

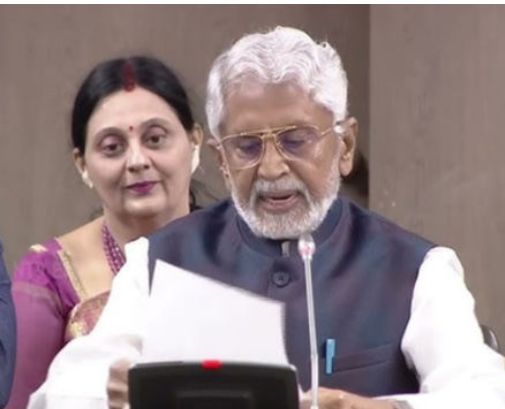




**Yoga Andhra Towards 2025: AP Aims for World Record in Yoga**

Yoga in temples, beaches and historic sites draws global attention

**4 PAGE**



**Cinema Awards Need Unity, Not Division: Murali Mohan**

- Veteran actor urges AP and Telangana to alternate film awards each year
- Murali Mohan urges AP to resume presenting cinema awards
- Suggests alternating awards between AP and Telangana yearly
- Warns that dual awards for same films lead to confusion and disputes

**2 PAGE**

# Chandrababu stuns CII in Delhi with grand AP vision

- Standing ovation after CM’s visionary speech
- Amaravati to host India’s 1st Quantum Computing Center
- ₹10 lakh Cr green energy push, ₹2.4T economy by 2047
- CM outlines Swarnandhra Vision-2047 at CII annual conference
- CM pitches Amaravati as next big tech and green energy hub

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu received an overwhelming response at the Confederation of Indian Industry’s (CII) annual conference in Delhi, with industrialists rising to their feet in a rare standing ovation after his speech. The CM presented his comprehensive development blueprint for Andhra Pradesh, highlighting investment opportunities and the state’s ambitious long-term vision under “Swarnandhra Vision-2047.” In his keynote at the CII Special Plenary Session titled “Economic Development - Sustainability - Andhra Pradesh Blueprint,” Chandrababu impressed the audience with a compelling mix of past success, current strategy, and future vision. Stressing his brand’s credibility, the CM said, “We are attracting investments through the brand ‘CBN’. Credibility doesn’t come overnight. Come, examine Andhra Pradesh, and only then invest.” The Chief Minister announced the establishment of India’s first Quantum Computing Center in Amar-



avati by 2026. He revealed that top firms like TCS, IBM, and L&T are collaborating to set up Quantum Valley, positioning Amaravati as a future-ready hub for data analytics and advanced technology. “Quantum computing, real-time data, and technologies like drones and IoT are

reshaping the world. Amaravati will be at the center of it,” he said. Taking forward his push for rapid development, Chandrababu declared, “Our motto is not ease of doing business, but speed of doing business.”

**2 PAGE**



**Govt Responds Positively to DSC Candidates’ Appeals**

- Mega DSC-2025 to fill 16,347 teacher posts across the state
- DSC exams scheduled online on June 6, 2025
- Age limit raised to 44 years for OC candidates; reserved category relaxations as per rules
- Govt highlights adequate preparation time and mandatory TET exams
- Timely recruitment crucial to avoid academic year losses

**2 PAGE**

# For Whom Did They Buy Expensive Cars?

- Four key accused interrogated by SIT Chief Rajasekhar Babu
- Focus on expensive properties and luxury cars bought using scam money
- Investigation includes tracing investments linked to accused families



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The first day of interrogation in the liquor scam case concluded with four accused questioned separately for eight hours under the supervision of SIT Chief Rajasekhar Babu. The accused—A1 Raj KC Reddy, Dhananjaya Reddy, Krishnamohan Reddy, and Balaji Govindappa—are considered crucial figures in the

scam. During the investigation, the SIT probed where the large sums of money collected through the scam were invested. Particular attention was paid to expensive properties purchased and luxury cars acquired during the period from 2019 to 2024. The accused were questioned about for whom these expensive cars were bought and about financial transactions related

to investments in businesses owned by their family members, as reflected in their bank accounts. The SIT obtained property purchase details from the Registration Department to support their questioning, aiming to uncover the extent of assets acquired through illicit funds. The investigation continues as the SIT seeks to unravel the financial network behind the scam.

**పదవీవిరమణ శుభాకాంక్షలు**

పోలీస్ డిపార్ట్మెంట్ నందు విధి నిర్వహణలో అంకితభావంతో పనిచేసి అందరి మన్ననలు పొంది నేడు పదవీవిరమణ చేయుచున్న

**శ్రీ చిలకా వెంకటరామారావు గారికి**

పదవీవిరమణ శుభాకాంక్షలు మీ భావిజీవితం సుఖసంతోషాలతో వర్ధిల్లాలని ఆకాంక్షిస్తూ.....

**శ్రీమతి & శ్రీ చిలకా వెంకటరామారావు గారు**  
DSP : CID విభాగం, రాజమండ్రి

భార్య - శ్రీమతి సుజాత  
తండ్రి : చిలకా రామారావు - శ్రీమతి సత్యనారాయణమ్మ (లేటు)  
మావయ్య: తీర్థతి సూర్యచంద్ర రావు - శ్రీమతి కమలమ్మ (లేటు)  
మరియు కుటుంబ సభ్యులు.



## Cinema Awards...

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Veteran Telugu actor Murali Mohan has made a significant appeal to both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana state governments, calling for a coordinated and unified approach to cinema awards. Speaking at a Hyderabad event marking the announcement of the Gaddar Awards by the Telangana government, Murali Mohan suggested that AP should also begin honoring cinema, but in alternating years with Telangana to avoid duplication and unnecessary controversy. “Telugu cinema belongs equally to both states. Giving awards separately for the same film leads to confusion and controversy,” he said. Murali Mohan emphasized that both governments should come to an agreement where one state gives the awards one year, and the other state follows the next year. He insisted this method would eliminate conflict and foster greater unity in the Telugu film industry. “The opinion that both states must independently award the same films is flawed. Instead of creating unnecessary discussion, it’s better that Andhra Pradesh and Telangana coordinate and take turns. Telugu cinema doesn’t belong more to one state or less to the other. The audience is the same on both sides,” Murali Mohan pointed out. Highlighting the global reach of Telugu films, he added, “Today, our movies are being watched even in America before local releases. The pride of Telugu cinema should not be caught in state boundaries. Unity in our decisions reflects unity in our culture.” Murali Mohan concluded by urging both governments to prioritize the collective identity of Telugu cinema and its global audience. His comments have sparked a fresh discussion in film and political circles about the need for a single, structured, and mutually agreed system of film recognition between the two states. It remains to be seen whether the governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana will respond positively to this balanced and inclusive suggestion from one of the most respected voices in Telugu cinema.

## Govt Responds...

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government has taken positive steps after carefully considering the appeals of candidates for the Mega DSC-2025, aimed at filling 16,347 vacant teacher posts statewide. The DSC (District Selection Committee) exams are set to be conducted online on June 6, 2025, under the supervision of Education Minister Nara Lokesh. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had initiated the recruitment process immediately after taking office on June 13, 2024, issuing the official order for Mega DSC. Since then, the government has worked actively to address the concerns raised by the candidates and ensure a fair and smooth recruitment. Regarding candidates’ key demands: Exam Preparation Time: The government clarified that more than six months have been given for preparation, with the syllabus released in November 2024. Multiple TET (Teacher Eligibility Test) exams were conducted in February and October 2024, and candidates had opportunities to improve their scores. Extending the exam beyond the current schedule would delay recruitment mid-academic year, affecting students’ learning. Single Question Paper System: The government defended the Computer Based Test (CBT) method with district-wise question paper normalization, ensuring fairness and preventing malpractices. This system, used previously in 2018 and 2019 DSC exams, is legally upheld. Age Limit Relaxation: The maximum age for OC candidates has been increased from 42 to 44 years, considering the gap of seven years since the last DSC. Reserved categories retain the existing age relaxations up to 49 years (SC/ST/BC) and 54 years (disabled). TET Conduct Clarification: The government confirmed that TET exams are mandatory and have been conducted twice in 2024, along with recognition of Central TET (CTET) results. Thus, claims that DSC is proceeding without TET are unfounded. Humanitarian Extension Requests: Despite administrative delays, the government emphasized the urgency of filling teaching vacancies before the academic year starts to prevent educational disruption.

# ‘Iconic’ Six-Lane Cable Bridge to Boost Amaravati Connectivity

- Bridge to connect Amaravati with Vijayawada-Hyderabad National Highway
- Project currently in consulting firm selection phase
- Will reduce travel distance and serve as a gateway from Hyderabad



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Steps are underway to construct an iconic six-lane cable bridge over the Krishna River, a critical infrastructure project to enhance Amaravati’s connectivity. The bridge will link the capital city directly to the Vijayawa-

da-Hyderabad National Highway, becoming the primary gateway for travelers coming from Hyderabad, Telangana’s capital, and reducing travel distance significantly. The Amaravati Development Corporation Limited (ADCL) is currently engaged in selecting a consulting

firm to conduct a comprehensive survey and prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR). Bids for the Request for Proposal (RFP) have been invited, and the process is at the stage of evaluating technical bids. The final consultant will be chosen after the financial bids are examined. Soil testing for the project has already been completed in various locations. According to the Amaravati master plan, key arterial roads within the capital, N6 and N13, are set to be connected to the Hyderabad-Vijayawada National Highway (NH65). The N6 connection is nearing completion, with the six-lane Western Bypass being finalized by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The new cable bridge will span approximately 5.2 kilometers, stretching from Rayapudi in Amaravati across the Krishna River to Moolapadu in the NTR district. An earlier foundation stone for a similar iconic bridge was laid in 2019 by the previous TDP government, with an estimated cost of Rs 1,387 crore. However, the YSRCP government shelved that plan after coming to power. The current coalition government has withdrawn the old proposal and integrated the new bridge plan with the ongoing Western Bypass project to provide seamless connectivity. This iconic bridge is expected to be a landmark structure, significantly improving transportation and promoting Amaravati’s development as the state capital.

## Chandrababu stuns CII in Delhi with grand AP vision

Continued from page 1

He assured investors that all land and regulatory approvals will be cleared in record time, referring to upcoming projects like the BPCL refinery in Ramayapatnam and a proposed Google data analytics campus in Visakhapatnam. The CM also outlined Andhra Pradesh’s emergence as a green energy capital, highlighting Rs. 10 lakh crore in expected investments in solar, wind, and pumped hydro energy sectors. He also spoke about a new high-tech industrial corridor in Rayalaseema with a Rs. 5 lakh crore investment target. Recounting his past experiences, Chandrababu recalled being ridiculed for attending global events like the World Economic Forum in Davos. “They said Davos won’t get votes. But I believed wealth creation is necessary for public welfare. That’s why I went,” he remarked, adding that he had been attending Davos summits since 1995. Speaking of Amaravati’s future, Chandrababu said, “Having developed Hyderabad, I now have the opportunity to build Amaravati into a global green city. Industries must become partners in this transformation.” He explained that the government is working on a 22-year plan to increase per capita income to ₹55 lakh and turn Andhra Pradesh into a \$2.4 trillion economy by 2047. The audience, including CII Director General Chandrajit Banerjee and President Sanjeev Puri, applauded the CM’s clarity and forward-thinking with a standing ovation, marking the highlight of the conference.

## Ration Dealers Must Serve Cardholders With Respect

- Minister stresses clean, efficient ration shop operations
- Home delivery for disabled and elderly to begin June 1
- Service camps for ePoS and weighing machine repairs established

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

State Civil Supplies Minister Nandendla Manohar reviewed the preparedness of ration shops across the state through a video conference with Collectors and District Supply Officers in Vijayawada today. He emphasized that the government is committed to distributing essential goods through ration shops from June 1 without any irregularities in the public distribution system. The Minister urged ration dealers to act with dedication and treat cardholders respectfully, recalling how dealers once were like family heads to their customers. He instructed that ration shops maintain clean premises, ensure accurate measurements during distribution, properly display prices, stock boards, and posters, and closely monitor the performance of ePoS and weighing scale machines. Minister Manohar highlighted that



ration goods would be delivered at home to disabled persons and elderly above 65 years of age, aiming to complete the entire distribution from the 1st to the 15th of every month, including Sundays. Special focus was requested on home delivery to the disabled and elderly within the 1st to the 5th of each month. Cardholders will receive timely information via WhatsApp groups, ensuring transparency and convenience. In case of technical difficulties, alternative distribution methods should be used to avoid any inconvenience. To support smooth operations, service camps for repairing ePoS and weighing machines have been set up in every district. The Minister urged dealers to utilize these facilities fully to ensure a hassle-free ration distribution system aligned with the vision of the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister.

## Srikalahasti Pays Heartfelt Tributes to Senior Journalist Mehar Kumar

TPN | C Shekar

Tirupati: Srikalahasti witnessed an emotional farewell on Friday as senior journalist and News Senior Reporter Mehar Kumar was remembered and honored by a large number of public representatives, political leaders, journalists, and local residents. The gathering reflected the widespread respect and affection Mehar Kumar earned through his decades-long contribution to journalism and community service. Prominent among those who paid floral tributes were the family members of late former minister Bojjala Gopala Krishna Reddy, including his wife and team. TDP BC Cell leaders Dasha-

radachari and Dr. Umesh Rao, along with former MLA Biyyapu Madhusudhan Reddy, also participated in the condolence program and expressed their grief. Key figures who paid tribute included BJP State Secretary Kola Anand Kumar, Congress leader Thalapa Damodar Reddy, TDP Thottambedu Mandal Presidents Muni Raja Naidu and Gali Chalapathi Naidu, senior TDP leader Unnam Nirmalamma, Srikalahasti Temple officials and staff, as well as the Srikalahasti Press Club President, Secretary, and Honorary President. Numerous senior journalists, party workers, and local officials also joined in paying their respects to the late journalist Mehar Kumar.

