



# Air India Flight AI171 Crashes After Takeoff in Ahmedabad

Over 240 onboard; PM Modi, global leaders express grief as emergency efforts continue

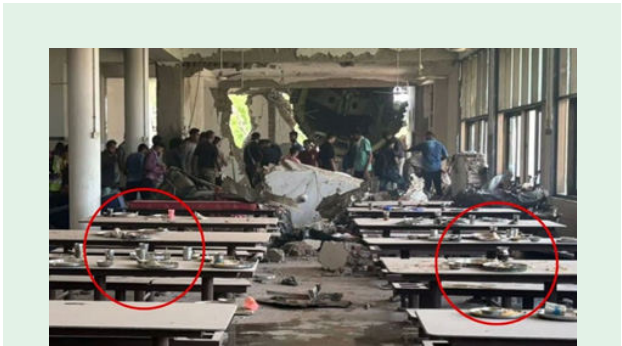
Air India Dreamliner crashes minutes after takeoff en route to London

242 people onboard, including ex-Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani

Aircraft airborne for only 32 seconds, crashed in residential zone

At least 5 students killed after impact at a hostel dining area

One passenger miraculously survived, walked out of wreckage



**It Was Lunchtime at Ahmedabad Doctors' Hostel, Then A Plane Came Crashing**

AI-171, which was flying to London, crashed minutes after taking off from Ahmedabad. Horrifying visuals from the hostel of Ahmedabad's BJ Medical College, into which an Air India flight with 242 people onboard crashed this afternoon, show plates of food left uneaten, suggesting that the aircraft hit the building when the young doctors were having their lunch.



**One passenger miraculously survived, walked out of wreckage**

Viswashkumar Ramesh, a 40-year-old from the U.K. is reported to be the only survivor from this morning's crash of Air India 171 in Ahmedabad. He was sitting in seat 11A at the time of the crash, amazingly suffering only minor injuries and waking up to search-and-rescuers. His brother, who was seated next to him is still missing, presumed dead by authorities in India.

TPN Correspondent | Ahmedabad

A major aviation tragedy struck India on Thursday afternoon after Air India's Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, operating as Flight AI171 from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick, crashed minutes after takeoff, killing multiple people and injuring dozens. The aircraft was carrying 232 passengers and 10 crew members when it lost altitude and crashed in a residential area close to the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport around 1:38 pm. The crash site was chaotic, with dense smoke, flames, and debris spread across buildings and streets. Emergency services—including fire brigade teams, local police, the Indian Army medical corps, and more than two dozen ambulances—rushed to the scene for rescue and relief. Officials confirmed the aircraft struck a hostel building housing medical college students, tragically killing five students and injuring others. Harrowing visuals from the dining hall showed untouched food on tables moments before disaster struck. Flight data and eyewitness accounts suggest that the aircraft struggled to gain height after takeoff from runway 23. According to initial

assessments, the plane reached just 625 feet before losing altitude. A 59-second video circulating online shows the aircraft airborne for merely 32 seconds before it violently crashed, resulting in a massive fireball. A miracle amid the tragedy came in the form of a passenger seated on 11A who was seen walking away from the wreckage, surviving the crash with minor injuries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep sorrow, calling the incident "heartbreaking beyond words". "The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it," he stated, confirming ongoing coordination with ministries and authorities. The Civil Aviation Ministry, under Minister Ram Mohan Naidu, is on high alert. "Shocked and devastated... Rescue teams have been mobilised and all efforts are being made to ensure medical aid and relief," he said. The Ministry is also working closely with Air India and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), which has initiated a detailed investigation.

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## Leaders Express Grief Over Ahmedabad Plane Crash

- CM Revanth, Kishan Reddy extend condolences
- Owaisi demands thorough investigation

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, and other prominent leaders expressed deep sorrow over the tragic crash of an Air India flight in Ahmedabad on Thursday, June 12, which left many feared dead. The London-bound Air India Flight AI171, carrying 242 passengers and crew, crashed into a residential area minutes after taking off from the Ahmedabad airport. The incident has sent shockwaves across the nation, prompting reactions from political and public leaders.



In a post shared by the Telangana Chief Minister's Office on X, Revanth Reddy expressed "profound shock and sorrow" over the incident. "Chief Minister Shri @revanth\_anumula has expressed profound shock and sorrow over the unfortunate accident involving Air India Flight AI171, which occurred during take-off from Ahmedabad en route to London," the CMO stated.

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## Telangana Competing with Developed Nations: Deputy CM Bhatti



- Your Integrity Is Your Greatest Asset
- The Nation's Financial Health Lies in the Hands of CAs
- Hyderabad Emerging as a Hub for Chartered Accountants

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad  
Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu said Telangana is no longer merely competing with other Indian states, but is now

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## Massive IAS Transfers in Telangana: 36 Officers Reassigned



- Harichandana Dasari appointed Hyderabad Collector
- Key principal secretary posts reshuffled
- District collectors, department heads given new roles

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## Air India Flight AI171 Crashes After Takeoff in Ahmedabad

The flight carried nationals from various countries—169 Indians, 53 British, 1 Canadian, and 7 Portuguese citizens. Among the passengers was former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani. Air India confirmed the crash in an official statement and activated a dedicated emergency helpline (1800 5691 444) for concerned family members. Chairman N Chandrasekaran said, “With profound sorrow, I confirm that Air India Flight 171 was involved in a tragic accident today. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with the families of all those affected.” Gautam Adani, head of the Adani Group that manages the Ahmedabad Airport, also released a statement: “We are shocked and deeply saddened by the tragedy of Air India Flight 171. Our hearts go out to the families who have suffered an

unimaginable loss.” From the UK, Prime Minister Keir Starmer responded to the crash, stating, “The scenes emerging of a London-bound plane crashing in Ahmedabad are devastating. My thoughts are with the passengers and their families.” London’s Gatwick Airport, the intended destination of the flight, confirmed it was expecting the aircraft to land at 18:25 UK time and said it was monitoring the developments. Authorities have sealed off surrounding areas to facilitate uninterrupted emergency operations. Traffic diversions are in place, and a crisis centre has been activated to manage the aftermath. Further updates from Air India, DGCA, and international aviation safety bodies are expected as investigations progress.

## Leaders Express Grief Over Ahmedabad Plane Crash

He also urged the Central government to take swift relief measures for the victims and their families. Union Minister G Kishan Reddy prayed for the early recovery of the injured and expressed solidarity with the families of those affected by the devastating crash. Another Union Minister, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, also took to social media to express shock. “My heartfelt prayers are with the passengers, crew, and their families. Our collective hope remains strong for the safety and survival of those onboard,” he posted. AIMIM President Asaduddin

Owaisi expressed deep concern and called for a thorough investigation into the tragedy. “Very concerned about the Air India crash in Gujarat. My prayers are with those on the flight and their loved ones. I hope for a thorough investigation into the disaster,” he stated. The nation continues to wait for official updates on the casualty count and rescue efforts, while leaders from various parties have come together in grief, urging quick action and support for those impacted by the heartbreaking incident.

## Telangana Competing with Developed Nations: Deputy CM Bhatti

standing shoulder to shoulder with developed countries globally. He was addressing the National-Level CA Students’ Conference organized by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Hyderabad Branch, at Shilpakala Vedika on Thursday. He stated that Telangana has become a hub for many industries including the Future City initiative, Musi River rejuvenation project, Regional Ring Road, and others. He added that Telangana has established a strong and stable presence on the global development map with advancements in IT, Pharma, Artificial Intelligence, and the Textile Park sectors. The Deputy CM highlighted that Telangana is also offering a promising platform for CA students who are emerging from across the country. He assured that those completing the CA course will find ample opportunities within the state. He praised ICAI as a pillar of India’s financial, economic, and ethical framework. He emphasized that chartered accountants must remain committed to ethics. “In this era of rapid technological automation, your integrity is your most valuable asset. Let your work always reflect honesty, fairness, and accountability,” the Deputy CM urged. He extended heartfelt congratulations to ICAI, which was established by an Act of Parliament in 1949, recognizing it as a standing example of financial discipline, professional values, and public trust. With more than 4.26 lakh members and nearly one million students across India, the Deputy CM said ICAI has become a major financial force. He added that the Hyderabad branch has played a particularly important role in this success—with over 14,500 members and 31,000 students, it stands as a precious jewel in ICAI’s crown. “You are not just numbers—you represent power, purpose, and potential,” he said. Becoming a chartered accountant is not merely about passing exams, he said—it is a continuous journey of learning, experience, and per-

sonal development. “As Finance Minister, I witness the professional impact of chartered accountants every day. You are not confined to dealing with numbers—you ensure compliance, uphold standards, and bring clarity to complexity,” he noted. He said that it is a matter of national pride that ICAI is producing highly skilled professionals who are serving across the globe. CA students are not just preparing for jobs, he said—they are getting ready to take responsibility for the financial health of businesses, institutions, and governments. He stressed that the responsibilities of a chartered accountant are not limited to balancing books—they are partners in progress, guardians of public trust, and guides in resource management. As India moves forward with the ambition of becoming a \$5 trillion economy, the role of chartered accountants has become even more critical. From business reforms and support for startups to strengthening public financial systems—CAS play a central role, he said. With rapid developments in blockchain, artificial intelligence-based accounting, and digital taxation, he encouraged CA students to upgrade their contemporary knowledge continuously. He called on the students to use their talent not only for earning but also for service. “Take up social audits, support small businesses in their financial growth, and participate in government financial planning programs—become partners in nation-building,” he appealed. He said many of them will one day become entrepreneurs and should strive to become job creators rather than just job seekers. He urged them to create new employment opportunities. Congratulating the CA students for choosing a challenging yet highly rewarding path, the Deputy CM said “The CA journey is not easy, but it is incredibly meaningful. Your success belongs not only to you—it contributes to the progress of India. Uphold the honor and dignity of this great profession always.”

# Massive IAS Transfers in Telangana: 36 Officers Reassigned

- **Harichandana Dasari appointed Hyderabad Collector**
- **Key principal secretary posts reshuffled**
- **District collectors, department heads given new roles**

TPN Correspondent | Telangana

In a major administrative shake-up, the Telangana state government on Thursday issued transfer orders for 36 Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers, appointing them to new key positions across various departments and districts. The large-scale reshuffle aims to streamline governance and accelerate developmental initiatives across the state. Among the notable appointments, Harichandana Dasari has been made the new Collector of Hyderabad District, a crucial administrative role given the capital city’s significance. **Other major reshuffles include:**

- N. Sridhar as Principal Secretary, Panchayati Raj and Rural Development; additional charge of Mines Department
- Lokesh Kumar as Principal Secretary, Revenue Department
- Naveen Mittal as Principal Secretary, Energy Department



- Jyoti Buddhaprakash as Secretary, Scheduled Caste Development Department
  - Shashank Goyal as Resident Commissioner, Telangana Bhavan, New Delhi
- In addition to secretariat-level changes, many district collectors were reassigned:**
- T. Vinay Krishna Reddy as Collector, Nizamabad, and Director of Srujana Women and Child Welfare Department (additional charge)
  - K. Haimavati as Collector, Siddipet
  - P. Pravinya as Collector, Sangareddy
  - Mikkilineni Manu Chowdhury as Collector, Medchal–Malkajgiri

- Anudeep Durisetty as Collector, Khammam
  - Sneha Shabarish as Collector, Hanumakonda
- Key departmental roles have also been filled with new appointments:**
- Bharathi Lakpathi Nayak as Secretary, Information Commission
  - Killu Sivakumar Naidu as R&R Commissioner
  - E. Naveen Nicholas as Director, School Education
  - P. Gautam as Director, Singareni
  - Vasam Venkateswar Reddy as Director, AIDS Control Society
  - K. Nikhila as Director, Fisheries Department
  - Vallur Kranthi as Managing Director, Tourism Department
  - P. Uday Kumar as CEO, Arogyasri Health Care Trust
  - Priyanka Ala as Secretary, Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC)
  - Muzamil Khan as Director, Civil Supplies
- The government has instructed all officers to take charge immediately, signalling a swift implementation of the reshuffle. The move reflects the administration’s efforts to bring fresh momentum to governance and enhance delivery of services across Telangana.

