



Weather
Forecast

HYDERABAD

t° H 36° C L 27° C

VIJAYAWADA

t° H 37° C L 28° C

TIRUPATHI

t° H 37° C L 27° C



- Army targets terror camps of LeT, JeM, and Hizbul Mujahideen
- Precision strikes conducted between 1:04 am and 1:30 am
- 9 Training bases in PoK and Pakistan’s Punjab region destroyed
- 70 terrorists killed, including Poonch and Pahalgam attackers
- India calls it “measured, proportionate, and non-escalatory” action

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
India has launched a powerful counter-terror operation, code-named ‘Operation Sindoor’, targeting and destroying nine terror camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), in retaliation for the April 22 terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir’s Pahalgam that claimed 26 lives. In coordinated strikes that began around 1:04 am on Wednesday, May 7, and lasted about 25 minutes, Indian armed forces reportedly killed 70 terrorists belonging to outfits like Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Hizbul Mujahideen. One of the first targets was the Markaz Abbas camp in Kotli, PoK — a LeT stronghold known for training suicide bombers. The Gulpur camp, 30 km from the LoC and linked to attacks in Poonch and the 2024 bus massacre, was also destroyed. In Sialkot, India struck the Sarjal and Mahmoona Jaya camps,

which were used to train terrorists who attacked police in Jammu and Kashmir and spread violence in the Kathua-Jammu region. Key LeT and JeM bases in Bahawalpur and Muridke, Pakistan’s Punjab, were also demolished. Muridke was the same facility where 26/11 attacker Ajmal Kasab and mastermind David Headley had trained. At a press conference, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, alongside Col Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, said these actions were “measured, non-escalatory, and proportionate.”

He added, “Despite a fortnight since the Pahalgam attack, Pakistan has taken no steps to dismantle terrorist infrastructure. Instead, it has chosen denial and diversion.” Misri emphasized that intelligence suggested further attacks were imminent, prompting India to act pre-emptively and dismantle the threat. India has sent a clear message with ‘Operation Sindoor’—that it will act decisively to defend national security and ensure that perpetrators of terrorism face consequences.

Other camps targeted included:
Sawai Nala in Muzaffarabad, a major LeT hub
Syedna Belal in Muzaffarabad, which trained operatives in weapons and jungle warfare
Barnala camp in Bhimber, used for IED and survival training

Operation Sindoor Must Continue Till Terror Is Wiped Out: Pawan Kalyan

- Strict action against anti-army posts on social media: Dy CM warns
- Every Indian supports Modi’s leadership in the war on terror

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
State Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan has expressed unwavering support for Operation Sindoor and urged the nation to stand firmly with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the battle against terrorism. Speaking to the media



at his Hyderabad residence on Wednesday, Pawan Kalyan stated that Operation Sindoor, launched in response to the brutal Pahalgam attack, should continue until the last terrorist is eliminated.

“We all saw the gruesome terror attack in Pahalgam where 26 civilians, mostly tourists, were massacred after being identified based on religion. It is time we put an end to this long history of atrocities. The Indian Army has done what every Indian wished for—giving a fitting reply by targeting terror camps inside Pakistan,” Pawan Kalyan said. He lauded the Army’s restraint in striking only terrorist camps and avoiding civilian harm, and emphasized that this is the moment for unity, not criticism. “We’ve always been told to remain patient, but today, the country has risen with courage,” he added. The Deputy CM warned citizens and public figures alike to act responsibly, especially on social media. “Those who speak against our Army or insult their sacrifice will face strict action.”

Women Officers Who Led Media Briefing on ‘Operation Sindoor’

Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh honoured as faces of India’s bold response

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a powerful and symbolic move, two distinguished women officers — Colonel Sofiya Qureshi of the Indian Army and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh of the Indian Air Force — led the official media briefing on ‘Operation Sindoor’, the precision military strike targeting terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The choice of these officers, alongside the name of the operation itself, served as a tribute to the grieving women of the April 22 Pahalgam attack, where 26 civilians — mostly men among a group of tourists — were brutally killed by militants. The operation’s name, ‘Sindoor’, symbolizes the vermilion worn by married women in India, now left behind by the widows of the victims. Colonel Sofiya Qureshi, a trailblazer from the Indian Army’s Corps of Signals, became the first Indian woman to command a military contingent during the Force 18 exercise, one of the largest multinational drills held in India. A native of Gujarat, Colonel Qureshi was commissioned in 1999 from the Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai. She holds a Master’s degree in Biochemistry and was part of India’s UN peacekeeping mission in Congo in 2006. She remains the only

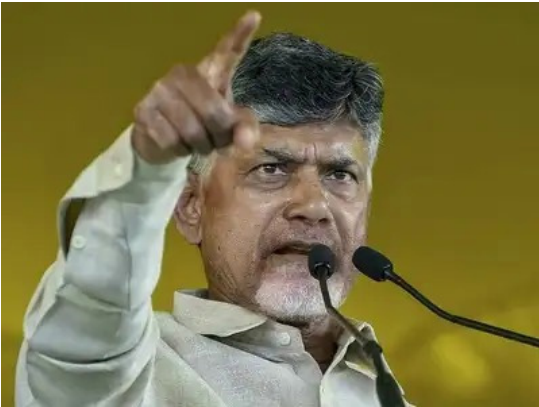


woman commander from among all participating nations in the Force 18 exercise. Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, a helicopter pilot in the IAF, has clocked over 2,500 flying hours, navigating tough terrains like Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast. Her journey to the skies began early — her name itself, ‘Vyomika’, means ‘one belonging to the skies’. A former NCC cadet and engineering graduate, Singh received a permanent commission in the IAF’s flying branch in December 2019. She has also led several critical rescue missions, including a high-altitude operation in Arunachal Pradesh in November 2020. Their confident presence at the press conference, alongside Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, highlighted not just the military’s operational success, but also India’s growing recognition of women in defence leadership roles.

Chandrababu Salutes Armed Forces

- AP CM lauds swift retaliation to terror attack
- Backs Modi’s decisive leadership
- Calls for unity against terrorism

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has extended his heartfelt salute to the Indian Armed Forces following their successful strikes on terrorist camps located in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Reacting swiftly to the military operation undertaken in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, the Chief Minister praised the unparalleled courage, precision, and determination of the soldiers. “I proudly salute the warriors of the Indian Armed Forces who swiftly retaliated to the Pahalgam terror attack. They have once again proven that our country can defend itself with their iron will,” Chandrababu stated. He was among the first political leaders to acknowledge and commend the operation, posting a patriotic ‘Jai Hind!’ on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter). He later followed it up with another post praising the extraordinary courage of the soldiers and the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. “Under the leadership of Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the world has seen our strength and resolve. Our country is united against terrorism. We stand firmly behind our brave armed forces,” Chandrababu declared. The Chief Minister emphasized the need for national unity in times of such crises, and assured the Centre of complete support from Andhra Pradesh. His statements resonated widely with the public, reflecting a collective sense of pride and solidarity across the state and the nation.

AP Liquor Scam HC Rejects Anticipatory Bail to Dhananjaya Reddy and Others



A significant development has unfolded in the ongoing Andhra Pradesh liquor scam case. The Andhra Pradesh High Court has rejected the anticipatory bail petitions filed by three prominent individuals involved in the case. These include IAS officer Dhananjaya Reddy, former CMO Secretary during the tenure of Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, Krishnamohan Reddy, the former OSD, and Govindappa Balaji, the Director of Bharathi Cements.



CM Chandrababu Issues Key Orders in Endowment Department Review

- Annaprasadam to expand to 15 more temples
- Master plans for temple development to be prepared
- Installation of CCTV cameras in 24,538 more temples

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu issued a series of significant instructions during a review meeting on the Endowment Department held at the State Secretariat. The meeting was attended by Endowment Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy and key officials from the department. Chandrababu directed officials to focus on the development of major temples across the state by preparing master plans for improvement in line with Agama Shastra. He emphasized that the plans should ensure the long-term growth and upkeep of these temples. A major highlight of the review was the expansion of Annaprasa-



dam distribution, which will now include 15 additional important temples. This program aims to ensure that devotees receive free meals at these temples, promoting inclusivity and religious service. The Chief Minister also highlight-

ed the importance of protecting temple lands from illegal activities. He called for the formation of a dedicated committee to regulate the leasing of these lands to commercial entities, ensuring that the income generated is reinvested in

temple development. In a significant move, he instructed that only vegetarian food should be served in temples when leasing lands to hotels or eateries. Furthermore, Chandrababu emphasized enhancing security measures across temples, ordering the installation of CCTV cameras in 24,538 more temples to improve safety. Currently, cameras are only present in temples with an annual income exceeding Rs. 50,000. On staffing, the Chief Minister directed the filling of vacancies at all levels within the Endowment Department to ensure smooth functioning and efficiency. He also ordered the formation of committees for temples, with regular incense and deepa offerings to be made in all places of worship. This review reflects the government's ongoing commitment to improving the temple infrastructure, maintaining safety, and ensuring better service for devotees.



Nellore Police Conduct Mock Drill

District SP Sri G. Krishnakanth Leads Effort to Educate Citizens on Emergency Response

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

As part of an initiative to educate citizens on public safety measures, the Nellore Police, under the leadership of District SP Sri G. Krishnakanth, IPS, conducted an extensive mock drill across Nellore Town, Muthukur, Podalakur, and Ulavapadu today. The drill aimed to train the public on how to respond in case of emergencies, particularly terrorist attacks, and to raise awareness on safety protocols. Following the guidelines from the Union Home Ministry and the State Government, the mock drill involved the participation of 816 officers and staff from relevant departments, including Special Party Police, Bomb Squad, Dog Squad, Fire and Health personnel. The exercise focused on practical measures such as what precautions should be taken during dangerous situations, how to react when emergency sirens sound, and the immediate actions required for safety. Key demonstrations included how the Special Party Police, Bomb Squad, and security forces act in response to terrorist threats, how to identify and safely dispose of bombs, and how to protect vulnerable groups, such as VVIPs. The exercise also covered how to evacuate injured individuals and transport them to hospitals using ambulances. The primary goal of the mock drill was to raise public awareness about personal safety, terrorism response, and cooperation with security forces during crises. District SP Sri G. Krishnakanth emphasized that while the drill might have seemed alarming, it was a training program designed to ensure that the public knows exactly how to behave in such situations. He also encouraged people to stay alert and report any suspicious activities immediately to the authorities. "The police department is always working for your safety and well-being," he stated, urging everyone to perform their duties responsibly and cooperate with law enforcement to maintain peace and order. The mock drill is part of a broader effort to enhance community awareness and ensure preparedness for any emergency.

HC Rejects Anticipatory Bail...

Continued from page 1

The rejection of these petitions brings them a step closer to facing arrest in the ongoing investigation. The accused had sought anticipatory bail to avoid arrest, fearing their imminent detention. They initially approached the High Court with their petitions a week ago. However, the hearing was adjourned after the government lawyer requested time to file a counter-response. The trio then took the matter to the Supreme Court, which directed that the case be handled and concluded in the High Court. Following this order, the High Court expedited the proceedings, hearing the arguments from both sides on Monday. Senior lawyers Siddharth Luthra and Siddharth Agarwal represented the prosecution, while Siddharth Dave and other senior counsel appeared for the accused. After hearing the arguments, the High Court rejected the anticipatory bail petitions, leaving the accused with the option of approaching the Supreme Court to challenge the decision. In a related development, the AP CID filed an important memo in the Vijayawada Court, revealing that Dhananjaya Reddy has been added to the list of accused as A31, Krishnamohan Reddy as A32, and Govindappa Balaji as A33. With the High Court rejecting their bail applications, the stage is set for their possible arrest by the CID. Several individuals have already been arrested in connection with the case.

Operation Sindoor...

Continued from page 1

I have directed the Andhra Pradesh DGP to book anyone posting anti-national content or disturbing the integrity of the country," he said. Pawan Kalyan also responded strongly to celebrities making irresponsible statements. "Celebrities are not the voice of the nation. They must act with responsibility. Barking like street dogs on social media during a national crisis is not acceptable," he said bluntly. He clarified his earlier controversial remarks about certain Congress leaders, stating, "I said what I did only because some Congress leaders appeared to support Pakistan's narrative. This is not the time for partisan politics—it's a national war. If you love Pakistan, go there—but don't insult India during wartime." Highlighting the threat level, he reminded citizens of past terrorist actions, including the Lumbini Park and Gokul Chat bombings, and the presence of submarines like Ghazi reaching Visakhapatnam in the past. He called for total dedication from every citizen, especially during nationwide mock drills and high-alert situations. "Let us not forget—India's unity and integrity come first. Speak cautiously, act responsibly, and never compromise national interest," he concluded.



