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It's Not About How Many, But Why: CDS Chauhan on Jet Losses

- Understood Tactical Mistakes, Remedied And Rectified
- General Chauhan indirectly confirms jet losses during military clash
- Dismisses Pakistan's claim of downing 6 Indian jets as false
- Says corrected strategic errors and retaliated effectively

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi:

In a rare and significant revelation, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan has indirectly confirmed that India lost fighter jets during the recent military clashes with Pakistan. Speaking to Bloomberg TV on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, General Chauhan dismissed Pakistan's claim of shooting down six Indian jets as "completely untrue," but emphasized that the real issue lies not in the number of aircraft lost, but in the strategic reasons behind it.



AP Surpasses Rich States in Pension Support: CM

Chandrababu says ₹4,000 pensions now reaching 64 lakh people monthly



TPN Correspondent | Konaseema

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu visited Cheyeru village in Katrenikona mandal of the Mummidivaram constituency today as part of his tour in Dr. BR Ambedkar Konaseema district. Participating in the pension distribution drive, the CM personally handed over pensions at the homes of beneficiaries and addressed a public meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, CM Chandrababu highlighted that Andhra Pradesh is leading the nation in social welfare, especially in pension distribution. "Even wealthier states are not doing as much as AP. We are distributing pensions to 64 lakh beneficiaries on the 1st of every month," he stated. He affirmed that the TDP-led coalition government fulfilled its promise by increasing pensions from ₹3,000 to ₹4,000 and allocating ₹34,000 crore within the first year in office.

He noted that the TDP would always be to vulnerable sections of society.

- ₹34,000 crore spent on pensions in one vear
- 64 lakh beneficiaries receiving pensions on the 1st of every month
- AP providing more pensions than Telangana and Maharashtra

remembered for its commitment to the welfare of the poor, pointing out that 9,176 additional pensioners were added in the latest quarterly distribution. Chandrababu also revealed that the previous YSRCP government failed to address the needs of widows, whereas the current administration has sanctioned widow pensions for 71,380 women.

Emphasizing AP's superior performance, he said, "We are offering more pension support than even Telangana and Maharashtra." He gave a special mention to Polishetty Durgaprasad, who lost a leg due to diabetes and has now been included as a beneficiary.

Apart from welfare, Chandrababu also spoke on employment reforms, stating that he has signed the first Mega DSC to recruit 16,347 teacher posts and that the process is progressing swiftly. The CM reiterated his government's commitment to inclusive growth and timely support to vulnerable sections of society.



Thailand's Opal Suchata Wins Miss World 2025 Crown

72nd Miss World title goes to Opal Suchata of Thailand Miss Poland wins both 1st and 2nd runner-up positions Contestants from 108 countries participated in the event

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

Thailand's Opal Suchata Chuang has won the coveted Miss World 2025 title, bringing pride to her nation by securing the crown in the 72nd edition of the globally celebrated beauty pageant. The grand event saw participation from contestants representing 108 countries. As her name was announced, Opal Suchata became visibly emotional, capturing the hearts of millions around the world. She was crowned by last year's Miss World, Kristina Pizkova, in a traditional handover that marked the highlight of the evening.

The competition was particularly notable for Poland, as both the first

and second runner-up titles were claimed by Polish contestants. Miss Martinique secured the third runner-up position, rounding off the final placements of the prestigious event.

Born in Phuket, Thailand, Opal Suchata will receive a prize amount of ₹8.5 crore along with the Miss World crown. Her victory has not only brought her international fame but also once again showcased Thailand's growing influence in global pageantry.

The crowning of Opal Suchata adds a proud chapter to Thailand's history in the Miss World contest and continues to inspire young women worldwide.

Education Purge

Lokesh's Key Statements Revealing Reforms

- Minister Lokesh criticizes Jagan's flawed education policies
- 12 lakh students shifted to private schools under the previous government
- Allegations of corruption in teacher transfers and misuse of funds
- Jagan accused of false claims on CBSE, IB, and TOEFL implementation

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Education Minister Nara Lokesh delivered a sharp critique of the previous YSR Congress government's education system, calling it "completely corrupted" and blaming former Chief Minister Jagan Reddy for failures both publicly and personally. Speaking to the media on Saturday, Lokesh urged Jagan to act responsibly, reminding that expecting decency from someone who once stole exam papers was a mistake. He also mocked Jagan for branding everything from school uni-

19 800

forms to bags with his party colors while preaching values.

Lokesh alleged severe damage to the education sector under the previous government, highlighting that crucial schemes such as the mid-day meal and free textbook distribution for intermediate students were canceled. He also condemned the biased treatment of teachers, noting how they were once made to stand guard outside liquor shops. He revealed that due to government order GO 117,



AP DSC Hall Tickets via WhatsApp

- Exams from June
 6 to 30 for 16,347
 teacher posts
- Hall tickets available at cse.ap.gov.in
- Also accessible via WhatsApp: 95523 00009
- Minister Lokesh extends best wishes to candidates



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

With the AP Mega DSC 2025 exams just days away, Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh announced that hall tickets are now available and can be downloaded both through the official website and WhatsApp. The exams, scheduled between June 6 and June 30, aim to

fill 16,347 teacher posts across Andhra Pradesh. Candidates can obtain their hall tickets from the official website cse. ap.gov.in. In addition to the web service, the state government has introduced a WhatsApp facility for convenience. Aspirants need only send a message to 95523 00009 to receive their hall ticket through the messaging platform, as confirmed by education officials. Minister Lokesh took to X (formerly Twitter) to convey his wishes to the candidates. He highlighted the government's commitment to conducting the Mega DSC and encouraged aspirants to put forth their best efforts.





- · Kerala tops the list; seven deaths reported this month
- Cases rise from 1,010 to 2,710 in four days
- Kerala reports highest active cases at 1,347
- 16 active cases in Andhra Pradesh, 3 in Telangana

Covid Cases Near 3,395 Across India

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi:

Covid-19 cases are once again on the rise across India, with the number of active cases rapidly nearing the 3,000 mark. According to data released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the country recorded a sharp jump in infections within a span of just four days—from 1,010 active cases on May 26 to 2,710 on May 30.

Kerala has emerged as the worst-affected state, with 1,147 active cases currently reported. Maharashtra follows with 424 cases, Delhi with 294, and Gujarat with 223. Tamil Nadu and Karna-

taka each have 148 active cases, while West Bengal stands at 116. Other states with notable numbers include Rajasthan (51), Uttar Pradesh (42), Puducherry (25), and Haryana (20).

In the Telugu states, Andhra Pradesh currently has 16 active Covid cases, while Telangana has 3. Madhya Pradesh has 10 cases, Goa 7, and Odisha, Punjab, and Jammu & Kashmir have 4 each. Arunachal Pradesh and Chandigarh have 3 active cases each, and Mizoram and Assam have two apiece. Notably, there are no active Covid-19 cases reported in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Sikkim, and Himachal

Pradesh at present.

Meanwhile, the country recorded seven Covid-related deaths in May. Maharashtra reported two fatalities, while Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu reported one death each. Officials noted that except for the fatality in Punjab, all the deceased were elderly individuals with pre-existing health issues.

Health officials have urged the public to remain cautious, particularly in states reporting higher caseloads. While there is no immediate alarm, the rising trend has triggered concerns of another potential wave if not kept in check.







Narayana Murthy backs Pawan's appeal to film bigwigs

- Supports Pawan's call for film leaders to meet govt
- Appeals for percentage system and revival of single screens

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Veteran actor and producer R. Narayana Murthy has voiced strong support for Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's recent comments urging prominent figures in the film industry to hold talks with the government to resolve long-standing issues. Narayana Murthy stated that there was nothing wrong in Pawan's suggestion, but added that the appeal would have had greater impact if it had not included a reference to his upcoming film Harihara Veeramallu. He dismissed rumors that theaters are

being shut down from June 1 due to Harihara Veeramallu, calling such claims completely baseless. He expressed pride in announcing the Gaddar Awards and congratulated the winners, while also requesting Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to reinstate the Nandi Awards in Andhra Pradesh.

Touching upon the ongoing percentage revenue-sharing controversy between producers and exhibitors, Narayana Murthy strongly advocated for implementing a percentage-based system. "We staged protests in front of the film chamber for this. Despite repeated appeals, nothing concrete has been done," he said. He emphasized that such a system would provide significant relief to small producers and warned against tying the issue to a single film, which could dilute the seriousness of the mat-

"The bandh is like a Brahmastra. Today, single-screen theaters are struggling to survive amidst the dominance of corporate multiplexes. Many are even being converted into wedding halls. We must act now to save these temples of cinema and protect small producers," he urged. Narayana Murthy also criticized the steep hike in movie ticket prices, stating that it has alienated the audience, especially fans of popular heroes. "We have made high-budget films in the past like Lava Kusa and Sholay, but never burdened the public with inflated ticket rates. If the content is strong, audiences will come on their own," he asserted.

He cautioned that OTT platforms are increasingly drawing away the audience from cinemas, and stressed the need for united efforts to rejuvenate the industry. Murthy concluded by calling upon industry leaders to meet with CM Chandrababu Naidu and work towards long-term solutions rather than allowing pressing concerns to be sidelined.

AP DSC Hall Tickets via...

Continued from page 1

"Dear candidates! Mega DSC-2025 hall tickets can be downloaded from http:// cse.ap.gov.in. They can also be obtained through our WhatsApp service on 95523 00009. Our commitment to the administration has been fulfilled. Now it is your turn! You should show your best in the exams. Best wishes to you for that. I wish you to do your best and come out with excellent results!" – Nara Lokesh, Minister for Education & IT

With the hall ticket distribution underway, the School Education Department is finalizing arrangements for the smooth conduct of the DSC exams across the state. The recruitment of over 16,000 teacher posts is expected to significantly bolster the education system in Andhra Pradesh.

