May 31 and June 1, 2025, in Mumbai. This highly anticipated auction comes on the heels of a thrilling Season 11, where Haryana Steelers clinched their maiden title, defeating the formidable three-time champions Patna Pirates in the final held on December 29, 2024, in Panchkula.



Since its inception in 2014, the Pro Kabaddi League has rapidly risen to become one of India's most popular and successful sporting leagues. Over 11 seasons, the league has crowned eight different champions, under-

scoring its competitive nature and the evolving strength of participating teams.

Season 11, staged between October

18 and December 29, 2024, marked a pivotal moment in the league's journey as it completed a decade of action-packed kabaddi. With strong fan

support and growing global interest, PKL continues to solidify its reputation as a professional league that blends tradition with modern sports entertainment.

Anupam Goswami, Business Head of Mashal Sports and League Chairman of Pro Kabaddi League, highlighted the significance of the upcoming auction, calling it "a launch-pad for our teams to demonstrate their strategy, determination, and ambition." He added that the auction also acts as a showcase for international kabaddi talent, spotlighting the growing global appeal of India's indigenous sport.

Organized under the sanction of the

Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI) and developed by Mashal Sports in partnership with JioStar, the league has redefined kabaddi, both in terms of athleticism and visibility. PKL features the largest number of matches among all Indian sports leagues, making it a critical platform for player development and fan engagement.

As teams prepare for the Season 12 auction, kabaddi enthusiasts across India and around the world eagerly await the next chapter in the sport's professional journey—one that promises intense rivalries, strategic gameplay, and the unmatched energy of kabaddi fans.



Hari Hara Veera Mallu Locks New Release Date: June 12, 2025

Powerstar Pawan Kalyan's much-awaited historical action epic Hari Hara Veera Mallu finally has a confirmed release date. After facing several delays, the makers have now officially announced that the film will hit theatres worldwide on June 12, 2025.

The announcement was made through a powerful social media post by the film's team, stating: "GET READY FOR THE BATTLE OF A LIFETIME! Mark your calendars for #HariHaraVeeraMallu on June 12, 2025! The battle for Dharma begins..." This has sent fans into a frenzy, as they have been waiting for updates on the film for quite some time.

Originally scheduled for a March release, and later pushed to May, the film has now settled on a June release. With just under a month to go, the makers are reportedly planning an aggressive promotional campaign. A special teaser and a gripping theatrical trailer are said to be in the works to elevate the hype and keep the excitement alive among fans and moviegoers.

The film has seen its share of production hurdles, including a change in direction. After Krish Jagarlamudi stepped away from the project, AM Jyothi Krishna took over directorial duties to complete the film. Despite these setbacks, the team is determined to deliver a high-octane, visually rich experience.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu stars Pawan Kalyan in the titular role and features Niddhi Agerwal as the female



lead. The cast also includes notable actors like Arjun Rampal, Anasuya Bharadwaj, and Poojitha Ponnada. Music is composed by the legendary MM Keeravani, and the film is produced by veteran AM Rathnam.

As the countdown begins, expectations are sky-high. Whether the film lives up to its promise remains to be seen, but one thing is certain—fans can finally gear up for the battle for Dharma on June 12th, 2025.

Teaser Talk: Ashwin Babu's 'Vachhinavadu Gautam' Promises a Gripping Medico-Thriller

Actor Ashwin Babu, known for experimenting with distinct genres, is back with an exciting new project titled Vachhinavadu Gautam. The film, which is shaping up to be a high-stakes medico-thriller, has just dropped its official teaser—and it's creating serious buzz among moviegoers.



Directed by Mamindala M.R. Krishna and produced by T. Ganapathi Reddy under the Aruna Sri Entertainments banner, Vachhinavadu Gautam stands out with its intense visuals and intriguing storyline. The teaser opens with a powerful voice-over by actor Manoj Manchu, immediately setting a gripping and mysterious tone. The background narration adds depth and drama, hinting at the layered story to unfold.

Ashwin Babu portrays the titular character Gautam, and his look and demeanor in the teaser are intense and commanding. His portrayal suggests a man caught in the middle of high-tension events, possibly linked to medical conspiracies, ethics, or psychological conflicts. The action-packed sequences combined with emotional undertones give a glimpse of a well-rounded, engaging narrative.

The teaser also showcases the film's high technical standards. Gowrahari's music score perfectly matches the mood, en-

hancing both suspense and emotion. The background music builds anticipation and leaves a lasting impact. M.N. Bal Reddy's cinematography deserves special mention for its sharp visuals and creative framing, giving the teaser a polished and cinematic feel.

Director Mamindala M.R. Krishna appears to be blending genres and themes to deliver a fresh, edge-of-the-seat thriller that deviates from conventional storylines. The teaser has certainly succeeded in piquing the curiosity of viewers, raising expectations for the full film.

With Riya Suman and Ayesha Khan also playing key roles, Vachhinavadu Gautam looks promising on multiple fronts—performance, visuals, and story. As the release date nears, fans of Ashwin Babu and thriller enthusiasts alike have good reason to be excited. If the teaser is any indication, Vachhinavadu Gautam could be one of the surprise hits of the season.

