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# 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 powwarning erful 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 terror-



ism, 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



# CM Revanth C

### **TPN Correspondent | Telangana**

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has unveiled an ambitious plan for the power infrastructure of Future City, directing that it be completely underground with no visible power wires, towers, or poles. In a high-level review meeting held at the Secretariat with Deputy CM and Power Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, the CM emphasized that advanced and state-ofthe-art systems must be adopted to meet the future power needs of the state.

### **Underground Power for Future City**

— a flagship urban development — must lead the way with a fully modern underground power system. He also instructed officials to explore the experimental setup of smart poles in select areas of Greater Hyderabad.

Officials briefed the CM that the state's power demand has already reached 17,162 MW this year — a 9.8% increase from last year. This demand is projected to touch that power generation plans and substation capacities be expanded immediately to keep pace with this rapid growth. Furthering his green energy goals, Revanth Reddy proposed that solar power genera-

tion be initiated along the Outer Ring Road (ORR). He said such a move would promote sustainable energy while aligning with the state's environmental objectives.

The CM made it clear that a futuristic approach must be adopted at every level to ensure Telangana's power infrastructure is resilient, eco-friendly, and prepared for the next generation of economic and technological development.

18,138 MW by 2025–26 and rise to 31,808 MW With this comprehensive and visionary by 2034–35. In response, the CM directed strategy, the Revanth Reddy government aims to create a power system that not only supports massive urban expansion but also strengthens Telangana's image as a modern, sustainable, and tech-driven state.

was nurturing," he revealed, lauding the swift and effective execution of the mission.



Revanth Reddy stated that Hyderabad is being strategically developed as a global hub for data centers, and uninterrupted, high-quality power is essential to achieve this goal. As part of this vision, Future City

# **Ministers Take Bribes for File Clearance, Says Konda Surekha** - Clarifies Later

- Warangal event remark sparks major political controversy
- Surekha says her comment referred to ex-BRS ministers
- Alleges her statement was distorted for political gain

### TPN Correspondent | Warangal

Telangana Minister for Forests, Environment and Endowments, Konda Surekha, has stirred a political storm with her recent remarks suggesting that ministers often take bribes to clear official files. The comments, made during the foundation stone laying ceremony of a government girls' junior college building in Warangal on Thursday, quickly drew sharp criticism and sparked debate across political circles. Speaking at the event, Minister Surekha said, "Since I am the Forest Minister, some companies come to me for clearance of files. Usually ministers take money to clear such files. But I tell them not to give even a single rupee. Instead, I encourage them to do social service, such as building a school.'

She cited a specific instance where a company, after approaching her for file approval, was persuaded to take up a social cause. "They agreed to construct the college building at a cost of ₹4.5 crore. I was very happy," she added.

However, the statement — especially the generalisa-



tion that "ministers take money" — drew immediate backlash. Opposition parties and critics of the Congress government seized on her remarks as an admission of ongoing corruption within the administration. The issue quickly snowballed into a political flashpoint.

Responding to the growing controversy, Konda Surekha clarified her stance on the social media platform 'X' on Friday. She asserted that her comments were being taken out of context and that she was specifically re-

ferring to practices under the previous BRS regime. "I said that ministers in the previous BRS government used to take money for any work. My comments were in reference to their functioning, not the current government. Some people have deliberately distorted my statement," she posted. She also announced that she would soon release a detailed video to set the record straight.

Surekha is no stranger to controversy. In the past, her public accusation linking BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) to the divorce of actors Naga Chaitanya and Samantha created a furore, leading to defamation suits filed against her by both actor Nagarjuna and KTR.

With this latest episode, political tensions in Telangana appear to be intensifying, as the opposition continues to exploit Surekha's remark to corner the Congress-led government. All eyes are now on her promised video clarification as the controversy continues to simmer.

Cites Surekha's remarks on ministers demanding commissions

**Demands** names of corrupt ministers be made public

Seeks response from **CM Revanth Reddy** and **Rahul Gandhi** 

### **TPN Correspondent | Telangana**

BRS working president and former minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) launched a scathing attack on the Congress government in Telangana, alleging it has turned into a "commission government." Reacting to remarks made by Congress Minister Konda Surekha, who stated that ministers were not working without taking commissions, KTR took to Twitter to sarcastically thank her for "revealing the truth."

"It is now an open secret that the Congress government in Telangana is running as a 'commission government'," KTR tweeted. He accused ministers and their associates of demanding a 30% commission just to approve files, calling the situation "very unfortunate."

KTR also recalled an incident where contractors held a protest in front of the Secretariat, alleging they were being forced

## **Congress Running** a 'Commission **Government': KTR**



to pay commissions to get their payments cleared — an event he said exposed the widespread corruption in the current government.

Challenging Konda Surekha, KTR demanded that she publicly reveal the names of the ministers involved in the alleged bribery. "You have spoken the truth, but the people deserve the complete picture. Reveal the names of the corrupt ministers," he urged. He also questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy directly. "Will you remain silent on your own minister's allegations? Can you order a probe into these serious charges?" KTR asked in his post.

KTR's explosive tweet has since stirred intense political debate, putting the Congress party on the defensive while fueling the opposition's criticism of the ruling government's integrity.