Ration Only Through Shops: Pawan

Doorstep delivery only for disabled and elderly, says Deputy CM

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan

Kalyan has announced that, starting June 1, the coalition government will distribute all essential commodities to poor families exclusively through ration shops. These fair price shops will remain open every month from the 1st to the 15th in two sessions—from 8 am to 12 pm and again from 4 pm to 8 pm. Highlighting the need for reform, Pawan criticized the previous YSRCP government's doorto-door ration delivery policy. He alleged that the earlier regime purchased vehicles worth ₹1,600 crore under the guise of convenience but failed to deliver effectively. "They bought vehicles but used them only for a day or two a month at major intersections. Many poor workers lost their daily wages waiting aimlessly, not knowing when or where the ration would come," he said. The Deputy CM



restore ration delivery through dedicated shops was made to bring order and accountability back to the system. He said that the current government, under CM Chandrababu Naidu's leadership, has also investigated large-scale irregularities in the previous ration supply network. "Thousands of tonnes of illegally diverted rice were seized at Kakinada and Visakhapatnam ports during our probe," he revealed. Pawan Kalyan also asemphasized that the decision to sured that the new system is vice.

designed with compassion. He announced a special provision for doorstep delivery of ration items to disabled citizens and elderly persons above 65 years of age who are unable to reach the shops.

He reaffirmed the coalition government's commitment to ensuring timely and transparent distribution of essential goods to the poor and said the new system would uphold dignity, efficiency, and reliability in ser-

Govt Appoints Non-Official PICs for 13 DCMS Units Across AP

- Joint Collectors replaced by non-officials as per APCS Act
- Appointments valid up to June 26, 2025 or till elections
- Orders issued by Agri & Cooperation Dept in G.O. Rt. No. 366

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh Government has appointed non-official Persons-In-Charge (PICs) to manage the affairs of the 13 District Cooperative Marketing Societies (DCMS), replacing the existing Joint Collector-level officials. The appointments have 1. Srikakulam - Sri Chowbeen made under Section 32(7) (a), invoking Section 123 of the APCS Act, 1964, as per Government Order Rt. No. 366 issued on 3. Visakhapatnam May 30, 2025.

These non-official PICs will serve from the date of assuming charge until June 26, 2025 — the residual period of the current term — or until elections are 5. conducted, or further orders are issued, whichever is earlier.

The appointments were made **6.** following a recommendation

from the Commissioner for 7. Guntur - Sri Vadranam Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Andhra 8. Pradesh, Guntur, in a letter dated May 27, 2025.

Below are the names of the newly appointed PICs:

- dari Avinash
- Vizianagaram Sri Gompa Krishna
- (Anakapalli) Sri Kotney
- 4. Konaseema (East Godavari) – Sri Peccheti Chandra Mouli
- West Godavari Sri Chaganti Murali Krishna (Chinna)
- Krishna Sri Bandi Ramakrishna

- Haribabu
- Prakasam Sri Shyamala Kasi Reddy
- Nellore Sri Gangodu Nageswara Rao
- 10. Kurnool (Nandyal) Sri G. Nageswara Yadav (Yerrasani Nageswara Rao)
- 11. YSR Kadapa (Annamayya) – Sri Yerraguntla Jayaprakash Narayana Babu
- 12. Chittoor (Tirupati) Sri P. Subramanyam Naidu
- 13. Anantapuram (Sree Sathya Sai) – Sri Nettem Venkateshwarlu

The Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Guntur, has been directed to ensure the smooth transition and necessary follow-up action for implementing the appointments.

Harish Kumar Gupta Takes Charge as Full-Fledged AP DGP

TPN Correspondent | **Amaravati**

Shri Harish Kumar Gupta IPS officially took charge as the Director General of Police (DGP) of Andhra Pradesh on Saturday. A formal ceremony was held at the Police Headquarters in Mangalagiri, where he assumed responsibilities as the state's top police officer.

serving as the Director General Department and held the post of



A 1992 batch IPS officer, Har- months. The Andhra Pradesh Upon taking charge, several seish Kumar Gupta has also been government has now confirmed his appointment as full-fledged of the Vigilance & Enforcement DGP, granting him a full twoyear term starting from May in-charge DGP for the past four 31, 2025, regardless of his retire-

Gupta took over the interim charge on February 1, 2025, following the retirement of former DGP Dwaraka Tirumala Rao in January. His tenure as incharge DGP was marked by decisive leadership and administrative efficiency, earning him recognition within the police ranks.

nior police officers met and congratulated Shri Harish Kumar Gupta at the headquarters, expressing confidence in his leadership for the coming term.

Ronanki Kurmanath Transferred from Disaster Management Post

- Kurmanath directed to report to **GAD** for further posting
- Prakhar Jain given full additional charge of Disaster Management
- Orders issued by Chief Secretary K. Vijayanand

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government has issued a transfer order for Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Sri Ronanki Kurmanath, IAS (2016), who was serving as Director, Disaster Management and Ex-Officio Deputy Secretary to the Government in the Revenue (Disaster Management) Department.

According to G.O.RT.No. 1067 dated 31st May 2025 from the General Administration (SC.A) Department, Ronanki Kurmanath has been transferred with immediate effect and directed to report before the General Administration Department for further posting.

In the interim, Sri Prakhar Jain, IAS (2021), currently serving as Chief Executive Officer of the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS), has been assigned full additional charge of the post of Director, Disaster Management and Ex-Officio Deputy Secretary to Government, Revenue (DM) Department, until further orders.

The transfer order was issued by Shri K. Vijayanand, Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, in the name of the Governor. Copies of the order have also been sent to various key departments and offices including the Revenue Department, RTGS, CCLA, Raj Bhavan, and senior officials in the Chief Minister's Office.

Lokesh's Key Statements...

Continued from page 1

about 12 lakh students switched from government to private schools in five years. Lokesh recalled the flawed introduction of the CBSE curriculum in 1,000 schools without proper preparation, resulting in a 90% failure rate in the first examination conducted after he became minister. Concerned about the impact on girls' education, he announced a postponement of the CBSE rollout to ensure better read-

Lokesh accused Jagan of dreaming to introduce the IB policy but wasting Rs. 5 crores only on the report without implementation. He also disputed claims about TOEFL teaching and accused the previous regime of transferring Rs. 4,500 crore in fee reimbursement arrears and Rs. 1,000 crore from one scheme to another. Allegations of money collection during teacher transfers and politicization of top universities were also raised. Lokesh questioned the integrity of question paper corrections during Jagan's tenure, citing private resort meetings. Defending his government's efforts, Lokesh said they are working to clean the education system by enforcing the Teacher Transfer Act free from politics, updating curricula from KG to PG, aiming for one teacher per class, reducing textbook weight, and introducing value-based education. Many student welfare schemes have been revived, including free textbooks and mid-day meals for intermediate students, with educational institutions appointing reputed vice-chancellors to improve

Addressing concerns about evaluation errors, Lokesh clarified that this year's Class 10 answer sheet assessment was 99.75% accurate, with only 0.25% (11,175 scripts) discrepancies found after re-verification out of over 45 lakh scripts evaluated. Actions have been taken against those responsible for errors. He criticized the previous government for concealing higher discrepancy rates of 17-20% in past

Lokesh also announced that students with verified discrepancies have been allowed admissions into RJUKTs until June 10, with possible extensions for other admissions.

It's Not About How Many, But Why: CDS Chauhan...

Continued from page 1

"It is not important that the fighter jets were shot down, it is important why they were shot down," said General Chauhan, indicating that India has acknowledged internal errors that led to these losses. While he declined to specify how many aircraft were hit, his remarks marked the first time an Indian official has publicly addressed this aspect of the air conflict that began on May 7.

He explained that India was able to identify and correct the strategic mistakes made during the initial days of the confrontation. "We corrected those mistakes, and two days later, all our aircraft were back in action, striking long-range targets successfully," he added. Responding to questions about the military build-up in Pakistan with

weapons sourced from China and the brink of a nuclear confrontadownplayed their impact. "Those weapons didn't work. We managed to strike air bases deep within—with precision, even through their layered air defenses," he asserted.

General Chauhan also clarified that while the military clash lasted for four days, it never reached

other nations, General Chauhan tion. "We have set clear boundaries. The ceasefire is holding, and its continuation depends entirely on Pakistan's behavior," he said. in Pakistan—some 300 kilometers His remarks suggest a recalibrated and assertive Indian military posture following the May clashes and offer a glimpse into India's operational readiness and strategic clarity in responding to cross-border threats.



POLITICS

Amaravati Will Generate its Own Income

Critics envy his potential fame from capital project: CM

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh recognition without using govern-Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has strongly defended the Amaravati capital project, asserting that the criticism being levelled today mirrors the opposition he faced during the development of Cyberabad in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh. In an interview with a national media outlet in Delhi, Chandrababu stated that his political rivals are attacking Amaravati out of jealousy, fearing that he might earn

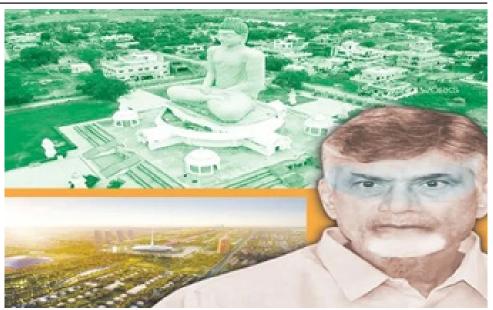
ment funds.

"During Cyberabad's construction, Congress leaders claimed I was diverting all state funds. But I built it without burdening the government. Today, 75% of Telangana's revenue comes from Hyderabad. Amaravati is also being developed similarly — with zero government spending," Chandrababu asserted.

He clarified that farmers have voluntarily given 33,000 acres of land,

which is being utilized for development and income generation. "We are making farmers partners in development. Some can't digest that farmers gave their land willingly, so they criticize us unnecessarily," he remarked. He emphasized that Amaravati will eventually emerge as a self-sustaining economic hub that contributes to the state's welfare schemes.