## Mahanadu Was a Grand Success: Chandrababu in Teleconference

### CM thanks party cadre, announces key welfare schemes for June and August

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a teleconference today with TDP MLAs, MPs, senior leaders and village-level representatives following the successful conclusion of the Mahanadu in Kadapa. Describing the event as a grand success, he congratulated all party leaders and activists for their collective efforts in making the party’s annual convention a memorable one. Speaking during the interaction, Chandrababu said, “The Mahanadu has proven that any event can be flawlessly executed if there is unified leadership. Our ministers worked not as officials, but as party activists—leading from the front and inspiring everyone.” He praised the spontaneous participation of the public and grassroots-level workers in the event, adding that it reflects the growing trust in the coalition government. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of spreading the message of the six principles introduced under the “Naa Telugu Kutumbam”



(My Telugu Family) concept. He called on party members to take these ideals to every corner of the state and deepen their connection with the people. Reflecting on the government’s first year in power, Chandrababu said, “Through Mahanadu, we explained what we’ve achieved in one year and what we plan to do in the days ahead. People are showing positive response to our welfare and development programs.” Underscoring the importance of regular public engagement, he encouraged MLAs to treat public service, especially toward the poor, as a duty. “That is why I personally take part in pension distribution each month,” he said. On the welfare front, Chandrababu made key announcements.

## Light to Moderate Rains Forecast Across Andhra Pradesh

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh is set to experience a change in weather as the Meteorological Department forecasts light to moderate rains across many districts over the next three days. The sky is expected to remain cloudy, bringing relief from the recent dry spell and a slight dip in temperatures. According to officials, Saturday will see widespread rainfall in several districts, particularly in the northern and coastal regions. Light to moderate showers are likely in Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram Manyam, Alluri Seetharamaraju, Visakhapatnam, Anakapalle, Kakinada, Ambedkar Konaseema, East Godavari, West Godavari, and Eluru districts. Central districts including Palnadu,



Prakasam, Nellore, Kurnool, Nandyal, and Annamayya are also expected to receive similar rainfall. In Krishna, NTR, Guntur, and Bapatla districts, light showers may occur intermittently on Saturday. The Rayalaseema region will not be left out, with YSR Kadapa, Anantapur, Sri Sathya Sai, Chittoor, and Tirupati districts forecast to see scattered light rains during this period.

# YCP Plans 'Back Stabbing Day' Protest on June 4

- Chandrababu betrayed public trust with broken promises, says Sajjala
- YCP to hold constituency-level rallies across Andhra on June 4
- Sajjala calls it 'Vennupotu Dinam' to mark one year of betrayals

TPN Correspondent |  
Andhra Pradesh

Marking the completion of one year since the NDA coalition came to power in Andhra Pradesh, the YSR Congress Party has launched a sharp counter-offensive by announcing a statewide protest titled 'Back Stabbing Day' (Vennupotu Dinam) on June 4. Speaking at the YCP Central Office in Tadepalli, party state coordinator Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy unveiled the campaign poster, targeting Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for what he called "betrayal of public trust and election promises." Sajjala launched a scathing attack on the ruling coalition, alleging that not a single major election promise has been fulfilled during its first year. "This government came to power with grand promises, but all we've seen is deception, fear-mongering, and arrogance," he remarked. He called the administration autocratic and anarchic, accusing it of misgov-



ernance and misleading people under the guise of reforms and branding. Referring to Chandrababu Naidu's past political history, Sajjala said, "He came to power by turning his back on his uncle in 1995, and now he's turned his back on the very people who trusted him in 2024." Sajjala also

mocked Naidu's latest 'P-4' narrative, alleging that it is just another diversionary tactic to cover up his failure to address poverty and fulfill welfare promises. Highlighting the financial burden placed on the state, Sajjala said, "Within a year, this government has pushed Andhra Pradesh into a debt of

₹1.49 lakh crore, and no one knows where that money has gone." He added that the YSRCP will mobilize protests at every constituency, rallying people and submitting petitions to local authorities demanding that poll promises be implemented without delay. The YCP leader accused Chandrababu Naidu of deceiving people in every election since 1999, and claimed this trend continues even today. "He promised a bright future for the poor, but in reality, all he's done is make excuses for inaction," Sajjala said. Former ministers Dharmana Krishnadas, Adimulapu Suresh, Ambati Rambabu, Sake Sailajanath, along with MLCs Lella Appi Reddy, Kalpalatha Reddy, Kumbha Ravi and former MLA Malladi Vishnu, were also present during the poster release event. Sajjala concluded by calling on the public to rise against this betrayal and join the protest in large numbers to send a strong message to the government.



## Nara Lokesh Has a Bright Future, Says JC Prabhakar Reddy

- JC praises Lokesh's connect with people
- Warns Jagan of political consequences if attitude remains unchanged

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

Tadipatri Municipal Chairman and TDP leader JC Prabhakar Reddy, also National General Secretary and Minister Nara Lokesh, praised the young leader for his commendable rapport with the public. In an exclusive interview with a leading Telugu news channel, JC said Lokesh's patient and affectionate engagement with people, including ministers, MLAs, party leaders, and common citizens, shows his political maturity and bright future. "Lokesh is young, educated, and is evolving day by day. This is a positive sign for both the party and the state," he added, expressing confidence that Lokesh's youth and public appeal will propel him to greater heights. JC also voiced strong dissatisfaction with YSRCP Chief Jagan Mohan Reddy's current approach. "Jagan, you are the leader we need. Your mother hails from our Tadipatri area. I have great respect for three leaders, including your late father, YS Rajasekhara Reddy, who was affectionate to everyone, including me. But Jagan, why have you changed so much?" he questioned. He criticized Jagan's threatening tone about regaining power and cautioned, "If this attitude doesn't change, political destruction is inevitable." JC further expressed amazement at the huge turnout at the TDP Mahanadu in Kadapa. He noted that the large number of ordinary people attending voluntarily reflects the deep trust they have in the party, more than just the leaders themselves.

# Not Mahanadu, But 'Biryani Sabha': YSRCP

Ravindranath Reddy slams Chandrababu as 'brand ambassador of lies'

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

YSR Congress Party's Kadapa district president Ravindranath Reddy launched a scathing attack on the Telugu Desam Party, mocking their recent Mahanadu held in Kadapa as "Abba Kodukula Dabba Nadu." Speaking at a press conference on Friday at the YSRCP office, Ravindranath said that TDP's public meeting in Kadapa, a district where it has minimal presence, was turned into a showy farce by ferrying in people with the lure of biryani packets, medicines, and cash. He questioned how TDP, which has just one assembly segment in Kadapa, could label it their stronghold. "When you think of YSR, you remember 108, Aarogyasri, fee reimbursement, free power. When you think of Jagan, you think Amma Vodi, Jagananna schemes. When you think of NTR, you think of Rs. 2 rice and prohibition. But Chandrababu? He is the brand ambassador for lies, fraud, deceit, and betrayal," Ravindranath alleged. He accused Chandrababu Naidu of making tall promises like unemployment allowance, free travel for women, and monthly payouts for all women above 18, but delivering none. "He made 143 promises and started



talking about 'Super Six' laws just to mislead people. Nothing was implemented," he said. Ravindranath further said that the so-called Mahanadu was used only to attack Jagan Mohan Reddy and not to offer any vision or development plan for Andhra Pradesh. "They did not tell a single word on how they will help the people if they come to power. It was just a noise fest," he added. Mocking Chandrababu's earlier statements, he said, "He once said he'd establish a steel plant in Kadapa in a month. If that actually happens, even we will be happy. But it's all empty talk." He demanded that the TDP address long-pending bifur-

cation promises, including the steel plant. He announced that the YSRCP will observe June 4 as "Back Stabbing Day" and "Rebellion Day" as a symbolic protest against TDP's failure to implement promises after forming government. "We will hold rallies in all constituencies and submit representations to officials," Ravindranath said, calling the current TDP-led alliance government a 'Red Book government of anarchy.' MLA Rachamalla Sivaprasad Reddy also criticized the turnout at TDP's Mahanadu, claiming it was artificially inflated and incomparable to the organic crowds Jagan attracts. "Not

even ten percent of the turnout in Raptadu came to Mahanadu. Calling Kadapa a TDP stronghold based on this one meeting is a joke," he said. He questioned what development or schemes the TDP government has implemented in its one year of rule. "People are only seeing rate hikes and betrayal," he alleged. Other senior leaders including former Deputy CM SB Anjad Basha, MLCs Govinda Reddy, P. Ramasubba Reddy, M.V. Ramachandra Reddy, MLAs Akepati Amaranatha Reddy, Dr. Sudha, Mayor K. Suresh Babu, and others were present at the event, pledging to mobilize public support for upcoming protest programs across the district.

# Manda Krishna Meets Chandrababu in Delhi

- MRPS founder Manda Krishna Madiga meets AP CM
- Chandrababu congratulates him for receiving the Padma Shri
- Both discuss the journey of the SC classification movement

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who is currently on a visit to the national capital, met with Padma Shri awardee and MRPS founder president Manda Krishna Madiga today. The meeting was held as a courtesy call in Delhi. Chandrababu Naidu warmly congratulated Manda Krishna Madiga for being conferred the prestigious Padma Shri award by the President of India. He lauded Krishna Madiga's relentless efforts over the decades for social justice, particularly in advocating for the rights of marginalized communities. The two leaders took the opportunity to reflect on the long-standing



struggle for Scheduled Caste (SC) classification led by the Madiga Reservation Porata Samiti (MRPS). They discussed the historical journey of the movement, including the major milestones, roadblocks, and pivotal moments that shaped its trajectory. Both acknowledged the difficulties and sacrifices made throughout the years in pursuit of equitable classification among SC groups. They also shared insights on how political, legal, and social factors influenced the progress of the movement. The meeting signified a moment of recognition and solidarity, highlighting the shared commitment to the cause of social justice and the empowerment of disadvantaged sections of society.



## No Arches Built to Touch YSR Statues During Mahanadu, TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

Pulivendula TDP in-charge B.Tech Ravi slammed the YCP for politicizing the removal and obstruction of YSR statues during the recent Mahanadu celebrations. Speaking to the media on Friday, he clarified that while YSR statues were installed around the Pulivendula ring road, no arches were erected over or touching the statues for flag hoisting during the Mahanadu. Ravi demanded strict punishment for those who removed the arches put up by TDP supporters. He urged true YSR fans to reflect on who initiated cases against YS Vijayalakshmi and blocked Sharmila Reddy from claiming her rightful property. Drawing parallels, he said if YS Rajasekhara Reddy was like Rama, YS Vivekananda Reddy was like Lakshmana, who now faces charges in his murder case. He accused YCP leaders of playing politics by obstructing police and called out their hypocrisy in alleging TDP's political games. Ravi also reminded the public about past incidents where TDP leaders were arrested and allegedly handed over to private individuals.

# Yoga Andhra Towards 2025: AP Aims for World Record in Yoga

Yoga in temples, beaches and historic sites draws global attention

- Month-long yoga drive across Andhra Pradesh
- Govt aims to set world record on June 21
- Heritage, health and tourism combine in mega event