# Metro Work Halted at Charminar, Falaknuma

- **HC issues interim stay on Metro Phase 2 near heritage sites**
- **PIL flags threat to Charminar, Falaknuma Palace**
- **Govt directed to file detailed counter affidavit**

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

The Telangana High Court on Thursday issued interim orders halting construction work of the Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase 2 near Charminar and Falaknuma Palace, citing potential risks to historic and heritage structures. The orders were passed during the hearing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by the Act Public Welfare Foundation. The PIL raised serious concerns about the Metro’s proposed Corridor-6, alleging that work had commenced without conducting any heritage impact study. The petitioner pointed out that the ongoing and planned metro work could endanger several heritage monuments, including Charminar, Falaknuma Palace, Purani Haveli, Darul Shifa Masjid, and Mogalpura Tomb. A bench comprising Justice Sujay Pal and Justice Yara Renuka directed the government to refrain from continuing construction activities near Charminar and Falaknuma Palace until further orders. It also asked the government to submit a comprehensive counter affidavit detailing the safety measures, studies conducted, and approvals ob-



tained in connection with the project. The petitioner’s counsel insisted that any further work in heritage zones should only be allowed after due permissions are granted under the Telangana Heritage Monuments Protection Act and the Central Archaeological Survey of India Act. He further urged the court to direct the government to form an independent expert committee including representatives from the Urban Planning Department, conservationists, environmental experts, and local community stakeholders to study the likely impacts of the Metro works on heritage sites. Meanwhile, the Additional Advocate

General representing the Telangana government requested three weeks’ time to file the counter affidavit. Granting the request, the court adjourned the hearing and clarified that no metro-related construction activity will be permitted near Charminar and Falaknuma until the next hearing. The case has attracted widespread public attention, with conservationists and civil society members calling for a more balanced approach between urban development and heritage conservation. The next hearing is expected to set the tone for how infrastructure projects near historical sites will be handled in the future.

# Kaleshwaram Project Engineer’s Crores in Assets Shock Officials

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a sensational development, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) unearthed massive illegal assets belonging to Noonee Sridhar, an Executive Engineer who once supervised key works in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. The ACB carried out simultaneous raids on Wednesday at Sridhar’s residence and those of his relatives, exposing properties and wealth allegedly running into hundreds of crores. According to ACB sources, the searches revealed an opulent villa in Tellapur, a flat in Sheikhpeta, and a commercial building in Ameerpet, along with three open plots in Karimnagar. Sridhar also reportedly owns three independent houses, 16 acres of agricultural land, and 19 plots across Hyderabad, Karimnagar, and Warangal. In addition to real estate, officials seized two cars, large quantities of gold jewellery, and substantial bank balances, all of which are believed to be disproportionate to his known sources of income. ACB’s preliminary assessment places the open market value of his assets in the hundreds of crores. Sridhar is currently serving as Executive Engineer (EE) in the SRSP Division-8, and earlier supervised work on packages 6, 7, and 8 of the prestigious Kaleshwaram Project. He also holds the position of President of the Irrigation Engineers Association. Officials allege that Sridhar exploited his influential po-



sitions in the irrigation department to accumulate vast wealth illegally. A case of disproportionate assets has been registered, and he has been arrested and produced before the Nampally court. ACB sources say the raids are not yet over, with more searches to be conducted in the coming days. The development has created a stir in the irrigation department, raising concerns over deep-rooted corruption within high-value government projects like Kaleshwaram.



# Kavitha went to meet KCR at his farmhouse but was reportedly ignored

KCR left for Kaleshwaram inquiry without speaking to her  
Tensions in BRS continue amid speculation on Kavitha’s future

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Hyderabad: Internal tensions within the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) seem to be deepening as reports emerge of a strained encounter—or lack thereof—between party chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) and his daughter, MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha. In a politically charged development, Kavitha visited her father’s farmhouse in Erravalli on Monday, but KCR reportedly did not speak to her, fueling speculation within party circles. Sources reveal that Kavitha, accompanied by her husband Anil Kumar, arrived at KCR’s Erravalli residence intending to meet him. However, her visit coincided with KCR’s preparations to

appear before the judicial commission investigating the Kaleshwaram project. Despite Kavitha’s presence, KCR did not acknowledge or engage in any conversation with her, sources said. Adding to the confusion at the farmhouse, BRS MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy reportedly sustained minor injuries in a small mishap during the same time. The incident diverted the attention of those present, with party leaders rushing to assist him as he was taken to a hospital. Amidst the commotion, KCR stepped out of his room, but instead of interacting with his daughter, he got directly into his vehicle and departed for BRK Bhavan. This cold response has

sparked discussion, especially given the recent controversies surrounding Kavitha and her standing within the BRS. Party insiders suggest that this apparent snub reflects deeper rifts within the party, particularly regarding Kavitha’s political role and the fallout from ongoing issues linked to her. The silence from KCR at such a crucial juncture—when both the party’s future and his daughter’s political career are under scrutiny—is being closely watched by political observers. While no official statement has been made, the incident is expected to intensify speculation over Kavitha’s position in the BRS and her future political moves.



## AIMIM to Back Congress in Jubilee Hills By-Poll



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a significant political development, the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) has decided not to contest the upcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election, choosing instead to extend its support to the ruling Congress party. This move reflects the growing informal alliance between the two parties, particularly after recent political shifts in Telangana. The by-election was necessitated following the sudden demise of BRS MLA Maganti Gopinath, who passed away from cardiac arrest. Gopinath had won the seat during the December 2023 Telangana Assembly elections with 80,549 votes, defeating Congress candidate and former Indian cricket captain Mohd Azharuddin, who secured 64,212 votes. The BJP’s Lanka Deepak Reddy received over 25,000 votes, while AIMIM’s Rasheed Farazuddin came fourth with 7,848 votes. In the 2023 polls, AIMIM had supported BRS by fielding a candidate to draw Muslim votes away from the Congress. However, with the Congress having helped AIMIM win the MLC elections, AIMIM leaders say it’s

now time to return the favour. “As the Congress helped the AIMIM in winning the MLC elections, we will reciprocate this time. The friendly relations with the ruling government will not change,” said a senior AIMIM functionary. Despite this support, the by-election is far from a smooth ride for Congress. The BRS is expected to benefit from sympathy votes following Gopinath’s death. Additionally, controversy surrounding former BRS leader Baba Fasiuddin, now with the Congress, might hinder the party’s chances. Fasiuddin is reportedly linked to the suicide of a local BRS leader, which could be exploited by rivals during the campaign. In the 2023 Assembly elections, the Congress emerged victorious with 64 seats out of 119, while BRS managed 39, the BJP 8, AIMIM 7, and the CPI I. Since then, AIMIM has moved away from its previous alliance with the BRS, siding with Congress during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections as well. As the political landscape shifts, all eyes will be on Jubilee Hills, where sympathy, strategic alliances, and controversies may all shape the final outcome.

## KCR Must Reveal Truth on Kaleshwaram: Kodandaram

Former CM’s appearance before inquiry is necessary, says TJS MLC

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Telangana Jana Samithi (TJS) state president and MLC Prof. Kodandaram has stated that there is nothing wrong in former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) appearing before the inquiry commission investigating the Kaleshwaram project. Speaking at a meeting of party workers in Hyderabad, Kodandaram said that when lakhs of crores of public money are spent on a project, those responsible must be held accountable.



He stressed that KCR must reveal the facts before the commission, saying, “Anyone who makes a mistake must answer before the law. The Kaleshwaram project, built under KCR’s

leadership, has not only collapsed but also pushed the state into financial distress. It is his responsibility to face the commission and explain.” Kodandaram criticized the uproar from certain political quarters over KCR’s appearance at the commission, calling it “inappropriate.” He said that questioning and investigation are part of democratic accountability and should not be politicized. He also contrasted the current situation with the previous government, stating

that the Congress-led administration is at least attempting to listen to public grievances, something that was not seen during the BRS regime. He urged the TJS leaders and activists in Greater Hyderabad to work more vigorously to identify and solve local problems. Kodandaram emphasized that Telangana Jana Samithi should strengthen its presence in the capital region and work closely with the public on civic issues, ensuring that people’s voices are heard and addressed at every level.

## This Credit Goes to the Modi Government: Etala Rajender

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Malkajgiri MP and senior BJP leader Etala Rajender strongly defended the Narendra Modi-led central government, crediting it for India’s dramatic transformation over the past 11 years. Addressing the media at his residence in Shamirpet, Etala said that the country has progressed significantly under Prime Minister Modi’s leadership, bringing the Indian economy to the fourth position globally. “Before 2014, India’s economic condition was miserable. But people trusted the BJP with their vote, and we’ve honored that trust,” Etala stated. He emphasized that the Modi government successfully stabilized the economy and led India through crucial diplomatic strides, building stronger relations with nations worldwide. He also recalled the Modi government’s stern response to terrorism, referring to ‘Operation Sindoor’ as an act of justice for the atrocities inflicted by Pakistani terrorists. “The Modi

government avenged the brutal acts committed against Indian women and their families, showing what decisive leadership looks like,” Etala said. Etala took aim at the Telangana government, accusing it of spreading misinformation about central funding. “While the Centre is allocating significant funds for the development of Telangana, the state government is misleading people by denying it and refusing to cooperate,” he alleged. Former minister and MLA Vijaya Rama Rao, who was present at the event, supported Etala’s views. He noted that the BJP government is actively implementing development programs but is lagging in effectively publicizing them. He contrasted this with the previous Congress regime, accusing it of corruption and pointing out that some of its ministers are still serving prison sentences. He praised Modi’s leadership for empowering women through initiatives like the Women’s Reservation Bill and



for focusing on sanitation with the construction of toilets even in remote villages. “Whether it’s women’s empowerment or tackling unemployment, the Modi government has delivered on many fronts,” Vijaya Rama Rao asserted. The BJP leaders concluded by urging people to look beyond misinformation and recognize the transformative governance led by Prime Minister Modi over the past decade.

## Is This the 'Change' Congress Promised?: Harish Rao

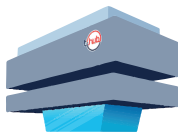
**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
BRS senior leader and Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao has lashed out at the Congress-led Telangana government, alleging that the village panchayats have not received their entitled funds for the past 16 months, crippling rural development activities across the state. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Harish Rao expressed deep concern over the severe financial crunch faced by gram panchayats. He said the situation has deteriorated to the point where panchayat secretaries are forced to return tractor keys to higher officials due to lack of diesel and op-

erational funds. He questioned Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s promises of change. “Is this the change the Congress spoke about? This is not change—what kind of change is this?” Harish Rao wrote in his post, directly criticizing the government’s handling of grassroots governance. Highlighting the contrast with the previous administration, Harish Rao pointed out that the BRS government had consistently released funds to village panchayats without fail. He claimed that ever since the Congress came to power, gram panchayats have been struggling due to delays

and non-release of necessary allocations. Harish Rao alleged that development work in rural Telangana has come to a standstill because of the government’s negligence. “The Congress government, which promised empowerment of local bodies, has instead paralyzed them by not releasing the minimum required funds,” he said. He demanded that the Revanth Reddy-led government act immediately and release all pending funds to village panchayats to ensure that essential services and rural development initiatives are resumed without further delay.







# 10 Sweet Shops Shut in Hyderabad for Food Safety Violations

- Shops found operating without valid FSSAI licence
- GHMC issues closure orders after surprise inspections
- Violators told to comply with hygiene norms to reopen

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a major crackdown on food safety violations, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) on Wednesday ordered the immediate suspension of operations at ten sweet shops and food establishments found functioning without a valid Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) licence or registration. The action followed a series of surprise inspections carried out by GHMC's food safety wing across 69 sweet shops in various parts of the city. So far, officials have inspected 60 establishments under strict orders from the GHMC commissioner, with the inspection drive still ongoing. Each food safety officer in the GHMC

limits was directed to inspect a minimum of five sweet shops in their respective circles. During the inspections, officials uncovered numerous violations of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and the Food Safety and Standards Rules and Regulations, 2011. Several shops were found lacking basic hygiene standards, including unhygienic kitchen premises and improper food handling practices. Notices were issued to multiple establishments for failing to maintain proper labelling on display items, including the date of preparation and expiry. The following shops have been ordered to shut down until they secure valid FSSAI licences:

- M/s Sri Laxmi Mithai Bhandar, LB

- Nagar Circle
- M/s Sri Raghavendra Sweet House and Bakery, LB Nagar Circle
- M/s Sri Sai Ram Hot Chips and Sweets, LB Nagar Circle
- M/s New Balaji Mithai Bhandar and Hot Chips, Kothapet
- Super Sweets, Alija Kotla, Charminar
- Balaji Ramswaroop Mithai Bhandar, Ramanthapur
- M/s Prem Sweets and Savouries, Serilingampally Circle
- M/s Sri Balaji Chaganlal Mithai Bhandar, Mallikarjuna Nagar, RC Puram
- M/s Sri Raghavendra Hot Chips, Beeramguda, RC Puram
- M/s Jodhpur Mithai Wala, Akalavya Nagar, Macha Bollarum, Alwal



GHMC officials have warned that these shops can resume operations only after fulfilling food safety requirements and obtaining a valid FSSAI licence. The department also urged all food business operators to adhere strictly

to hygiene and regulatory standards, especially ahead of the festive season. Inspections will continue in the coming days as part of GHMC's intensified drive to protect public health and ensure food quality across the city.

