

Flow of events:

- **Pahalgam terror attack:** 26 civilians brutally killed.
 - India attacked 9 terror bases with 24 missiles, none of which were intercepted.
 - Pakistan attempted to bomb 15 cities across North & West India; every missile/drone intercepted.
 - India retaliated by bombing nearly every city in Pakistan using Kamikaze drones, destroying their air defense system, including Lahore and two other cities.
- Pakistani pilot captured alive in Akhnoor, appears to be the one who ejected from the downed F-16.
 - India has started its aerial counterattack in Lahore after Pakistan tried to conduct a Hamas-like aerial strike in India.

WAR MODE ON, OPERATION SINDOOR CONTINUES

Attacks reported in Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan, J&K

Indian forces shoot down 8 missiles, Pak F-16 downed

Blackouts, sirens enforced across several cities

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India remains on high alert following a series of fresh drone and missile attacks from Pakistan on Thursday evening, targeting cities in Gujarat, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Jammu & Kashmir. In swift retaliation, Indian armed forces activated defence systems, successfully intercepting at least eight incoming missiles, according to sources. The latest escalation comes as Operation Sindoor intensifies, with Indian forces thwarting Pakistan's repeated attempts to strike military and civilian targets. Airports across the country have been placed on high alert, and blackouts were enforced in several cities to protect critical infrastructure amid rising threat levels. Sirens were also sounded across affected regions as precautionary measures. Highly placed defence sources reported that a Pakistan Air Force F-16 fighter jet was shot down, although an official confirmation from the Indian

Jinnah Market, Lahore destroyed completely.

INS Vikrant destroyed Karachi port.

The Indian Army Navy and Air force are in total destruction mode

India Gate has been COMPLETELY EVACUATED.

NO one is allowed to STOP around India Gate

Leave Cancelled, Schools Shut

Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan Among States On High Alert

Amid the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, several states have taken emergency measures to ensure security along their borders. The Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Delhi governments have declared a state of high alert, including the cancellation of leaves for police personnel and administrative officials. In Punjab, which shares a 532-km border with Pakistan, the government announced the closure of schools in six border districts and cancelled all police leaves. Similarly, in Rajasthan, which has a 1,070-km border with Pakistan, the government ordered the closure of schools in five bordering districts and the cancellation of leaves for administrative and police staff deployed near the International Border. In Haryana, officials have been directed to remain at their current places of posting, with a communication sent to all civil surgeons urging them to ensure that district headquarters are not left unattended. The Delhi government also joined in, cancelling the leave of all its employees until further orders due to the ongoing security situation. Himachal Pradesh, bordering Punjab, has seen increased security in districts like Hamirpur, Una, and Bilaspur, as authorities remain vigilant amid fears of potential spillover effects from the conflict.

India Uses HARPY Drones, S-400 To Counter Pak Attack

S-400 system neutralized 15 missiles fired by Pakistan

HARPY drones disabled Pakistani air defences, including radars in Lahore

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

In response to Pakistan's missile attacks, India deployed its Russian-made S-400 missile defence system and Israeli HARPY drones to neutralise the threat and disable Pakistani

US Urges India-Pak De-escalation

Rubio Calls Jaishankar

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, United States Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Thursday urged India to pursue immediate de-escalation, following a sharp spike in cross-border hostility. Rubio spoke to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar earlier in the day and expressed support for direct dialogue between India and Pakistan, reaffirming Washington's commitment to work closely with India in combating terrorism. The conversation took place just hours before Pakistan launched missiles and drones targeting multiple Indian cities, marking a significant military provocation. In a late-night briefing, US State Department Spokesperson Tammy Bruce stated, "Secretary Marco Rubio spoke today with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. The Secretary emphasised the need for immedi-



ate de-escalation. He expressed US support for direct dialogue between India and Pakistan and encouraged continued efforts to improve communications." She further added, "The Secretary reiterated his condolences for the horrific terrorist attack in Pahalgam and reaffirmed the United States' commitment to work with India in the fight against terrorism." The US remarks come as air raid sirens blared across Punjab, Rajasthan, and Jammu & Kashmir late Thursday evening, with complete blackouts ordered in sensitive zones to protect both civilian and military infrastructure.

Abdul Rauf Azhar, IC-814 Hijacking Mastermind, Killed In Operation Sindoor

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

The BJP has claimed that Abdul Rauf Azhar, a key terrorist and the younger brother of Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar, was among the terrorists eliminated during Operation Sindoor. India launched precision airstrikes targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK), including the Jaish headquarters in Bahawalpur, in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 innocent lives. Azhar, a most-wanted terrorist, was infamous for masterminding the Indian Airlines IC-814 hijacking in 1999. The hijacking, which involved an Indian Airlines plane flying from Kathmandu to Delhi with 190 people aboard,



was diverted to Kandahar, where the Indian government was forced to release three terrorists in exchange for the passengers' safe return. One of the released terrorists was Masood Azhar. Azhar's involvement in Pathankot and the 2001 Parliament attack further cemented his role in orchestrating terror acts against India. The BJP shared Azhar's photo on social media with the word "eliminated" to mark his killing in the recent operations.

IPL 2025 At Risk Of Being Called Off

TPN Correspondent | Dharamsala

The IPL 2025 is facing growing uncertainty, with concerns that the entire season could be called off amid the escalating India-Pakistan border tensions. The IPL match between Punjab Kings and Delhi Capitals in Dharamsala was cancelled midway on Thursday, following air raid alerts in the neighbouring cities of Jammu and Pathankot. The match was in progress with Punjab at 122 for 1 in 10.1 overs when floodlights failed, initially leading to speculation of a technical issue. However, the situation escalated when the lights went out, and authorities decided to evacuate the stadium for the safety of both the teams and the spectators. The ground, which holds a capacity of around 23,000, was filled to about 80% of its capacity when the evacuation took place.



"There was no panic from the spectators. They (spectators and players) were moved out of the stadium very carefully and safely," an HPCA source informed PTI. At the time of the cancellation, Prabhsimran Singh was batting at 50 off 28 balls, and his opening partner, Priyansh Arya, had made 70 off

We Introduced Hydra Before Hyderabad Faces Crises Like Other Metros

TPN Correspondent |
Hyderabad

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy launched the dedicated 'Hydra' police station at Buddha Bhavan in Secunderabad with a clear message: Hyderabad must not become another victim of the urban disasters plaguing major metros like Bangalore, Mumbai, Chennai, and Delhi. He asserted that Hydra has been established as a preventive force to safeguard Hyderabad's environment, public property, and urban infrastructure. Speaking at the inauguration, Revanth said, "We are seeing water shortages in Bangalore, floods in Chennai and Mumbai, and dangerous air pollution in Delhi. We created Hydra to ensure such problems don't arrive here. We will act strictly on encroachments, no matter the criticism."

Hydra has been designed specifically to protect government lands, ponds, drains, and other public assets from illegal encroachments. The CM made it



clear that this is not a demolition wing, as falsely portrayed by some, but rather a protective force that will preserve the city's resources and public pathways from illegal occupation. Revanth reminded people of the catastrophic 1908 Hyderabad floods, which led to the city's first modern drainage system under engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, and stressed that Hyderabad's history should in-

spire its protection. He said Hydra is part of the larger vision to clean and rejuvenate the Musi River and revive Hyderabad's identity as a well-planned city, not just an IT hub. He targeted those constructing illegal farmhouses and guest-houses near lakes, and real estate developers building over natural drains, alleging that waste was being dumped into water bodies. "Hydra is a fear

only for those committing illegalities. We will not spare anyone encroaching on tanks and canal lands," he said. The CM also lashed out at the opposition for misleading people about Hydra. "They say cleaning Musi damages real estate. I ask, is it wrong for us to clean our Musi? If Modi and Yogi clean Ganga and Yamuna, it's praised. Why not us?" He also highlighted the government's legal victory in reclaiming 400 acres of government land from IMG Bharat in Kancha Gachibowli, which had been held by private entities for a decade under the previous regime. "Had this land been used earlier, lakhs of jobs could've been created," he said, accusing the former government of negligence and blocking Hyderabad's development potential. Revanth Reddy concluded by reaffirming his government's commitment to protect the city, its infrastructure, and natural resources through Hydra, ensuring that Hyderabad doesn't suffer the fate of other cities.



Indira Sauragiri Jal Vikasam Scheme to Be Launched on May 18

- CM to launch the ₹12,600 crore scheme in Achampet
- Six lakh acres of tribal lands to get irrigation water in 5 years
- Deputy CM reviews implementation plans with top officials

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

In a major boost to tribal welfare and sustainable agriculture, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will launch the Indira Sauragiri Jal Vikasam Scheme on May 18 at Mannanur in Achampet constituency. The ambitious scheme, with an allocation of ₹12,600 crore, aims to provide irrigation facilities to six lakh acres of tribal farmlands over the next five years. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, who reviewed the progress of the scheme with top officials at the State Secretariat, emphasized that it is being introduced to bring lands given to tribals under the ROFR Act into cultivation and to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal communities. He stated, "The Indira Sauragiri Jal Vikasam will be a boon for tribal farmers who've waited for decades due to restrictions on electricity supply in forest areas." Bhatti added that no other state has committed such a massive budget simultaneously for tribal agricultural development. He instructed officials to prepare an effective action plan to ensure timely implementation. The entire Council of Ministers is expected to attend the launch event alongside CM Revanth Reddy. Officials have been directed to identify tribal villages with pattas, conduct geological surveys, drill boreholes, install solar pump sets, and implement drip irrigation systems. The scheme will also promote cultivation of high-value crops such as avocado, bamboo, pomegranate, dragon fruit, and figs. Intercropping and organic vegetable farming similar to Himachal Pradesh's model will also be encouraged, providing short-term income as long-term crops like palm oil and bamboo mature. To build awareness and capacity, the government plans to organize study tours for tribal farmers to other states where such crops are being successfully grown. ITDA project officers and departments of horticulture and energy will play a crucial role in the scheme's implementation. Tribal Welfare Secretary Sharath explained the procedural roadmap to the Deputy CM, including the establishment of a State-Level Monitoring Committee, District Implementation and Procurement Committees, and a dedicated portal for real-time progress tracking. Officials including Principal Secretary for Energy Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Agriculture Secretary Raghunandan Rao, Special Secretary to Deputy CM Krishna Bhaskar, SPDCL CMD Musharraf Farooqui, NPDCL CMD Varun Reddy, and Horticulture Commissioner Yasmin Bhasha participated in the review meeting. Tribal communities, who have long struggled without irrigation or electricity in forest areas, have welcomed the government's initiative and are hopeful that this scheme will mark a new era of prosperity and empowerment.

Sridhar Babu Launches Rural IT Upskilling Program with TCS and JNTU-H



TPN Correspondent |
Telangana

In a major push for rural youth empowerment, Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Thursday inaugurated the TCS iON Placement Success Program (PSP) in Hyderabad. The initiative, developed in collaboration with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University-Hyderabad (JNTU-H), aims to bridge the urban-rural divide by equipping youth with essential skills for the IT sector. The pilot program will enroll 100 students from rural Telangana into a 20-week training curriculum that combines digital instruction with practical, hands-on experience. The initiative is designed to impart both technical skills and soft skills necessary for employment in the IT industry. "This marks a new era of inclusive development," Sridhar Babu said. "We're creating a direct education-to-employment pathway for rural youth, with TCS's vast recruitment network expected to place around 70% of successful candidates into relevant jobs."

The launch comes at a critical time when youth employability in India has dipped—from 44.3% in 2023 to 42.6% in 2024—highlighting the urgency of targeted interventions. Sridhar Babu emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships in addressing this challenge, saying, "These collaborations deliver scalable and sustainable solutions for a globally competitive economy." The event was attended by key figures including Prof. T. Kishan Kumar Reddy, Vice Chancellor of JNTU-H; Ms. Smriti Mulye, Business Head of Skill Education at TCS iON; and Mr. Venguswamy Ramaswamy, Global Head of TCS iON. The Minister's IT Advisor Sai Krishna also participated in the program. The initiative complements broader skilling efforts in the state, including the establishment of the Young India Skills University, which aims to provide lifelong learning opportunities to youth across Telangana. Congratulating all stakeholders involved, the minister called for united efforts from educational institutions, corporate leaders, and government bodies.