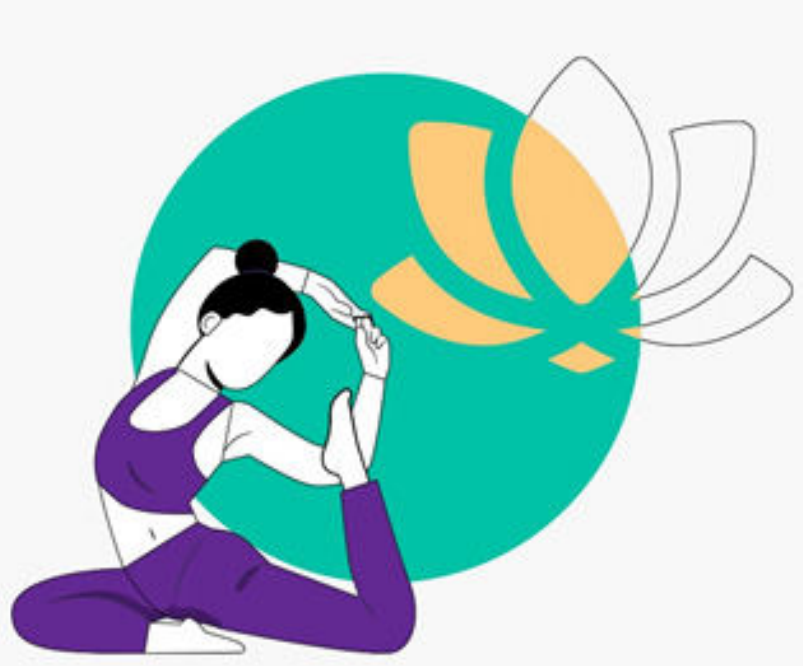
TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a historic and spiritual stride towards global recognition, Andhra Pradesh is preparing to present itself to the world as “Yoga Andhra,” blending ancient tradition with modern aspiration. The state government has launched a grand month-long yoga initiative under the banner World Show YogaAndhra – Towards 2025, bringing yoga to the forefront of public life, temples, tourist hubs, beaches and even remote villages. With the vision of transforming Andhra Pradesh into a carafe for yoga and wellness, Chief Minister’s efforts have made yoga accessible across the state. The government’s de-

cision has stirred a silent revolution where citizens from all walks of life, from bustling cities to serene rural landscapes, are actively participating in daily yoga activities. The programs have seen the involvement of All India Service officers, the Chief Secretary, and prominent ministers, giving the campaign a widespread reach and high-level visibility. The state is taking June 21 — the International Day of Yoga — as a challenge to set a world record. Extensive preparations are underway to mark this event with grandeur. Tourists and yoga enthusiasts from across the country and abroad are expected to converge on Andhra’s renowned temples, beaches, and heritage struc-

tures, where themed yoga sessions are being conducted each day in innovative formats. Yoga, rooted in the Sanskrit word ‘yuj’ meaning ‘to unite,’ is a way of life that harmonizes the body, mind and soul. Archaeological findings in the Indus Valley Civilization, including seals depicting yoga postures, affirm that yoga was practiced even in ancient times. Its mention in the Rig Veda and the Upanishads reveals that yoga was deeply embedded in Vedic life. Maharishi Patanjali’s Yoga Sutras laid the foundation for the systematic development of yoga as we know it today. Medical experts endorse yoga for its numerous health benefits. From managing chronic

ailments like back and knee pain to enhancing mental clarity and reducing stress, yoga stands as a beacon of holistic well-being. Students especially can benefit from improved focus and calmness, while the elderly find yoga helpful in preserving mobility and reducing age-related stress. Importantly, yoga transcends age and gender. From young children to senior citizens, anyone can begin yoga under proper guidance. Starting with simple postures and gradually progressing, regular practice brings lasting transformation in one’s physical and mental health. As Andhra Pradesh modernizes its tourist infrastructure and integrates yoga with heritage



promotion, it positions itself uniquely on the global wellness map. With millions already embracing yoga across 174 countries, Andhra’s ambitious campaign not only revives India’s spiritual legacy but also charts a future path of health,

tourism and global cultural leadership. By making yoga a part of daily life, Andhra Pradesh is not only honoring a 5,000-year-old legacy but also moving towards becoming a healthier and happier state — a true “Yoga Andhra.”

## I Wanted To Be A CA, But Became A Minister: Nadendla Manohar

Minister Manohar recalls his journey from CA articleship to politics  
Predicts Andhra Pradesh to become a \$2.4 trillion economy by 2047  
Says global companies are showing keen interest in the state

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Andhra Pradesh Minister Nadendla Manohar revealed that his original career aspiration was to become a Chartered Accountant, and even completed his articles, before life took a turn towards politics. He shared this during his address at the ICAI National Students’ Conference held in Vijayawada, encouraging aspiring CAs while underlining the crucial role accountants play in governance and national development. In an insightful and candid speech, Minister Manohar said, “I wanted to be a CA, but I became a politician. Even today, no political leader in India can function effectively without the help of a CA or a lawyer.” He also

remarked on the inefficiency of auditing some government accounts only after six years, stressing that such delays must be corrected to maintain public trust and financial discipline. Highlighting India’s economic transformation, he said the country has moved from an agriculture-based to a technology-driven economy, and has overtaken Japan in purchasing power. He projected that India would touch a \$4 trillion economy by the end of this year. Referring to Andhra Pradesh’s future under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, the minister said their aim is to grow the state’s economy to \$2.4 trillion by 2047. He emphasized the increasing rel-

evance of CAs, especially with many international firms and global chains expected to enter the state. Minister Manohar also spoke about key tech-driven initiatives being rolled out in Andhra Pradesh. He revealed that 74,000 farmers have registered to sell crops through WhatsApp, with 18,000 already completing successful transactions. He mentioned that smart ration cards are on the way and QR codes are being placed on grain bags to ensure transparency. He added that the proposed Quantum Valley in Amaravati would be a game changer for the state’s future, especially in integrating technology with traditional sectors. Speaking on governance, Manohar empha-



sized Public Participation (P4) as a core element of the state’s development model, stating it shows how people are actively involved in building the state’s future. His remarks struck a chord with students, many of whom appreciated the rare perspective of a politician with financial training, bridging the gap between governance and professional accountability.

## Minister Nimmala Inspects Budameru Flood Prevention Works

Orders completion of CC wall before monsoon to avoid repeat of 2023 disaster

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a precautionary move to avert flood disasters similar to those witnessed in 2023, Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu conducted an inspection of the Budameru flood prevention works in Singh Nagar and adjoining flood-prone areas of Vijayawada. His visit comes in the wake of widespread public concern, as residents continue to reel from the traumatic memories of the devastating Budameru river floods last year. Vijayawada was severely impacted in 2023 when Budameru overflowed due to heavy rainfall, submerging key areas and displacing lakhs of residents, many of whom were forced into temporary shelters. Singh Nagar, in particular, bore the brunt of the disaster, and people in the locality still live in fear of a similar calamity striking again. Determined to prevent another



catastrophe, the government has initiated a ₹23 crore project to construct a robust concrete wall (CC wall) along critical stretches of the Budameru river. The initiative also includes the urgent filling and interconnection of three main drainage gullies that were identified as weak points during last year’s deluge.

During his inspection, Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu issued clear directives to contractors and officials, emphasizing that no compromise should be made on construction quality. He stressed the importance of completing the project before the arrival of the monsoon, urging the teams to expedite work and stay alert to weather

timelines. “The government is committed to protecting the people of Vijayawada from future floods. This project is a permanent solution that must be delivered on time with utmost quality,” the minister asserted. He also assured residents that all necessary precautions are being taken this year to ensure their safety. Officials expressed confidence that, once completed, the CC wall and improved drainage system will act as a strong barrier, effectively protecting the city from the recurring Budameru flood threat. The minister’s proactive visit and firm stance have brought some reassurance to the public, particularly in Singh Nagar, where anxiety over another flood remains high. The government’s swift action and infrastructural measures aim to restore confidence among the flood-affected communities.

## Suspense Continues Over Vallabhaneni Vamsi’s Hospital Admission

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The situation remains uncertain regarding the admission of Vallabhaneni Vamsi to Ayush Hospital for medical treatment. Although the High Court directed that Vamsi be shifted to the hospital, the official order documents have yet to reach the authorities, causing a delay. Family members have been waiting since morning, prepared to take Vamsi to the hospital, but he continues to be held in jail due to the non-receipt of the necessary High Court paperwork. Even by evening, there was no confirmation of the documents’ arrival, prolonging the suspense. If the order is not processed on Friday, Vamsi’s admission to the hospital is likely to be arranged today.



## Police Use Drones to Crack Down on Poker Games

Drone surveillance targets anti-social activities in Krishna district

SP Gangadhara Rao orders drone monitoring across villages and remote areas

Poker players caught in Mandapadu village during a swift drone-led raid

TPN Correspondent | Krishna

Under the directive of Krishna District Superintendent of Police Sri R. Gangadhara Rao, IPS, the district police have launched an aerial surveillance campaign using drone cameras to monitor villages, towns, and secluded areas to curb anti-social activities. The police have warned that anyone involved in unlawful acts will face strict legal consequences.

In a recent operation, drone surveillance identified a group of poker players on the outskirts of Mandapadu village within the Gudivada To Town Police Station jurisdiction. Acting swiftly on this intelligence, the police conducted a lightning raid, apprehending three individuals and confiscating Rs. 1,250 from them. A case has been registered at Gudivada To Town PS, and further investigations are underway. This initiative is part of a broader crackdown aimed at ensuring public safety and maintaining law and order throughout Krishna district by leveraging modern technology like drones for effective policing.



# SECURITY AUDIT MEETING HELD IN TIRUMALA

SECURITY SCHEME TO BE WORKED OUT FOR EACH AGENCY: DGP

FORMAL CO-ORDINATION MECHANISM ON SECURITY NEEDED: TTD EO

**TPN Correspondent | Tirumala**  
A high-level meeting on Security Audit was held at Anna-maiah Bhavan in Tirumala on Friday in the presence of AP DGP Sri Harish Kumar Gupta along with the TTD EO Sri J Syamala Rao which discussed on the various security aspects and the measures to beef up security in Tirumala and surroundings keeping in view the prevailing circumstances in the country. Earlier, Tirupati SP TTD In-charge CV&SO and Sri Harshavardhan Raju explained the Security related issues and the Security Audit measures being

contemplated through a brief Power Point Presentation. Speaking on the occasion, the State Police Chief strongly felt that there is a strong security set-up needed for Tirumala considering its popularity as well its sensitivity across the world. The DGP has also suggested to have an SoP for each Security Agency involved in Tirumala including APSP, DAR, SPF, HGS, Civil Police and TTD Security besides a Disaster Management Team to tackle the exigencies if any. He also suggested for a Multi-layered vehicle scanning system at Alipiri, to collaborate with De-

fense Agencies on Sensor Play system, modernized security equipment, a strong Cyber Security System for TTD. TTD EO Sri J Syamala Rao felt the need for a formal co-ordination mechanism on Security besides strengthening the Cyber Security Set-up in Tirumala and expressed pleasure for a detailed review on Security Audit. Among the various other Police officials, Additional DGP Law and Order Sri Madhusudhan Reddy, Additional DG for Intelligence Sri Mahesh Chandra Ladda, IG Sri Srikanth, DIG Ananatapuram Dr. Semushi



Bajpai, SP ISW Sri Arif Hafiz, DFO Sri Vivek, other top brass officials from

different security agencies and others were present. TTD Additional EO Sri Ch Ven-

kaiah Chowdary and other officers from TTD Vigilance and Security, TTD were also present.

## Kadapa Mahanadu A Grand Success

Lokesh introduces six laws for public welfare

₹3,700 crore sanctioned for Handri-Neevas, ₹1,000 crore for Galeru-Nagari

Kadapa Steel Plant works to begin within 10 days

**TPN Correspondent | Kadapa**

The Telugu Desam Party's (TDP) Mahanadu held in Kadapa was declared a super success by party leaders and ministers on Friday. Addressing a press meet at Haritha Hotel, TDP State President Palla Srinivasa Rao, BC Welfare Minister and District In-Charge S. Savita, Transport and Sports Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, and senior leader Kalya Srinivasulu thanked the leaders, activists, and fans for their active participation and tireless efforts. They said that this Mahanadu, organized in a grand manner unseen before in Kadapa, reflected the unwavering public support for Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and the TDP's leadership. They noted that people's belief in Chandrababu's vision is what brought them together for the event. The leaders praised TDP General Secretary Nara Lokesh for presenting six progressive laws aimed at the state's development and the people's welfare. Inspired by NTR's ideals, Lokesh's vision was appreciated as a forward-looking blueprint for Andhra Pradesh. They recalled the key announcements made during Mahanadu, including Chandrababu's assurances for Rayalaseema's



future: speedy completion of irrigation projects, the commencement of the Kadapa Steel Plant within ten days, development of Kadapa as a horticulture hub, and industrial growth in the Kopparthi estate. Calling it the largest Mahanadu ever in the history of TDP, leaders said the gathering sent a clear message to the YS family that public sentiment had shifted. They described the event's success as a "slap in the face" to the opposition and urged former CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy to accept the public mandate and come out of denial. The leadership reiterated that Chandrababu's promises on steel and irrigation

projects will be fulfilled before the next election. Gratitude was also extended to Chandrababu for choosing Kadapa as the venue and giving local leaders the opportunity to organize the historic event. The press meet saw participation from several TDP leaders including Polit Bureau members, Kadapa District President Srinivasa Reddy, MLAs Puttha Krishna Chaitanya Reddy and Madavi Reddy, MLC Bhumireddy Ramgopal Reddy, Annamaitya District TDP President Chamarthi Jagannathan Raju, former MLC BTech Ravi, and Jammalamadugu in-charge Bhupesh Reddy.

## Digital Education For Future Generations Is Our Goal: Minister Narayana



**TPN Correspondent | Nellore**

Andhra Pradesh Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Dr. Ponguru Narayana asserted that providing digital education to future generations is a key priority for the government. During an inspection of VRC High School in Nellore, which is being renovated on a war footing with a budget of ₹15 crore, he reviewed the development of Saraswati Nilayam, an advanced facility aimed at ushering in a new era of tech-driven education. The minister commended NCC Company representatives for maintaining quality standards in the construction work. He also assessed the design of a modern sports court being developed in the school playground and gave key suggestions for improvement. Recalling the legacy of VRC School, Narayana said that it has produced many public servants and high-ranking professionals. He revealed that in 2014, under his leadership, IIT coaching was provided to 300 students. However, he expressed regret that the previous government closed down the school, citing their lack of awareness and administrative immaturity. He criticized the former regime for leaving Andhra Pradesh in financial distress, stating that it had pushed the state into a debt of ₹10 lakh crore. In contrast, he said, the current coalition government is pursuing effective and responsible governance, focused on reviving the state. Highlighting Youth Leader Nara Lokesh's vision, the min-

ister stated that the government is targeting 20 lakh job opportunities across Andhra Pradesh. As part of this push, he announced that the Kovur Sugar Factory will be transformed into a Micro and Small Enterprise (MSE), expected to create employment for 25,000 people. Minister Narayana also declared that VR High School will be reopened with Lokesh's approval, and the goal is to make it the number one school in India. As part of its inclusive model, 1,000 poor students will be admitted, of whom 760 have already been identified. He added that some student families are being adopted by his daughters and sons-in-law, while others will be taken up under the P4 (Public Participation Program). He also announced that 54 government schools in Nellore will be upgraded to model schools, improving the overall standards of education across the city. DSR Company head Sudhakar Reddy, who has adopted the Guntabadi School, expressed pride in the initiative, stating it will become as prestigious as VRC. Deputy Mayor Roop Kumar Yadav praised Minister Narayana's efforts, describing them as transformative for the poor. He said the students will receive three meals a day, transportation, and a future full of hope. He welcomed the decision to entrust school responsibilities to Minister Narayana's daughter Sharani, calling it a positive move. The event was attended by Joint Collector Karthik, Commissioner Nandan, key TDP leaders, and various local representatives.