Reiterating his resolve, he said, "If something comes to my attention, I will not sleep until it is put into ac-



tion. My rivals don't oppose the projects for their faults, but because they can't bear to see me get credit."

When asked about his son Nara Lokesh's political journey, Chandrababu said Lokesh chose public service

Nandigam Suresh Gives Evasive

Answers in Police Custody

No clarity on attackers or vehicles, bail verdict on June 2

after completing his higher education at Stanford. "He's striving hard to prove himself. Let him do that. Good leadership must emerge, and I urge the youth to step into politics to bring about positive change," he said.

Mahanadu is a Big Drama, Says Botsa Satyanarayana

Pension hike only promise fulfilled in one year "Thalliki Vandanam" scheme skipped last year



TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam

Senior YSRCP leader and former minister Botsa Satyanarayana sharply criticized the coalition government's performance at a media conference held in Vizag on Saturday. He condemned the TDP's three-day Mahanadu event in Kadapa as a mere drama that ignored the government's failures over the past year.

Botsa alleged that except for the pension hike, the coalition government has not implemented a single election promise during its nearly one year in power. He ing all sectors negatively. questioned the government's

sincerity, saying, "Apart from increasing pensions, have you implemented even a single promise in this past year?"

He also condemned the coalition government for skipping the "Salute to Mother" scheme last year, which was previously a flagship initiative. Botsa further highlighted the government's glaring failure in managing the education sector, especially the 10th standard exam evaluations. He noted that while only 500 students sought revaluation during their rule, the number has surged to 1,650 under the current coalition government, raising concerns about the students' future. Botsa blamed poor planning and lack of direction for these failures. He explained that teachers tasked with grading 40 answer sheets daily were given more than their capacity, causing issues in evaluation quality. "There should be a plan for every task, but this government is completely failing to implement it," he said, emphasizing that the lack of proper governance is impact-

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

Former MP and YSRCP leader Nandigam Suresh reportedly failed to provide clear answers during his three-day police custody in connection with the attack on TDP worker Iskuppalli Krishna (Raju) Uddhandarayunipalem. Tullur police, who questioned

him extensively, said Suresh gave evasive responses and claimed to not remember key details of the incident.

On the final day of interrogation, Circle Inspector Konka Srinivasa Rao questioned Suresh from afternoon till evening. Though his legal counsel was informed, the

sion. As the custody concluded, Suresh was scheduled to be produced in Mangalagiri court this morning after a In the Guntur Second Addiroutine medical check-up.

questioned two-wheelers for the alleged kidnapping, and the number of his followers, Suresh denied knowledge or involvement. He insisted that he had no followers since losing his MP even when shown evidence indicating that nearly 20 inthe attack, Suresh dismissed remember anything. Notably, he was also silent when asked why he hadn't lodged a police complaint regarding alleged abusive language by the victim Krishna.

lawyer did not attend the ses- hensive report on the threeday interrogation would be submitted to the court. Bail Verdicts Awaited

tional District Court, Judge about V.A.L. Satyavati heard arguthe assailants, the use of ments on Suresh's bail plea and postponed the verdict to June 2. The court will also pronounce its decision on the anticipatory bail petition of Suresh's wife, Baby Rani, on the same day. Meanwhile, in seat. Police sources say that a separate case involving the attack on the Telugu Desam Party's state office, the Disdividuals were involved in trict Chief Justice B. Sai Kalyanachakravarthy postponed the claims, saying he didn't the hearing of anticipatory bail for former MLA Alla Ramakrishna Reddy to June 4. The adjournment was made to allow time for the public prosecutor to present arguments. The judge directed po-Police said Suresh's answers lice not to initiate any serious lacked substance and com- action against Ramakrishna mitment, and that a compre- Reddy until the next hearing.

Manohar Vows to Reopen Ration Shops and **Improve Services**

- · Jana Sena to focus on better services for ration cardholders
- · Pawan Kalyan values those who stood by the party, says Manohar
- Key party leaders attend Peddapuram meeting

TPN Correspondent | Kakinada

Peddapuram on Saturday evening. Addressing the gath-Manohar ering, affirmed that the party remains committed to public welfare under the leadership of Shri Pawan Kalyan.

"Our party president Shri Pawan Kalyan stands for the welfare of the people. He

leaders who stood for the party. Everyone worked hard during the elections," Manohar stated. He expressed confidence in the public's trust in the alliance and emphasized the party's responsibility to live up to that trust.

for public benefit, Manohar announced, "We are reopening ration shops. We will provide better cadre and the public.

services to the cardholders." Chairman of the Political Affairs The event was attended by sev-Committee of Jana Sena Party eral prominent leaders includand Minister for Civil Supplies, ing Government Whip in the Shri Nadendla Manohar, took Legislative Council Shri Pidugu part in party programs held in Hariprasad, Kakinada Rural MLA



will never forget the workers and Shri Pantham Nanaji, Civil Supplies Corporation Chairman Shri Thota Sudheer, Kakinada District President and DCCB Chairman Shri Tummala Babu, and Pithapuram Coordinator Shri Marred-

dy Srinivas. The gathering reflected the par-Highlighting steps being taken ty's intent to stay engaged with the grassroots and maintain close communication with its

Even Though I Left Party, I Will Not Speak Against Jagan: Vijayasai

TPN Correspondent Hvderabad

Former YSR Congress leader Vijayasai Reddy has strongly refuted recent reports claiming he spoke against Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy during events in Tirupati and Visakhapatnam. In an official statement and a tweet, Vijayasai clarified that such claims are baseless and spread by some media outlets



with ulterior motives. ken against Jagan garu, I left the party due to

flags themselves.



neither on record nor He said, "I have not spo- off record. Even though

internal coterie is- official channels, withsues, I will never act or speak in a manner that harms Jagan garu." Vijayasai emphasized that he is not involved in politics at present and holds no animosity against any political party or leader.

serted that he prefers transparency and would communicate directly and openly through media or his

Vijayasai further as-

out any behind-thescenes talks or negotiations. He appealed to the public not to trust the "nameless newspapers and TV channels" spreading false propaganda in his name.

His firm stance highlights his respect for Jagan and his intent to distance himself from political controversies despite his departure from active politics.

Chandrababu and Lokesh's threats won't work: Satish Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa YSRCP State General Secretary S. Satish Kumar Reddy strongly criticized the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), targeting party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and general secretary Nara Lokesh for their recent remarks and alleged misuse of police force. Addressing the media in Kadapa on Saturday, Satish Reddy lashed out at TDP for tying party flags to statues of late Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR), a leader he said was pivotal in Kadapa's development. "Is it right to tie TDP flags to the statues of YSR, who served this district selflessly?" he questioned, accusing TDP activists of disrespecting YSR's legacy. He said despite a complaint by YSRCP MP Avinash Reddy, the police did not act,

and locals had to remove the

Furious at the police response, Satish Reddy accused officers of "acting like rowdies" and questioned if they were on TDP's payroll. "They are beating innocent youths in the streets. If this continues, who will take responsibility when YSRCP returns to power?" he asked. Responding to Lokesh's statement that YSRCP would be 'soaked' in Mahanadu, Satish Reddy retorted, "It is not us who will get wet. It is you and your party leaders who will be drenched." He also accused the TDP of using power to draw crowds, saying, "When I was in TDP, we couldn't fill a marriage hall. Now you are in power and claim it's people's support?" Taking a jibe at Amaravati's proposed capital cost, he asked, "Is it fair to spend ₹1



Amaravati or the people from Srikakulam to Anantapur?" He warned that the burden would fall on the common man and demanded clarity from the

He also alleged that TDP leaders were suppressing dissent through police cases and arrests. "How many people will you beat and jail, Lokesh? If you question, you beat them.

But we're not afraid," Satish warned. Further, he ridiculed the TDP for not introducing new pensions despite boasting about hikes. "You've only hiked old pensions, but not added a single new one. Where is the promised gas subsidy? Most villages haven't received it," he claimed.On Mahanadu's narrative, he said, "Jagan was mentioned more than NTR. Why? Because people know Jagan walks with them. When he hits the road, people flood the streets, not because of coercion, but love."

In closing, Satish Kumar Reddy issued a stern warning: "You can't escape the backlash from the people or shield your MLAs' exploitation. We are prepared. File as many cases as you want – even if you jail us, we will not back down."





Liquor Scam: SIT Interrogates 4 Top Aides of Jagan for Second Day

- Former IT Advisor Raj Kasireddy, ex-CMO Secretary among those in custody
- SIT suspects link to 'Bigg Boss' and wife in money transfers
- Key interrogation underway based on financial trail evidence

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a significant development in the Andhra Pradesh liquor scam case, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) continued its interrogation of four prime accused closely associated with former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for the second consecutive day. The SIT is questioning former IT advisor Raj Kasieddy, ex-CMO secretary and retired IAS officer K. Dhanunjaya Reddy, Jagan's OST P. Krishnamohan Reddy, and Bharathi Cements director Govindappa Balaji.

The four were taken into custody as per the orders issued by the Vijayawada ACB court on Thursday. The court granted



gate the accused from 8 am to 6 pm on both Friday and Saturday. Prior to questioning, all four underwent medical examinations at the Vijayawada Government Hospital before being shifted to the SIT office.

the SIT permission to interro- According to SIT sources, the accused are believed to possess critical information regarding the ultimate destination of the funds involved in the liquor scam. Investigators suspect their direct involvement in the collection of bribes, laundering

of funds, and transferring the proceeds to the "ultimate beneficiary", referred to internally as "Bigg Boss" and his wife.

The SIT has reportedly obtained key evidence that outlines how the scam was planned, executed, and how the money trail was managed. Using this evidence, officials aim to extract further details to unravel the full extent of the scam and expose those at the top of the alleged corruption network.

The ongoing interrogation is being viewed as a crucial step toward identifying the broader conspiracy and pinning down the individuals who benefited most from the scam during the previous YSRCP regime.