We Have a Missile That Can Answer a Hundred Pakistans: Nara Lokesh

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

AP Minister Nara Lokesh has strongly responded to India's recent military action against Pakistan, following the Pahalgam terror attacks. In a statement shared via X, Lokesh expressed his deep conviction about India's ability to defend itself. Referring to the recent Operation Sindoor, which led to the destruction of nine terror camps in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Lokesh declared that Pakistan had crossed the line by targeting innocent civilians, calling it a grave mistake. Lokesh emphasized India's resolve, saying, "Not one Pakistan... Even if a hundred Pakistanis come, they will not be able to pluck even a single blade of grass from India. We have one missile that can answer a hundred Pakistanis. Do you know what that missile is? 'Namo'—Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi." In his passionate comment, Lokesh credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the metaphorical missile capable of defending India's sovereignty and retaliating against any threat. This statement resonates strongly as Operation Sindoor led to the elimination of key terrorist infrastructure, including the central office of Jaish-e-Mohammed, and the loss of lives of 10 family members of its chief Masood Azhar. Lokesh's remarks reflect his unwavering support for the Indian government's stance on national security and terrorism.

Obulapuram Mining Case SC Overturns HC Order Discharging AP IAS Officer Srilakshmi

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In a major development in the Obulapuram illegal mining case, the Supreme Court has overturned the Andhra Pradesh High Court's 2022 order that had quashed the charges against senior IAS officer Y Srilakshmi. The apex court's decision comes as a blow to Srilakshmi, who was previously discharged from the case by the High Court. The Supreme Court has now directed that a hearing be conducted on her alleged involvement in the illegal mining of iron ore in the Bellary Reserve Forest in Obulapuram and Malapanagudi villages in Anantapur district, undivided Andhra Pradesh. The court has granted four months for the hearing, with specific instructions to proceed without being influenced by the High Court's prior order. Srilakshmi, who served as the acting secretary for industries and commerce under the leadership of Congress Chief Minister Dr. YS Rajasekhara Reddy from 2007 to 2009, was added as accused number 6 in the case by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in a supplementary charge-sheet filed in 2012.

Chronology of Allegations

The case traces back to 2011 when the CBI filed its initial charge-sheet, accusing several individuals involved in the illegal mining operations. Srilakshmi was arrested by the CBI in November 2011 for her alleged role in granting mining licenses that facilitated the illegal mining activities. Following her arrest, Srilakshmi spent months in jail before being released. In 2016, after her suspension was revoked, she resumed service in Telangana and later transferred to Andhra Pradesh in 2020, where she was appointed as the special chief secretary to the YSRCP government headed by Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Despite her earlier discharge in 2022 by the High Court, the Supreme Court's latest ruling has brought the charges back into focus, ensuring that Srilakshmi's case will undergo fresh judicial scrutiny.

Recent Verdict in Obulapuram Mining Case

Meanwhile, in related proceedings, former Karnataka BJP minister Gali Janardhan Reddy was sentenced to seven years of rigorous imprisonment by a special CBI court in Nampally on May 6, for his involvement in the Obulapuram illegal mining case. Four other accused, including former AP director of mines BV Rajagopal and former OMC managing director VD Srinivasa Reddy, were also convicted in connection with the case. The convicts, including Janardhan Reddy, were sent to Chanchalguda Central Prison following medical tests post-verdict.



Palnadu District Police Conduct Extensive Inspections

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

On the orders of Palnadu District SP Sri Kanchi Srinivasa Rao IPS, a thorough anti-substance abuse drive, along with extensive lodge and vehicle inspections, was conducted across Palnadu District starting from 4 pm today. The operation focused on curbing public disturbances, alcohol consumption in public places, and ensuring road safety across the district. Railway stations, bus stands, lodges, and vehicles were thoroughly inspected as part of the drive to check illicit activities. The District SP emphasized that strict action would be taken against anyone involved in consuming alcohol in public spaces, disturbing public peace, or driving under the influence of alcohol. Police officers and personnel carried out detailed vehicle inspections on major roads throughout the district in the evening. These measures aimed to ensure that traffic safety regulations were adhered to and that offenders were held accountable.



In addition to vehicle checks, police also conducted raids in vacant lots, suburban areas, and the outskirts of the city, focusing on those engaging in alcohol consumption in public places. Cases were registered against individuals violating public order and safety norms. The District SP reiterated that law enforcement will continue its crackdown on those causing trouble to the public, ensuring that violators face legal action for their misconduct. The drive is part of the district's ongoing efforts to maintain public order and ensure the safety of its citizens.

Krishna Will Become a Golden District

- Ministers review constituency-wise issues in Gudivada
- Special focus on Gudivada’s key problems: MLA Venigandla Ramu
- Review meetings to help resolve local issues: MLAs Krishna Prasad, Kumar Raja

TPN Correspondent | Krishna

Ministers Vasamsetty Subhash and Kollu Ravindra declared that Krishna district will be developed into a 'golden district' under the coalition government. A review meeting was held at the Gudivada Officers Club to address the problems faced by various constituencies in the district. MLAs Venigandla Ramu (Gudivada), Kagita Krishna Prasad (Pedana), and Varla Kumar Raja (Pamarru) participated in the meeting and brought up the key issues affecting their respective constituencies. The ministers assured that these concerns will be addressed with urgency and commitment. MLA Venigandla Ramu highlighted problems related to roads, canals, and the struggles of aqua farmers in Gudivada. He urged the ministers to not only resolve these issues but also ensure the allocation of sufficient development funds for the constituency, stressing the area's strategic importance. MLAs Krishna Prasad and Kumar Raja also voiced local concerns and expressed hope that regular review meetings will help streamline problem-solving at the constituency level. Addressing the media, Minister Subhash said that the coalition government is committed to both development and welfare, and emphasized that special steps are being taken to build



Amaravati as a world-class capital. He added that development works worth ₹49,000 crore are currently underway across the state. Minister Kollu Ravindra stated that review meetings like this are part of a larger plan to ensure comprehensive development across Krishna district. He emphasized that the government's goal is public welfare, and said no program that causes harm to the people will be encouraged. Ravindra also mentioned that although some public representatives couldn't attend, the meeting covered pressing concerns in all seven constituencies.

MLA Venigandla Ramu said this district-level platform gave him the opportunity to raise critical issues including road development, welfare of aqua farmers, and the revival of broken systems caused by neglect over the past five years. MLA Krishna Prasad praised the meeting's effectiveness, noting that such reviews are a positive step forward. He affirmed his commitment to working in unity with coalition leaders to uplift the district. MLA Varla Kumar Raja echoed this sentiment and said the coalition is working with the people's aspirations in mind. He

added that such meetings will significantly aid in resolving public issues and bring special attention to the development of Pamarru constituency. Several district officials and alliance leaders were present at the meeting including Gudivada RDO Balasubramaniam, Commissioner Simhadri Manohar, NTR Stadium Vice Chairman Yelavarthi Srinivasa Rao, senior TDP leader Pinnamaneni Babji, Jana Sena in-charge Booragadda Srikanth, TDP Gudivada President Dintyala Rambabu, Rural Mandal President Vase Murali, Market Yard Chairman Chatragadda Ravi, and other key leaders.



It Is The Responsibility of All of Us to Stand by Him: Nara Lokesh

TPN Correspondent | Satyavedu

Nara Lokesh, State IT and Education Minister, called on TDP workers to unite and stand by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, emphasizing that his tireless efforts at the age of 75 are dedicated to the future of the state and the prosperity of the people. Lokesh was addressing party workers during a coordination meeting at the local market in Satyavedu, Tirupati district. During the meeting, he took feedback from the workers about their concerns and emphasized their importance in the party's journey. Lokesh reiterated the party's unwavering support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's actions in defending the nation. "Terrorists killed innocent people in Pahalgam. We will support whatever decision Modi takes. Even if a hundred Pakistanis come, we have a missile called Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said, highlighting the strength of India's response and its resolve to combat terrorism. He praised the soldiers defending the nation, calling them his inspiration. He also reassured party workers that their efforts would not go unrecognized, emphasizing that workers are the backbone of Telugu Desam Party. Referring to local heroes like Anji Reddy's grandfather, Manjula Reddy, and Thota Chandrayya, Lokesh acknowledged their sacrifices, saying, "Their sacrifices inspire me, and we will complete the formation of committees by Mahanadu." Lokesh also stressed the importance of unity and reconciliation, encouraging workers to resolve issues through dialogue. He mentioned the difficulties faced by the party from 2019 to 2024 but assured that the party leadership was committed to overcoming these challenges and addressing the concerns of the workers. Reflecting on the party's alliances, he highlighted that Prime Minister Modi had supported key interests of the state, such as opposing the privatization of Visakhapatnam Steel and advocating for the construction of Amaravati. He also acknowledged the work being done by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan to ensure drinking water for every household. Lokesh concluded by reaffirming the shared responsibility to stand by Chandrababu Naidu's leadership for the brighter future of the state and its people.

Bandi Srinivasa Rao Joins YSRCP

Former APNGO leader praises Jagan as true people's CM

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In a notable political development, former president of the AP NGO Association Bandi Srinivasa Rao officially joined the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). Party chief and former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy personally welcomed him into the party by ceremonially covering his head with a party scarf, marking the occasion with warmth and respect. Speaking at the event, Bandi Srinivasa Rao heaped praise on Jagan, describing him as a true and committed leader who does not turn a blind eye to public issues. He stated that he is joining the YSRCP with the firm resolve to work hard for the party's victory and make Jagan the Chief Minister once again. Bandi also used the opportunity to raise key demands concerning government employees, urging the NDA coalition government to immediately regularize contract employees, release pending dearness allowances (DAs), and ensure that surrender leave is granted to police personnel. He criticized the current administration for neglecting these issues, which are causing unrest among the employee community. YSRCP Employees Wing State President Chandrashekar Reddy, who was present at the event, said that many leaders from various employee associations and unions are joining the YSRCP in support of Jagan's leadership. He stated that employees across the state trust Jagan to address their concerns and provide stable governance. The entry of Bandi Srinivasa Rao, a prominent voice in the employees' movement, is being seen as a significant boost for the YSRCP, especially as it attempts to consolidate support among government workers ahead of future political battles.



MP Kesineni Distributes Equipment To 193 Differently-Abled

TPN Correspondent | Nandigama

Vijayawada MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) took a major step toward empowering differently-abled individuals in the Nandigama constituency by distributing assistive equipment worth ₹30.27 lakh on Wednesday. The program, held at KVR College, Nandigama, was supported by the Central Government, Artificial Limb Manufacturing Company (ALIMCO), and the Department of Welfare for the Differently-Abled and Elderly, NTR District. Joined by State Government Whip and MLA Tangirala Soumya, MP Kesineni handed over battery-powered tricycles, wheelchairs, walking canes, crutches, and hearing aids to 193 differently-abled individuals. He noted that although the Central Government completed beneficiary identification in 2022, the previous state government failed to distribute the equipment for three years. The distribution drive included 34 battery-powered tricycles worth ₹20.40 lakh, 66 manual tricycles valued at ₹6.60 lakh, 13 wheelchairs worth ₹1.09 lakh, 24 crutches worth ₹24,000, 29 hearing aids valued at ₹1.85 lakh, and 18 walking sticks worth ₹9,000. In total, the items distributed amounted to ₹30,27,800 in value. MP Kesineni emphasized that this is a people's government, committed to solving public problems in a timely manner. He added that devices had already been distributed to 715 individuals in Vijayawada constituencies earlier, and those in other NTR district constituencies would also receive support soon. Highlighting Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's welfare approach, Kesineni pointed out that the government is now providing ₹6,000 pension to differently-abled individuals and complementing it with tools to boost their self-confidence and self-reliance. On a different note, he expressed pride in India's Operation Sindhur carried out in response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, saying, "The people of this country will always stand by our armed forces and follow the decision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi." He lauded the Indian Army's decisive action and said the government is fully behind them. When asked about political criticisms, MP Chinni responded strongly, saying, "I am not someone who hides and posts on social media. I will soon respond to those who attack me with full facts in front of the media." He added that while he had planned a media meet on Wednesday, he refrained from speaking politics out of respect for the ongoing national tension due to terror attacks.

Jagan Backs Operation Sindoor

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

YSR Congress Party chief and former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy has strongly backed the Indian government's military response to terrorism, stating that 'Operation Sindoor' was an inevitable step to safeguard the sovereignty of the nation and protect innocent lives. Jagan made these remarks during a meeting with YSRCP parliamentary constituency observers and regional coordinators at the party's central office in Tadepalli. Prior to the meeting, he held a special discussion with key party leaders regarding the recent strikes on terrorist camps following the Pahalgam terror attack. Jagan emphasized that targeting terror bases and training camps is a critical and justified action when it comes to ensuring the nation's safety. "The most important duty of any country is to protect its sovereignty and defend its citizens from terrorism," he asserted. He condemned the brutal attack on innocent tourists in Pahalgam, Kashmir, calling it a direct assault on humanity. Praising the swift and strong response of the Indian Armed Forces, he remarked, "Our defense forces have effectively repelled the terrorist acts. Operation Sindoor is a necessary and inevitable step." Jagan expressed full solidarity with the defense forces and urged the public to stand united. "The entire country supports the actions taken by our forces for the safety of the nation. We must all stay together in the fight against terrorism," he said.





