



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t° H 36° C L 27° C

VIJAYAWADA

t° H 37° C L 28° C

TIRUPATHI

t° H 37° C L 27° C



Development Is Fine Sir, But Please Address People's Issues Too

TPN | Sandeep Kancherla

Guntur: Dr. Pemmasani Chandrasekhar has had a swift and impressive political rise. He entered the political scene rather suddenly and quickly ascended to become a Member of Parliament. But it didn't stop there—despite being a first-time MP, he was directly inducted into the Union Cabinet. Highly educated and widely regarded as a visionary, Pemmasani is said to be placing strong focus on development.

However, criticism is surfacing that this development is more urban-centric, with rural areas being overlooked. Another concern being voiced is that he is not interacting with the general public enough, leading to a perception that he is out of touch with grassroots issues. Thus, while one side praises his developmental efforts, the other side accuses him of neglecting the problems of ordinary people, leading to a divided public opinion about the MP.

Pemmasani's ideas and initiatives are clearly leaning toward infrastructural growth—bridges, roads, drainage systems, and railway stations are receiving special attention, along with budget allocations. He is actively pushing for the fast completion of flyovers in Guntur city and proposing new ones, even managing to secure funds for these projects.

Having returned from the U.S. after a successful career, he is also making efforts to bring investments into Amaravati, particularly in the software and allied sectors, with the aim of generating employment for locals. Being a doctor himself, he's shown particular interest in the healthcare sector, taking initiative to improve services and infrastructure.

But it must be noted that Guntur district is predominantly rural. Many feel that rural concerns—especially those of farmers—are not receiving the attention they deserve. Observers say he only reacts when someone brings a complaint directly to him; there's no proactive outreach from his side. He's yet to build a mechanism or system that regularly brings grassroots issues to his notice. While MLAs are in place to handle local problems, people still expect more from the Union Minister, given his wealth, status, and visionary image. They believe he is capable of delivering solutions quickly.

There's also criticism of the ecosystem around him. Party workers and local leaders reportedly have not been able to create an open and approachable environment for common people to voice their problems. This is an area many believe needs serious improvement. That said, Pemmasani has already made a mark within just a year. While development work continues without compromise, citizens hope he will now shift more focus toward both immediate and long-term solutions for the everyday challenges faced by the public.

SURPRISING PERFORMANCE BY SIT ON LIQUOR SCAM

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Yes. The Special Investigation Team under Mr. Rajasekhar Babu, Commissioner of Police, Vijayawada, is doing wow work on the liquor scam. When the SIT was announced by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, everybody was shocked by the names mentioned. Mr. Rajasekhar Babu, CP of Vijayawada, and a few more officials—most of them from Vijayawada only—were included. A question was raised at that time: how can a Commissionerate-level team execute the investigation of a scam that occurred at the state level and with more complications? But, smashing all the doubts, the SIT has performed well and reached the climax very early.

Mr. Vasudeva Reddy, Ex-MD of Beverages Corporation, was arrested by the CID, and he revealed a few names in their investigation. Later on, the SIT was announced to investigate the liquor scam. Kasireddy Rajasekhar Reddy is a key pin in this investigation. He was arrested by the SIT at Hyderabad Airport in a dramatic manner. He had issued statements through



letters, avoiding investigation. He tried to skip the inquiry. But the SIT hatched a plan, monitored his movements, and finally arrested him. In the investigation of Kasireddy, more details were revealed. Then they arrested Sajjala Sridhar Reddy. Later, they moved towards Dhanunjaya Reddy and Krishna Mohan Reddy, who were close associates of YS Jaganmohan Reddy. Moreover, they were core team members or coterie members. After getting rejected

by the Supreme Court for anticipatory bail, they were forced to attend the inquiry. A key person in the scam, Mr. Govindappa, Chairman of Bharati Cements, was also arrested. Now everybody is under the SIT, and they are going to be questioned in custody after court approval. Here, the work of the SIT is getting applause from higher officials. The main highlight is the technical knowledge and its adoption in the right way. This is the main asset of Mr.

Rajasekhar Babu. Earlier, he showed this in other cases as Commissioner of Police, Vijayawada, in terms of utilizing CCTV camera networks and other tools. Now, they have explored the financial routings of Kasireddy Rajasekhar Reddy and Mr. Govindappa's modus operandi. They have established all the links to all the accused by getting information from each one in the case—going through phone calls, mobile network locations, banking transactions, and company registrations, not only in India but also in Dubai and the USA. All this work was done by the SIT within a short period. Here, they have done smart work, not hard work, which yielded them complete results. Once again, Mr. Rajasekhar Babu proved that we should never estimate any person's capabilities based on his or her experience, cadre, or rank. We have to assess the capability of a person based on his knowledge and his style of application towards investigations. The assessment of the Government of Andhra Pradesh has become accurate in the case of Mr. Rajasekhar Babu for leading the SIT investigation on the liquor scam.

Terror Suspects Siraj and Sameer Remanded for 14 Days

TPN | Narasimha

Vijayanagaram: In a major breakthrough, two suspected terrorist sympathizers, Siraj Ur Rehman and Syed Sameer from Secunderabad, have been remanded to 14-day judicial custody by the district court following their arrest in a joint operation by Telangana and Andhra Pradesh police forces.

The two were reportedly acting on instructions from an ISIS module based in Saudi Arabia. According to counterintelligence sources, the suspects were involved in gathering explosives and planning activities that pose a threat



to public safety. Explosives were identified at a location in Vijayanagaram, further heightening the seriousness of the investigation. Following their remand, both accused have been shifted to Vizag Central Jail. Meanwhile, the Counterintelligence Department is preparing to file a petition in court seeking police custody of the suspects in or-

der to intensify the investigation and uncover deeper links in the terror network.

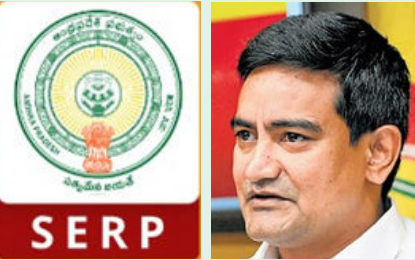
Authorities are particularly focused on uncovering:

- *The source of funding for the suspects' activities.*
- *The role of handlers and masterminds behind Siraj and Sa-*

meer.

- *The methods used to procure explosives.*
- *Possible cooperation or supply from local firecracker dealers or other commercial entities.*

Officials believe that bringing the suspects under police custody will yield more information and potentially expose a larger terror network operating within or beyond the two Telugu states. The arrest is being hailed as a significant development in preempting a potential terror incident, and investigations are ongoing to ensure every link in the chain is identified and dismantled.



WE ARE TRYING TO BRING MORE ACCOUNTABILITY: MINISTER

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Minister for SERP, Mr. Kondapalli Srinivas, has given clarity on the issue of fixation of auditors for DRDA in all the districts. He has smashed the allegations of influence of Minister Peshi in fixing the auditor. Speaking to POINT, Mr. Kondapalli Srinivas said, "90 lakhs of Self-Help Group members are under SERP. Crores of turnover is going on. But, at the district level, the accountability is not up to the mark. We are trying to streamline it and increase the levels of monitoring. As part of this process, we want to change the practices of auditing for the ZS, MS, and others. We are trying to improve the practices for more accountability."

"Being an Oracle ERP consultant, I have knowledge of accountancy and transactions and how to build accountability by improving the systems. That is why I am focusing on reforms to give more support to the women through SERP and to utilize those big amounts of funds in a proper way," the Minister explained.

Interest on SHG loans will be credited to the DRDA accounts only, which are under the control of ZS. They have to run on that money only. So, we have to be keen on the utilization of these funds, he added. With the Stree Shakti scheme, the Government of Andhra Pradesh wants to empower each and every woman of this state who are rural and under the poverty level, he explained. "We want to utilize the Surya Kusum scheme of the Union Government, which is meant for solar power, for the development of DWACRA women at the rural level. We are proposing and planning a concept for this purpose," the Minister elaborated on the motive of the Government.

Mr. Kondapalli Srinivas revealed that a new app was developed to remove the unnecessary expenditure of group members who pay their loan amounts through Paytm, where they have to pay ₹100 per transaction. The app, which was built with CSR funds, will avoid the commission payment and save that amount for all the self-help group members.

Pawan Kalyan Urges Vigilance Against Terrorist Threats

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

- **Dy CM writes to CS and DGP stressing coastal and internal security**
- **Rohingyas, illegal immigrants, and sleeper cells must be tracked**
- **National security must be treated as top priority, says Pawan Kalyan**



Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has sounded an alert across Andhra Pradesh, stressing the urgent need for continuous vigilance against terrorist movements and the presence of sleeper cells and illegal immigrants. In separate letters addressed to the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, he outlined a series of strong internal security recommendations in light of recent developments. Referring to the aftermath of Operation Sindoor and the arrest of an ISIS-linked youth in Vizianagaram, Pawan Kalyan emphasized the need for all district administrations and police units to remain on high alert. "We must act decisively to counter any trace of terrorist sympathizers, illegal immigrants, or sleeper cells," he said.

He highlighted the vulnerability of coastal districts due to Andhra Pradesh's extensive coastline and called for the establishment of special surveillance systems in coastal regions, especially in Uttaraandhra, Godavari, and Manyam districts. He added that any suspicious activity should immediately be escalated to higher authorities for thorough investigation.



Deputy Mayor Election Postponed in Vizag

- Deputy Mayor post allotted to Janasena
- TDP corporators absent; election deferred
- Lokesh orders show-cause notices and warns of disciplinary action



TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

The Deputy Mayor election of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) was abruptly postponed today due to the absence of enough corporators, creating an unexpected political stir. Despite prior instructions,

only 54 out of the required 74 members attended the council meeting, falling short of the mandatory quorum of 56. This led to the official postponement of the election to tomorrow, raising serious concerns within the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP). The post had been officially allotted to the Jana Sena Par-

ty, a coalition partner, but the lack of full attendance from TDP corporators delayed the process.

TDP National General Secretary Nara Lokesh reacted strongly to the incident. He expressed his dissatisfaction and reportedly directed the state leadership to issue show-cause notices to the absent corporators. Sources say Lokesh has instructed party heads not to hesitate in taking strict disciplinary action, indicating that repeated negligence will not be tolerated.

Responding to the issue, Andhra Pradesh TDP President Palla Srinivasa Rao admitted that the delay in finalizing the deputy mayor candidate contributed to the confusion. “We decided to give the post to Jana Sena only at 11 pm last night. There were aspirants from TDP as well, and the coordination gap resulted in this issue,” Palla said. He assured that all corporators will be present tomorrow and took full responsibility for today’s failure.

The party’s high command has since issued firm orders to ensure full attendance in tomorrow’s rescheduled election, aiming for a smooth and conclusive outcome. The incident has triggered unease in political circles, especially in the wake of TDP’s recent efforts to maintain coalition unity and administrative discipline in urban governance.



Support For Poor Students, New School Buildings

Minister Gottipati lays foundation stones worth ₹5.78 crore

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravikumar declared that the alliance government is committed to strengthening education for the poor, as he launched multiple development programs in Macharla constituency on Monday. The Minister laid foundation stones for school buildings and additional facilities worth ₹5.78 crore in various parts of the Palnadu district.

As part of the program, Minister Gottipati first laid the foundation for new facilities at Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in Karampudi at a cost of ₹2.55 crore. He later initiated the construction of additional buildings at the upgraded KGBV Junior College in Durgi with ₹1.51 crore, and a new girls’ hostel complex at the AP Model School campus for ₹1.72 crore.

Speaking at the event, the Minister stated, “The alliance government, under the leadership of CM Chandrababu Naidu and

Minister Lokesh, is committed to supporting education for the underprivileged. We will make Andhra Pradesh’s education system the best in the country.”

He sharply criticized the previous YSRCP regime, accusing it of damaging the education sector. “Jagan Mohan Reddy insulted the noble teaching profession. Under his leadership, teachers were made to work as security guards at liquor shops,” he alleged.

Minister Gottipati reaffirmed that the new government is focused on rebuilding the education system with long-term investments and modern facilities. He emphasized that only through quality education can the lives of poor and rural students be transformed.

Local leaders including Macharla MLA Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy, Narasaraopet MP Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu, and other public representatives and officials took part in the ceremonies.

Shakti App Crosses 1.5 Crore Downloads in AP

- Safety of women is AP Police’s top priority
- Shakti App now available in Hindi and English
- Over 12,000 awareness camps held across the state

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh Police Department has intensified its efforts to ensure women’s safety across the state, with the “Shakti App” emerging as a major tool of empowerment. As per the latest update, the app has surpassed 1.52 crore downloads, marking a significant milestone in digital policing for women’s protection.

The “Shakti App,” which was initially available in Telugu, is now accessible in Hindi and English as well, aiming to serve a wider section of the population. The app enables women to send immediate SOS alerts in times of distress, ensuring quick police response.

As part of this initiative, 164 Shakti Teams have been formed across Andhra Pradesh to respond swiftly to complaints

related to women’s safety. These teams are actively patrolling and attending to calls from the app, making it a real-time safety net for women and girls.