## TGANB Hosts First Inter-State Convergence Meeting to Strengthen Drug Law Enforcement



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a historic step toward coordinated drug law enforcement, the Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) hosted the First Convergence Meeting of Drug Law Enforcement Agencies on June 12, 2025, at the Mini Conference Hall, TGICCC, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. Delegates from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and central agencies including NCB, ED, DRI, FRRO, and Customs participated in the strategic summit. The event, inaugurated by Telangana DGP Sri Jitender, IPS, focused on fostering operational unity to combat the growing complexity of narcotics trafficking. "Telangana has a zero-tolerance policy towards drugs," the DGP asserted, urging states to strengthen co-operation and intelligence-sharing mechanisms. Key objectives included improving inter-agency coordination, mapping trafficking routes, sharing data on major offenders, and building joint

enforcement capacity. The meet also emphasized technology partnerships, legal SOPs for inter-state operations, and tracking financial networks behind drug syndicates. Sri Sandeep Shandilya, Director, TGANB, highlighted the need for joint intelligence handling and rehabilitation efforts under Section 64(A) of the NDPS Act. DIG Sri Abhishek Mohanty and SP Sri Ch. Rupesh provided insights into Telangana's current challenges in synthetic and cross-border drug movement. Delegates unanimously agreed on forming nodal coordination points, drafting joint SOPs, and initiating regular review meetings. They stressed arresting key traffickers and simultaneously launching awareness drives to reduce demand. This convergence marks a pivotal shift toward united action against narcotics, laying the foundation for a robust inter-state enforcement network across India's southern zone.

## Yuvaan Hiremath Adopts 8 Animal Species on His 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**Celebrates birthday with a noble gesture at Nehru Zoological Park**

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a heartwarming display of compassion towards wildlife, Yuvaan Hiremath, son of Dr. Sunil S. Hiremath, IFS, Director of Zoo Parks, Telangana, adopted eight animal species at Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad, to mark his 8th birthday on Thursday. Yuvaan visited the zoo with his parents and presented the adoption voucher to Smt. J. Vasantha, IFS, Curator of Nehru Zoological Park. The animals adopted for a one-month period include a Hippopotamus, Jaguar, Bear, Capuchin Monkey, Pelican, Gharial, Otter, and Owl. This marks the second consecutive year that Yuvaan has chosen to celebrate his birthday by

adopting animals, reflecting a deep affection and commitment towards animal welfare from a young age. Congratulating Yuvaan on his birthday, Curator Smt. J. Vasantha thanked him for his thoughtful gesture and highlighted the growing popularity of the animal adoption program. She mentioned that Nehru Zoological Park is witnessing increasing participation from individuals, corporates, banks, and educational institutions. She further appealed to citizens to come forward and adopt animals of their choice, noting that the scheme allows for adoptions ranging from a single day to an entire year, supporting the care and upkeep of the zoo's wildlife.



## Rowdy Sheeter Jaber and Gang Nabbed in Murder Plot Conspiracy

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a major breakthrough, the Commissioner's Task Force South Zone Team, in coordination with Bandlaguda Police, apprehended six members of a criminal gang allegedly involved in a conspiracy to commit murder. Among the arrested is notorious rowdy sheeter Mohd Jaber, who has a long criminal history across Hyderabad. According to police, the gang was planning to eliminate Jaber's long-time rival, Mohd Murtuza Ali, a former rowdy sheeter of Rajendra Nagar PS. Jaber, a real estate businessman from Pahadi Shareef, has been involved in at least 12 serious cases including murder, extortion, and illegal arms possession. Acting on credible intelligence, the police seized 12 coconut shell cutting knives, five mobile phones, and a Maruti Ciaz car used by the gang. The gang had planned to use these weapons to carry out the attack. The accused arrested are:



1. Mohd Jaber (43), Rowdy Sheeter, Pahadi Shareef
2. Zameer Khan (30), Welder, Pahadi Shareef
3. Syed Sha Abdul Jabbar @ Suleman (22), A/C Helper,

Technician, Bandlaguda  
6. Mohd Nasir (33), Painter, Bandlaguda  
Two others, Mouseen from Pahadi Shareef and Azher from Rethi Bowli, are absconding. Police revealed that Jaber, previously detained under the PD Act by Shahbad and Bahadurpura police, had earlier conspired to murder Murtuza Ali in 2019 as well. Despite being arrested, he continued his vendetta and procured weapons for another attempt. The arrested individuals and seized property were handed over to Bandlaguda Police. A case has been registered under Cr. No. 182/2025 under Sections 25(1)(B)(3) of the Arms Act and 61(2) BNS. Investigation is ongoing. The operation was led under the supervision of Sri S. Raghavendra, Inspector of Police, South Zone, and K. Gurunath, Inspector, Bandlaguda PS, along with SIS M. Mahesh, K. Narsimulu, G. Anjaneyulu, N. Naveen, and the South Zone Task Force staff.

## Five Missing Children from Bihar Rescued by Patancheru Police

**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
In a commendable effort, Patancheru Police successfully traced and reunited five missing children from Bihar with their families on June 12, 2025. The children were found wandering aimlessly in the Patancheru area, raising concerns among locals. Upon receiving information, Inspector Vinayaka Reddy responded promptly and brought the children to the police station. During questioning, it was discovered that all five children were originally from Bihar and had somehow reached Patancheru. Acting with compassion and urgency, the police ensured the children were

kept safely in a local hostel until their parents could be contacted and arrive in person. Once the parents reached the station, the police counseled both the children and their guardians before formally handing them over. The parents expressed heartfelt gratitude to the police for their swift response and safe handling of their children. This incident has been widely appreciated by the local community as an example of proactive and humane policing. Patancheru Police reiterated their commitment to child safety and urged the public to immediately report any cases of missing or vulnerable children.





# PD Act Will Be Imposed on Encroachers of Temple Lands: Konda Surekha

Minister conducts surprise inspection in Chengicherla over land encroachment  
Orders fencing and protection of 30 acres of endowment land  
Blames previous government for negligence of temple lands

**TPN Correspondent | Medchal**  
Telangana Endowments Minister Konda Surekha has issued a stern warning that the Preventive Detention (PD) Act will be invoked against anyone attempting to encroach upon lands belonging to temples and the Endowments Department in the state. “We will not tolerate any attempt to seize God’s lands. Strict action will be taken, including invoking the PD Act if necessary,” she said during a surprise inspection at Chengicherla, under Medipalli Mandal of Medchal district, on Thursday. Acting on a complaint of illegal encroachment, the minister visited the location along with Medchal Congress in-charge Thotakura Vajresh Yadav, local officials, and Endowment Department staff. She reviewed the status of nearly 30.28 acres of temple land in Survey Nos. 33/8, 33/9, and 33/10,

which were originally donated by private landowners to the TLP Charitable Trust in 1968 and subsequently transferred to the Endowments Department in 1976 under the Ceiling Act. Minister Surekha stated that successive Congress governments have protected these lands, but alleged that some individuals—with the help of fake surveys and local revenue officials during the BRS regime—attempted to encroach on and develop these lands, even planning to build villas. She directed immediate protection measures, including fencing, barcoding, and marking boundaries. She also coordinated with the Hyderabad District Collector and ordered a joint investigation involving the Revenue, Endowment, and Police Departments to ensure the lands are safeguarded. Endowment officials on-site informed the minister that fresh com-

plaints were received about private encroachments and that an Assistant Director-level survey confirmed the land still falls under Endowment Department jurisdiction. The minister assured that no effort would be spared in reclaiming and protecting temple properties. Konda Surekha also slammed the previous BRS government for its “continued neglect” of temple lands. “Our government is working from day one to identify and protect temple assets. We have started a comprehensive survey and have so far identified 91,827 acres of endowment lands, out of which 25,000 acres have been encroached upon, and \*\*6,000 acres lie within other state boundaries,” she added. The minister’s swift response was prompted by reports brought to her notice by Congress leaders Vajresh Yadav and Jan-gaiah Yadav, and she emphasized that



land grabbers would not be spared, regardless of their influence or connections. Among those present during the inspection were former Boduppal Mayor Thotakura Ajay Yadav, Keesara RDO Upender Reddy, Medipalli Tehsil-dar Hasina, Endowment surveyors, and other Congress leaders.

## Revanth helping BJP by fielding weak candidates: Vemula



**TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad**  
BRS senior leader and former minister Vemula Prashanth Reddy launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing him of weakening the Congress and aligning with the BJP. Speaking at a press conference held at Telangana Bhavan, Prashanth Reddy alleged that Revanth’s Delhi visit was more about political manoeuvring than governance. He described Revanth Reddy’s recent trip to Delhi as humiliating for the people of Telangana, stating, “He is roaming around Delhi streets like a helpless trader, begging for ministerial portfolios and appointments from the Congress high command.” He further alleged that the Chief Minister could not secure an appointment with Rahul Gandhi, even after 45 visits to Delhi. Calling Revanth Reddy’s remarks about KCR and Union Minister Kishan Reddy false, Prashanth stated, “It is Revanth Reddy who has been helping the BJP, not KCR. He fielded weak Congress candidates in the Lok Sabha elections deliberately to ensure BJP victories.” He cited the statements of BJP MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy and others, pointing out how Sunitha Mahender Reddy was fielded from a different constituency to help Etala Rajender, and Danam Nagender was sent to Secunderabad to ease the path for Kishan Reddy. He continued, “In Karimnagar, Congress ignored senior leader Jeevan Reddy and fielded a politically unknown Velichala Rajender against Bandi Sanjay. Revanth ensured weak contests in Nizamabad, Medak, and Adilabad too. BJP won 7 out of 8 seats with Revanth’s help.” Questioning the silence of investigation agencies, he said, “When Prime Minister Modi himself accused Revanth Reddy of corruption during the campaign, why is there no action from ED or CBI? What happened to the cash-for-vote case?” Prashanth also questioned how Revanth could meet the Prime Minister within 15 minutes in Delhi but is denied meetings with his own party leadership. “Bandi Sanjay openly says Congress and BJP should join forces against BRS. Isn’t it clear they are working together?” He warned Congress cadres that Revanth may eventually join the BJP, adding, “Even BJP MP Arvind said he would welcome Revanth. Revanth himself declared in Delhi that he studied in the BJP school.” Declaring KCR as the true soul of Telangana, Prashanth accused Revanth of betraying the state. “He remained silent when Chandrababu Naidu diverted Krishna water to Andhra Pradesh. He keeps defaming Telangana, claiming the state is drowning in debt, and blames KCR’s governance despite Telangana once ranking No.1 in per capita income and GDP,” he said. Highlighting the failure of both BJP and Congress MPs in Telangana, he said, “8 BJP + 8 Congress MPs = Zero contribution to Telangana. Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh MPs brought in thousands of crores under TDP’s leadership. CM Chandrababu secured huge funds for Polavaram, Amaravati, and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Telangana MPs brought nothing.” He criticised the Congress government for failing to deliver on 6 guarantees even after 600 days, citing that loan waivers, farmer bonuses, and Indiramma houses are being implemented half-heartedly. “You promised ₹2 lakh loan waivers to all farmers, but even half of them didn’t benefit. What about those who repaid more than ₹2 lakh?” he asked. Concluding his address, Prashanth said, “Revanth Reddy is obsessed with filing cases against BRS leaders, activists, and social media supporters instead of focusing on governance. It’s time he introspects and stops playing political games.”

## 6 Held in Bhadrachalam for Smuggling Ganja from Odisha

*Excise team seizes 4.2 kg ganja; three minors among the arrested*

**TPN Correspondent | Khammam**  
Acting on orders from Joint Khammam District Deputy Commissioner Janardhan Reddy and Assistant Commissioner G. Ganesh, AES Tirupati, the Khammam Excise Enforcement Team led by SI CH. Srihari Rao conducted coordinated vehicle checks across Ambedkar Centre, RTA Office-Koonavaram Road, and the Godavari Bridge Checkpost in Bhadrachalam. During the checks, the team apprehended six individuals, including three minors from Palvancha, for possession

and illegal transportation of 4.274 kilograms of dried ganja. The contraband was being moved on two two-wheelers, and three mobile phones were also seized from the accused. The other three arrested individuals have been identified as Pasupuleti Naga Kumar, Vanjarapu Srinivas, and Ayanpalli Abhishek, all hailing from Eluru in Andhra Pradesh. They were reportedly transporting the ganja from Malkangiri in Odisha with the intention of supplying it in Palvancha and Eluru. SI Srihari Rao confirmed that



the arrested persons were shifted to the local excise station in Bhadrachalam and a case has been registered against them under relevant provisions of the Excise and NDPS Acts. The operation was execut-

ed with the support of Head Constable Karim and constables Sudheer, Venkatesh, Vijay Kumar, Harish, and Veera Babu, who actively participated in the vehicle inspections and apprehensions.