Vidyasagar Takes Charge as AP NGO President

MLC Alapati Raja and MLA Bonda Uma attend swearing-in ceremony in Vijayawada

awada

Vidyasagar officially took charge as the President of the Andhra Pradesh Non-Gazetted Officers' (AP NGO) Association at a grand swearing-in ceremony held in Vijayawada. The event saw the participation of key leaders including MLC Alapati Raja and MLA Bonda Uma, who hailed Vidyasagar's leadership, experience, and commitment to resolving employee-related issues.

Addressing the gathering, MLC Alapati Raja stated, "From the beginning, Vidyasagar has been a leader capable of taking up any responsibility efficiently. Today, he takes on a crucial role, and I urge everyone to support him." He emphasized that the issues raised by Vidyasagar are not new and assured that they will be addressed in phases by the current government. Highlighting the difference between the current administration and the previous one, Alapati Raja said, "Between 2014-19, Chandrababu gave priority to employee issues. But from 2019-24, questioning itself became dangerous. We witnessed a dictatorial regime under Jagan, reminiscent of Hitler's rule. Today, we are back under a democratic government."

MLA Bonda Uma expressed happiness over Vidyasagar's appointment, calling it a positive development for gov-

TPN Correspondent | Vijay- ernment employees. "Despite financial constraints post-bifurcation, the salaries and DAs were increased during Chandrababu's tenure. Vidyasagar knows how to deal with issues and speak to anyone skillfully to get results," he said.

Uma assured employees that the new government would work closely with them. "The AP NGO office is in my constituency, and I will ensure that it remains a hub for addressing your issues. Accountability will be maintained, and there will be freedom for employees to meet both the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary."

Referring to past struggles, both leaders recalled the unity movement led by Ashok Babu, where Vidyasagar also played a pivotal role in rallying employees. "Today, with Chandrababu as CM, Ashok Babu at NTR Bhavan, and Vidyasagar leading the NGO Association, we are confident that employee problems will be brought to the forefront and resolved," they said.

They added that regardless of being in government or opposition, their affection and concern for employees remain unchanged. "Vidyasagar is not just a leader, he is one of us. Under his leadership, employees will thrive in the coming years," Bonda Uma concluded, wishing success to the entire community.

PSR Anjaneyulu Hospitalized Again **Due to BP Fluctuations**

Remanded in APPSC case, taken from jail to Vijayawada govt hospital

- Senior IPS officer suffers recurring BP issues due to age
- Still in remand despite bail in Kadambari Jatwani case
- Former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi also hospitalized with court approval

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada:

Senior IPS officer PSR Anjaneyulu, who is currently in judicial remand in the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) irregularities case, was once again hospitalized on Saturday after experiencing fluctuations in blood pressure. Authorities from the Vijayawada district jail responded promptly by shifting him to the Vijayawada government hospital for medical attention. Sources indicate that Anjane-

yulu, due to his advanced age, has been facing frequent blood pressure-related health issues. Just a week ago, he had undergone medical tests at the same government hospital. As the same issue reappeared today, he was transferred to the hospital again and is currently under the supervision of doctors.



medical observation until eve- a case involving the alleged illening before being returned to

He is expected to be kept under Anjaneyulu was first arrested in gal detention of Mumbai-based actress Kadambari Jatwani and

filing of a case against her. Although the High Court granted him bail in that case two days ago, he remains in remand for his alleged role in the APPSC evaluation scam. He is accused of colluding with private individuals to manipulate the evaluation of examination papers, violating official procedures. Dhatri Madhu was also arrested in connection with the same case. Meanwhile, former MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi, who is also on remand in connection with a fake house title case, has reportedly fallen ill. On his request, the court granted permission for medical treatment. Following the court's directive, police officials shifted him to a private hospital in Vijayawada. Vamsi will remain under medical care for two to three days before being moved back to jail.



Jagan Took 5 Years to Hike ₹1,000 in Pensions: **Minister Nimmala**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

State Minister Nimmala Rama Naidu came down heavily on former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, criticizing him for taking five years to raise pension amounts by just ₹1,000. Speaking during a pension distribution program in Palakollu constituency of West Godavari district, the Minister accused the previous government of neglecting the welfare of senior citizens, widows, and the disabled.

Nimmala highlighted that it took the YSRCP government an entire term to implement a staggered ₹1,000 hike in pensions, while current Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu fulfilled his promise immediately after coming to power. "Chandrababu increased the pension amount in one go. There was no need to wait in stages. That is the difference between the two administrations," the Minister remarked.

He also alleged that Jagan's priorities lay elsewhere. "Jagan focused on painting government buildings in party colors rather than addressing the needs of the poor and vulnerable," said Nimmala. He stressed that the welfare of the elderly and disabled was never a priority for the



former Chief Minister.

As the new government begins pension distribution across the state, the Minister assured that the alliance is committed to delivering on promises quickly and effectively, unlike the previous adminis-

Miraculous Escape After Car Falls 45 Feet in Khammam Road Accident

- Car crushed under iron bars but family survives with minor injuries
- Lorry overturned on bridge after hitting van and car
- Victims from AP's NTR district were returning to Hyderabad

TPN Correspondent | Khammam

In a miraculous escape, five members of a family survived after their car plunged from a height of about 45 feet off a bridge and was crushed under heavy iron bars in Khammam district on Friday evening. The incident occurred at Stagepinapaka in Vaira mandal when a lorry transporting iron bars from Khammam to Sathupalli collided with a coconut-laden van coming from the opposite direction and then struck a car trailing behind.

The impact caused the car to crash through the bridge barrier and fall nearly 45 feet below, landing in a municipal waste area. The lorry itself overturned and came to rest precariously, with its iron bars spilling out and falling directly on the car. The coconut van was left teetering on the edge of the bridge. Inside the crushed car were Mogilisetty Rajasekhar and Geetha, a couple from Teladarupalli village near Vissannapet in Andhra Pradesh's NTR district, along with their chil-

dren Tejas and Jyothi. In a stroke of



luck, the garbage below the bridge cushioned the fall, allowing the family to escape with only minor injuries. However, Rajasekhar's father, Mogilisetty Koteswara Rao (65), sustained serious injuries to both legs.

Geetha was reportedly returning from her native village Rebbavaram in Vaira mandal when the tragic mishap occurred. The family resides in Hayathnagar, Hyderabad.

The lorry driver, Sheikh Subhani, was trapped in the cabin and injured, while the van driver also sustained minor injuries. All the injured were immediately shifted to a private hospital in Khammam for

Eyewitnesses were left in shock at the horrific sight of the accident. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the incident.



Super Six in Action: CM Naidu Highlights 11-Month Achievements

- ₹34,000 crore allocated for pensions yearly, highest in India
- · Pensions may be increased again in future, says CM
- Ration shop system resumes June 1; teacher posts through DSC

TPN Correspondent | Konaseema

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu asserted that his government is implementing the "Super Six" guarantees promised during the elections within just 11 months of taking office. Addressing the public in Cheyeru village of Mummidivaram constituency as part of the "Pedala Sevalo" initiative, Naidu stated that Andhra Pradesh stands as the top state in the country in terms of providing pensions, with an annual allocation of ₹34,000 crore. He said this commitment to welfare reflects his vision of transparent, corruption-free governance.

Naidu personally handed over pensions to two women laborers and emphasized that the state provides pensions to 64 lakh people monthly. He highlighted the improvements made, such as delivering pensions a day early due to Sunday and increasing the pension amount from ₹200 during the previous regime to ₹2,000, with dialysis patients receiving ₹10,000 and bedridden individuals ₹15,000. He further stated, "If God blesses, we will increase the pensions even more."

The CM claimed that no other state offers such high pension benefits. He pointed out that Maharashtra provides only ₹1,000, while Telangana of-

fers ₹2,500. "We are giving ₹48,000 annually through pensions, more than what people earn in 100 days of hard labor," he remarked.

Welfare & Job Creation **Announcements**

Naidu announced that ration distribution through shops will resume across the state from June 1. Special provision will be made to deliver rations at home for the elderly and disabled, while others preferring cash will receive it through DBT. Alleging corruption in the door delivery model of the past, he said that ration rice was diverted to Kakinada port and controlled by mafia.

On the employment front, he declared that 16,347 teacher posts will be filled via DSC in June. Under the "Talliki Vandanam" scheme, ₹15,000 per child will be deposited into mothers' accounts. Farmers will receive ₹20,000 annually under the "Annadatha" scheme. For fishermen, ₹20,000 financial support is being given, and 217 anti-fishermen GOs have been revoked. He also announced the expansion of ₹5 Anna Canteens to all constituencies.

Several other schemes were highlighted: repeal of the Land Titling Act, GST reimbursement on handloom products, 500 units of free electricity

to power looms, formation of a special corporation for goldsmiths, reservation in liquor shops for Geeta workers, and appointment of Brahmins and Nayi Brahmins to temple bodies. Women under the Deepam scheme will get 3 free gas cylinders yearly with direct account transfer every four months.

Sharp Criticism of Past Governance Naidu severely criticized the previous YCP government for scams in the name of schemes and political misuse. He accused them of spreading lies, including portraying the natural death of a pastor as a murder and politicizing incidents at TTD. He recalled the communal harmony TDP maintained in the past and blamed the previous regime for ignoring even the statues of icons like Ambedkar and

Highlighting the poor condition of infrastructure during the last government's term, he said ₹1,200 crore was spent to fill potholes and repair 20,000 km of roads. He mentioned the removal of garbage tax and an initiative to clear 83 lakh metric tons of garbage by October.

Special Focus on Konaseema

Naidu noted that Konaseema's per capita income has declined and sug-



gested expanding dairy industries alongside existing aqua and coconut farming. He promised two buffaloes per family to the poor and encouraged cocoa and fodder intercropping to increase income. Remembering late Speaker GMC Balayogi, he said TDP stands for all castes and communi-

Instant Solutions and Local Assurances

Responding to local grievances during the event, Naidu assured pensions, financial aid, jobs, and housing for multiple individuals. NGOs like Margadarshi also pledged support to families in distress.