The police department has identified 900 hotspots—areas where crimes against women occur frequently—and placed them under continuous surveillance. Efforts are underway to use modern technology to monitor and prevent such incidents effectively.

In addition to tech-based policing, over 12,119 awareness camps have been conducted across the state to educate women and the public on the usage and importance of the Shakti App. The initiative aims to build trust, promote usage, and ensure every woman knows how to seek help when in danger.

DGP Harish Kumar Gupta, IPS, stated, “We are committed to taking strict ac-



tion against those who commit murder, violence, and sexual harassment against women. Women’s safety remains our top priority, and the Shakti App is a powerful step in that direction.”

The AP Police continues to use a combination of technology, surveillance, and on-ground response units to ensure that women in the state feel safe, supported, and protected at all times.

BEE Leads National Drive to Promote 5-Star Rated Air Conditioners

- Centre urges states and agencies to prioritize energy-efficient cooling
- Manufacturers asked to submit action plans for 5-star AC adoption
- Campaign targets reduced power demand and lower electricity bills

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Government of India, through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), has launched a nationwide campaign to promote the adoption of 5-star rated air conditioners, aiming to reduce peak power demand, enhance energy efficiency, and lower electricity costs for consumers.

BEE Secretary Milind Deore has called upon all air conditioner manufacturers to submit comprehensive action plans outlining strategies to boost the use of energy-efficient cooling appliances. These plans are expected to include collaborative awareness campaigns, engagement of brand ambassadors, utilization of digital media, and promotional activities both online and in retail outlets.

The initiative comes amid a sharp rise in consumer interest and online searches for air conditioners, particu-



larly from February to May. This presents a critical window to influence purchasing decisions by highlighting the long-term savings and environmental benefits of 5-star rated models. The Centre has also urged state governments and State Designated Agencies (SDAs) to ramp up efforts, especially in power-intensive urban centers like

Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, and pilgrimage cities including Tirupati and Varanasi.

BEE’s 5-star rating program has proven effective, with energy-efficient ACs capable of saving up to 60% energy, directly benefiting consumers with reduced electricity bills and alleviating stress on the power grid.

Secretary Deore emphasized the vital role of traders and retailers in ensuring easy availability and promotion of energy-efficient air conditioners while encouraging manufacturers to phase out older, less efficient models.

The campaign holds special significance for states like Andhra Pradesh, expected to face peak power demands of over 12,000 MW during the May to October summer period. As temperatures soar, this drive seeks to balance rising cooling needs with the country’s commitment to a greener, more energy-resilient future.

Development Is Fine Sir, But Please Address People's Issues Too

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On the political front, he appears to be solidifying his influence. Despite being surrounded by senior MLAs, Pemmasani has been successful in uniting them and taking everyone along. His position as a Union Minister adds further weight. He maintains strong relations both at the Centre and with state leaders like Chandrababu Naidu and Lokesh, which is contributing to his growing political value in the district.

Interestingly, not everyone is happy with his rapid rise. Some senior leaders are said to be quietly resentful, feeling sidelined by a newcomer who has quickly gained prominence and authority. Nevertheless, Pemmasani seems focused on leaving his personal stamp on Guntur, undeterred by internal politics. At the national level too, he is reportedly making strong efforts to gain recognition from Prime Minister Modi. In terms of stature, Pemmasani is undoubtedly emerging as a high-profile leader. If he can deepen his connection with the common people and become more accessible, many believe there will be no stopping him.

Pawan Kalyan Urges...

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The Deputy CM expressed particular concern over the Rohingya population reportedly residing in Guntur and other areas, stating that intelligence suggests some individuals possess Aadhaar, ration, and voter ID cards. He called for an immediate probe into how these documents were obtained, who issued them, and which organizations or individuals facilitated their settlement.

Pawan Kalyan’s letter stressed the importance of cross-verification of ID documents, identification of illegal shelters, and thorough investigations into local-level support networks. “Public safety and national security must be our highest priority,” he wrote, referencing earlier NIA raids in Guntur and Rayalaseema, which unearthed terror links.

Recalling his visit to Kakinada last November, where he raised concerns about illegal rice trafficking and porous coastal surveillance, the Deputy CM said the Union Home Ministry had acted promptly on his concerns, and it’s now time for the state police to act with equal seriousness.

“If Andhra Pradesh’s police system strengthens its internal security monitoring, it will serve as a model for cooperation with the Central Government,” he noted, reiterating the need for periodic reports on suspicious activity and immediate action plans for any emerging threats. Pawan Kalyan concluded by stating that the time for passive measures is over, and only proactive governance and security coordination will ensure the safety and integrity of the state and nation.

Jagan's Heart Starts to Ache: Kollu Ravindra

Minister says SIT probe into liquor scam is making the former CM nervous



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Minister Kollu Ravindra launched a sharp attack on former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, claiming that the SIT investigation into the state's liquor scam has started to cause unease for him. The minister alleged that the YSRCP regime was responsible for a liquor scam that shocked the world, and warned that the truth behind it will soon be revealed.

Addressing the media, Ravindra dismissed the opposition's claims that the coalition government was using the SIT to target rivals, terming it false propaganda. He insisted that those who looted public funds will not be able to escape justice.

Recalling the infamous Gali Janardhan Reddy case, Kollu Ravindra pointed out how former CM Chandrababu Naidu was criticized back then for fighting corruption, but justice eventually prevailed. "Now, the court has found Gali Janardhan Reddy guilty and sentenced him. Likewise, those involved in the liquor scam during Jagan's rule will also face the consequences," he said. Ravindra reaffirmed that the coalition government is committed to transparency and accountability, and that no one involved in corruption will be spared, no matter how powerful they are.

He also challenged the opposition to face the investigation with courage instead of making baseless allegations. "If they haven't done anything wrong, why are they worried?" the minister questioned.

The SIT probe, which was initiated to uncover the truth behind the massive alleged scam in the liquor trade during the YSRCP regime, is expected to reveal key details and implicate several officials and middlemen, according to government sources.

Amaravati will be the hub of the Create Economy, says CM

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed his deep emotional connect with Telugu culture and people, saying, "No matter how many births I take, I want to be born in Telugu land." He made these remarks while attending the TeluguOne Digital Media Vajrotsavam hosted by Kanthamneni Ravishankar in Hyderabad on Sunday. The Chief Minister lit the ceremonial lamp and inaugurated the program, where he lauded the journey and achievements of TeluguOne and its founder. "Ravi Shankar's perseverance and hard work are inspirational. From a time when we had only Akashvani, to a future led by digital media, TeluguOne has emerged as an unstoppable force," he noted.

TeluguOne's Digital Growth Lauded

CM Chandrababu highlighted that TeluguOne now operates 400 channels worldwide, with 120 million subscribers and 55 billion views, and a content library of 16 lakh videos and hundreds of films. He called this digital expansion a symbol of how Telugu people are adapting and leading in the modern age.

He also praised Kanthamneni Ravishankar for producing a bold film on Amaravati during turbulent times. "Despite pressures, he did not back down. When censorship blocked its release, he put it on YouTube. He stood by justice for Amaravati," he said, also applauding Ravi Shankar's free surgeries for 2,000 poor people and the honoring of TeluguOne Sthoopri Puraskar awardees.



Call For Telugu Excellence In Global Economy

Referring to NTR's return as Chief Minister within 30 days in 1984 due to public support and the efforts of Eenadu daily, Chandrababu reminded the audience of the power of media and public voice. He added, "We all share the responsibility of lifting the poor. Like NTR rose from humble beginnings, others can too."

Recounting his decision to promote IT in the 90s, Chandrababu said, "Everyone laughed at the idea of a Hi-Tech City. But today, Hyderabad is the most livable city, and Telugus are leading globally." He emphasized the need for smart work and innovation in the knowledge economy and announced his vision for a "Quantum Valley" powered by AI.

"My goal is for Telugus to be at the top of the world by 2047. If Indians are leading, Telugus must lead within them. We can achieve

this," the CM asserted.

Amaravati As A Creative Economy Hub

Reflecting on his previous and current tenures, the CM said he was fortunate to develop Hyderabad and now Amaravati. "Mumbai and Amaravati will be the centers of the Create Economy. With the blessings of the people, I got another chance. Amaravati is a city for the Telugu nation, and I am privileged to build it," he said.

Warning Against Social Media Abuse

On the topic of media credibility, Chandrababu expressed concern over the declining values in journalism and misuse of social media. "Freedom movement was led by credible journalists and papers. But now, social media is being misused for personality assassination and misinformation. This harms society, especially women. There is a need to regulate it," he warned.

MLA Kolikapudi Welcomes councilors joining TDP

TPN Correspondent | Tiruvur

Tiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivas Rao came down heavily on the YSRCP, stating it had done nothing for Tiruvur town over the past four years. Addressing a press conference at the TDP constituency office, he welcomed several local leaders, including YSRCP councilors, who joined the Telugu Desam Party, citing disappointment with the ruling party's governance.

He said that internal conflicts within YSRCP had led to the resignation of the municipal chairman and accused the ruling party of creating trouble wherever it operates. "The situation in Tiruvur is chaotic, and it reflects YSRCP's misrule," Kolikapudi said.



Revealing a chain of events, he said, "I spoke to Swami Das, and from there he took to Devineni Avinash's residence in Vijayawada, and then proceeded to Bengaluru. During this time, I couldn't contact my family for two days, and they were very distressed."

The MLA stated that the develop-

ment initiatives of the TDP-Janase-na-BJP alliance had motivated the councilors to switch sides. Among the 7 councilors from YSRCP looking to join TDP, Ramavarapu Manjula, a councilor from Ward 6, opted to join Janasena instead.

Kolikapudi condemned efforts to coerce the councilors back into the YSRCP fold, calling such actions undemocratic. "This is not how democracy should function. Their decision to join another party should be respected," he said.

He concluded by affirming that the public sentiment is shifting strongly towards the alliance and that Tiruvur would soon witness a new era of development driven by democratic values and accountable leadership.

Nandigam Suresh Remanded till June 2

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

Former MP and YSRCP leader Nandigam Suresh, arrested for assaulting a Telugu Desam Party (TDP) worker, has been remanded by the Mangalagiri court until June 2. Following the court orders, the police are taking him to Guntur district jail.

Suresh was arrested early Sunday morning and underwent medical tests at Mangalagiri Government Hospital, where his blood pressure and sugar levels were checked as part of the routine procedure. He was produced before the Mangalagiri court on Monday morning under heavy police security.

Strict measures were enforced at the court premises to maintain law and order. The police evacuated the court area, barring entry to all except authorized personnel. Suresh's followers, who gathered in large numbers outside, were also dispersed by the authorities to prevent any untoward incidents.

The attack case relates to an assault on TDP worker Raju in Uddandarayunipalem, Tullur mandal of Guntur district, which led to Suresh's arrest. The police continue their investigation.

Where Is the Real Liquor Scam? Asks Pathina Mahesh



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

YCP leader Pathina Mahesh has strongly countered the coalition government's allegations regarding a ₹3,200 crore liquor scam, calling it an "imaginary tale" created to divert public attention from the ruling administration's failures. In a sharp statement, Mahesh posed a series of questions challenging the very existence of the so-called scam.

"Where is the real liquor scam?" he asked. "Has public money from the government treasury been misused? Has any government resource or liquor contract been handed over in expectation of bribes? Has revenue been embezzled?" He argued that the liquor narrative is being manipulated for political gain without a factual basis.

Mahesh cited several measures taken during former CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's tenure, including the reduction in the number of liquor outlets, closure of 43,000 belt shops, and refusal to approve new distilleries. "Liquor sales were restricted to 9 PM. Not a single new distillery was allowed. The government only earned through increased prices, not increased consumption," he claimed.

Mahesh accused the coalition government of failing to implement welfare programs and instead focusing on attacking the opposition with fabricated charges. "They're holding meetings with excise officials to increase liquor revenue from ₹38,000 crore to ₹40,000 crore by boosting consumption. This exposes their hypocrisy," he added.

Criticizing Chandrababu's promise of supplying quality liquor for ₹99, Mahesh questioned the actual market condition: "Is it ₹99 quality liquor or ₹2 quarter liquor now? Who's benefiting from the ₹10 increase per bottle?" Mahesh further questioned whether liquor shop allocations to the Goud community are still under their control or have passed into the hands of political allies. "They haven't implemented a single scheme in a year and are instead manufacturing a scam no one believes in," he said, calling the situation a result of "yellow tax politics."

Mini Mahanadu Held in Palamaner Under Amarnath Reddy's Leadership



TPN | C Shekar

Chittoor: The Mini Mahanadu program of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) for the Palamaner constituency was held grandly on Monday at the Palamaner TDP office under the leadership of local MLA N. Amarnath Reddy. Addressing party leaders and cadres, the MLA called for a 100 percent victory of alliance candidates in the upcoming local body elections.

Amarnath Reddy emphasized the need to strengthen the party from the village level, urging leaders to work in coordination and actively take part in party programs. He called on party functionaries to take government schemes and development programs to the people, stating that fulfilling the Super Six promises, including Salute to Mother and

free bus travel, was underway. He strongly criticized former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy, alleging that he degraded the state, while stating that CM Chandrababu Naidu is now implementing the promises despite challenges. "Be among the people, serve them, and become stronger—only then will the party grow stronger," he said.