# **Dharani Made Farmers Sleepless: Minister Ponguleti**

- Tribunals to be set up under Bhu Bharati Act
- Land title maps to be printed in passbooks
- Indiramma houses to be given in four more phases

### TPN Correspondent | Nirmal

Farmers suffered sleepless nights due to the Dharani portal introduced by the previous government, which punished many without fault, said State Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy. He made these remarks while participating in Bhu Bharati awareness meetings in Nirmal and Asifabad districts on Friday, alongside Tribal Welfare Minister Seethakka.

The Minister announced that Bhu Bharati Tribunals will be established to ensure speedy resolution of land disputes as part of the implementation of the Bhu Bharati Act. He said over 13,000 applications have been received in the four pilot zones, and the government aims to resolve all issues by the 30th of this month.

Ponguleti said a multi-level appeal system has been developed under the act, allowing appeals from the Tehsildar to the Tribunal, passing through the RDO, Additional Collector, Collector, and CCLA levels. He emphasized that the government is committed to making Revenue Department services transparent and accessible to every citizen.

He also stated that land-related disputes are now being addressed swiftly and reliably through Bhu Bharati, enabling farmers to secure land rights with accurate records. To ensure future clarity, land title maps will be printed in landowners' passbooks. He added that 6,000 licensed surveyors are being appointed, and village revenue officers will soon be recruited to streamline land boundary identification and service delivery.



The Minister warned that deliberate delays by officials in resolving land issues will attract strict action. He also said that eligible farmers cultivating assigned lands without pattas will be given legal ownership rights under the Bhu Bharati Act. CCLA Commissioner Naveen Mittal and other senior officials participated in the meetings.

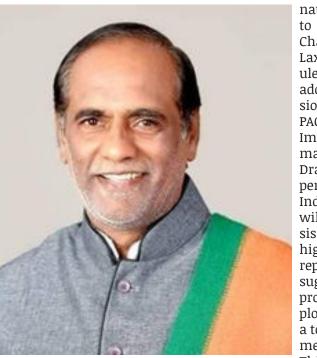
Regarding housing, Ponguleti assured that no one eligible would be left out of the Indiramma housing scheme. He said 3,500 houses have already been sanctioned for each constituency in the first phase, and four more phases will be implemented to cover all deserving beneficiaries. He urged those who were not selected in the first phase not to worry.

"Every landowner will be protected under the Bhu Bharati Act," the Minister affirmed, signaling a decisive shift toward citizen-friendly land reforms.

# **Dr K Laxman to Represent India** at Asia-Pacific PAC Workshop

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi Dr K Laxman, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, and President of BJP OBC Morcha, has been nominated by the Government of India to represent the country at the prestigious Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop. This event, jointly organized by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), UK and the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji, will be held from May 19 to 21, 2025 in Nadi, Fiji Islands.

The workshop's core objective is to deliberate on best practices



nated two prominent members to attend: Shri KC Venugopal, Chairman of the PAC, and Dr K Laxman. Dr Laxman is scheduled to deliver a significant address on May 21, during Session 10, on the topic "Assessing PAC Effectiveness, Measuring Impact and Enhancing Performance."

Drawing from his extensive experience as a PAC member in India, Dr Laxman's presentation will provide an in-depth analysis of PAC functioning in India, highlight the impact of PAC reports, and offer innovative suggestions to improve inquiry processes. His talk will also explore the use of Technogym as a tool to enhance accountability mechanisms. This international engagement underscores Dr Laxman's growing stature in parliamentary oversight and reflects India's commitment to strengthening democratic accountability in the Asia-Pacific region.

# **Record Grain** Procurement **Underway: Minister Uttam**

50 lakh metric tons procured so far this Rabi

- season 8,348 procurement centres operational across Telan-
- gana Government committed to buying even wet grain

**TPN Correspon**dent | Telangana

Telangana has witnessed a record paddy yield in the Yasangi (Rabi) season, and the state government is committed to procuring grain directly from farmers in line with their expectations, said Civil Supplies Minister Uttam

Kumar Reddy. He made these remarks during a video conference with district collectors to review the ongoing procurement process. He was joined by Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar, Chief Secretary A. Ramakrishna Rao, Civil Supplies Chief Secretary D.S. Chauhan, and other senior officials.

The Minister revealed that paddy cultivation took place in 60.14 lakh acres this Rabi season, with an estimated yield of 129.35 lakh metric ment efficiently. tons of grain. The government has Uttam Kumar Reddy also cautioned set a target to procure 70.13 lakh against false propaganda regardmetric tons, and as of now, 50 lakh metric tons have already been procured.

more than the 2021–22 Rabi season, to handle the increased yield. The Minister assured that even wet grain would be purchased, signaling a farmer-friendly approach by the government.

He directed district collectors to personally inspect procurement centres, monitor operations at the field level, and ensure that any errors are addressed promptly. He instructed officials to stay alert over the next 10–12 days, which are crucial for completing the procure-



and challenges related to scrutinizing public finances among Asia-Pacific nations. It aims to empower Public Accounts Committees (PACs) across member countries to ensure greater transparency and accountability in public expenditure.

Founded in 1948, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association has played a vital role in promoting democratic governance and protecting human rights throughout the Commonwealth

countries. This workshop brings together invited parliamentarians from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss the efficacy and functioning of PACs in their respective democracies. The Government of India has nomiHighlighting the government's seriousness in this matter, Uttam Kumar Reddy noted, "In the 2023 Rabi season, 25 lakh metric tons were procured by May 15. This time, we've already crossed 50 lakh metric tons by the same date."