In terms of infrastructure, he announced the construction of Pallamkurru-Mulapadu bridge, midivaram-Katrenikona R&B road, Gogulanka bridge, Kundaleswaram flood bank modernization, and CC roads in Cheyeru. A BC girls' residential school and college will also be set up. ₹2 lakh ex-gratia was announced for families of students who recently drowned in Godavari.

Finally, CM Naidu underlined his government's commitment to BC welfare, citing a ₹47,456 crore allocation in the state budget. He revealed ₹1,670 crore has been disbursed to paddy farmers, pending panchayat dues cleared, and that with Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan's initiative, 30,000 village works have begun with ₹4,500 crore under the "Village Festival" program.

Corona Panic in Eluru Collectorate

Four staff members test positive; officials on alert

TPN Correspondent | Eluru

A wave of concern has gripped the Eluru district administration after four staff members of the Public Problem Solving Platform at the Eluru Collectorate tested positive for Covid-19. With cases rising across the state, this sudden emergence of infections at a key government office has put officials on high alert. Medical and health department personnel responded swiftly, placing the infected staff under home In addition, as a precautionary step, Covid-19 tests are being conducted on other employees working in the Collectorate to prevent further

The development comes on the heels of two elderly residents of Shantinagar in Eluru city testing positive for Covid four days ago.

They have been shifted to a hospital in Guntur to receive advanced medical care. Officials are monitoring their condition closely.

With the rise in cases within the district and across the state, public health experts are urging citizens to strictly adhere to Covid-appropriate behaviour. They recommend wearing masks in public spaces, maintaining physical distance, washing hands frequently, and avoiding unnecessary travel. Authorities have isolation and initiating treatment. also advised immediate medical consultation if symptoms such as fever, cough, or breathlessness ap-

> The situation in Eluru serves as a reminder of the virus's continued presence and the need for sustained vigilance, especially in crowded public offices and urban areas.

Govt Has Backstabbed People in One Year: Kadapa YCP President

June 4 protests named 'Backstabbing Day' to expose Chandrababu's frauds YSRCP vows to 'open Chandrababu's eyes' with protests

TPN Correspondent KadapaKadapa:

Kadapa YSRCP District President P. Ravindranath Reddy accused the coalition government led by Chandrababu Naidu of betraying the people by not fully implementing a single election promise during its one-year rule. He, along with party leaders, launched the poster for the state-wide 'Backstabbing Day' protests scheduled for June 4 at the district party office. Speaking at the event alongside Badwel MLA Sudha and former Deputy CM Anjad Basha, Ravindranath Reddy criticized Chandrababu Naidu for coming to pow-



er through misleading and fraudulent promises and ruling without concern for the people. He said this coalition government introduced autocratic and anarchic policies, which have hurt the state. Highlighting YS Jagan's governance, Ravindranath

said that unlike the current coalition, YS Jagan fulfilled 99% of his promises within his first year in power and introduced revolutionary systems benefiting the people. In contrast, Chandrababu has destroyed these systems and caused turmoil.

Ravindranath also pointed out Chandrababu's history of deceit, recalling how he rose to power in 1995 by betraying his own uncle and later through false promises in 1999, 2014, and 2024. He accused Chandrababu of staging dramas like the new P-4 scheme and failing to deliver on pre-election assurances. The June 4 protests, termed 'Backstabbing Day', aim to expose these betrayals and hold Chandrababu accountable. Party leaders including Puli Sunil Kumar, Shafi, Shankar Reddy, Yanadaiah, Venkateshwarlu, Dasari Shiva, Shafi, and Vinod participated in the event.

Be Vigilant About Covid, **Take Precautions: AP Waqf Board Chairman**

Small steps today will save us from big risks, says Abdul Aziz

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

In the wake of a fresh rise in Covid-19 cases across various parts of Andhra Pradesh, AP Waqf Board Chairman Sheikh Abdul Aziz has appealed to the people of the state to remain vigilant and follow necessary health precautions. Issuing a press statement from Nellore, Abdul Aziz emphasized that small, responsible actions from individuals could prevent major public health risks.

"Even though the number of Covid cases is currently low, we must not let our guard down. The small precautions we take today will protect us and our families from greater dangers," said Abdul Aziz. He highlighted the importance of community awareness and responsible behavior, especially in safeguarding vulnerable groups like pregnant women, young children, and individuals with underlying health conditions such as diabetes, lung, and heart diseases. Abdul Aziz urged citizens to wear masks in crowded public places, maintain hand hygiene by washing hands frequently with soap, carry hand sanitizers, and get tested immediately if they develop symptoms like cough, cold, fever, or breathing difficulty.

"There is no need to panic, but vigilance is



our best protection," he stressed. Reassuring the public about the preparedness of the state government, Abdul Aziz said, "The TDP government is always ready to face such challenges. Appropriate precautions and medical arrangements have already been made in all government hospitals across the state."

He concluded by reminding everyone that social responsibility is crucial in such times and that following simple safety practices is the best way to ensure the well-being of society.

11th International Yoga Day Opening at Sullurpet Govt **Degree College**



TPN | C Shekar

Sullurpet: SV SSC Government Degree College, Sullurpet, inaugurated the celebrations for the 11th International Yoga Day with a grand program named "Yogandhra" on

May 31, 2025, at the college campus. This event is part of a monthlong series of yoga conferences and training sessions being held from May 21 to June 21.

The program was presided over

by the college principal, Dr. S. L. B. Shankar Sharma, who emphasized the dual benefits of yogaenhancing physical strength and helping overcome mental stress. He encouraged everyone to practice yoga for at least one hour dai-

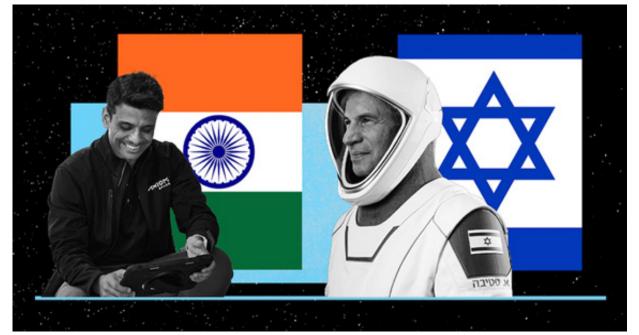
Teachers, non-teaching staff, and students actively participated in performing various yoga asanas such as Surya Namaskar, Vrikshasana, Trikonasana, Uttanasana, Bhujangasana, and Muktasana, along with pranayama exercises.

In addition to the yoga sessions, the college principal, teachers, and students organized an awareness rally to promote the social importance of yoga. Major Dr. J. Subrahmanyam, NCC Coordinator, NSS Coordinator B. Srinivasulu, senior teacher D. Nagabhushanam, and others played key roles in the successful organization of the event. The collective efforts of students and staff were highly appreciated.

From Tel Aviv to Lucknow: How Space Is Strengthening India-Israel Ties

As India prepares to send Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla to the International Space Station (ISS) on the Axiom 4 mission, an inspiring collaboration between India and Israel is unfolding beyond borders and cultures. Israeli astronaut Eytan Stibbe, who flew on the Axiom 1 mission in 2022, is extending a hand of friendship to India by helping bring the excitement of space exploration to schoolchildren in Lucknow — Shukla's hometown.

The initiative centers around the City Montessori School (CMS) in Lucknow, where Group Captain Shukla studied. Inspired by a meeting with Stibbe at an astronaut gathering in Houston, the two astro-



nauts envisioned a program to space travel. connect Indian students with

the real-time experience of Eytan Stibbe's journey to space

was unique: Israel's second astronaut, he flew a self-funded mission that combined

His goal was to reignite public interest in space after the tragic loss of Ilan Ramon, Israel's first astronaut, who died aboard the Columbia shuttle in 2003 alongside Indian-American astronaut Kalpana Chawla.

"My mission aimed to open the excitement and curiosity about space," said Stibbe. "Space is endless and unknown, but we are just a small part of it."

Stibbe's outreach in Israel engaged thousands of children, and now he hopes to replicate this success in India. The CMS plans to create a "mission control" experience for students to follow Shukla's journey aboard the ISS, watch live

science, education, and art. camera feeds, and participate in interactive educational activities. "We want children to ask questions and be curious," Stibbe said.

> This collaboration symbolizes the growing ties between India and Israel. "We can learn a lot from each other — from education, missions, and science," Stibbe noted. With strong friendship between Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Benjamin Netanyahu, the initiative could gain support at the highest levels.

> For Stibbe, the mission is deeply personal. "Seeing Earth from space changes you. It reminds us how fragile our planet is, and inspires us to care for it and future generations."

Inside America's Spiritual Marketplace: From IMAX Churches to TikTok Prophets

Beneath America's polished surface lies a complex spiritual landscape unlike any other—a vast "faith bazaar" where religion merges with spectacle, politics, and social media. Here, belief is not just private but public performance, with megachurches boasting IMAX-like experiences and fiery pastors livestreaming apocalyptic prophecies to hundreds of thousands.

One striking example was the 2021 gathering in Dallas, where thousands awaited the miraculous return of JFK, guided by Michael Protzman, aka "Negative 48," a QAnon influencer and selfstyled prophet. When the prophecy failed, followers didn't abandon their faith; instead, they adapted—showing how flexible and performative belief has be-

America's spiritual scene ranges

from Pentecostal miracle healings at places like Bethel Church in California, where prayers for healing flood social media, to the rising interest in Russian Orthodoxy. Many young white American men, seeking order and tradition, are drawn to its incense-filled rituals and moral clarity, sometimes embracing political narratives tied to Vladimir Putin and his framing of the Ukraine war as a battle for Christian civilization.

Meanwhile, movements like the New Apostolic Reformation push a political-religious agenda, seeing Donald Trump as a divinely chosen figure. Charismatic leaders such as Pastor Greg Locke and prophetess Julie Green mix conspiracy theories with faith, influencing followers on YouTube and Christian TV, and fueling political unrest.