Hyderabad Police on High Alert Amid Indo-Pak Tensions

- Foot patrolling conducted in Mirchowk to monitor localities
- Surveillance increased at vital installations and consulates

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In the wake of heightened tensions between India and Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed the lives of 26 tourists on April 22, the Hyderabad police have stepped up vigilance across the city, particularly in sensitive areas. On Thursday, May 8, police teams conducted intensive foot patrolling in localities under the Mirchowk police station limits. The move aims to familiarize officers with the area's topography and keep a close watch on anti-social elements, thereby improving ground-level response capabilities. City Police Commissioner CV Anand has directed officers to remain alert, stating that security has been tightened at key locations, including foreign consulates, embassies, crowded public places, and vital installations. He added that CCTV cameras around these sites are being checked for functionality and will be repaired or replaced



if necessary. "In case of any incident, the entire operation will be monitored from the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), and timely instructions will be relayed to field units," Anand noted. The increased vigilance comes after the Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued an advisory to all states to remain on high alert, warning that sleeper cells of terror outfits operating from across the border may attempt to exploit the situation and stage attacks. Police officials are also monitoring for any signs of communal unrest, especially in sensitive areas, to prevent potential attempts to divert security resources or incite conflict.

India Uses HARPY Drones...

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air defences, including one in Lahore. The S-400 system was used to intercept and neutralize 15 missiles fired by Pakistan towards Indian cities late last night and early this morning. Sources informed news agency ANI that the Indian Air Force successfully targeted the moving missiles using the S-400 system, effectively neutralizing the threat. Following this, HARPY drones were deployed to disable Pakistan's air defence radars. Earlier today, the government confirmed that Pakistani forces had targeted military installations in 15 cities across northern and western India, including regions in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Gujarat. However, these missile attempts were effectively negated, and Pakistani air defence systems were disabled in return. Debris from the destroyed missiles and drones is being collected as part of evidence supporting India's claims that Pakistan continues to support cross-border terrorism. This includes financial support and military training for terror activities targeting India.



Rains Likely in Telangana for Next 3 Days

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted light to moderate rains accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning, and gusty winds across several districts of Telangana over the next three days. A yellow alert has been issued for 20 districts warning of gusty winds blowing at speeds of 30-40 km per hour till May 11. The IMD stated that the upcoming rains are expected to bring a 2 to 3°C drop in daytime temperatures, offering temporary relief from the persistent summer heatwave. However, temperatures are likely to hover between 36°C and 40°C during this period, with a possible rise above 40°C anticipated afterward. On Friday, May 9, the following districts are likely to witness thunderstorms and gusty winds: Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanamkonda, Jangaon, Siddipet, Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajigiri, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparthy, and Jogulamba Gadwal. A similar pattern is likely to persist on Saturday, May 10, affecting many of the same districts. On Sunday, May 11, the IMD has forecast thunderstorms and gusty winds across isolated places throughout the state, with the weather warning valid till 8:30 am on May 12.

IPL 2025 At Risk Of...

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34 balls before being dismissed by pacer T. Natarajan. This cancellation raises questions about the continuation of the IPL amidst rising security concerns due to the ongoing India-Pakistan conflict. A BCCI meeting is reportedly underway, with discussions focused on foreign player concerns and safety protocols. The tension between the two nations has intensified, with India recently launching missile strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people. Meanwhile, several districts, including Pathankot, Amritsar, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur, Mohali in Punjab, and Chandigarh, were under blackout following air raid alarms and reports of explosions-like sounds in Jammu.

Judson Accuses CM, Brother of Corruption in avnirman Company



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Expelled Congress leader Talakka Judson has launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his brother Anumula Krishna Reddy, accusing them of looting public wealth through a company named Navnirman. Addressing the media on Thursday, Judson claimed he has complete evidence to back his charges and challenged the government to verify the documents he possesses. He alleged that massive corruption and misuse of power are being carried out in the name of infrastructure contracts, and that the Chief Minister and his brother are diverting public money for personal gain. “I have full proof of how much Revanth Reddy and his brother are looting from Navnirman. They are draining the wealth of Telangana shamelessly,” Judson declared. Reiterating his readiness to face consequences, he boldly stated, “If the evidence I have is false, then hang me. I am not afraid of cases or threats. The people of Telangana need to know the truth.” Judson also demanded a CBI inquiry into the operations of Navnirman and the financial transactions linked to it. He said he would soon submit all the documents to appropriate investigation agencies and take the fight to the courts if necessary. This explosive allegation has sparked political ripples across Telangana, and responses from the Chief Minister or his office are awaited.

Owaisi Hails Operation Sindoor, Urges Stronger Action Against TRF

- Asks India to press US to label TRF a terrorist group
- Says it's the right time to build trust with Kashmiris
- Urges compensation, recognition for Poonch victims

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
AIMIM chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi made several significant remarks following an all-party meeting led by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The meeting, convened in the backdrop of the recent Operation Sindoor, brought together leaders across the political spectrum to discuss national security issues and strategies against terrorism. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Owaisi extended congratulations to the Indian armed forces and the central gov-

ernment on the success of Operation Sindoor. “I wholeheartedly congratulate our armed forces and the government for their participation and success in Operation Sindoor,” he said. Owaisi stressed the need to escalate India’s diplomatic offensive against terrorism, specifically targeting the terrorist outfit “The Resistance Front” (TRF). He called on the government to initiate formal communication with the United States to declare TRF a global terrorist organization. He further advocated for renewed pressure on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

to push Pakistan onto the grey list again, citing its continued sheltering of terrorist networks. The Hyderabad MP took a constructive stance on Kashmir, stating that the present moment offers a strategic opportunity. “This is the right time to get closer to the people of Kashmir, win their hearts and support them,” he said. He urged the government to ensure that victims of Pakistani ceasefire violations in areas like Poonch be officially recognized as victims of terrorism and be offered compensation and housing support. Owaisi also called the re-



ported destruction of terror camps in Bahawalpur and Muridke in Pakistan a major breakthrough. At the same time, he raised concerns about misleading international media reports, particularly the false news of a Rafale fighter jet crash in Bathinda. He emphasized that such disinformation campaigns could hurt the morale of the Indian armed forces and suggested that the Indian Air Force promptly clarify and counter such narratives. Owaisi’s comments reflected both praise for the government’s counterterrorism efforts and a push for a more strategic and people-centric approach in sensitive regions like Jammu and Kashmir.

BJP Demands Action Against Prof Sujatha Over Sindoor Post

TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar
BJP Mahila Morcha activists on Thursday staged a strong protest at Satavahana University, demanding immediate action against Prof Surepalli Sujatha, a faculty member and Telangana State Education Council member, for allegedly posting a message critical of Operation Sindoor on her Facebook account. Led by district Mahila Morcha president Choppari Jayasree, the protestors raised slogans in front of the university gate, accusing Prof Sujatha of making comments that hurt sentiments associated with the national operation. BJYM (Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha) activists also joined the agitation and burnt an effigy of the



professor to express their anger. The protestors attempted to locate and confront Prof Sujatha on campus but were unable

to find her. Later, Mahila Morcha leaders submitted a representation to the university authorities, demanding her suspension from service for the alleged remarks. Meanwhile, BJP district president Gangadi Krishna Reddy, along with other leaders, met Commissioner of Police Gaush Alam and submitted a formal complaint, urging the police to initiate legal action against the professor. The protest highlighted the increasing tensions surrounding public commentary on sensitive national issues, with BJP members asserting that Prof Sujatha’s remarks were inappropriate and demanded accountability.

Seethakka Reviews Indiramma Housing Progress in ITDA Areas

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
Minister for Tribal Welfare Seethakka held a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat on Thursday to assess the progress of Indiramma house construction within Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) limits. The meeting was conducted in coordination with Housing Department Secretary Jyothibuddha Prakash, Housing Corporation MD V.C. Gautam, Tribal Welfare Secretary A. Sarath, and Additional Director Sarveshwar Reddy. The meeting was convened as per the directions of Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, to ensure that housing development efforts in tribal areas align with government priori-

ties. Minister Seethakka issued key directives to streamline and expedite the construction process. She emphasized that while district collectors are overseeing housing work in general areas, ITDA project officers (POs) should be exclusively tasked with supervising the implementation within ITDA regions. To ensure accuracy in beneficiary identification, Seethakka instructed officials to forward housing applications directly to ITDA POs for verification. She stressed the need to identify eligible tribal families quickly, especially those still living in Pakal (temporary shelters), and give them first priority for house sanctioning. “Many tribal people are still re-



siding in huts within ITDA areas. We must act with urgency and compassion to provide them permanent homes,” Seethakka urged the officials. The meeting also addressed the procedural framework and

coordination mechanisms required to accelerate the construction under the Indiramma housing scheme, which aims to provide dignified living conditions to the underprivileged.

Harish Rao Slams Delay In AE, JTO Appointments

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
BRS MLA and former Minister T Harish Rao lashed out at the Congress government on Thursday for its continued delay in issuing appointment letters to candidates selected for engineering posts in the Irrigation department. In a strongly worded statement, Harish Rao accused the government of betraying the aspirations of youth. He pointed out that a total of 224 Assistant Engineers (AEs) and 199 Junior Technical Officers (JTOs), who were selected during the previous BRS regime, are still awaiting appointment letters, even after successfully clearing the recruitment process. “This is a cruel betrayal of young people who studied hard, cleared



exams, and are ready to serve,” Harish Rao said, expressing solidarity with the affected candidates. He demanded that the Congress government immedi-

ately issue the appointment letters and respect the merit and efforts of the aspirants. He also criticized the unavailability of Chief Minister Re-

vanth Reddy, blaming it for the repeated postponement of appointments. Harish Rao accused the Congress-led administration of being more focused on optics than actual governance. “It has become routine for the Revanth Reddy government to offer excuses and avoid delivering on key commitments. Even SSC results are being delayed. The joy of earning a job is being stripped away by a government more focused on slogans than governance,” he said. The delay has sparked growing anxiety among the selected candidates, who are waiting for clarity on their future. Harish Rao urged the government to act responsibly and honour the hard work of deserving youth without further delay.

TPDMA Boycotts Degree Exams Over Fee Arrears

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Telangana Private Degree and PG Colleges Management Association (TPDMA) has announced its decision to boycott university degree examinations scheduled to begin on May 14, 2025, across the state. The boycott comes in protest against the State government’s delay in releasing fee reimbursement arrears owed to private colleges for the past two academic years. In an online meeting held with college managements, the association expressed deep frustration over the government’s repeated failure to address the long-pending issue. Despite several appeals, the arrears remain unpaid, pushing many colleges into severe financial distress. As a result, TPDMA has resolved not to cooperate with exam proceedings, which includes refusing to collect exam materials, download hall tickets, or register students for upcoming exams. Earlier, TPDMA had already boycotted the Mahatma Gandhi University and Telangana University exams over the same issue. The latest decision is expected to disrupt exams under multiple universities, including Osmania University and Satavahana University, where the second, fourth, and sixth semester exams are scheduled. The association revealed that numerous colleges have been unable to pay students’ exam fees or register them due to a lack of funds. Moreover, some colleges were not included in the ongoing DOST 2025 counselling, further aggravating the crisis. According to TPDMA, at least ₹300 crore in reimbursements needs to be released immediately for institutions to function and exams to proceed. TPDMA general secretary Ramakrishna stated that owners of about 10 colleges have locked the buildings due to unpaid rent and financial non-viability. “We are not against students,” emphasized Dr B Suryanarayana Reddy, president of TPDMA, “but we are fighting to protect the institutions that serve them.” Unless the government acts swiftly, thousands of students may face uncertainty regarding their examinations and academic progression.

DGP Jitender Calls on ASPs to Build Strong Public Relations

- **Monthly ASP review meetings to be held**
- **Focus on grassroots engagement and crime vigilance**
- **Emphasis on coordination with other departments**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
Director General of Police Dr. Jitender has urged Assistant Superintendents of Police (ASPs) to strengthen their public relations for improved professional effectiveness and community-level crime response. He made these remarks during a comprehensive review meeting held at the State DGP Office in Hyderabad, which included ASPs from across Telangana and those currently in training. Dr. Jitender engaged in in-depth discussions with the officers about the local law and order situations, encouraging them to better understand the dynamics of their jurisdictions. Drawing from his own field experiences, he highlighted the importance of

maintaining lawful and co-operative relationships with senior officials and other departmental staff to become respected and efficient officers. He stressed that public engagement plays a critical role in gathering grassroots intelligence and understanding crime trends. Officers were advised to stay grounded in basic policing principles, while also familiarizing themselves with local customs and traditions to ensure meaningful community outreach. The DGP announced that monthly review meetings with ASPs would be instituted to monitor progress and maintain consistent communication. He called for increased vigilance in areas with high rates of murders and finan-



cial crimes, and emphasized tight security arrangements for the upcoming Miss World contestants' events in the city. Dr. Jitender added that CCTV camera installations across key locations would assist greatly in both crime prevention and detection. The meeting also featured key inputs from Additional DGP (Law & Order) Sri Mahesh M Bhagwat, IGPs Sri Chandrasekhar Reddy

and Sri V. Satyanarayana, and AIG (Law & Order) Sri Ramana Kumar, who shared insights from their field experiences. Among the participating officers were ASPs B. Chaitanya, R. Rahul Reddy, Kajal, Avinash Kumar, Shivam Upadhyaya, Chetham Nithin, Shubham, P. Mounika, Seshadrini Reddy, Vasundhara Yadav, Manam Bhat, Ritwik Sai, and Sai Kiran.