TPN Correspondent | Amaravati
Celebrations erupted at the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) central office in Mangalagiri following the success of ‘Opera-

tion Sindoor’, in which nine terrorist camps were reportedly destroyed by Indian forces. The operation was conducted in retaliation to the recent Pahalgam terror attack, and TDP

leaders hailed it as a significant moment for the nation. The TDP leaders raised ‘Vande Mataram’ slogans and lauded the Indian Army for its swift and powerful response. Agri-

TDP Hails Operation Sindoor

Party backs Centre’s anti-terror stand

Leaders raise slogans of ‘Vande Mataram’

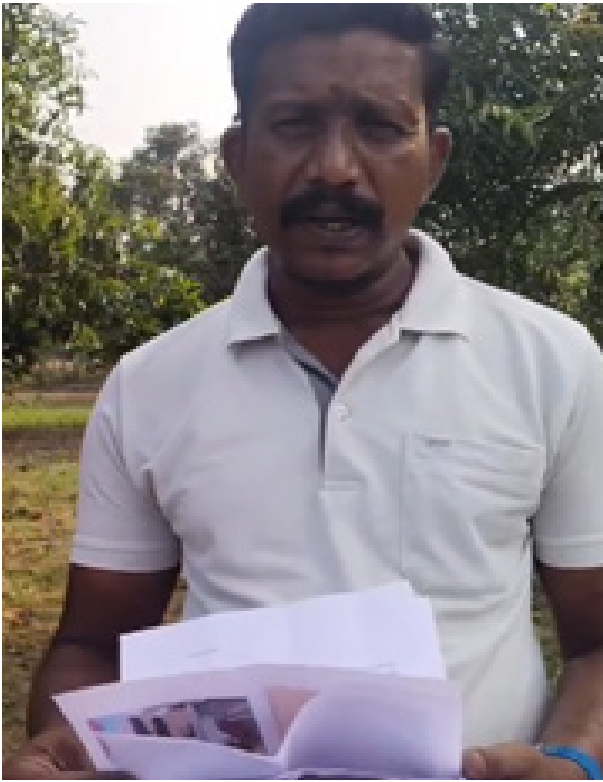
Atchannaidu, Varla call for national unity

culture Minister Atchannaidu addressed the gathering, stating that “the destruction of terrorist camps is a proud moment for every Indian.” He recalled that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and party general secretary Nara Lokesh had earlier declared unconditional support to any strong steps taken by the Centre to curb terrorism.

Atchannaidu emphasized that “Operation Sindoor” is not just a military success but a unifying moment for the nation, urging all citizens to rise above caste, religion, and region-

al differences in support of the Indian Armed Forces and Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership. TDP Politburo member Varla Ramaiah echoed similar sentiments, saying, “With the support of the global community, India has shown that terrorism will not be tolerated.” He declared that terrorist forces in Pakistan are now trembling with fear and praised PM Modi for sending a strong message. “The whole world is against terrorism. The lives of innocent people should not be sacrificed for extremist agendas,” he added. Other key

participants at the event included MLCs Chiranjeevi Rao and Perabathula Rajasekharam, former MLC Ashok Babu, Shettibailija Corporation Chairman Kudipudi Saththibabu, Bhashyam Group Chairman Bhashyam Ramakrishna, senior leader Ramana, Brahmin Sadhikara Samiti Convener Buchi Ramprasad, Ganta Gautam, Valluri Kiran, and others. All the leaders reiterated the TDP’s full support for the Centre’s firm stance against terrorism and emphasized the need for unity and national solidarity in such critical times.



Dalit Woman's Husband Attacked by Bank Staff Over ₹3,020 EMI

TPN Correspondent | NTR District

A shocking incident was reported from Vissannapet in NTR District, where the husband of a Dalit woman was allegedly attacked by staff members of Nujividu PIN Care Small Finance Bank over a delayed loan installment of ₹3,020.

According to locals, Alavala Krishnaveni of Indiranagar Colony in Vissannapet mandal had availed a loan of ₹40,000 from the said bank and had been paying regular monthly EMIs. On Wednesday, two bank employees, identified as Chennakeshavulu and Naresh, visited her home and allegedly began harassing her to pay the due installment immediately. When her husband Alavala Srinu requested them to wait for an hour, the bank

staff reportedly refused and instead assaulted him, threatening to throw their belongings out if the money was not paid on the spot. The couple was reportedly traumatized by the aggressive behavior, which created panic in the neighborhood. Feeling harassed and intimidated, Alavala Srinu filed a complaint at the local police station against the bank staff. However, the victim and his family claim that officials have not taken any action so far, and demand justice from higher authorities. The incident has sparked outrage among the local residents and Dalit rights activists, who are calling for immediate action against the finance company’s aggressive recovery methods and protection for borrowers from such abusive practices.

MP Chinni Hits Back at Kesineni Nani's Tweet

Says He Won’t Hide Behind Social Media Will Respond in Two Days

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Responding sharply to former MP Kesineni Nani’s recent comments on social media, newly elected MP Chinni (Kesineni Sivanath) stated that he is not the kind of person who hides behind online posts. He dismissed Nani’s remarks with a pointed statement that he would rather confront issues directly in front of the people than post from the shadows. Speaking informally with reporters, Chinni said, “I don’t want to speak politics today while the nation is facing attacks from an enemy country. It’s not right.” Emphasizing the current sensitive national scenario, he said he deliberately chose not to conduct a press meet today out of respect for the country’s mood and unity.

However, MP Chinni made it clear that he will respond in a detailed media conference within two days, addressing all criticisms and allegations made against him. He vowed to present the facts and set the record straight. Chinni added, “Those who are attacking me will soon understand the strength of the development work I am doing. I will respond to every criticism with facts.” He also assured the media and the public that everything happening behind the scenes will be revealed transparently in front of all. This war of words comes amid political tensions in Vijayawada, where the rivalry between Kesineni Nani and Chinni, once family and now political opponents, has drawn significant public attention.



TDP Political Training Classes for Tenali Leaders

TPN Correspondent | Mangalagiri

The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) kicked off its special political training program on the orders of party National President and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. The two-day training at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri aims to provide political awareness to party members at all levels. This session, a pilot project, saw the first day’s success. On the first day, 48 key leaders from Tenali constituency participated in the program, which was supervised by Legislative Council member and HRD in-charge Vepada Chiranjeevi Rao. Senior party leaders addressed various topics, focusing on party ideologies, the long history of TDP, and the strategic importance of Vision 2047, the party’s future roadmap. Leaders also discussed the importance of effective communication of party policies and government programs to the public and how to strengthen the party at the grassroots level.

Notable party leaders, including TDP Politburo member Varla Ramaiah, national spokesperson Kommareddy Pattabhiram, and Central Office Secretary Paruchuri Ashok Babu, participated in the training, sharing their insights on contemporary political developments and strategies for party growth.

As part of its plan, the TDP leadership intends to expand these training programs across five zones in the state. The objective is to inject new energy into the party cadre, providing them with a deeper understanding of political dynamics and the party’s vision for the future.

Ministers Assure Support to Two-Wheeler Mechanics' Welfare Issues

TPN Correspondent | Krishna
Ministers Kollu Ravindra and Krishna District In-charge Minister Vasamsetty Subhash assured that the government would take steps to address the concerns of two-wheeler mechanics across the state. Their assurance came in response to a petition submitted by the Andhra Pradesh Two-Wheeler Mechanics Welfare Association during their visit to the TDP office in Gudivada on Wednesday. The ministers were accompanied by Gudivada MLA Venigandla Ramu, under whose leadership the Association members presented the petition. The petition highlighted several key issues faced by two-wheeler mechanics, prompting the ministers to promise that they would bring these matters to the attention of the coalition government. Speaking on the occasion, Labour Minister Vasamsetty Subhash said, “The coalition gov-

ernment is committed to the welfare of the working class. We will focus on the problems of the mechanic brothers and take necessary action.” He also noted that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu deserves credit for ensuring insurance coverage to one crore workers in the state. Minister Kollu Ravindra reaffirmed that the concerns raised by the mechanics’ association will be duly presented to the state leadership, stating that the government remains dedicated to addressing grassroots worker issues. The event saw participation from several dignitaries including MLAs Varla Kumar Raja and Kagita Krishna Prasad, along with Andhra Pradesh Two-Wheelers Mechanics Welfare Association President Dayaneni Dharma, Founder Sheikh Asif Ali, Treasurer Sheikh Zubair, and other association leaders like Sheikh Isa, Sheikh Ghaus, Anjaneyulu, and Mal-



likarjuna Rao representing various districts. The ministers’ assurances were seen as a positive step towards strengthening the welfare

framework for thousands of two-wheeler mechanics who form a crucial part of the state’s informal workforce.

Muslim community participates in Vasavi Mata Nagarotsavam

TPN Correspondent | NTR District

In a heartwarming display of religious harmony, members of the Muslim community in Tiruvur participated in the Sri Vasavi Kanyaka Parameshwari Ammavari Nagarotsavam held on the occasion of Vasavi Mata’s birthday. The celebrations, held near the Jamia Masjid at the old bus stand center, saw Muslim brothers warmly welcoming the procession of Vasavi Mata and distributing bangles to Arya Vaishya women taking part in the event. Their gesture of brotherhood and unity was appreciated by

all present.

Highlighting India’s deep-rooted tradition of communal harmony, the Muslim participants raised national flags and chanted “Jai Bharat Mata”, expressing pride and joy over the success of Operation Sindoor, the recent military strike against Pakistan. The community members also honored hereditary trustee Dara Srinivasa Rao and Padma Neelima with traditional shawls as a mark of respect and solidarity. The event stood as a vibrant reminder of India’s unity in diversity, drawing praise from local leaders and residents alike.



Operation Abhyas

Nation Conducts Mock War Drill After 50 Years

Awareness program held at 244 locations to prepare citizens for wartime emergencies

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

In an unprecedented move after nearly five decades, the Indian government launched a massive civil mock drill named ‘Operation Abhyas’ to raise public awareness about self-protection during wartime emergencies. The drill, conducted on the backdrop of heightened tensions with Pakistan, took place simultaneously in 244 locations across the country on Tuesday.

This civil preparedness initiative began at 4 PM and was organized as per directives from the Central Government. It aimed to educate citizens on how to react and protect themselves in the event of an actual war scenario. The nationwide exercise deeply moved participants and spectators alike, many of whom were seen emotionally overwhelmed as they witnessed the intensity of the mock scenarios.

In the Telugu states, the drill was notably conducted in Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam. In Hyderabad alone, several sensitive and strategic zones such as Secunderabad, Golconda, DRDO, Kanchan Bagh, Moulali, Shahpur Nagar, and Mallapur hosted the simulations. The response was massive, with people from nearby areas gathering in large numbers, watching the drills with great interest and seriousness.



Authorities simulated various war-like emergency situations such as air raids, sirens, blackout procedures, evacuation drills, and safety instructions, all aimed at familiarizing the public with steps to take during a wartime emergency. This initiative marks a rare and historic effort by the Indian government to actively involve civilians in nation-

al defense preparedness, something not seen since the wars of the 20th century. Officials involved stated that Operation Abhyas will serve as a model for future preparedness programs and that follow-up drills may be conducted periodically in different parts of the country to ensure nationwide awareness.

Steps Towards Ending Terrorism with Operation Sindhur

Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy Congratulates Indian Army

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

State Housing and Information Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy expressed confidence in Operation Sindhur, aimed at putting an end to terrorism, in a statement issued on Wednesday. The minister said that Pakistan has now realized the consequences of supporting terrorism and that India has sent a clear message with the decisive actions taken by the Indian Army. Minister Parthasarathy lauded the Indian Army for its strong stance, stating that the operation represents a step toward achieving a permanent solution to the ongoing terrorism issues. He expressed his support for the Central Government’s efforts in addressing these challenges and emphasized that this would ensure peace and security for the nation. In his statement, the minister congratulated the Indian Army for their exemplary action in combating terrorism and hailed the Central Government for its continued leadership in this crucial operation.



Development Works Launched by Ministers

Foundation stones laid for projects worth ₹4.16 crore in Palakollu

TPN Correspondent | West Godavari

Power Minister Gottipati Ravikumar, who is also the in-charge minister for West Godavari district, visited Palakollu today to launch a series of development projects. Alongside Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, he laid foundation stones for various works aimed at im-

proving infrastructure and public utilities in the region. The ministers inaugurated a new 33/11 KV substation in Palakollu Rural, which is expected to significantly enhance power supply and distribution efficiency for surrounding areas. The development projects collectively amount to ₹4.16 crore, marking a focused push by the

government to strengthen essential services in the constituency. Following the inaugurations and foundation stone ceremonies, Ministers Gottipati and Nimmala are scheduled to participate in a high-level review meeting with district officials at the Collectorate. The meeting will focus on reviewing the on-

going developmental initiatives and identifying priority areas that require urgent attention. The visit of the ministers and the initiation of key projects underscore the coalition government’s commitment to balanced development and improved public services in Andhra Pradesh.