Social media has become a pulpit and stage, with TikTok prophets warning of doom, casting out demons, and speaking in tongues all attracting millions of viewers. This fusion of entertainment, politics, and religion reflects America's hunger for meaning amid cultural confusion.

The American faith bazaar isn't limited to Christianity—it includes psychedelic churches, UFO cults, and wellness gurus blending Eastern mysticism with Western trends. This pluralism allows people to mix and match beliefs in a constantly evolving spiritual marketplace.

Despite the spectacle, at its core lies a profound human longing for permanence, meaning, and hope in a fast-changing world—a quest that continues to shape the ever-shifting American spiritual landscape.



India Surpassing Japan in GDP: Reality, Misconceptions, and the **Importance of Data Integrity**



Recently, BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO of rates remain stable. NITI Aayog, claimed that India has overtaken Japan in current dollar GDP. However, a closer look at the data reveals a more nuanced reality. According to the IMF's World Economic Outlook (WEO) Japan's relative position, while a weaker database, for the fiscal year 2024-25, Ja- yen could hasten India's rise. pan's GDP stands at \$4.0 trillion, slightly ahead of India's \$3.9 trillion. The forecast for fiscal year 2025-26 shows India's GDP at \$4.187 trillion narrowly surpassing Japan's \$4.186 trillion, suggesting the crossover will occur around that period—not before.

This timing aligns roughly with the midpoint of the fiscal year (September), meaning the claim that India has already overtaken Japan was premature by about a year. Exchange rates also add complexity. For instance, India's GDP in Q1 2025, converted at the prevailing exchange rate, is around \$4.13 trillion, while Japan's GDP for the same quarter is about \$4.38 trillion—still significantly higher. Given India's nominal GDP growth rate of roughly 10% per year and Japan's more modest 3.4%, the crossover is expected near March 2026, assuming exchange

Fluctuations in currency values can delay or accelerate this milestone. A stronger yen against the dollar would push back

This episode underscores several lessons. First, hasty conclusions can mislead public understanding. Second, headline GDP figures matter less than what truly affects everyday life—such as per capita income, which still places India decades behind Japan. Third and most importantly, reliable and transparent data is crucial for sound policymaking. The continued delay in releasing crucial household expenditure data from 2017-18 has eroded confidence in official statistics, inviting skepticism both domestically and internationally.

As India aspires to global economic leadership, maintaining data integrity and patience in interpreting statistics remain vital. Premature claims may thrill headlines but do little for informed decision-making or national progress.

Musk-Durov AI Deal Sparks Tech Drama, Raises Concerns **Over Telegram's Future**

In a collision of ideology, ambition, and controversy, Elon Musk and Pavel Durov—two of tech's most libertarian-minded billionaires—have entered what appears to be a turbulent partnership. Durov recently announced a one-year deal with Musk's AI startup, xAI, worth \$300 million in cash and equity. The goal: integrate xAI's chatbot, Grok, into Telegram, a messaging platform with nearly 1 billion users.

But the deal quickly hit turbulence. Hours after Durov's announcement, Musk publicly disputed the claim, tersely stating, "No deal has been signed." The public contradic-

be a high-stakes power play particularly as Musk, fresh from stepping down from a government post, returns to his business ventures with re- unwilling to open the vault. He newed urgency.

For Musk, the Telegram partnership could significantly expand Grok's reach beyond X (formerly Twitter), which has a much smaller user base. More Grok users means more potential subscription revenue—currently ranging from \$3 to \$40 monthly. It also mirrors past If implemented, Grok's intesuccessful distribution deals like Microsoft's with Dell or Google's with Apple.

tion added fuel to what may However, there's a data dilemma. Grok's power depends on vast training data. While X offers plenty, Telegram could be a goldmine. But Durov appears publicly emphasized that user privacy is "paramount" and said Grok would only access messages users send directly to the bot. This stance may explain why Durov revealed the deal prematurely—possibly to pressure Musk into publicly accepting the terms.

> gration would mark one of the most advanced uses of AI in a Western messaging platform. Unlike X or WhatsApp, Tele-

gram users could use Grok to rewrite or refine messages in real time—blurring the lines between human expression and machine influence.

However, deeper AI integration on Telegram raises red flags. Known for lax moderation, the platform has hosted extremist content and conspiracy groups. Grok, which has been jailbroken to produce hateful content before, could amplify disinformation or hate speech at scale.

Musk and Durov may have initiated a groundbreaking tech alliance—but the real drama could soon erupt across Telegram itself.









FM Sitharaman Responds to Viral Allegation of Corruption in GST Registration Process

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has addressed a viral LinkedIn post alleging corruption in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) registration process, emphasizing the need for honesty and transparency in public service. Her response follows a widely shared post by Vinod Gupta, founder and director of VG Learning Destination, who claimed he was being forced to pay a bribe to secure a GST registration number.

In his post, Gupta alleged that despite applying for a GST registration 20 days prior for a firm involving his wife and daughter, he had not received approval. He wrote, "Tomorrow I will commit a crime. Giving and taking bribery: both are crimes. But I have no choice." The post quickly drew public attention, sparking discussions across social media platforms.

Responding to this, Sitharaman said, "It is our responsibility to serve taxpayers. But while doing that, we must be honest and transparent, because that's how we earn their trust." She added that she trusts GST Board officials will remain prompt and diligent in resolving taxpayer concerns.

Tax compliance expert Abhishek Raja Ram also weighed in, tagging the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and accusing GST officials of systemic corruption. He called for senior officers to take direct control of GST registrations, warning of the long-term impact of such practices on governance and public confidence.

The CBIC promptly issued a clarification. It stated that Gupta's application, submitted on May 26, was under the Delhi State GST jurisdiction—not the Central GST. The board explained that the application was processed swiftly but a query had been raised regarding the lack of designation on the submitted rent agreement. The applicant had been informed, but no rectification was received from his side.

In response to Raja Ram's post, CBIC urged social media users not to spread misinformation without verifying facts, and emphasized that transparency remains a priority.

This incident highlights ongoing public concerns about bureaucratic efficiency and corruption, even as officials call for responsible communication and due diligence before raising alarms online.

PM Modi in Bhopal: 'Operation Sindoor a Symbol of Naari Shakti'

Top 7 Quotes from Empowerment Address

TPN Correspondent | Alipurduar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the 'Devi Ahilyabai Mahila Sashaktikaran Maha Sammelan' in Bhopal on the 300th birth anniversary of Ahilyabai Holkar, praised the role of women in shaping India's future—from the borders to space missions. He also inaugurated key infrastructure projects and reaffirmed his government's commitment to women's empowerment through schemes and defence inclusivity.

Here are 7 key quotes from PM Modi's address: On Terror and **Culture**

"In Pahalgam, terrorists not only shed the blood of Indians, but attacked our culture. They tried to divide society. But their challenge to India's women has become their nightmare."

On Operation Sindoor

"Operation Sindoor is India's biggest and most successful counter-terrorism operation. Our forces eliminated hideouts even Pakistan's army hadn't imagined. It sent a clear message: proxy terrorism will no longer be tolerated—India will strike deep and punish not just terrorists, but their sponsors too."

On BSF's Women **Warriors**

"Operation Sindoor is now a symbol of Naari Shakti. Brave BSF



daughters held the frontlines from Jammu to Gujarat. They replied fiercely to cross-border firing and played crucial roles from command centres to direct combat. Their valour is unmatched."

On Women in **Armed Forces**

"Girls are now being admitted to Sainik Schools. Before 2014, only 25% of NCC cadets were girls—now it's nearing 50%. The first batch of women cadets has graduated from NDA. They're flying fighter jets, and serving on INS Vikrant. Our daughters are defending the nation with honour."

On NaMo Drone Didi and Technology

"We're promoting women in modern technology. The NaMo Drone Didi initiative is transforming agriculture. Rural women are gaining confidence and income by

embracing the drone revolution."

On Science and **Space Missions**

"A large number of daughters are now doctors, engineers, scientists. In Chandrayaan-3, over 100 women scientists and engineers contributed. Our mothers and sisters are vital in space research and innovation."

On Ahilyabai Holkar's Legacy

"Just hearing her name fills one with reverence. In a time of slavery, she achieved feats that echo through generations. Ahilyabai Holkar is proof that determination and people's will can transform history." PM Modi's speech highlighted women's central role in defence, science,

and rural innovation—positioning gender inclusivity as a national strength.

UP MLA Abbas Ansari Sentenced to Two Years in Jail Over Hate Speech, Faces Disqualification

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Uttar Pradesh MLA Abbas Ansari was sentenced to two years in prison on Saturday by a court in connection with a hate speech delivered during the 2022 Assembly elections. The three-year-old case relates to a controversial public statement in which Abbas allegedly threatened government officials. The verdict now puts his legislative position in jeopardy, as he faces possible disqualification from the Uttar Pradesh Assembly.

Abbas Ansari, who represents the Mau Sadar constituency, was elected on a Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) ticket. He is the son of the late Mukhtar Ansari, a former MLA and convicted gangster-politician who passed away in 2024 while serving his sentence in Banda jail. The incident that led to Abbas's conviction occurred



during a public meeting amid the 2022 Assembly election campaign. According to the prosecution, Abbas made inflammatory remarks implying retribution against administrative and police officials once his party came to power. The speech sparked outrage and was widely condemned as a threat to the democratic and bureaucratic fabric of governance.

registered under various sections

of the Indian Penal Code and the Representation of the People Act, which deals with corrupt practices during elections. The trial concluded with the court holding Abbas guilty of delivering a provocative and threatening speech intended to incite hostility and fear among public servants.

This is not Abbas Ansari's first brush with the law. In 2022, the Enforcement Directorate arrested him in a separate money laundering case. His conviction in the hate speech case could lead to his disqualification as per the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, which bars convicted lawmakers from holding office if sentenced to imprisonment of two years or more.