Miss World Pageant to Begin in Hyderabad with Grand Opening Ceremony

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The highly anticipated Miss World 2025 pageant is set to officially begin this Saturday evening (10.05.2025) at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium, marking a grand opening ceremony for the international event. The state government has been working tirelessly to ensure the city is ready for the influx of international guests, with final preparations nearing completion. Efforts to beautify Hyderabad, including the airport and surrounding areas, are being carried out at a detailed level. Contestants from 95 countries have already arrived in Hyderabad, with some more expected in the coming days. Along with the contestants, 28 management representatives and 17 assistants from the Miss World organization are also present. To ensure a warm welcome in line with Telangana's cultural traditions, the Tourism Department has provided accommodation and hospitality for the guests arriving over the past week. Heavy security has been arranged near the Trident Hotel, where many of the foreign representatives are staying. The contestants are scheduled to participate in rehearsals over the next two days and will be divided into groups for various program briefings. These programs will include visits to historical and tourist attractions across Telangana, as well as breast cancer awareness initiatives. The Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, along with Tourism Minister Jupalli Krishna Rao and Corporation Chairman Patel



Ramesh Reddy, has already reviewed the arrangements, providing valuable suggestions to ensure everything runs smoothly. The state government views this event as a significant opportunity to promote Telangana Zaroor Aana (Telangana must come and visit) on a global stage, aiming to boost tourism, investment, and job opportunities.

In addition to the official events, the government is working to offer a limited number of common people the opportunity to attend the various Miss World competitions taking place throughout the month. A total of 5,000 people, with 1,000 at each of five centers, will be granted access to the pageant.

Cyber Crime Unit Arrests Accused in Digital Arrest Fraud Case

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
The Cyber Crime Police in Hyderabad have arrested Ramprasad Sahebrao Salunke, a 33-year-old private employee from Pune, Maharashtra, for his involvement in Fedex/Digital Arrest frauds. The accused is linked to four cases in Telangana and 22 cases across various states. The case dates back to October 29, 2024, when a 45-year-old doctor from Hyderabad received a call from a number claiming to be from the Indian Post Office. The caller told the victim that a parcel in his name contained police uniforms, ID cards, bank debit cards, and ketamine injections. After a heated argument, the victim was connected to fake police officers who threatened him with arrest in connection to drugs. Following several days of threats, the victim transferred ₹1.23 crore to the accused's account under the pretext of a financial verification. The modus operandi involved the ac-



cused receiving calls from unknown numbers, pretending to be from the Post

Office or law enforcement. These callers falsely claimed to have intercepted parcels containing illegal items. Fake police officers would then use video calls to intimidate victims into transferring money. The accused was arrested in Pune, and a cell phone was seized as part of the investigation. The individual is linked to multiple cases across various states, including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. In light of these incidents, the public is advised to avoid answering calls from unknown numbers and to immediately report any threatening calls from fake officials (such as CBI, ED, Customs, or Police). Victims should never transfer money to unknown bank accounts under duress. For those affected by cybercrime, immediate assistance can be sought by calling 1930 or visiting cybercrime.gov.in.

Tensions Erupt Over Hydra Demolitions in Old City

Locals clash with police as shops razed in Akbar Nagar
Demolitions carried out under tight security in Chandrayangutta

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A tense situation prevailed in Akbar Nagar of Chandrayangutta, Hyderabad, on Wednesday as authorities initiated demolition operations using a Hydra crane and JCBs. The action, reportedly aimed at removing unauthorized structures, triggered strong resistance from local residents and political representatives. The demolitions, carried out amid heavy police deployment, led to confrontations between the police and residents of the Old City. In a desperate attempt to stop the operation, several locals climbed onto the Hydra and lay down in front of the JCBs, blocking their movement. MIM corporators also joined the protests, raising slogans against the use of force and questioning the role of officials, including Ranganath, who was reportedly overseeing the drive. They alleged the demolitions were



sudden and carried out without giving the affected shopkeepers adequate notice. The protests escalated as the police began detaining those obstructing the operation. Several people, including MIM supporters and local traders, were taken into custody. While officials maintained that the structures were unauthorized and action was in line with urban planning norms, the incident has ignited political and public backlash, with questions being raised about the timing, process, and humanitarian handling of the demolition drive.

14 kg of Ganja Seized in Multiple Operations



TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a series of successful anti-drug operations, Excise Enforcement teams seized 14 kg of ganja in three different cases across the city. The operations targeted transportation and sale of the drug, resulting in arrests and significant seizures. In one case, acting on a tip-off, the STFC CD and DCI Venkateswarlu and Nagaraju staff conducted checks on the Konark Express traveling from Bhubaneswar to Mumbai via Secunderabad. During the checks between Khajipet and Secunderabad, three packets of ganja were found in a suspicious bag. The individual carrying the drugs managed to escape, but the seized ganja was handed over to the Secunderabad excise station for further processing. In a separate operation within the YMCA Narayanaguda excise station limits, STF B Team

SI Balaraju seized 2.5 kg of ganja from two autos. The accused, Vicky Patel, was caught after purchasing ganja in Dhulpet and attempting to distribute it to another auto driver, Samant. Both suspects were arrested, and two autos, along with three cell phones, were seized and handed over to the Narayanaguda excise station. Additionally, HTFA team leader Anji Reddy led the arrest of Dharmasingh, Maheshsingh, and Manoj Singh for selling 1.518 kg of ganja at 13-2-275 Rahimpura in Dhoolpet. The seized ganja was handed over to the Dhoolpet excise station. In another related case, Kamalabai, an accused in a previous ganja sale case, was sentenced to three months in jail after failing to pay a fine of Rs. 1 lakh. She had been arrested for selling ganja again, and despite being bound over previously, her repeated offense led to the sentence.

Speeding Car Kills Recovery Van Driver on ORR

Accident at Himayat Sagar Exit 17 leaves one dead, another injured

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

A fatal road accident occurred on the Rajendranagar stretch of the Outer Ring Road (ORR) on Wednesday, claiming the life of a recovery van driver. The incident took place near Exit 17 at Himayat Sagar. According to police, the driver of a Toyota car, reportedly speeding, crashed into a recovery van parked at the roadside. The van's driver, identified as Shiva Keshav, was in the process of changing the tire of a broken-down vehicle when the accident happened. The impact flung him into the air, resulting in instant death. Another person present at the scene sustained serious injuries and was immediately shifted to a hospital. Rajendranagar police officials

stated that overspeeding was the primary reason behind the crash. A total of three vehicles, including the recovery van and the car that had initially broken



down, were damaged in the incident. The body of Shiva Keshav has been sent for postmortem. Police have launched an investigation and are examining CCTV footage from the area to ascertain the exact sequence of events.

Foundation Laid for Khammam Medical College Building

Dy CM Bhatti: Congress is rebuilding healthcare for the poor

₹11,482 Cr spent on medical sector this year

Funds cleared for pending Rajiv Arogyasri bills

TPN Correspondent | Khammam
Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, along with Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha, Ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, laid the foundation stone for a new government medical college building in Khammam district on Thursday. The initiative marks a major step in the Congress government's commitment to revamp the public healthcare and education systems in Tel-

angana. Speaking at the event, Bhatti Vikramarka said the Congress government is dedicated to ensuring free super-specialty medical care for the poor through new government medical colleges. "Our government is a government for the poor. We are clearing the pending health bills left by the previous regime under Rajiv Arogyasri and making quality healthcare accessible to lakhs of families," he stated. Highlighting the financial com-

mitment, Bhatti revealed that the current Congress government has already spent ₹11,482 crore on the medical sector in just one year — nearly double the ₹5,950 crore spent by the previous BRS government over the past ten years. "We have provided free medical treatment to 90 lakh families, with some receiving assistance up to ₹10 lakh," he noted. The Deputy CM also took a dig at the BRS government for neglecting both healthcare and education. "We are rebuild-

ing the medical sector that was abandoned and allocating special funds to improve educational infrastructure. Integrated schools are being constructed across the state," he added. Bhatti reiterated the government's dedication to broader welfare goals, saying, "We have waived loans of farmers, ensured uninterrupted free electricity, and are completing the Sitarama project in Khammam with adequate funding." He also mentioned a significant



boost to youth welfare through the ₹9,000 crore Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme aimed at supporting unemployed youth. The event witnessed significant public participation, reflecting rising expectations from the newly initiated medical college project.

Rabi Farmers Hit by Paddy Procurement Delays

- Unseasonal rains damage paddy in Nalgonda
- Trucks face 4–5 day delays at rice mills
- Only 25 LMT procured so far against 70 LMT target

TPN Correspondent | Nalgonda
Paddy procurement during the Rabi 2025 season has hit a major roadblock across Telangana, with farmers facing serious delays in transportation and lifting of their produce. The situation turned more distressing following unseasonal rains on Tuesday evening at Lakshmidivigudem in Nalgonda district, which damaged large quantities of already weighed paddy that was awaiting transport. At the Lakshmidivigudem procurement center, farmer Nagulavancha Srinivasa Rao lamented that 260 bags of paddy he brought were weighed five days ago but had not been picked up by transporters. The sudden rain left the grain soaked, requiring additional drying, thus adding to his burden. He blamed poor coordination and delayed transport for these losses and demanded immediate intervention. The Telangana government's

procurement mechanism, though ambitious, is struggling with logistical bottlenecks. The Munugode Lorry Association submitted a petition to the Tehsildar, requesting that unique serial numbers be assigned to paddy-laden trucks from Munugode mandal. This move, they say, will help streamline unloading at rice mills, which are currently overwhelmed by trucks coming in from multiple mandals such as Chandur, Kanagal, and Nalgonda. Due to this congestion, trucks from Munugode are waiting four to five days before being allowed to unload at rice mills. Farmers worry that prolonged wait times, coupled with unpredictable weather, could lead to further crop damage and financial loss. The Telangana government had set a target of 70 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) for Rabi paddy procurement. From 54.89 lakh acres under cultivation, an estimated 127 LMT of paddy is expected. The plan aimed



to procure 27.32 LMT in April and 34.21 LMT in May, but the drive is already lagging behind schedule. As of May 2, about 29 LMT had arrived at procurement centers, but only 25 LMT had actually been procured from 2.55 lakh farmers. The government has allocated ₹15,000 crore for this procurement operation, with assurances from officials that more trucks would be mobilized and

procurement centers cleared on priority. However, ground-level issues remain unresolved, leaving many farmers to fend for themselves in difficult conditions. Despite the official promises, the reality on the ground reflects widespread discontent and operational failure, raising urgent calls for the state to accelerate its response to support struggling farmers.

Man Dies by Suicide After Girlfriend Marries Another

Leaves selfie video, blames woman and her family for betrayal

TPN Correspondent | Karimnagar
A tragic incident unfolded in Karimnagar district, where a young man died by suicide after his longtime girlfriend married someone else. The deceased, identified as Dara Ellesh of Lakshmanapalli village in Illandakunta mandal, reportedly ended his life by jumping in front of a moving train. According to sources, Ellesh had been in a relationship with a young woman named Varalakshmi for seven years. Despite the long-standing bond, she recently married another man. Unable to bear the emotional distress, Ellesh recorded a selfie video expressing his heartbreak and resentment before taking the extreme step. In the video and his final messages, Ellesh stated that he had preserved all their call recordings and held the woman and her family responsible for his death. He left a specific request to his parents not to move his body until Varalakshmi arrived and urged them to seek justice by taking action against her family. The suicide has sparked emotional reactions in the village, with many expressing shock and grief. Police are reportedly investigating the case based on the video and the statements made by Ellesh in his final moments.