The MLA reassured party workers that TDP will stand by them, helping them grow politically and financially, and justice would be done even without posts. He noted the rapid progress of Handri-Neva lining works and road construction through EAP and employment schemes in the constituency.

Recalling his own political journey from village-level worker to minister, Amarnath Reddy credited his rise to op-

portunities provided by NTR and Chandrababu Naidu, vowing to follow party discipline and work towards fulfilling NTR's aspirations, regardless of holding any position. He also called on all leaders and workers to attend the Mahanadu celebrations in Kadapa on May 27, 28, and 29, and ensure its grand success.

The event saw participation from Constituency Observer Jayaprakash, Mandal Party Presidents Kishore Gowda, Ranganath, Kutty, Somasekhara, Anand, Nagaraju Reddy, and senior leaders R.V. Balaji, Ramachandra Naidu, Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, Brahmayya, Subrahmanyam Gowda, Chaudappa, Chengareddy, Mubarak, along with women leaders Sivakumari, Pramila, Parveen Chandrakala, and others.

Couple's Obscene Act on Bike Sparks Outrage



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

An obscene public display of affection by a young couple in Vijayawada has sparked outrage after a video of the act went viral on social media. The incident took place on NH-16 near the Ramalingeswara Nagar flyover around 9 PM, when a couple, reportedly college students, were seen engaging in intimate behaviour on a moving bike.

According to onlookers, the young woman was seated unusually in front of the male rider, with her legs wrapped around him. She was also seen lying over the fuel tank and kissing him, raising serious concerns about public decency and road safety. The rider, meanwhile, seemed unconcerned about the heavy traffic or onlookers as he continued to ride at speed while indulging in the act.

The entire episode was captured by another commuter traveling behind them and quickly made its way to social media, drawing sharp criticism from the public. Many netizens condemned the duo for their reckless and shameless behaviour on a public road, with calls for immediate police action. Traffic authorities are reportedly examining the footage and taking the matter seriously. "This is not only an act of public indecency but a serious traffic violation that endangered their lives and those of other road users. We are tracking them down and appropriate legal action will be taken," a senior traffic police official said.

Locals near the area said such incidents on flyovers and highways were becoming more frequent, and urged police to increase patrolling, especially in the evenings. Many have also requested educational institutions to sensitise students on discipline, traffic safety, and public conduct. As the video continues to circulate widely, public demand is growing for strict legal action to deter such acts in future.

Vallabhaneni Vamsi's Bail Plea Postponed

Court seeks police counter in fake patta case

TPN Correspondent | Nuzvid

The anticipatory bail petition of YSRCP leader and former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi in the fake patta distribution case has been postponed by the Nuzvid court. During the hearing held today, the court directed the police to file a counter in response to Vamsi's petition and adjourned the matter to tomorrow for further proceedings.

Vamsi is currently lodged in the Vijayawada sub-jail under remand and is facing multiple criminal cases, including the kidnapping of Satyavardhan, the attack on the TDP office in Gannavaram, an illegal mining case, and the latest fake patta scam. While he has already secured bail or anticipatory bail in several of these cases, he continues to remain behind bars.

Legal sources confirm that even if bail is granted in the pending cases, Vamsi's release may still be delayed due to the number and nature of the charges filed against him. The fake patta case, in particular, has drawn serious attention from the authorities, prompting the court to seek a detailed response from the police.

The outcome of tomorrow's hearing is expected to be crucial in determining whether Vamsi can obtain relief in this case or face extended judicial custody.



Tension Grips Thiruvur Over Municipal Chairman Poll

YSRCP accuses TDP of unethical politics as councilors switch sides
YSRCP councilors spotted wearing TDP scarves, sparking outrage
Police deploy heavy forces; MLA Kolikapudi and others escorted out

TPN Correspondent | NTR District

High tension prevailed in Thiruvur of NTR district on Monday as the election for the municipal chairman turned into a dramatic showdown between the ruling YSRCP and the opposition TDP-led alliance. The area surrounding the municipal

office was filled with slogans, arguments, and political drama, with a heavy presence of political activists and security personnel. Adding to the suspense, several YSRCP councilors arrived at the meeting venue wearing TDP scarves, sparking confusion and fury within the YSRCP ranks. The ruling

party accused the TDP of engaging in unethical and "dirty politics" by allegedly luring their councilors to secure the chairman's post, despite lacking the necessary numbers.

YSRCP leaders termed these developments a blatant violation of political ethics, alleging that TDP's actions reflected a decline in moral standards. Chanting slogans demanding justice, YSRCP activists raised concerns about horse-trading and manipulation, while TDP supporters maintained that democracy allows realignment based on personal convictions. The municipal office premises turned into a flashpoint, with police scrambling to maintain order. Tension soared further as YSRCP supporters protested loudly



outside, worried about the potential fallout once the official proceedings began. The situation took a serious turn when police escorted Thiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao and State Organik Products Chairman Devadatt out of the municipal premises to prevent any escalation. Heavy police deployment was ensured to prevent clashes and safeguard the election process.

The election for the municipal chairman has now become a matter of prestige, not just for the local units but also for party leaderships, given the high political drama unfolding on ground. All eyes are now on the outcome, with the fate of the chairman's post hanging in balance amidst shifting loyalties and strategic maneuvering.

Orientation Program on Blood Disorder Diagnosis

Minister Satyakumar inaugurates state-level training program

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

A two-day state-level orientation training program on advanced modalities in the diagnosis and treatment of blood disorders commenced at Hotel Hyatt Place, Gunadala, on Sunday. The program is jointly organized by the National Health Mission (NHM) and the Hemophilia Society. State Health Minister Shri Satyakumar Yadav inaugurated the training by lighting the ceremonial lamp. In his address, the minister emphasized the importance of strengthening the healthcare system to diagnose and manage blood disorders more effectively, particularly among rural and tribal populations.

The event witnessed the participation of Sickle Cell Nodal Officers

from 26 districts across Andhra Pradesh. Alongside them, specialists from General Medicine, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics & Gynecology (OBG) departments representing Government General Hospitals (GGHs) and district hospitals took part in the training sessions. Additionally, nodal officers from the Institute of Child Health (ICH) units in Paderu, Visakhapatnam, Kakinada, Guntur, and Kurnool also joined the program. The sessions will focus on updating doctors and officials on modern diagnostic tools, treatment protocols, and strategies for early detection of hemophilia, sickle cell anemia, and other blood disorders. Officials from NHM highlighted the importance of early diagnosis and consistent treat-



ment in reducing complications related to hematological disorders, especially in remote and tribal areas. The program is expected to improve

coordination between healthcare workers at various levels and ensure better outcomes for patients suffering from such conditions.

Dondapadu Sarpanch Surekha's Death Saddening

MLA Venigandla Ramu assures support to bereaved family



TPN Correspondent | Gudivada

Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu expressed deep sorrow over the sud-

den and tragic death of Choragudi Surekha, Sarpanch of Dondapadu village in Gudivada mandal, who

died in a road accident. Calling her a dedicated public representative, the MLA described her demise as a significant loss to both the Telugu Desam Party and the people she served. Though currently in Hyderabad due to an emergency, MLA Ramu called Surekha's family members on Monday morning, spoke with them, and conveyed his heartfelt condolences. In a statement, he referred to Surekha as his "sister" and said her passing had deeply shaken him. He remarked, "Surekha worked tirelessly for the development of her village. Her untimely death is not just a personal loss but a setback to the TDP and the local community." He

added that the Gudivada TDP would stand firmly with Surekha's family in this time of grief and in the days to come.

Praying for her soul's peace, MLA Ramu also wished for strength and courage to her grieving family. Meanwhile, several TDP leaders, including Chekur Jagannathan Rao, Government Area Hospital Development Committee Chairman Gudivada Jones, and other senior leaders visited Dondapadu village and paid floral tributes to Surekha's mortal remains, mourning her loss along with the villagers.

District-Level PGRS Program Held in Jaggayyapet

Collector Lakshmi Shah chairs the meet, assures swift grievance redressal

TPN Correspondent | NTR District

The district-level Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) program was conducted under the Nandigama Revenue Division at the B Convention Hall in Jaggayyapet town, with District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Shah presiding over the event. The initiative, taken up by the state government, aims to address public issues by directly receiving and acting upon citizens' petitions. The event witnessed the participa-

tion of key public representatives, including former minister and TDP district president Nettem Raghuram, and local MLA Sriram Rajagopal (Tataiah). Their presence signaled a collaborative effort to ensure better service delivery and responsiveness from the administration.

Addressing the gathering, Collector Dr. G. Lakshmi Shah stated that the primary objective of the PGRS program is to streamline the resolution of public grievances in a timely



and effective manner. "Through this platform, we are committed to collecting petitions from the people and working with the concerned departments to resolve them promptly," she affirmed. The Collector empha-

sized the importance of people-centric governance and said that the administration remains accessible and accountable to the public at every level. Citizens in attendance were given an opportunity to submit their complaints and concerns directly to the district officials present. The program reflects the government's ongoing efforts to improve transparency, accountability, and prompt delivery of services to the public through direct engagement.

Another Scam in Tirumala

Bhanuprakash Reddy demands probe into TTD irregularities during YCP rule

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati
Senior BJP leader and TTD Governing Council member Bhanuprakash Reddy has leveled serious allegations of corruption and theft within the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) during the tenure of the previous YSRCP government. Speaking to the media in Tirupati, he claimed that the TTD was turned into a money-minting entity under the previous administration, leading to massive losses to the temple's treasury and sanctity. Bhanuprakash Reddy alleged that a major scam took place involving the Thulabharam offerings—where devotees donate items equal to their body weight. He stated that a portion of these gifts was stolen by insiders and not fully recorded

in temple accounts. “Only half of the offerings were shown in the records; the rest were illegally diverted,” he said. He has submitted what he claims is supporting evidence to the Vigilance SP and requested that criminal cases be filed against those responsible. He also urged the District SP to conduct a full probe into irregularities that occurred between 2019 and 2024. “Despite vigilance officials identifying the irregularities in Thulabharam, higher officials at the time suppressed the findings,” he alleged. Bhanuprakash didn't stop there—he referenced earlier controversies like the adulterated ghee used in Parakamani and claimed that even then, no action was taken against



the employees involved. “If this trend continues, we cannot rule out the possibility that Srivari's ornaments might also have been stolen,” he warned, expressing deep concern. He demanded that the role of senior officials and vigilance

personnel during that period be thoroughly investigated. Bhanuprakash Reddy stated that he will raise these serious concerns in the upcoming TTD Governing Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday.

CP Brown Library Gets a Boost with New Building

Minister S. Savita lauds its role in preserving Telugu literary heritage



TPN Correspondent | Kadapa
State BC Welfare Minister and Kadapa District In-charge Minister S. Savita on Monday praised the CP Brown Library and Language Research Center for its significant contributions to preserving and promoting Telugu language and literature. She laid the foundation

stone for a new building for the center affiliated with Yogi Vemana University, as part of a two-day district visit. Speaking at a meeting held in the library's conference hall, Minister Savita expressed deep satisfaction after visiting the historic center, calling it a “shining gem of Telugu literary

glory.” She emphasized the importance of passing on literary wealth to future generations and commended the CP Brown Library for its efforts to safeguard linguistic heritage. She pointed out that while Kadapa is often misunderstood, institutions like the CP Brown Library challenge that perception by showcasing the region's rich intellectual legacy. “This center is making the Telugu language shine on the global stage,” she said. Minister Savita also suggested the creation of a documentary film to showcase rare manuscripts and palm-leaf books stored at the library. She acknowledged the contributions of Chitrakutam Amrutavalli and K.S. Sampath Kumar, who donated the land, and praised the government's commitment to completing long-pend-

ing works that were neglected under the previous administration. She also commended the efforts of Janumaddi Vijaya Bhaskar in bringing the new building project to fruition. Yogi Vemana University Vice Chancellor Dr. Allam Srinivasa Rao stated that Telugu is one of the finest languages in the country and assured that the CP Brown Language Research Center would be developed into a central hub for Telugu studies with modern facilities for researchers and readers. The event was attended by District Collector Dr. Sridhar Cherukuri, Government Whip and Kadapa MLA R. Madhavi Reddy, Kamalapuram MLA Puttha Krishna Chaitanya Reddy, Joint Collector Aditi Singh, TDP Polit Bureau Member Srinivasulu Reddy, and YVU Registrar Dr. Padma, among others.

Mysore Rajamata Donates Silver Akhanda Deepas to Lord Venkateswara



TPN Correspondent | Tirumala
In a moment steeped in tradition and devotion, Mysore Rajamata Sri Pramoda Devi presented two massive silver Akhanda Deepas, each weighing around 50 kilograms, to Tirumala Sri Venkateswara Swamy on Monday. The offering took place at the Ranganayakula Mandapam in the presence of TTD Chairman Sri B.R. Naidu and additional EO Sri C.H. Venkaiah Chowdhury. This sacred gift rekindles a royal tradition that dates back over 300 years, when the then Maharaja of Mysore donated similar silver Akhandams to the Srivari temple. The current offering by the Rajamata is being hailed as a continuation of the Mysore dynasty's historic

spiritual bond with Tirumala. These Akhanda Deepas, crafted from approximately 100 kilograms of pure silver, are designed to burn continuously in the sanctum sanctorum as part of the temple's deep-rooted rituals. Considered extremely auspicious, the lamps symbolize eternal divine light and are central to the temple's spiritual heritage. Rajamata Pramoda Devi's gesture has been warmly received by devotees and TTD authorities alike. The return of these Akhandams from the Mysore royal family after centuries has filled the hearts of Srivari devotees with joy, reinforcing the deep ties between South Indian royalty and Tirumala's spiritual legacy.