He emphasized that a record number of procurement centres—8,348 have been set up, which is 1,739

ing the grain procurement process. "Collectors must take initiative to counter misinformation, reveal facts to the public, and reassure farmers," he said.

The Minister reiterated the government's unwavering commitment to farmer welfare, stressing that the procurement system has been designed and is being executed to meet the needs and wishes of the farming community.

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# Op Sindoor is not over yet

### 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. 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 re-

lease 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.

# **Telangana To Witness Moderate Rains For Four Days**

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued alerts predicting moderate rainfall across Telangana for the next four days, with heavy to very heavy rainfall expected in isolated areas on Friday and Saturday due to a surface-level cyclonic circulation.

Hyderabad and its surroundings are likely to receive light to moderate showers accompa-

nied by gusty winds of 40-50 kmph over the next two days. The city already witnessed rains from Thursday night through Friday morning, with Langar House recording 58 mm and Rajendranagar 57.3 mm of rainfall, according to data from the Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS). The showers brought much-needed respite from intense summer heat.

IMD has issued an orange alert for the



districts of Jagtial, Rajanna Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, and Medchal Malkajgiri, forecasting intense rainfall in these areas. A yellow alert has been issued for Adilabad, Komarambhim Asifabad, Mancherial, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanmakonda, Jangaon, Siddipet, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradri Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda, and Survapet districts.

The affected areas may also experience thunder and lightning, especially in parts of Nirmal, Nizamabad, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparthy, Narayanpet, Jogulamba and Gadwal. IMD has warned that daytime temperatures may dip 3 to 5 degrees Celsius below normal for the next three days.

Meanwhile, the southwest monsoon is progressing steadily. The IMD reported that it has already advanced

into parts of the southeast Arabian Sea, Maldives, Comorin region, south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Islands, and the Andaman Sea. Conditions are favorable for further advancement into more areas of the south Arabian Sea in the next 3–4 days. The monsoon is expected to hit the Kerala coast by the end of May, arriving four days earlier than usual, which may bring further rainfall momentum across southern India.





Calls Pushkara bathing a great blessing Describes Saraswati Pushkara arrangements as wonderful **Praises leadership of Minister Sridhar Babu** 

### TPN Correspondent |Telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu expressed immense satisfaction over the arrangements made for Saraswati Pushkara at Kaleshwaram on Friday. After performing the Pushkara puja with his family, he spoke to the media praising the event as "amazing and indescribable."

The Deputy CM said that participating in the Saraswati Pushkara bathing is a great blessing and that all facilities and blessings will be provided to devotees during the 12-day festival. He assured that any mistakes or errors will be overcome through the sanctity of Pushkara bathing.

He appreciated the efforts led by Minister Sridhar Babu in ensuring seamless arrangements, including the well-organized tent city catering to thousands of pilgrims. Security, sanitation, and bathing facilities have been arranged with utmost dedication by the officials, he added.



daily priestly programs and the involvement of the village headman in taking the first bath and performing rituals at Deputy CM Bhatti also highlighted the Mukteshwara temple, marking the sig-

nificance of the festival. Minister Sridhar Babu and district administration officials accompanied the Deputy CM during the event.

pable.

## **CM Tarnished Telangana's Image: BRS**



### **TPN Correspondent** Telangana

BRS Assembly Whip K.P. MLAs Vivekananda, Dr. Kalvakuntla Sanjay and Anil Jadhav launched a scathing attack on the Congress government at a press meet held at Telangana Bhavan, alleging large-scale irregularities Reddy's leadership. The leaders accused the government massive financial scam. of bringing shame to Telangana, citing the Supreme Court's observations on the Kanche-Gachibowli lands as a reflection of the CM's "anti-people" governance. Vivekananda said that people were welcoming the Supreme Court's verdict and now un-

derstand who acted like "jackals" by clearing trees during court vacation. "The CM has tarnished Telangana's image. He was caught like a thief in the Kanche-Gachibowli lands issue," he remarked. He claimed the government were pressuring police to tarsold out lands worth ₹10,000 crore by paying ₹170 crore to slammed the Congress for The BRS leaders collectively under Chief Minister Revanth brokers and demanded an betraying tribals, remind- warned that they will conindependent probe into this ing that Revanth Reddy had tinue to question the gov-He further highlighted that Kodangal campaign. "Even the Central Empowered Committee had vindicated the BRS party's stand and urged a criminal case to be filed included in the Cabinet," he against Revanth Reddy for pointed out, demanding that environmental destruction in Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarthe Central University area. ka be given full responsibili-

Central agencies. But because a BJP MP is involved, the Centre isn't acting," Vivekananda said. He added that CM Revanth was running Telangana like a 'Premier League' while ignoring tribal and public welfare.

MLA Anil Jadhav came out strongly in support of MLA Kaushik Reddy, condemning the SC/ST Atrocity case filed against him. He questioned whether asking about marks of Ramulu Nayak's daughter-in-law was a crime and alleged that Congress leaders get opposition MLAs. Jadhav insulted tribals during the ernment despite cases filed today, tribal students are suffering abroad without scholarships. No tribal MLA was "We've already complained to ties if the current CM is inca-

Dr. Kalvakuntla Sanjay, raising serious concerns about irregularities in Group-1 recruitment, stated that CM Revanth lacks the basic understanding of competitive exams. He said the TGPSC's manipulation of hall ticket numbers, selection anomalies in Kothi Women's College, and unexplained results for 21,103 candidates point to a rigged process. "Telugu medium students, those who wrote books during the Telangana movement, were ignored. What kind of justice is

this?" he asked.



