



• Drugs worth ₹3.5 crore seized; Rajasthan cook arrested in operation  
• 1.5 kg heroin, 1 kg ganja, 632 OPM seized

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# Tensions Rise in BRS Over Kavitha Issue

Senior leaders urge unity as KCR weighs action

- Harish Rao meets KCR amid internal party unrest
- Kavitha warns of her own stand if suspended
- Leaders fear Congress may exploit BRS division

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Internal strife within the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has reached a tipping point, causing serious concern among senior party leaders. The conflict centers around MLC K. Kavitha, whose recent actions and statements have triggered speculation about a possible split and have prompted the party high command to consider disciplinary measures. Sources reveal that several BRS leaders have privately met with Kavitha, despite growing discontent within the party about her independent moves, including reports of her forming a separate political outfit. This has led to a backlash from within, with senior leaders questioning the relevance of her role within BRS if she pursues a parallel

path. Minister T. Harish Rao reportedly met former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) at his Erravelli farmhouse to address the rising tensions surrounding Kavitha's actions. With public sentiment slowly drifting back towards BRS after initial disillusionment with the Congress government, leaders like Harish Rao are said to be deeply worried that internal discord could derail the party's resurgence. During the meeting, many senior leaders are believed to have conveyed to KCR that infighting would be disastrous and could lead to a betrayal of the party's core objectives. They stressed the need for KCR to intervene directly and settle the matter before it spirals further. Amid reports that KCR is contemplating issuing a show-cause notice or even suspending Kavitha from the party, her reaction has been sharp. Kavitha reportedly stated that suspending her from BRS would be interpreted as KCR admitting wrongdoing in the Delhi liquor case. She made it clear that if pushed out, she would chart her own political course. She also alleged that some indi-

viduals around KCR deliberately leaked his letter and were preventing her from meeting him even as a daughter. As tensions mount, Harish Rao is seen as a key figure trying to de-escalate the conflict. With the Kaleshwaram Commission hearings also nearing, speculation is rife that KCR has already made a decision on Kavitha's future in the party. Harish Rao's associates indicate that ongoing discussions aim to address both the legal and political ramifications of the issue. Meanwhile, BRS leaders claim that the Congress is exploiting the confusion by running targeted campaigns on social media to sway public opinion. To counter this, the party is reportedly planning a broader communication strategy to restore clarity and unity. The high-level meeting between Harish Rao and KCR, both related by marriage, has created a buzz within party ranks and added fuel to speculation about the leadership's next move on the Kavitha front. All eyes are now on the BRS chief as he prepares to address one of the most significant internal crises the party has faced in recent years.

## It's Between Daddy... Daughter and Sister... Brother

- BJP not involved in KCR family's internal issues, says Kishan Reddy
- Union Minister terms Kavitha controversy a KCR family drama
- Clarifies BJP has no role, advises party leaders to stay silent
- Slams Revanth Reddy for belittling Indian Army's achievements



**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Union Minister and BJP Telangana president G. Kishan Reddy has described the ongoing controversy surrounding BRS MLC K. Kavitha's letter as nothing more than a personal family drama within KCR's household, stating that the BJP has no connection whatsoever with the issue. Addressing the media in Delhi, Kishan Reddy dismissed the matter as a "daddy.. daughter, sister.. brother" issue, making it clear that it's purely internal to the KCR family. "This is their family affair, not the BJP's. Our party has no stake in this drama and I've advised BJP leaders not to speak about it," he said. Kishan Reddy also emphasized that the people of Telangana are not interested in the personal issues of KCR's family and urged the BRS leadership not to drag public discourse into their internal squabbles. The Union Minister also rejected rumors about talks of a BRS-BJP merger, challenging those who spread such narratives to publicly reveal who spoke to whom. "Misleading the public with this kind of false propaganda is dangerous," he warned. On a separate note, Kishan Reddy came down heavily on Telangana CM Revanth Reddy, accusing him of undermining the Indian Army's valor. He criticized the Congress for trying to politicize military operations and claimed that Congress' past negligence led to the ongoing PoK issue. "Who gave PoK to Pakistan?" he questioned. "Congress leaders only issued condolences during terrorist attacks. But under Modi's leadership, India conducted surgical strikes across the border. After the Pahalgam attack, the world wit-

nessed how India responded." **accuses Congress of habitual army-bashing**  
"While the people of the country and the brave soldiers were determined to end Pakistan, the central government has poured water on their anger," Revanth stated. He further accused the Prime Minister of compromising India's dignity on the international stage, saying, "Prime Minister Modi has pawed the self-respect of 140 crore Indians to US President Trump." The BJP's Telangana unit, furious over these remarks, issued a scathing response through its official social media handle. In a sarcastic tone, it said, "CM Ravantha Reddy, who thinks that an airplane is a toy found on the side of Dilsukhnagar road, even a first-class child will laugh if you talk about Rafale." Union Minister and Telangana BJP President G. Kishan Reddy also hit out at the Chief Minister, accusing the Congress party of repeatedly undermining the Indian Army. "From Rahul Gandhi to Revanth Reddy, the Congress has made it a habit to denigrate the Indian Army," he said. He reminded the public that this is not the first time Congress leaders have indulged in what he called "cheap politics," recalling previous instances where the party questioned the credibility of surgical strikes conducted by Indian forces. Kishan Reddy further alleged that the Congress party often uses rhetoric that aligns with the narratives of India's adversaries. "It has become the culture of Congress to speak the language of our enemies," he said, condemning Revanth Reddy's remarks as irresponsible and damaging to national security and morale. He defended Operation Sindoor and said BJP MPs were explaining India's position

## Key Committees Formed to Strengthen Telangana PCC

Official Announcement from Congress High Command

- 22-member Political Affairs Committee appointed
- 15-member Advisory Committee to guide party direction
- Delimitation and Disciplinary Committees finalized
- Special team formed for 'Samvidhan Bachao' program



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a significant move to bolster the organizational strength of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), the All India Congress Committee (AICC) has announced the formation of several important committees. The official statement was issued from Delhi on Thursday, outlining key appointments aimed at enhancing party activities and strategic planning in Telangana.