Landmine Explosion in Mulugu, 3 Policemen Martyred

TPN Correspondent | Warangal
In a tragic incident in Wajedu, Mulugu district, three policemen lost their lives in a landmine explosion triggered by Maoists while police were conducting a combing operation. After the explosion, the Maoists opened fire on the police, leaving several others injured. Minister Seethakka visited the bodies of the deceased officers in the Warangal district headquarters, where she paid floral tributes. The minister also offered her condolences to the families of the fallen policemen, expressing solidarity in this difficult time.



DGP Jitender and Greyhounds DG Stephen Ravindra have reached Warangal following the tragic incident that resulted in the deaths of three Greyhounds jawans. The postmortem of the deceased personnel—Sridhar, Sandeep, and Pawan Kalyan—was carried out at the MGM Mortuary. The injured RSI Randhir, hailing from Paidipally village in Warangal mandal, has been seriously injured and has been transferred to AIG Hospital in Hyderabad for better treatment. The authorities are closely monitoring the situation, and DGP Jitender, along with Greyhounds DG Stephen Ravindra, is expected to visit the bodies soon.

Water Woes Spark Dharna in Lal Gadi Malakpet



TPN Correspondent | Medchal-Malkajgiri
In a dramatic turn on Thursday, the residents of Indiramma Colony in Lal Gadi Malakpet village of Samirpet mandal staged a dharna in front of the local village panchayat office, demanding immediate resolution to the ongoing water crisis. They alleged that for over a month, the colony has been struggling without proper water supply despite repeated complaints to officials. The villagers expressed their outrage at the apathy of local authorities, particularly questioning Panchayat Secretary Srinivas Reddy

on why such a severe water shortage was being experienced only in their village while neighboring areas had no such issues. In response, Secretary Srinivas Reddy admitted that the water supply to the village itself was inconsistent and claimed the panchayat was managing with the little water they were receiving. However, the residents were not satisfied with the explanation. They blamed the Mishin Bhagiratha officials for the crisis, accusing them of gross negligence. According to them, only one tanker was sent in the last 15 days, and even that was selectively distributed to a few households, leaving

the rest without any water. Adding to their grievances, residents revealed that they are being threatened with disconnection of water connections if they fail to pay taxes and charges, even though they haven't received water for weeks. "When we complain, no one listens. But when it comes to taxes, they threaten us," said one of the protestors. The demonstrators warned that this was just the beginning and vowed to intensify their agitation if the problem was not resolved immediately. "We are ready to go to any extent to protect our right to water," they declared.



For the sake of Maharashtra, it’s about time the Mahayuti acted like a coalition

Maharashtra’s dynamic political terrain has seen a transformative shift with the rise of two major alliances — the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) and the Mahayuti. The Mahayuti coalition, comprising the BJP, Shiv Sena (led by Eknath Shinde), and the NCP (Ajit Pawar faction), came to power with a decisive mandate in the November 2024 Assembly elections. While their initial performance has been promising on paper, growing internal rifts threaten the long-term stability and governance of the alliance.

In its first 100 days, the Mahayuti government reported that of the 48 ministries, 12 achieved full targets and 18 met 80% of their goals. These figures suggest that the government’s performance is well above average. However, this

success is being overshadowed by open discord between coalition partners. The conflict between Shiv Sena and the NCP over the Mukhyamantri Ladki Bahin Yojana — a welfare scheme offering financial aid to women from families earning under ₹2.5 lakh annually — is a prime example of the lack of coordination. Though the scheme was instrumental in winning public support during the elections, it has now become a source of internal competition and controversy.

The Mahayuti’s inability to resolve key issues — such as the question of seniority between the two Deputy Chief Ministers, delays in administrative file movement, uneven resource allocation, and disputes over the appointment of guardian min-

isters — has begun to hamper the functioning of the government. The role of guardian ministers is especially important, as they head the District Planning Committees. Without permanent appointments, district-level governance remains stalled and ineffective.

Furthermore, the financial burden of running the Ladki Bahin Yojana has created pressure on the state’s treasury. With limited resources and competing political interests, the scheme’s implementation has suffered from rushed beneficiary lists, inadequate verification, and inconsistent branding — with some partners allegedly omitting the “Mukhyamantri” prefix to claim political credit. These issues reflect a broader problem: the co-

alition is operating more like a collection of rival factions than a unified government.

To maintain credibility and ensure effective governance, Mahayuti leaders must urgently adopt a more cooperative approach. Internal discipline, transparent decision-making, and mutual respect among allies are essential to prevent administrative paralysis. Maharashtra’s people voted for stability and progress. If the Mahayuti fails to function as a cohesive unit, it risks not only losing public trust but also derailling the developmental momentum it has claimed to build. A genuine coalition mindset, rooted in shared vision rather than individual ambition, is now the need of the hour.

India’s Caste Census Gap: Why Truthful Data Matters for Real Equity



The conversation around a caste census in India is no longer just about statistics—it’s about visibility, fairness, and the realities we choose to acknowledge or ignore. Caste continues to shape access to opportunity, yet our understanding of its reach is built on outdated or incomplete data. The last comprehensive caste count was conducted in 1931—under colonial rule. Since then, efforts like the 2011 Socio-Economic and Caste Census have failed, marred by misclassification and duplication, leaving over 46 lakh caste names in disarray. As a result, the data was never officially released.

Today, our policies still depend on broad categories like Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC). While useful at a high level, these groupings overlook deep inequalities within each category. Some sub-groups have gained significant political and economic power, while others remain invisible, their needs buried under generalised labels.

This blanket approach harms the vulnerable. Government benefits often reach more dominant sub-groups that can organise and demand attention, while the truly disadvantaged are left out. Take land ownership: SCs make up 16% of the population but hold only 7.2% of agricultural land, as per NSS data. Even that figure lacks granular insight into which SC communities are most deprived.

Moreover, caste discrimination isn’t isolated. It intersects with class, gender, and geography. A Dalit woman in rural Bihar faces different challenges than an OBC man in urban Karnataka—but policy frameworks fail to reflect such nuances. Worse, reservations and welfare schemes still rely on colonial-era caste population estimates.

While states like Bihar have initiated their own caste surveys, national-level data remains missing. In its absence, political decisions often rely on guesswork, ignoring the needs of the most marginalised. What India urgently needs is a transparent, updated caste and economic survey—capturing education, land, occupation, and access to services.

India-UK Trade Deal: A Sign That Globalization Marches On



Despite skepticism about global trade, the India-UK trade deal proves that globalization is still alive and moving forward. After three years of negotiations, India and the UK finalized a pact earlier this week, marking a significant step in economic integration between two major economies. While trade deals continue to be signed globally, the India-UK agreement stands out as a testament to political compromise and determination.

Both Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer likely played a key role in pushing their teams to finalize this deal, especially as many obstacles still remained just days before its completion. The agreement demonstrates that, even in a world fraught with uncertainties, nations are willing to embrace economic cooperation—if their leaders are prepared to make necessary compromises. For instance, India had to abandon its longstanding demand for more visas for Indian workers and students, a critical point of contention in past negotiations. The UK’s current political climate, influenced by rising anti-migrant sentiment, made this concession essential.

This deal is particularly interesting because both India and the UK have seen their manufacturing sectors lose global competitiveness, while their services industries remain robust. The agreement shifts focus towards sectors where both countries excel, such as services, while offering more consumer-friendly deals. For example, Indian consumers can look forward to cheaper Scotch whisky and Jaguars, while British consumers may soon enjoy more affordable shrimp from India. These small, tangible benefits mark a shift in how trade agreements are being structured.

The India-UK deal is just one part of a broader trend. Countries like Canada are seeking new partnerships, and Japan, China, and South Korea are deepening their cooperation. The biggest prize, however, is a potential trade agreement between India and the European Union, a deal that has been in the works for years but may finally come to fruition by the end of this year.

As global trade continues to evolve, the India-UK deal signals that, despite challenges, the world remains committed to economic integration and consumer benefits.

Balancing AI Innovation and Inclusive Growth in Developing Nations

Developing countries today face a critical balancing act: embracing the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to fuel economic growth, while managing the socio-economic disruptions it may bring, particularly in the form of job displacement. As AI becomes a central pillar of modern economic policy, the urgency for emerging economies to catch up has never been greater. However, success in this domain depends not only on innovation but also on inclusive access and international cooperation.

The digital divide remains a fundamental barrier. In many developing countries, large segments of the population—especially in rural and underserved areas—lack access to reliable internet, digital devices, and AI tools. Bridging this divide requires significant investment in digital infrastructure. International collaboration can play a key role in this effort, allowing countries to share best practices, technologies, and financial resources. Partnerships with global institutions and private sector leaders can accelerate the rollout of broadband connectivity, digital public services, and AI tools tailored to local needs.

Moreover, developing countries must proactively address the challenge of workforce displacement due to automation. AI-driven innovation may enhance productivity, but it also threatens traditional job sectors, particularly in manufacturing, agriculture, and low-skill services. To ensure the benefits of AI are widespread and equitable, governments must invest in large-scale reskilling and upskilling programs. Vocational training, digital literacy initiatives, and public-private training partnerships are essential to prepare the current and future workforce for new AI-driven roles.

Public access to AI must also be a policy priority. Making AI tools available for small businesses, educational institutions, and local governments can foster innovation from the



grassroots. Particularly in rural areas, AI has the potential to revolutionize sectors like agriculture, education, and healthcare. By enabling farmers to predict weather patterns, teachers to access personalized learning platforms, and doctors to use AI diagnostics, the technology can directly enhance quality of life and productivity.

The definition of economic development itself continues to evolve alongside global challenges and priorities. A decade ago, metrics such as access to renewable energy became central in light of the climate crisis. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the strength of healthcare systems was viewed as a vital indicator of resilience. Today, a country’s readiness to harness AI has emerged as a key measure of its developmental status. Countries like the USA and China are setting benchmarks, but the journey for developing nations must be inclusive, ethical, and tailored to their unique socio-economic contexts. Only through such a balanced approach can AI truly become a tool for equitable progress.



Jaishankar: India Doesn't Seek Escalation but Will Respond Firmly to Any Military Attack

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar stated on Thursday that while India has no intention to escalate tensions with Pakistan, any military aggression against the country will be met with a “very, very firm response.” His comments came during a high-level meeting in New Delhi with Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, who arrived late Wednesday night for a scheduled diplomatic visit amid heightened tensions in South Asia.

Addressing the recent flare-up, Jaishankar referred to the Pahalgam terror attack as a “barbaric” act that necessitated India’s military response. The April 22 attack, which claimed the lives of 26 people in Jammu and Kashmir, was blamed on Pakistan-based terror groups. In response, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7, targeting multiple terror camps across Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and parts of Pakistan’s Punjab province.

“This attack compelled us to respond on May 7 by striking at the cross-border terrorist infrastructure,” Jaishankar said. “Our response was targeted and measured.” He emphasized that the Indian military’s actions were precise, aimed at dismantling terror infrastructure, and not intended as a broader escalation.

However, Jaishankar made it clear that any direct military provocation by Pakistan would not be tolerated. “It is not our intention to escalate the situation. However, if there are military attacks on us, there should be no doubt that it will be met with a very, very firm response,” he warned.

During the meeting, Jaishankar underlined the importance of India’s partners, particularly Iran, understanding the gravity and context of the situation. He said that as a close neighbour and strategic partner, it was essential that Iran be fully informed of the challenges India faces with cross-border terrorism.

Iranian Foreign Minister Araghchi’s visit takes place at a crucial moment, with both New Delhi and Tehran navigating regional complexities and shared interests in security and stability. The meeting underscored India’s diplomatic push to inform key allies of its position, even as it reiterates its preference for restraint, provided its national security is not jeopardized.

The dialogue reflects India’s broader strategy of measured deterrence and diplomatic transparency in the face of persistent security threats from across its western border.

Operation Sindoor: PM Modi chairs meeting with Ministries amid heightened security concerns

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting with Union Secretaries to assess the country’s national security preparedness and inter-ministerial coordination in light of recent developments, particularly following the Pahalgam terror attack and India’s subsequent military response under Operation Sindoor.

The meeting comes as India faces a heightened security situation after the April 22 terrorist attack in South Kashmir’s Pahalgam, which claimed 26 civilian lives. In retaliation, Indian armed forces carried out precision strikes on May 7, targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

According to an official release, the Prime Minister stressed the need for constant vigilance, strong institutional synergy, and clear internal communication mechanisms. He reiterated the central government’s unwavering commitment to protecting national



security, maintaining operational readiness, and ensuring the safety of citizens across the country.