Free Tailoring Training Program Inaugurated by MLA Shankar



TPN | Rajashekar Srikakulam, May 8:

In a significant move towards empowering women through self-employment, MLA Shankar inaugurated a free tailoring training program for women at Singapuram center in Srikakulam constituency. The program is organized under the joint auspices of the BC Finance Corporation and Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). Speaking at the inaugural event, MLA Shankar highlighted the coalition government’s commitment to women’s economic development. He stated, “This is a great

opportunity for women to achieve self-employment. After three months of training, they will receive sewing machines free of cost and can start earning or even form industrial groups.” The training course will run for 90 days, with participants receiving 4 hours of daily instruction in tailoring. Upon successful completion of the program, each woman will be given a sewing machine free of charge, encouraging them to launch their own small businesses or take up tailoring as a livelihood.



MLA Shankar emphasized that such initiatives are crucial in building a financially independent generation of women, especially in rural areas. He expressed hope that many beneficiaries will soon emerge as successful entrepreneurs and contribute to the local economy. The event was attended by women trainees, as well as several local NDA alliance leaders and activists, who extended their support and encouragement to the participants.

Palakondrayudu’s Death Marks Irreparable Loss for TDP

Ministers, Leaders Pay Tribute; Government Orders State Funeral

TPN Correspondent | Rayachoti

The death of Sugavasi Palakondrayudu, a senior leader of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), former MP, and former MLA, has been declared an irreparable loss to the party. State TDP President Palla Srinivasulu, State Transport Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, and District In-charge Minister BC Janardhan Reddy paid tribute to the late leader in Rayachoti on Wednesday, expressing their grief over the loss. In a solemn ceremony, the ministers and party leaders garlanded the body of Sugavasi Palakondrayudu. Speaking at the tribute, Minister Srinivasulu remarked that the death of Palakondrayudu was a significant blow to the state and to TDP. “Sugavasi Palakondrayudu was a great man who dedicated his life to public service. His efforts towards the welfare of the people, particularly the BCs,

will always be remembered. The TDP stands with his family in this difficult time,” he said. The TDP leaders described Palakondrayudu as a dedicated politician who had worked tirelessly for the betterment of society throughout his career. Srinivasulu further emphasized that Palakondrayudu’s legacy would continue to live on in the hearts of the people and the party, expressing condolences and praying for his soul to rest in peace. Punganur TDP In-charge Challa Babu and several other TDP leaders and activists were present during the tribute event. The state government, led by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Education Minister Nara Lokesh, has directed that Palakondrayudu’s funeral be held with state honours. According to District Collector Sridhar Chamakuri, the funeral will take place at 9:00 AM on Thursday.

Water Released For Second Crop In Nellore

44 TMC for Somasila ayacut; 16 TMC for Telugu Ganga

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Marking a significant milestone for the farming community in Nellore district, irrigation water has been officially released for the second crop under Somasila reservoir and the Telugu Ganga Project. State Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy performed a special puja at the Somasila reservoir on Tuesday and offered a saree to Goddess Gangamma before launching the release of irrigation water. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Anam announced that 44 TMC of water will be provided to irrigate 3.60 lakh acres under the Somasila reservoir, while 16 TMC will be released for 1.60 lakh acres under the Telugu Ganga Project. This move, he said, marks a new chapter for farmers who have long faced uncertainty and disputes regarding second crop irrigation. The Minister highlighted that over the past five years, releasing water for the second crop had often led to



conflicts between regions, farmers, and public representatives. However, with the NDA coalition taking charge, he credited a comprehensive water management system, increased storage capacity, and disciplined distribution for the significant improvement. He stated that due to effective water management, around 100 TMC of water is now available in the Somasila and Kandaleru reservoirs, enabling this timely release. He also noted that Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu

Naidu’s recent visit to the reservoir played a key role, with the current release executed under the guidance of State Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu. The Minister further assured that the Somasila High Level Canal project would be fast-tracked as per CM Naidu’s orders, which will resolve long-pending irrigation issues in Marripadu and Ananthasagaram mandals. He also mentioned that completion of the Veligonda Project in Prakasam district is a priority, which would benefit

farmers in the Udayagiri constituency with assured water supply. Expressing his satisfaction, Anam said, “After many years, I am truly happy to see water being released to farmers for the second crop. This reflects the government’s commitment to the welfare of farmers.” He concluded by reiterating that the NDA government considers farmers’ development as its primary goal and will continue to support agricultural growth through efficient resource management.

ENSURING SECURITY WITH SOVEREIGNTY

A CONSTITUTIONAL IMPERATIVE

In a nation as extensive and varied as India, prioritizing national security is paramount within the constitutional framework. The safeguarding of freedom holds no value without the assurance of life, stability, and sovereignty. When freedoms are misused to incite terror, sedition, or communal discord, they cease to be rights and instead become threats. It is the solemn responsibility of the State to protect the innocent majority by appropriately curbing the liberties of those who pose harm.

In this age of hybrid warfare, digital manipulation, and ideological extremism, the Constitution must evolve to ensure that the security of the Republic is not compromised in the pursuit of unregulated freedom. Therefore, we affirm that the right to national security must be recognized as a fundamental right of every citizen. All other rights should be exercised in alignment with this overarching principle.

Reconceptualising Privacy Rights

Just as individuals have rights to life, liberty, and dignity, they also have the right to live in a secure and stable nation. Citizens' freedoms and well-being can truly flourish only in an environment of internal order and external security. Ensuring protection from threats, terrorism, and ideological conflicts is vital. The Republic must utilize all necessary resources to pre-



Dr. Buragadda Srinadha
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serve its sovereignty. When required, certain civil liberties may be reasonably restricted to protect collective security, provided legal safeguards are upheld.

Amending the Constitution Insertion of Article 21B: Right to National Security

Article 21B – “Every citizen of India shall have the right to national security as a fundamental right. This right includes the protection of life, public order, territorial sovereignty, and digital integrity of the Republic. The State shall have the power to take necessary legislative, executive, and technological measures to ensure such protection, notwithstanding other rights, when national security is under threat.”

Policy Translation

It is imperative to introduce a revised Preamble amendment that emphasizes “Security

with Sovereignty.” This must be supported by the enactment of a National Sovereignty Act. The Act should incorporate security-based exception clauses into civil rights legislation to ensure national security interests are not undermined, while still upholding the essence of individual rights.

Legal Justification and Global Context

The right to life is rendered vulnerable and insignificant in the absence of national security. Globally, nations such as France and Israel have enacted temporary suspensions of civil liberties under constitutional provisions to protect national interests.

Emerging Threats

The increasing frequency of terrorism, cyber warfare, and ideological extremism calls for preemptive and robust measures. Mere reactive strategies are no longer sufficient in the face of such threats.

Enhancing Digital Surveillance – Digital Security Profile (DSP)

To bolster national security, it is essential to temporarily suspend existing privacy regulations during high-risk alerts or in designated 'Digital Surveillance Zones'. This includes implementing mandatory facial recognition and identity verification for public transport, banking, SIM card issuance, and social media account creation.

A nationwide network connecting railway stations, airports, educational institutions, religious centers,

and border districts must be developed, integrated with Aadhaar, CCTNS, and central intelligence databases. Each citizen will be assigned a Digital Security Profile (DSP), assessing risk levels based on travel history, communication patterns, online activity, and known associations. Alerts will be triggered when DSP risk levels exceed a predetermined threshold.

Telecom and social media companies must provide real-time data to government servers, enforce face-verified account creation, and flag suspicious behavior automatically. Advanced digital surveillance models in countries like the UAE and Israel, which use facial recognition technologies for national security, provide examples of effectiveness in the digital age.

Judicial Oversight in Favor of National Security

The judiciary must ensure that while individual freedoms are respected, the imperative of national security takes precedence. Courts must support the State's authority to conduct preventive surveillance when required, especially against potential extremists or hostile entities. The survival and stability of the nation must be prioritized over unrestrained liberty. Prioritizing national security over absolute civil liberties is critical. A constitutional amendment to reflect this priority is essential to prevent the misuse of rights in ways that could endanger national sovereignty.



India’s Operation Sindoor: A Decisive Strike Against Terrorism

In a bold and unprecedented move, India launched Operation Sindoor, targeting key terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The operation came as a direct response to the brutal terror attack in Pahalgam, which claimed 26 lives. Unlike previous diplomatic or symbolic measures, this was a clear and calculated military retaliation. India's precision airstrikes were aimed at the operational nerve centers of Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed, specifically hitting indoctrination hubs, training camps, and arms depots—all while deliberately avoiding Pakistani military installations.

One of the most notable aspects of this operation was its execution without violating Pakistani airspace, showcasing India's advanced military technology and strategic discipline. Targets included the notorious Lashkar-e-Taiba headquarters in Bahawalpur and terror bases across Rawalpindi, Muridke, and Muzaffarabad.

Pakistan, caught off guard, is now scrambling to contain the fallout. For years, its military establishment has operated under the belief that it could wage a proxy war against India without facing consequences. Operation Sindoor shattered that illusion. The strikes were not just a military maneuver—they were a message. India's restraint should not be mistaken for weakness.

This operation also coincided with the launch of Operation Abhyaas, a nationwide civil defence drill covering over 240 districts. From air raid sirens to blackout rehearsals, India has sent a powerful signal of readiness for any potential escalation.

India's response marks a strategic pivot—from passive defence to assertive deterrence. It redefines how India deals with cross-border terrorism and reflects a clear intent: the country will no longer wait for international consensus to defend its citizens. The footage of these strikes, now circulating widely, exposes the reality of Pakistan's terror links and undermines its narrative of victimhood.

Operation Sindoor is not a declaration of war—it is a declaration of zero tolerance toward terrorism. And with it, India has redrawn the lines of engagement in South Asia.

The fragmentation in the global fight against terror

The brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22 has once again laid bare the deep fractures in the global fight against terrorism—and the world's troubling reluctance to hold Pakistan accountable. While several nations have issued formal condemnations of the attack, their responses have largely focused on urging India and Pakistan to exercise “restraint,” rather than squarely addressing the source of the violence.

This tepid global reaction reveals a stark shift from the once-united stance of “zero tolerance” for terrorism. The United States Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, called on both India and Pakistan to pursue a “responsible resolution” to ensure long-term regional peace. Vice-President J.D. Vance expressed hope that India's response would not escalate tensions, subtly placing the burden of de-escalation on the victim rather than the perpetrator.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov echoed the sentiment, emphasizing political and diplomatic methods to “settle disagreements.” Even more strikingly, the European Union's foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas failed to directly label the incident as a ter-

ror attack, revealing the growing hesitation among global powers to confront terrorism unequivocally when it involves Pakistan.

Such reactions ignore a long and bloody history of Pakistan-backed terrorism in India—from the 2008 Mumbai attacks to the 2019 Pulwama bombing. In each case, international sympathy for the victims quickly gave way to calls for restraint, often accompanied by demands for “proof” of Pakistan's involvement, despite overwhelming evidence.

This double standard is both unjust and dangerous. It places the burden of calm and caution on India, while allowing Pakistan to act with impunity. It also signals a disturbing erosion of the global consensus against terrorism, reducing it to a geopolitical inconvenience rather than a moral imperative.

The Pahalgam attack is a stark reminder that the fight against terrorism is no longer a collective priority. As the world tiptoes around uncomfortable truths, India is left to confront the threats alone. If international actors continue to dilute their stance on terror, they risk enabling the very forces they once vowed to defeat.

Don’t Derail the Metro: Public Transport Must Prevail Over Private Profit in Hebbal



The Hebbal interchange is poised to become the beating heart of Bengaluru's future transport system. As the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRC) expands the metro line from K R Puram to Kempegowda International Airport, this key junction will also integrate upcoming Metro corridors from J P Nagar and Sarjapur, alongside a suburban rail hub and a major BMTC terminal. It promises a seamless, multi-modal connection for lakhs of daily commuters—a necessity for a city long strangled by traffic chaos.

Yet, despite the promise of transformation, the Karnataka state government seems paralysed by indecision. At the core of the issue is a 45-acre parcel of land in Hebbal, currently held by the Karnata-

ka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB). Originally allotted in 2000 to M/s Lakeside Tourism Corporation for a township project that never took off, this land is now being eyed again—not for public transport, but for commercial real estate projects like malls, hotels, and luxury apartments. This push is allegedly backed by powerful private interests, despite the company's past failures, defaults, and lack of compensation to landowners.

BMRC had committed to purchasing this land for ₹551.18 crore to build the integrated transport hub. Construction is already underway. Reversing this decision now would be not only irrational and fiscally irresponsible but a betrayal of public interest. Every delay inflates costs and delays re-

lief for citizens who face crippling traffic daily.