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## "BRS rule a model for India and the world," says KTR at Bridge India Week 2025



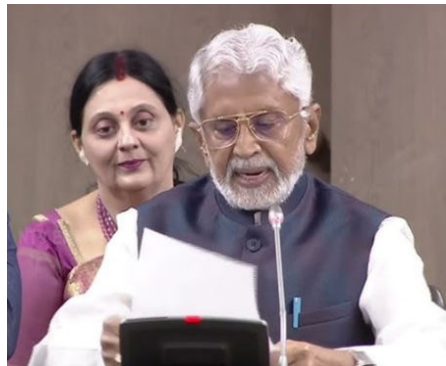
- Telangana saw 156% per capita income growth in a decade
  - Kaleswaram compared to China's Three Gorges Dam
  - Mission Bhagiratha gave safe drinking water to 1 crore homes
- TPN Correspondent | London  
BRS Working President K.

Taraka Rama Rao (KTR) addressed the prestigious Bridge India Week 2025 conference in London, presenting the remarkable development achieved in Telangana during nine years of BRS governance. His keynote address focused on how

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## 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



**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.

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## It’s Between Daddy... Daughter and Sister... Brother

across the globe, irrespective of party. “It is shameful to see such operations being termed as BJP programs. This is not about politics — this is about national security,” he asserted.

Kishan Reddy concluded by say-

ing that security and defense issues should rise above party lines, and cheap politics over the army’s achievements only diminish the pride and unity of the nation.

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

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.

## Key Committees Formed to Strengthen Telangana PCC

The AICC has constituted a 22-member Political Affairs Committee tasked with monitoring political developments in the state and shaping the party’s strategy. Alongside, a 15-member Advisory Committee comprising experienced leaders has been appointed to provide guidance and direction to the party.

Additionally, the high command has finalized a seven-member Delimitation Committee to oversee matters related to the future delimitation process in the state. Recognizing the need to maintain discipline, a six-member Disciplinary Action Committee

has also been formed to prioritize party discipline and take prompt action against any violations.

Furthermore, a 16-member special committee has been constituted to effectively implement the ‘Samvidhan Bachao Program’ in Telangana, a prestigious nationwide campaign being run by the Congress Party to safeguard the Constitution.

These strategic appointments reflect the AICC’s focused efforts to strengthen the TPCC ahead of upcoming political challenges, ensuring better coordination and effective implementation of party programs in Telangana.

## “BRS rule a model for India and the world,” says KTR at Bridge India Week 2025

Telangana’s model has become a reference not just for India, but globally, emphasizing sustainable and inclusive growth.

KTR said Telangana’s journey since 2014 proves that with visionary leadership and a deep commitment to public welfare, transformational change is possible. Speaking on the topic “Why Telangana Matters in the Global Economy”, KTR outlined how the state rose from the 12th to the 1st position in per capita income in India.

Highlighting the state’s balanced approach to welfare and development, KTR noted that Telangana, under the leadership of CM KCR, maintained a progressive governance style that prioritized both innovation and inclusive policies. “No state in independent India’s history has seen this pace of simultaneous welfare and development,” he said.

KTR called the Kaleswaram project an engineering feat equivalent to China’s Three Gorges Dam, citing its ability to lift water from 80 to 600 meters and irrigate 45 lakh acres each season. “In just 3 years, we completed what many believed impossible in a democracy,” he said, also stressing the humane approach of compensating displaced fam-

ilies. He further stated that Mission Bhagiratha, launched by the BRS government, was the first in India to provide purified drinking water to every household — covering over one crore homes. “This remains unmatched by any other Indian state,” he added.

On the industrial front, KTR credited the BRS-era TS-IPASS system with revolutionizing business approval mechanisms, cutting down red tape and enabling faster investments. “We gave clearances to 28,000 industries, drew ₹3.5 lakh crore investments, and created 24 lakh direct jobs,” he said.

KTR also highlighted Hyderabad’s growth into a global tech hub, second only to US cities for tech campuses. “Between 2014 and 2023, IT exports jumped from ₹56,000 crore to ₹2.41 lakh crore, and jobs in the sector grew from 3.23 lakh to over 10 lakh,” he noted, attributing this to KCR’s vision.

Inviting global investors, KTR said Telangana should be the first choice for those wanting to invest in India. “With the right policies and leadership, we’ve shown that development with equity is not a dream — it’s a deliverable reality.”

## Kavitha Exposing Truths, Bandi Removed for Ties with BRS

- TPCC president alleges BJP-BRS collusion; questions Etala-Harish Rao meeting
- Etala and Harish Rao reportedly spoke to KCR from Shamirpet farmhouse
- Says Modi can’t match Indira Gandhi in handling national security



TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president Mahesh Kumar Goud has made serious allegations that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) are engaged in a secret alliance, and key developments in state politics are being shaped by this hidden understanding. Speaking at Gandhi Bhavan on Friday, Mahesh Kumar Goud pointed to recent political moves and secret meetings as signs of growing coordination between the two parties.

He particularly highlighted the role of BRS MLC K. Kavitha, stating that “Kavitha is now revealing the facts about BJP-BRS reconciliation.” Goud alleged

that BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar was removed as BJP state president only because he opposed this covert friendship with the BRS leadership.