## Farmers Commission Chairman criticizes KCR's crowded appearance

**TPN Correspondent | Telangana**  
Chairman of the Telangana Farmers Commission Kodanda Reddy strongly criticized the manner in which former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) appeared before the commission at BRK Bhavan on Thursday. Addressing the media, Kodanda Reddy questioned the motive behind KCR’s arrival along with thousands of supporters, suggesting that the move could be perceived as an attempt to intimidate or pressure the commission. The commission was constituted by the central government to investigate alleged corruption and irregularities in irrigation projects undertaken by the previous BRS government. Kodanda Reddy emphasized that such inquiries are essential for transparency and accountability in a democracy. “Whether one is in power or not, if a commission calls for an explanation, they must appear and cooperate,” he stated. Referring to the commotion at BRK Bhavan, the chairman noted that even he, despite holding the position of commission chairman, walked a distance to reach the building, underlining the decorum and simplicity expected in such proceedings. Kodanda Reddy called the gathering led by KCR “unnecessary and excessive.”

He expressed concern that bringing thousands of people to a commission hearing could be seen as a form of coercion or threat, which undermines the dignity of democratic institutions. “Democracy gives importance to institutions like commissions. Just as T.N. Seshan, former Election Commission chief, upheld the dignity and independence of his role, every commission must be accorded the same respect,” he remarked. He also responded to recent comments made by MLC Kavitha, who had questioned whether the commission would serve notices to KCR and threatened to hold a protest at Indira Park. Kodanda Reddy clarified that no individual is above inquiry and that commissions are empowered to investigate when required. The chairman reiterated that the Farmers Commission office is located within BRK Bhavan, and any attempts to mobilize large crowds at such locations are neither appropriate nor helpful to the cause of justice. “This kind of display does not uphold democratic values; it threatens them,” he warned. Kodanda Reddy concluded by affirming that the commission would continue its work independently, without being influenced or intimidated by any individual or political party.

## Six Farmers Killed in Lightning Strikes in Adilabad

**Rains bring devastation across mandals; 13 others injured in multiple incidents**

**TPN Correspondent | Adilabad :**  
In a tragic turn of events, six farmers lost their lives and 13 others were injured due to lightning strikes in Adilabad district over the past two days. The sudden and severe rains accompanied by thunder and lightning have brought grief to many farming families who were busy with sowing activities in anticipation of the monsoon. The worst-hit incident occurred in Pippiri village of Gadiguda mandal, where 14 farmers were sowing maize seeds when heavy rain forced them to take shelter in a temporary hut nearby. Without warning, lightning struck the hut, killing four on the spot — Pendur Madarao (45), Sanjana (22), Mangam Bhimbai (40), and Sidam Rambai (45). Ten others sustained serious injuries and were rushed to Jhuri Primary Health Centre before being shifted to RIMS Hospital in Adilabad. In a separate incident in Bela mandal, two women farmers were struck by lightning in different villages. Nandini (30) of Sangidi village died instantly while working in the fields. In Sonkas village, Sunitha (35) also lost her life while sowing cotton seeds. These incidents have caused deep anguish among families who had sent their loved ones to the fields in the morning, only to be met with tragedy by nightfall. Meanwhile, lightning struck again in Kummarithanda of Utnoor mandal, injuring three members of the same family. Bokan Dhanraj (27), Nirmala (36), and Tokan Krishnabai (30) were injured after lightning struck a cattle shed where they had taken shelter along with 15 others. They are currently undergoing treatment at a local hospital. In another related incident, the Ram temple gopuram in Bandalanagapur, Tamsi mandal, sustained minor structural damage due to a lightning strike, adding to the widespread panic in the region. The incidents have raised concerns across Adilabad district, with farmers expressing fear and frustration over the untimely rains and the increasing frequency of deadly lightning strikes. Authorities are expected to respond with relief measures and possible compensation for the affected families.



## Tesla Turmoil: Musk’s Apology to Trump Fails to Reassure Investors Amid Ongoing Challenges



- *In the early hours of Wednesday, Elon Musk offered a rare moment of reflection, tweeting:*
- *“I regret some of my posts about President @realDonaldTrump last week. They went too far.”*

This came after a week of high-stakes on-line provocation, in which Musk claimed credit for Trump’s 2016 win, amplified calls for his impeachment, and referenced ties to a deceased sex offender. The backlash not only triggered political waves but coincided with a slump in Tesla’s stock, hinting at investor discomfort with Musk’s volatile behavior. Since then, shares have recovered, aided in part by a short video of Tesla’s self-driving Model Y maneuvering a turn in Austin—a PR distraction that couldn’t have come at a better time.

Still, Musk’s about-face does little to address deeper concerns. That he, as CEO of a company with a near-\$1 trillion market cap, would engage in such a feud with a former—and possibly future—U.S. president raises red flags. Tesla remains vul-

nerable to federal scrutiny, especially on regulatory issues critical to its self-driving ambitions and manufacturing operations. A vengeful administration could complicate matters considerably.

While the apology might ease immediate tensions, the broader issue is Musk’s pattern of impulsive behavior, which has previously wiped billions from Tesla’s market value. The board’s continued silence only magnifies governance concerns.

Tesla is also grappling with more tangible problems. Sales in China dropped 30% year-over-year in May, challenging the company’s narrative that Q1 weakness was due to factory retooling. Promised new affordable models remain absent, and with less than three weeks left in Q2, time is running out.

Musk has now “tentatively” set June 22 for the robotaxi reveal—delayed from earlier expectations. But without major progress on core EV sales and regulatory traction, no apology or autonomous demo will be enough to steer Tesla clear of turbulence.

## The Urgent Need to Address Bioterrorism as a Growing Global Threat

Recent incidents involving the attempted smuggling of biological materials into the United States highlight a worrying gap in global biosecurity. In June 2025, a Chinese student was arrested for sending packages containing roundworm materials to the University of Michigan. Just days earlier, two other Chinese nationals were charged with attempting to smuggle a crop-damaging fungus, *Fusarium graminearum*, to the same university. While roundworm itself is not a biological weapon, the fungus could potentially be used as an agricultural bioterrorism agent, underscoring the serious risks of insufficient oversight in international biological research collaborations.



Biological weapons—bacteria, viruses, toxins, or other biological agents—can cause widespread harm to humans, animals, or crops. State use is termed biowarfare, whereas non-state actors such as terrorist groups engage in bioterrorism. Smuggling of hazardous biological materials represents only one facet of biosecurity concerns.

Three years ago, the discovery of an illegal biotech lab in California, owned by a Chinese company, revealed genetically engineered mice and viruses hidden under the guise of COVID-19 testing. This raises questions about how many other clandestine labs and undetected smuggling incidents exist worldwide. Bioweapons are often called “the poor man’s nuclear weapon” because they are far easier and cheaper to develop, making the threat accessible to rogue states and terrorists alike.

Technological advances have outpaced regulation. Gene synthesis costs have plummeted over the past decade, enabling the recreation or enhancement of deadly viruses. For example, scientists recreated a virus closely related to smallpox in 2017, revealing how easily extinct pathogens could be revived or engineered in rogue labs. The rise of DIY biology and readily available lab equipment online means terrorist groups might soon produce biological weapons with minimal oversight.

The insider threat further complicates biosecurity—highly skilled individuals within labs might collude with hostile actors. However, current legislation and monitoring systems, including the Biological Weapons Convention and international health regulations, are insufficient. These frameworks focus primarily on nation-states, lack enforceability, and are ill-equipped to address terrorism or rapid response needs.

To combat bioterrorism effectively, the world must strengthen global governance with robust surveillance, comprehensive screening, AI-driven early warning systems, and urgent regulatory reforms to keep pace with emerging biological risks.



## Telangana: Rice Bowl Of India

Telangana has achieved a major success in agriculture by becoming the top rice-producing state in India. In the year 2024-25, the state produced 183.57 lakh tonnes of paddy, breaking its own previous record of 168.75 lakh tonnes in 2023-24. This remarkable growth has been made possible due to good weather, timely support from the Congress government, and uninterrupted free electricity to farmers.

State had aimed to produce 269.37 lakh tonnes of crops during the rainy and summer seasons, but it went beyond the target by producing 297.79 lakh tonnes. This means Telangana produced 28.42 lakh tonnes more than expected. Among the major crops, paddy production stood at 274.99 lakh tonnes, maize at 35.05 lakh tonnes, and sorghum at 3.32 lakh tonnes, all of which exceeded their targets.

Earlier, leaders from the BRS party claimed that farmers were struggling under the Congress government due to lack of electricity and water. They also said that agriculture had flourished only under BRS rule and that farmers had stopped farming after the Congress came to power. However, the record harvest this year clearly proves these claims wrong.

Currently, farmers in Telangana are cultivating around 29 lakh acres using borewells. The government has been supplying free and continuous electricity to these borewells, which has played a big role in increas-



**Sagar Vanaparthi,**  
**Sr Journalist &**  
**Political Analyst**

ing crop production. On March 20, 2025, Telangana recorded its highest-ever electricity demand of 17,162 megawatts, which the government managed without any power cuts. This shows that farmers had the support they needed for farming.

Back in 2014, the number of agricultural borewells in the state was only 18 lakh, but that number has now grown to 29 lakh. Along with this, good rainfall helped fill the irrigation projects. While the BRS party earlier credited the Kaleshwaram project for farming success, the recent results show that even without its full use, the state has achieved record yields. This proves that the project was not the only reason behind agricultural growth.

With such a large rice production, Telangana has started exporting rice to other countries. In the first phase, 12,500 metric tonnes of rice were exported to the Philippines. The Philippines

has now agreed to import 8 lakh metric tonnes of rice from Telangana every year.

The Congress government has also encouraged farmers by offering a bonus of ₹500 per quintal for fine paddy. Because of this, many farmers have chosen to grow more rice. In the last rainy season, the government paid ₹1206.44 crore as bonus to farmers. This gave them extra income of more than ₹20,000 per acre for two crop seasons. Along with this, the government provided fertilizers and seeds on time. By delivering seeds directly to farmers’ homes at low prices, it helped them sow crops without delay.

The state also saw a big jump in paddy procurement. While the BRS government bought only 36.63 lakh tonnes of paddy during the 2022-23 rabi season, the Congress government purchased 60.61 lakh tonnes in the same season this year. That is nearly 20 lakh tonnes more. Despite this, BRS leaders are still spreading false claims that the government is not buying paddy.

For many years, Punjab held the top spot in rice production in India. But now Telangana has overtaken Punjab and has become the new leader in paddy output. Following Telangana are Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Punjab. The Telangana government has also given the highest share of its budget to agriculture. This is helping not just the farming sector, but also the development of villages and rural communities.

## India’s Economic Growth: A Story of Wealth Concentration, Not Inclusivity

India proudly stands as the world’s fourth-largest economy with a nominal GDP nearing \$3.9 trillion. Prime Minister Modi and his government tout this as a historic economic miracle, amplified by national and international media. However, beneath this celebratory narrative lies a stark and unsettling reality: the benefits of growth are concentrated among a tiny elite, while the vast majority of Indians grapple with hunger, unemployment, and poverty.

Official GDP figures paint an incomplete picture. India’s per capita income is approximately \$2,800 (Rs 2.33 lakh), far behind countries like Vietnam (\$4,300) and China (\$12,500). Yet, even this figure is misleading. The richest 1% of Indians control over 40% of the nation’s wealth, dominated by powerful business families like the Adanis and Ambanis. Excluding this elite’s wealth, the remaining 1.4 billion people share far less — reducing actual per capita income to around Rs 85,000 annually, or Rs 7,000 monthly. Narrowing it down further to exclude the top 5% leaves the majority with just Rs 67,000 per year,



roughly Rs 5,600 a month — an income most Indians survive on.

In a nation where nearly 80 crore people rely on free ration schemes to survive, celebrating GDP growth rings hollow. How can a country be “shining” when millions line up daily for food aid? Such contradictions are often dismissed with accusations of being anti-national, but they reveal a painful truth.

Social indicators further expose India’s crisis: ranked 134th on the Human Development Index and 111th on the Global Hunger Index, with 35% of children stunted and female labor participation alarm-

ingly low. Inflation and rural distress worsen these inequalities.

Additionally, India’s GDP is measured in nominal US dollars, making it vulnerable to exchange rate fluctuations. With the rupee weakening—now around Rs 83 to a dollar—India’s economy appears larger only on paper, not in real wealth. This growth is not inclusive; it’s a system of concentrated wealth accumulation that neglects the vast majority. Farmers suffer, workers endure hardship, and women disappear from the workforce, while a select few grow richer. This is not development; it is organized neglect.





## India, EU Focus on Addressing Non-Tariff Barriers for Free Trade Agreement

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal highlighted the importance of addressing non-tariff barriers (NTBs) in the ongoing negotiations for the proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union (EU). Speaking from Stockholm on June 12, 2025, Goyal emphasized that both sides are “pretty” close to finalizing the deal, with over half of the chapters already completed.

“Significant progress has been made. More than half the chapters are ready, and we are almost 90% ready in terms of market access. The key issue to tackle now is non-tariff barriers and finding ways to ease business exchanges between India and the EU,” Goyal stated.