A recent high-level meeting chaired by Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar ended inconclusively—yet another example of wavering leadership. What Bengaluru needs is not another commercial township but efficient, sustainable infrastructure. Public transport is a fundamental urban priority, not a secondary consideration. The government must act swiftly and decisively. The Hebbal land should be transferred to BMRC without further delay. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah must personally intervene. In a democracy, public necessity must always outweigh private profiteering. The Metro must move forward, unhindered.



Indian astronauts' footprints will be on Moon; Mars, Venus also on radar: PM Modi

Outlines Bold Vision for India's Space Future at GLEX 2025

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a pre-recorded address to the Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX) 2025 on May 7, declared that India is forging ahead confidently in space exploration and will soon leave its footprints on the Moon.

Highlighting India's ambitious space roadmap, PM Modi announced that the country aims to establish the Bharatiya Antariksha Station by 2035 and send an Indian astronaut to the Moon by 2040. He also emphasized that exploration missions to Mars and Venus are part of India's long-term space goals.

"India's space journey is not about racing others. It is about reaching higher together," he stated, underlining that India sees space as both a field of exploration and empowerment. He called on the global community to collaborate in exploring space for the greater good of humanity.

PM Modi also spoke of India's first human spaceflight mission, Gaganyaan, which is scheduled for launch in early 2027, calling it a reflection of India's rising aspirations. Notably, he revealed that in a matter of weeks, Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla will join a joint ISRO-NASA mission to the International Space Station aboard Axiom-4, launching on May 29, 2025, for a 14-day mission.



Reflecting on India's achievements, Modi recalled how the nation's space journey began in 1963 with the launch of a small rocket and evolved into a global leader. India made history in 2014 by becoming the first country to reach Mars in its maiden attempt. The Chandrayaan missions have helped discover water on the Moon and gather high-resolution lunar data, especially near the South Pole.

India has also successfully developed cryogenic engines, launched 100 satellites in a

single mission, and deployed over 400 satellites for 34 countries. Modi added that in 2025, India also achieved a technological milestone by docking two satellites in space.

He reaffirmed India's commitment to global cooperation, mentioning the G20 satellite initiative and the South Asia satellite, presented as gifts to the Global South.

"Space is not just a destination. It is a declaration of curiosity, courage, and collective progress," Modi concluded.

Operation Sindoor: India shall never tolerate terrorism: Sitharaman



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday expressed strong support for India's military action under 'Operation Sindoor,' describing it as a decisive and firm response to terrorism. The operation, carried out by India's armed forces in the early hours of Wednesday, involved missile strikes on nine terrorist targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir. Key sites, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold in Bahawalpur and the Lashkar-e-Taiba base in Muridke, were struck as part of the operation.

Sitharaman emphasized that the military strikes were conducted as a retaliation for the deadly Pahalgam attack, which claimed the lives of 26 civilians two weeks ago. In a post on the social media platform X, Sitharaman commended the Indian armed forces for their swift and strategic action. She reiterated that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India would continue to pursue and hold accountable every individual responsible for acts of terrorism.

"#OperationSindoor is a strong response by @adgpi, hitting at the terror hubs in Pakistan. India shall never tolerate terrorism," the Finance Minister posted.

Sitharaman is currently in Milan, Italy, attending the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Despite being abroad, she remained firm in her support for the operation, highlighting India's resolve to tackle terrorism head-on.

The operation is seen as a demonstration of India's commitment to safeguarding its citizens from terrorism, underscoring its stance that such threats will not be tolerated under any circumstances. The strong response from India follows a series of attacks that have targeted Indian citizens and its security forces over the years, with many of the perpetrators based in Pakistan.

The operation has also been praised by various political leaders within India, with Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Sharad Pawar affirming that the global community has received a clear message about India's determination to act against terrorism.

SC Panel Confirms Cash Allegations Against Justice Yashwant Varma; CJI Seeks Response

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

A Supreme Court-appointed panel has reportedly confirmed allegations of a substantial cash discovery at the residence of Justice Yashwant Varma, now with the Allahabad High Court. According to sources, the panel's findings have prompted Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna to urge Justice Varma to step down, following serious concerns raised in the inquiry report.



The CJI has sent the panel's report to Justice Varma and sought his formal response, adhering to the principles of natural justice, sources said.

The three-member panel comprised Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice G.S. Sandhawalia, and Justice Anu Sivaraman of the Karnataka High Court. The panel finalized its report on May 3, after reviewing extensive evidence and recording statements from over 50 witnesses, including Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora and Delhi Fire Service Chief, both of whom were among the first re-

sponders to the fire at Justice Varma's official residence in Lutyens' Delhi on the night of March 14.

At the time of the incident, Justice Varma was serving on the Delhi High Court. The panel reportedly confirmed that a large stash of unaccounted cash was discovered in a storeroom at the judge's residence — an allegation Justice Varma has repeatedly denied, including in his communications with the Delhi High Court Chief Justice.

India blackout mock drill: Delhi, Mumbai, other cities to switch off lights



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In line with the Ministry of Home Affairs' (MHA) latest directive, several states across India began nationwide mock drills at 4 PM on Wednesday, May 7, 2025. As part of the civil defence exercise, power blackouts lasting 10-15 minutes were observed in major urban centers such as Delhi, Mumbai, and parts of Punjab.

The drills come just hours after India launched Operation Sindoor, a joint military strike on nine terrorist targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The precision strikes were a response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 civilians lost their lives. The MHA ordered the mock drills

in light of "new and complex threats" amid escalating cross-border tensions.

The exercises are designed to simulate emergency conditions and test civil defence preparedness in the event of a real attack. In addition to mock casualties, siren alerts, and evacuation protocols, one of the critical features of the drill was temporary blackouts across various states.

Why Blackouts Are Used in Conflict Scenarios

Blackouts are a well-established wartime tactic used to protect vital infrastructure and population centers from enemy aerial detection and attacks. By cutting off power, especially at night, cities reduce visibility from the sky, mini-

mizing the chances of being targeted.

In peacetime drills, these blackouts help assess readiness and response mechanisms of local authorities and emergency services.

Timings and Areas Affected

According to multiple PTI reports, most blackout simulations were scheduled to begin at 8 PM, lasting roughly 10-15 minutes. However, regions like Ferozepur in Punjab observed their blackout period starting at 9 PM.

In Delhi, areas under the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) participated in the drill, while in Mumbai, zones such as Govandi and Tarapur experienced the planned power outage.

Operation Sindoor: Targets destroyed with precision as per plan: Rajnath Singh

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, praised the Indian armed forces for executing Operation Sindoor with "precision" and "measured intent," just hours after India conducted military strikes on nine terrorist infrastructure sites across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Addressing the media while inaugurating 50 infrastructure projects by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) across six states and two Union Territories, Singh confirmed that all targets under Operation Sindoor were "destroyed as per plan."

"India has exercised its right to respond to the attack on its soil," he said, referring to the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, in which 26 civilians were killed. "Our action was taken thoughtfully and in a measured manner. We only killed those who killed our innocents," the minister emphasized.

Rajnath Singh clarified that the operation was designed to break the morale of terrorist groups and was restricted to training camps and related infrastructure of groups such as Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and Hizbul Mujahideen — all of which are banned organizations.

He praised the precision and sensitivity of the armed forces, noting that "not a single civilian was harmed."



Singh reiterated that India's retaliation was carefully calibrated to avoid escalation and ensure that only terror-linked infrastructure was struck.

"With Operation Sindoor, our forces have given a befitting reply by destroying terrorist training camps. I salute their bravery," Singh said.

The Defence Minister's remarks follow a detailed media briefing earlier in the day by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, and Colonel Sofiya Qureshi, who provided operational specifics of the strike that reportedly lasted just 25 minutes, commencing at 1:05 AM on Wednesday.

India's assertive yet restrained response has drawn international attention, with major powers such as the U.S., China, and Russia calling for de-escalation between the two nuclear-armed neighbours. Singh's statement underlines India's position that retaliatory action was justified, proportionate, and targeted solely at terror outfits responsible for violence on Indian soil.

Sri Lankan President's Party Continues Winning Streak in Local Election

NPP Dominates Sri Lanka's Local Elections but Faces Coalition Challenges

TPN Correspondent | Colombo

In a significant political development, Sri Lanka's ruling party, the National People's Power (NPP), led by President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, has emerged as the largest party in 265 out of 339 municipal councils in the latest local government elections. However, the NPP's ability to convert these wins into governing power across local bodies remains uncertain due to fragmented mandates and stronger opposition alliances in key councils.

Despite this sweeping presence, the NPP failed to secure control over the crucial Colombo Municipal Council, winning just 48 out of the 117 seats. The capital remains politically divided, with opposition parties collectively holding a majority, raising questions about the NPP's overall control at the grassroots level.

According to the independent election commission, the NPP garnered over 4.5 million votes, accounting for 43 percent of the total vote share. While this remains a clear lead over other parties, it marks a notable decline from the party's previous performance—where it secured 68 percent of the vote during the November 2024 parliamentary elections and scored a landslide in the presidential polls.

The main opposition party, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), could only manage wins in 14 councils, securing 21 per-



cent of the votes. Despite the poor overall performance, opposition parties are now looking to form alliances in councils where the NPP lacks a majority, potentially blocking its administrative control.

In the Tamil-majority northern and eastern provinces, the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi (ITAK), a key Tamil nationalist party, secured a resounding performance. ITAK won 43 out of the 58 councils it contested without any electoral alliances. This comes as a surprise after the NPP's dominance in the region during the 2024 parliamentary elections.

NPP General Secretary Tilwin Silva expressed satisfaction with the results, saying the party's call to reform local governance had resonated with voters. Political analysts, however, view the local elections as a critical mid-term test for the ruling party, particularly in the context of ongoing economic reforms and public discontent over inflation and austerity. More than 70 percent of eligible voters participated in the polls, which had been delayed since 2023 due to Sri Lanka's economic crisis.

"Prioritise Peace, Stability": China's Message To India, Pak After Op Sindoor



TPN Correspondent | Beijing

India launched "Operation Sindoor" on Wednesday, targeting terrorist infrastructure sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26

people. This military action, involving precision strikes on nine terror sites, has prompted a concerned response from China, a close ally of Pakistan.

Beijing expressed its "regret" over India's military action and called for restraint from both India and Pakistan. A Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson stated, "India and Pakistan are neighbours that cannot be moved apart, and they are also China's neighbours. China opposes all forms of terrorism." The spokesperson further urged both nations to prioritize peace and stability, advising them to remain calm and avoid actions that could escalate the situation. The military strikes came after heavy artillery exchanges along the border between India and Pakistan on Wednesday. India's precision strikes targeted multiple terrorist camps in POK and Pakistan's Punjab region, two weeks after the deadly attack in Pahalgam. India's Ministry of Defence said the operation was focused

and non-escalatory, emphasizing that no Pakistani military facilities were targeted, and the selection of targets was carefully chosen to avoid further conflict.

Islamabad claimed that the Indian strikes had killed at least eight people, while India reported that ten civilians were killed by Pakistani artillery fire along the Line of Control (LoC). The Indian army, however, stated that justice had been served, asserting that its actions were "measured and non-escalatory in nature."

The Indian armed forces used a variety of weapons, including stand-off weapons, drones, and precision munitions, to strike targets such as Hizbul Mujahideen's facility in Mehmoona Joya, Lashkar-e-Taiba's bases in Barnala and Muzaffarabad, and Jaish-e-Mohammad's camp in Kotli. The operation marks a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict between the two nuclear-armed neighbors, and tensions remain high.

JeM chief Masood Azhar says 10 members of his family in India's missile attack on his HQ

TPN Correspondent | Lahore

Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Maulana Masood Azhar confirmed on Wednesday that several of his family members and close associates were killed in India's missile strike on the group's headquarters in Bahawalpur. According to a statement attributed to Azhar, the attack targeted the Jamia Masjid Subhan Allah in Bahawalpur, a key facility for the JeM, resulting in significant casualties. Among those killed were Azhar's elder sister, her husband, a nephew and his wife, a niece, and five children from his extended family.

The statement also mentioned that one of Azhar's close associates, his mother, and two other companions lost their lives in the strike. The group expressed outrage over the attack, stating that it had "broken all boundaries," and vowing that there would be "no expectation of mercy now."

Bahawalpur has long been a stronghold for the JeM, especially after Azhar's release in 1999 in exchange for hostages from the hijacked IC-814 flight. The city has since become the nerve center for the group's oper-



ations.

Azhar, who was designated as a "global terrorist" by the United Nations in 2019, had remained elusive since his last public appearance in April of the same year. It is believed that he is hiding in a "safe place" in Bahawalpur, evading detection by authorities. The JeM has been linked to numerous high-profile terror attacks in India,

including the 2001 Parliament attack, the 2000 Jammu and Kashmir assembly strike, the 2016 Pathankot IAF base attack, and the deadly 2019 Pulwama suicide bombing. The Pakistan military reported that 26 people were killed and 46 others injured in the attack, while Punjab's Information Minister Azma Bokhari confirmed that all injured individuals were being treated at Victoria Hospital.