“Isn’t it true that Bandi Sanjay was an obstacle to BJP’s growing friendship with BRS? That’s why he was removed,” he questioned. He also reminded that Congress MLA Rajasinghe had earlier alleged that BJP leaders were receiving packages, and demanded a response from the BJP leadership on that issue. In a direct attack on BJP MP Etala Ra-

jender, Mahesh Kumar Goud claimed that Etala had held a secret meeting with BRS MLA Harish Rao at a farmhouse in Shamirpet. “The two of them even spoke to KCR over the phone. Is Etala in Modi’s party or KCR’s? It’s time people got clarity,” he said. He further alleged that Etala is seeking KCR’s support to escape the Kaleshwaram scam investigations.

On the issue of surgical strikes, Mahesh Kumar Goud criticized the BJP for hyping its military actions. “They keep boasting about a couple of surgical strikes. Indira Gandhi conducted hundreds of such operations and never publicized them. Even Vajpayee acknowledged Indira Gandhi’s leadership and praised her as ‘Apara Kali,’” he stated, adding that there is no comparison between Indira Gandhi and Narendra Modi in terms of leadership and courage.

Mahesh Kumar Goud called on the people of Telangana to see through the BJP-BRS partnership and support the Congress, which he said is committed to exposing corruption and protecting democratic values.

## Record Paddy Procurement, Fair Rations, and Irrigation Reforms Hallmarks of Congress Govt

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana’s Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday announced record paddy procurement under the Congress government, surpassing all previous records in Telangana’s history and even during the undivided Andhra Pradesh era.

Speaking at a review meeting in Suryapet for the combined Nalgonda district, Uttam Kumar Reddy said that during the last Kharif season, farmers cultivated 46.7 lakh acres producing a record 103.5 lakh metric tonnes of paddy. For the ongoing Yasangi season, cultivation is nearly 60 lakh acres, with an expected yield of 130 lakh metric tonnes. “No government has procured on such a large scale before,” he stated, adding the Congress government is ensuring procurement from every farmer.

On public distribution, the minister said ration cards will be issued to all eligible families, regardless of poverty line status, correcting the previous government’s failure to issue ration cards for nearly a decade. “No family will be left behind,” he affirmed.

Uttam Kumar Reddy noted that beneficiaries receive six kilograms of rice free of cost, with the government spending ₹10,665 crore to supply quality rice to nearly 3 crore people. He



criticised the previous government for distributing substandard coarse rice and for leakages that diverted 10-30% of rice from rightful beneficiaries. “We have stopped these leakages to ensure every beneficiary receives their full quota,” he said.

The minister urged officials to fast-track land acquisition and forest clearances for irrigation projects and promised direct intervention in case of any delays. He highlighted neglect in irrigation projects like the Sriram Sagar Project, which went 45 years without desilting, reducing water capacity. The Congress government has launched extensive desilting and de-sedimentation programs for major projects including Nagarjuna Sagar.

Uttam Kumar Reddy criticised the previous BRS government for mismanaging irrigation, noting 1,100 new engineers have been recruit-

ed to strengthen the sector. He also slammed the handling of the Kaleshwaram Project, saying costs ballooned from ₹38,000 crore to over ₹1 lakh crore under the BRS rule, leaving the project incomplete.

He praised fellow ministers Tummalala Nageswara Rao and Komatireddy Venkat Reddy for their leadership and urged officials to be accessible 24x7, promising strict action against corruption or negligence. He also invited the media to expose irregularities. Ahead of the Kharif season, the minister said ayacut plans would be finalised early with the involvement of MPs, MLAs, and public representatives to ensure fair water distribution.

Uttam Kumar Reddy appealed to all stakeholders to work transparently and efficiently, promising no tolerance for corruption or inefficiency in irrigation and civil supplies projects.

## 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 important 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.



# Why Do We Need BRS Alliance?

**Calls MLC Kavitha a 'worthless rupee', accuses BRS of family-centric politics**  
**Raghunandan Rao denies any talks of BJP-BRS alliance**  
**Accuses KCR's family of benefiting after Telangana formation**  
**Alleges KTR funds paid propaganda through YouTube channels**

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Senior BJP leader and Medak MP Raghunandan Rao has strongly responded to recent sensational allegations made by BRS MLC K. Kavitha, who claimed there was an attempt to merge BRS with the BJP. Dismissing the claims outright, Raghunandan said the BJP neither needs nor intends to

ally with the BRS, describing the party as a “family-centric outfit” with no relevance to the people of Telangana anymore. Reacting sharply, Raghunandan Rao ridiculed Kavitha, saying she has now become a “worthless rupee” within her own party and accused her of dragging the BJP into internal disputes within the KCR family. He said neither the BJP high

command nor the state leadership had held any discussions about an alliance or merger with BRS. He further said, “Why do we need an alliance with BRS? A party that deceived Telangana, failed martyrs’ families, and only served the interests of one family?” Accusing the BRS of failing the people post the formation of Telangana,

he stated that not even a single rupee reached common people or martyrs’ families, but only KCR’s family wealth increased. Raghunandan also took a swipe at KTR, alleging that he is running a paid propaganda operation. “He is paying salaries to 20 YouTube channels and publishing false stories in his own newspaper,” he claimed. He demanded that



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy initiate an investigation into the allegations made by Kavitha regarding defamation on social media. Highlighting BRS’s past political alignments, Raghunandan pointed out that the party has allied with almost every other party in the state except the BJP. “In 2014,

the entire KCR family went to Delhi and begged Sonia Gandhi for a Congress alliance,” he recalled. He concluded that the people of Telangana have already given VRS to TRS, now BRS, and that the BJP is steadily growing on its own in the state through developmental efforts and public outreach.