Srisaillam Temple CSO Suspended Over Security Lapse

TPN Correspondent | Nandyal

The Chief Security Officer (CSO) of the Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple in Srisaillam, one of the most prominent pilgrimage centers in Andhra Pradesh, has been suspended following a controversy involving the entry of people from other religions into the temple premises. The decision was taken by Executive Officer (EO) S. Srinivasa Rao, who cited negligence in handling security duties.

According to sources, the incident occurred ten days ago when a group of people from other religions attempted to visit the temple. During routine checks at the queue lines, temple security personnel found non-Hindu-related books in their possession. The group was immediately turned away, and no further escalation occurred at the site. However, the matter came to public attention much later, drawing criticism over lax security arrangements at such a significant religious site. Adding to the concerns, reports suggest that the individuals may have created a brief commotion in the temple town of Srisaillam, although details remain unclear. In response to the incident and the perceived delay in reporting it, EO Srinivasa Rao took stern action and suspended CSO Ayyanna, holding him responsible for failing to prevent the breach and not ensuring proper security protocols. The EO also hinted at a possible deeper inquiry into the episode to determine whether there was any deliberate intent or further oversight. The temple authorities are expected to review existing security measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

The Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is one of the twelve Jyotirlingas and holds immense spiritual significance. The incident has raised concerns among devotees about the sanctity and security of the temple premises.

OMC Case: Gali Janardhana Reddy Seeks Bail in High Court



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Former minister Gali Janardhana Reddy, the prime accused in the sensational Obulapuram Mining Corporation (OMC) case, along with co-accused Bibi Srinivas Reddy, Rajagopal, and Ali Khan, have moved the Telangana High Court seeking bail. The convicts submitted petitions stating that the CBI court lacked sufficient evidence to convict them. They emphasized that they have already spent more than three and a half years in judicial custody. The petitions further reminded the court that during the earlier trial, when bail was

granted, they strictly adhered to all conditions without any violations. They assured the High Court that if bail is granted now, they will continue to comply with all the stipulated rules. This bail plea comes soon after the Nampally CBI Special Court in Hyderabad delivered the final verdict on May 6, convicting Gali Janardhana Reddy, BV Srinivas Reddy, Rajagopal, and Ali Khan, sentencing them accordingly. Since the verdict, they have been held in judicial remand at Chanchalguda Central Jail. Now, challenging their conviction and sentence, the four convicts have appealed to the High Court for bail relief.

Ravella Muni Raja Naidu Appointed Thottambedu TDP President

TPN | C Shekar

Tirupati: Senior Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader Ravella Muni Raja Naidu has been appointed as the President of Thottambedu Mandal TDP. The announcement was made by Srikalahasti MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy during the mandal-level party general meeting held on Monday. Ravella Muni Raja Naidu, who previously served as the president of the Srikalahasti Milk Society, has been associated with the TDP since 1983. Speaking on the occasion, he expressed gratitude for the recognition and vowed to work diligently to strengthen the party at the grassroots level.

He emotionally recalled his association with former minister Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy, calling him his political mentor. “I have walked in the footsteps of Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy Garu for 47 years. Now, his son and MLA Sudheer Reddy Garu has honored me with this responsibility, and I will give my best for the development of the party,” he said. Naidu promised to coordinate all TDP workers in the mandal and lead efforts to make Thottambedu a stronghold for the party within the Srikalahasti constituency. “I thank MLA Sudheer Reddy for this opportunity and assure that I will live up to the trust placed in me,” he added. The event was also attended by TDP State Secretary Gali Chalapati Naidu, Mandal Party President Gali Murali Naidu, and several other key leaders and party workers.



Srisaillam Temple CSO Suspended Over Security Lapse

TPN Correspondent | Nandyal

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US-China Deal Sends a Stark Message to the Global South

The recent US-China trade agreement under President Donald Trump underscores a critical shift in American foreign policy: transactional diplomacy has taken precedence over values. For nations across the Global South, the message is clear—economic leverage and strategic utility matter far more than democratic credentials or human rights records.

The deal, which eased tariffs and outlined a three-month timeline for broader negotiations, made no mention of human rights concerns. Notably absent were issues like forced labor in Xinjiang or the imprisonment of Hong Kong media mogul Jimmy Lai, whom Trump had previously suggested he would raise during talks. Lai, a prominent pro-democracy figure, faces life in prison on charges critics call politically motivated.

Trump's silence on such matters isn't accidental—it reflects a deliberate strategy. Unlike the Biden administration, which framed diplomacy through the lens of values and democratic principles, Trump prioritizes deals, investments, and pragmatic alliances. This approach resonates with many leaders in the Global South, who have long viewed Western moralizing as hypocritical and condescending.

Experts like Susannah Patton from the Lowy Institute note that Trump's cuts to civil society funding and indifference



to press freedom empower autocratic regimes in regions like Southeast Asia. Countries such as Cambodia and Myanmar now face less pressure to conform to democratic norms, given Washington's transactional turn.

Trump's recent visit to Saudi Arabia further reinforced this trend. His warm praise for Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and the announcement of a massive investment deal—despite the prince's alleged role in journalist Jamal Khashoggi's murder—stood in stark contrast to Biden's more restrained approach in 2022.

This shift is prompting a realignment in the Global South. Many nations are now adopting a multipolar strategy, balancing US and Chinese influence while building stronger regional ties. From New Delhi to Singapore, countries are increasingly less dependent on Washington.

While some may welcome this pragmatism, the long-term consequences are troubling. A world where power overrides principle risks eroding international law and stability. As America trades ideals for influence, it may find its global leadership waning—and the rules-based order weakening.

Innovation Without Equity Is Unethical: What the WHO Pandemic Agreement Gets Right

As the 78th World Health Assembly convenes, the adoption of the WHO Pandemic Agreement marks a pivotal moment in global public health. In an era of fragmentation and inequality, this agreement aims to strike a much-needed balance between innovation and equity—acknowledging that scientific progress must also serve global justice.



Finalized in Geneva this April, the agreement recognizes the vital role of intellectual property (IP) rights in driving medical innovation while asserting that these rights should not obstruct access to life-saving products. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed how patents can act as barriers, limiting the availability and affordability of critical treatments and vaccines, particularly for low- and middle-income countries.

Under Article 11 of the agreement, countries are encouraged to share licenses on a non-exclusive, transparent basis to benefit developing nations. It also calls

for capacity-building and the transfer of know-how—marking a clear departure from the rigid IP regimes that dominated early pandemic responses.

During COVID-19, India and South Africa led calls for a temporary waiver of IP protections under WTO's TRIPS agreement. Despite fierce resistance from wealthy nations and pharmaceutical companies, the debate highlighted how patents can restrict supply, inflate prices, and even dictate who lives or dies. The U.S., for instance, purchased nearly the entire global stock of Remdesivir in 2020, leaving

other countries with none.

Critics of IP argue that while it incentivizes invention, it can also suppress competition and stifle collaborative research. Reports like Keeping Science Open suggest that patents may create secrecy rather than open innovation. Moreover, much of the scientific progress hailed as private innovation is often publicly funded or state-supported, as seen in vaccine development.

This raises a moral question: should life-saving innovations remain the exclusive property of a few, especially when public money and collective effort contribute to their creation?

The WHO Pandemic Agreement does not undermine innovation—it realigns it with global equity. When the world faces its next health emergency, this agreement sends a clear message: innovation without access is not just unjust—it is unacceptable.



Why Tharoor's Global Role Nomination Has Sparked Turmoil in Congress

Shashi Tharoor's nomination to lead a key all-party parliamentary delegation overseas following Operation Sindoor has unexpectedly rocked the Congress Party, exposing deep internal disquiet. While the leadership has refrained from public criticism, off-the-record murmurs and discontent among senior Congress members speak volumes.

Operation Sindoor, India's swift military retaliation against the Pahalgam terror attack, garnered widespread national support. Most political parties echoed the national mood and backed the government's decisive actions. However, Congress has appeared out of sync, criticizing the government even as the public united behind the armed forces. While questioning the intelligence lapse behind the Pahalgam attack is valid, the party's tone and timing have created friction—even within the INDIA bloc.

Adding fuel to the fire was the government's choice of Shashi Tharoor and Manish Tewari—both Congress MPs—for diplomatic outreach, ignoring Congress's official nominees. The party had suggested names like Gaurav Gogoi and Syed Naseer Hussain. In response, Jairam Ramesh's cryptic remark—"being in Congress is not the same as being of the Congress"—reflected the leadership's displeasure.

Interestingly, other parties like the DMK accepted similar decisions without protest. Even Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju clarified that party consultations were "out of courtesy," not obligation. Congress's sharp reaction, therefore, seems politically tone-deaf at a moment demanding national unity.

The irony deepens when recalling that in 2006, Tharoor's UN Secretary-General bid was backed by the Congress-led UPA. His global experience now makes him a natural choice for diplomacy, yet he finds himself viewed with suspicion. Speculation is rife that Tharoor may aim for a larger role in Congress—possibly even eyeing the Kerala chief ministership, which could pit him against Rahul Gandhi loyalist KC Venugopal.

The bigger concern is the Congress's growing disconnect—not just with national sentiment but also with internal coherence. As the INDIA bloc remains silent on Congress's demand for a special Parliament session, leaders like Sharad Pawar and Mamata Banerjee are choosing pragmatism over posturing.

In a time when unity and diplomacy are vital, Congress risks being perceived as fractured, insular, and increasingly out of step.

Operation Sindoor: How Bharat Fought a War of Missiles and Morality

Operation Sindoor, launched by the Indian armed forces in response to the brutal Pahalgam massacre, was not only a military strike—it was a profound civilisational statement. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India targeted nine terror hubs in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), signaling a clear message: India will not tolerate terrorism, and its responses will be grounded not just in strength, but in ethical and cultural conviction.

What set this operation apart was its mastery of semiotics—the science of symbols and meaning. Operation Sindoor wasn't just a codename; it was a layered metaphor. "Sindoor," the sacred red vermillion worn by Hindu women, symbolizes protection, purity, and commitment. The name framed the mission as a vow by the state to safeguard its people, evoking powerful emotional resonance, especially among Bharatiya women.



From invoking the Bhagavad Gita to referencing Lord Shiva's Tandava—the cosmic dance of destruction—India's response blended spiritual depth

with military precision. Hymns like the Shiva Tandava Stotra were played during mission briefings, reinforcing courage and moral clarity. This was

not religion being used as rhetoric; it was civilisational identity affirming righteousness in action. Prime Minister Modi emphasized that Bharat

stands for Buddha, not Yuddha (war), but it will not hesitate to act when Dharma (righteousness) is under threat. Drawing from scriptures and literary giants like Ramdhari Singh Dinkar and Tulsidas, India framed its retaliation as a moral necessity rather than aggression.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh clarified that the war was not with the people of Pakistan, but with those who sponsor terror. The symbolism extended to India's military arsenal—Sudarshan, BrahMos—each named after mythological weapons of justice, unlike Pakistan's missiles, named after invaders and plunderers.

Operation Sindoor was more than a kinetic victory—it was a narrative triumph. Bharat showed that power rooted in ethics, heritage, and culture commands global respect. In this war of symbols and substance, India emerged not just as a force—but as a principle.

ISRO Forms Committee to Probe PSLV Mission Failure: Chairman V. Narayanan

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V. Narayanan on Sunday confirmed that a high-level committee has been constituted to investigate the failure of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) mission that was intended to place Earth Observation Satellite EOS-09 into orbit. The failure marks a rare setback for the otherwise reliable PSLV series.

The incident occurred early Sunday morning, following a 22-hour countdown and a successful launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota at 5:59 AM. Initial launch phases proceeded as expected, but an anomaly in the third stage of the rocket disrupted the mission's trajectory.

"All systems were functioning normally up to the second stage. However, in the third stage, we noticed a drop in chamber pressure within the solid propulsion motor. This anomaly made it



clear that the mission could not proceed as planned," Narayanan told reporters at the airport.

The PSLV, ISRO's workhorse, is a four-stage launch vehicle comprising both solid and liquid propulsion systems. The first stage uses a 134-tonne solid booster with six strap-on motors. The second stage features a 40-tonne liquid engine, followed by an 8-tonne solid third stage, and concludes with a liquid fourth

stage.

Narayanan, who also serves as the Secretary of the Department of Space, called the failure "regrettable" but assured that ISRO is actively analyzing the incident. "A dedicated failure analysis committee has been formed and has already begun multiple rounds of discussions to pinpoint the exact cause of the failure," he said.