Pakistan ready to 'wrap' tensions if India de-escalates: Defence Minister Asif

TPN Correspondent | Pakistan

Following India's military strikes on terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif stated that Islamabad is ready to "wrap up" tensions between the two nations if India de-escalates. In an interview with Bloomberg Television, Asif emphasized that Pakistan would not initiate any hostility but would respond if provoked, stating, "We have been saying all along in the last fortnight that we'll never initiate anything hostile towards India. But if we're attacked, we'll respond." He further added that if India "backs down," Pakistan would work towards resolving the situation.

The Pakistani minister's comments came after the launch of India's "Operation Sindoor," a military operation targeting nine locations of terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and PoK. The strikes, which took place on May 7, 2025, were carried out in retaliation for the deadly Pahalgam terror attack in April that claimed 26 lives. Operation Sindoor lasted approximately 25 minutes, beginning at 1:05 am and concluding by 1:30 am. The operation targeted specific sites based on intelligence inputs, with a focus on minimizing civilian casualties, as explained by the Indian military officials during a media briefing.

In the wake of the operation, the United States stepped in to mediate the escalating situation. US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Baker met with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar to discuss de-escalation efforts. The US expressed its desire for peace and called for restraint from both sides. A US State Department spokesperson noted, "We are reaching out to both parties and, of course, telling them to not escalate the situation."

Along with the United States, other countries, including China and Russia, have voiced concerns about the rising tensions between India and Pakistan. Both nations have urged restraint and the pursuit of diplomatic solutions to prevent further escalation.



Russia to host leaders of China, Brazil for 80th anniversary of its World War II victory

TPN Correspondent | Moscow

Russia's President Vladimir Putin is set to host leaders from China, Brazil, and other nations for the 80th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany on May 9, 2025, marking Russia's most significant secular holiday—Victory Day. The celebrations will include a massive parade through Red Square, underscoring Moscow's efforts to demonstrate its power and strengthen alliances amid the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Putin has placed Chinese President Xi Jinping as the event's "main guest," highlighting the growing strategic partnership between the two nations. Xi's visit will focus on strengthening trade relations, particularly regarding Russia's oil and gas exports to China, as well as cooperation within the BRICS bloc. The two leaders have met more than 40 times, and their personal ties have deepened as both face escalating tensions with the West. China has been a key diplomatic ally for Russia, offering robust support following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

While China has refrained from providing direct military aid, it has backed Russia diplomatically and criticized Western sanctions. Russia, in turn, has supported China on issues like Taiwan. Recent reports have suggested that Chinese mercenaries have been involved in Ukraine, though China denies any official involvement.

Other notable guests attending the celebrations include Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic, and Slovakia's Prime Minister Robert Fico, both of whom have defied EU pressure to distance themselves from Moscow. The guest list reflects Russia's growing influence not just in the Global South, but also in parts of Europe, demonstrating that the Kremlin maintains significant support even amid global isolation over its invasion of Ukraine.

Markets Rebound After Geopolitical Shock; Sensex Gains 105 Points, Financials Lead the Recovery

Domestic stock markets gained moderately on Wednesday. The indices, which started in a gapdown in the wake of the Indian Army's missile attack on Pakistan, recovered after noon. They continued in a range-bound mode until the end due to the US Fed meeting. Finance and banking shares showed strength. However, investors are being cautious due to geopolitical tensions. Overall, Nifty gained 34 points and Sensex gained 105 points today.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,641 in the previous session, opened at 79,948 on Wednesday. It touched an intraday low of 79,937. It reached an intraday high of 80,844. It finally closed at 80,746 with a gain of 105 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,233, touched a low of 24,220 and a high of 24,449. It closed at 24,414, up 34 points. The Nifty Bank rose 339 points to settle at 54,610.

In the Nifty50, 25 companies gained while 25 lost. Tata Motors, Jio Finance, Bajaj Finance, Shriram Finance, Eternal were the top gainers. Asian Paints, Sun Pharma, Bajaj Auto, ITC, Grasim were the biggest losers. Mid and smallcap indices showed strength today. Finance, auto, telecom, consumer, realty, media, metal, private banking indices were the biggest losers. FMCG, healthcare and pharma indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today turned



in favour of buyers. Out of 2092 stocks traded, 1772 gained and 1049 lost. 26 shares touched their 52-week high and 95 shares touched their 52-week low. 43 shares reached the upper circuit and 118 shares reached the lower circuit.

In the fourth quarter, Bluestar Company's net profit rose 20.6% to Rs.193 crore from Rs.160 crore. Dabur India's net profit fell 8.4% to Rs.312 crore from Rs.341 crore. The rupee settled flat at 84.83 against the dollar. Tata Chemicals shares performed better ahead of Q4 results. APL Apollo's net profit rose 72% from Rs 170 crore to Rs 293 crore. BPCL hands over 50mw wind farm project to Suzlon Energy. 10 lakh shares changed hands in Samvardhan Motherson. Prabhudas Leeladhar maintains sell rating on HPCL

with a target price of Rs 319. Abbott India MD Swati Dalal resigns. Punjab National Bank's net profit rose 52% from Rs 3010 crore to Rs 4,567 crore. Ganesh Green wins orders worth Rs 579 crore.

Tata Motors

The stock has been showing strength, supported by improved sales in passenger vehicles and strong demand in the commercial vehicle segment. Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) continues to be a key driver of growth. EV segment expansion is gaining momentum in India. Tata Motors reported improved EBITDA margins, driven by cost con-



trol and product mix. Positive, with expectations of further improvement in margins and continued growth in EV and JLR sales.

Jio Financial Services (JioFin)



The stock gained traction recently due to expectations of aggressive expansion into lending and insurance. Backed by Reliance Group, it has strong capital backing and brand equity. Focus areas: digital lending, mutual funds, insurance. Market participants are watching for key partnerships and operational updates. Cautiously optimistic. Long-term potential is high, but execution and clarity on business model remain crucial.

Bharat Forge



Mixed performance with some near-term consolidation. Strong exposure to defense, automotive, and aerospace. Increasing focus on EV components and green energy-related parts. Order book remains healthy, particularly in defense and exports.

Positive long-term due to diversification and defense sector momentum.

Power Finance Corporation (PFC)



Strong rally in recent months driven by robust financial performance. One of India's largest NBFCs financing the power sector. Solid growth in loan book and consistent improvement in asset quality. High dividend yield and attractive valuation. Positive, especially with government focus on power infrastructure and renewables.

Bajaj Finance



Under pressure recently due to rich valuations and investor concerns over rising competition in retail lending. Continues to lead in the consumer finance segment with strong asset quality. Tech investments and new product launches are key positives. Q4 performance was stable, but growth moderation was noted. Solid fundamentals, but near-term returns may be limited unless earnings growth accelerates further.

SEBI Bars STL and Promoters from Trading, Prohibits Lead Manager FOCL Over IPO Fund Siphoning

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken strong action against Mumbai-based Synoptics Technologies Ltd (STL) and its promoters, barring them from trading in the securities market for allegedly siphoning off funds raised through their Initial Public Offering (IPO). SEBI issued an interim order on Tuesday, highlighting the fraudulent activities related to the funds from the IPO.



The regulator also imposed restrictions on First Overseas Capital Ltd (FOCL), the lead manager for STL's IPO, prohibiting the firm from taking on any new merchant banking assignments until further notice. SEBI's investigation revealed a deliberate scheme by STL and FOCL to misappropriate the IPO funds, leading to the action taken by the market watchdog.

In its order, SEBI emphasized that both STL and FOCL were involved in a well-organized plan to divert the money raised through the IPO. As a result of these violations, STL and its promoters have been barred from participating in the securities market, severely impacting their ability to conduct further trading or fundraising activities.

The SEBI move is aimed at safeguarding the integrity of the financial markets and sending a clear message to other entities about the regulatory scrutiny on IPO fund management. This is a significant step by SEBI in upholding market discipline and protecting investors' interests.

The regulator's directive has placed serious consequences on STL and FOCL, signaling the importance of adhering to strict financial practices and regulatory guidelines during public offerings. As investigations continue, further action may be taken depending on the findings.

Rupee Depreciates as Military Strikes Raise Tensions Between India and Pakistan

The Indian rupee depreciated by 31 paise to 84.66 against the US dollar in early trade on Wednesday, following heightened tensions after India's military strikes against terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir. The military action, conducted under Operation Sindoor, targeted nine terror sites, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold in Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base in Muridke. These strikes were in retaliation for the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam, which claimed 26 civilian lives.

Forex traders attributed the rupee's fall to growing concerns over the escalation of conflict, which has put pressure on the domestic currency. The rupee opened at 84.65 against the dollar and soon fell to 84.66, marking a 31 paise loss from the previous day. On Tuesday, the rupee closed 5 paise

lower at 84.35 due to increasing uncertainty and cautious investor sentiment.

Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury at Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP, speculated that there could be dollar buying by speculators and importers due to market nervousness. However, he anticipated that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would intervene



to prevent a significant depreciation of the rupee. Bhansali also noted that Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) might reduce their equity investments, waiting for further developments on the geopolitical front.

In addition to the rupee's decline, global markets showed signs of volatility. The dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, rose by 0.30% to 99.53. Brent crude oil also saw a 0.68% increase, reaching USD 62.57 per barrel.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 107.74 points, or 0.13%, to 80,533.33, while the Nifty index fell by 24.35 points, or 0.10%, to 24,355.25. Despite the market turbulence, Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) bought equities worth Rs 3,794.52 crore on a net basis on Tuesday, signaling some investor confidence.

India's Service Sector Sees Marginal Growth in April Amid Strong Export Demand

India's service sector experienced a slight increase in activity in April, driven by a surge in new orders, particularly from the United States, and an easing of cost pressures, according to a private sector survey. The HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index, which tracks changes in business activity, rose to 58.7 in April, up from 58.5 in March. This indicates continued expansion in the sector and remains well above the long-term average of 54.2, as noted in the report.

The increase in service sector activity was largely attributed to a significant rise in new business orders, which reached the joint-highest level in eight months. Many companies reported favorable demand conditions and successful marketing efforts,



with some benefiting from efficiency gains that allowed them to take on more work. The surge in new orders came from a wide range of regions, including Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and notably, the United States.

Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, highlighted

that new export orders showed strong momentum in April after a slowdown in March. The export demand for Indian services grew at its fastest pace since July 2024, contributing to improved margins for companies. As cost pressures eased, firms were able to raise the prices they charged for services, further boosting profit-

ability.

The strong export demand for services comes on the heels of similar positive trends in India's manufacturing sector. HSBC's India Manufacturing PMI report, released on May 2, revealed that new export orders for the sector grew at the second-fastest rate in over 14 years.

However, while firms in the service sector remain optimistic about future growth, Bhandari noted that their confidence has "waned slightly," suggesting that uncertainties may temper expectations moving forward. Despite this, the service sector's overall performance in April remains a positive sign for India's economic outlook.

From Potato Chips to Penicillin: 10 Accidental Inventions That Transformed the World

Some of the world's most important and beloved inventions were not the result of deliberate planning or intense research, but pure chance. These ten remarkable discoveries happened unexpectedly, yet they changed history in significant ways.



1. Plastic: In 1907, chemist Leo Baekeland accidentally created the first synthetic plastic while experimenting with synthetic resins. His invention, though now controversial due to environmental concerns, revolutionized manufacturing and packaging across industries.

2. X-rays: In 1895, Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen was conducting experiments with cathode rays when he noticed a mysterious glow on a nearby screen. This led to the accidental discovery of X-rays, which have since become a crucial tool in medical diagnostics.

3. Matchbox: English chemist John Walker was attempting to develop an explosive adhesive in 1826 when he accidentally created the friction match. This small but essential invention made fire-starting far more convenient and safer.

4. Microwave Oven: In 1946, Percy Spencer was working with radar technology when he noticed a chocolate bar in his pocket had melted. His curiosity led to the development of the microwave oven, which transformed the way we cook.

5. Dynamite: While experimenting with nitroglycerin in 1866, Alfred Nobel discovered that mixing it with silica made it more stable. Thus, dynamite was born—an invention that revolutionized mining and construction, though it later gained notoriety in warfare.

6. Penicillin: One of the greatest medical breakthroughs, penicillin was discovered by Alexander Fleming in 1928 when mold accidentally contaminated a Petri dish. This life-saving antibiotic marked the beginning of modern medicine.

7. Potato Chips: In 1853, chef George Crum sliced potatoes thin and fried them to appease a dissatisfied customer. The crispy snack he created by accident became a global favorite.

8. Coca-Cola: In 1886, pharmacist John Pemberton was trying to concoct a headache remedy when he mixed coca leaves and kola nuts with soda water. Instead, he created one of the world's most iconic beverages.

9. Viagra: Initially tested in the 1990s for heart-related chest pain, researchers found it unexpectedly improved erectile function. Thus, Viagra became a game-changing treatment for male impotence.

10. Cornflakes: In 1894, John Harvey Kellogg stumbled upon cornflakes while experimenting with healthy breakfast options. The flake-like cereal has been a breakfast staple ever since.