“All ministries are fully prepared to respond to emerging situations,” the government said, confirming that actionable steps have been identified across departments. Ministries have been instructed to reinforce institutional processes and maintain close coordination with state governments and local

authorities.

The review covered a wide range of topics, including enhancing civil defence protocols, countering the spread of misinformation, and protecting critical infrastructure such as power grids, communication networks, and transportation systems. Departments were directed to ensure continuity of essential services and improve emergency response frameworks.

The Prime Minister emphasized a “whole-of-government” approach, urging seamless collaboration between ministries and departments to uphold national resilience and preparedness. Secretaries from key ministries — including Defence, Home, External Affairs, Power, Health, Telecommunications, and Information & Broadcasting — presented their preparedness strategies.

PM Modi directed all ministries to conduct internal audits of their preparedness levels and ensure proactive contingency planning. He also called for enhanced coordination with intelligence and security agencies to mitigate any further threats.

The meeting was attended by the Cabinet Secretary, senior officials from the Prime Minister’s Office, and other top bureaucrats. The comprehensive review signals India’s proactive stance amid an evolving security environment, with Operation Sindoor still ongoing and cross-border tensions high.

India thwarts missile attack on 15 cities, hits Pakistan defences



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant escalation of hostilities, Pakistan attempted coordinated attacks late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning on military installations in 15 Indian cities, including key targets in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Gujarat. The Indian government

confirmed that these provocations were effectively countered by Indian forces, which neutralised the threats using advanced air defence systems and precision strikes.

According to the government, Pakistan deployed drones and missiles aimed at military facilities in cities such as Srinagar, Pathankot,

Amritsar, Ludhiana, and Chandigarh. However, these were intercepted and destroyed by India’s air defence systems, including the Russian-made S-400. In response, India targeted and disabled multiple Pakistani air defence radars and systems in locations including Lahore.

Government sources revealed that India used HARPY drones to take down Pakistani radar installations and followed up with targeted strikes in retaliation. “The Indian response was in the same domain and with the same intensity,” officials emphasised, underlining the measured nature of the operation.

Debris from downed Pakistani drones and missiles is being collected and analysed, which the government says will serve as further evidence of Pakistan’s deep state support for cross-border terrorism, including funding and training of terrorist operatives.

This attempted Pakistani assault came just one day after India

launched Operation Sindoor, a retaliatory strike on nine terrorist camps—four in Pakistan and five in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The strikes began at 1:05 a.m. Wednesday and lasted 25 minutes, utilising a mix of 24 precision munitions, including HAMMER smart bombs and SCALP cruise missiles. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh confirmed that over 100 terrorists were killed in the operation.

Operation Sindoor was India’s direct response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, where four Lashkar-e-Taiba-linked terrorists killed 26 people in Jammu and Kashmir.

India has reiterated its commitment to non-escalation, provided Pakistan refrains from further aggression. However, Defence Minister Singh warned that any further provocation will result in continued and forceful retaliation. So far, India has reported 16 civilian deaths and one soldier lost in ongoing cross-border shelling by Pakistan.

Punjab on alert: Orders Nighttime Blackout and Fireworks Ban Amid India-Pakistan Border Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Punjab

As tensions continue to escalate along the India-Pakistan border in the wake of Operation Sindoor, authorities in Punjab have implemented strict precautionary measures to ensure public safety. A district-wide nighttime blackout has been ordered in Gurdaspur, and bans on the use of fireworks have been imposed across six border districts in the state.

The order for the blackout was issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur on Thursday. According to the directive, all non-essential lighting must be switched off from 9 PM to 5 AM starting tonight and will remain in effect until further notice. However, the blackout will not apply to cantonment areas or other military zones, where security operations and essential services continue without restriction.

The decision comes amid heightened cross-border military activity between India and Pakistan. Following the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 civilian lives, India launched precision strikes under Operation Sindoor targeting terror infrastructure across the Line of Control (LoC). Pakistan has responded with increased shelling and missile threats, prompting civilian safety protocols in vulnerable regions.



In addition to Gurdaspur, deputy commissioners in five other Punjab border districts — including Amritsar, Pathankot, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, and Fazilka — have announced an immediate ban on fireworks. The move is aimed at preventing confusion or panic among residents during a time of military alert, as well as avoiding any visual signals that could be misinterpreted during night operations.

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has been in continuous consultation with defence and civil authorities to monitor the security situation. State officials have assured the public that all necessary measures are being taken to safeguard lives and maintain law and order along the sensitive international border.

Operation Sindoor Day 2: Pak will be entirely responsible for consequences: FS Vikram Misri

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

On the second day of Operation Sindoor, India reiterated its commitment to measured military action and warned Pakistan that any further provocation would be met with a firm response. In a detailed press conference on Thursday, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri firmly stated that no Pakistani civilians were harmed during India’s precision strikes targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing media alongside Wing Commander Vyomika Singh and Colonel Sofiya Qureshi, Misri clarified that India’s actions were a direct response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, where 26 civilians, mostly tourists, were killed by terrorists in Baisaran valley, South Kashmir. Misri emphasized that this attack marked the original escalation, and India’s military operations were designed to dismantle terror infrastructure—not to provoke.

“Any further action by Pakistan, some of which we are seeing today, is nothing but escalation by Pakistan once again and will be responded to, and is being responded to appropriately,” Misri warned.

India denied Pakistan’s claims of civilian casualties and the alleged targeting of civilian infra-



structure, including a dam. Misri called these allegations “absolute fabrication” and warned Pakistan against using such false narratives as justification for retaliatory strikes on Indian infrastructure.

Wing Commander Vyomika Singh added that Pakistan had intensified unprovoked shelling across the Line of Control (LoC), using mortars and heavy artillery in Kupwara, Baramulla, Uri, Poonch, Mendhar, and Rajouri sectors in Jammu and Kashmir. These actions, she said, point to deliberate provocation from Pakistan’s side.

Misri underlined that India’s airstrikes were carefully calibrated and targeted at nine terrorist facilities across the border under Operation Sindoor, conducted early Wednesday morning. These actions, he noted, were based on credible intelligence and carried out in a restrained and proportionate manner.

UK Parliament Debates India-Pakistan Conflict, Calls for De-escalation Efforts

TPN Correspondent | Colombo

Tensions between India and Pakistan, exacerbated by the recent Pahalgam terror attack and India's subsequent Operation Sindoor, were the focus of a heated debate in the UK Parliament. The conflict, which resulted in the death of 26 people in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, has drawn significant attention from British lawmakers, many of whom emphasized the importance of de-escalating the situation.

On Wednesday, UK Foreign Office Minister Hamish Falconer opened the debate by reiterating Prime Minister Keir Starmer's call for diplomacy and dialogue between the two nations. He acknowledged the personal impact the conflict has on the British Indian and Pakistani communities and emphasized that "restraint" should be shown by both India and Pakistan. Falconer condemned the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam and expressed concern about the escalating violence. He underscored that the UK would continue working with international partners to achieve short-term de-escalation and long-term stability in the region, stressing the need for calm heads to restore peace.

UK Shadow Foreign Secretary Priti Patel voiced support for In-



dia's right to take "reasonable and proportionate" measures to defend itself. She highlighted India's need to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure that poses a continual threat to its security. Patel pointed out that terrorists based in Pakistan have targeted both Indian and Western interests, and she reiterated the long-standing security cooperation agreements between the UK and India. She

also sought clarification on Britain's role in preventing further escalation and questioned the government's assessment of the perpetrators behind the terror attack.

Labour MP Jas Athwal shared a personal perspective, noting that his parents were born in Pakistan, and urged the UK government to use its influence to bring both India and

Pakistan to the negotiating table. Conservative MP Bob Blackman called for the permanent removal of terrorist training camps from Pakistan, echoing India's stance that such sites must be dismantled to prevent further violence. The debate reflected the urgency with which the UK government and lawmakers are seeking a peaceful resolution to the ongoing conflict.



Trump Set to Announce U.S.-U.K. Trade Deal Amid Tariff Tensions

TPN Correspondent | U.K

Former U.S. President Donald Trump is poised to announce a trade agreement with the United Kingdom on Thursday, May 8, 2025, according to reports from The New York Times and Politico. The announcement is expected during a scheduled news conference at 10:00 a.m. (1400 GMT) in the Oval Office, where Trump will unveil what he described as a "major" trade deal with a "big, and highly respected country."

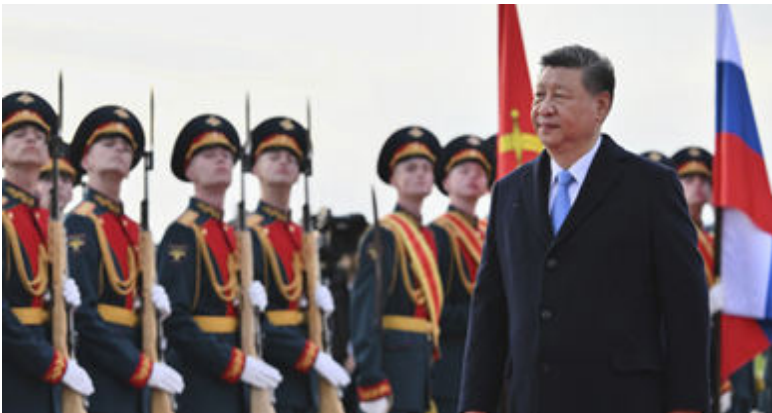
Though official details remain sparse, sources familiar with the matter suggest the deal will mark the beginning of renewed trade ties between Washington and London, potentially outlining a broader framework that may still be subject to further negotiations. It is unclear whether the agreement has been fully finalized or is still a preliminary outline.

Trump has spent recent weeks promoting the possibility of new trade agreements, following his administration's decision last month to impose sweeping tariffs on multiple global trading partners. Most of these tariffs were temporarily suspended to allow time for negotiations, and Trump has repeatedly stated that several countries are eager to reach agreements with the United States.

This U.S.-U.K. deal comes shortly after Britain finalized a significant free trade agreement with India—its largest since Brexit. That agreement was concluded after renewed discussions resumed in February, spurred in part by concerns over potential U.S. tariff escalations. The India deal reflects Britain's wider strategy to diversify trade relationships following its departure from the European Union, a move that necessitated new bilateral arrangements to sustain economic growth.

For the United Kingdom, strengthening economic ties with major partners such as the U.S. has become increasingly urgent in the post-Brexit era. The British government has actively pursued agreements across Asia and the Americas to offset disruptions caused by the EU exit and avoid the potential fallout from U.S. trade restrictions.

As Trump prepares to present what he called the "first of many" deals, attention now turns to whether the proposed agreement will usher in a new phase of transatlantic trade cooperation—or simply lay the groundwork for future negotiations.



Xi Jinping and Lula Arrive in Russia Amid Ukraine Conflict for Victory Day Celebrations

TPN Correspondent | Russia

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva arrived in Moscow on Wednesday to attend Russia's Victory Day celebrations, marking the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II. Their visit comes at a time when Russia is engaged in intense military conflict with Ukraine, with both sides trading fire just hours before the event.

The commemorations, typically seen as a showcase of Russian military strength, are overshadowed this year by continued hostilities in the Ukraine war. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky reported that Russia launched a wave of ballistic missile and drone strikes overnight, deploying over 140 attack drones across multiple Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Kyi. Air raid sirens blared throughout the day, with numerous casualties and extensive damage reported.

In response, Ukraine launched its own attacks, prompting Russian forces to shoot down nine drones approaching Moscow, according to Mayor Sergei Sobyenin. These retaliatory strikes occurred just before a Russian-proposed three-day ceasefire was set to begin. While Zelensky has not agreed to Russia's truce proposal, he reiterated Ukraine's earlier offer of a 30-day ceasefire, calling it a genuine opportunity for diplomacy. "Russia gives no answer—only more strikes," Zelensky stated, emphasizing who he believes is responsible for prolonging the conflict. President Xi is expected to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday for bilateral discussions. Topics on the agenda include the ongoing Ukraine war, strained Russia-U.S. relations, and broader global strategic concerns.



Bill Gates to Donate 99% of Wealth, Gates Foundation to Close by 2045

In a landmark philanthropic decision, Bill Gates announced on Thursday that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will shut down in 2045 after donating 99% of his remaining wealth—estimated at \$107 billion. The tech magnate and Microsoft co-founder plans to channel the remainder of his fortune into the foundation, enabling it to distribute an additional \$200 billion over the next two decades, according to the Associated Press.

"It's kind of thrilling to have that much to be able to put into these causes," Gates said in an interview, explaining that a 20-year window balances the urgency of global challenges with the need for structured, impactful giving.