Non-tariff barriers, such as excessive regulations, arbitrary standards, and technical measures, often create obstacles for trade. For example, Indian exports like chillies, tea, Basmati rice, and milk face stringent EU regulations that impede smoother trade. Goyal stressed that both India and the EU are actively discussing ways to reduce these regulatory hurdles to facilitate a freer flow of goods and services.

Goyal also criticized the EU’s proposed Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), a carbon tax aimed at products imported into the EU. He argued that such measures would unfairly target Indian industries and could be seen as another form of a non-tariff barrier. However, he expressed hope that both parties would find a solution to this issue in the ongoing FTA talks.

India’s bilateral trade with the EU reached \$136.4 billion in 2024-25, making the EU India’s largest trading partner. With the FTA negotiations progressing, both sides are optimistic about enhancing trade relations and reducing trade barriers. EU Commissioner for Trade, Maros Sefcovic, is scheduled to visit New Delhi later this month to further discuss the pact.

## Kamal Haasan and P. Wilson Among Six Elected Unopposed to Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu



TPN Correspondent | Chennai

In a significant political development, actor-politician Kamal Haasan and incumbent MP P. Wilson were among six candidates elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Tamil Nadu in the biennial elections held on Thursday (June 12, 2025). These six MPs will serve until July 2031, with their term beginning in July 2025.

The other four candidates elected unopposed include S. R. Sivalingam, Rajathi alias Salma (a Tamil poet), I.S. Inbadurai, and M.Dhanapal from the AIADMK, the principal Opposition party. The election results were confirmed after 13 nominations were received, with only six being found eligible following the scrutiny process.

B. Subramaniam, Returning Officer and Additional Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Assembly, confirmed that the six elected candidates—three from the DMK, one from MNM, and two from AIADMK—would fill the vacancies of six retiring Rajya Sabha members.

Kamal Haasan’s election marks a significant milestone in his political journey. After a history of vocal criticism against the DMK, he joined forces with the party ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and was promised a Rajya Sabha seat as part of a broader alliance deal. Despite electoral setbacks, Kamal’s political stature has been revived through his alliance with M.K. Stalin’s DMK. Kamal, 70, has played a crucial role in campaigning for the DMK in the state and will likely play a pivotal role in the upcoming Assembly elections as well.

P. Wilson, another notable figure, is recognized for his legal acumen, especially in the case against Governor R.N. Ravi over his delay in signing bills into law. Wilson’s efforts were instrumental in securing a favorable verdict for the Tamil Nadu government, strengthening his position in the political sphere. The DMK’s Rajya Sabha strength will remain unchanged at 10 seats, while the AIADMK will now have five members, up from four.

## "In Touch With Ministers And Authorities": PM Modi On Air India Plane Crash

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep sorrow over the tragic Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad on Thursday, calling it “heartbreaking beyond words.” In a post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), he said he is closely monitoring the situation and remains in constant touch with ministers and authorities involved in the rescue and relief operations.

“The tragedy in Ahmedabad has stunned and saddened us. It is heart-breaking beyond words. In this sad hour, my thoughts are with everyone affected by it. Have been in touch with Ministers and authorities who are working to assist those affected,” PM Modi wrote.

The Air India Flight AI171, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, crashed just moments after taking off from Sardar Vallabhbhai



Patel International Airport at 1:38 PM IST. The aircraft, bound for London’s Gatwick Airport, was carrying 242 people — including 230 passengers (169 Indians, 53 British nationals, one Canadian, and seven Portuguese) and 12 crew members, including the two pilots.

Aviation expert Sanjay Lazar told NDTV that the aircraft appeared to experience a failure to gain sufficient lift, stalling at an altitude of just 825 feet. Pilot Captain Sumeet Sabharwal had issued a “Mayday” distress call to Air Traffic Control shortly before the aircraft lost contact and crashed in a residential area near the airport.

Air India confirmed the crash in a public statement and announced the activation of a dedicated passenger helpline — 1800 5691 444 — for families and concerned individuals. Injured passengers and local residents have been taken to nearby hospitals, with emergency responders continuing rescue efforts on-site.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has launched an investigation into the incident to determine the cause of the crash.

## Modi govt democratised use of technology in 11-year rule: Amit Shah

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday (June 12, 2025) hailed the Modi government for its transformative impact on India’s digital economy, celebrating the government’s achievements over the past 11 years. Marking the completion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s tenure, Shah emphasized how the government’s vision has positioned Bharat as a global leader in the digital space.

In a post on X, Shah stated, “The Modi government democratised the use of technology and harnessed its power for the business sector, making Bharat a leading digital economy in the world in the #11YearsOfDigitalIndia.” He underscored how technological advancements have reshaped various sectors of the economy, ranging from healthcare and education to trade and commerce.

The Union Home Minister praised PM Modi’s leadership for initiating policies



that facilitated the rapid digitization of India’s economy. Shah pointed out that technology has not only revolutionized business practices but has also improved public services, making them more accessible and efficient.

Since coming into power in 2014, PM Modi’s government has launched sev-

eral ambitious digital initiatives, such as Digital India, Make in India, and Jan Dhan Yojana, to empower citizens through technology. Under this transformative agenda, digital infrastructure and internet connectivity have expanded, benefiting millions of Indians, particularly in rural areas. The government’s efforts have made India one of the fastest-growing digital economies globally.

Shah also noted that Modi’s vision has empowered businesses, entrepreneurs, and citizens by ensuring widespread access to digital tools and platforms. As a result, India has become a global force in the digital arena, with rapid adoption of e-commerce, online education, telemedicine, and digital payments.

The Home Minister’s remarks reflect the significant strides India has made in its digital transformation, further solidifying PM Modi’s legacy as a catalyst for technological change in the country.

## Consulate Closely Monitoring Situation: India On US Immigration Crackdown

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In response to an ongoing immigration crackdown in California’s Los Angeles region by the Trump administration, India has expressed concern over the situation, emphasizing the safety and welfare of its nationals. On Thursday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated that the Indian Consulate in San Francisco is closely monitoring the developments, as the U.S. government has deployed National Guard troops and Marines in the area.

During his weekly media briefing, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal assured the public that the safety and security of Indian citizens abroad are a top priority for the government. He acknowledged the significance of California, particularly Los Angeles, where a substantial Indian community resides, and reassured citizens that the consulate remains in “close touch” with Indian nationals in the region to provide assistance as needed.

“We are aware of the developments. As you are aware, we take the safety, security, and welfare of our citizens abroad with utmost seriousness. The LA region, and California in general, is home to a large community of Indians,” Jaiswal said, responding to questions about India’s position on the situation. He urged Indian nationals in the area to take appropriate safety precautions, given the heightened tension and security presence on the ground.



### Immigration Crackdown and Security Measures in California

Reports have indicated that the U.S. administration’s intensified immigration enforcement has caused concern among immigrant communities in California, particularly in Los Angeles, which is home to one of the largest Indian diaspora populations in the United States. The operation, which involves the deployment of U.S. National Guard troops and Marines, has led to increased anxiety within local immigrant populations, with many uncertain about potential consequences for undocumented individuals.

In addition to the security measures, the crackdown has led to growing scrutiny over immigration policies under the Trump administration. The administration has been pushing for stricter immigration controls and enforcement,

which has sparked protests and calls for reform, particularly from advocacy groups defending immigrant rights.

The Indian government’s response comes amid these developments, with the Consulate General in San Francisco taking proactive measures to stay connected with the Indian community in California.

### India’s Advisory for Nationals in the U.S.

While emphasizing the importance of safeguarding the welfare of Indian nationals, Jaiswal highlighted that the consulate remains in regular communication with the community members, ensuring that any urgent issues are addressed. He reiterated India’s long-standing position of prioritizing the safety of its citizens abroad.

The advisory also urges Indian nationals in the region to remain vigilant and take necessary precautions to avoid any potential risks during the ongoing crackdown. The Consulate has also made arrangements for assisting citizens in case of emergencies, including providing necessary legal or consular support for individuals facing challenges related to the immigration measures.

In the wake of the heightened security operations, India has reassured its citizens that it will continue to monitor the situation closely, maintain open communication with its community, and extend the necessary support as required.



# Trump Launches Website for \$5 Million U.S. Residency Visa Amid Immigration Crackdown

TPN Correspondent | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump announced the launch of a new website, TrumpCard.gov, on Wednesday for his proposed \$5 million U.S. residency visa, sparking interest as the country faces intensified immigration enforcement and protests.

This “golden visa” program, first revealed by Trump aboard Air Force One in April, is designed as a premium version of the traditional green card, targeting wealthy investors and job creators. Trump promised that the visa would be available “in less than two weeks” at the time, but it has yet to be officially launched. The newly unveiled website allows potential applicants to register their name, desired visa type, and email address under the tagline “The Trump Card is Coming.”

In a social media post, Trump highlighted the growing demand for the visa, stating, “Thousands have been calling and asking how they can sign up to ride a beautiful road in gaining access to the Greatest Country and Market anywhere in the World.”

The president has emphasized that this visa program is aimed at attracting high-net-worth individuals who can contribute



to the U.S. economy, potentially helping reduce the national deficit. Earlier statements suggested that the administration hoped to sell as many as a million of these cards, and Trump did not exclude the possibility of Russian oligarchs qualifying for the program.

The announcement comes at a time when the U.S. government has intensified deportation raids nationwide, leading to widespread protests and criticism. Trump’s administration continues to face lawsuits and

allegations of rights violations related to its aggressive anti-immigration policies.

Trump has framed the \$5 million visa as a fast-track route to coveted U.S. citizenship, promising a new avenue for wealthy immigrants seeking to live and work in the United States. However, details regarding the visa’s implementation and legal framework remain scarce, and questions persist about its impact amid the ongoing immigration controversies.

# Urges India to Curb Exiled Sheikh Hasina’s Online Speeches

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

Bangladesh’s interim leader and Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus has publicly criticized former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s continued online speeches from India, urging Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and stop her from addressing Bangladeshis via social media.

Speaking at Chatham House in London, Yunus described the political climate in Bangladesh as volatile following Hasina’s ousting last August amid a student-led uprising. He expressed frustration with India’s perceived inaction, saying, “The whole anger and everything is now transferred to India, because she went there. Not only is she living there, but... she continues to speak to Bangladeshi people, provoking public anger and risking unrest.”

Yunus recounted a conversation with Modi where he requested that India prevent Hasina’s broadcasts, but Modi responded, “It’s



the social media, we cannot control it.” Yunus emphasized the gravity of the situation, stating, “It’s an explosive situation. You can’t just walk away by saying it’s social media.”

Diplomatic tensions have risen as Bangladesh formally submitted an informal extradition request for Hasina, which India acknowledged but has yet to act upon. Yunus stressed the desire for a “legal, proper” process to maintain strong bilateral relations

but expressed concern over misinformation allegedly spread by some Indian media, which he said fuels public anger in Bangladesh.

Yunus also revealed that Bangladesh’s International Crimes Tribunal has begun legal proceedings against Hasina for alleged crimes against humanity during her final months in office. Notices have been served, and Interpol involvement is possible.

The interim government, formed after Hasina’s removal on August 5, 2024, following violent crackdowns and mass protests, has been prosecuting former Awami League leaders implicated in abuses. Yunus, who returned to Dhaka from Paris shortly after the uprising to lead the transitional administration, affirmed he and his advisers have no plans to join the future elected government.

Meanwhile, student leaders backed by the interim government have established the National Citizen Party, further shaping Bangladesh’s new political landscape.

# Baloch Activist Mahrang Baloch Exposes Pakistani State Repression from Prison

TPN Correspondent | Balochistan

Baloch rights activist Mahrang Baloch has revealed severe state repression against peaceful dissenters in Pakistan, writing from her prison cell in Quetta’s Hudda Jail, according to The Balochistan Post. Arrested over two and a half months ago, Mahrang draws attention to the systematic targeting of activists, journalists, and ordinary citizens in Balochistan.

In her article, Mahrang recounts how Pakistan’s security agencies have tried various tactics to silence her, including offering deals to stay quiet in exchange for freedom. She firmly refused these offers, emphasizing that no evidence has been presented linking her to any violence or crime. The only “proof” cited by the authorities was a press conference she held before her March 22 arrest, where she clarified her stance against violence, distinguishing peaceful activists from armed militants in Balochistan.

Mahrang’s activism gained international attention after her visit to Norway in May 2024, where she spoke at events organized by PEN Norway. Her visit caused outrage



among Pakistani officials, and she was harassed even on Norwegian soil by individuals linked to Pakistan’s embassy, prompting intervention from Norway’s domestic security agency. Upon returning to Pakistan, she was immediately charged with sedition.

Highlighting the plight of Balochistan, Mah-

70% of its population living below the poverty line, while locals see little benefit from the wealth extracted.