**POLITICS** 

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy lashed out at BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), accusing him of spreading false propaganda and misleading the people with morph videos and cooked-up narratives. He described KTR's recent behavior as politically desperate and personally offensive.

Taking strong exception to KTR's comments on Telangana officials and his criticism of the Congress government, Chamala Kiran launched a scathing counterattack, saying,

"KTR is speaking like a monkey who has drunk toddy. BRS is doing politics like a chicken egg — confused and aimless."

He said KTR has no moral right to talk about women's self-respect, pointing out that the BRS leader never spoke about women's issues for a decade, except about his own family. "What happened to the self-respect of Telangana women when you tweeted to Sonia Gandhi?" Chamala Kiran asked, adding that KTR remained silent during key issues affecting women.

Responding to KTR's comments on recent videos showing officials washing feet, Kiran Kumar said the footage was taken out of context and is now being misused for political mileage.

"Someone might have washed the feet of Miss World contestants at Ramappa Temple out of excitement or personal enthusiasm — but KTR is deliberately distorting facts."

He also questioned the morality behind BRS leaders accusing the Congress government of disrespect when it was their own party that had failed to prioritize real women's issues for a decade.

Kiran further added that KTR is disturbed by CM Revanth Reddy's clear vision to clean up the financial mess left by BRS, and is trying to create confusion using YouTube channels funded by hundreds of crores he amassed during his rule.

"KTR has stooped to the level of using morph videos and petty allegations," he said. "The truth of the matter lies in the full context of leaders like Konda Surekha, not in the propaganda being peddled."

He concluded by saying the people of Telangana are watching and will not fall for KTR's daily dose of false narratives.



## **"KTR Needs Treatment in**

against them, and exposed how even Cabinet Ministers were alleging 20% commissions. They condemned the unprecedented protest by contractors at the Secretariat, saying it exposed the Congress government's failure.

## Rift Between CM and Dy CM, Says MLA Maheswar Reddy

### **TPN Correspondent** Hyderabad

BJP Floor Leader Alleti Maheswar Reddy on Friday alleged a growing rift within Telangana's Congress leadership, stating that the party high command is contemplating replacing Chief Minister Revanth Reddy after the local body elections. According to him, the Telangana Cabinet has split into two factions due to differences in opinion, fueling internal instability.

He pointed out that the Chief Minister's repeated criticisms of the state's financial situation have not sat well with a section of ministers and leaders, contributing to the widening gap between Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka. Addressing the prolonged delay in cabinet expansion, Alleti

Maheswar Reddy claimed that the Chief Minister is obstructing the induction of new ministers out of fear that they may work against him. This delay is reportedly causing concern among aspirants waiting for



ministerial berths. The BJP leader also conveyed that loyal Congress members are worried about the party's prospects in upcoming elections, fearing that the Chief Minister's decisions could adversely affect the party's future. He added that several senior Telangana Congress leaders have already submitted performance reports about Revanth Reddy to the party high command.

'Many leaders are maintaining a safe distance from the Chief Minister amid growing discontent," Alleti Maheswar Reddy stated, highlighting the deepening leadership crisis within Telangana's ruling party.

## **BJP Files Complaint Over** AI Image of PM Modi



TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar

Hyderabad: BJP leaders from Telangana's Karimnagar district staged a protest and filed a complaint at Ramadugu police station against an individual for sharing an AI-generated 'anti-national' image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in handcuffs outside a jail in Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

The accused, identified as MD Mujahid, who is reportedly an RTC driver from Jagtial district, allegedly posted the manipulated image on his Facebook account. BJP leaders alleged that Mujahid has been repeatedly sharing anti-national content on social media.

Demanding strict action, BJP representatives called for the accused to be booked under laws applicable to anti-national acts and terrorists. They refused to leave the police station until an FIR was registered.

As of now, the police have not issued any official statement regarding the complaint or the investigation.

## Erragadda": Mettu Sai Kumar

TPN Correspondent | Telangana help KTR get proper treatment in Fisherish Corporation Chairman Mettu Sai Kumar launched a scathing attack on the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and its senior leader K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), accusing them of spreading misinformation and engaging in cheap politics. Speaking from Gandhi Bhavan, Sai Kumar strongly condemned the recent circulation of a doctored video of miss world participants washing their feet and making it look like locals washing their feet, calling it a deliberate attempt to mislead the public.

He claimed that BRS leaders, particularly KTR, are unable to digest the growing popularity of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and are resorting to false propaganda and social media theatrics. "KTR is tweeting and spreading lies. All the BRS leaders have lost their minds," said Sai Kumar.

Raising his tone, he mocked KTR's mental state, saying, "Have you lost your minds? Have your staff lost their minds? KTR, get treatment in Erragadda. We will

Erragadda."

Continuing his sharp criticism, Sai Kumar ridiculed BRS's arrogance by stating, "They have an ID card for arrogance and an Aadhar card for arrogance." He accused the party of being jealous of Revanth Reddy's rising image in Telangana and his efforts to place the state on the global map. "They are impatient because Revanth Reddy is getting global mileage for Telangana,' he added.