Established in 2000 with Melinda French Gates, the Gates Foundation has been a transformative force in global health, poverty reduction, and education. To date, it has spent more than \$100 billion supporting scientific innovation, sanitation initiatives, vaccine distribution, and other critical services in low- and middle-income countries.

Gates emphasized that the decision to sunset the foundation by 2045 reflects a strategic shift to concentrate resources in a finite period for maximum impact. "I think 20 years is the right balance between giving as much as we can to make progress on these things and giving people a lot of notice that now this money will be gone," he noted. About 41% of the foundation's total funds have come from Gates' longtime friend and fellow billionaire Warren Buffett, with the rest contributed by Gates himself. Their joint effort helped establish global health programs such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Fund, which combats HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. Gates said this philanthropic journey has become his "second and final career," driven by the stark disparity he discovered in global health funding.

No New Pope Yet: Black Smoke Signals Inconclusive Voting on Day Two of Vatican Conclave

TPN Correspondent | Vatican City

The Catholic Church continues to wait for a new leader, as black smoke once again billowed from the Sistine Chapel chimney on Thursday morning, signaling that the cardinals have yet to agree on a successor to Pope Francis. The smoke appeared at 11:50 a.m. local time (0950 GMT), following the second and third ballots of the papal conclave.

With none of the 133 voting cardinals securing the required two-thirds majority—at least 89 votes—the process to elect the 267th pope remains unresolved. The cardinals returned to their Vatican residences for a midday break and lunch before reconvening for an afternoon voting session, during which two more ballots are expected.

On Wednesday, the opening day of the conclave, the first round of voting ended with a similar result. Black smoke poured from the chimney just after 9 p.m., prompting speculation about the unusually long delay. Observers questioned whether the cardinals had needed to repeat the vote, address a health emergency, or accommodate translation needs. Others mused whether the papal preacher's meditation had simply run long.

Despite early predictions of a short conclave, the process has now entered its second day with no clear frontrunner. Historically, conclaves have required anywhere from three to 14 ballots to elect a new pope. Pope John Paul I was chosen on the fourth ballot in 1978, John Paul II on the eighth, and Pope Francis on the fifth in 2013.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State and one of the leading papabili, is currently guiding the proceedings. As the most senior cardinal under age 80, Parolin holds a central role in the election process.

St. Peter's Square remains a focal point for faithful and curious onlookers alike. Thousands have gathered to watch the event unfold on large video screens. While some left disappointed after the extended wait, many remained to cheer as smoke finally emerged.

Pope Francis appointed 108 of the 133 voting cardinals, many from less traditional regions such as Mongolia, Tonga, and Sweden—adding diversity and unpredictability to the outcome. The conclave continues with suspense, as the world awaits the emergence of white smoke.



Geopolitical Tensions and Global Cues Rattle Markets; Sensex Falls 411 pts, Nifty Drops 140 pts

Domestic stock markets were in turmoil today. The broad and benchmark indices lost ground on Thursday. This was due to negative signals from international markets, the war atmosphere between India and Pakistan, and increasing tensions. As investors preferred to take profits, the indices, which had been moving in a range-bound manner since morning, finally fell. Nifty 140 and Sensex lost 411 points. India Vicks rose by 10% today in a single day, indicating uncertainty.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,746 in the previous session, opened at 80,912 on Thursday. It touched an intraday low of 79,987. It reached an intraday high of 80,927. It finally closed at 80,334 with a gain of 411 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,431, touched a low of 24,150 and a high of 24,447. It closed at 24,273, down 140 points. The Nifty Bank fell 245 points to settle at 54,365.

In the Nifty50, 5 companies gained and 45 lost. Axis Bank, HCL Tech, Kotak Bank, Titan, Tata Motors were the top gainers. Shriram Finance, Eternal, M&M, Adani Enterprises, and Hindalco were the biggest losers. Today, the Fear Index India VIX rose 10.21% to 21.01. Mid and smallcap indices were mixed. IT and media indices rose marginally. Realty, healthcare, metal, finance, auto, pharma, oil, PSU bank, consumption, FMCG indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today completely shifted in favor of sellers. Out of a total of 2937 shares trad-

ed, 820 gained. 2027 lost. 26 shares touched their 62-week high and 52 shares touched their 52-week low. 73 shares reached the upper circuit and 61 shares reached the lower circuit.

Rupee weakened by 88 paise to settle at 85.71 against the dollar. Morgan Stanley has given an underweight rating to Dabur India with a target price of Rs. 396. Titan shares performed better ahead of the results. Citi has maintained its sell rating on PNB with a target price of Rs. 91. Nomura has given a neutral rating to Bank of Baroda with a target price of Rs 235. Escorts Kubota's net profit is Rs 250 crore and revenue is Rs 2430 crore. 15 lakh shares changed hands in IndusInd Bank. Asian Paints' Q4 profit is Rs 700 crore. Bharat Forge's net profit fell 11.3% to Rs 345 crore from Rs 389 crore. Niva Bupa's net profit rose 31% to Rs 206 crore from Rs 157 crore. Reliance Jio subscribers increased by 21.74 lakh in March. CLSA expects EMRAEF shares to rise another 20%. It has set a target price of Rs 1,68,000.

SEBI Takes Action Against STL and Merchant Banker FOCL for Misutilisation of IPO Funds



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has issued an interim order restricting Mumbai-based Synoptics Technologies Ltd (STL) from trading in the securities market due to the diversion and misutilisation of funds raised through its initial public offering (IPO). In a separate move, SEBI has also barred First Overseas Capital Ltd (FOCL), the lead manager to the IPO, from accepting any new assignments related to merchant banking.

STL, a small and medium-sized information technology solutions provider, raised a total of Rs 54.04 crore through its IPO, which was listed on the SME Platform of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) on July 13, 2023. The IPO, priced at Rs 237 per share, included both a fresh issue of shares and an offer for sale. The company raised Rs 35.08 crore through the fresh issue, while Rs 18.96 crore was garnered through the offer for sale from two promoters, Jatin Shah, the company's managing director, and Jagmohan Manilal Shah.

According to the disclosures made in STL's red herring prospectus (RHP), the IPO-related expenses totaled Rs 80 lakh. Of these, Rs 50 lakh were to be paid from the proceeds of the fresh issue, while the remaining Rs 30 lakh was to be covered by the selling shareholders. After deducting these expenses, STL was expected to receive Rs 34.58 crore, which was meant for various purposes. These included repaying borrowings (Rs 5 crore), funding working capital (Rs 17.58 crore), making investments in strategic acquisitions or joint ventures (Rs 5.3 crore), and general corporate purposes (Rs 6.7 crore).

However, SEBI's interim order comes after the regulator discovered that STL had diverted and misused these funds, prompting the restrictions on the company and the barring of FOCL from taking up new IPO-related assignments. The action underscores SEBI's commitment to ensuring transparency and accountability in the capital markets.

Tata Group Stock Climbs After Net Profit Jumps 112%, Check Dividend Announcement



Voltas Ltd's stock witnessed a strong surge on Thursday, gaining up to 3% intraday following the company's stellar Q4 FY25 earnings. The shares climbed to the day's high of ₹1,287.60 apiece on the BSE, compared to the previous close of ₹1,244.45. At the time of reporting, the stock was trading at ₹1,260.90, up 1.32%, taking the company's market capitalisation to ₹41,744.42 crore. Voltas is a constituent of the BSE 200 index.

The rally comes on the back of a robust financial performance for the quarter ended March 31, 2025. The Tata Group company reported a 14% year-on-year increase in consolidated total income, which stood at ₹4,847 crore, compared to ₹4,257 crore in Q4 FY24. Profit before tax almost doubled, surging 97% to ₹343 crore from ₹174 crore, while net profit (after tax) rose to ₹236 crore from ₹111 crore—a 113% increase.

Voltas also posted its highest-ever annual profit for the financial year ending March 31, 2025. The consolidated income grew 24% year-on-year to ₹15,737 crore from ₹12,734

crore. Profit before tax skyrocketed by 145% to ₹1,191 crore, while net profit soared to ₹834 crore, a 236% rise from the previous year's ₹248 crore.

In recognition of its strong performance, the company's board declared a dividend of ₹7 per share (700%) on a face value of ₹1 for FY 2024–25. The dividend will be paid on or after the fifth day following the conclusion of the 71st Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Founded in 1954 and part of the Tata Group, Voltas Ltd is a leading provider of air conditioning and engineering solutions. Its product portfolio includes room air conditioners, air coolers, air purifiers, water dispensers, commercial refrigeration, and commercial air conditioning systems.

The remarkable financial results and dividend announcement have reinforced investor confidence in Voltas, further cementing its position as a leader in the consumer durables and cooling solutions space.

Adani Green Becomes World's 1st Renewable Energy IPP To Turn Water Positive

Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has become the world's first renewable energy Independent Power Producer (IPP) to achieve water positivity across its entire operational portfolio, which now exceeds a remarkable 14 GW in capacity.

Achieving this milestone a full year ahead of its FY26 target, AGEL has set a new global benchmark for sustainability among the top 10 renewable energy companies worldwide.

Certified as water positive by global assurance firm Intertek, AGEL's achievement follows rigorous audits of water usage and conservation efforts across 103 operational sites and 85 water conservation sites. This certification marks AGEL as the only renewable energy company in India of its scale to reach such a standard.

Water positivity means replenishing more water than is consumed in operations—an especially significant accomplishment given AGEL's large-scale solar and wind farms are situated in some of India's most arid and water-scarce regions, such as Khavda in Gujarat and the Thar Desert.

AGEL's efforts have resulted in water conservation equivalent to 467 Olympic-sized swimming pools, enough to meet more than half the annual water demand of the Lakshadweep islands. The revitalization of 85 traditional ponds now supports over 1.23 lakh people, including many from water-stressed

communities.

Over 54% of AGEL's operational capacity uses robotic cleaning systems for solar panels, saving around 546 million litres of water annually. The company also implements rainwater harvesting, pond deepening, and even innovative pilot projects like harvesting drinking water from humid air.

Originally setting a goal to make 200 MW of its portfolio water positive by FY26, AGEL exceeded that target in FY23 and expanded it to the entire operational capacity—reaching the revised goal a year early.

“This milestone is not just about clean energy—it's about generating it in the most sustainable way,” an AGEL spokesperson said. In addition to being water positive, AGEL's operations are also single-use plastic free and zero waste-to-landfill, reinforcing its role as a leader in environmentally responsible energy.

As climate change and population growth increase pressure on global water supplies, AGEL's achievement is a powerful model for sustainable industrial practices.



Memes Over Missiles: Youth Turn Tensions into Satire Amid India-Pakistan Flare-Up

As tensions simmer once again between India and Pakistan, a surprising response has taken over the digital landscape — not of fear, but of wit. Across platforms like X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, and Facebook, users, especially from the younger generation, are reacting with a barrage of memes and sarcastic commentary that blend humour with the absurdity of geopolitical anxieties.

Instead of engaging in heated debates or echoing fear-driven narratives, many netizens are resorting to satire to cope with the situation. One meme making the rounds captures the academic anxiety of students with the text: “Please jung maat karo, social studies ka syllabus bad jayega” (“Please don’t go to war, the social studies syllabus will be increased”). Another popular post features the dilemma of a student during mock drills: “Mock drill ho raha hai, end sems ke liye padna hai ya nahi?” (“There’s a mock drill happening — should I study for the end-semester exams or not?”).

These memes, though humorous on the surface, reflect a deeper reality — a generation that has grown up in the shadow of political instability, economic turbulence, and global crises. An Instagram reel circulating widely captures this sentiment perfectly: “We



are the generation that witnessed the lockdown, earthquake, demonetization, COVID, Ram Mandir, MahaKumbh.” The commentary is less about trivializing events and more about expressing collective exhaustion with an era marked by constant upheaval.

What’s striking is how satire has become a tool of resilience. For many young people, memes offer a safe, creative space to process complex emotions surrounding conflict, uncertainty, and media sensationalism. It’s a form of digital dissent — subtle yet powerful — against fear-mongering and hyper-nationalism.

While the geopolitical climate remains serious, the online response reveals a generational shift in how conflict is perceived and discussed. In a world where traditional diplomacy often falls short, humour has emerged as an unlikely, yet effective, coping mechanism. Through laughter, this generation is not dismissing the gravity of the situation — they’re simply choosing to face it on their own terms, one meme at a time.