Despite the setback, Narayanan emphasized that ISRO's upcoming missions remain on track. "We have planned one launch every month for the rest of the year. Our commitment to advancing India's space capabilities remains unwavering," he added.

The failed mission marks ISRO's 101st launch from Sriharikota and a rare deviation from the PSLV's longstanding record of reliability. The space agency is expected to release a detailed report once the committee completes its analysis.

Two Terrorist Associates Arrested in Joint Operation by Indian Army and CRPF in J&K's Shopian

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant breakthrough, the Indian Army and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) have arrested two terrorist associates in the DK Pora area of Shopian, Jammu and Kashmir. The operation was conducted by the Indian Army's 34RR SOG (Special Operations Group) Shopian and CRPF's 178 Battalion, as part of ongoing efforts to dismantle terrorist networks in the region.



According to a statement by Shopian police, the arrested individuals were found in possession of substantial weaponry and explosives, including two pistols, four grenades, 43 live rounds, and other incriminating materials. The police have registered an FIR (First Information Report) and stated that further investigation is ongoing.

This operation comes on the heels of several successful actions by security forces in the region. On May 13, three militants affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) were killed

in a gunfight in the Shukroo forest area of South Kashmir's Shopian district. The security forces had launched a massive cordon-and-search operation after receiving intelligence regarding the presence of terrorists in the area. When the forces approached, the militants opened fire, leading to a fierce exchange of gunfire that resulted in the deaths of the three LeT operatives.

The Shopian Police have reiterated their commitment to neutralizing threats to national security and maintaining peace in the region. The arrest of the two terrorist associates is seen

as a significant step in the ongoing fight against terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier this year, the police conducted extensive searches in Srinagar, targeting Over Ground Workers (OGWs) and associates of terrorist organizations, further bolstering their efforts in maintaining security. This operation coincides with India's recent success in Operation Sindoor, where precise airstrikes targeted key terrorist bases in Pakistan, leading to the elimination of nearly 100 militants, including those linked to Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba.



TVK to Host Second Phase of Booth Committee Conference in Vellore; Vijay to Lead Roadshow

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Following the successful first phase of its booth committee conference in Coimbatore, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) is preparing to hold the second phase in Vellore. Party chief and actor Vijay is actively coordinating with senior leaders to strengthen the party's grassroots network as part of its larger political strategy ahead of future elections.

Vellore has been officially chosen as the venue for the upcoming two-day organisational event after multiple locations were scouted. TVK General Secretary N. Anand and other top executives recently visited the city to inspect preparations and finalise logistical arrangements.

The Vellore conference will bring together booth-level committee members from 20 districts, including Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, and Krishnagiri. The focus will be on enhancing booth-level coordination, improving voter outreach efforts, and refining political strategies.

TVK president Vijay is set to attend the event and will deliver a key address outlining the

party's next steps. His speech is expected to focus on organisational expansion, electoral readiness, and deeper district-level mobilisation.

Adding to the momentum, party sources revealed that a public roadshow featuring Vijay is also in the works and may be held alongside the conference. The roadshow is anticipated to draw large crowds, reinforcing TVK's growing popularity and visibility in northern Tamil Nadu.

While the exact dates for the Vellore event are yet to be announced, preparations are already underway under the guidance of state-level coordinators. Party cadres have begun mobilising local units to ensure a strong turnout and smooth execution of the conference.

The Vellore gathering marks the continuation of TVK's strategic grassroots outreach, as it works to establish a robust presence across Tamil Nadu. Through direct engagement with booth-level workers and dynamic public outreach events like Vijay's roadshow, the party aims to build a sustainable and widespread support base in the lead-up to the next electoral cycle.



India-Pak conflict in conventional domain, no nuclear signalling: Vikram Misri to parliamentary panel

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs on Monday that the recent military confrontation between India and Pakistan was strictly conventional, with no nuclear posturing from Islamabad. His comments came nine days after both nations agreed to a ceasefire on May 10, following a brief but intense exchange of cross-border hostilities.

During the closed-door briefing, Misri clarified that despite the scale and precision of India's military operations — launched in retaliation for the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam which killed 26 people — there were no indications that Pakistan attempted any nuclear signalling. This assertion eased concerns about potential escalation into a nuclear standoff between the two nuclear-armed neighbours.

Misri also emphasized that the ceasefire was reached independently, without mediation from any foreign power. "The decision to end hostilities was taken bilaterally," he is learnt to have said, countering media speculation that the United States played a back-channel

role in calming tensions.

India launched "Operation Sindoor" on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The strikes marked one of the most significant conventional military actions between the two countries since the Balakot airstrikes in 2019.

The Foreign Secretary's briefing reportedly included a detailed assessment of the strategic environment and the diplomatic outreach conducted by India in the days following the operation. He is believed to have underlined India's commitment to responding decisively to terrorism while avoiding unnecessary escalation.

Members of the committee were also informed about India's diplomatic messaging, which highlighted the surgical nature of its operations and the limited scope aimed solely at counterterrorism targets.

Misri's reassurance on the absence of nuclear brinkmanship is expected to bolster India's narrative that it remains a responsible regional power, even when compelled to act militarily.

Rahul targets Jaishankar, says his silence damning; it's Pakistan's language, says BJP

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, launched a sharp attack on External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Monday, questioning his silence over the alleged pre-warning to Pakistan before India's military strikes under Operation Sindoor. Gandhi claimed that Jaishankar's silence on the number of aircraft India may have lost in the operation was "damning".



warning Pakistan may have compromised the mission.

The controversy arose after Gandhi posted an undated video of Jaishankar and alleged that the minister admitted to informing Pakistan before the military operation began. He questioned who authorized such a move and what the strategic losses were.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) responded by stating that Gandhi's interpretation of Jaishankar's comments was a "complete misrepresentation". The ministry clarified that the reference to communication with Pakistan was made after the operation began, not before, and was in line with international diplomatic norms.

The BJP hit back strongly. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi accused Gandhi of misquoting the MEA and undermining the armed forces. BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya said Gandhi was "distorting facts" and accused him of siding with Pakistan's narrative. National spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari went a step further, calling Gandhi "complicit" and accusing him of feeding a hostile narrative at a sensitive time.

Israel will 'take control of all' of Gaza: Netanyahu

TPN Correspondent | Jerusalem

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared on Monday that Israel would take control of all of Gaza, even as mounting international pressure forced the government to partially lift a blockade on humanitarian aid to the war-ravaged enclave. The Israeli military, intensifying its offensive, warned residents in southern Gaza's Khan Younis to evacuate to coastal areas ahead of what it called an "unprecedented attack."

"There is intense and massive fighting. We are going to control all parts of Gaza," Netanyahu said in a video message, promising "complete victory" by eliminating Hamas and freeing the 58 hostages still held in the territory.

Despite military escalation, aid trucks were seen entering northern Gaza after Israel agreed to allow limited supplies in, responding to global alarm over famine-like conditions. Netanyahu acknowledged that even Israel's staunchest allies in the U.S. were growing concerned, cautioning him that scenes of starvation could cost Israel crucial support.

"We must address this problem to achieve victory," he said, subtly pushing back against far-right elements in his



coalition who oppose aid entry, fearing it could reach Hamas.

Over the last 24 hours, the Israeli military said it struck 160 targets across Gaza under "Operation Gideon's Chariots," targeting anti-tank sites, tunnels, and weapons depots. Palestinian officials reported at least 20 deaths overnight.

In a covert raid, Israeli forces disguised as displaced persons killed Ahmed Sarhan, a top commander of the Popular Resistance Committees, allied with Hamas, in Khan Younis. Eyewitnesses claimed Israeli troops entered the home,

killed Sarhan, and detained his wife and child before fleeing under air cover.

Meanwhile, ceasefire talks in Qatar made no progress. Hamas has rejected Israeli demands for demilitarization and exile of its leaders in exchange for ending the war.

Over 53,000 people have been killed in Gaza since the war began after Hamas' October 7, 2023 attack that left 1,200 Israelis dead and 251 taken hostage. Displacement, destruction, and starvation now define life for Gaza's 2.3 million residents.

Pope Leo XIV Meets US Leaders Vance and Rubio to Discuss Ukraine Peace Efforts

TPN Correspondent | Vatican City

Vatican City, May 19, 2025 — Newly elected Pope Leo XIV welcomed U.S. Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio to the Vatican on Monday, marking a significant diplomatic moment as the U.S. intensifies its efforts to broker peace in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

The Chicago-born Pope, who began his papacy on May 8, has made peace a central theme of his leadership. Photographs released by the Vatican show a warm exchange between the Pope and the two American leaders. The meeting comes one day after the official inauguration mass in St. Peter's Square, attended by over 200,000 dignitaries, royals, and faithful, including Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

During the 45-minute audience, Pope Leo discussed the need for a negotiated resolution to global conflicts, particularly focusing on Ukraine. Vice President Vance also held "cordial talks" with Archbishop



op Paul Richard Gallagher, the Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States. The meeting covered ongoing bilateral relations and emphasized the importance of respecting humanitarian and international law in zones of conflict.

Pope Leo has offered to mediate peace talks, expressing his commitment to "make every effort so that this peace may prevail." The Vatican has signaled willingness to host direct negotiations between conflicting nations, a stance reaffirmed by Secretary of State Pietro Parolin last week. The meeting coincided with a series of diplomatic discussions

surrounding both Ukraine and the ongoing Gaza conflict. President Donald Trump is expected to speak with Russian President Vladimir Putin later today in a separate effort to bring about a ceasefire in Ukraine.

While Pope Leo had previously reposted social media criticism of the Trump administration's immigration policies and questioned Vance's political positions, Vice President Vance praised the pontiff, saying, "The United States is very proud of him. Our prayers go with him as he starts this very important work."

Both Vance and Rubio are Catholics, with Vance having converted in 2019. Their discussions with Vatican officials also included topics of religious freedom and Church-State collaboration.

Pope Leo XIV now faces the dual challenge of promoting peace abroad while managing internal divisions within the global Catholic Church, especially between reformists and conservative factions, particularly in the United States.

Will play constructive role for lasting Indo-Pak ceasefire: China

Offers to Mediate Lasting India-Pakistan Ceasefire as Tensions Cool

TPN Correspondent | China

China has pledged to play a "constructive role" in fostering a lasting ceasefire between India and Pakistan, following recent hostilities between the two nuclear-armed neighbors. The comments came as Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Mohammad Ishaq Dar, arrived in Beijing on Monday for a three-day diplomatic visit.

Dar is the first high-ranking Pakistani official to visit China after India launched precision strikes under Operation Sindoor on May 7, targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The Indian action was a direct response to the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which killed 26 civilians.

During his visit, Dar is expected to meet with China's top diplomat, Wang Yi, to discuss a wide range of bilateral and regional issues, including India's recent decision to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty and broader regional security concerns.



Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning emphasized that China regards both India and Pakistan as important neighbors and reiterated Beijing's commitment to promoting peace and stability. "We are willing to maintain communication with both sides and play a constructive role in realizing a full and lasting ceasefire," Mao stated at a press briefing.

China, a key defense supplier and strategic partner to Pakistan, has reportedly remained neutral throughout the recent India-Pakistan escalation, while encouraging restraint. Mao dodged questions about India's allegations that Chinese air

defense and satellite systems underperformed during Pakistan's recent military operations.

While Chinese state media amplified some of Pakistan's military claims, including alleged downing of Indian aircraft, it avoided reporting on India's successful strikes on Pakistani airbases and neutralization of Chinese-supplied radar systems.

Sources have indicated that Beijing is privately displeased with Islamabad for seeking U.S. mediation in the ceasefire talks—efforts that U.S. President Donald Trump has publicly claimed credit for. There are also unconfirmed reports of tripartite talks involving China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan's Taliban-led government, though Beijing has not officially commented.

Pakistan is increasingly concerned about the growing ties between India and the Taliban government in Kabul and has reinforced its border security along the Pakistan-Afghanistan frontier.



Joe Biden Diagnosed with Aggressive Prostate Cancer That Has Spread to Bones

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Former U.S. President Joe Biden has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer, his office confirmed in a statement released on Sunday. The cancer has reportedly metastasized to his bones, signaling an advanced stage of the disease.

According to the statement, Biden, 82, began experiencing urinary symptoms, leading to the discovery of a prostate nodule during a medical examination. Further evaluation confirmed a Gleason score of 9 (Grade Group 5), which indicates a highly abnormal and fast-growing cancer.

While the diagnosis is serious, doctors note that the cancer appears to be hormone-sensitive, which opens up effective treatment options. Biden and his family are currently consulting with his medical team to decide the next steps in treatment. This diagnosis comes a decade after the loss of his son, Beau Biden, who died of brain cancer in 2015. The news has prompted an outpouring of support from political leaders across the aisle.

Former President Donald Trump, often a fierce critic of Biden, expressed sympathy: "We extend our warmest and best wishes to Jill and the family, and we wish Joe a fast and successful recovery," he wrote on Truth Social. Vice President Kamala Harris, who stepped in as the Democratic nominee in the 2024 election after Biden withdrew, shared her support on X (formerly Twitter): "Joe is a fighter... We are hopeful for a full and speedy recovery."