## Even If I Had the Opportunity, I Could Not Meet KCR: Kavitha

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has strongly responded to the recent controversy surrounding the leak of her confidential letter to her father and party chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). Speaking to media representatives, Kavitha expressed deep concern over the leak and demanded a thorough investigation to identify who was responsible for making her letter public. Kavitha revealed that despite having the chance to meet KCR before writing the letter, she couldn’t meet him due to unavoidable reasons. “Even if I had the opportunity, I could not meet him,” she said, emphasizing the emotional strain and urgency behind her decision to write the letter. She reiterated her unwavering allegiance to the Bharat



Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and KCR, stating, “I do not have a separate flag or agenda. BRS is my party, and KCR is my leader.” Kavitha made it clear that her primary objective is to protect and strengthen the party during this turbulent period. The MLC also voiced strong opposition to any possible alliance or merger with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

She asserted that aligning with the BJP has historically never benefited regional parties and warned against such a move. “There are no parties in history that have prospered by forming an alliance with the BJP. I will not accept any move to merge BRS with the BJP,” she declared. Addressing criticism over her letter, Kavitha clarified

that she had written it to highlight internal issues, including the presence of “emerging coverts” within the party. She defended her actions by stating, “I wrote the letter because I couldn’t bear the grievances any longer. What is wrong with pointing out problems within the party?” She also urged the party leadership to redirect their attention from her and instead focus on finding and penalizing those who were responsible for leaking the letter. “Reduce the focus on me and arrest those who leaked the letter earlier,” she demanded. Kavitha’s latest remarks have added to the ongoing political discourse within the BRS, further exposing internal rifts and resistance to any shift in the party’s ideological or strategic direction.

## KTR, Kavitha, Harish in Property Dispute: Komatireddy

*Minister alleges internal crisis in KCR’s family and BRS party*

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Telangana Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has made explosive allegations regarding an internal property dispute among KCR’s family members, claiming that K.T. Rama Rao, Kavitha, and Harish Rao are engaged in a serious conflict over asset distribution. Speaking to the media, Komatireddy said these differences have already started surfacing publicly, but the family is trying to mask the rift with scripted political drama. Komatireddy stated that the letter written by Kavitha and the remarks made by Harish Rao expose the lack of unity within the BRS. “They are trying to manage it as if everything is fine, but the cracks in their relationships are evident. The family is now more focused on protecting their own interests than serving the people,” he said.



He went on to accuse the previous BRS government of severely damaging Telangana in all aspects during its tenure. “Projects like the Regional Ring Road were completely stalled due to their incompetence. The BRS has lost public trust so much that their candidates lost deposits in many places in the recent elections,” Komatireddy said. The minister emphasized that the

Congress government is now committed to restoring progress and fulfilling its promises. “Despite the financial crisis created by the previous government, the Revanth Reddy-led administration is sincerely implementing the six guarantees and launching important welfare schemes like Mahalaxmi,” he asserted. Komatireddy also accused Union Minister and BJP state president G. Kishan Reddy of deliberately obstructing the release of Central funds required for Telangana’s development. “Instead of supporting Telangana, Kishan Reddy is playing politics and not cooperating with the state’s interests,” he alleged. He called on the people to recognize the opportunistic politics of both BJP and BRS, and support the Congress, which he said is working transparently and prioritizing the public’s welfare over personal gains.

## Manda Krishna Meets Chandrababu in Delhi

**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.

## K. Laxman Slams Revanth Reddy for Insulting Comments on Op Sindoor

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
BJP Rajya Sabha MP and OBC Morcha National President Dr. K. Laxman on Thursday strongly condemned Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s remarks casting doubts on the Indian Army’s Operation Sindoor. Dr. Laxman said it was shameful for a state Chief Minister to make insulting comments about the Indian Army and alleged that Revanth Reddy, in his political frustration, was indirectly supporting Pakistan’s narrative. “Revanth Reddy has no moral right to question the Indian Army. His words are hurting the morale of our armed forces and tarnishing the honor of the country,” Laxman said. Referring to past events, Laxman remarked, “The Congress leadership has a habit of losing critical assets — like Rafale fighter jets — to Pakistan through baseless political narratives. Now, by questioning the credibility of Operation Sindoor, Revanth Reddy is undermining a military mission that has displayed India’s strength



to the world.” He stated that the Indian Army, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has consistently taken strong action against terrorism, citing the destruction of terror camps in Pakistan in response to the Uri and Pulwama attacks. “It is cruel and dangerous for Congress leaders to turn their hatred for Prime Minister Modi and the BJP into open disrespect for the Indian Army. Political disagreements should never cross the line into anti-national rhetoric,” Laxman asserted. He appealed to the public and political leaders across the spectrum to take note of the Telangana CM’s statements and respond appropriately. “Congress leaders must clarify their position. Are they speaking for India or for Pakistan?” he questioned. Dr. Laxman concluded by saying that such statements not only insult the Army but also weaken national resolve. “Operation Sindoor is a proud moment for India. Any attempt to belittle it should be condemned outright by every Indian,” he said.