Mahrang concluded passionately: “Speaking up for justice is not a crime... demanding rights is not terrorism; it is humanity. One day, this struggle will succeed.”

rang described the province as an “information black hole,” where journalists face enforced disappearances, killings, or exile for reporting on human rights abuses. More than 40 journalists have been killed since 2000, and foreign media is routinely denied access.

She stressed that Balochistan, rich in natural resources like the Saindak Copper-Gold Project and the Reko Diq mine, remains impoverished with



## Food Aid Remains Vital Lifeline for Millions in Crisis-Hit Afghanistan: WFP

The World Food Programme (WFP) has highlighted that food assistance continues to be the only lifeline for millions of Afghans struggling with severe hunger amid ongoing crises, according to a report by Khaama Press. In a statement posted on June 10 on social media platform X, WFP emphasized the urgent need for sustained support to vulnerable communities across Afghanistan.

Despite challenging conditions, including difficult terrain and remote mountainous regions, WFP teams persist in delivering life-saving food supplies to those most in need. “For many Afghans facing hunger, this food is their only hope of survival,” the agency stressed.

However, a significant drop in funding has drastically impacted WFP’s operations in the country. The organization, which has played a crucial role in preventing famine over recent years, has been forced to scale back its services substantially, raising fears over the worsening humanitarian situation.

Currently, more than 23 million people in Afghanistan face acute food insecurity due to prolonged conflict, economic collapse, and climate-related disasters. The country continues to grapple with economic hardships under the Taliban regime, including high unemployment, soaring food prices, and reduced international aid.

Millions of families, especially in rural and hard-to-reach areas, remain heavily reliant on humanitarian assistance to survive. WFP and other aid organizations have consistently called on the international community to increase financial contributions to sustain relief efforts.

WFP has issued a stark warning that without immediate and increased funding, the lives of many more Afghans could be at risk in the coming months. Humanitarian groups urge global donors not to abandon Afghanistan’s most vulnerable populations, stressing that even a single truckload of food can be a matter of life and death for many families.

## Sixth round of Iran-U.S. Nuclear talks scheduled for June 15 in Oman

TPN Correspondent | Iran

Iran and the United States are set to hold the sixth round of negotiations over Tehran’s rapidly advancing nuclear program on Sunday, June 15, 2025, in Oman, the sultanate’s Foreign Minister Badr al-Busaidi confirmed on June 12. Oman, serving as the mediator in these talks, had remained silent on the timing until now, despite Iran’s earlier indications that discussions would take place.



The announcement comes amid heightened regional tensions and precautionary measures by the U.S., including the drawdown of non-essential staff and their families from the Middle East due to fears of escalating unrest. Additionally, warnings have been issued about potential threats to ships navigating nearby waters amid the growing strain. Busaidi shared the news on the social media platform X, stating, “I am pleased to confirm the 6th round of Iran US talks will be held in Muscat this Sunday the 15th.” The U.S. has not issued an immediate response to this update.

These talks remain a critical diplomatic priority for U.S. President Donald Trump and his Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff. The goal is to reach an agreement that could lead to the lifting of some severe economic sanctions on Iran, in return for Tehran drastically curbing or halting uranium enrichment activities. Failure to secure a deal risks exacerbating tensions in a Middle East already strained by the Israel-Hamas conflict in Gaza. Iran’s fragile economy could spiral further downward, fueling domestic unrest. There are also concerns that the U.S. or Israel might launch airstrikes against Iranian nuclear sites, while Iran could cease cooperation with the United Nations nuclear watchdog and accelerate its nuclear weapons ambitions.

Previous rounds of talks between Iran and the U.S. have been held in Muscat and Rome, with hopes that this latest session will advance toward a diplomatic resolution.

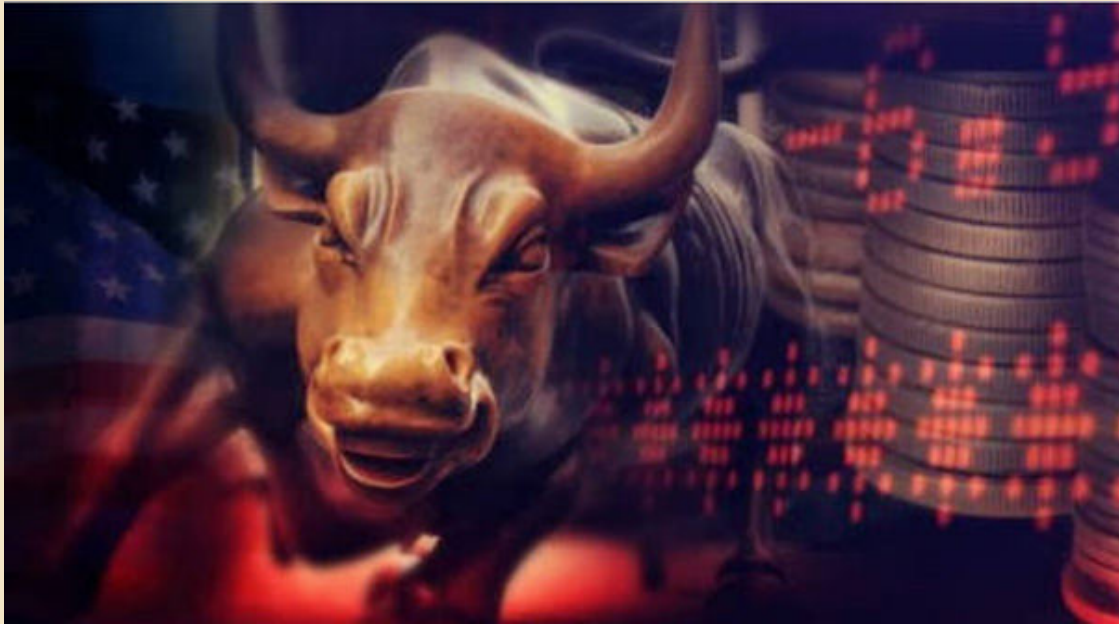


# Stock Market Declines Amid Geopolitical Tensions, Trade Tariffs, and Rising Oil Prices

On Thursday, domestic stock markets experienced a sharp decline, with both benchmark and sectoral indices tumbling due to a combination of geopolitical developments and trade uncertainties. Tensions escalated in West Asia after Israel announced plans to attack Iran's nuclear facilities, a move that increased concerns over regional instability and its impact on global markets. Additionally, a rise in crude oil prices added to the market's woes, triggering sell-offs in energy and oil stocks.

Further compounding the negative sentiment were U.S. President Donald Trump's recent tariff announcements, which raised fears of an impending trade war. Investors were left uneasy by the lack of clarity surrounding potential tariffs on China and other trade partners, adding uncertainty to the already volatile market conditions. As a result, shares in sectors such as real estate, energy, oil, and automobiles faced heavy losses, dragging the broader market down.

**Market Performance:**  
The BSE Sensex, which had closed at 82,515 points in the previous session, opened at 82,571 points on Thursday. The index then touched an intraday low of 82,523 points before reaching a high of 82,661 points. It eventually closed at 81,691 points, down 823 points, or a 1% drop. The NSE Nifty also saw a similar trend, opening at 25,164 points, touching a low of 24,825, and a high of 25,196 before closing at 24,888, down 253 points. The Nifty Bank index dropped 377 points, settling at 56,082.



Among the 50 stocks in the Nifty50 index, only seven managed to gain, while 43 ended in the red. Key gainers included Apollo Hospitals, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finserv, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, and Tech Mahindra. On the other hand, Tata Motors, Titan, Trent, Shriram Finance, and Coal India were among the biggest losers, with their stocks facing significant declines.

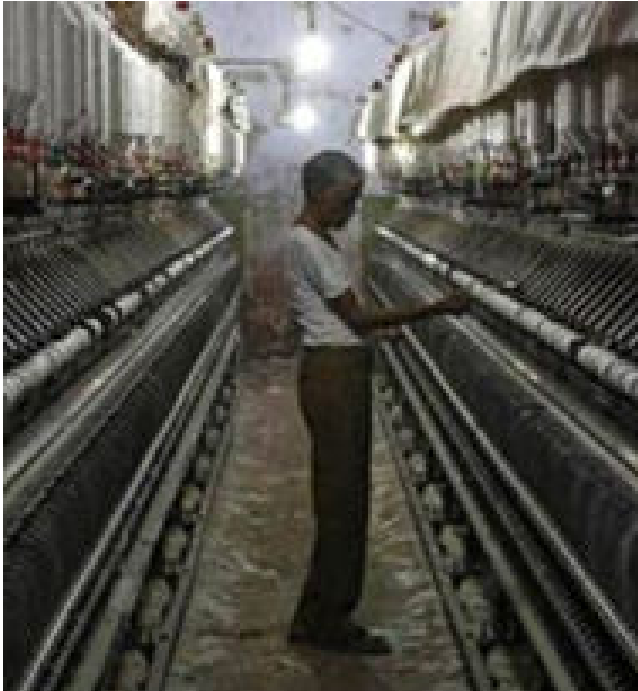
**Sector-wise Performance:**  
The market breadth on the NSE was overwhelmingly negative, with 2,112 stocks declining compared to just 783 that gained. The sectors that experienced the most significant declines were PSE (Public Sector Enterprises), realty, energy, oil, auto, commodities, metals, and infrastructure. The consumption and MNC indices also showed mixed performance, while the healthcare sector posted a slight gain.

**Other Key Developments:**

The Indian Rupee closed at 85.60 against the U.S. Dollar, further adding pressure on domestic equities. In specific stock news, shares of Air India experienced a 7% drop following the crash of an Air India Boeing 787 at Ahmedabad airport, resulting in casualties. On a positive note, Goldman Sachs issued a 'Buy' rating on HDFC Life with a target price of Rs 830, and Nomura also gave a 'Buy' recommendation for Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, setting a target of Rs 1,575.

**Outlook:**  
The market continues to react to a combination of external geopolitical tensions and domestic trade uncertainties. With profit-taking continuing in defense shares and major sectors struggling to maintain gains, the market outlook remains cautious. Investors will need to monitor developments in international trade relations, particularly between the U.S. and China, and the potential impact of rising crude oil prices.

## Government Forms Task Force to Boost Textile Exports Amid FTA Negotiations



In a significant move to strengthen India's textile sector amid ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations, the government has formed a new inter-ministerial task force. The primary goal of this body is to create a unified platform that addresses the wide range of challenges faced by the textile industry — from skilling and labor issues to logistics and sustainability.

The first meeting of the task force took place on June 10, chaired by Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal. During the session, officials from multiple departments discussed strategies to enhance India's textile exports and increase its share in the global market, according to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Commerce Secretary Barthwal emphasized that the task force aims to bring all relevant stakeholders together to tackle critical issues affecting the textile sector comprehensively. "The objective is to create a cohesive framework that resolves bottlenecks across the entire textile value chain," he said.

Rajesh Agrawal, Special Secretary of the Department of Commerce, highlighted the importance of innovation and alignment with global trends. "To secure a higher share of the export market, Indian textiles must evolve continuously, embracing new technologies and sustainable practices," he noted.

The Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI) welcomed the formation of the task force. Its Secretary General, Chandrima Chatterjee, remarked, "The inclusion of all relevant ministries acknowledges the multifaceted nature of the textile sector. Inter-ministerial collaboration is crucial because many procedural delays arise from fragmented responsibilities. This task force is a positive step toward identifying and resolving these issues effectively."

With Indian textile exports being a key demand in the ongoing FTA talks, this task force represents the government's commitment to strengthening the sector's global competitiveness. By addressing challenges holistically, it hopes to boost export growth, create jobs, and reinforce India's position in international textile markets. The coming months will reveal how these coordinated efforts translate into tangible gains for the industry.

## SEBI to Launch '@valid' UPI IDs and 'SEBI Check' to Safeguard Investors from Payment Frauds

In a major step to enhance investor protection and curb unauthorized money collection, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has announced the introduction of a structured and validated Unified Payment Interface (UPI) address mechanism exclusively for its registered intermediaries.

The new UPI addresses will carry a unique "@valid" handle, specially allocated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). This handle will be reserved solely for SEBI-registered investor-facing intermediaries, ensuring that investors can confidently transfer funds directly to verified bank accounts.

Under this system, each intermediary's UPI ID will combine their name with the "@valid" tag and the syndicate bank's identifier. For instance, if a broker named ABC Ltd has an account with XYZ



bank, the UPI ID would be formatted as abc.brk@validXYZ. SEBI has made it mandatory for all intermediaries to obtain and provide this validated UPI ID to their investors, thereby streamlining and securing payment channels within the securities market.

SEBI Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey emphasized the benefits of this initiative, stating, "This innovative mechanism will significantly boost the safety and accessibility of financial transactions by offering a verified and secure

payment platform for investors."

In addition to the '@valid' UPI IDs, SEBI is developing a complementary feature called 'SEBI Check'. This tool will allow investors to authenticate UPI IDs before making any payments. By scanning a QR code or manually entering the UPI ID, investors can verify critical bank details such as the bank account number and Indian Financial System Code (IFSC) of the intermediary. This verification step adds an important layer of security, helping investors confirm the legitimacy of entities involved in financial transactions.