The SBSP has not issued an official Following the speech, a case was statement regarding Abbas's con-



'Lot Of Space Before Nuclear Threshold Is Crossed': General Chauhan

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India secured a decisive upper hand over Pakistan during this month's intense three-day military conflict, following a strategic shift in response to early aerial losses, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan revealed on Saturday.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue security forum in Singapore, General Chauhan provided insights into the short but fierce confrontation between the two nuclear-armed neighbours. The hostilities were triggered by a deadly terror attack on April 22 in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which claimed 26 lives, including many tour-

India launched airstrikes on terror camps across the border on May 7. In the initial phase, Pakistan claimed to have downed Indian aircraft. General Chauhan acknowledged that India suffered aerial losses early on but refrained from disclosing specifics.

"What was important is why those losses occurred and what we did after that," he stated. Following these setbacks, India altered its air tactics and launched successive, large-scale air raids on May 7, 8, and 10, successfully penetrating deep into Pakistani territory and executing precision strikes.

On May 10, the Indian Air Force deployed a full range of aircraft, using various types of ordnance to hit at least eight Pakistani airbases, including one near Islamabad. Air Marshal AK Bharti had earlier confirmed that Indian forces had also shot down Pakistani jets, reiterating that "losses are a part of combat."

General Chauhan emphasized that India's strikes, including some near Pakistan's nuclear facilities, were executed with pinpoint accuracy, often within a metre of the intended impact point. However, nuclear assets were not targeted, and both Indian and Pakistani military leaderships agreed that nuclear weapons were never on the table during the crisis.

"There is ample space for conventional military operations before any nuclear threshold is crossed," Chauhan said, praising the rational conduct on both sides during the conflict.

He also noted there was no evidence of direct Chinese involvement in the conflict, despite Pakistan's alliance with China. India observed no unusual military activity along its northern borders.

India has since warned of precise and swift retaliation in the event of future terror attacks, underlining the armed forces' readiness around the clock.

India's Active COVID-19 Cases Surge to 3,395; Kerala Leads with Over 1,300 Infections

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Active COVID-19 cases in India have seen a notable rise, crossing the 3,000 mark, with Kerala emerging as the worst-hit state, according to the Union Health Ministry's latest data released on Saturday, May 31. The country now has 3,395 active cases, with Kerala alone accounting for 1,336, followed by Maharashtra with 467 and Delhi with 375

This surge is a sharp increase from just 257 active cases reported on May 22. Within four days, by May

26, the figure had jumped to 1,010, and it has more than tripled since then. In the last 24 hours alone, 685 new infections and four deaths one each in Delhi, Kerala, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh — have been recorded.

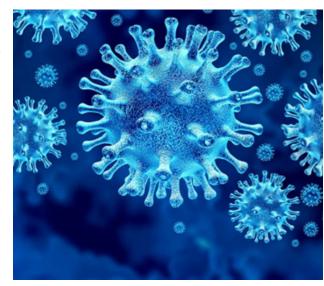
Despite the sudden increase in cases, health authorities have stated that the situation remains under control. Most infections are mild and are being managed through home isolation. Official sources have urged the public to stay vigilant but not to panic, emphasizing that there is no immediate cause for concern.

Dr. Rajiv Behl, Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), provided additional insights into the current rise in cases. He said genome sequencing of samples from affected regions in the western and southern parts of India has identified four Omicron subvariants — LF.7, XFG, JN.1, and NB.1.8.1 — as the primary drivers behind the recent spike. Of these, LF.7, XFG, and JN.1 are more prev-

Dr. Behl stressed that the detected

variants are not severe and do not present a significant risk of hospitalization. "We have been closely monitoring the situation. At this moment, overall, we should monitor, be vigilant but there is no cause to worry," he added.

Other states witnessing rising numbers include Gujarat (265), Karnataka (234), West Bengal (205), Tamil Nadu (185), and Uttar Pradesh (117). The Health Ministry continues to track developments, and authorities are advising citizens to follow basic precautions, especially in high-case zones.





US to Double Steel and Aluminium Tariffs to 50%, Escalating Trade Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Washington

US President Donald Trump announced on May 30, 2025, plans to double tariffs on imported steel and aluminium from 25% to 50%, intensifying the ongoing global trade conflict. Speaking at a rally in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, Trump said the increased tariffs aim to "further secure the steel industry in the United States" and protect American jobs.

The announcement coincided with the unveiling of a \$14.9 billion deal between Nippon Steel and US Steel, which Trump hailed as a boost for domestic steelworkers. He later confirmed on social media that the 50% tariff hike would also apply to aluminium products, taking effect on June 4.

Following the news, shares of steel-maker Cleveland-Cliffs Inc soared 26%, reflecting investor optimism that the higher levies will enhance profitability. However, the tariff increase has drawn sharp criticism internationally. Canada's Chamber of Commerce condemned the move as "antithetical to North American economic security," warning that disrupting integrated cross-border steel and aluminium supply chains would harm both economies. Candace Laing, chamber president, emphasized the costs of unwinding these efficient networks.

Australia's centre-left government tioner coils. In 2024, imports of these



also denounced the tariff hike, calling it "unjustified and not the act of a friend." Trade Minister Don Farrell labeled the decision "economic self-harm" that will negatively affect consumers and businesses dependent on free and fair trade, promising continued advocacy for tariff removal.

The tariffs, initially imposed in March 2025 under Section 232 national security provisions, cover raw metals and related products, including household and industrial goods such as stainless steel sinks, frying pans, and air conditioner coils. In 2024, imports of these

items were valued at \$147.3 billion, split roughly two-thirds aluminium and one-third steel.

The US remains the world's largest steel importer outside the European Union, bringing in 26.2 million tons in 2024. The tariff hike is expected to push steel prices higher, impacting a wide range of industries and consumers.

This move follows Trump's broader trade battles, including previous tariffs on Chinese industrial goods totaling \$50 billion annually in 2018, marking another escalation in global trade tensions.

GLOBAL

Iran's Uranium Enrichment Surges to Near Weapons-Grade Levels

IAEA Report Raises Global Concerns

TPN Correspondent | Iran

In a confidential report released by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), it has been revealed that Iran has significantly increased its stockpile of uranium enriched to near weapons-grade levels, escalating concerns amid renewed nuclear negotiations. As of May 17, Iran's uranium enriched to 60% purity has reached 408.6 kilograms—a sharp increase of 133.8 kilograms since the agency's last assessment in February.

This level of enrichment is just a technical step away from weapons-grade uranium, typically enriched to around 90%. The IAEA has highlighted that Iran is the only non-nuclear weapon state currently enriching uranium to such a high level. IAEA Director-General Rafael Mariano Grossi has reiterated calls for Iran to fully cooperate with inspectors and restore transparency to its nuclear activities.

The timing of the report is particularly sensitive, as backchannel diplomacy between Tehran and Washington continues over a possible revival of the 2015 nuclear agreement. That deal, known formally as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), collapsed after former US President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it in 2018, reimposing severe sanctions on Iran. In response to the latest IAEA findings, senior Iranian officials have downplayed the possibility of an imminent breakthrough with the United States. They insist that any agreement must include a complete lifting of sanctions and recognition of Iran's right to continue its peaceful nuclear program.

Despite Iran's firm stance, former President Trump expressed cautious optimism on Friday, suggesting that a diplomatic resolution may still be within reach. "They don't want to be blown up," he said, referring to Iran. "They would rather make a deal... That would be a great thing—achieving peace without bombs being dropped all over the Middle East." Trump also issued a pointed warning to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, urging restraint and advising against any preemptive military action on Iran's nuclear facilities while negotiations remain underway. The latest IAEA report adds urgency to the fragile diplomatic landscape, with stakeholders now weighing their next steps as nuclear tensions resurface on the global stage.



UN Warns Gaza Becoming 'Hungriest Place on Earth' Amid Aid Blockade by Israel

TPN Correspondent | Paris

UN Warns Gaza Becoming 'Hungriest Place on Earth' Amid Aid Blockade by Israel The United Nations has raised alarm over the severe humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza, warning that the region is on the brink of famine due to Israel's blockade on aid deliveries. Jens Laerke, spokesperson for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), revealed that only a fraction of the humanitarian aid trucks authorized to enter Gaza have actually made it to Israel's border.

Out of 900 aid trucks requested, just 600 have been approved to reach the border, but bureaucratic and security hurdles are severely limiting their passage into Gaza itself. "What we have been able to bring in is flour," Laerke said during a press briefing. "That's not ready to eat, right? It needs to be cooked... 100% of the population of Gaza is at risk of famine." The dire situation is exacerbated by the fact that the food being allowed in requires preparation, but with fuel shortages and infrastructure damage, many residents lack the means to cook. This has left Gaza's entire population vulnerable to extreme hunger, prompting the UN to describe the enclave as "the hungriest place on earth."

Adding to the crisis, Tommaso della Longa, spokesperson for the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, reported that approximately half of the medical facilities in Gaza are non-functional due to shortages of fuel and medical supplies. This collapse of healthcare services further endangers the lives of civilians caught in the ongoing conflict.

The situation highlights the profound humanitarian consequences of the blockade and restricted aid flow amid escalating violence. The UN and international humanitarian agencies continue to call for urgent action to facilitate the safe and sustained delivery of food, medical supplies, and fuel to Gaza to prevent a full-scale humanitarian disaster.

With millions of lives at stake, the world watches closely as efforts to break the aid bottleneck continue amid complex political and security challenges. The ongoing blockade risks pushing Gaza's population deeper into hunger and desperation unless immediate and sustained relief measures are implemented.

Zelensky's Book Choice at Kyiv Fair Sparks Interest: 'To Kill A Tyrant'



TPN Correspondent | Balah

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and his wife, Olena, made a notable visit to a literary fair in Kyiv on Friday, where they picked up several books, including one that has drawn significant attention — To Kill A Tyrant. The book, by Italian academic Aldo Andrea Cassi, was chosen in its Ukrainian-language edition.