## A Divine Decision: Balakrishna on Receiving NTR National Award

Telangana Government honors Balakrishna with NTR Award

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**

Celebrated actor and Hindupur MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna has been selected for the prestigious 'NTR National Award' by the Telangana State Government. The honor, announced during the ongoing centenary celebrations of legendary actor and former Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao, comes at a time when Balakrishna is completing 50 years in the film industry and was recently conferred the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India. Balakrishna responded emotionally to the announcement, calling it a "divine decision" and a reflection of his father



NTR's blessings. He noted that this recognition has come at a time when several significant milestones are aligning in his life and career. "In one moment, we are concluding the centenary celebrations of NTR, and simultaneously, I am celebrating 50 years of my own journey in cinema.

The Padma Bhushan from the central government has added joy. In this backdrop, receiving the NTR National Award instituted in my father's name is nothing short of divine grace," Balakrishna said in a statement. He also conveyed special thanks to Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the state government, and the award committee for selecting him. He further added, "I wish to always have the blessings of Telugu people across the world, the cool grace of my father, and the continued blessings of the almighty." This award is not just a personal honor but also a symbolic recognition of Balakrishna's

longstanding contribution to Telugu cinema and public service. The actor-turned-politician is known for his powerful roles, mass appeal, and family legacy as the son of NTR, the founder of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). With this recognition, Balakrishna now joins the list of legendary personalities honored with the NTR National Award, further strengthening his bond with Telugu cultural heritage and his father's legacy. Fans and film circles alike are celebrating the news, seeing it as a fitting tribute to a man who has carried forward the Nandamuri legacy with passion and pride.

## Development Issues Discussed in Sullurpet Municipal General Assembly Meet

MLA Vijayasree assures swift action on public concerns

**TPN | C Shekar**

**Tirupati:** The Sullurpet Municipal General Assembly Meeting was held on Friday under the chairmanship of Municipal Chairman Dabbala Srimanth Reddy, with Sullurpet MLA Nelavala Vijayasree participating as the chief guest. The meeting focused on the town's developmental needs and the ongoing civic issues affecting residents. Tensions briefly surfaced when Councilor Sunil Reddy alleged that there had been no urban development

during the previous government's tenure. In response, Councilor Meejuru Ramakrishna Reddy defended the previous YSRCP administration, asserting that development activities had indeed taken place under their rule. Chairman Srimanth Reddy added that even after the formation of the municipality, certain works that were approved and tendered had stalled without progress. Several councilors voiced concerns over persisting problems such as inadequate drainage systems, dam-

aged or incomplete cement concrete (CC) roads, and malfunctioning street lights. They also highlighted the worsening mosquito problem, urging the municipal staff to take urgent action to prevent disease outbreaks. Addressing the council, MLA Nelavala Vijayasree assured that each ward's issues would be addressed systematically. She stated, "We are aware of the hardships people are facing. Necessary steps will be taken after reviewing the local problems ward-wise." The MLA also revealed that ₹2 crore



has been sanctioned by the state government for various development works in Sullurpet. She confirmed that work under this allocation would commence shortly. "I will personally review the concerns raised during this meeting and direct the officials to act promptly," she added.

# Temple Lands at Risk: Why Central Legislation needed

Provide the status of Defence and Forest Lands

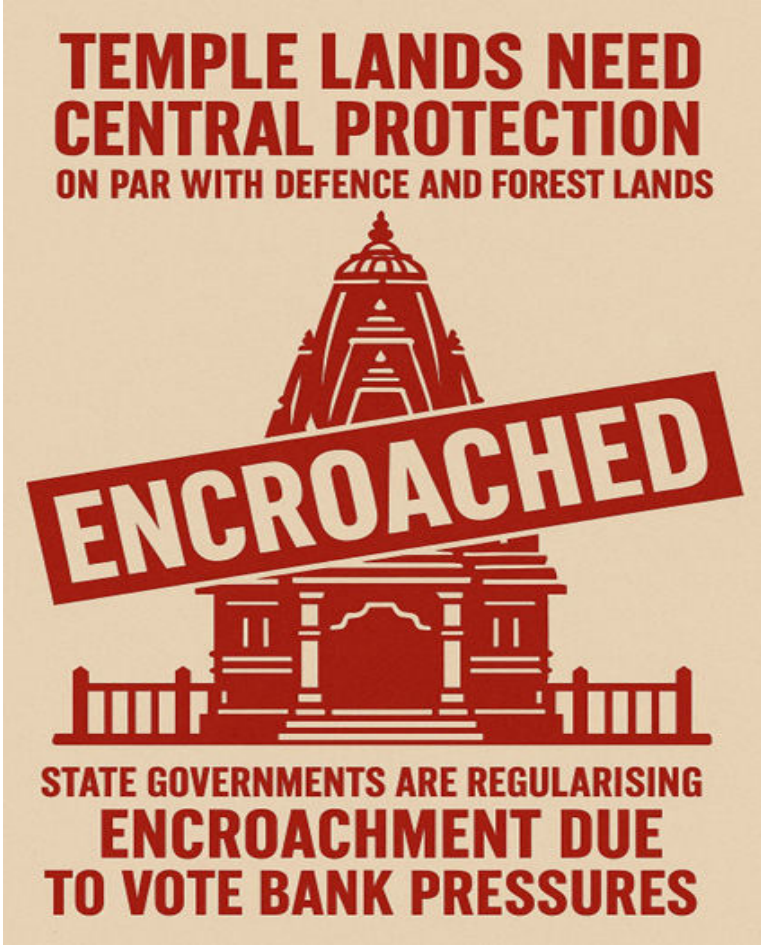
Temple lands across India are under serious threat. These lands, which hold spiritual, historical, and social value, are increasingly falling victim to encroachments, political exploitation, and administrative neglect. Unlike defence or forest lands—both protected by robust central legislation—temple lands are governed by inconsistent state-level laws, making them easy targets for land grabbers and vote-bank politics.

## How Temple Lands Were Encroached Despite State Control

Since India gained independence, the management of Hindu temples in various states has predominantly been under the control of state governments. This oversight was initially meant to promote administrative efficiency, ensure financial transparency, and maintain the temples properly. However, what began as oversight gradually evolved into interference—and ultimately, neglect. Even though temples are under direct state supervision, extensive areas of temple-owned land have been systematically encroached upon over the years. These lands, often donated by devotees over centuries for religious, cultural, and charitable reasons, have been unlawfully seized by private individuals, political operatives, and organized land mafias.

## Regularisation of encroachments for vote banks

The irony is striking: despite government oversight, the very institutions responsible for protecting temple assets have stood idly by as these assets were exploited. Even more troubling, state governments often seemed not only powerless but also complicit. In numerous cases, rather than enforcing the law and reclaiming the encroached lands, authorities chose to legitimize these illegal occupations. This was not due to legal obligations or moral considerations—it was a matter of political convenience. In their quest to appease certain voter demographics, successive governments have opted to ignore illegality and prioritize immediate electoral benefits over long-term institutional



integrity.

## Encroachment menace is more in Southern states

The issue is systemic and extends beyond a single state. Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, and Maharashtra have all experienced significant encroachments on temple land. Reports from temple boards, audits, and even judicial decisions have validated the extent of the problem, yet substantial action remains infrequent. What exacerbates this situation is that religious institutions, in contrast to private properties, are intended to benefit the public and safeguard cultural heritage. The income generated from temple lands is frequently allocated to support daily rituals, festivals, the upkeep of temple structures, the remuneration of priests and staff, and assistance for local communities. When these lands are compromised, temples are compelled to rely on diminishing state support or to raise fees for devotees—both of which are unsustainable solutions.

## Hindus were taken for granted by the Governments

Ultimately, the narrative surrounding temple land encroachments transcends mere property issues. It encompasses

es the decline of accountability, the politicization of religion, and the shortcomings of governance. If temples are to be preserved—not solely as places of worship but also as historical, cultural, and economic entities—their lands must be safeguarded with the seriousness they warrant. Despite their sacred origins and public function, temple lands have become vulnerable targets for encroachment. Thousands of acres have been unlawfully occupied, sold, or leased—often with the tacit approval or active involvement of local authorities.

## Why Central Laws Are Needed

\*To Ensure Equal Protection Under Law  
Defence lands are protected under strict military regulations. Forest lands are safeguarded by the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. These categories are non-negotiable—protected for national interest. Temple lands, equally valuable to our civilizational heritage, deserve the same level of non-negotiable protection.

## \*To Prevent Political Misuse by State Governments

In state after state, temple lands are being encroached and then legalized through politically motivated schemes. This pattern undermines the

purpose of land donations made by devotees and kings over centuries. Without central oversight, these lands will continue to be exploited for short-term electoral gains. Temple lands were donated for the welfare of the people—feeding the poor, supporting religious services, and funding schools and hospitals. Their loss is a loss to the public. Their protection is not just a religious issue, it's a public trust issue.

## \*To Maintain Integrity of Land Records and Prevent Corruption

Temple land records are often outdated or deliberately manipulated. A central law can mandate digitization, national audits, and legal enforcement, reducing corruption and land fraud.

## What Must Be Done

- **Pass a Central Temple Lands Protection Act ; This law should:**
- **Ban unauthorized transfer, lease, or regularization of encroachments.**
- **Criminalize encroachments with clear penalties and speedy trials.**
- **Bring temple lands under a central registry, just like defence and forest lands.**
- **Prohibit political interference in land management.**
- **Create a National Temple Lands Authority**
- **An independent body with auditing powers, enforcement teeth, and accountability mechanisms.**
- **Digitize and Demarcate All Temple Lands**
- **A nationwide GIS-based mapping and digitization drive is essential to secure temple lands from fraud and encroachment.**

Temple lands are a legacy of devotion and service. Letting them be looted for votes is an injustice to history, faith, and public welfare. It's time to act—not with patchwork reforms, but with a firm, central law that protects temple lands just like we protect forests and defence installations. This is not about religion—it's about responsibility. India must protect its spiritual and cultural foundations with the same seriousness it protects its strategic and ecological ones.

# Telangana: Rising As A Global Hub!

As the famous American scholar Warren G Bennis once said, “Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.” These words suit the Chief Minister of Telangana, Mr. Revanth Reddy, very well. In a short time, he has shown strong leadership and clear vision. Under his guidance, Telangana is growing fast in many ways. He is making sure that development and public welfare go hand in hand. The economy of the state is becoming stronger and more stable.

A recent example of this success is the Miss World 2025 event, which is happening in Hyderabad. This is not just a beauty contest—it is also a message of peace, unity, and global friendship. At a time when there was tension between India and Pakistan, many people worried whether the event would go smoothly. But the Telangana government made perfect arrangements. Representatives from 108 countries came to Hyderabad and felt safe, respected, and welcomed. The event is going on peacefully with high-level security. This has shown how good the Telangana government can handle big international events. Many guests stayed in Hyderabad for months. They visited different places in Telangana and saw its culture, progress, and hospitality. The slogan “Telangana Zaroor Aana” (Definitely visit Telangana) became popular around the world. About 2,000 journalists from across India and other countries came to cover the event. Hotels in Hyderabad were filled with foreign and national visitors. This has given a big boost to international tourism. The guests who came here will go back and tell others about Telangana & Hyderabad beauty, kindness, and traditions. This has also helped the state government's goal to show Telangana as a great place to invest and visit. Hyderabad has already hosted many big events like Wings India 2024, AI Global Summit, BioAsia, Global Rice Summit, and Bharat Summit 2025. All of them were very successful. Big companies and investors are showing interest in Telangana. The Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's visits to countries like Japan, Singapore, and Switzerland have brought in over ₹3 lakh crore investments. These efforts have already created over one lakh new jobs for young people. The Telangana government is working hard to create five lakh more jobs by attracting more companies. It



Sagar Vanaparthi,  
Sr Journalist &  
Political Analyst

is giving full support to industries with regular power and water, good roads, and law and order. The Outer Ring Road and the upcoming Regional Ring Road are helping with transportation and development. The Future City project, which is CM Revanth Reddy's brainchild, is also moving fast. It will bring in global companies and improve the state even more. In just one and a half years, Mr. Revanth Reddy has made a strong impression as a leader. His bold ideas and quick decisions have helped Telangana move ahead of others. Hyderabad, which is more than 400 years old, is becoming a well-known name in the world again. The state's image is improving every day, and the slogan “Telangana Rising” is being heard everywhere. His campaigns like “Trillion Dollar Economy” & Rising Telangana are being noticed across India. Finally, as the saying goes, “Until we can manage time, we can manage nothing else.” Mr. Revanth Reddy is managing his time well—he is meeting common, poor people, listening to leaders, and working hard for the state. Because of this, people in Telangana are feeling more hopeful and happier than before.