Sai Kumar also condemned the online harassment and derogatory remarks targeted at women, allegedly by BRS social media supporters. "They are harassing women with petty posts and cheap language," he stated, urging the public not to fall for such divisive tactics.

He reaffirmed the Congress government's commitment to progress and integrity and appealed to the public to remain vigilant against misleading narratives and political drama.







# **CV Anand Wins Top Anti-Narcotics** Award at World Police Summit

### Hyderabad's H-NEW recognized for innovative drug control programs Award highlights India's fight against narcotics post-Covid

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

General and Commissioner proactive steps taken by of Police, Hyderabad, rep- H-NEW to combat drug resenting the Hyderabad trafficking and misuse in Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW), has been awarded the first position for "Excellence in Anti-Narcotics Award" at the World Police Summit (WPS) 2025. The event was organized by

16, 2025, in Dubai, UAE.

Mr. C.V. Anand, Director The award recognizes the Hyderabad. These include extensive awareness campaigns among students and the general public, alongside significant operational successes over the past three vears.

Dubai Police from May 13 to At the award ceremony held at the Dubai Police Officers Club. Mr. Anand expressed his gratitude to his team and emphasized the pride this international recognition brings to Telangana Police and India as a whole. He noted that police officials from 138 countries participated in the summit and that Hyderabad's win reflects the innovative and

comprehensive approach adopted by H-NEW.

In a panel discussion before the awards, Mr. Anand highlighted India's narcotics challenges, especially after Covid-19, the routes through which drugs enter the country, arrests of gangs and peddlers, and ongoing efforts to monitor educational institutions and support rehabilitation.



## **Demolition in Aminpur Sparks Allegations of Partiality**

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The demolition drive carried out by municipal officials in Shettigunta under Aminpur Municipality on Thursday has drawn sharp criticism from locals and activists. Allegations have emerged that the officials focused their actions solely on unauthorized constructions belonging to common citizens, while exempting the houses of politically influential individuals.

Reports suggest that during the demolition operations on Thursday morning, some political leaders allegedly intervened, pressuring officials to spare certain properties. Although dozens of illegal structures have been built by encroaching on the Shettigunta pond area, only a handful were reportedly targeted in the recent drive. This has led to widespread perceptions that the demolition exercise was merely symbolic and lacked genuine enforcement.

Locals express frustration over what they see as biased treatment, questioning why illegal structures backed by powerful figures remain untouched while common residents face demolition. The large-scale encroachments around Shettigunta Lake have long been a concern, and many residents believe that a detailed probe by higher authorities will expose more irregularities.

The public awaits a firm response from municipal authorities on these allegations and hopes for a transparent crackdown on all illegal constructions in the area, without favoritism.

DCA, Excise Departments **Pledge Joint Efforts to Combat Drug Abuse** 



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A coordination meeting between the Drugs Control Administration (DCA) and the Excise Department was held at Abkari Bhavan on Friday, emphasizing enhanced collaboration to tackle the menace of intoxicating drugs affecting youth. Shahnawaz Qasim, Director of Enforcement for Drug Control, Prohibition, and Excise, highlighted the importance of working together and sharing intelligence to achieve effective outcomes.

"The youth are suffering greatly due to the misuse of dangerous drugs, marijuana, and other intoxicants," said Qasim. He called for joint raids and intelligence sharing between the two departments to curb illegal drug activities more efficiently.

Key proposals from the meeting included forming a four-member common intelligence team, strengthening information systems, focusing on industrial and forensic labs, conducting joint training sessions, and monitoring drug trafficking via the internet and social media platforms. The departments also plan to prepare a detailed roadmap booklet outlining strategies for coordinated action. Officials from both departments, including Excise Joint Director Syed Yasin Qureshi, Drug Control Joint Director Ramdhan, and several deputy commissioners, inspectors, and

## **Minor's Girl Attempts** Suicide in Ghatkesar

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A disturbing case has emerged from Ghatkesar where a young woman attempted suicide after being blackmailed. Avinash Reddy of Aushapura allegedly trapped the victim's sister, a minor, in the name of love through Instagram. After gaining her trust, Avinash collected photos and videos and began threatening her with exposure. He demanded gold ornaments from the victim's home, promising to delete the material only if she complied. When the victim was later asked to bring her sister as well, overwhelmed and confused, she attempted to take her own life.

Following a complaint by the minor's



father, the Ghatkesar police have registered a case and initiated an investigation.

**Youth Attacked for Refusing** to Keep Ganja at Home



juries in the assault and was rushed to a nearby hospital for urgent medical care. The attack has raised alarm among the residents of Sulemannagar, who are concerned about the increasing influence of ganja among local youth. Many youngsters are reportedly falling into addiction, prompting pleas to the police to intervene and help save them from this dangerous path. The Attapur police have registered a case regarding the assault and initiated an investigation to bring the accused to justice and address the growing problem of drug abuse in the area.



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad A disturbing incident unfolded in Sulemannagar, Attapur, where a man named Ajju brutally attacked a youth for refusing to keep ganja at his home. The victim sustained severe head in-

# **Shriram Life Insurance Drives Road Safety Awareness**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad Shriram Life Insurance Company Limited marked its ongoing commitment to the "Insurance for All by 2047" initiative by organizing a Road Safety and Financial Security Awareness event at the Nanakramguda traffic intersection in Cyberabad on May 16th, 2025. The event was held in association with the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC) and Cyberabad Traffic Police.