These serendipitous inventions serve as reminders that even mistakes and accidents can lead to extraordinary breakthroughs.

Alien Encounter Claims: Mississippi Man Warns of Humanity’s Role in the End of the World

Predictions about the end of the world are common, often involving scenarios like asteroid collisions, AI takeover, or environmental disasters. However, one particularly chilling claim comes from Calvin Parker, a man from Mississippi who asserts he was abducted by aliens not once, but twice. In a newly resurfaced interview, Parker revealed that during his encounters, the extraterrestrials warned him about the looming doom of humanity, with a startling claim: humans themselves would be the cause of the world's end.



Parker first gained media attention in 1973 when he and his companion, Charles Hickson, reported being abducted by a UFO while fishing near the Pascagoula River. The incident sparked widespread curiosity, although the scientific community largely dismissed the claims. Hickson continued to speak publicly about the encounter, but Parker remained silent for years. It wasn't until 1992 that Parker had a second, voluntary alien encounter, which he described as even more profound and alarming.

In the 1992 meeting, held in Baldwin, Louisiana, Parker claimed the aliens allowed him to board their craft, where they imparted a message of grave concern. “There's no need to fear us; fear your own people who are destroying the world,” one of the aliens reportedly told him. This message seemed to focus on humanity's destructive actions rather than the presence of the extraterrestrials themselves. During the encounter, Parker said the aliens were gather-

ing crops and soil samples, similar to their actions in 1973.

The idea that extraterrestrials might be monitoring humanity's destructive tendencies and warning of an impending disaster adds an eerie dimension to the ongoing discussions about the future of the planet. While Parker's story remains controversial, it continues to spark curiosity and speculation about what the future may hold for both humanity and our place in the universe.

A Wasteland Full of Life: Rediscovering Nature’s Resilience in an Urban Landscape

One summer afternoon, as I worked on my laptop in the living room, the world outside fell into a quiet lull. The scorching heat had driven away the birds and squirrels, leaving behind a silence broken only by the occasional thud of something landing on the roof of the garage next door. Curious, I went to investigate and found the surface covered with what appeared to be tiny bugs. Upon closer inspection, I realized they were seeds — ejected with surprising force from the castor oil plants growing in the neglected plot behind our home. This form of ballistic seed dispersal is known as ballochory.



The vacant plot, often dismissed as an eyesore, has been a subject of my observations for years. Many view it as a dumping ground for green waste and a breeding place for pests. But on closer inspection, this so-called wasteland is full of hidden marvels. The castor plants, though often regarded as invasive weeds, are in fact botanical wonders. Their seeds produce a range of useful products, from medicinal oils to organic fertilizers. Ants harvest the seeds for their colonies, while the plants' leaves are home to various butterfly and moth species. During flowering season, the plants buzz with pollinators.

In the center of this untended space stands a banana grove, planted years ago by a former watchman. Despite frequent attacks from caterpillars, the grove persists, regenerating and creating a small thicket. Nearby, vines like Ipomoea and Thunbergia grow, offering shelter to birds like the red-whiskered bulbuls.

This 'wasteland' isn't isolated. It connects to surrounding green spaces, providing a haven for urban wildlife like the mongoose family that controls the local rodent population. These small patches of nature create invisible corridors through the urban jungle, connecting larger habitats and helping preserve biodiversity in a world of concrete.

What strikes me most is how this patch thrives without human care. While I painstakingly water and tend to my garden, this wild space flourishes independently. It hosts locally adapted plant varieties that have evolved to survive our changing climate. Watching it closely, I see the natural cycle of life at work — leaves fall, plants decay, and all returns to the soil, creating fertility.

Doesn't calling it a 'vacant plot' now seem unfair? It's alive in ways we often overlook. With thoughtful urban planning, we can integrate such wild spaces to preserve the disappearing biodiversity. These pockets of nature are the lungs of our cities.

Netizens Thank PM For Avenging Pahalgam Attack: ‘They Said Tell Modi...We Did...’

In a powerful retaliatory move, the Indian Armed Forces launched a strategic mission targeting nine terrorist camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). Code-named Operation Sindoor, the operation caught Pakistan off guard, with multiple explosions reported across the region on May 6, 2025. The mission aimed at neutralizing terrorist infrastructure linked to planning and executing attacks against India. According to an official government statement, “Our actions have been focused, measured, and non-escalatory in nature. No Pakistani military facilities have been targeted.”



response was overwhelmingly positive, with many expressing admiration for the precision and restraint shown in the operation.

Visuals from Pune showed locals celebrating the success of Operation Sindoor, lighting firecrackers in the late hours of the evening. Many compared the operation to avenging the suffering caused by the terrorist attack, with some calling it a symbolic action for the “sindoor” wiped from the foreheads of victims' families.

Prominent public figures also expressed their support. Spiritual leader Sadhguru tweeted, “Wishing Our Forces Safety and Success. Blessings. -Sg #OperationSindoor.” Bollywood celebrities like Riteish Deshmukh, Anupam Kher, and Paresh Rawal also voiced their support, chanting slogans such as “Bharat Mata Ki Jai.”

The strikes have reignited national pride, with citizens and leaders united in their condemnation of terrorism and support for the Armed Forces.

The operation was a response to the recent Pahalgam terrorist attack that claimed the lives of 26 innocent tourists. The Indian government confirmed that Operation Sindoor targeted specific terrorist camps involved in orchestrating such attacks, while maintaining that no civilian infrastructure was harmed. The details of the mission will be disclosed at a later stage.

Following the strike, Indian social media platforms erupted with messages of pride and support for the military. One user posted, “Proud of our brave soldiers. Jai Hind!” Others hailed the operation as a powerful and fitting tribute to the victims of the Pahalgam attack, calling it an act of justice. The

Global Coral Bleaching Crisis: Heat Stress Threatens Marine Ecosystems

Heat stress has now impacted 84% of the world's coral reefs, as rising ocean temperatures continue to drive the most severe global bleaching event on record. According to a report released by the International Coral Reef Initiative on Wednesday, the ongoing bleaching event, which began in early 2023, has affected 82 countries and territories, causing widespread damage to marine ecosystems and resulting in significant economic losses. Coral reefs, which are essential to ocean health, support an estimated \$2.7 trillion annually in goods and services, underscoring their importance to both the environment and the global economy.



with ocean temperatures soaring to unprecedented levels. Corals, which rely on a delicate balance of symbiosis with algae, become stressed when the water temperature rises beyond their tolerance threshold. This stress causes corals to expel the algae, leaving them bleached and vulnerable to disease, reduced growth, and eventual death if the conditions

persist.

Experts warn that if global temperatures do not decrease soon, coral reefs may face irreversible damage. “If temperatures don't reduce soon, we will lose coral reefs as we know them,” said Jen Matthews, a research fellow at the University of Technology Sydney and a coral nutrition expert. While some

corals may survive, Matthews cautions that their diversity and global distribution will likely be diminished, leading to a loss of the rich marine biodiversity that coral reefs support.

The consequences of this global bleaching event are profound, with not only environmental but also economic impacts, as many coastal communities depend on coral reefs for food, tourism, and coastal protection. Efforts to address the climate crisis and reduce carbon emissions are essential to mitigate further damage to these critical ecosystems. The continued health of coral reefs remains a key indicator of the ocean's overall wellbeing, and their survival hinges on urgent global action to combat climate change.

The current bleaching event is the worst to date,

Dewald Brevis' Blazing Half-Century Powers CSK Comeback Against KKR

In a high-octane IPL 2025 clash, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) staged a remarkable fightback against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), thanks to a blistering half-century by Dewald Brevis. Chasing a competitive total of 179, CSK found themselves in deep trouble at 60/5. But Brevis turned the game on its head with a sensational knock, smashing a 22-ball fifty and hammering 30 runs in a single over off Vaibhav Arora, swinging the momentum firmly in CSK's favour.



their acceleration in the death overs.

Brevis' fearless stroke play lifted CSK to 172/8 after 19 overs, with the legendary MS Dhoni and spinner Noor Ahmad at the crease. While the required equation remained tight, the pressure shifted to KKR after Brevis' onslaught, which reignited CSK's hopes in what seemed a lost cause early in the innings.

KKR, batting first, posted a solid 179/6 on the board. Skipper Ajinkya Rahane played a composed knock of 48, anchoring the innings, while Andre Russell provided the fireworks with a quickfire 38 off just 21 balls. The KKR innings looked on track for a bigger total before Noor Ahmad, CSK's standout bowler, turned the tide with a brilliant spell. The left-arm spinner picked up four key wickets, including two in one over, to stifle the KKR middle order and halt

MS Dhoni, continuing to make an impact in IPL 2025, contributed behind the stumps with a sharp catch and a smart stumping, showcasing his enduring class and reflexes.

The match was a rollercoaster ride, with both teams exchanging dominant phases. But it was Brevis' counter-attacking brilliance that stood out as the game-changer. His innings not only lifted CSK out of a precarious position but also brought them within striking distance of an improbable win.

With one over to go and eight wickets down, the match remained delicately poised, promising a thrilling finish to an already dramatic contest. Will Dhoni steer CSK home in another iconic IPL finish? The stage is set.

Hardik Pandya and Ashish Nehra Fined for IPL Code of Conduct Violations

Mumbai Indians (MI) captain Hardik Pandya and Gujarat Titans (GT) head coach Ashish Nehra were handed hefty fines for violations of the IPL Code of Conduct during their rain-affected IPL clash at Wankhede Stadium. The match, which saw MI lose by three wickets via the Duckworth-Lewis (DLS) method, had multiple rain stoppages, creating tense moments on the field.



Pandya was fined Rs 24 lakh for his team's second offence of the season related to maintaining a slow over rate. The penalty, according to the IPL's statement, is in line with the league's policy on minimum over-rate breaches. In addition to Pandya, the rest of the MI team, including the impact player and concussion substitute, were each fined Rs 6 lakh or 25% of their respective match fees, whichever was lower.

Meanwhile, Nehra faced a separate penalty for conduct "contrary to the spirit of the game." The former pacer was visibly frustrated throughout the match, which involved several rain delays. He was seen engaged in animated discussions with on-field umpires,

which led to his fine. Nehra was fined 25% of his match fees and also received one demerit point for breaching the IPL Code of Conduct.

The IPL clarified that Nehra had admitted to the Level 1 offence under Article 2.20, which addresses conduct deemed contrary to the spirit of the game. The league's statement confirmed that the match referee's decision is final and binding for all Level 1 breaches of the Code of Conduct.

Both Pandya and Nehra accepted the sanctions without contest. The penalties highlight the importance of maintaining discipline and fair play in the high-stakes IPL matches, which are often characterized by intense competition and high-pressure situations.

India shouldn't play Pakistan even at ICC events till terrorism ends: Gambhir

India's head coach Gautam Gambhir has called for an indefinite halt to cricketing engagements between India and Pakistan following the deadly Pahalgam terror attack in April, which claimed the lives of 26 people, mostly tourists. Gambhir emphasized that no cricket match or other cultural interaction should take place until cross-border terrorism from Pakistan ceases.

At a recent event, Gambhir firmly stated, "My personal answer to this is absolutely no. Till all this (cross-border

terrorism) doesn't stop, there should not be anything between India and Pakistan." He was responding to a question regarding the future of Indo-Pak cricket in the current environment. India and Pakistan have not played a full bilateral series since 2007, and the two countries only face each other at multi-team events like the Asia Cup or ICC tournaments. Gambhir believes even these encounters should be discontinued under the prevailing circumstances.

The Pahalgam attack, which



took place on April 22 in Jammu and Kashmir, prompted India to take significant ac-

tions against Pakistan, including suspending the Indus Waters Treaty and downgrading

diplomatic ties, given the links of the attackers to cross-border elements. Gambhir voiced his support for these actions, stating that no event, be it cricket, Bollywood, or music, is more important than the lives of Indian soldiers and citizens. He added, "Matches will keep happening, movies will be made, singers will continue to perform, but nothing comes close to losing a loved one in your family."

When questioned about the potential of India playing Pakistan in upcoming events

like the Asia Cup or the T20 World Cup, Gambhir reiterated that the decision lies with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the government, urging the public to respect whatever decision is made without politicizing the issue.

As per an existing agreement between the BCCI, Pakistan Cricket Board, and ICC, all India-Pakistan matches in ICC events are set to be played in neutral venues until the 2027 cycle.

Kidambi Srikanth and Young Shuttlers Shine at Taipei Open Super 300

Star Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth made a strong start at the Taipei Open Super 300 Badminton Tournament, cruising through to the second round with a straight-game win over fellow Indian Sankar Subramanian. Srikanth, ranked World No. 61 and currently navigating a lean patch in his career, defeated Subramanian, a 2022 World Junior Championships silver medallist, 21-16, 21-15. The 32-year-old, who won silver at the 2021 World Championships, will now face another Indian, Ayush Shetty, a 2023 World Junior Championships bronze medallist.