Barack Obama also responded with a heartfelt message, praising Biden's long-standing commitment to cancer research and expressing hope for his recovery. Biden's health had already been under scrutiny. He dropped out of the 2024 presidential race following a disastrous debate performance against Trump, which raised concerns about his cognitive decline. These concerns are now resurfacing, especially with the release of a new book and leaked recordings highlighting his mental struggles.

Adding to the attention is a resurfaced 2022 remark where Biden claimed to have cancer while speaking at a climate event in Massachusetts, a comment that at the time sparked confusion and concern. As the Biden family considers treatment options, the nation watches closely, rallying around a leader who has faced adversity with resilience throughout his career.



UK ,EU Summit: Britain Agrees To Trade, Defence Reset With EU

TPN Correspondent | London

In an apparent response to India's recent diplomatic initiatives, Pakistan has announced a delegation led by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to advocate for peace on the global stage. This move follows India's extensive diplomatic outreach, where New Delhi sent seven multi-party delegations to various international forums to highlight the success of Operation Sindoor and its commitment to combating cross-border terrorism.

On Saturday, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, chairman of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), revealed that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had appointed him to lead the peace delegation. Zardari emphasized that the delegation's goal was to present Pakistan's stance on the growing tensions between India and Pakistan, particularly in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor.

The operation, launched by India on May 7, targeted terrorist infrastructure across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), resulting in over 100 terrorist casualties. India's subsequent military actions, including cross-border shelling and airstrikes, intensified tensions between the two nations, leading to calls for global attention on Pakistan's alleged support for terrorism.

Pakistan's decision to send Zardari as its representative is seen as a move to salvage its international reputation, which has been heavily criticized due to its historical ties with terrorist groups. Despite Pakistan's intentions, the delegation faces an uphill battle in convincing the global community, given the ongoing international concerns about Pakistan's role in cross-border terrorism.

“Markets Consolidate Amid Global Cues; Realty & PSU Banks Shine as Nifty Slips 74 Points, Sensex Down 271”

Domestic stock markets fell moderately on Monday. They remained range-bound since the beginning. The reasons for this are mixed signals from global markets, lack of momentum triggers, and the benchmark indices being in the consolidation phase. Buying continued in realty, PSU bank and finance shares. Overall, Nifty lost 74 points and Sensex lost 271 points.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 82,354 in the previous session, opened at 82,354 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 81,964. It reached an intraday high of 82,423. It finally closed at 82,059, down 271 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 25,005, touched a low of 24,916 and a high of 25,062. It closed at 24,944, down 74 points. The Nifty Bank rose 81 points to settle at 55,436.

In the Nifty50, 19 companies gained and 31 lost. Bajaj Auto, Shriram Finance, Power Grid, Hero Moto, Bajaj Finance were the top gainers. Eternal, Grasim, Infi, Tata Consumer, Dr. Reddy's were the biggest losers. Today, the India Vicks rose 4.86% to 17.36. Realty, PSU Bank, Finance, Pharma, Auto indices rose. Telecom, IT, Media, Oil, FMCG indices turned red.



Today, the market breadth in NSE turned in favor of buyers. Out of a total of 3005 shares traded, 1842 gained. 1072 lost. 67 shares reached the 52-week high and 19 shares reached the 52-week low. 175 shares touched the upper circuit and 54 shares touched the lower circuit.

SBI has cut interest rates on all types of fixed deposits by 20 basis points. Jupiter Wagons' net profit is Rs. 103 crore. Mahindra Lifespace has approved the issue of 3 rights shares for 8 shares at Rs. 257 each. Varun Beverages has acquired a 50% stake in Everest Industrial Lanka for \$ 3.75 million. Rajesh Exports' total assets rose

47% to Rs 96,651 crore. 20 lakh shares changed hands in Naika. IRB Infra's total income was Rs 2217 crore and net profit was Rs 214 crore. Reliance Power Company signed a power purchase agreement with Bhutan. HFCL won orders worth Rs 76 crore from a foreign telecom company.

Container Corporation of India (CONCOR)

CONCOR's share price rose by 2.26% to ₹746.95 on May 19, 2025, compared to the previous close of ₹690.25. Over the past week, the stock



has gained 8.53%, and over the past month, it has increased by 6.84%. The company has scheduled a board meeting on May 22, 2025, to consider the March quarter results and a potential bonus share issue.

Bajaj Auto

Bajaj Auto's shares increased by 4.35% during the trading session on May 19, 2025, amid high trading volumes. The company's Netherlands-based investment arm secured ₹5,426.5 crore through unsecured loans to support the restructuring of KTM AG, in which Bajaj Auto holds a 49.9% stake. This move aims to aid KTM ahead of a critical rescue deadline.



Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL)



Stock Performance: RVNL's shares surged by 7% on May 19, 2025, reaching an intraday high of ₹438.5. The company announced the incorporation of a wholly-owned subsidiary, Sabbavaram Sheelanagar Road Development Ltd, in Andhra Pradesh. This move is expected to strengthen

RVNL's presence in the infrastructure and construction sector

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC)



INDIAN RAILWAY FINANCE CORPORATION
(A Government of India Enterprise)

IRFC's shares climbed 6.4% to ₹138.50 on May 16, 2025, following government approval for the company to raise up to ₹10,000 crore through deep-discount bonds. In May 2025, IRFC's share price has increased by 12% amid multiple positive developments, including being the lowest bidder to extend a ₹50 billion loan to NTPC.

DLF Ltd



DLF's shares experienced a notable surge of 3.01% to reach ₹737.45 during the trading session on May 19, 2025, accompanied by high trading volume. Analysts have highlighted DLF as one of the top trading ideas for May 19, 2025, suggesting potential for short-term gains.

Vodafone Idea Shares Plunge After Supreme Court Rejects ₹30,000 Crore AGR Waiver Plea



Vodafone Idea shares tumbled over 12% during intraday trading on Monday, 19 May 2025, following the Supreme Court's decision to reject the telecom company's plea seeking a waiver of ₹30,000 crore in adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues. The stock closed 8.68% lower at ₹6.73, compared to its previous close of ₹7.37. Earlier in the day, it touched an intraday low of ₹6.47, reflecting investor concern over the company's precarious financial position.

The Supreme Court's ruling came after Vodafone Idea approached the judiciary, seeking intervention to direct the government to waive interest and penalties on its AGR liabilities. The petition followed a denial from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on April 29, which turned down a similar relief request from Vodafone Idea CEO Akshaya Moondra. Moondra had warned that the future of the telecom company—India's third-largest—was at stake without government support.

Despite the Centre converting part of Vodafone Idea's dues into equity and acquiring a 49% stake in the company, finan-

cial stress continues to mount. The AGR burden stems from a 2019 Supreme Court verdict that redefined telecom revenue calculations, substantially increasing dues owed by telecom operators.

Vodafone Idea is jointly owned by the UK-based Vodafone Group and India's Aditya Birla Group. In the wake of the SC decision, the company reiterated the importance of the telecom sector and argued that the government should act in the "public interest." The legal proceedings are expected to continue later this week.

Meanwhile, Vodafone Idea's Q4 FY24 financials revealed a troubling trend. The company posted a net loss of ₹7,674.6 crore, up from ₹6,418.9 crore in the same quarter last year, and ₹6,986 crore in Q3 FY24. The rise in losses is attributed to stagnant revenue and soaring finance costs, which increased 25.5% year-on-year to ₹6,280.3 crore. The total loss for FY24 widened to ₹31,238 crore.

With continued financial strain and now legal setbacks, the road ahead for Vodafone Idea remains uncertain.

Power Grid Q4 Results: Net Profit Slightly Down to ₹4,143 Crore, Final Dividend of ₹1.25 Announced

Power Grid Corporation of India, the state-owned power transmission behemoth, released its financial results for the fourth quarter of FY2024-25 on Monday, 19 May 2025. The company reported a marginal decline in net profit, alongside the announcement of its fourth and final dividend for the fiscal year.

In the January to March quarter, Power Grid posted a net profit of ₹4,143 crore, slightly down by 0.56% compared to ₹4,166 crore during the same period last year. Despite the dip in profits, the company's operational revenue saw a modest increase. Revenue from core operations rose 2.4% year-on-year, reaching ₹12,275 crore, up from ₹11,978 crore in Q4 FY2023-24.

On the expense front, Power Grid reported a 6.8% rise in total expenses, amounting



to ₹7,550 crore, compared to ₹7,066 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous fiscal. The increase in operational costs partly offset the gains in revenue, contributing to the slight profit dip.

Final Dividend Declared
Power Grid's board of directors declared a final dividend of ₹1.25 per equity share (face value ₹10) for the financial

year 2024-25. The dividend is subject to shareholder approval at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM). This marks the company's fourth dividend payout of the fiscal year.

The dividend history for FY25 includes:

₹3.25 interim dividend (Feb 7, 2025)
₹4.50 interim dividend (Nov

14, 2024)
₹2.75 final dividend (Aug 16, 2024)
₹4.50 interim dividend (Feb 15, 2024)

Stock Performance

Following the earnings announcement, Power Grid shares closed 1.27% higher at ₹304.10 on the BSE, up from the previous close of ₹300.30. The Q4 results were announced after the market closed.

Over the past five years, Power Grid shares have yielded impressive returns of over 247%. However, the stock has seen a 6.57% decline over the last year.

Despite the marginal profit dip, Power Grid remains financially stable with consistent dividends and strong long-term returns, reinforcing its position as a key PSU in India's power sector.

Gold Prices Surge , Silver Up ₹1,000 Despite Global Pullback

Gold prices in the national capital witnessed a sharp increase rising by ₹1,400 to ₹96,450 per 10 grams due to renewed buying by jewellers and stockists, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The rise marks a strong rebound in the domestic bullion market even as international gold prices showed signs of weakening.

Gold of 99.9% purity climbed to ₹96,450 per 10 grams, while 99.5% pure gold settled at ₹96,000, both inclusive of all applicable taxes. This represents a steep gain from Thursday's closing prices of ₹95,050 and ₹94,600, respectively.

Silver also followed suit, appreciating by ₹1,000 to reach ₹98,000 per kilogram, up from ₹97,000 in the previous session.

However, the domestic rally came in contrast to a decline in global gold prices. Spot gold in international markets dropped by

USD 50.85, or around 1.57%, to USD 3,189.25 per ounce. The pullback was attributed to market reactions surrounding anticipated trade agreements between the United States and key economic partners, including the United Kingdom and China.

Jateen Trivedi, Vice President – Research Analyst for Commodity and Currency at LKP Securities, noted that global gold prices remained volatile around the USD 3,200 mark. He pointed out that the lack of a dovish stance from the US Federal



Reserve, particularly in terms of delaying any immediate interest rate cuts, has capped global bullion buying momentum.

Kaynat Chainwala, AVP of Commodity Research at Kotak Securities, highlighted that investors are now awaiting fresh macroeconomic cues from the US. Key data expected includes housing market statistics and the preliminary University of Michigan's Consumer Sentiment and Infla-

tion Expectations reports for May. Additionally, comments from Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) member Mary Daly later in the day are likely to influence market sentiment.

Analysts believe that these data points and the Fed's tone will offer clearer direction for the interest rate outlook and may impact global gold prices in the coming sessions. For now, however, Indian bullion markets remain buoyant on the back of strong local demand.

French Accused of Covering Up Nestlé Mineral Water Scandal: Senate Report

A new French Senate report has accused the French government of deliberately covering up a major scandal involving Nestlé Waters and its use of banned treatments on popular mineral water brands, including Perrier, Hepar, and Contrex. The explosive report claims that the cover-up was orchestrated “at the highest level of the state,” pointing fingers at senior government officials and even the presidential office.

The controversy stems from the discovery in late 2020 by new Nestlé Waters management that prohibited methods—including ultraviolet treatment and banned filtration systems—had been used at several of their French sites. Under EU law, natural mineral water must be bottled at the source and cannot undergo treatments that alter its purity or composition. The methods Nestlé employed were in clear violation of these rules.

Rather than taking immediate public action, Nestlé approached French authorities in mid-2021 to present a corrective plan, including a proposal to replace the banned filters with microfiltration techniques. The Senate report claims this plan was discussed at an inter-ministerial meeting on October 14, 2021, and was quietly approved 18 months later, without any transparency or legal action.



The Senate’s six-month-long investigation included over 70 hearings and concluded that French authorities failed in their duty to inform the public and European regulators. It alleged that President Emmanuel Macron’s office had known of the violations since at least 2022, with Alexis Kohler, then Secretary-General at the Élysée Palace, reportedly meeting with Nestlé executives.

Although Nestlé admitted in 2024 to using illegal treatments and paid a €2 million fine to avoid prosecution, the Senate emphasized that this did not absolve either the company or the government of responsibility. The report warned that such concealment amounted to consumer fraud and raised serious questions about regulatory oversight and public health protections.

Despite claims from Nestlé that the water remains “pure” and the replacement filtration methods were government-approved, the Senate stressed that transparency still has not been achieved nearly four years after the issue first emerged.