The campaign focused on educating two-wheeler riders on the importance of wearing helmets. Many helmetless commuters were counseled during the drive and given free helmets to encourage the habit of proper helmet use and enhance road safety. The program was graced by Mr. Casparus J.H. Kromhout, MD & CEO of Shriram Life Insurance, ACP Sathyanarayana of Madhapur Traffic Division, Naved Alam Khan, CEO of SCSC, along with senior officials including Mr. Ajit Banerjee, Chief Investment Officer, and Mr. Ravi Kumar, Strategic Advisor of Shriram Life Insurance. Other participants included Inspector Suresh of Gachibow-



STF team leaders, attended the meeting.

li Traffic, Women Safety and Traffic volunteers Lalita Tims and Keshav Bhandari, and SCSC Traffic Volunteers who supported the bike rally and awareness efforts.

As the Lead Insurer for Telangana, Shriram Life Insurance reiterated its mission to protect families by raising awareness on insurance and road safety. The event also saw the participation of representatives from the Insurance Regulatory and Develop-

ment Authority of India (IRDAI), Royal Sundaram (Lead Non-Life Insurer), LIC of India, and other life insurance companies in Telangana, showcasing the insurance sector's unified commitment to societal well-being. Shriram Life Insurance has conducted similar road safety campaigns in the past, underscoring its purpose of bringing financial security to vulnerable families across India through life insurance coverage.

## **Unlicensed Bulk Drug Godown Busted in Nacharam**

### TPN Correspondent | Medchal

The Telangana Drugs Control Administration (DCA) conducted a surprise raid on May 15, 2025, and busted an illegal godown storing bulk drugs at Plot No. A25/26, Road No. 1, IDA Nacharam, Nacharam Village, Uppal Mandal in Medchal-Malkajgiri district. The godown, belonging to Indian Drugs and Chemicals, was found operating

without a drug license and was stocked with large quantities of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), including antihypertensives, antibacterials, and anthelmintics worth Rs. 2.25 lakhs.

During the raid, officials seized drugs such as 250 kg of Piperazine Hydrochloride, 3 kg of Levofloxacin, and 300 grams of Enalapril Ma-

leate. The stocks lacked crucial batch and manufacturer details, raising suspicion of unlicensed manufacturing practices. Authorities warned that drugs produced by unlicensed entities do not comply with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), posing serious health risks due to possible contamination and poor quality control. The

DCA stressed the importance of GMP regulations, which mandate drugs be manufactured in ISO-8 Clean Rooms to ensure patient safety. The raid was led by Assistant Director Smt. Anjum Abida and a team of Drugs Inspectors from Shameerpet, Habsiguda, Uppal, and Medipally. Further investigations are underway, and legal action will be taken against the offenders under the



Drugs and Cosmetics Act, which carries a punishment of up to five years imprisonment for illegal drug stocking without a license. The Telangana Drugs Control Administration has urged the public to report any suspicious drug manufacturing or illegal activities through their toll-free number 1800-599-6969.



# REGIONAL

# **Bundles of Cash and Gold Found** as ED Raids YS Reddy's House

ED raids conducted simultaneously in Mumbai and Hyderabad Rs. 9 crore cash, Rs. 23 crore worth of gold and diamonds seized Assets worth over Rs. 32 crore seized by ED so far

### TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted extensive raids on Thursday targeting YS Reddy, Deputy Director of Town Planning at the Vasai-Virar Municipal Corporation, Maharashtra. The raids were part of a massive money laundering investigation involving illegal permissions granted to 41 buildings since 2009. YS Reddy, who holds a powerful position with authority to approve building permissions, is accused of colluding with builders and extorting large sums as bribes. His house in Hyderabad was among 13 locations raided simultaneously across Mumbai and Hyderabad. During the searches, the ED found an astonishing Rs. 9 crore in cash carefully bundled and hidden. Additionally, gold and diamond jewelry worth Rs. 23 crore were seized. Key documents related to the scam were also confiscated. Officials



involved in the raid reportedly expressed shock over the sheer volume of cash and valuables discovered.

exceeding Rs. 32 crore connected to the case.

YS Reddy's history of corruption cases is also notorious. In 2016, he was caught by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) while attempting to bribe a Shiv Sena corporator, Dhananjaya Gandhi, with Rs. 25 lakhs to with-

draw pending court cases. He was arrested at the time after paying Rs. 1 lakh as an initial bribe.

So far, the ED has seized assets The current ED investigation is part of a larger crackdown on the illegal building permissions racket and associated money laundering, with raids ongoing on multiple properties linked to YS Reddy. The case is expected to unravel more details about the deep-rooted corruption in town planning departments.

# **Miss World Contes**tants Visit Pillalamarri

Minister Jupalli Krishna Rao, MLAs took part in the event.



### TPN Correspondent | Nagarkurnool

Miss World contestants participating in the pageant held in Hyderabad visited Pillalamarri, a site known for its 700-year-old history, on Friday. Leaving Hyderabad by a special bus, the group reached Mahabubnagar around 5 pm and was greeted with traditional Telangana dances showcasing the region's vibrant cultural festivals.

Their visit began at the Sri Rajarajeshwari Sametha Rama-

lingeswara Swamy temple, followed by a tour of the local museum. The contestants enthusiastically participated in the Bathukamma festival celebrations alongside tribal young women performing the Banjara dance.