Together, the '@valid' UPI IDs and 'SEBI Check' mechanism are set to provide stronger safeguards against payment fraud, increase transparency, and restore investor confidence in the digital payment ecosystem associated with India's securities markets.

## Government Cuts Duty on Crude Edible Oils to 10% to Boost Domestic Refining and Ease Prices

In a significant move to address rising edible oil prices, the Government of India has slashed the Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on crude edible oils—including crude sunflower, soybean, and palm oils—from 20% to 10%. This reduction increases the import duty differential between crude and refined edible oils from 8.75% to 19.25%, a strategic adjustment aimed at encouraging domestic refining and stabilizing market prices.

The duty cut comes in response to the surge in edible oil prices following a duty hike in September 2024 combined with rising international market rates. Officials say this step will help reduce the landed cost of edible oils, translating into lower retail prices and easing inflationary pressure on consumers.



"A 19.25% duty differential between crude and refined oils incentivizes domestic refining capacity utilization and reduces reliance on imports of refined oils," the government said in a statement. This differential is expected to discourage imports of refined palmolein and shift demand towards crude edible oils, particularly crude palm oil, thus bolstering the domestic refining sector.

The government held a meeting with leading edible oil industry associations under the leadership of the Secretary of the Department of Food and Public Distribution. Industry stakeholders were advised to pass on the full benefits of the duty reduction to consumers, ensuring relief reaches retail markets promptly.

This policy adjustment not only supports domestic refiners by leveling the playing field against imports but also helps maintain fair compensation for farmers involved in oilseed production. By promoting domestic refining, the government aims to strengthen the sector's competitiveness and stabilize edible oil prices in India.

The decision follows a comprehensive review of the sharp price rise that impacted food inflation last year, with soaring edible oil prices burdening consumers. This proactive intervention signals the government's commitment to balancing consumer interests, supporting domestic industry, and controlling inflation in essential commodities.



## Smaller Eggs, Higher Prices: Reddit Post Criticizes Swiggy Over Egg Quality and Cost



A Reddit post recently went viral after a user highlighted the stark difference in egg size and pricing between Swiggy Instamart and local kirana stores. The post, which quickly gained over 2,500 upvotes, featured a side-by-side comparison of two eggs: one bought locally and the other via Swiggy.

According to the user, the local egg, purchased for Rs 6.1 from a neighborhood store, weighed 60 grams. In contrast, the Swiggy-bought egg cost Rs 10 and weighed only 40 grams despite its fancy packaging and tiered pricing scheme. “What a man must do to eat 6 eggs a day in today’s world,” the caption read, sparking a lively debate in the comments.

While many criticized Swiggy for inflated prices and misleading product weights, others came to its defense, citing better hygiene, taste, and consistency. Some users noted that branded eggs from Swiggy often had richer yolks and better flavor, possibly due to improved diets or sourcing standards. Others claimed local eggs, though cheaper, were sometimes unclean or less palatable.

This isn’t the first time Swiggy Instamart has faced scrutiny. In another viral post, a user discovered vegetables that were significantly underweight compared to the listed measurements on the app—prompting further questions about transparency and value.

The debate ultimately highlights a broader issue with convenience-driven shopping: Are consumers truly getting what they pay for? While online platforms offer unmatched ease, the trade-off in price and quality remains a growing concern for many.

## Parle-G: The ‘G’ Stands for More Than Just Glucose — It’s ‘Genius’

Parle-G, one of India’s most iconic and beloved biscuits, holds a special place in the hearts of millions. Recognizable by its classic yellow-and-white packaging and the face of a little girl, the biscuit has been a staple in Indian households for generations. But few know the real meaning behind the letter ‘G’ in its name.

While many assume ‘G’ stands for ‘Glucose’ — given that it was marketed as an energy biscuit — the brand originally intended it to stand for ‘Genius’. The name was chosen to reflect the innovation and thoughtful creation of a biscuit designed to be both nutritious and affordable. Parle Products, the company behind Parle-G, was founded in 1929 by Mohanlal Dayal during British rule. During World War



II, when food shortages and rationing were widespread, Parle developed a simple yet impactful solution: a biscuit made from

wheat flour, sugar, and vegetable oil. This no-frills recipe provided an energy-rich snack at a time when many struggled to

afford proper meals. Originally introduced as the “Genius Biscuit,” the name gradually shortened to Parle-G. It quickly became a household favourite, not just for its taste and price, but also for the emotional comfort it brought. In the 1960s, artist Maganlal Dahiya created the iconic illustration of the Parle-G girl — not based on a real child, as many believe, but an imaginative figure that came to symbolize trust and quality. Despite changing times, Parle-G has stayed true to its roots. Its price remains incredibly low — often just Rs 5 — especially in rural areas, making it accessible to all. In 2011, it even earned the title of the world’s best-selling biscuit, proving that genius really does lie in simplicity.

## Ex-OpenAI Scientist Calls Brain a ‘Biological Computer’, Astrobiologist Strongly Disagrees

A recent statement by former OpenAI co-founder Ilya Sutskever has stirred a new wave of debate in the world of artificial intelligence. During a keynote speech at the University of Toronto, Sutskever claimed that the human brain is essentially a “biological computer,” suggesting that if it can perform complex cognitive tasks, so can a “digital brain.”

Sutskever, who also co-invented the groundbreaking neural network AlexNet, stated, “Anything I can learn, anything you can learn — AI can learn too.” He argued that since the brain is a biological computing system, there’s no reason why artificial systems couldn’t eventually replicate all human capabilities. “This is the one-sentence summary of why AI will be able to do all those things,” he concluded.

However, this bold assertion did not sit



well with Stuart Hameroff, an astrobiologist and Director of the Centre for Consciousness Studies. Responding via X (formerly Twitter), Hameroff criticized the comparison between the human brain and digital machines. “The brain is not a digital computer and not a computer at all — more like a quantum orchestra,” he wrote.

Hameroff emphasized that the brain’s

complexity lies in its organic structure, particularly in microtubules composed of tubulin proteins, which may support quantum-level processes. He pointed out that digital computers, while capable of learning, lack consciousness, intrinsic motivation, and the ability to feel — all essential elements of human intelligence.

He also shared his paper titled Consciousness, Cognition and the Neuronal Cytoskeleton, where he

argues that current neuroscience paradigms fall short in explaining consciousness by merely comparing the brain to machines.

Despite the disagreement, Sutskever remains optimistic, predicting that true AI superintelligence could emerge within the next three to ten years — a timeline he described as both exciting and “evocative.”

## Winged Terror: Lone Buzzard Sparks Panic in Essex Village

In a bizarre turn of events, residents of Havering-at-Bower, a quiet village in Essex, are under siege — not by burglars or vandals, but by a rogue buzzard. Dubbed the “Dive-Bombing Buzzard”, the bird has become a daily threat to locals, reportedly attacking both people and property with increasing aggression.



Since late March, the buzzard’s erratic and violent behaviour has left villagers anxious and afraid to step outdoors. Unlike the usual flock-based avian aggression seen in nature, this case involves a lone bird of prey, likely a buzzard-eagle hybrid, launching unprovoked attacks from the sky. It swoops down with startling speed and force, diving at unsuspecting passersby, including children.

The situation has grown so serious that local primary school students are being kept indoors for extended periods to avoid injury. Teachers and parents remain on high alert, as the bird has shown no signs of backing down. In one alarming incident, captured on May 20 by local resident Nick Woodgate, the buzzard is seen repeatedly smashing into a closed window, apparently trying to break through. The footage, now viral, underscores the bird’s relentless nature and has left viewers stunned.

Reports suggest that the buzzard has even at-

tempted to claw at residents, targeting their heads or shoulders during low-flying ambushes. Some villagers have resorted to using umbrellas or hats as makeshift protection when venturing outside.

Local wildlife experts speculate that the bird may be defending a nest nearby, mistaking human activity as a threat. Buzzards are known for their territorial nature, especially during the breeding season, but such persistent and widespread attacks from a single bird remain highly unusual.

Despite calls for action, wildlife authorities are treading carefully, as buzzards are protected under UK law. A humane solution is being sought, but until then, villagers are left to navigate daily life under the looming shadow of the buzzard’s wings.

For now, Havering-at-Bower remains on high alert — a village held hostage by one very angry bird.

## Apple’s ‘Liquid Glass’ Reveal Goes Viral After Thumbnail Blunder Sparks Meme Fest

Apple’s highly anticipated design revamp, Liquid Glass, was meant to showcase a sleek new interface — but instead, it accidentally kicked off a meme storm online. Unveiled at WWDC 2025, Liquid Glass is the tech giant’s most significant design overhaul since iOS 7, aimed at making the user experience more “expressive and delightful.” However, it wasn’t the design details that grabbed attention — it was a YouTube thumbnail gone hilariously wrong.

A YouTube video promoting the new UI featured Apple’s usual polished branding, but the placement of YouTube’s red play button unintentionally turned the title “Liquid Glass” into “Liquid A\*\*.” Social media users immediately latched onto the awkward visual, turning the blunder into meme gold.

One viral post on X (formerly Twitter) showing the screenshot joked, “Very unfortunate play button,” and has since racked up over 1.5 million views. Another user chimed in, “It’s absolutely wild that Apple’s social media intern didn’t proofread the Liquid Glass YouTube thumbnail on all devices.”



After widespread mockery, Apple quietly updated the thumbnail to avoid further embarrassment. “Oh my god, I can’t believe they actually changed it,” said one user in a follow-up tweet, confirming the correction.

Despite the thumbnail gaffe, Liquid Glass itself marks a major UI leap. It introduces dynamic, translucent elements that shift between light and dark modes based on surroundings. Rolled out in the iOS 26 developer beta, the new design language extends across iPadOS, macOS Tahoe, watchOS, and tvOS.

While still in beta and prone to bugs, Liquid Glass represents Apple’s continued push toward visually immersive experiences. But if the internet’s reaction proves anything, even cutting-edge UI can’t compete with an unfortunate play button placement.



## TN Dy CM Udhayanidhi Stalin Felicitates Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa & Chithambaram for Global Chess Triumphs



Tamil Nadu's Deputy Chief Minister, Udhayanidhi Stalin, honored three of the state's top chess prodigies—D. Gukesh, R. Praggnanandhaa, and Aravindh Chithambaram—for their outstanding performances in recent international chess tournaments held in Norway and Armenia.

According to an official press release from the Tamil Nadu government, Udhayanidhi extended his heartfelt congratulations to D. Gukesh, who recently secured third place at the prestigious Norway Chess Tournament. Gukesh, also the reigning World Junior Champion and recipient of the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, continues to be a rising star on the global stage.

Aravindh Chithambaram was applauded for his first-place victory at the Stepan Avagyan Memorial Chess Tournament in Armenia. This win propelled him into the top 10 of the FIDE world rankings. Notably, Chithambaram also clinched the top spot in the Masters section of the Chennai Grandmasters Tournament last year.

R. Praggnanandhaa earned praise for his second-place finish in the same Stepan Avagyan Memorial tournament, further solidifying his status among the world's elite young players.

All three players are recipients of the Tamil Nadu Government's Elite Scheme, managed by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT). This initiative grants top-performing athletes an annual sum of ₹30 lakh to support training with international coaches, purchase advanced equipment, and participate in global competitions.

The achievements of these players, three of whom are now among the top 10 in the world, underscore Tamil Nadu's growing influence in global chess, driven by the state's strategic investment in sports development.

The felicitation event was also attended by Atulya Misra, IAS, and J. Meghanath Reddy, IAS, key officials from the Youth Welfare and Sports Development Department and SDAT.



## FIFA World Cup 2026: Mexico City's Iconic Azteca Stadium Gets Major Makeover with Hybrid Field and Modern Features

Ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Mexico City's legendary Azteca Stadium is undergoing a major renovation to enhance the fan and player experience. The upgrades come as the stadium prepares to host five matches, including the tournament's much-anticipated opening game. The venue, which previously hosted World Cup matches in 1970 and 1986, is being modernized to meet current international standards.

Ollamani, the sports entertainment firm affiliated with Grupo Televisa and owner of the stadium, announced that Azteca will reopen on March 26, 2026—just 75 days before the World Cup kicks off. “The centerpiece of the stadium's renovation is

the people who visit it,” said stadium director Felix Aguirre, emphasizing a fan-first approach.

Key features of the renovation include the reintroduction of a hybrid grass pitch, supported by a new ventilation and suction system to enhance durability and stability. The stadium had previously experimented with hybrid turf in 2018, but poor conditions led to a return to natural grass.

Other upgrades include modern locker rooms located beneath the luxury boxes, a more efficient tunnel system for player entry, enhanced hospitality zones, LED screens, improved restrooms, a new press box, a 200-unit CCTV surveillance sys-

tem, and an upgraded sound system. The addition of elevators is also planned to replace the outdated ramp system, although details remain limited.