# Empowering India’s MSMEs: How S2S Financing is Transforming the Sector

India's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sector is a crucial pillar of the country's economy, driving growth and employment on a massive scale. As of May 2025, over 6.38 crore MSMEs have registered under the Udyam framework, with 3.69 crore registrations via the Udyam Registration Portal and another 2.69 crore through the Udyam Assist Platform (UAP). Employing more than 110 million people, the MSME sector contributes nearly 30 percent of India's GDP.

Despite its enormous size and significance, the sector faces a persistent challenge—access to

timely and adequate financing. Nearly 99 percent of MSMEs are micro-enterprises, many of which are family-run businesses operating on razor-thin margins. These ventures often struggle to secure loans from traditional financial institutions, which typically demand collateral and strong credit histories—resources that many micro businesses lack.

This financing gap has long hindered MSMEs' growth potential and limited their ability to innovate, scale, and compete in an increasingly digital economy. Enter S2S (Supply-to-Scale) financing, an innovative,

technology-driven solution that is revolutionizing access to credit for India's MSMEs.

S2S financing leverages digital platforms, data analytics, and alternative credit scoring to evaluate MSMEs' creditworthiness beyond conventional collateral requirements. By connecting suppliers, manufacturers, and buyers in an integrated ecosystem, S2S financing enables smaller businesses to obtain faster, more flexible, and more affordable loans tailored to their unique needs.

This approach not only addresses the longstanding fi-

nanancing bottleneck but also promotes financial inclusion and economic empowerment at the grassroots level. MSMEs can now invest in inventory, technology upgrades, and workforce development, fueling growth and boosting India's broader economic trajectory. As India aims for a \$5 trillion economy, the role of MSMEs becomes even more critical. Ensuring inclusive, tech-enabled access to finance through innovative models like S2S is essential to unlocking the sector's full potential—driving job creation, innovation, and sustainable development across the country.



# Operation Sindoor not over yet; it showed world indigenous weapons' power: PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Alipurduar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during a public rally in Kanpur on May 30, 2025, launched and laid the foundation stones for 15 development projects worth over ₹47,600 crore. His speech was marked by a strong message against terrorism, tributes to victims of the Pahalgam terror attack, and promises of development for Uttar Pradesh.

Addressing a large crowd, PM Modi began by remembering Kanpur's Shubham Dwivedi, who was killed in the Pahalgam terror attack. Referring to India's response, he said, "Operation Sindoor is not over yet. It showcased the might of Indian-made weapons like the BrahMos missile, which struck terror hideouts deep inside enemy territory."

He asserted that the operation forced Pakistan to "plead to stop the war" and declared that India



would no longer be intimidated by nuclear threats. "India will decide the timing and manner of its response," he said, laying out the nation's new anti-terror doctrine.

The Prime Minister highlighted India's self-reliance in defence manufacturing, crediting initia-

tives like Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. "Kanpur is playing a pivotal role in defence growth. The BrahMos missile's new home is in Uttar Pradesh," he said, adding that Kanpur's ordnance factory has now become a modern manufacturing unit. On development, PM Modi promised

Kanpur a bright industrial future. "This double-engine government is committed to restoring Kanpur's past glory. Investment, infrastructure, and jobs are our priorities," he declared. He cited projects such as the Kanpur-Lucknow Expressway, metro rail expansion, and the ₹1,000 crore elevated rail corridor as transformative.

He announced the redevelopment of Kanpur Central Station into a world-class hub, as part of the Amrit Bharat scheme affecting 150 UP stations. He also inaugurated major power plants to ensure energy sufficiency across the state.

Touching on MSME reforms, Modi said loan guarantees had increased to ₹20 crore and tax relief up to ₹12 lakh was now in place. He concluded, "We will work tirelessly to take Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, and India to new heights."



## India's GDP Grows 6.5% in FY 2024-25, Q4 Expands at 7.4%

Retains Fastest-Growing Economy Tag

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India's economy expanded by 6.5% in the financial year 2024-25, maintaining its status as the world's fastest-growing major economy, according to data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on Friday, May 30. The fourth quarter (January to March 2025) alone recorded a robust growth of 7.4%, showcasing the country's continued economic resilience.

The real GDP for the entire fiscal year stood at 6.5%, while nominal GDP grew by 9.8%. Though this marks a slowdown compared to the 9.2% real GDP growth achieved in FY 2023-24, the momentum remained strong, especially in the final quarter. The third quarter (October to December 2024) had reported a 6.2% growth rate.

Among all sectors, construction led the way in Q4 with an impressive 10.8% growth, driven by government infrastructure projects and increased housing activity. This was followed by public administration, defence, and other services, which expanded by 8.7%, and financial, real estate, and professional services, which grew by 7.8%.

Private consumption, a key driver of India's domestic economy, also picked up pace. Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) increased by 7.2% in FY 2024-25, compared to 5.6% in the previous year, indicating a rebound in consumer demand and confidence.

These numbers cement India's position as a global economic powerhouse. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, speaking at the Confederation of Indian Industry's annual meeting, reaffirmed that India is poised to remain the fastest-growing large economy for the next three decades. He added that the government's goal is to push GDP growth toward 8% at constant prices, despite ongoing global headwinds.

Earlier this year, the World Bank projected that India must sustain an average growth rate of 7.8% annually until 2047 to achieve developed-nation status. While challenges remain, the latest GDP figures reflect a positive outlook and solid groundwork for future expansion.



## India will never give in to nuclear blackmail: Jaishankar

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday, May 30, 2025, firmly declared that India will never succumb to nuclear blackmail, reaffirming the country's resolute stance in the face of escalating regional threats. Addressing the convocation ceremony for foreign students at Parul University in Vadodara, Gujarat, Jaishankar emphasized that India would continue to confront terrorism and coercion with strength and clarity.

His remarks come in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor, a major military offensive launched by Indian armed forces targeting terrorist infrastructure across the Line of Control in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). The operation, conducted in response to a deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, has been widely seen as a bold message to hostile forces in the region.

"India will never give in to any kind of nuclear blackmail," Jaishankar asserted, implicitly referring to the recurring nuclear threats often issued by Pakistan during periods of tension. His statement aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent comments during a rally in Kanpur, where he vowed that India would no longer be intimidated by the specter of nuclear war.

Jaishankar further stressed the necessity for countries that sponsor, harbor, or make use of terrorism as a tool of foreign policy to face severe consequences. "It is imperative that those who sponsor, nurture, and utilize the services of terrorism pay a high cost," he said, underlining India's unwavering stance on cross-border terror.

Reflecting on India's historical and civilizational strength, the minister said, "India is a rare civilisational state that is today reclaiming its rightful place in the comity of nations." He highlighted India's emergence as a confident and independent actor on the global stage, while maintaining a diplomatic approach rooted in mutual trust rather than transactional politics.

## Kamal Haasan Responds to Backlash Over Language Remark: "Will Apologise If I'm Wrong"

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Veteran actor Kamal Haasan has found himself at the center of a political and cultural storm after his comment that "Kannada is born out of Tamil" sparked protests and calls for a boycott of his upcoming film Thug Life. The remark, made during a promotional event in Chennai, has drawn sharp criticism from pro-Kannada groups, political leaders, and the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC), which has announced a ban on the film's release in the state unless Haasan issues a public apology.

Amid the escalating controversy, Haasan clarified his stance on Thursday, asserting that he respects all South Indian cultures and would apologise only if proven wrong. "It is a democracy. I believe in the law and justice. My love for Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala is genuine. Nobody will doubt that — except those who have an agenda," he said. He added, "I've been threatened before too. If I'm wrong, I would apologise. If I'm not, I won't." This



remark indicates that the actor is standing his ground unless shown irrefutable evidence of wrongdoing.

The row intensified after KFCC representative Sa Ra Govindu announced a ban on the release of Thug Life in Karnataka, aligning with Karnataka Rakshana Vedike and other Kannada groups demanding a public apology. Protests have erupted in parts of the state, including near the INOX cinema in Belagavi, with demonstrators demanding that Haasan retract his statement. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah also weighed in, stating, "Poor Ka-

mal Haasan, he is unaware of the long-standing history of the Kannada language."

The film Thug Life, directed by Mani Ratnam, stars Kamal Haasan, Trisha Krishnan, and Silambarasan TR, and is highly anticipated. However, the ongoing controversy threatens to derail its Karnataka release and has ignited broader conversations around linguistic pride and regional sensitivities. As the dispute continues, all eyes are on Haasan's next move and whether further clarification or reconciliation will follow — or if the film will remain banned in Karnataka.

# Delhi Logs Wettest May Ever, No Heatwave Days for First Time in Years

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Delhi has recorded its wettest May on record, with a total of 188.9 mm of rainfall from May 1 to May 30, according to data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD). This surpasses the previous high of 165 mm set in May 2008, making May 2025 an unprecedented month for the national capital in terms of rainfall.

Traditionally, May is one of the hottest months in Delhi, often marked by severe heatwaves. However, this year saw a significant shift in weather patterns, with not a single heatwave day recorded. This contrasts sharply with May 2024, which had six heatwave days and just 0.4 mm of rain — 99% below the normal average.

The average rainfall for May is typically around 62.6 mm, but this year's total marks a staggering 202% increase over that figure. The month witnessed multiple rounds of thunderstorms accompanied by gusty



winds. A particularly severe storm struck the National Capital Region (NCR), leading to at least 10 fatalities caused by collapsing structures, electrocution, and falling trees.

Rainfall was reported across various parts of the city, with key weather stations recording significant precipitation. Safdarjung, Delhi's main

observatory, registered rain on four days. Palam and Ridge each had seven rainy days, Lodhi Road saw four, and Ayanagar recorded three.

The most intense rainfall occurred on May 2, with a 24-hour record of 77 mm, which was surpassed by a more recent storm later in the month. This aligns with a growing trend of more intense rainfall events observed in recent years.

The IMD also reported a significant drop in temperatures. On Thursday, the maximum temperature stood at 34.8°C — 5.6°C below the seasonal average — while the minimum was 27.3°C, slightly above normal. Humidity levels ranged between 52% and 69%.

An orange alert was issued for Friday night and Saturday, indicating the possibility of disruptive weather and urging residents to stay alert. Meanwhile, the city's air quality remained in the 'moderate' category, with an AQI of 167, according to the Central Pollution Control Board.

# “Musk Is Terrific”: Trump Praises Elon Musk as Billionaire Exits US Administration

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump praised Elon Musk on Friday as the billionaire officially stepped down from his role as head of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) in the Trump administration. Calling Musk “terrific,” Trump said that although it was Musk’s last day in office, he would “always be with us,” continuing to support the government’s efforts.

Trump and Musk are scheduled to hold a joint media briefing later today at the White House. Trump shared his excitement on Truth Social, writing, “I am having a Press Conference tomorrow at 1:30 pm EST with Elon Musk, at the Oval Office. This will be his last day, but not really, because he will always be with us, helping all the way. Elon is terrific! See you tomorrow at the White House.”

Musk’s departure follows wide-



spread protests and comes as he expressed gratitude to Trump for the chance to tackle “wasteful spending” within the federal government. “As my scheduled time as a Special Government Employee comes to an end, I would like to thank President Donald Trump for the opportunity to reduce wasteful spending. The DOGE mission will only

strengthen over time as it becomes a way of life throughout the government,” Musk said in a statement.

Earlier this week, Musk revealed he had returned to his corporate life, describing how he was now “spending 24/7 at work” and even sleeping in conference rooms after leaving his govern-

ment role. His exit also comes just a day after Musk criticized Trump’s tax bill, calling it too expensive and warning it could undermine the efficiency goals of DOGE. “A bill can be big, or it can be beautiful. But I don’t know if it can be both. My personal opinion,” Musk commented.

Musk was a major donor to Trump’s 2024 campaign and remained a close ally as Trump took office. Shortly after Trump’s victory, he announced Musk would lead the newly created DOGE department—named after the Dogecoin cryptocurrency Musk often promotes—tasked with cutting bureaucracy and waste.

During his tenure, Musk focused on cost-cutting, streamlining government operations, and closing several departments. However, by late April, Musk had begun stepping back from his government role, culminating in today’s exit.

# Japan Pledges \$1.06 Billion to Bangladesh for Budget Support

Railway Modernization, and Education Are Included



TPN Correspondent | Balah

Japan has announced a substantial aid package worth \$1.063 billion to support Bangladesh’s budget, infrastructure, and education sectors. This development comes as Bangladesh’s interim head, Muhammad Yunus, is visiting Tokyo to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries.

According to a statement from Yunus’s press office, \$418 million of the total package will be provided as a development policy loan aimed at assisting Bangladesh with critical economic reforms and boosting climate resilience efforts. This financial support is expected to help the South Asian nation tackle pressing economic challenges while adapting to the growing threat of climate change.

In addition to the budget support, Japan will contribute \$641 million toward upgrading Bangladesh’s railway network. The railway project is a key part of Bangladesh’s infrastructure modernization plan, designed to improve connectivity and boost economic growth through enhanced transportation efficiency.

Furthermore, Japan will allocate \$4.2 million in grants to fund scholarships for Bangladeshi students, fostering educational opportunities and deepening people-to-people ties between the two nations.

The announcement was made on May 30, 2025, as Yunus met with Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba in Tokyo. Yunus, a Nobel Peace laureate, became Bangladesh’s interim chief adviser last August following student-led protests that led to the resignation and exile of then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to India.