Shetty, who had an impressive run to the semifinals at the Orleans Masters, outperformed third seed Lee Chia Hao of Chinese Taipei with a 21-17, 21-18 victory in just 50 minutes.

Meanwhile, 2023 National Games gold medallist Tharun Mannepilli also advanced to the second round after a tough 70-minute battle against Japan's Shogo Ogawa. Mannepilli triumphed 21-17, 19-21, 21-12 and will now face Indonesia's Moh. Zaki Ubaidillah.

On the downside, Meiraba Luwang Maisnam was eliminated from the tournament after a 21-23, 12-21 loss to Canada's Brian

Yang.

In the women's singles, Unnati Hooda, who has won two Super 100 titles in the past, displayed her skill by defeating compatriot Anupama Upadhyaya 21-13, 21-17 to make it to the second round. She will next face Taipei's Lin Sih Yun.

Aakarshi Kashyap, however, suffered an early exit after a one-sided defeat against Taipei's Hung Yi-Ting, losing 9-21, 12-21.

Later in the day, Anmol Kharb and Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj are set to take to the court for their respective matches.

Sachin Tendulkar and Indian Sporting Fraternity Laud Operation Sindoor

Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar led the sporting community in expressing unwavering support for India's Operation Sindoor, a military strike targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan. The operation, which took place in the early hours of Wednesday, was a precision missile attack on nine terror camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, including major strongholds of Jaish-e-Mohammed in Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba in Muridke. This action was in retaliation for the brutal terrorist attack on April 22 in Pahalgam, which claimed the lives of 26 people, most of them tourists.

Tendulkar shared his thoughts on the operation with a powerful post on 'X,' stating, "Fearless in unity. Boundless in strength. India's shield is her people. There's no room for terrorism in this world. We're ONE TEAM! Jai Hind." His words echoed the sentiment of many other prominent sports figures who applauded the Indian Armed Forces for their decisive action.

Former cricketers also took to social media to voice their support. Virender Sehwag tweeted a powerful message: "Agar koi aap par patthar phenke toh uspar Phool Phenko, Lekin Gamle ke saath (If someone throws stones at you, then respond with flowers but not without the pots they are planted in). Jai Hind."

Shikhar Dhawan stood strong in his support, writing: "India takes a stand against terrorism," while Irfan Pathan and badminton ace Saina Nehwal simply tweeted "Jai Hind," expressing their solidarity.



Other sporting icons also praised the retaliation. Boxer Vijender Singh, Olympic bronze medallist, wrote "Bharat Mata ki Jai," and wrestler Yogeshwar Dutt expressed his approval, saying, "India's zero tolerance towards terrorism!! Jai Hind - Jai Jawan #sindoor."

Chess player Vidit Gujrathi also expressed his approval, calling the operation a necessary response to the horrific Pahalgam attack: "I am glad India responded firmly with Operation Sindoor after the horrific Pahalgam attack. Terrorism must never go unanswered. Bharat Mata ki Jai!"

The collective support from India's sporting community highlights the nation's unity in combating terrorism and reinforcing its commitment to safeguarding its citizens.



New Release Buzz: Pawan Kalyan’s HHVM May Hit Screens on June 12

After months of anticipation, Pawan Kalyan has finally completed shooting his portions for the much-delayed period action drama, Hari Hara Veera Mallu (HHVM). The actor-politician is also expected to wrap up dubbing work in the coming days, setting the stage for the film’s release.

Originally slated to hit theaters on May 30, HHVM’s release had been clouded by uncertainty due to continuous production and post-production delays. However, the latest buzz in the industry suggests that the film is now targeting a new release date—June 12. While the makers have not yet made an official announcement, sources indicate that this new date could be final.

If HHVM does indeed release on June 12, it would be a smart and timely decision. The extended timeline allows the post-production teams more breathing room to polish visual effects and fine-tune the film’s technical aspects. For a big-budget period film, such attention to detail could make a significant difference in the final output. Additionally, the makers now have the opportunity to ramp up promotional activities nationwide, building excitement among fans and attracting wider audiences.

The shift in release date also has ripple effects for other films. Vijay Deverakonda’s Kingdom, which is scheduled for release on May 30, will now enjoy a solo theatrical run without direct competition from HHVM. This two-week buffer gives Kingdom a strong box-office window, potentially ben-



efiting both films in the long run.

Hari Hara Veera Mallu, directed by Krish Jagarlamudi, has already generated considerable interest thanks to its ambitious storyline and Pawan Kalyan’s star power. The additional time for marketing and post-production might just help the film live up to its hype.

As fans eagerly await a formal confirmation, all signs point to June 12 being a carefully chosen date—balancing production readiness with market strategy. If everything goes as planned, HHVM could well emerge as one of the standout releases of the year.

Chiranjeevi Reveals Dream Team for Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari Sequel

As the iconic socio-fantasy classic Jagadeka Veerudu Athiloka Sundari (JVAS) gears up for a grand re-release on May 9 to celebrate its 35th anniversary, exciting news has emerged about a potential sequel to the beloved film. Megastar Chiranjeevi, who starred in the original, has now expressed his own vision for a continuation of the story—a sequel that brings together legacy, nostalgia, and a fresh generation of stars.



Chiranjeevi revealed that he would love to see his son, Ram Charan, take on the lead role in the sequel. As for the female lead, he suggested Janhvi Kapoor, daughter of the late Sridevi, who played the ethereal celestial being in the original. His casting choices not only pay homage to the original’s legacy but also add a layer of emotional and symbolic continuity.

The Megastar also emphasized that the legendary K. Raghavendra Rao, who directed the original, should return as the direction supervisor, while acclaimed filmmaker Nag Ashwin

should helm the project as the director. He further expressed his wish that the sequel be produced under the Vyjayanthi Movies banner by Ashwini Dutt’s daughters, Swapna Dutt and Priyanka Dutt, known for backing visionary cinema.

Chiranjeevi was candid about the challenge of living up to the original’s legacy. He acknowledged that while today’s filmmaking technology can easily surpass the technical aspects of the 1990 classic, the real challenge lies in crafting a story and screenplay that are not just

comparable but better. According to him, once such a script is found, Swapna and Priyanka would likely greenlight the project without hesitation.

With Chiranjeevi’s enthusiastic backing and the proposed involvement of some of Telugu cinema’s most talented figures, buzz around the JVAS sequel is quickly gaining momentum. If everything falls into place, this could become one of the most eagerly anticipated films in Telugu cinema—uniting the past and present in a fitting tribute to a timeless fantasy.

Suriya’s ‘Retro’ Joins ₹100 Crore Club Despite Mixed Talk

Tamil superstar Suriya has once again proven his box office power as his latest film Retro has officially entered the coveted ₹100 crore club. Directed by Karthik Subbaraj, the romantic action drama was released worldwide on May 1 and has reached this milestone within just seven days of its release.



Retro, made on a budget of ₹65 crore, stars Pooja Hegde in the lead role, with Shriya Saran making a special appearance in a song. The film was produced by Suriya and his wife, actress Jyothika, under their home banner. Though expectations were high leading up to the release, the film opened to mixed reviews, especially receiving negative feedback in the Telugu states. However, the response in Tamil Nadu was far more favorable, helping the film build strong momentum at the box office.

Despite the polarizing response, the film’s commercial success showcases Suriya’s enduring popularity. Film analysts have noted that even with inconsistent word-of-mouth, Retro managed to attract audiences across regions, a testament to the star’s strong fan base and the market pull of his name alone.

Following the underwhelming performance of his previous film Kanguva, many had their eyes on Retro to see how

it would perform. The fact that it reached the ₹100 crore mark in a week—despite not having unanimous critical acclaim—reaffirms Suriya’s stature as one of Tamil cinema’s most bankable stars.

The production team recently took to social media to officially announce the film’s entry into the ₹100 crore club, thanking fans for their unwavering support. Fans have been celebrating the milestone online, expressing pride and joy in Suriya’s achievement.

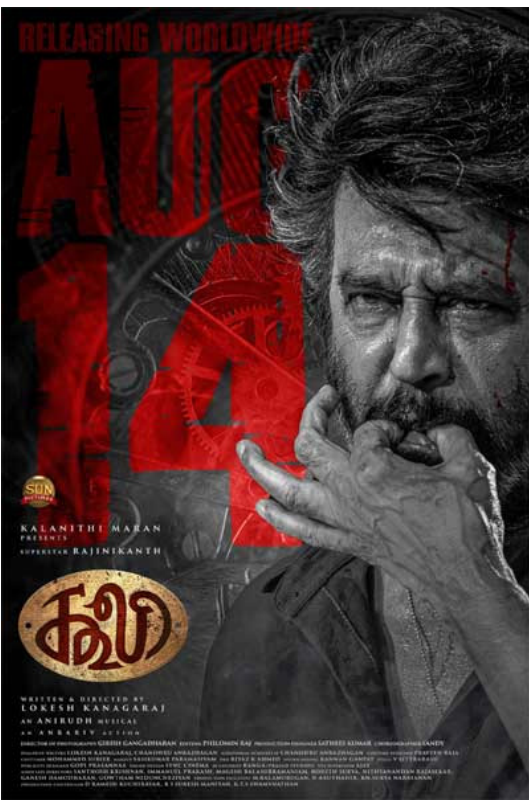
With Retro’s success, Suriya has added yet another feather to his cap, proving that strong star power and strategic marketing can drive commercial success even when critical reception is divided. As the film continues its theatrical run, industry watchers will be keeping an eye on how far it climbs in the coming days.

Rajinikanth and Nagarjuna Dazzle in Coolie Countdown Video Ahead of Grand Release

Superstar Rajinikanth’s highly anticipated gangster action drama Coolie is all set to hit theaters on August 14, 2025. Marking the first-ever collaboration between Rajinikanth and acclaimed filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj, the film has been generating massive buzz. Unlike Lokesh’s earlier works, Coolie is a standalone project and not connected to the Lokesh Kanagaraj Cinematic Universe (LCU).

With just 100 days left until its grand release, the makers have unveiled a gripping countdown video, giving fans a first glimpse into the world of Coolie. The teaser features back profiles of some of the film’s key stars, including Nagarjuna, Upendra, Soubin Shahir, and Sathyaraj, each appearing in stylized frames. The video ends with a breathtaking shot of Rajinikanth standing against a dramatic sunset—instantly evoking memories of the iconic sunset scene from Thalapathi.

Anirudh Ravichander’s high-octane background score adds to the intensity, amplifying the larger-than-life presence of



Rajinikanth. The short yet powerful sequence has already captivated fans, who

are praising the visual flair and tone Lokesh has set for the film.

Not far behind in stealing the spotlight is Tollywood icon Nagarjuna. His brief appearance—walking through a gritty port setting while casually adjusting his hair—has left fans stunned by his magnetic screen presence. Social media is abuzz with excitement over his suave look, with fans eager to see more of him in this multi-starrer.

Adding to the star power, Coolie also features Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan in a pivotal role, making it a truly pan-Indian spectacle. With such a powerhouse cast and Lokesh Kanagaraj at the helm, expectations for Coolie are sky-high.

The countdown video has successfully reignited the hype, setting the stage for what promises to be one of 2025’s biggest blockbusters. As the release date approaches, anticipation continues to build for this action-packed entertainer that unites some of Indian cinema’s most celebrated stars.

Vishnu Manchu Begins Global Promotional Tour for Much-Awaited Film ‘Kannappa’

With the grand release of Kannappa scheduled for June 27, 2025, anticipation is soaring among Telugu cinema fans. Featuring special appearances by superstars Prabhas and Akshay Kumar, Kannappa is being hailed as one of the most awaited pan-Indian films of the year. As the excitement builds, producer and lead actor Vishnu Manchu has launched an ambitious promotional campaign aimed at reaching audiences worldwide.

Vishnu Manchu is set to begin his international tour in the United States on May 8, 2025. Over the course of three days, he will travel across key U.S. cities, culminating his overseas promotions in the Bay



Area on May 10. The U.S. leg of the campaign is expected to include exclusive fan meet-and-greets, press briefings, and cultural engagements with the Telugu diaspora.

Following his return to India, the promotional efforts

will shift into an even higher gear. The film’s team has mapped out a multi-city promotional tour covering major Indian metros and regional hubs. The campaign will include spiritual pilgrimages to significant temples, aligning with the mythological theme of the movie. Additionally, the team plans to engage with the media through interviews, special appearances on television, and interactive social media events.

According to sources close to the production, the goal is not only to generate buzz but to build a deeper emotional and cultural connection with audiences. “Vishnu wants this film to reach every corner of India and beyond,” a spokes-

person from the production team said. “The story of Kannappa carries spiritual significance, and the promotional campaign is designed to reflect that.”

Kannappa, inspired by the legendary devotee of Lord Shiva, promises a blend of mythology, action, and visual spectacle. With its high-profile cameos, lavish production values, and now an aggressive global promotion strategy, the film is poised to make a strong impact at the box office.

As June approaches, fans can expect more surprises and content reveals from the makers. All eyes are now on June 27, when Kannappa will finally hit theaters worldwide.