## Chandrababu’s Role in Telangana Ended in 2004: Jagadish Reddy

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
BRS senior leader and former minister Guntakandla Jagadish Reddy has strongly countered the comments made by TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu during the recently held Mahanadu. Lashing out at Naidu’s claims, Jagadish Reddy said it is “laughable” to repeatedly hear the TDP chief say he single-handedly developed

*BRS leader mocks Hyderabad development claims*

Hyderabad. He asserted that Chandrababu’s political chapter in Telangana effectively ended in 2004. Jagadish Reddy also criticized Chandrababu for mentioning Telangana in a party meeting held in Andhra Pradesh. “Why should Telangana be mentioned at all in the Andhra Mahanadu? It’s been two decades since Chandrababu

lost relevance in Telangana politics,” he said. Addressing Naidu’s allegation that the BRS was spreading false information about issues like the Polavaram-Banakacharla project, Jagadish Reddy firmly denied it and challenged Chandrababu to speak with facts. “It is not BRS that is doing false propaganda—it is Chandrababu who

is making baseless claims to stay politically relevant.” Highlighting the achievements of the BRS government, Jagadish Reddy emphasized the sharp rise in Telangana’s per capita income since the formation of the state. “At the time of state formation, Telangana’s per capita income was ₹1.12 lakh. Under the leadership of KCR,



it has now reached ₹3.70 lakh. On the other hand, Andhra

Pradesh under Chandrababu’s governance remains at ₹2.50 lakh. If your administration was really so capable, why is AP still lagging behind?” he questioned. He urged Chandrababu to introspect on the performance of his government between 2014 and 2019 and advised him to stop making exaggerated claims about his role in Telangana’s past development.



# Massive Drug Bust at Shadnagar Dhaba

Drugs worth ₹3.5 crore seized; Rajasthani cook arrested in operation

- 1.5 kg heroin, 1 kg ganja, 632 OPM seized
- Cook Vikas Sohu smuggled drugs from Rajasthan
- Cyberabad CP confirms links to MP, Dhulpet, Maheshwaram

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a major crackdown on narcotics in the suburbs of Hyderabad, the Cyberabad Police along with the Shamshabad SOT team raided the Raykal Toll Plaza Dhaba in Shadnagar and uncovered a significant drug racket operating from the location. Drugs worth ₹3.5 crore were seized during the raid. Cyberabad Commissioner of Police Avinash Mohanti, speaking at a press conference at the Commissionerate, revealed that the arrested accused, Vikas Sohu, a cook at the dhaba, had been smuggling drugs from Rajasthan and selling them to known customers visiting the establishment. The haul

included 1.5 kilograms of heroin, 1 kilogram of ganja, 2.8 kilograms of poppy straw, and 632 opium (OPM) tablets. Commissioner Mohanti disclosed that Sohu, in collaboration with his brother, was involved in selling heroin mixed with poppy to boost profits. “They have been selling heroin for more than ₹2 crore per kilogram, and their operation primarily targeted specific customers visiting the dhaba,” he said. “We have seized their phones and are now identifying their customer network from the contact list.” The CP confirmed that there are suspected links with individuals from Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad’s notorious Dhulpet area, and Maheshwaram.

Authorities are currently on the lookout for three absconding individuals believed to be involved: Salim from Dhulpet, Raju from Maheshwaram, and Ganpath from Madhya Pradesh. Along with the drugs, the police also recovered ₹89,700 in cash, three mobile phones worth ₹30,000, a digital weighing machine, and packing materials from the dhaba. Special teams have been formed to trace and apprehend the remaining accused. The Cyberabad Police emphasized that this operation is part of an intensified effort to crack down on narcotic trafficking in the region and urged citizens to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities.



## Drainage Review in Charminar Zone

**Commissioner RV Karnan Inspects Flood-Prone Areas**  
**Focus on Ganga Nagar and Maulana Ka Chilla nalas**  
**Officials directed to expedite pending works**  
**Yakutpura MLA flags colonies vulnerable to flooding**  
**New drain proposal from Jahangir Nagar Colony under review**



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner RV Karnan on Thursday conducted a comprehensive inspection of major drainage works in the Charminar Zone's Santosh Nagar Circle, focusing on flood-prone areas ahead of the monsoon. He was accompanied by Yakutpura MLA Zafar Hussain, MLC Mirza Riaz ul Hasan Effendi, and Zonal Commissioner Maheshwar Reddy. During the inspection, the Commissioner visited the ongoing works at Maulana Ka Chilla Nala and Ganga Nagar Nala. MLA

Zafar Hussain identified several colonies in the vicinity that face repeated flooding during the rainy season due to inadequate or incomplete drainage systems. In response, Commissioner Karnan instructed the project officials to complete the remaining portions of the Ganga Nagar Nala drainage project without delay. He also directed the Water Board officials to clean and maintain the pipelines along both sides of Ganga Nagar Nala to ensure smooth water flow during rains. The corporators in the area requested the Commissioner to consider the construction of a new drainage

canal connecting Jahangir Nagar Colony to Maulana Ka Chilla Nala. Responding to this, the Commissioner asked officials to immediately begin preparing proposals and technical estimates for the suggested project. The inspection team also included HMWS&SB Managing Director Ashok Reddy, Project EE Srinivas, Deputy Commissioner Mangatayaru, local corporators, and other department officials. The visit comes as part of GHMC's broader pre-monsoon preparedness efforts to mitigate urban flooding in low-lying and vulnerable zones across the city.

## Fire in Hyderabad's Maduranagar After AC Compressors Explode

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
A massive fire broke out in an apartment in Hyderabad's Maduranagar on Friday evening, triggering panic among the residents after air conditioner compressors exploded on the second floor. Eyewitnesses reported that the explosion caused large flames and thick smoke to spread rapidly throughout the building. Residents, startled by the sudden incident, rushed out of their homes in fear, some of them crying and screaming for help. According to initial reports, the fire originated after multiple AC compressors on the second floor of the apartment block exploded, possibly due to overheating or electrical faults. The fire then quickly engulfed the surrounding areas, blanketing the building in smoke and flames. Firefighters reached the spot immediately after being alerted. Two fire engines were deployed, and the personnel are currently working to bring the blaze under control. Officials confirmed that measures are being taken to ensure the fire does not spread to the upper floors of the apartment. Panic gripped the area as terrified residents gathered outside, watching in fear as thick black smoke billowed from the building. Authorities are yet to confirm if there were any injuries or casualties in the incident. Fire officials are continuing their efforts to fully extinguish the blaze and assess the extent of the damage.