Rs 85 Crore Per Litre: The Hidden Fortune Inside a Scorpion’s Sting

In a world full of hidden treasures, few would expect one of the most valuable substances on Earth to come from a creature most people fear — the scorpion. Its venom, feared for its painful and potentially dangerous sting, is also one of the most expensive liquids globally, priced at an astonishing \$10 million, or approximately Rs 85 crore, per litre.

Most of us react to a scorpion with instinctive fear — we either kill it or steer clear. But behind that tiny arachnid, often no bigger than a thumb, lies a substance of immense scientific and monetary value. What makes scorpion venom so valuable is not just its rarity, but its promising applications in modern medicine.

Used beyond just producing antivenom, scorpion



venom has shown potential in treating serious medical conditions such as osteoarthritis, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), and myasthenia gravis — a chronic neuromuscular disorder. Extracted venom is further processed into powder in highly specialized laboratories, where it transforms into a pharmaceutical resource worth millions.

However, obtaining this rare liquid is no easy task. Harvesting scorpion ven-

om is both dangerous and highly labour-intensive. A single scorpion yields only about 2 millilitres of venom at a time, meaning that hundreds of thousands of extractions are required to produce just one litre. The process demands precision, expertise, and unwavering caution. A single mishap could lead to serious injury — or worse.

Surprisingly, scorpions aren’t rare creatures confined to exotic locations.

In fact, they are relatively common in various parts of India, especially during the monsoon season. While their presence usually causes panic, few are aware of the untapped fortune they carry in their stingers.

Despite the potentially massive financial rewards, collecting scorpion venom is not a field for amateurs. The risks are real, and proper training, equipment, and scientific support are essential to pursue such a venture safely.

So, the next time you encounter a scorpion, think twice. Beneath its menacing shell lies one of the world’s most lucrative natural substances — proof that sometimes, great value comes from the most unexpected places.

The Dark Truth Behind Fashion: Snakes Skinned Alive for Luxury Goods

In Kapetakan, a small village in Java, Indonesia, snakes are not feared or killed out of self-defense, but are slaughtered for the fashion industry. Here, venomous creatures like cobras are captured, tortured, and killed to produce high-end items like handbags, shoes, and belts. The brutal reality behind these luxury goods is disturbing and often hidden from the public eye.



then skinned alive, their suffering captured in horrific images.

This inhumane practice is carried out in the slaughterhouse of Boss Cobra, or Wakira. The factory, which has been under scrutiny since 2013, produces luxury leather goods from the skins of these tortured creatures. Items such as wallets, belts, and shoes made from the snakes’ skin are sold at extremely low prices within Indonesia but can fetch

sky-high prices overseas, reaching up to ₹33 lakh in European and American markets.

The demand for exotic leather goods has led to the rise of such cruel industries, where animal suffering is directly linked to consumer fashion. What’s even more alarming is how these luxury products are marketed as symbols of status and exclusivity, with little regard for the lives that are sacrificed to create them.

This horrifying practice calls attention to the need for ethical fashion choices and cruelty-free alternatives. As consumers, we must ask ourselves if these luxury items are worth the price of suffering that these animals endure. The fashion industry’s dark side demands greater awareness and responsible action.

Design the Skyline: UAE residents can win Rs 23L in Burj Khalifa design competition

In a unique fusion of art, innovation, and urban architecture, Dubai-based real estate giant Emaar has launched an open call inviting residents and creatives across the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to design a projection for the iconic Burj Khalifa. The winner of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will receive a cash prize of AED 100,000 (approximately ₹23 lakh), and have their work displayed on the world’s tallest building.

Running from May 6 to May 26, this initiative opens up a rare creative platform for artists, designers, and visual storytellers to showcase their talent on a global stage. Participants are encouraged to submit original projection videos or animations that embody themes of creativity, innovation, and Dubai’s vibrant cultural spirit.

In a statement, Mohamed Alabbar, Founder of Emaar, expressed his vision behind the initiative. “At Emaar, we believe that talent knows no boundaries. Burj Khalifa stands not only as a symbol of human achievement but also as a canvas for creativity and innovation — open to everyone with a talent to share,” he said.

“Through initiatives like this, we reaffirm our commitment to nurturing creativity and providing a platform where ideas can reach new heights. We are proud to open our doors to every dreamer, artist, and innovator, offering them the opportunity to contribute to our collective story of achievement,” Alabbar added.

Submissions must in-

clude a three-minute dynamic visual projection that aligns with the technical specifications required for the Burj Khalifa’s advanced lighting and projection systems. Detailed guidelines regarding format, resolution, and mapping criteria are available on the official Burj Khalifa website.

To participate, applicants must send their entries to opencall@emaar.ae along with a short concept description that outlines the inspiration and narrative behind their design. The winning entry will not only receive a substantial monetary award but will also become part of the visual identity of Dubai’s skyline — a monumental honour for any creative.

With this open call, Emaar is turning the Burj Khalifa into a beacon of artistic expression, providing a powerful stage for emerging and established creatives alike to make their mark in lights.



Meta Reportedly Considered Bringing Facial Recognition Support to Its Smart Glasses

Meta is reportedly working on a controversial new feature for its Ray-Ban Meta AI smart glasses that could enable users to identify people nearby by scanning their faces. This feature, which would be optional for the wearer, has raised concerns due to its lack of opt-out options for those who are being scanned. While the glasses already indicate when the built-in camera is in use by flashing an LED light, it remains unclear if any similar visual cue would be provided when facial recognition is active.

The idea behind this feature is based on Meta’s existing “Live AI” functionality, referred to internally as “super sensing.” It would allow users to identify people in their vicinity, potentially linking names and faces. This has sparked significant concern about privacy, as people around the user wouldn’t be able to



prevent their faces from being scanned. Meta, however, has suggested that the camera indicator light on the glasses may not activate when the facial recognition feature is used, making it even more difficult for individuals nearby to know when they’re being identified.

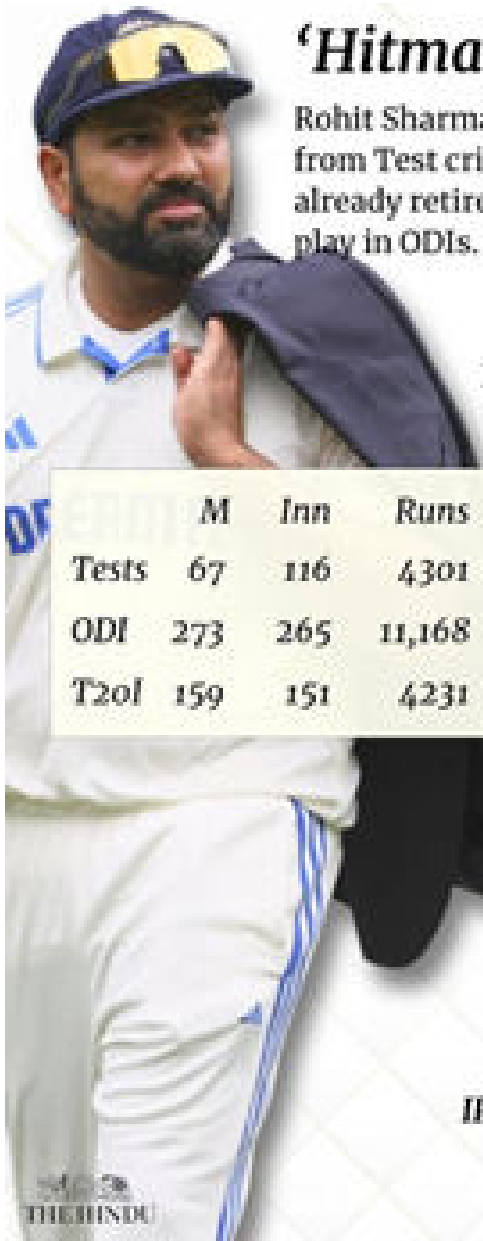
This new feature could mirror an experiment conducted last year by two Harvard University students, who created a system called I-XRAY. This

technology used Meta’s smart glasses along with facial recognition software and public databases to identify classmates, even revealing their home addresses. While I-XRAY was never released, it highlighted the ease with which facial recognition can be used in public spaces, making Meta’s potential integration of the technology all the more concerning.

The concern here is not just about the power of facial recognition but also

the ethical implications of using such technology without giving individuals a choice to opt out. If Meta moves forward with this feature, it could significantly impact personal privacy and surveillance, leading to questions about how such technology should be regulated. The smart glasses are designed to enhance convenience, but the introduction of facial recognition could lead to serious societal consequences if not properly managed.

Rohit Sharma Retires from Test Cricket, Continues in ODIs and IPL



‘Hitman’ ends Test career

Rohit Sharma, 38, announced his retirement from Test cricket on May 7, 2025. Having already retired from T20Is, he will continue to play in ODIs.

International career: 2007-2025

Batting stats

	M	Inn	Runs	HS	Avg	SR	100/50
Tests	67	116	4301	212	40.57	57.05	12/18
ODI	273	265	11,168	264	48.76	92.80	32/58
T20I	159	151	4231	121	32.05	140.89	5/32

Major trophies

T20 World Cup (2024, 2027)

Asia Cup (2018, 2023)

Champions League T20 (2013)

IPL (2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2020)

Source: ESPN CricInfo

In a move that caught few by surprise, Rohit Sharma announced his retirement from Test cricket on May 8, 2025, via an Instagram story. The 38-year-old's decision comes after a difficult tour of Australia, where he managed just 31 runs from five innings. Following that tour, he had already dropped himself from the final Test in Sydney, signaling the end of his Test career. The Indian selectors had also reportedly decided not to retain him as captain for the upcoming England tour, further confirming that his time in the longest format was nearing its end.

Rohit, who had previously retired from T20 Internationals, will continue to represent India in One Day Internationals (ODIs), where he has been one of the game's greats. Known for his spectacular batting and phenomenal strike rate, he has amassed over 11,000 runs in ODIs, including leading India to victory in the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy. Recently, he was named 'Player of the Match' for his 76-run performance

against New Zealand in the Champions Trophy, and has maintained his impressive form in the IPL with the Mumbai Indians, despite a slow start to the season.

Rohit's journey in Test cricket began in 2013 against the West Indies, following an injury delay in 2010. His debut match saw him score an impressive 177 runs at number six. While he showed early promise in the longer format, his Test career was never as consistent as his success in ODIs. Despite a fine total of 4,301 runs from 67 Tests, with an average of 40.57 and 12 centuries, his Test career was often interrupted by injury and inconsistency.

For now, Rohit will continue to lead India in ODIs and remain a key figure in the IPL, where his leadership and batting are crucial. His retirement from Test cricket marks the end of an era, but his legacy in the shorter formats will continue to shine.

PBKS vs DC Called Off Amid Security Concerns in Dharamsala

The highly anticipated IPL 2025 match between Punjab Kings and Delhi Capitals at the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium in Dharamsala was abandoned due to security concerns stemming from regional unrest. The decision to call off Match 58 came after a sudden power outage during the game, followed by the activation of air raid alerts in nearby areas, including a black-out in Jammu, approximately 200 kilometers away.



According to IPL Chairman Arun Dhumal, the match was called off as a "precautionary step" after reports emerged of missile activity and intercepts in Jammu. Initially attributed to floodlight malfunction, the stadium lost lighting tower by tower until only one remained functional. Fans were subsequently evacuated, and both teams were taken off the field for their safety.

At the time of abandonment, Punjab Kings were in a commanding position at 122/1 in 10.1 overs. Priyansh Arya had played a blistering knock of 70 off 34 balls before being dismissed by T Natarajan, while Prabhsimran Singh remained unbeaten at 50 from 28 deliveries. The top order's explosive start set a strong foundation before the match came to an abrupt halt.

Reports also noted sirens and blackouts in Dharamsala, possibly linked to national security protocols in response

to the Jammu incident, where Pakistani missiles were reportedly intercepted. This raised speculation about the continuation of the IPL 2025 season, with sources indicating that a final decision on the league's fate may be announced by Friday, May 9.

Both franchises had much at stake, with Punjab Kings in excellent form this season. However, safety took precedence, and authorities acted swiftly to prevent any potential risks. Fans were left disappointed, but the organizers prioritized caution amid escalating regional tensions. As the situation develops, the future of the remaining IPL 2025 matches remains uncertain.

PSG Defeats Arsenal to Reach Second Champions League Final, Set to Face Inter Milan

Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) secured their place in the UEFA Champions League final for the second time in five years, defeating Arsenal 2-1 in the second leg of their semifinal on May 7, 2025, with a 3-1 aggregate win. The French side will now face Inter Milan in the final, following their dramatic victory over Barcelona in the other semifinal.