Will Schools Survive the AI Revolution? Duolingo CEO Predicts a Radical Shift

As artificial intelligence continues to redefine how we live and learn, Duolingo CEO Luis von Ahn has shared a provocative vision for the future of education. Speaking on the No Priors podcast, von Ahn suggested that while schools may still physically exist, their role could fundamentally change. Rather than remaining centers of academic instruction, schools might evolve primarily into childcare and supervision hubs—with AI taking over most of the actual teaching.



“Education is going to change. It’s just a lot more scalable to teach with AI than with teachers,” von Ahn said. While he clarified that teachers won’t be entirely replaced, he emphasized that AI offers capabilities that human instructors cannot match, especially in large classrooms.

In a traditional classroom setting, a teacher may struggle to deliver personalized learning experiences to 30 different students. AI, however, can track individual progress in real time, identify strengths and weaknesses instantly, and tailor lesson plans accordingly. Von Ahn believes this level of precision and adaptability makes AI a powerful educational tool—potentially surpassing traditional methods.

Importantly, von Ahn does not advocate for eliminating teachers altogether. He stressed that human supervision remains critical, especially when it comes to the care and social de-

velopment of children. Schools, in his view, will continue to serve a purpose, but not necessarily the one they were built for.

This prediction aligns with broader trends. Since the launch of ChatGPT in 2022, students have rapidly adopted AI tools for learning, often outpacing their schools’ ability to adapt. Meanwhile, Duolingo itself has shifted decisively toward an AI-first strategy. The company recently announced it would reduce its reliance on contractors for tasks AI can handle, including some aspects of performance evaluation and internal operations.

“We’re going to be AI-first,” von Ahn declared in a company-wide memo. “It’s not a question of if or when. It’s happening now.”

If von Ahn’s forecast proves accurate, the future of education could be more algorithmic than academic—with schools becoming safe spaces for social interaction and care, while AI does the teaching.

UK Man Sets World Record with 667 Tattoos of Daughter’s Name

Mark Owen Evans, a 49-year-old man from the United Kingdom, has set a new Guinness World Record by tattooing his daughter’s name, Lucy, an astonishing 667 times on his body. Driven by a deep sense of love and determination, Evans went to extreme lengths to reclaim his former title after it was surpassed in 2020.

Evans originally held the record in 2017, when he had Lucy’s name inked 267 times across his back. However, the title was later overtaken by Diederik Vigil, a 27-year-old woman from the United States, who tattooed her own name 300 times on her body.

Unwilling to let go of the unique honor, Evans was determined to regain his spot in the record books. With no space left on his back, he opted to have 400 additional tattoos—200 on each thigh—to bring his total count to 667. The tattoo session took five and a half hours, and he proudly declared, “I couldn’t wait to claim the record back and dedicate this to my daughter.”

But for Evans, this was more than just a record attempt. The tattoos also



serve as a tribute to Lucy’s birth and the medical care she received during her early days. As part of the initiative, he also aimed to raise funds for the hospital that supported her recovery.

Evans had initially planned for only 100 tattoos during his first attempt. However, with the help of two skilled tattoo artists from Dexterity Ink in Wrexham, he managed to fit twice as many on his back. The design featured an open Guinness World Records

book, with Lucy’s name repeatedly inked on both pages.

Speaking about the experience, Evans recalled, “It felt weird—because there were two tattooists doing it at the same time, the pain was kind of cancelled out.” Despite the unusual nature of his achievement, he takes pride in what he calls a “living tribute.”

“I love that I’m literally wearing my record and it goes everywhere with me,” he said. For Evans, this remarkable display of dedication is both a personal celebration and a lasting symbol of paternal love.

Apple Developing AirPods and Apple Watch with Built-In Cameras, Launch Expected by 2027

Apple is reportedly working on advanced versions of its AirPods and Apple Watch that will feature built-in cameras, according to a recent report by Bloomberg. These next-generation wearables are expected to launch around 2027, potentially marking a major leap in Apple’s wearable technology strategy.

The tech giant is said to be developing specialised chips to power these devices—“Nevis” for the camera-enabled Apple Watch and “Glennie” for the upgraded AirPods. These chips are designed to support enhanced artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities, moving Apple’s wearables beyond fitness tracking and notifications into a new era of “Visual Intelligence.”

While these new AirPods and Apple Watch models are not expected to support traditional photography or video calling features like FaceTime, the built-in cameras are believed to serve advanced AI-driven functions. For the Apple Watch, one proposed design could embed a camera within the screen or place it near the Digital Crown, especially in the upcoming Apple Watch Ultra models. These cameras could interpret the user’s environment, providing context-aware insights, navigation help, and environmental recognition.



On the AirPods side, Apple is exploring the use of infrared cameras to improve spatial audio experiences, particularly when paired with products like the Apple Vision Pro. The visual sensors may also enable gesture recognition, allowing users to control devices through hand movements, potentially revolutionising how we interact with wearables.

According to Bloomberg’s Mark Gurman, these features are part of Apple’s broader push into on-device AI, where visual data collected by the cameras would be processed locally for privacy and speed.

Beyond the AirPods and Apple Watch, Apple is also making strides in developing a low-power chip for its upcoming smart glasses, inspired by the energy-efficient processors used in the Apple Watch. Unlike the high-performance chips in the iPhone or Mac, this new chip will prioritise battery life and compact design—key elements for future augmented reality (AR) devices.

Although a few years away, these developments suggest that Apple is preparing to transform its wearable ecosystem into smart, AI-powered companions that combine audio, visual, and contextual awareness.

FaceAge: The AI Tool That Measures Your Health from a Selfie

A groundbreaking AI tool called FaceAge is making waves in the medical community by promising to assess a person’s health simply from a photograph. Developed by researchers at Mass General Brigham, a leading nonprofit healthcare system based in Boston, FaceAge uses deep learning algorithms to analyze facial features and predict a patient’s “biological health age” rather than just their chronological age.

FaceAge is inspired by the traditional “eyeball test” used by physicians—an intuitive, quick judgment about a patient’s health based on appearance. However, while human doctors might rely on subjective experience, FaceAge uses large datasets and AI to deliver a more standardized, objective measurement. According to the research team, this system evaluates visible facial cues such as skin texture, muscle tone, and other subtle features to estimate how “aged” a person appears in terms of overall health.

The goal is not to tell you how many birthdays you’ve had, but rather how your body is aging biologically. This distinction matters: two people aged 50 chronologically might differ significantly in biological age depending on factors like lifestyle, disease, and genetics. A person with a biological age of 60 may be at higher health risk than someone whose biological age is closer to 40.

Published in The Lancet Digital Health on May



8, 2025, the study highlights how FaceAge could help doctors make faster, data-driven decisions, especially in emergency and critical care settings. Early results suggest that FaceAge’s assessments correlate with health outcomes and mortality risk more accurately than some traditional methods.

That said, the researchers caution that FaceAge is still in the experimental phase and not ready for clinical deployment. More testing across diverse populations and environments is needed before it can become a trusted tool in hospitals or clinics.

Still, the potential is immense. In a future shaped by AI, FaceAge could help personalize treatments, monitor aging, and even catch health issues before symptoms appear—all from a single selfie.

Jasmine Paolini Makes History with Stunning Italian Open Victory Over Coco Gauff

In a moment of triumph that electrified the Foro Italico, Jasmine Paolini etched her name into the history books by becoming the first Italian woman in 40 years to win the Italian Open, defeating world No. 3 Coco Gauff 6-4, 6-2 in a memorable final on Saturday.

This win marks the biggest claycourt title of Paolini's career and her second WTA 1000-level title, following her triumph in Dubai last year. At 29 years old, the Tuscan native delivered a composed and aggressive performance, cheered on by an impassioned home crowd that added to the spectacle of her historic victory.

Paolini's win comes at a crucial time, providing a major confidence boost ahead of the French Open, which begins on May 25. She was runner-up in Paris last year, and her form on clay this season signals she could go even further.

Facing off against Coco Gauff, the reigning US Open champion, Paolini showcased her composure and tactical brilliance. Although Gauff had a winning record in their previous encounters (2-1), she was unable to match Paolini's precision and consistency on the day. Gauff struggled with 55 unforced errors, while Paolini dominated with 76%



success on her first serves and a clear edge in rallies.

"Congrats for the amazing week, Coco. You reached the final, so you're playing great. You are such a great player and a great person," Paolini said during the trophy ceremony, gracious in victory.

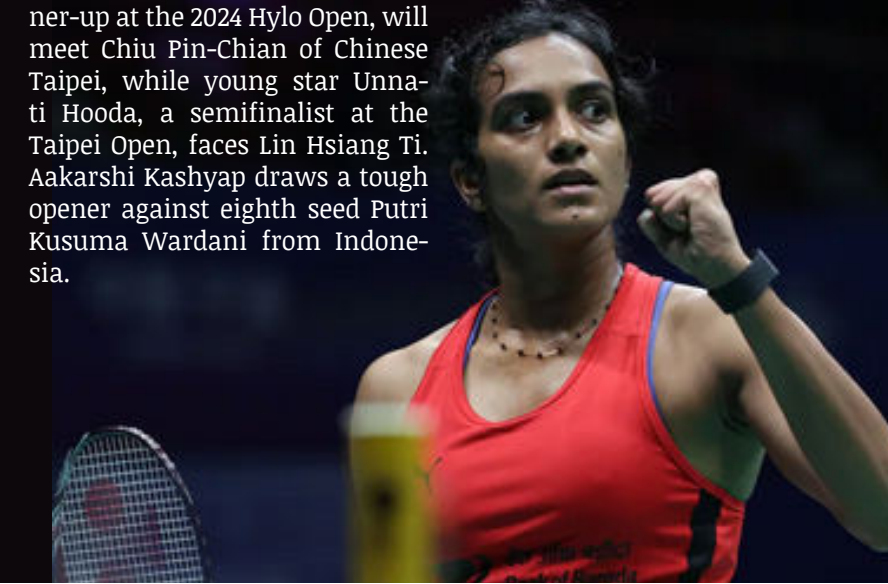
Paolini seized control of the match early, clinching the tight first set in 54 minutes, and then raising her level further to storm ahead 3-0 in the second set. From there, she didn't look back, thrilling the home fans with a commanding finish.

With this victory, Paolini becomes the first Italian woman to win the tournament since Raffaella Reggi in 1985, a milestone that elevates her status in Italian tennis lore and cements her as a serious contender heading into Roland Garros.

Sindhu, Prannoy Lead Indian Challenge at Malaysia Masters Amid Form Slump

Indian badminton stars PV Sindhu and HS Prannoy are set to lead the nation's charge at the Malaysia Masters Super 500 tournament, beginning Tuesday at Kuala Lumpur's Axiata Arena. With a total prize purse of USD 475,000, the tournament offers a crucial opportunity for both veterans to bounce back after a period of form and fitness struggles. Sindhu, currently ranked world No. 16, has had a tough season and is looking to regain momentum after her last outing at the Sudirman Cup, where she fell short against Indonesian opposition. She begins her Malaysia Masters campaign against Japan's Natsuki Nidaira, ranked 20th. HS Prannoy, once among the world's top 10, has dropped to world No. 35 and faces a challenging opening-round encounter against fifth seed Kenta Nishimoto of Japan. Prannoy, too, is hoping to put behind a disappointing Sudirman Cup performance and rediscover his winning touch. The Indian contingent at the Malaysia Masters includes several promising talents. In women's singles, Malvika Bansod, runner-up at the 2024 Hylo Open, will meet Chiu Pin-Chian of Chinese Taipei, while young star Unnati Hooda, a semifinalist at the Taipei Open, faces Lin Hsiang Ti. Aakarshi Kashyap draws a tough opener against eighth seed Putri Kusuma Wardani from Indonesia.

In men's singles, Sathish Karunakaran, champion at the Odisha and Guwahati Masters, takes on top seed Anders Antonsen of Denmark. Rising star Ayush Shetty, a world junior bronze medallist, meets Brian Yang of Canada, and Priyanshu Rajawat opens against Singapore's Jia Heng Jason Teh. In mixed doubles, India's top pair Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto face a qualifier. Other notable entries include Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde, who play the fourth-seeded Chinese duo Guo Xin Wa and Chen Fang Hui, and Ashith Surya and Amrutha Pramuthesh, drawn against top seeds Jiang Zhen Bang and Wei Ya Xin. Indian representation also extends across men's and women's doubles, with several young combinations looking to make their mark. The qualifying rounds will see Kidambi Srikanth, Tasnim Mir, Anmol Kharb, and others vying for main draw spots. The Malaysia Masters presents a vital test—and a chance for redemption—for India's shuttlers ahead of a packed international calendar.



Abhishek Sharma Smashes 18-Ball Fifty, SRH Take Charge Against LSG

In a high-stakes IPL 2025 clash between Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), young SRH opener Abhishek Sharma stole the show with a breathtaking 18-ball half-century, smashing LSG's spinner Ravi Bishnoi for four consecutive sixes in a single over. His explosive innings set the tone for SRH's chase of 206 at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad.

Despite SRH already being out of playoff contention, they came out firing. Abhishek, in particular, played with freedom and flair, racing to his fifty with audacious strokeplay. However, his aggressive knock came to an end soon after his milestone, sparking a heated exchange with LSG pacer Digvesh Rathie as he walked off the field. The spat added more drama to an already intense encounter.