## Young Man Brutally Murdered Over Money Dispute

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a shocking incident in Budwel, Rajendranagar, a young man named Sai Karthik was brutally murdered by his friend over a financial dispute. The incident, which has left the local community in disbelief, unfolded on Friday night when a heated argument turned into a fatal confrontation. According to police sources, Sai Karthik, originally from Warangal, had been living in Budwel and had borrowed ₹8 lakh from his friend Siddharth Reddy, a native of Pulivendula. The delay in repaying the loan is said to have triggered tensions between the two. On the night of the incident, Sai Karthik and Siddharth, along with another friend, were reportedly drinking in a room when the conversation once again turned towards the pending loan. The argument quickly escalated into a violent altercation. In a sudden fit of rage, Siddharth allegedly attacked Sai Karthik and killed him on the spot. The third individual present is believed to have witnessed the shocking act. Local police have registered a case and are investigating the incident. Initial reports



suggest that Siddharth had been issuing threats to Karthik over the delay in repayment, and the situation spiraled out of control during the drunken quarrel. The body of Sai Karthik has been shifted for postmortem, and efforts are underway to apprehend Siddharth Reddy, who fled the scene after committing the crime. Authorities are questioning the third person present at the time to gather further details about the sequence of events. This tragic incident has highlighted the dangerous consequences fueled by alcohol and financial stress, prompting calls for greater awareness and conflict resolution mechanisms among youth.

## Man Arrested for Raping and Blackmailing Woman Met on Facebook

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
A 24-year-old woman from Banjara Hills has filed a complaint against a man identified as Mahendravardhan, accusing him of rape and extortion in a shocking case that has rocked the city. The accused, who claimed to be an employee at Osmania University, allegedly befriended the victim through Facebook in February 2023, leading to a series of events that culminated in a heinous crime. According to the police, the victim and Mahendravardhan communicated over the phone for several years, building what appeared to be a friendship. On August 15, 2023, he invited her to his residence for dinner. Trusting his intentions, the woman accepted the invitation. However, Mahendravardhan allegedly spiked her cold drink with drugs, rendering her unconscious. He then raped her and recorded the assault, capturing photos and videos. The following day, the accused reportedly showed the victim the compromising material and demanded Rs. 20 lakh, threatening to share the content on social media if she refused. Frightened, the victim paid the amount. How-



ever, Mahendravardhan continued to harass her over the years, escalating his demands to Rs. 1 crore. Unable to endure the ongoing blackmail and trauma, the victim approached the Hyderabad police, who registered a case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, including charges of rape, extortion, and criminal intimidation. The police have launched a thorough investigation to bring the perpetrator to justice. This incident has raised concerns about the dangers of online interactions and the need for greater awareness and caution. Authorities are urging the public to report suspicious behavior and are working to ensure the victim receives support. The investigation is ongoing, and further details are awaited as the police pursue the case.

## Drug Raids in Hyd Suburbs

**LSD, ganja seized in Ramanthapur and Saroornagar; multiple arrests made**

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
Hyderabad police intensified their anti-drug operations with significant seizures and arrests in two separate incidents in Ramanthapur and Saroornagar on Thursday. In the first case, acting on credible information, police conducted a surprise raid near Madhuri Restaurant in Ramanthapur. During the operation, the team seized 10 LSD blots and a mobile Scooty. A-Team leader Anji Reddy confirmed that three accused—M. Deepak, Kevin, and Mohammed Sajid—were arrested and handed over to the Uppal Excise Police Station for further investigation. In a separate raid, the STFC team, led by CI Venkateswarlu of the City C Team, intercepted illegal ganja activity in Saroornagar. Acting on intelli-

gence inputs, the team raided the location and seized 1.1 kilograms of ganja. The accused Prajwal C, Pawan Prasanna Kumar, and M. Srikar were arrested on the spot. However, one more accused, D. Swapnik, is reportedly absconding and a search has been launched to apprehend him. Officials confirmed that both operations were part of a larger crackdown on the city's drug supply network, which has been under increased surveillance in recent months. Authorities urged the public to report any suspicious activities related to drug trafficking in their localities to assist ongoing efforts. The Excise Department and Special Task Force teams continue to intensify operations targeting organized drug networks operating in and around Hyderabad.



## 'F Is Not Just Forest, It's the Future of Tribals Too'

- Forest laws becoming roadblock to agency area development
- Container schools, hospitals created due to lack of permissions
- Urges Centre to ensure forest departments cooperate with ST development