While the stadium's 83,000-seat capacity is expected to increase slightly, no specific numbers have been released. Plans for a hotel and shopping complex were dropped due to community opposition.

Azteca's facade and roof will also be refreshed, preserving its iconic status while modernizing its appearance. However, unresolved disputes over luxury boxes—some of which remain under private ownership—may complicate FIFA's full control during the tournament.

## FIH Pro League: Sloppy India Fall 3-4 to Argentina Amid Costly Defensive Errors

India suffered their third consecutive defeat in the European leg of the FIH Pro League, going down 3-4 to Argentina in a match marked by unforced errors and sluggish starts to each quarter. The loss in Amstelveen exposed ongoing defensive lapses and raised concerns about consistency under pressure.

Argentina capitalized early, scoring within the first three minutes after a misjudged aerial clearance by Amit Rohidas gifted the ball to Matias Rey, who fired past goalkeeper Krishan Pathak. Despite India equalizing through a trademark Harmanpreet Singh penalty corner, Argentina regained the lead just after the start of the second quarter through a soft goal by Lucas Martinez. The goal highlighted India's defensive disorganization, with multiple players failing to intercept or block the attempt.

Coach Craig Fulton's “defend to win” philosophy has come under scrutiny, especially after similar lapses cost India in their previous two matches

against the Netherlands. In this game, the pattern repeated—India's goals were consistently followed by immediate breakdowns in concentration. After Harmanpreet converted a penalty stroke to make it 2-2, Argentina scored right from the next play, catching the defense off guard once again.

Although Abhishek brought India level at 3-3 in the third quarter, Lucio Mendez netted Argentina's fourth within seconds of the fourth quarter's start—another blow to India's hopes. Harmanpreet had left the field earlier with an injury, further weakening the defense.

Vice-captain Hardik Singh acknowledged the issue, stating, “We shouldn't switch off and concede goals in like just 20 seconds.” The comment echoed the same frustration voiced after the last two losses, hinting at a worrying trend that India must urgently address if they hope to regain form in the Pro League.



## European Football Revenues Hit €38 Billion in 2023–24, Premier League Leads the Pack

European football saw robust financial growth in the 2023–24 season, with total market revenues rising by 8% to €38 billion, according to Deloitte's Annual Review of Football Finance. The top five leagues—England's Premier League, Germany's Bundesliga, Spain's LaLiga, Italy's Serie A, and France's Ligue 1—generated €20.4 billion of that total, a 4% year-on-year increase.

The Premier League remained the financial powerhouse of European football, with clubs raking in €6.3 billion (€7.4 billion). Notably, the league's “big six” clubs recorded a modest 3% growth in revenue, while the rest of the league saw an average rise of 11%. Much of this expansion was attributed to enhanced commercial strategies, with Premier League clubs collectively surpassing €2 billion in commercial revenue for the first time.



“Stadium development and diversification of commercial income streams have helped drive this growth,” said Tim Bridge, lead partner at Deloitte's Sports Business Group. However, he also cautioned that the industry faces challenges such as rising costs, tighter regulations, and shifting fan engagement patterns. “The pressure is on clubs to boost revenues while staying financially sustainable,” he added.

The overall operating profit across Europe's top leagues stood at €0.6 billion for the second consecutive year, and the wage-to-revenue ratio improved slightly, dropping from 66% to 64%.

Meanwhile, England's Women's Super League (WSL) achieved record-breaking financial milestones, generating €65 million in revenue—a 34% increase from the previous season. Every WSL club reported revenues exceeding €1 million, with an average of €5.4 million per club. “Strong fan engagement, strategic commercial partnerships, and centralized funding have propelled WSL into a new era of growth,” noted Deloitte's Jennifer Haskel.

The findings underscore football's resilience and evolving commercial potential, even amid economic and regulatory headwinds.

## England Completes 3-0 T20I Sweep Over West Indies with Duckett's Stellar 84

England sealed a commanding 3-0 victory in the T20I series against the West Indies after a dominant 37-run win in the third and final match at Southampton's Utilita Bowl on June 10, 2025. The clean sweep follows England's earlier 3-0 triumph in the ODI series, marking a perfect start to Harry Brook's white-ball captaincy.

Winning the toss and electing to bat, England posted a formidable total of 248-3 — their second-highest T20 international score. Opening batsman Ben Duckett led the charge with an explosive 84 off just 46 balls. Duckett's patient yet powerful innings, combined with an aggressive 60 from Jamie Smith (26 balls, including five sixes), laid a strong foundation with a 120-run opening



partnership. England's innings was further bolstered by captain Harry Brook and Jacob Bethell, who shared an unbeaten 70-run stand off just 31 balls to push the total to a daunting 249. England's record-breaking 135-1 after 10 overs set the tone for the innings, ensuring the West Indies faced a steep chase.

In reply, the Windies struggled to keep up with the required run rate on a flat batting track but still managed a respectable 211-8. They slipped to 70-4 early in the innings, hampering their chase. Rovman Powell topped scored for the visitors with a resilient 79 not out from 45 balls, while captain Shai Hope contributed a brisk 45 off 27 deliveries.

England's comprehensive white-ball dominance reflects their well-rounded performance under Brook's captaincy, who now shifts focus to an upcoming five-match Test series against India starting June 20. With both the ODI and T20I series wins, England has sent a strong message ahead of the Test battles, showcasing depth in batting and bowling across formats.





## Teaser for Fun-Filled Telugu Film ‘Mithra Mandali’ Released



The much-anticipated teaser for the upcoming Telugu film Mithra Mandali has been released, creating a buzz with its unique blend of fun and mystery. Directed by Vijayendar S, the teaser sets an intriguing tone without revealing much about the core plot, keeping the audience curious for more.

Mithra Mandali features a fresh ensemble cast, headlined by Priyadarshi, Vishnu Oi, Rag Mayur, Prasad Behara, and Niharika NM, who marks her Telugu film debut with this project. The teaser cleverly incorporates cricket-themed parallels, adding a distinctive flavor that hints at the film's creative storytelling style.

Alongside the leads, the teaser also introduces key supporting actors such as Vennela Kishore, VTV Ganesh, and Satya, each bring-

ing their unique charm to the film. The mix of well-known faces and newcomers is expected to provide a fresh dynamic on screen.

The film is presented by Bunny Vas under the banner BV Works and produced by Kalyan Manthina, Bhanu Pratapa, and Dr. Vijender Reddy Teegala through Sapta Aswa Media Works and Vyra Entertainments. Music for the film is composed by RR Dhruvan, adding to the overall promising vibe of the project.

While the teaser has successfully piqued interest with its playful yet cryptic narrative, the official release date for Mithra Mandali has not yet been announced. Fans of Telugu cinema and cricket-themed storytelling alike will be eagerly waiting for further updates on this intriguing new film.

## Gopichand 33: First Look and Glimpse from Sankalp Reddy’s 7th-Century Epic Released

On the occasion of Macho Star Gopichand's birthday, the makers of his eagerly awaited film Gopichand 33 unveiled a first glimpse and his striking character look, setting high expectations among fans and cinephiles alike.

Directed by Sankalp Reddy, renowned for his critically acclaimed The Ghazi Attack, Gopichand 33 is a historical epic based on a lesser-known event from the 7th century. The teaser reveals Gopichand in a commanding avatar, sporting a full beard and donning samurai-inspired attire that adds a unique and powerful dimension to his screen presence. His intense look promises an intriguing blend of history and action, creating excitement for what's to come.

Reports confirm that the film's first shooting schedule has been successfully completed, and the production team is now deep into the second schedule. This phase is being filmed on an elaborate set constructed in Hyderabad, reflecting the grand scale and ambition of the project.

Produced by Srinivasaa Chitturi under the Srinivasaa Silver Screen banner and presented by Pavan Kumar, Gopichand 33 boasts a formidable technical crew. Cinematographer Manikandan S, known for his work in hits like HIT 1, HIT 2, Geetha Govindam, and Saindhav, is handling the visuals. Production design-



er Chinna and action choreographer Prudhvi Master also bring their expertise, promising a visually impressive and action-packed experience.

As anticipation builds around Gopichand 33, fans are eagerly waiting for more updates on the storyline, release date, and other exciting details from this grand historical drama.

## Thug Life Box Office Day 7: Kamal Haasan’s Film Struggles, Earns Rs 42 Crore in First Week

Kamal Haasan's Thug Life, directed by Mani Ratnam, is facing a tough time at the Indian box office. On day 7, June 11, the film earned just Rs 1.25 crore, bringing its total collection to Rs 42.25 crore in its first week, according to Sacnilk reports.

Released on June 5, Thug Life has had to contend with strong competition from Akshay Kumar's Housefull 5, which has dominated the box office during the same period. The Tamil occupancy rate for Thug Life stood at an overall 15.57%, highlighting its struggle to attract audiences in a crowded marketplace.

Produced by Raaj Kamal Films International and Madras Talkies, the film boasts a stellar cast including Trisha Krishnan, T.R. Silambarasan, Abhirami, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Ashok Selvan, Joju George, Nassar, Ali Fazal, and Mahesh Manjrekar.

This film marks a significant reunion for Kamal Haasan and Mani Ratnam, who collaborated after 38 years — their last



project together was the iconic Nayakan in 1987. Kamal Haasan shared insights into their creative process in an interview with Hollywood Reporter India, explaining how they co-wrote the film. “I finished a script called Amar Hai — a pun meaning a man believed to be dead but isn't. Mani then took this idea and elaborated on it to craft the final film,” he said.

Despite high expectations, Thug Life has received mixed reviews. Film critic Saibal Chatterjee from NDTV rated the film 2 stars, noting, “Thug Life isn't the kind of film you expect to be a huge disappointment. Mani Ratnam's movies usually generate anticipation and excitement, but this one falls short of blockbuster status.”

As the film continues its run, industry watchers and fans await to see if Thug Life can bounce back in the coming days.

## The Raja Saab Teaser to Premiere in Select Theaters on June 16

Prabhas fans have a thrilling reason to rejoice as the highly anticipated teaser of The Raja Saab is scheduled for release on June 16, 2025. Directed by Maruthi, this horror-comedy promises to be a unique blend of scares and laughter, featuring Malavika Mohanan and Nidhhi Agerwal as the lead female protagonists.

Adding to the excitement, the film's makers have announced that the teaser will be screened exclusively in select theaters. Although the exact list of locations and show timings remains under wraps, social media is already buzzing with speculation and enthusiasm among fans eager to catch an early glimpse.

Rumors are also swirling about a grand teaser launch event to be held at the Aziznagar set, which could turn into a star-studded celebration. However, the production team is yet to confirm these details officially.

Apart from Prabhas, the film boasts a strong supporting cast that includes Riddhi Kumar and veteran actor Sanjay Dutt, both playing pivotal roles. Produced by People Media Factory, The Raja Saab is being positioned as a pan-India entertainer, aiming to captivate audiences across linguistic and regional boundaries.



The musical score for the film is composed by the acclaimed Thaman, whose tracks are expected to add to the film's vibrant and engaging atmosphere.

Fans should mark their calendars for the theatrical release of The Raja Saab, slated for December 5, 2025. With the teaser's impending launch and the film's intriguing premise, anticipation continues to build, promising an exciting journey ahead for Prabhas and his audience.

Stay tuned for more updates on the teaser screenings and the official launch event as the countdown begins!

## Nagarjuna’s Ragada to Get Grand 4K Re-Release on His Birthday

The charismatic Akkineni superstar Nagarjuna is gearing up to charm audiences once again with his upcoming film Kubera, starring alongside Dhanush, set to hit theaters on June 20, 2025. But fans have another exciting reason to celebrate — one of Nagarjuna's underrated hits, Ragada, is making a spectacular comeback in stunning 4K quality.

Originally released in 2010 and directed by Veeru Potla, Ragada is being re-released as a special birthday treat for Nagarjuna. While the film received mixed reviews upon its initial release, it garnered appreciation for its gripping plot twists, high-octane action sequences, and a pulsating soundtrack. The movie also featured Anushka Shetty and Priyamani in the lead female roles, whose performances added depth, glamour, and appeal to the dynamic entertainer.



The re-release is scheduled for August 29, 2025, coinciding perfectly with Nagarjuna's birthday celebrations. This fresh 4K restoration promises to deliver an enhanced visual and audio experience, bringing the film's stylish presentation and energetic soundtrack, composed by Thaman, back to life for longtime fans and new viewers alike.

The decision to bring Ragada back to the big screen highlights Nagarjuna's enduring popularity and the timeless appeal of his films. This re-release offers a chance for audiences to rediscover one of his memorable action entertainers in crystal-clear quality, celebrating his legacy in Tollywood.

Fans are encouraged to mark their calendars for this special cinematic event. Stay tuned for more updates and details about Ragada's grand re-release as Nagarjuna's birthday approaches!