This aid package underscores Japan’s commitment to supporting Bangladesh’s development goals and strengthening diplomatic relations amid a period of political transition in Dhaka. The collaboration reflects Japan’s ongoing role as a major development partner in South Asia, focusing on infrastructure, climate action, and human capital development.

With economic reforms, infrastructure upgrades, and educational support now on the table, Bangladesh is poised to make significant strides toward sustainable growth and resilience in the coming years, aided by this important Japanese contribution.

# "We Were Ready To Act After Prayers, But India Launched Brahmos": Pak PM



TPN Correspondent | Lahore

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif publicly acknowledged that Indian ballistic missile strikes, carried out under Operation Sindoor, hit multiple targets inside Pakistan on the night of May 9-10, catching the Pakistani army by surprise. The strikes were a retaliation to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which killed 26 people.

During a speech in Azerbaijan, Sharif revealed that Pakistan was prepared to retaliate against India at 4:30 AM, right after the Fajr prayers. However, before their planned response, India launched BrahMos missiles targeting several provinces, including the airport in Rawalpindi. “We were ready to act after prayers, but India launched BrahMos first,” Sharif stated.

Operation Sindoor involved precision missile attacks on terror infrastructure across Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). Indian forces targeted nine terrorist camps linked to groups such as Jaish-e-Mohammed, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Hizbul Mujahideen. Four sites were struck in Pakistan (Bhawalpur, Muridke, Sarjal, Mehmoona Joya) and five in PoK (Sawai Nala, Syedna Bilal, Gulpur, Barnala, Abbas). These strikes reportedly eliminated around 100 terrorists.

Sharif had earlier confirmed missile strikes on Nur Khan Airbase and other locations during the early hours of May 10, after a late-night call from Pakistan’s Army Chief, General Syed Asim Munir, informing him of the Indian attacks.

Following India’s offensive, Pakistan escalated tensions by launching drone attacks on Indian civilian areas. India retaliated with targeted strikes on Pakistani military sites such as radar installations and ammunition depots.

Despite an agreement reached on May 10 to cease firing on land, air, and sea, Pakistan violated the ceasefire within hours. India has since maintained the ceasefire with no expiration date but insists any dialogue with Pakistan hinges on an end to cross-border terrorism. Sharif recently expressed willingness to engage in talks with India over Kashmir, water sharing, and trade. However, India remains firm that peace talks can only proceed if Pakistan stops supporting terrorism and hands over PoK territory. The Indian External Affairs Ministry reaffirmed that terrorism and talks cannot coexist, emphasizing their conditions for any meaningful dialogue.

# Indian-American Faizan Zaki Wins 2025 National Spelling Bee in Thrilling Finish

TPN Correspondent | Paris

Indian-American teen Faizan Zaki clinched the 2025 Scripps National Spelling Bee title in a dramatic and passionate performance that nearly cost him the championship. The 13-year-old from Allen, Texas, entered the finals as the favorite after finishing runner-up last year, where he lost in a lightning-round tiebreaker. This year, Faizan’s vibrant personality and fearless approach made him a crowd favorite—and eventually, the champion.



comes the fifth runner-up in the bee’s 100-year history to return and win the title.

Faizan’s win adds to a long tradition of Indian-American dominance in the spelling bee, with 30 of the past 36 champions sharing that heritage. His parents emigrated from southern India, and his spelling success is built on years of preparation. He had three coaches and first appeared in the national bee at just 7 years old.

With a total prize haul of \$77,500—including \$52,500 for this year’s win—Faizan plans to donate a large portion to charity. Last year, he famously spent part of his winnings on a rare \$1,500 Rubik’s cube. Reflecting on his journey, Faizan said he chose to enjoy the competition rather than let pressure overwhelm him. “I decided to have fun with this bee, and I did well—and here I am,” he said.

Wearing a black hoodie and exuding casual confidence, Faizan sailed through the early rounds with ease. However, with just two words between him and victory, he nearly lost it all. On the word “commelina,” he skipped the usual methodical questioning and impulsively began spelling, stopping mid-word with a shocked “Oh, shoot!” The error brought the other finalists back into contention, momentarily jeopardizing his chances.

Despite the misstep, Faizan recovered and confidently spelled the final word “eclaircissement” without hesitation, collapsing to the stage in celebration as confetti rained down.

The finals were part of the bee’s centennial celebration, and this year’s competition was widely praised for its intensity and quality. At one point, six spellers spelled 28 consecutive words correctly, and the finals featured three perfect rounds. Faizan be-

TPN Correspondent | Geneva

A massive collapse of the Birch Glacier in the Swiss Alps caused widespread destruction in the village of Blatten, located in the southern Lötschental valley. The glacier partially gave way on May 29, 2025, unleashing a huge avalanche of rock, ice, and mud that buried nearly 90% of the village under a thick, brownish sludge.

Authorities had evacuated the village earlier this month as a precaution, fearing the glacier’s instability. Despite the evacuation, a 64-year-old man was reported missing after the disaster. Rescue operations are ongoing, with drones equipped with thermal cameras aiding search efforts.

The landslide also blocked the nearby Lonza River, raising concerns about potential flood-



ing caused by dammed water. Stephane Ganzer, head of security for the southern Valais region, described the event as a “major catastrophe” and warned that the situation could worsen due to the river blockage. The Swiss army has been mobilized to support local authorities in managing the

crisis and assessing damage.

Swiss Environment Minister Albert Rösti called the glacier collapse “an extraordinary event” and assured that the government will provide assistance to the displaced villagers who have lost their homes. Around 300 residents

and livestock had been evacuated earlier in response to signs that the 1.5 million cubic meter glacier was at risk of collapse.

This incident highlights growing concerns about the effects of global warming on glaciers. Switzerland, which has the largest number of glaciers in Europe, has experienced significant glacier loss in recent years. In 2023 alone, the country saw a 4% reduction in total glacier volume, following a record 6% decline in 2022.

Similar events have occurred recently in other Swiss Alpine regions. The village of Brienz was evacuated twice due to imminent rockslides in 2023 and 2024, narrowly avoiding disaster. Scientists continue to warn that rising temperatures accelerate glacier retreat, increasing the risk of such natural calamities in the future.

# Swiss Alpine Village Devastated After Glacier Collapse Triggers Massive Mudslide

# Markets Slip Amid Global Uncertainty; PSU Banks Shine, Broader Sentiment Weakens

Domestic stock markets moved in a range-bound manner on Friday. Benchmark indices ended with moderate losses. Mixed signals from global markets, lack of clarity despite the US court's stay order on tariffs, and pending Chinese PMI data contributed to this. Investors were not interested in buying amid uncertainty. The rise in shares of PSU banks is a good sign. Overall, Nifty lost 82 points and Sensex lost 182 points.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,633 in the previous session, opened at 81,465 on Friday. It touched an intraday low of 81,286. It reached an intraday high of 81,698. It finally closed at 81,451, down 182 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,812, touched a low of 24,717 and a high of 24,863. It closed at 24,750, down 82 points. The Nifty Bank rose 203 points to settle at 55,749.

In the Nifty50, 7 companies gained while 43 lost. Eterna, SBI, HDFC Bank, LT, Dr. Reddy's were the top gainers. Bajaj Auto, Hindalco, HCL Tech, Shriram Finance, Nestle India lost the most. PSU bank and finance indices rose today. Metal, IT, auto, consumer durables, telecom, oil, healthcare, pharma, FMCG indices turned red.

Market breadth turned in favour of sellers on NSE today. Out of 2955 stocks traded, 1299 gained and 1581 lost. 64 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 23 stocks touched their 52-week lows. The upper circuit was 100

and the lower circuit was 71.

LTI Mindtree appoints Venugopal Lambu as MD and CEO. Apollo Micro Systems shares hit a 52-week high. They rose by 60% in the month. Suzlon shares rose by 10% as the company's net profit quadrupled in the fourth quarter. PNC Infratech shares fell by 4% intraday as its net profit fell by 81%. Skoda Tubes IPO received a response of 29.83 times on the third day in the afternoon. As the PSU Bank index rose by 3%, investor wealth increased by Rs. 3.7 lakh crore. Alembic Pharma shares rose after the USFDA approved a blood cancer drug. Bharat Dynamics shares rose by 6% today after entering derivatives. Lemontree Hotels recorded a 26% growth in profit. Senko-Gold shares rose by 4% after Q4 profit rose by 94%.

# Gold Prices Decline for Fifth Consecutive Day; Check Rates Across Major Cities



Gold prices in India continued their downward trend for the fifth straight day on May 30, 2025. In Mumbai, 22-carat gold was priced at Rs 89,340 per 10 grams, while 24-carat gold stood at Rs 97,030 per 10 grams. Silver prices also fell by Rs 100 per kilogram to Rs 99,800 in Mumbai.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures were trading lower by 0.76%, at Rs 95,722 per 10 grams, while silver dropped 0.75% to Rs 97,091 per kilogram during morning trade. The decline in gold prices is attributed to a slight rise in the US dollar, as investors await an important US inflation report that could influence the Federal Reserve's policy decisions.

24-carat gold, known for its unpar-

alleled purity, continues to attract buyers looking for premium quality bullion. Meanwhile, 22-carat gold remains popular among jewelry enthusiasts due to its balance of durability and elegance.

According to Brian Lan, Managing Director at GoldSilver Central in Singapore, gold prices are consolidating within a slightly wider range due to strong confidence in the US dollar.

Gold prices in India are influenced by factors such as international market trends, import duties, taxes, and exchange rate fluctuations. As gold remains a vital cultural and financial asset in India, especially during festivals and weddings, investors closely watch price movements to make informed decisions.

# SEBI Bans Arshad Warsi and 58 Others in Pump-and-Dump Stock Manipulation Case



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken stringent action against actor Arshad Warsi and 58 others for their involvement in a stock manipulation scheme centered around Sadhna Broadcast Ltd (SBL). The regulator's investigation revealed a coordinated 'pump and dump' scheme orchestrated through WhatsApp messages, misleading YouTube videos, and paid marketing campaigns that artificially inflated SBL's share price.

SEBI's probe, covering the period from March 8 to November 30, 2022, found that promoters, including key figure Manish Mishra, used false and misleading content to lure investors into buying shares of SBL. After inflating the stock price, promoters sold their holdings at a profit, leaving ordinary investors at a loss.

Gaurav Gupta emerged as the largest beneficiary from the scheme, reportedly earning Rs 18.33 crore, while Sadhna Bio Oils Pvt. Ltd gained Rs 9.41 crore. SEBI has ordered the recovery of these illegal profits as part of its enforcement measures. Additionally, Manish Mishra was fined Rs 5 crore, Gaurav Gupta Rs 2 crore, and Jatin

Manubhai Shah Rs 1 crore.

Arshad Warsi, along with his wife and brother, has been banned from participating in securities markets for one year. Despite Warsi's claims of limited knowledge about the stock market, SEBI's investigation revealed his communication with Manish Mishra, indicating active involvement. WhatsApp chats also showed intentions to transfer Rs 25 lakh each to Warsi and his family, highlighting the scheme's coordinated nature.

SEBI also identified five YouTube channels — The Advisor, Midcap Calls, Profit Yatra, Moneywise, and India Bullish — for spreading misleading information to promote the fraudulent activities around SBL.

In total, SEBI has imposed a five-year market ban on seven individuals and a one-year ban on 54 others involved in the scam. Along with bans and fines, SEBI has directed the recovery of Rs 1.05 crore from Warsi and his family, sending a clear message that fraudulent activities in capital markets will be met with severe penalties.

# India Emerges as a Bright Spot in Global Steel Industry, Says Jefferies Report

India is rapidly establishing itself as a key growth market for the global steel industry, standing out as the only major country to register significant volume growth between 2019 and 2024, according to a recent Jefferies report. While global steel production declined by 1% during this period, India's steel output surged by a remarkable 33%, highlighting the country's growing dominance in the sector.

Jefferies emphasized that India is one of the few nations showing consistent volume growth across major commodities such as carbon steel, stainless steel, coal, and aluminium. Over the past 15 years, India's consumption of carbon and stainless steel has grown at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7-8%, outpacing the country's real GDP growth by about 1.1 to 1.3 times.

Looking forward, the report projects an optimistic outlook for India's steel companies, expecting an 8-10% volume CAGR from fiscal year 2025 to 2027. The rising demand for power in India is also expected to support coal consumption growth at a 5% CAGR during the same period.

Similarly, aluminium demand has steadily grown at a 7% CAGR from 2017 to 2024, with expectations for continued growth in the coming years.

However, the Indian steel market faced challenges in the second half of 2024 due to a sharp decline in Chinese steel prices and increased steel imports, which caused domestic hot-rolled coil (HRC) steel prices to drop by 15% between June and December 2024. In response, the Indian government imposed a 12% safeguard duty on flat steel imports in April 2025, valid for 200 days. This move helped steel prices recover, rising 14% in the calendar year to date, reaching Rs 53,500 per tonne—5% above the cost of imported steel.

Jefferies forecasts that steel prices in India will average between Rs 52,000 and Rs 53,000 per tonne in FY26 and FY27, slightly below current spot prices by 1-3%. Overall, the outlook for India's steel industry remains robust as the nation drives demand in a sluggish global commodities market.



## Midnight Chai Call on Ganga Kaveri Express Sparks Outrage, IRCTC Responds

A recent incident on the Ganga Kaveri Express (Train No. 12669), running from Prayagraj to Ghazipur City, has gone viral and triggered a public debate about passenger comfort during nighttime travel. The controversy unfolded when a tea vendor began selling tea at around 3am, disturbing sleeping passengers.