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

Drawing inspiration from tribal icon Birsa Munda, the launch of the Dhari Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DA-JGUA) scheme by the Centre on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary was widely welcomed. The scheme aims to improve education, healthcare, livelihoods, and infrastructure in 63,843 tribal villages, benefiting over 5 crore Scheduled Tribes, with a substantial annual outlay of ₹15,830 crore. While appreciating this initiative and the coordination of 17 departments for tribal welfare, Telangana leaders have voiced concern over the ground realities that hinder such progress. Notably, in districts like Adilabad, Khammam, Warangal, and Nagarkurnool—home to dense ST populations—state officials and public representatives conducted extensive reviews and consultations with civil society to assess development needs. Mulugu MLA Minister Setakka emphasized that, while tribals in plain areas are witnessing development due to central and state initiatives, those residing in agency and forest areas continue to suffer due to bureaucratic and legal roadblocks. “The major hurdle is forest and sanctuary laws,” the MLA said, adding that despite good intentions, development projects in pre-1980 forest villages are being blocked by forest officials fearing repercussions from central authorities. “In my constituency, we cannot even ensure drinking water or proper roads for agency villages. Proposals for school buildings, Anganwadi centers, and hospitals are pending due to lack of forest clearances,” the MLA stated. As a temporary solution, container schools and healthcare units were installed in places like Pochapur (Tadvai mandal) and Edcherlapalli (Vajedu mandal). Despite national claims that electricity has reached every village, many forest hamlets still remain in the dark. The Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) in Eturu Nagararam has resorted to solar panels. “Villagers now charge their phones in the day and use them as torches at night,” the MLA revealed. The issue extends to water facilities too, with borewell permissions denied. A telling example is from Adilabad, where the construction of a ₹9 crore road requires a ₹76 crore penalty due to forest clearance regulations—an almost impossible burden. “Development has become a contest between the Forest Act and the right to a dignified life. We need both forests and progress. They are not mutually exclusive,” the MLA said. “F does not mean forest alone—it also means the future of tribals.” She urged the Centre to direct the Forest Department to actively support tribal development in these regions. “If we can build highways in cities, why can't we provide even dirt roads to tribal hamlets? The last person in the queue deserves the first share of development.”



### Revenue conferences on Bhu Bharati Act from June 3 - Medchal Malkajgiri District Collector Gautam

TPN Correspondent | Medchal

Medchal Malkajgiri District Collector Gautam said in a statement that revenue conferences will be held from June 3 as part of the implementation of the newly introduced Bhu Bharati Land Act by the government for a permanent solution to land issues. The Collector explained that these revenue conferences will be held from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm in the villages of Medchal, Shamirpet, Ghatkesar, Muuuchintalapalli, Gandimaisamma Dundigal mandals of the district. The Collector said that if the people of the respective villages have any land issues, they should submit their petitions to the revenue officials in the revenue conferences, and the people of the district should take note of this and take advantage of it.



## Penguin Scam: ₹150 Crore Fraud Exposed in Qutbullapur

1,500 investors duped through fake bond schemes; victims throng Jeedimetla PS

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

A massive financial fraud has been uncovered in Chintal, Qutbullapur, under the jurisdiction of Jeedimetla Police Station, where over 1,500 people have reportedly fallen victim to a deceitful scheme orchestrated by a firm named The Penguin. The company allegedly collected deposits in the form of bonds and chits by luring investors with false promises of doubling their money. Victims were told they would receive a return of ₹1 lakh on a ₹1 lakh deposit—an offer that attracted hundreds of middle-class and lower-middle-class individuals hoping for quick profits. After amassing close to ₹150 crore through this scheme, the company managers suddenly disappeared, shutting down operations and cutting off all con-



tact with investors. As the truth began to surface, hundreds of victims rushed to Jeedimetla

Police Station on Friday, seeking justice and action against the fraudsters.

The police, acting on complaints from the victims, registered a case and have launched an investigation. Preliminary findings suggest that the fraud was well-orchestrated and planned over several months. Police are trying to trace the whereabouts of the company's directors and staff, who are currently absconding. Sources indicate that special teams may be formed to track the culprits, and financial transactions are being traced to understand the full extent of the scam. The incident has triggered panic among other depositors in similar chit fund schemes across the city. Officials have urged citizens to be cautious of investment schemes that promise unrealistic returns and to verify the legitimacy of financial firms before committing money.

## Minister Ponnam Distributes Pattas for Indiramma Houses in Husnabad

TPN Correspondent | Siddipet

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar distributed house pattas to beneficiaries of the Indiramma housing scheme at the Husnabad RDO office in Siddipet district. Women recipients expressed their happiness and gratitude during the event, which was attended by key officials including Siddipet Library Chairman Lingamurthy, District Collector Manu Chaudhary, and Additional Collector Garima Agarwal. Highlighting progress, Minister Prabhakar noted that in the last decade, only 40 houses were given in Husnabad mandal. Now, the government is providing 3,500 Indiramma houses per constituency, averaging 200 houses annually. For the first time, 117 houses have been built in 160 model villages under the scheme. The Minister emphasized that houses should be constructed

within the government-specified sizes of 400 to 600 square feet. “If foundations are made too big, funds may not be released,” he explained. The scheme strictly targets the poorest of the poor, and any house given to ineligible people will be canceled without any cost to others. To support beneficiaries, free sand tractor coupons will be provided, and a bathroom scheme is included, with bathrooms built under employment guarantee programs. Additionally, funds will be allocated for pothole repairs, and beneficiaries can avail loans of up to ₹1 lakh from women's groups for house construction. Minister Prabhakar encouraged youth to join SETWIN for skill development and livelihood opportunities, stressing the importance of earning with dignity. “The government will cooperate in every way,” he assured.