PSG weathered an early storm from Arsenal, with goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma making several crucial saves to keep the Gunners at bay. Despite Arsenal's fast start, PSG struck first in the 27th minute when Fabian Ruiz capitalized on a defensive error by

Arsenal's Thomas Partey. Ruiz latched onto the ball and smashed a powerful shot past Arsenal goalkeeper David Raya to give PSG the lead.

In the second half, PSG sealed their win when Achraf Hakimi scored in the 72nd minute after a clever one-two with Ousmane Dembélé, who had just come on as a substitute. Arse-

nal's hopes were briefly revived when Bukayo Saka scored in the 76th minute, but a missed opportunity from Saka moments later, when he blazed a clear chance over the bar, ensured PSG's progression to the final.

Although Arsenal fought valiantly, their efforts fell short, and they were denied a first Champions

League final appearance since 2006. Despite missing a penalty earlier in the match, PSG's composure and defensive resilience, along with the brilliance of Donnarumma in goal, ensured they progressed.

PSG, under coach Luis Enrique, have shown significant improvement since their last final appearance in 2020, and now they face a historic showdown against Inter Milan on May 31 in Munich. This will be the first-ever meeting between the two teams in European competition, and the final will mark the first Champions League final between an Italian and French team since 1993.

India Defeats South Africa by 23 Runs to Set Up Tri-Series Final Against Sri Lanka

India secured a 23-run victory over South Africa in the Women's Tri-Nation ODI series on May 7, 2025, thanks to a brilliant career-best century from Jemimah Rodrigues. India's 337/9 total proved to be too much for South Africa, who could only manage 314/7 in response. This result has set up a title clash with Sri Lanka in the final.



Rodrigues' stunning 123 off 101 balls, which included 15 boundaries and a six, anchored India's innings. She shared valuable partnerships, including an 88-run stand with opener Smriti Mandhana (51) and a 122-run partnership with Deepti Sharma (93). Rodrigues was dismissed in the 43rd over while attempting a shot over the offside, but her knock had already put India in a commanding position.

Deepti, who played a classy

93-run knock, ensured India continued to pile on the runs after Rodrigues' departure. South Africa's bowlers, led by Masabata Klaas (2/51), Nadine de Klerk (2/54), and Nonkululeko Mlaba (2/71), struggled to contain India's batters.

In reply, South Africa faced a challenging target and lost their first wicket early, with Lara Goodall departing for just 7. Tazmin Brits (26) and Miane Smit (39) rebuilt with a 63-run partnership for the second wicket, but India's bowlers kept the pressure on, limiting South Africa to ones and twos. Despite a valiant effort from

Annerie Dercksen, who scored 81 off 80 balls, and stand-in captain Chloe Tryon, who contributed 67 off 43 balls, the required run rate kept climbing.

In the final overs, South Africa's hopes faded as they struggled to maintain the pace. After a brief halt due to poor light, Tryon and Nadine de Klerk added 15 more runs, but it wasn't enough.

India's win secured them six points from the round-robin phase, and they now await Sri Lanka in the final. South Africa, having lost all three of their games, have been eliminated from the tournament.

Brief Scores:

India: 337/9 (Rodrigues 123, Deepti 93, Mandhana 51; Klaas 2/51, de Klerk 2/54)
South Africa: 314/7 (Dercksen 81, Tryon 67; Amanjot 3/59, Deepti 2/57)

Sania Mirza Applauds Women Officers Behind ‘Operation Sindoor’ Briefing

Former Indian tennis star Sania Mirza took to social media to praise two women officers for their powerful media briefing on India's successful execution of "Operation Sindoor." The operation, carried out by the Indian Army and Air Force, targeted nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, on April 22, 2025.

Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh were part of the briefing, which was led by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri. Mirza shared a post by journalist Faye D'Souza, who highlighted the significance of the photo showing the two women officers alongside Misri. D'Souza remarked, "The messaging in this very powerful photo perfectly captures who we are as a nation." Mirza, celebrating the moment, shared the post, emphasizing the strength and unity represented by the women from different religions.

Colonel Qureshi discussed the operation's importance, stating that it marked a shift in strategy after three decades of Pakistan's construction of terror infrastructure across PoK and Pakistan. The operation's aim was to dismantle these facilities and prevent further attacks. The targets included key areas such as Muzaffarabad, Kotli, and Bahawalpur, which have long been suspected of hosting terrorist



camps.

In total, over 70 terrorists were killed, and more than 60 were injured in the missile strikes. The operation is seen as a proportionate response to the April 22 attack, which killed 26 people, including a Nepali national. Mirza's post praised the professionalism and power of the women officers, showing solidarity with the Indian armed forces and celebrating their contributions to the nation's security.

This historic briefing, led by two strong women in the Indian military, has struck a chord with the public and garnered widespread support for the operation and its message.



Ram Pothineni’s RAPO 22 Title Glimpse to Be Unveiled on May 15

Tollywood star Ram Pothineni is set to return to the big screen with his 22nd film, tentatively titled RAPO 22, under the direction of Mahesh Babu P. Known for his previous hit Miss Shetty Mr. Shetty, Mahesh Babu P is teaming up with Ram for an emotional, romantic drama that promises to resonate with a wide audience.

RAPO 22 stars the rising actress Bhagyashree Bose as the female lead, fresh off her recent success in Tollywood. The film’s storyline reportedly centers on a passionate fan named Sagar, whose obsession with his favorite actor defines his journey. The theme explores the deep emotional connection fans often have with their idols, making it a relatable experience for the audience.

Excitement around the film is building as the production team has announced that the title glimpse will be unveiled on May 15, coinciding with Ram Pothineni’s birthday. The announcement was made via a post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), which read: “ONE FAN. ONE SHOW. A MILLION EMOTIONS. Get ready to meet ‘Sagar’—the fanboy we all will relate to.”

While the official title is yet to be confirmed, the name “Andhra King Thaluka” is currently being rumored across fan circles and social media.

RAPO 22 is being bankrolled by leading production house Mythri Movie Makers, known for backing some of the biggest recent blockbusters in Telugu cinema. The music is being composed by the energetic and versatile duo Vivek–Mervin, who are expected to bring a youthful and emotional soundtrack to the film.



Ram Pothineni has reportedly undergone a complete makeover for his role in RAPO 22, adding further intrigue to the character of Sagar. Sources close to the project say the actor is deeply invested in the role and aiming for a powerful comeback.

With its emotionally rich plot and a promising cast and crew, RAPO 22 is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated Telugu films in the coming months.



Sree Vishnu’s Single Promises Entertainment, Drama, and Exciting Debuts

Sree Vishnu’s upcoming film Single, scheduled for a grand release on May 9, 2025, is generating plenty of buzz with its trailer, which has captivated audiences and sparked interest. The film is expected to offer a healthy dose of entertainment, drama, and comedy, making it one of the most anticipated releases of the year.

According to the makers, the second half of Single is set to bring the laughs, with Venela Kishore’s role being a major highlight. Known for his impeccable comedic timing, Kishore is expected to deliver some of the funniest moments in the film, providing plenty of light-hearted

entertainment. His presence is likely to be a crowd-puller, and fans are eager to see how his character unfolds.

For Ketika Sharma, Single represents a significant opportunity to showcase her talent. After gaining some recognition with her song in Robinhood, Sharma is determined to make a solid impact with this film. She has high hopes for its success, as the role offers her a strong and prominent character, potentially setting the stage for even greater recognition in the industry.

Adding to the excitement, Single marks the Telugu debut of Ivana, the breakout star of Love Today. Ivana’s

role in the film is being described as significant, and if the movie performs well at the box office, it could be a major turning point in her career. The opportunity to shine in a prominent role is sure to elevate her profile in the Telugu film industry.

With an exciting cast, promising performances, and a compelling narrative, Single is shaping up to be a must-watch film. The combination of entertainment, drama, and comedy, along with the promise of powerful debuts, makes it a highly anticipated release this weekend. Fans are eagerly awaiting May 9, 2025, to see how the film delivers on its promises.



Samantha Ruth Prabhu’s Subham Premieres to Rave Reviews

Samantha Ruth Prabhu has ventured into production with her debut project, Subham, which is directed by Praveen Kandregula. The film, slated for a theatrical release on May 9, 2025, had its premiere last night, and early reviews are overwhelmingly positive. The blend of comedy and horror, paired with a quirky tone, has struck a chord with audiences, earning Samantha praise for her strong start in the world of film pro-

duction.

Subham marks an exciting new chapter for the star, who has garnered attention not only for her acting but now as a producer with a distinctive vision. The film’s innovative mix of genres is seen as one of its strongest elements, capturing the attention of critics and viewers alike.

The cast of Subham includes a talented group of actors

such as Harshith Malgireddy, Shriya Kontham, Charan Peri, Shalini Kondepudi, Gavireddy Srinivas, and Shravani, each delivering solid performances that complement the unique storyline. The music, composed by Shor Police, adds to the film’s charm, while the background score by Vivek Sagar further enhances its eerie yet comedic atmosphere.

With Subham, Samantha Ruth Prabhu proves that her talents

extend beyond acting, offering audiences a refreshing cinematic experience. The positive reception to the premiere has generated excitement for its upcoming release in theatres, and fans are eager to see how the film performs at the box office.

Stay tuned for more updates as Subham prepares to hit the big screens tomorrow, promising a thrilling and entertaining ride.

Wamiqa Gabbi’s “Bhool Chuk Maaf” Ditches Theatrical Release, Heads Straight to OTT

In a surprising move, Wamiqa Gabbi’s much-awaited film Bhool Chuk Maaf, which was slated for a theatrical release on May 9, 2025, will now skip theatres and instead premiere on Amazon Prime Video on May 16, 2025. The sudden shift has caught fans off guard, but there’s a clear reason behind this last-minute change.

Maddock Films, in partnership with Amazon MGM Studios, issued a statement explaining that the decision was made due to “recent events and heightened nationwide security drills,” prioritizing public safety and ease of access. Producer Dinesh Vijan confirmed that the film’s release strategy was adjusted with these concerns in mind, ensuring that audiences could still enjoy the film safely from their homes.

This change echoes the pandemic-era trend of films bypassing traditional theatrical releases in favor of direct-to-digital platforms. With this shift, Bhool Chuk Maaf may set a precedent for future OTT-first releases, though whether this will become a recurring strategy in the industry remains to be seen.

The film, directed by Karan Sharma, stars Rajkumar Rao alongside a talented ensemble



cast that includes Seema Pahwa, Sanjay Mishra, Raghubir Yadav, and Zakir Hussain. The music is composed by Tanishk Bagchi, with the score provided by Ketan Sodha, adding to the film’s intrigue.

While this change has left many curious, the decision to release Bhool Chuk Maaf on a streaming platform seems to reflect a careful consideration of the current climate, with a focus on delivering the film to audiences safely and efficiently. Fans will now have to wait a little longer but can still look forward to watching the film on Amazon Prime Video when it premieres on May 16.

Bollywood Producers Rush to Register “Operation Sindoor” Title Amid Military Action

Following the recent launch of “Operation Sindoor” by the Indian Armed Forces in response to the deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Bollywood producers are scrambling to secure the rights to the title. The operation, which targeted terror camps in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir and Pakistan, was carried out in retaliation for the tragic loss of 26 innocent tourists in the attack.

Since the operation’s announcement, multiple leading production houses have reportedly queued up to register the title “Operation Sindoor” for an upcoming film. Mahaveer Jain Films is currently in the lead, being the first production company to secure the title. Renowned filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar is also said to have followed suit, registering the title shortly after. Other major film studios, such as Zee Studios and T-Series, are also in the race, with plans to develop a film inspired by the operation and the Pahalgam attack.

The title “Operation Sindoor” is seen as a powerful and emotional choice, as it not only references the recent military strike but also serves as a tribute to the women who lost their husbands and family members in the terror attack. The title has already captured the attention of the industry, with many speculating which banner will ultimately secure the rights



to use it.

The frenzy to register the title reflects Bollywood’s ongoing interest in military-based films, which are often well-received by audiences. Movies like Border, URI: The Surgical Strike, Raazi, and Amanat have all enjoyed significant success, and this trend is likely influencing producers’ eagerness to capitalize on the current national sentiment surrounding the military’s decisive actions.

The industry is abuzz with anticipation, and according to the registration rules, the first producer to register the title will gain the rights to it. It remains to be seen which production house will officially announce a movie under the “Operation Sindoor” banner in the coming days.