The incident was reported by a passenger travelling in a 3AC coach, who was headed from Chennai to Chhapra in Bihar. The passenger was abruptly awakened by the vendor loudly shouting “Cha khaben, cha khaben” — a Bengali phrase meaning “Will you have tea?” According to the passenger, the vendor was already present at the berth offering tea, leading to considerable annoyance. The early morning call disrupted not only the complainant but also others who were trying to rest during the long journey.

The video shared by the passenger quickly went viral on social media, prompting a strong public reaction. Many users questioned the practices of onboard vendors and the lack of enforcement of quiet hours on trains, especially in air-conditioned coaches where passengers pay a

premium for comfort.

Responding to the incident, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) issued a statement confirming that a complaint had been registered and necessary action would be taken. IRCTC emphasized that vendors are instructed to avoid disturbing passengers during nighttime hours and reiterated its commitment to improving passenger experience.

Train journeys in India are known for their unique experiences, from picturesque views to onboard vendors selling tea, coffee, snacks, and water. While such services are appreciated during the day, passengers expect a certain level of quiet and comfort during night hours. With millions relying on Indian Railways every day, enforcing guidelines becomes essential to ensure an orderly and pleasant travel environment.

The incident serves as a reminder for the railway authorities to re-evaluate vendor protocols and reinforce discipline, especially during designated quiet hours, so that passengers can travel without unwanted disturbances.

## San Francisco’s 45-Foot Nude Statue Sparks Controversy and Conversation Online

A new addition to San Francisco’s skyline has become the center of heated debate across social media. The city recently unveiled a massive 45-foot tall statue of a naked woman in Embarcadero Plaza, drawing both admiration and criticism. Named R-Evolution, the towering steel sculpture weighs 15,000 kilograms and is illuminated by multicolored lights. Created by artist Marco Cochrane, the artwork is part of his renowned “The Bliss Project” series, which originally debuted at the Burning Man festival in 2015.

The installation was made possible through a collaboration between the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, The Sijbrandij Foundation, and art agency Building 180. Officials hoped the striking visual would help attract tourists, revive interest in the downtown area, and support local businesses amid ongoing economic challenges.

However, the statue has ignited a firestorm on social media, with users divided over its presence in a public space. While some view



R-Evolution as a powerful symbol of female strength and artistic freedom, others argue that the installation is out of place given the city’s pressing issues, such as homelessness, crime, and urban decline.

One user on X (formerly Twitter) wrote, “San Francisco unveiled their 45-foot statue of a nude woman Thursday at Embarcadero Plaza to attract tourism. The piece is titled ‘R-Evolution.’ SF continues to be plagued by crime, homeless and illegals. The city would have many more tourists if these issues were addressed.”

Critics argue that the city should focus more on solving deep-rooted social problems rather than investing in controversial public art. On the other hand, supporters believe such installations add cultural value and spark important discussions about public space and expression.

Artist Marco Cochrane has said that the statue is meant to inspire change and challenge perceptions of women in society. As the debate continues, R-Evolution stands tall—both as a piece of art and as a symbol of the complex intersection between creativity, controversy, and city policy.

## No Deadlines, Just Wagging Tails: Meet Denver, Hyderabad Tech Firm’s ‘Chief Happiness Officer’

In an era where corporate life is often synonymous with deadlines, stress, and burnout, one Hyderabad-based robotics startup is making headlines for taking a refreshingly heartwarming approach to workplace wellness. Harvesting Robotics, a rising tech firm, has appointed an unlikely yet beloved new member to its leadership team: a Golden Retriever named Denver, now officially the company’s Chief Happiness Officer (CHO).

The announcement was made by the company’s co-founder, Rahul Arepaka, who shared a delightful update on LinkedIn featuring Denver proudly wearing a custom-made badge with his new title. The post quickly



captured the attention of professionals and pet lovers alike, going viral for all the right reasons.

Denver isn’t just a mascot; he plays a crucial role in the emotional well-being of the company’s employees. As

the CHO, his job description involves wagging his tail, offering cuddles, and being a calming presence amid the usual hustle of a tech startup. According to the team, Denver’s presence has helped reduce workplace stress, improve morale, and even foster better collaboration among colleagues.

Arepaka explained that the idea of having a Chief Happiness Officer stemmed from the company’s core belief that productivity thrives in a positive and emotionally supportive environment. “Denver reminds us to take a break, breathe, and enjoy the little things — even on the busiest days,” he shared. Employees at Harvesting Robotics

have welcomed Denver with open arms. Many describe him as a “four-legged therapist” who effortlessly lifts spirits and turns any stressful day around. Whether he’s lounging in meetings or greeting team members during coffee breaks, Denver has quickly become an integral part of the company culture.

In a world where workplace mental health is increasingly in focus, Denver’s role highlights the importance of emotional wellness in driving long-term success. Harvesting Robotics’ unconventional yet thoughtful move shows that sometimes, all you need to boost happiness at work is a furry friend with no KPIs — just kindness and a wagging tail.

## US Man Reclaims Guinness Record for Balancing Chair on Chin with Incredible Feat

David Rush, a serial Guinness World Records holder from the United States, has once again etched his name into the record books—this time by reclaiming a title he once lost. Known for his extraordinary physical feats, Rush has successfully set a new world record for the longest time balancing a chair on his chin, clocking in at an astonishing 1 hour, 20 minutes, and 30 seconds.

The record-breaking attempt took place at the West Boise YMCA in Boise, Idaho. Rush, an author, public speaker, and STEM education advocate, already holds more than 180 Guinness World Records. However, this particular record held sentimental value, as he was determined to take it back after Spain’s Christian Roberto Lopez Rodriguez broke it with a time of 1 hour, 19 minutes, and 17 seconds.

Rush meticulously trained for the feat, focusing on endurance, neck strength, and balance. The chair used in the attempt was a tan Adams low-back patio chair, purchased from Lowe’s hardware store. It stood 31.5 inches tall and weighed 4 pounds and 3.5 ounces. During the attempt, he balanced the chair upside down, resting its top backrest against his chin while keeping his posture aligned and his gaze skyward.

Throughout the event, Rush remained composed and focused, subtly adjusting his balance and posture to keep the chair steady. As



the time ticked past Rodriguez’s record, Rush raised his fists in victory—carefully, so as not to lose his balance—and completed the attempt with unmatched precision.

The feat is yet another addition to Rush’s growing list of bizarre and impressive world records, many of which he uses to inspire youth and promote STEM education through perseverance and goal-setting.

His latest accomplishment has not only entertained fans across the globe but also sparked admiration for his commitment to pushing physical and mental limits. With this record now back in his possession, David Rush continues to prove that determination, focus, and a little creativity can lead to extraordinary achievements—even if it means standing still with a chair on your chin for over an hour.

## “Chai Comes First”: Hilarious Titanic Video Resonates With Indians Everywhere

For most Indians, chai isn’t just a beverage—it’s an emotion. It soothes, energizes, and brings people together in moments of joy, stress, and even crisis. This deep cultural love for tea was perfectly captured in a viral video that’s now taking over the internet.

Posted by popular content creator Andy Evans, widely known as Aussie Bhai, the video titled “Indian People on Titanic” was shared on Instagram on May 26 and has already racked up over 9.7 million views. The short but hilarious clip imagines how an Indian might have reacted during the sinking of the Titanic—not with panic, but with a steaming cup of chai in hand.

In the video, the man is seen calmly sipping his tea while standing in neck-deep water, unfazed by the chaos that presumably surrounds him. It’s a scene that instantly struck a chord with Indian viewers worldwide, who flooded the comment section with laughter and admiration for the relatable humor.

“This is exactly how my dad would react,” wrote one user, while another joked, “As long as there’s chai, we’ll survive anything—even the Titanic!”

The brilliance of the video lies not just in its comedic timing but in its cultural accuracy.



In India, chai is a non-negotiable part of daily life. It’s the first thing people reach for in the morning and the go-to solution for everything from headaches to heartbreaks. The idea of prioritizing chai—even in a life-or-death situation—might be exaggerated, but it cleverly captures the beverage’s sacred place in Indian households.

While the video is clearly meant for laughs, it also highlights the comforting role of rituals like chai in uncertain times. Whether it’s traffic jams, power cuts, or even a sinking ship (theoretically), a cup of tea is always part of the picture.

With millions sharing and tagging friends, “Indian People on Titanic” has not only gone viral but also cemented one universal truth: no matter the crisis, chai comes first.

## Norway Chess 2025: Gukesh Stuns Caruana in Armageddon, Erigaisi Falls to Carlsen

It was a dramatic day at the Norway Chess 2025 tournament in Stavanger as India's D Gukesh celebrated his 19th birthday with a thrilling Armageddon victory over world No. 3 Fabiano Caruana, while fellow Indian GM Arjun Erigaisi was outplayed by world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen.



Gukesh, the reigning world champion, held his ground in a grueling Classical game that saw Caruana enjoy a pawn advantage for much of the four-hour battle. Despite the pressure, Gukesh showcased exceptional defensive skills to force a draw and push the game into the Armageddon tie-break.

Playing with the white pieces and a crucial three-minute time advantage (10 minutes to Caruana's 7), Gukesh capitalized on the clock pressure to claim victory and earn 1.5 points from the encounter. "Most of my birthdays I end up losing, so I'm glad that didn't happen today," he said after the match, admitting that while Armageddon isn't his strength, this win was a welcome morale booster.

In contrast, Erigaisi, playing with the black pieces, couldn't withstand Carlsen's tactical mastery. The Norwegian grandmaster, who had lost two Armageddon games in previous rounds, bounced back with a decisive Classical win. Carlsen, employing the English Opening, calmly

ly navigated the game and sealed three full points, reinforcing his position as tournament leader with 8 points.

The standings after Round 4 see Carlsen in sole lead, followed by Caruana (7), and Hikaru Nakamura (5.5), with Gukesh and Erigaisi tied at 4.5 points each.

In the women's section, India's R. Vaishali won her Armageddon tie-break against Ukraine's Anna Muzychuk, earning a crucial half point. Meanwhile, Wenjun Ju edged out Koneru Humpy in Armageddon after a drawn Classical game. Despite the setback, Humpy remains in joint lead with Muzychuk on 7 points.

**Results (Open):**  
Carlsen (8) bt Erigaisi (4.5), Gukesh (4.5) bt Caruana (7) in Armageddon, Wei Yi (4) bt Nakamura (5.5).  
Women: Khadem (5) bt Tingjie (4), Ju Wenjun (5.5) bt Humpy (7) in Armageddon, Vaishali (3.5) bt Muzychuk (7) in Armageddon.

## IPL Phenom Vaibhav Suryavanshi Meets PM Modi at Patna Airport, Earns Praise for Record-Breaking Feat

Rising cricket star Vaibhav Suryavanshi, the 14-year-old batting sensation of IPL 2025, had a heartwarming moment on Friday as he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Patna airport. The teenager, who has taken the cricketing world by storm with his explosive performances for the Rajasthan Royals, touched PM Modi's feet as a mark of respect, symbolizing a touching meeting between young talent and national leadership.



The Prime Minister shared the moment on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), saying, "At Patna airport, met the young cricketing sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi and his family. His cricketing skills are being admired all over the nation! My best wishes to him for his future endeavours." The post was accompanied by pictures of PM Modi with Vaibhav and his parents.

Suryavanshi became a household name this IPL season, playing just seven matches but making an enormous impact. His most iconic moment came against the Gujarat Titans, where he smashed a record-breaking century in just 35 balls, finishing with 101 runs off 38 deliveries. This made him the youngest-ever centurion in men's T20 cricket and earned him a spot in the record books with the second-fastest century in IPL history.

Though Rajasthan Royals failed

to make it to the finals, Suryavanshi remained the standout performer, hailed for his maturity, fearless strokeplay, and composed temperament at such a young age.

His exploits even found a mention in PM Modi's earlier Mann Ki Baat broadcast. "Vaibhav Suryavanshi, the son of Bihar, has made the nation proud with his incredible performance in the IPL," the PM had said. "Behind his success lies a lot of hard work and determination. He has played several matches at different levels, and it shows."

PM Modi also emphasized the government's support for youth in sports, stating that providing platforms for young talent to shine has always been a priority under the NDA.

From stunning fans with his bat to earning praise from the Prime Minister, Vaibhav Suryavanshi's meteoric rise is nothing short of inspirational.

## Down to the Wire: GT vs MI Eliminator Goes into Final Over in 229-Run Chase

The IPL 2025 Eliminator has delivered a high-octane contest as Gujarat Titans (GT) chase a daunting 229-run target set by Mumbai Indians (MI). With just 24 runs required off the final over, Rahul Tewatia and Shahrulkh Khan are at the crease, carrying the hopes of the Titans in this must-win encounter. A place in Qualifier 2 against Punjab Kings is on the line, while the loser exits the tournament.



Gujarat's chase got off to a rocky start as skipper Shubman Gill fell in the very first over, and Kusal Mendis was dismissed in bizarre fashion—hit wicket. However, Sai Sudharsan held firm and led the counterattack with remarkable composure. He kept GT in the hunt throughout the innings, anchoring the chase while accelerating when needed. Though he narrowly missed out on a century, Sudharsan's knock gave the Titans a genuine chance in what seemed an improbable pursuit.

The final overs have seen the pressure intensify, with Mumbai deploying their death bowling specialists. Despite the mounting required run rate, Tewatia and Shahrulkh have brought their finishing credentials to the fore, showing nerves of steel in the penultimate over to keep GT's dreams alive.