He also highlighted other welfare measures including free rice distribution, free bus travel for women, 200 units of free electricity, 500 units of gas supply, 65,000 jobs created, and development of bus stands. Infrastructure projects like a 150-bed hospital and a computer lab in the degree college are underway, alongside double road construction across the consti-

tuency. “The government has solved problems related to roads, drinking water, and introduced Bhu Bharati without Bhu Panchayat,” the Minister said, congratulating all those who received their house pattas. He urged everyone to take pride in building their homes, assuring the process is free from corrup-

## Bhadrachalam Medical Staff Save Tribal Girl After Two Months on Ventilator

TPN Correspondent | Bhadrachalam

Bhadrachalam Hospital staff have successfully saved the life of a 22-year-old tribal woman who was on a ventilator for two months after consuming a toxic insecticide. The medical team's relentless efforts under the leadership of pulmonologist Dr. Jagadish have been widely appreciated. Madakam Sirisha, a resident of Lakshmi Colony in Charla mandal, ingested the insecticide Monocrotophos on April 1, 2025. Initially treated at the Community Health Center (CHC) in Charla, she received basic care including partial removal of the poison from her stomach. Due to the severity of the poisoning and its effect on her lungs, she was transferred to Bhadrachalam Hospital for advanced treatment. At Bhadrachalam, the medical team kept her alive on a ventilator for two months, managing her critical condition with great expertise and dedication. After her recovery and discharge, Bhadrachalam MLA Tellam Venkat Rao, along with District Collector Jitesh V Patil, ITDA Project Officer Rahul, and District Hospital Chief Superintendent Dr. Ravi Babu, visited the hospital to congratulate Dr. Jagadish and the entire medical staff at Bhadrachalam and Charla hospitals.

MLA Venkat Rao expressed satisfaction with the hospital's services and praised Superintendent Dr. Ramakrishna for the team's dedication. The District Collector urged the medical staff to continue serving patients with the same commitment and spirit. Sirisha's family was overwhelmed with gratitude. Her father, Ramesh, tearfully thanked the doctors and hospital staff for their tireless care, saying, “I cannot repay the debt I owe to the doctors and medical staff of Bhadrachalam and Charla who gave my daughter a new life. Their patience and dedication saved her like a blink of an eye.” This remarkable case highlights the critical role of committed medical professionals in rural healthcare, bringing hope to many in tribal regions.



## Man Ends Life Over Housing Allotment Delay in Rangareddy

Ashok from Chintapatla ends life over Indiramma house

TPN Correspondent | Rangareddy

A tragic incident unfolded in Chintapatla village of Yacharam mandal in Rangareddy district, where a 47-year-old man, Ashok, died by suicide after reportedly becoming deeply distressed over the non-allotment of a house under the Indiramma housing scheme. The incident has sparked outrage and protests in the village, with residents blaming the government for the emotional toll that led to his death. According to villagers, Ashok had applied for a house under the Indiramma scheme and was initially told that he had been selected in the first list. However, he later came to know that his name had been removed, which reportedly pushed him into severe mental distress. Unable to cope with the disappointment, Ashok hanged himself at his residence. Before taking the extreme step, he reportedly wrote the reason for his suicide on his hand, stating the housing denial as the cause. Ashok is survived by his wife and three daughters. Villagers staged a protest by placing his body in front of the gram panchayat office and demanding accountability from the government. Tension gripped the village as the protest intensified, with locals calling on government officials to visit the family and offer assurances. The situation reflects the deep disappointment and economic distress felt by many rural families dependent on welfare schemes for basic housing needs. Police are investigating the case, while officials have yet to release a formal response. The incident has drawn widespread attention to the implementation lapses and the urgent need for transparent, accountable housing allotment systems in rural areas.



# Temple Lands at Risk: Why Central Legislation needed

Provide the status of Defence and Forest Lands

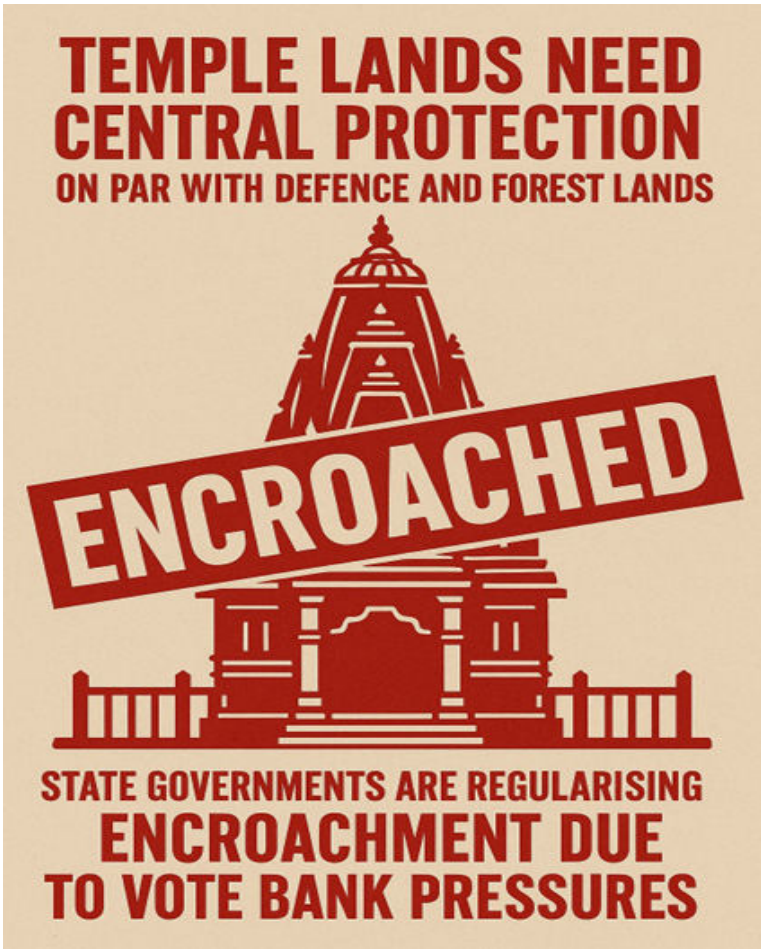
Temple lands across India are under serious threat. These lands, which hold spiritual, historical, and social value, are increasingly falling victim to encroachments, political exploitation, and administrative neglect. Unlike defence or forest lands—both protected by robust central legislation—temple 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



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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-

naning 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. Eternal, 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.