The group also explored the famous Pillalamarri Mahavriksha, where a forest department officer explained the tree's historical significance and ongoing revival efforts. They visited stalls featuring Narayanpet and Gadwal han-

dloom products, handicrafts, and local art. The visit concluded with a group photo under the banyan tree and the planting of saplings to promote environmental awareness. Minister Jupalli Krishna Rao, MLAs Yennam Srinivas Reddy, Bandlakrishna Mohan Reddy, Kasireddy Narayana Reddy, Madhusudhan Reddy, Vakiti Srihari, Parnika Reddy, Veerlapalli Shankar, along with other public representatives and officials, participated in this memorable event.

## **Deputy CM Takes** Holy Dip at **Triveni Sangam**



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with his family members, took a holy dip at the sacred Triveni Sangam in Kaleshwaram on the occasion of Saraswati Pushkaralu. This oncein-12-years festival dedicated to Goddess Saraswati attracts thousands of devotees who seek spiritual cleansing and blessings from the holy waters. The Triveni Sangam, where the rivers Godavari, Pranahita, and Manjira converge, is considered highly auspicious during the Pushkaralu festivities. The Deputy CM performed rituals and prayers, reflecting his deep devotion and respect for the cultural traditions of the region. His participation in the sacred dip underlines the importance of faith and ritual in the lives of both leaders and the public. The serene atmosphere of Kaleshwaram during Saraswati Pushkaralu provided the perfect backdrop for this spiritual observance, inspiring many devotees who gathered at the Sangam.

# **Free Solar-Powered Borewells** for Tribal Paddy Fields

- Rs. 12,600 crore Indira Solar Water Development scheme
- To benefit 2.10 lakh tribal farmers.
- Pilot project launched in Macharam village, Amrabad mandal

TPN Correspondent | Nagarkurnool

The Telangana government is set to transform paddy cultivation in tribal areas by providing free borewells with solar power arrangements under the ambitious Indira Solar Water Development scheme. With a budget of Rs. 12,600 crore, this initiative aims to benefit 2.10 lakh tribal farmers across the state by enabling them to grow crops with sustainable water solutions like sprinklers and drip irrigation.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will inaugurate the scheme on the 18th of this month at Macharam village, Amrabad mandal in Nagarkurnool district, which has been chosen as the pilot project site. The government has focused on the paddy lands of the Chenchu tribal farmers in Macharam, where preparatory work has already been completed. Around 50 acres of paddy fields owned by 27 Chenchu farmers have been selected, and borewells have been dug free of cost for two farmers each. These borewells are powered by 5 HP solar motors to provide efficient and eco-friendly irrigation. Geological surveys have identified 16 boreholes in the Nallamala hills region, all



yielding sufficient water.

In addition to water infrastructure, the government is promoting horticulture with the planting of lemon, sweet potato, avocado, and mango saplings by the Horticulture Department. Coconut and bamboo plants are also being grown along the boundaries of the fields to velopment and tribal welfare.

enhance environmental benefits and support the farmers' livelihoods.

This integrated approach aims to provide sustainable water resources, diversify crop cultivation, and improve income for tribal farmers, marking a significant step forward in rural de-

# **Teachers Must Stay Aware of POCSO Act: DSP Abdul Rahman**

### **TPN Correspondent** Bhadradri Kothagudem

DSP Abdul Rahman emphasized the importance of teachers being fully aware of the POCSO Act, trafficking threats, and rising cybercrimes, while addressing English teachers during an in-service training program at the District Education Training Center, Kothagudem.

He urged teachers to act with vigilance and responsibility, highlighting that they play a crucial role in the safety and protection of students during school hours. "From the moment students arrive at school till they leave, teachers are accountable for their well-being," he said.

Explaining the legal aspects of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, DSP Rahman made it clear that "Not only committing a crime, but also hiding it is punishable by law."

The session also focused on the growing danger of cybercrimes, with the DSP warning that even re-



sponding to unknown calls or video calls could lead to serious risks like bank account hacking and money theft. He advised teachers to remain cautious and avoid engaging with unknown online sources or suspicious messages. The awareness session was organized as part of a broader effort to sensitize teaching staff to le-

gal and technological threats that could affect students and educators alike.

District Planning Coordinator and Course Director N. Satish Kumar, 1 Town Circle Inspector Karunakar, Sub-Inspector Vijaya, and Resource Persons Saidulu, Meera Hussain, and Murali Haribabu were present at the program.

# **Farmers Protest Poor Grain Weighing at Jinnaram IKP Center**

### TPN Correspondent | Sangareddy

DRDO P.D. Jyoti recently inspected the IKP grain purchase center in Jinnaram mandal, Sangareddy district, amid growing

frustration over the past four days, accusing staff of negligence and irregularities in weighing grain.

Farmers said heavy rains left their grain wet, yet the staff delayed weighing and reportedly weighed grain arbitrarily, ignoring tokens. They also highlighted shortages of porters, gunny bags, and tarpaulin covers at the center. Responding swiftly, the officer recommended issuing show cause notices to IKP

APM Narender and VAO Latha for the re- During a weighing check in the presence of grain had been stuck at the center for over factory explanations.

15 days.

Jyoti contacted the Civil Supply DSO, ordering immediate arrangements for lorries to transport the grain and suggesting a lofarmer complaints. Farmers voiced their cal inspection to address ongoing issues.



ported lapses. Farmers demanded strict the APM, farmers uncovered irregularities, action against staff corruption, citing that which left the staff unable to provide satis-

# **OPINION**



# **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.

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'**

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.