Earlier in the evening, Mumbai Indians showcased their batting might after electing to bat first. Rohit Sharma, dropped twice during his innings, made GT pay dearly by smashing 81 off just 50 deliveries. His innings set the

tone for MI's imposing total of 228/5. Contributions from Jonny Bairstow, Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma, and Hardik Pandya added firepower through the middle and death overs, leaving GT with a mountain to climb.

As the clock ticks down in this high-pressure clash, all eyes are on Tewatia and Shahrulkh. Can Gujarat Titans pull off one of the great chases in IPL playoff history, or will Mumbai Indians hold their nerve and march into Qualifier 2? The final over promises edge-of-the-seat drama in this Eliminator showdown.

## French Open 2025: Djokovic Advances to Third Round With Commanding Win Over Moutet

Novak Djokovic powered into the third round of the French Open 2025 with a straight-sets victory over Frenchman Corentin Moutet, keeping his pursuit of a record-extending 25th Grand Slam title firmly on track. The Serbian superstar dispatched Moutet 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(1) in a match that lasted just over three hours on Thursday in Paris.



Despite the straight-set scoreline, the second-round clash wasn't short of drama. Moutet, playing in front of a spirited home crowd, impressed with his speed and flair, dazzling spectators with some sublime drop shots that had Djokovic scrambling at times. However, the world No. 6 remained composed throughout and used his vast experience to neutralize the Frenchman's unpredictable style, particularly during a tense third set. Speaking after the win, Djokovic acknowledged the challenge Moutet posed. "Mentally, I had to stay con-

centrated and prepared for a match like that. Corentin is a player who has great speed and variety. It was a great battle, especially in the third set. I saved a set point, and at that moment, anything can happen," Djokovic told the ATP website. "But I found a shot, hit a good serve, and stayed calm on court, which wasn't easy." This win follows Djokovic's triumph at

the Geneva Open, where he secured his 100th ATP Tour-level title after defeating Hubert Hurkacz, marking a return to form after early exits in Monte Carlo and Madrid. He also looked sharp in his opening round at Roland Garros, breezing past American Mackenzie McDonald.

Meanwhile, elsewhere at Roland Garros, world No. 1 Jannik Sinner continued his dominant run, defeating veteran Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-0, 6-4 in what was the Frenchman's final appearance at his home Grand Slam. The 38-year-old received a standing ovation in what marked the end of a remarkable 22-year Roland Garros career.

Sinner's win also extended his Grand Slam winning streak to 16 matches, making him the first male player born in 1990 or later to achieve the milestone, further cementing his status as a future legend of the game.

## Singapore Open 2025: Satwik-Chirag Stun World No. 1 Goh-Nur to Storm Into Semifinals

India's top men's doubles duo, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, delivered a commanding performance to defeat world No. 1 pair Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin of Malaysia in straight games, securing a spot in the Singapore Open 2025 semifinals. The Indian pair won the Super 750 tournament quarterfinal in just 39 minutes with a dominant 21-17, 21-15 scoreline on Friday, May 30.

Returning to form after recent fitness concerns, Satwik and Chirag displayed outstanding defense and took control of the front court with sharp anticipation and precise net play. The win not only avenges their previous loss to the Malaysian pair at the India Open but also marks their third semifinal appearance of the season, having earlier reached the last-four stage at the Malaysia Open and India Open.

Coming into the match, the Indians had a 6-2 head-to-head advantage over the top-seeded Malaysians. The encounter began with both sides committing early service faults and engaging in short rallies. The score remained tight at 7-7 before the Indian pair edged ahead 11-8 at the interval, thanks to Satwik's aggressive third-shot play.

Despite a brief pushback from the Malaysians, including a powerful jump smash from Izzuddin to narrow the lead, Satwik's ferocious forehand and Chirag's straight smash clinched three game points. An error by Goh at the net sealed the first game 21-17 for India.

In the second game, Chirag made some uncharacteristic early errors, but the Indians kept pace through rapid exchanges. With the score tied at 6-6, the duo found momen-



tum, scoring four consecutive points. Chirag's body smash and Satwik's thunderous return helped India maintain a four-point cushion at the interval.

Satwik and Chirag continued to dominate post-break, with a sharp backhand and a signature smash extending their lead to 16-10. Despite a few late unforced errors, they stayed composed and clinched the match after another Malaysian error handed them five match points.

With this impressive win, Satwik and Chirag are now strong contenders for their first title of the season as they head into the semifinals with renewed confidence.



## Khaleja Re-release Sparks Disappointment and Anger Among Mahesh Babu Fans

The much-anticipated re-release of Mahesh Babu's 15-year-old cult classic Khaleja finally hit theaters, stirring a wave of excitement among fans eager to relive the magic on the big screen. Many theaters even hosted special premiere shows last night, but what was expected to be a joyous celebration turned sour for several viewers.



Fans who attended the premiere were taken aback and deeply disappointed when they noticed that the re-release version of Khaleja had omitted a popular song and several key scenes from the original film. This unexpected alteration sparked frustration and dissatisfaction among fans who had hoped to experience the film in its complete original form.

The disappointment escalated in Hyderabad, where some theaters witnessed heated arguments between fans and management over the cuts. In a few instances, the tension reached alarming levels, with some angry fans resorting to throwing bottles at the screen. The chaotic scenes highlighted the strong emotional attachment fans have with the film and their dissatisfaction with the way the re-release was handled.

Despite the unrest in some locations,

other areas reported positive responses. Many fans thoroughly enjoyed the premiere shows and are excited about the ongoing re-release celebrations. Theaters across the region are preparing for packed shows today, as fans gear up to revisit and recreate some of Khaleja's iconic moments.

Khaleja, directed by Trivikram Srinivas and starring Anushka Shetty alongside Mahesh Babu, initially received mixed reviews upon its original release. However, over the years, the film has achieved cult status, endearing itself to audiences with its unique storytelling and memorable characters.

This re-release was intended as a tribute to the film's legacy and a treat for Mahesh Babu fans, but the unexpected edits have dampened the enthusiasm for some. Nonetheless, many continue to celebrate the film's impact and look forward to enjoying it on the big screen once again.

## Bhairavam – A Mass Action Drama That Works in Parts

Bhairavam, released on May 30, 2025, is the latest Telugu action drama starring Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas, Nara Rohith, and Manchu Manoj. Directed by Vijay Kanakamedala and produced by KK Radhamohan, the film arrives with decent pre-release buzz, aiming to impress fans of the genre.

The story revolves around childhood friends Gajapathi Varma (Manchu Manoj) and Varadha (Nara Rohith), whose bond is tested when Seenu (Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas), an orphan, enters their lives following a pivotal incident. A powerful minister targets the land of a sacred temple, enlisting CI Pardha Sarathi (Sampath Raj) to execute his plans. As events unfold, friendship turns into betrayal, leading to violence and emotional turmoil.

Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas delivers one of his best performances, showcasing a broad emotional range that reflects his growth as an actor. Nara Rohith impresses with his composed and mature portrayal, while Manchu Manoj's intense and commanding pres-



ence adds strength to the narrative. The action scenes, particularly the interval block and Bellamkonda's transformation, stand out and will appeal to mass audiences.

However, Bhairavam struggles with a straightforward plot that lacks depth and engaging storytelling. While the first half holds attention reasonably well, the second half slows down consid-

erably, with weaker pacing and fewer gripping moments. The film tells more about the characters' friendships than it shows, resulting in a missed emotional connection.

Supporting roles, including Aditi Shankar and Aanandhi, are underdeveloped and contribute little, with Aditi's presence mostly limited to a couple of songs. The soundtrack itself fails to leave a mark.

Technically, the film benefits from decent cinematography by Hari K Vedantham and a fitting background score by Sri-charan Pakala. However, the editing by Chota K Prasad could

have been tighter to improve pacing.

In summary, Bhairavam is a partly effective mass action drama buoyed by strong performances and well-executed action, but hampered by a predictable story and uneven pacing. It's worth watching with modest expectations.

**Rating: 2.75/5**

## Balakrishna Honored with Inaugural NTR National Award by Telangana Government

Veteran actor and "God of Masses" Nandamuri Balakrishna has received yet another prestigious recognition in his illustrious five-decade-long career. The Telangana Government has announced the inaugural NTR National Award, and Balakrishna has been chosen as its first recipient. The award is part of the newly instituted Gaddar Awards, designed to celebrate the rich legacy of Telugu cinema.



This honor comes shortly after Balakrishna was conferred with the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India for his outstanding contributions to the field of arts. The announcement has been met with widespread acclaim from the film fraternity and fans alike.

Expressing his gratitude, Balakrishna thanked the Telangana Government for the recognition. He said the award holds special emotional significance for him as it coincides with two major milestones—his father and legendary actor-politician Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao's (NTR) 100th birth anniversary celebrations, and the 75th anniversary of another Telugu cinema icon, Akkineni Nageswara Rao (ANR).

Balakrishna, visibly moved, said, "Receiving an award in my father's name during his centenary celebrations makes this recognition even more meaningful. It's a moment of great pride and responsibility."

He also took the opportunity to thank Telugu audiences for their unwavering love and support over the years. "Whatever I am today, it's because of the people. I am forever indebted to them for embracing me and my work throughout my journey."

Balakrishna reaffirmed his commitment to continue entertaining audiences with impactful performances and said that he looks forward to delivering many more memorable films in the years to come.

With 50 years of experience and countless blockbusters under his belt, Balakrishna continues to be a powerful force in Telugu cinema. The NTR National Award is a fitting tribute to his enduring legacy and a reminder of the deep cultural roots and contributions of the Nandamuri family to Indian cinema.

The award has added another golden feather to Balakrishna's already decorated cap, marking a celebration not just of a star, but of an era in Telugu cinema.

## Prithviraj Sukumaran to Direct Hrithik Roshan's Next? Social Media Buzzes With Speculation

In a surprising development that's creating waves across film circles, Malayalam actor-director Prithviraj Sukumaran is rumored to be directing Bollywood superstar Hrithik Roshan in an upcoming pan-India project. The buzz started soon after Hombale Films — the renowned production house behind blockbusters like KGF and Salaar — announced a new collaboration with Hrithik, but notably kept the director's name under wraps.



While no official confirmation has been made yet, strong speculations suggest that Prithviraj, who shares a close working relationship with Hombale Films, may helm this ambitious venture. He previously acted in Salaar and is slated to reprise his role in Salaar 2. Additionally, he had already committed to directing a film for the production house, further fueling rumors that Hrithik's next could be the one.

Prithviraj is currently busy playing a pivotal negative role in SS Rajamouli's much-antic-

ipated film with Mahesh Babu. Having successfully wrapped up a few key schedules for the film, he is managing to juggle both acting and directing responsibilities with finesse.

As a filmmaker, Prithviraj has three directorial credits to his name — all starring

Malayalam superstar Mohanlal. His debut film Lucifer was a massive success, followed by Bro Daddy, and plans are in motion for Lucifer 2. However, insiders suggest that before returning to the Lucifer franchise, Prithviraj may take up two other directorials — one likely with Mohanlal and another rumored to be this high-profile Hindi project with Hrithik Roshan.

With South Indian directors gaining popularity in Bollywood for their distinct storytelling and visual flair, names like Sukumar and Prashanth Neel are also reportedly in the mix if Prithviraj doesn't sign on. Adding to the intrigue, there's even speculation that the film might be set against a zombie apocalypse backdrop.

While fans eagerly await official confirmation, the prospect of Hrithik Roshan teaming up with a South filmmaker of Prithviraj Sukumaran's caliber is already generating immense excitement and curiosity across the industry.

## Gaddar Awards: Varun Tej Honored for His Versatility and Impactful Performances

Telangana government's prestigious Gaddar Awards have brought well-deserved recognition to actor Varun Tej for his impactful performances in two critically acclaimed films — Kanche and Fidaa. Known for his bold choices and commitment to versatility, Varun's dedication to distinctive cinema has finally paid off in the form of these prestigious accolades.

The awards, named in memory of revolutionary poet and singer Gaddar, celebrate excellence in Telugu cinema. Varun Tej's Kanche won the Best Feature Film award for 2015, while Fidaa secured the Second Best Feature Film award for 2017. Both films not only impressed critics but also emerged as commercial successes.

Kanche, directed by Krish Jagarlamudi, is a rare Telugu war-time romantic drama set during World War II. The film broke new ground in Tollywood with its historical backdrop and anti-caste undertones. Varun Tej's nuanced portrayal of Dhupati



Hari Babu — a soldier with deep emotional and ideological convictions — was widely praised. The film's bold storytelling and authentic production design earned it a unique place in Telugu film history.

Fidaa, directed by Sekhar Kammula, was a completely different outing. A breezy, romantic entertainer, the film explored

cross-cultural love between a grounded Telangana girl and an NRI from the U.S. Varun Tej played Varun, a charming and level-headed medical student whose chemistry with Sai Pallavi's spirited character became the talk of the town. The film's relatability, natural dialogues, and musical charm turned it into a massive blockbuster.

These awards underscore Varun Tej's ability to adapt to widely varying genres — from intense period dramas to light-hearted romantic tales — with ease and authenticity. His ongoing commitment to script-driven cinema continues, with his upcoming horror-comedy directed by Merlapaka Gandhi under UV Creations already creating buzz. Notably, this project has a unique Korean cinematic influence. By honoring Kanche and Fidaa, the Gaddar Awards reaffirm Varun Tej's position as a thinking actor who isn't afraid to take risks — proving that true versatility doesn't go unnoticed.