War 2 Teaser Set for May 20 Release on NTR's Birthday

The countdown has officially begun for one of the most awaited cinematic clashes in Indian film history. War 2, the much-hyped sequel to the 2019 blockbuster War, is all set to bring together two of Indian cinema's biggest powerhouses—Bollywood's Hrithik Roshan and Tollywood's NTR—for an epic showdown. Directed by Ayan Mukerji, the high-octane spy thriller is scheduled to release on August 14, 2025, as a grand Independence Day treat.

Adding to the excitement, the makers have now revealed a key update that has fans buzzing. The official teaser of War 2 will be unveiled on May 20, coinciding with the birthday of NTR, who plays the film's antagonist. This



strategic release is sure to be a double celebration for fans of the Telugu superstar and the action franchise alike.

The teaser is expected to offer a first glimpse into the adrenaline-fueled world of War 2, featuring intense confrontations, breathtaking action sequences, and the electric chemistry between Hrithik Roshan and NTR. With Kiara Advani also playing a lead role, the film promises a balanced blend of action, drama, and emotion.

Hrithik Roshan reprises his role as RAW agent Major Kabir Dhaliwal, a character that won him widespread acclaim in the first installment. NTR's role as the antagonist adds

a fresh dynamic to the storyline, heightening the anticipation for this pan-India spectacle.

Produced by Aditya Chopra under the prestigious Yash Raj Films banner, War 2 is a major addition to the YRF Spy Universe, which includes hits like Ek Tha Tiger, Tiger Zinda Hai, Pathaan, and Tiger 3. The film will enjoy a massive release across India in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada, ensuring it reaches a wide and diverse audience.

As the teaser release approaches, expectations are at an all-time high. If early buzz is anything to go by, War 2 is gearing up to be one of the biggest cinematic events of 2025.

Naveen Chandra's Eleven: A Crime Thriller with Moments of Intrigue but Lacks Pace

Eleven, the latest Telugu crime investigation thriller starring Naveen Chandra, hit the screens on May 16, 2025. Directed by Lokkesh Ajls, the film attempts to deliver a gripping murder mystery set in the coastal city of Vizag. While it offers a few moments of intrigue, it ultimately falls short of being a memorable thriller.

The plot centers around a string of mysterious murders in Vizag, all following a peculiar and similar pattern. ACP Aravind, played by Naveen Chandra, is assigned to crack the case. Initially hitting a dead end, he finds a crucial clue from one of the victims' bodies. As he digs deeper, Aravind unearths shocking truths about the killer and their hidden motives. The rest of the story follows his pursuit—will he be able to stop the murderer, or does the criminal remain one step ahead?

Naveen Chandra gives a sincere and grounded performance as ACP Aravind. His composed, investigative demeanor suits the role well. The film's concept is solid, and a few twists—especially in the second half—help to raise the tension.

The emotional layer and backstory of the antagonist are also well-conceived, adding some depth to the narrative. Supporting actors like Shashank, Dilipan, and Abirami deliver decent performances that support the film's overall tone.

Despite its promising setup, Eleven suffers from sluggish pacing. The first half in particular moves



at a crawl, lacking the urgency and engagement that a thriller demands. Naveen's subtle performance, though fitting, becomes monotonous at times. Reyaa Hari, who also co-produced the film, is underutilized in a role with minimal impact.

A more gripping screenplay and tighter editing would have significantly improved the film. The lack of sufficient twists in the first half weakens the suspense.

Director Lokkesh Ajls has a clear idea but falters in execution. The cinematography by Karthik Ashokan is functional, and D. Imman's score adds some tension in key scenes. Editing by Srikanth N.B. could have been crisper to avoid the lag.

Eleven offers a few engaging moments and a decent storyline, but its slow pace and underwhelming execution limit its potential. A mildly engaging watch for crime thriller enthusiasts.

Sidharth Malhotra's 'Vvan - Force of the Forest' Set for May 2026 Release

The much-anticipated folk thriller Vvan - Force of the Forest, starring Sidharth Malhotra, will officially hit Indian theatres on May 15, 2026, the film's makers announced. Directed by Arunabh Kumar and Deepak Mishra, renowned for their work on the hit web series Panchayat, the film promises to be an action-packed adventure.

Initially scheduled for release during Chhath Puja 2025, the film's release has been rescheduled to May 2026. Produced by Ektaa R Kapoor's Balaji Telefilms Ltd and The Viral Fever (TVF), Vvan - Force of the Forest marks the first collaboration between the two companies following their creative partnership announcement in 2023.

The film's plot revolves around a mysterious force unleashed within the forest, and the tagline, "The forest has whispered. The force will be unleashed on 15th May, 2026!" hints at an intense adventure that blends folk elements with thriller action.

In addition to Sidharth Malhotra, the movie features the talented Tamannaah Bhatia in a key role, adding to the excitement surrounding the project. As the re-



lease date draws near, anticipation for the film continues to grow, with fans eagerly awaiting the unfolding of this unique adventure.

Balaji Telefilms shared the exciting news on their social media, confirming the new release date and teasing fans with what promises to be an unforgettable cinematic experience.