Following India's swift response to Pakistan's 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.

Modi's leadership has also ensured strategic







### **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.

# **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 the false narrative Pakistan has



aimed strictly at terror hubs, not been trying to build," a senior govcivilian 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 ernment 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 — par-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.

ticularly the ISI — to terrorism in 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 Initial intelligence assessments



New Samtal village when an As- suggest that the neutralized cross-border insurgent activity. Efforts are currently underway to confirm their identities and potential affiliations with known insurgent groups operating in the

eration 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.

jor success for Indian security

forces in a region that has long

been a hotspot for insurgent ac-

tivities, particularly those with

cross-border connections to

Myanmar-based groups. The In-

do-Myanmar border has been a

ty forces launched a combing op- 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 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.

sam Rifles patrol came under individuals were engaged in 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 region. deaths of 10 assailants.

Following the firefight, the securi-

The operation marks a ma- 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 | Riyad

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



"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 the visit was the formal launch of the 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



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.



## 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.

For the first time in over three years, Russian and Ukrainian negotiators met faceto-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."

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-Attar, 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."

## 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 end-ed 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 MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM markets. Later, they continued Stock Market Analyst 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 52week 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



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

Tndia'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.



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.

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 expanding 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 for the country's trade sector.

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

## 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

 $\mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{Bengaluru-based}}$  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 He pursued Electronics and Comwindow seat. munication Engineering (ECE) but quickly found himself more interest- him crack 13 offers. He chose a proded 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 uct-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



# From Ice Baths to Treadmills: 6-Year-Old Adwik Paul and His Unbelievable Morning Routine session, they return home, and Adwik seam-

At an age when most children are im-mersed 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 lessly 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**

**T**magine walking into a café Lthat feels like you've stepped straight into a scene from a sci-

Korea is really living in 2050 Interstealla Cafe

ng in 2050 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).

12,000 Won (approximately Rs

Tn the annals of political history, Pedro Las-Lcuráin 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.

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 But it's not just the design that's among patrons and is priced at



moment you leave, you'll feel as if you've entered a scene from a movie."

moment you step inside until the 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

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-

	y Scholar- G	rade 1 to 5	(8:00 am - )	til5 pm)		
For New Admission (All Classes)		School	Meal	Total	Monthly	Half-year
Registration Fee	: 2,000	Pee	Charges	Annual	Fee through	Fee.
Admission Fee (I time)	: 40,000			Fee	Grayqest in	
Caution Money (Refundable)	: 5,000				9 equal installments	
Grade 1 to 5		2.52.930	Not	2.52.900	28,100	125,450

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?"

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

ford it even if you earn ₹20 lakh 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

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 10day 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 Iver. 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

 $B_{\text{clinched}}^{\text{arcelona}} \qquad \qquad \text{have} \\ \text{28th} \\$ 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.

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 to an extraordinary campaign.



expect them to keep that fire."

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

## **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



## **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

Cricket Council's (ICC) commitment to 50.00 points. elevating the profile of Test cricket, re-



money underscores the International much of the competition, finished with

flecting its efforts to grow the competi- Australian captain Pat Cummins ex-

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 match.

However, her path to the final was anything but aggressive shot-making and precise winners, she 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 Coco Gauff, with the final set for Saturday.

to play the final," she said emotionally after the opening set after more than an hour of intense play.

From there, the momentum was all Paolini. With 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 tion.

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

pressed 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**

 ${f M}$ ashal 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-



the evolving strength of participating teams. Season 11, staged between October

scoring its competitive nature and 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, Amateur Kabaddi Federation of In-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

dia (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 produc-

tion hurdles, including a change in direction. After lead. The cast also includes notable actors like Arjun 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 tit-

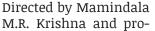


Rampal, Anasuya Bharadwaj, and Poojitha Ponnada. Music is composed by the legendary MM Keeravani, and the film is produced by veteran AM Rathnam.

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 ular role and features Niddhi Agerwal as the female 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.



duced 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 voiceover 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, enhancing 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.

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#AB9

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 frontsperformance, 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.



strategic release is sure to be a dou- a fresh dynamic to the storyline, ble celebration for fans of the Telugu heightening the anticipation for this superstar and the action franchise pan-India spectacle. alike.

The teaser is expected to offer a first glimpse into the adrenaline-fueled world of War 2, featuring intense confrontations, breathtaking action like Ek Tha Tiger, Tiger Zinda Hai, sequences, and the electric chemis- Pathaan, and Tiger 3. The film will try between Hrithik Roshan and NTR. With Kiara Advani also playing a lead in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, role, the film promises a balanced blend of action, drama, and emotion. wide and diverse audience.

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 enjoy a massive release across India and Kannada, ensuring it reaches a

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

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

Hrithik Roshan reprises his role as 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

 $E^{\rm leven,\,the\,latest\,Telugu\,crime\,investiga-}_{\rm tion\,thriller\,starring\,Naveen\,Chandra,}$ 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 lease date draws near, anticipation for 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 on their social media, confirming the movie features the talented Tamannaah Bhatia in a key role, adding to the excitement surrounding the project. As the re-



the film continues to grow, with fans eagerly awaiting the unfolding of this unique adventure.

Balaji Telefilms shared the exciting news new release date and teasing fans with what promises to be an unforgettable cinematic experience.