At the end of 12 overs, SRH stood at 142/3, with Heinrich Klaasen and Kamindu Mendis steadying the innings and keeping the chase alive. With 64 runs needed from the final 8 overs and seven wickets in hand, SRH remain well-placed to pull off a morale-boosting victory.

Earlier in the day, LSG posted a competitive total of 205/5 in their 20 overs,

a score that came despite another disappointing outing for their marquee player Rishabh Pant. Acquired for a massive Rs 27 crore at the auction, Pant failed to make an impact yet again, raising questions about his form and value to the side.

However, LSG's top order delivered when it mattered. Aiden Markram and Mitchell Marsh both registered fluent half-centuries, setting a solid platform. Nicholas Pooran added impetus in the latter stages with a crucial 45, ensuring LSG crossed the 200-run mark—a total they must defend to keep their playoff hopes alive.

For LSG, every match from here is a virtual knockout, and a loss today would end their playoff aspirations. SRH, meanwhile, are playing for pride, and with Abhishek Sharma's heroics leading the way, they're showing they intend to finish their campaign on a high.

India Edge Past Bangladesh in Thrilling Final to Clinch SAFF U-19 Championship

In a pulsating final full of drama, tension, and heroic moments, India U-19s successfully defended their SAFF U-19 Championship title by defeating Bangladesh 4-3 on penalties after the match ended 1-1 in regulation time. The final, played at the Golden Jubilee Stadium in Yulia, Arunachal Pradesh, on Sunday, had everything a football fan could ask for—early goals, missed opportunities, a fierce comeback, and a nail-biting shootout.

India got off to a flying start, taking the lead within just two minutes through captain Singamayum Shami, who unleashed a powerful curling free-kick from over 30 yards. The Bangladesh keeper, Md Ismail Hossain Mahin, got a hand to it, but the sheer power of the shot carried it into the net, sending the home crowd into a frenzy.

India dominated the early proceedings, with their swift passing and movement putting Bangladesh on the defensive. Omang Dodum came close to doubling the lead with a brilliant solo run, only to be denied by a superb save from Mahin.

However, Bangladesh regrouped and clawed their way back into the contest. They gradually disrupted India's rhythm



and began creating chances of their own. The equaliser finally came in the 61st minute, when Md Joy Ahamed capitalised on a goalmouth scramble from a corner to smash the ball past Suraj Singh—India's first goal conceded in the tournament.

The rest of the match became a tactical and physical battle, with both sides creating half-chances but unable to find a winner. With the scores tied, the match went into a penalty shootout.

Bangladesh appeared to have the upper hand early in the shootout after Indian forward Rohen Singh's weak effort was saved. But India held their nerve. Bangladesh captain Nazmul Huda Faysal fired over the bar, and goalkeeper Suraj Singh Aheibam came up with a crucial save.

In the end, it was Shami who stepped up again, slotting home the final penalty with composure to seal a famous victory for India and retain their crown as SAFF U-19 champions.

Jannik Sinner Calls Rome Final Defeat to Alcaraz a 'Good Lesson' Ahead of French Open

World No. 1 Jannik Sinner remained upbeat despite falling short in the Italian Open final on Sunday, where he lost 7-6(5), 6-1 to Carlos Alcaraz. The match marked Sinner's return to competitive tennis after a three-month hiatus due to a doping suspension, making his run to the final at the Foro Italico all the more significant.



The 23-year-old Italian had been sidelined following a controversial ban stemming from traces of clostebol found in his system, which authorities ruled was due to accidental contamination. Despite the setback, Sinner impressed on home soil, stringing together a series of strong performances before meeting his match in the Spanish prodigy.

"The first set was definitely the turning point," Sinner reflected after the final. "But overall, I'm very happy with how I played this week. Coming back after

three months and reaching the final here in Italy means a lot."

Backed by a passionate Rome crowd, Sinner looked close to clinching the first set, holding two set points at 5-6 on Alcaraz's serve. But the Spaniard held firm, eventually snatching the tiebreak before dominating the second set. The loss brought an end to Sinner's 26-match winning streak, with Alcaraz once again proving to be a formidable

opponent — he now leads their head-to-head 7-4.

Still, Sinner viewed the match as a valuable stepping stone ahead of the French Open, which begins on May 25. "This week gives me confidence. Some matches I played really well, others could have been better — but that's tennis," he said. "There are things to improve if I want to do well in Paris."

Initially scheduled to play next week in Hamburg, Sinner now plans to rest and recover instead. "I played the maximum matches here, which is great. Now I need a few days to mentally switch off before preparing for Roland Garros," he added.

Sinner acknowledged that his lack of match play showed at times but remains optimistic: "If I could replay some points, I'd do them differently. But no excuses. It's all part of learning."



Venky Atluri, Mamitha Baiju & All Good Vibes Surround Suriya’s Next Film!

After the underwhelming performance of *Retro*, directed by Karthik Subbaraj, actor Suriya is determined to bounce back stronger, especially in the Telugu market which has seen a decline for him in recent years. The Tamil star has now teamed up with director Venky Atluri for a new film, currently referred to as *#Suriya46*.

The project was officially launched today with a traditional pooja ceremony held at Ramanaidu Studios, Hyderabad. The film is being pro-

duced by Sithara Entertainments, in collaboration with Fortune Four Cinemas and Sreekara Studios. GV Prakash Kumar will compose the music for the film, continuing his successful association with director Venky Atluri after hits like *Sir* and *Lucky Baskhar*.

Adding fresh energy to the project is Mamitha Baiju, who rose to fame with the Malayalam blockbuster *Premalu*. She will be playing the female lead opposite Suriya, making this her Telugu debut. Her presence is expected to add youthful charm

and new appeal to the film.

Director Venky Atluri is currently riding high on the success of his recent films and fans are hoping he can work his magic again to deliver the much-needed hit that Suriya is looking for. With consecutive hits under his belt, there is a lot of anticipation around what Venky can bring to the table for Suriya.

Interestingly, producer Naga Vamshi stirred excitement with his social media post hinting at the return of ‘Sanjay

Ramaswamy’—Suriya’s iconic character from the cult film *Ghajini*. The character left a strong impact on both Tamil and Telugu audiences, and the idea of revisiting that intensity has added a buzz around *#Suriya46*.

More details about the cast and crew are expected to be revealed soon. Until then, fans of Suriya can take comfort in the fact that all good vibes are surrounding this project. Let’s hope this collaboration helps Suriya reclaim his box office glory.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu: ‘Asura Hananam’ Single Announced with Fierce New Poster!

The much-awaited period action epic *Hari Hara Veera Mallu*, starring Pawan Kalyan, is back in the spotlight with a major update that has thrilled fans. The film’s third single, titled “*Asura Hananam*,” has officially been announced, accompanied by a powerful new poster that showcases Pawan Kalyan in an intense and commanding avatar.

Set in a grand historical backdrop, the film has already built up considerable buzz, and this latest musical announcement only adds to the mounting excitement. Composed by the Oscar-winning music director MM Keeravaani, and written by Rambabu Gosala, “*Asura Hananam*” is expected to be a high-energy, intense track that captures the essence of the film’s larger-than-life narrative. The song will be released on May 21, 2025, at 11:55 AM, and fans are eagerly counting down the hours.

The poster released alongside the song announcement features Pawan Kalyan in a fierce pose, with intense expressions and warrior-like attire, hinting at the action-packed scale and emotional depth of the film. It perfectly sets the tone for what promises to be an epic musical piece from the film’s soundtrack.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu is being helmed by directors Jyothi Krishna and Krish Jagarlamudi, and is pro-



duced by Mega Surya Production. The film features Nidhhi Agerwal as the female lead and is being made as a pan-Indian project, aiming to captivate audiences across languages and regions.

With the theatrical release confirmed for June 12, 2025, promotions are now gaining full momentum. After a period of silence, the film is making a powerful comeback, and fans can expect more updates and surprises in the coming weeks.

All eyes are now on May 21, when “*Asura Hananam*” will officially drop. Until then, the new poster and the promise of Keeravaani’s rousing music are keeping the hype alive. Stay tuned for more thrilling updates from *Hari Hara Veera Mallu*!

Allu Arjun to Play Triple Role in Atlee’s Mega Sci-Fi Film ‘AA22xA6’

After the phenomenal success of *Pushpa 2*, Allu Arjun is riding a wave of national fame. With unmatched screen presence, powerful performances, and mass appeal, he has become a household name across India. Now, the spotlight is on his next project — a grand science fiction film titled *AA22xA6*, directed by blockbuster filmmaker Atlee, known for *Jawan*.

The film is already being touted as one of the most expensive Indian productions ever, with a whopping budget of Rs. 600-700 crore. This ambitious project promises a unique blend of action, emotion, and high-end visuals that could rival the best of Hollywood.

What’s making the most noise, however, is the revelation that Allu Arjun will



be seen in not one or two, but three different roles in this sci-fi epic. According to reports, the star will portray a hero, a villain, and, in a groundbreaking twist, a full-length animated character. This would mark the first time an Indian actor takes on such a role in a major commercial film.

To deliver on the scale and vision required, Atlee is collaborating with international VFX teams, ensuring that the animation and visual storytelling are top-tier. Allu Arjun is also said to be undergoing intensive preparation — from physical training to experimenting with varied looks — to bring each character to life

convincingly.

There’s also plenty of buzz around the casting, with names like Janhvi Kapoor and Ananya Panday reportedly in talks for key roles, though the production team has yet to confirm.

Set against a time-travel narrative, *AA22xA6* is expected to offer a rollercoaster ride of thrilling action sequences, emotional depth, and mind-bending science fiction. Filming is slated to begin this summer, with a planned 2026 release. However, due to the scale and VFX workload, a 2027 release is also being considered.

With this bold project, Allu Arjun and Atlee look ready to redefine Indian sci-fi cinema.

Actor Vishal Set to Tie the Knot with ‘Kabali’ Actress Sai Dhanshika?

The Tamil film industry is abuzz with fresh rumours about actor Vishal’s long-awaited wedding. According to recent reports, the 47-year-old actor is all set to marry actress Sai Dhanshika, known for her roles in hit films like *Kabali* and *Solo*.

While both actors have remained tight-lipped, speculation intensified after Vishal spoke briefly about his marriage plans during a recent media interaction. He revealed that he has found the right person and confirmed it would be a love marriage. However, he added that he would officially announce his bride’s identity and wedding details in due course. Vishal had previously stated that he would marry only after the completion of the *Nadigar Sangam* building project, a commitment he reiterated multiple times over the years. Now that the construction is nearing com-



pletion, fans and media alike are eagerly watching for a formal announcement.

Industry insiders claim that the mystery bride is none other than Sai Dhanshika. Adding fuel to the rumours, Vishal is slated to attend the audio launch of Dhanshika’s upcoming film *Yogi Da* as the chief guest tonight (May 19). Sources hint that he may use the event as a platform to confirm their

relationship publicly. Reportedly, Vishal and Dhanshika met several months ago and quickly became friends. Their friendship is said to have blossomed into romance over time. Neither has confirmed the relationship, but close associates suggest that wedding bells are indeed around the corner. Vishal’s personal life has often drawn public interest. He was previously linked with actress Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, and he even got engaged to actress Anisha Alla in 2019, though the engagement was eventually called off for undisclosed reasons. On the professional front, Vishal was last seen in *Madha Gaja Raja*, which surprisingly turned into a box-office success despite a delayed release spanning over 12 years. As fans await an official word, all eyes are on tonight’s *Yogi Da* event for a possible big reveal.

“Let’s Live This Moment”: DSP Delivers a Musical Treat for Kireeti & Sreeleela’s Junior

With the grand release of *Junior* just around the corner on June 18th, the makers have kickstarted the musical journey of the film with a vibrant and energetic first single titled “*Let’s Live This Moment*”. The film marks the debut of Kireeti Reddy, son of entrepreneur and politician Gali Janardhan Reddy, and stars the ever-popular Sreeleela as the female lead.

The song is composed by the

ever-reliable Devi Sri Prasad (DSP), whose magic once again brings a perfect mix of rhythm and melody to the track. While the lyrics do carry a subtle preachy tone about cherishing love and living life to the fullest, the overall composition is upbeat and filled with feel-good vibes.

Singer Jaspreet Jasz delivers the track with an energetic and soulful rendition, giving the song an infectious charm.

Lyricist Shreemani adds poetic value with lines that inspire and uplift. The combination of meaningful words and DSP’s peppy music results in a potential chartbuster that could dominate playlists in the weeks to come. Visually, the lyrical video showcases Kireeti impressing with his confident screen presence and impressive dance moves. His chemistry with Sreeleela is fresh and breezy, making their pairing one to watch out for.

The choreography is vibrant, perfectly complementing the celebratory tone of the song. Directed by Radha Krishna and produced by Rajani Korrapati under the Vaaraahi Chalana Chitram banner, *Junior* is already generating buzz not just for its star cast but also for its promising production values and appealing music. Adding to the excitement, actress Genelia will be seen playing a significant role, marking a notable return to Telugu cinema.



With “*Let’s Live This Moment*,” the musical promotions have started on a high note, building anticipation for what’s

shaping up to be a youthful entertainer filled with emotion, dance, and feel-good moments.