Zelensky, who has led Ukraine through a relentless three-year war with Russia, has frequently referred to Russian President Vladimir Putin as a dictator. Though he did not explicitly state any message behind selecting the book, the choice has naturally sparked curiosity given the ongoing conflict between the two countries.

A photo shared by Zelensky on his Telegram account showed Olena thumbing through To Kill A Tyrant while Zelensky stood beside her. The president noted that the book was just one among several titles they selected during the fair.

Published originally in Italian in 2022,

To Kill A Tyrant; A History Of Tyrannicide From Caesar To Gaddafi explores the controversial subject of tyrannicide — the killing of a tyrant. The book traces historical cases from Julius Caesar's assassination to the fall of Libya's Muammar Gaddafi. It poses challenging ethical questions, asking: "Is it right or wrong to kill a tyrant? And if it is, who decides?"

The selection comes amid Zelensky's persistent portrayal of Putin as a tyrannical leader threatening Ukraine's sovereignty. Although the book's choice may be symbolic, Zelensky did not comment on whether it was intended as a direct signal to the Kremlin. The visit and book pick underscore Zelensky's continued engagement with cultural and intellectual spaces amid the war. The choice of To Kill A Tyrant also resonates deeply with Ukraine's struggle against perceived autocracy and raises broader questions about resistance and justice in the face of dictatorship. As the war continues, Zelensky's literary interests offer a glimpse into the themes and ideas shaping his leadership and Ukraine's fight for freedom.

India Accuses Pakistan of Violating Indus Water Treaty

TPN Correspondent | Geniva

At the first United Nations Conference on Glaciers in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, India strongly criticized Pakistan for its repeated violations of the Indus Waters Treaty, accusing it of using cross-border terrorism to undermine the agreement's implementation. Speaking during the plenary session on Friday, India's Minister of State for Environment, Kirti Vardhan Singh, said that Pakistan should stop blaming India for the breach of the treaty and instead acknowledge its own role in violating it through unrelenting terrorist activities.

The statement came in response to remarks made by Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who accused India of putting millions of lives at risk by suspending the treaty for political purposes. India announced the suspension of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty following the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which resulted in the death



of 26 people. This suspension was part of a broader set of punitive measures taken by India against Pakistan.

Singh noted that there have been "fundamental changes in circumstances" since the treaty was signed, including demographic shifts, technological advancements, climate change, and ongoing threats of terrorism. He emphasized that the treaty, which

was signed in the spirit of goodwill and friendship, requires both parties to honor it in good faith—something India claims Pakistan has repeatedly failed to do.

"We are appalled at Pakistan's attempt to misuse this international platform to raise irrelevant issues," Singh said. "Pakistan itself is in violation of the treaty and should stop shifting the blame to India."





Modison Ltd: A Small Cap Powerhouse with Robust Fundamentals, Strong **Growth, and Undervalued Potential**

PORTFOLIO

MODISON

THE SILVER PEOPLE

This week we are discussing a small Rs.5.80 Crores to Rs.9.53 Crores. Year-cap company with very strong funly Net Profit jumped from Rs.21.34 damentals. The name of the Company Crores to Rs.24.68 Crores. is MODISON LTD which is engaged in manufacture of electrical equipment
The quarterly EPS is 2.94 and Annual used in Switch Gear industry.

BASIC DATA:

Face Value Rs.1 Market Cap of Rs.538 Crores Market Price on 30-05-25 Rs.165.71 All time high Rs.233 Industry PE - 73

LATEST FINANCIALS:

31-03-2025 on 27-05-205. The results are excellent. The quarterly Revenue jumped from Rs.121 Crores to Rs.130 Crores. The Yearly Revenue jumped

Rs.409 Crores to Rs.490 Crores.

EPS is 7.61.

All this performance against a tiny Capital of Rs.3.24 Crores.

The return on Equity (Capital plus reserves Rs.216 Crores) is 11.39 much above the benchmark i.e FDR interest MINUS POINTS:

The debt equity Ratio is just 0.34 against the benchmark of 1.

PLUS POINTS:

- The Company declared results for 1. The Net Profit of Rs.24.55 Crores achieved for the full year 31-03-205 is the highest in the last ten years.
 - 2. The share price reached a high of Rs.233 in September, 2024. Now it is available at Rs.165.71.
 - 3. Share is available at a PE of 22 against industry PE of 73.
- The quarterly Net Profit jumped from 4. It has marquee clients like Areva,

L&T, ABB, Crompton Greaves, ABB

- 5. Its investment in Fixed Assets (land, building and machinery) has gone up from Rs.57 Crores to Rs.92 Crores from 2015 to 2025 confirming the growth trajectory.
- 6. It has been regularly paying Dividends.

- 1. A small cap. It is its strength and it is its weakness.
- 2. Its raw materials are silver and copper prices of which are subject to fluctuations. Any adverse development in the prices of these raw

can affect the fortunes of the Compa-

Paleti Hari Prasad

Fundamental Analyst +91 8179656259

India's Q4 GDP Growth Hits Four-Quarter High at 7.4%

But FY25 Growth Slows to Four-Year Low



India's economy showed a se-**L**quential improvement in the January-March quarter of 2025, with GDP growth accelerating to 7.4%, marking the strongest quarterly performance in a year. This uptick was driven largely by robust industrial activity, particularly in manufacturing, construction, and mining sectors. However, despite the healthy end to the fiscal year, the overall growth for FY25 slowed significantly to 6.5%, the lowest in four years, according to data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO).

The Q4 figure reflects a rebound from the previous quarter, which was revised slightly upward to 6.4% from an earlier estimate of 6.2%. While industrial sectors showed strength, consumption demand—the engine of India's growth—appeared to lose momentum, indicating some softness in consumer spending as the fiscal year closed.

Comparing these numbers with the previous fiscal year underscores the moderation in economic momentum. FY24 saw a strong 9.2% growth, with the last quarter of that year registering 8.4%. The

slowdown to 6.5% in FY25 signals a significant easing, highlighting challenges that the economy faces as it seeks to sustain its expansion amid global uncertainties and domestic constraints.

This slowdown comes amid other notable economic developments, including recent claims by NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam that India has overtaken Japan as the world's fourth-largest economy. While such milestones reflect India's growing economic stature, the slowing growth rate reminds policymakers of the importance of addressing underlying structural issues to maintain momentum.

The latest GDP data suggests a mixed picture for India's economic outlook. The strong industrial performance in Q4 is encouraging and may provide a foundation for future growth. However, the dip in overall yearly growth calls for cautious optimism and highlights the need for sustained efforts to boost consumption and investment.

As India navigates this complex phase, maintaining balanced growth will be key to ensuring long-term economic resilience and prosperity.

India's Forex Reserves Surge by Nearly \$7 Billion to \$692.7 Billion



La significant jump of \$6.992 billion, reaching \$692.721 billion during the week ending May 23, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported on Friday. This rebound comes after the previous week ended May 16, when the reserves had declined by \$4.888 billion to \$685.729 billion. India's forex reserves had previously hit an all-time high of \$704.885 billion at the end of September 2024. Breaking down the components, foreign currency assets (FCA)—which form the largest portion of the reserves—increased by \$4.516 billion to \$586.167 billion during the week. These assets reflect the value of India's holdings in major global currencies such as the US dollar, euro, British pound, and Japanese yen. The dollar value of these assets fluctuates with changes in ex-

appreciate or depreciate against the dollar. Gold reserves also contributed substantially to the overall increase, rising by \$2.366 billion to reach \$83.582 billion. Gold has traditionally been a key part of India's reserve portfolio, providing stability and serving as a hedge against currency risks.

change rates, as the non-US currency units can

Additionally, India's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) rose modestly by \$81 million to \$18.571 billion. SDRs are international reserve assets created by the IMF to supplement member countries' official reserves. The country's reserve position with the IMF also saw an increase during the same period, adding to the overall strength of India's external buffer.

The surge in forex reserves underscores India's strong external position amid ongoing global economic uncertainties. A robust forex buffer provides the country with greater flexibility to manage currency volatility, support imports, and maintain investor confidence. It also strengthens India's ability to deal with external shocks and stabilize the economy in turbulent times.

Despite recent fluctuations, India's forex reserves remain among the highest globally, reflecting continued foreign investment inflows and steady export performance. The RBI's management of reserves will be closely watched as the global economic environment evolves.

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

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

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

24-carat gold, known for its unparalleled

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

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

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







Donald Trump TACO Meme: Why It's Taking Over the Internet

The internet is buzzing with memes of Donald Trump plastered onto tacos — and no, it's not just another random trend. The now-viral "TACO" meme stems from a political acronym that's both a jab at Trump's trade policies and a viral social media sensation.

"TACO" stands for "Trump Always Chickens Out," a phrase that began circulating after a press conference on Wednesday, where President Trump was questioned about what's now being called "TACO trade." The term critiques Trump's frequent pattern of making bold trade threats like imposing heavy tariffs — only to later walk them back.

The moment the term was mentioned



at the press event, Trump appeared visibly frustrated, calling it "the acronym's punchy humor, instantnastiest question" he had ever been ly caught the attention of social me-

asked. That reaction, paired with the

across platforms like X (formerly uting to economic uncertainty. Twitter), TikTok, and Instagram.

The most popular format features Trump's face edited onto images of tacos, often with captions mocking his trade reversals. Others add layers of satire, portraying him as a taco shell folding under pressure — a metaphor for what critics see as his inability to follow through on aggressive trade threats.

The term and its accompanying memes are not just for laughs. They also reflect public frustration and criticism over the unpredictability of Trump's economic policies. Markets have reacted nervously in the past to

dia users. In true internet fashion, it sudden tariff announcements, only didn't take long for memes to explode to see those plans retracted, contrib-

> The TACO meme has gained so much traction that even financial analysts and political commentators have started using the acronym in serious discussions. The journalist who coined or popularized the phrase, Megan Cassella, has also been thrust into the spotlight for sparking the viral moment.

Whether viewed as political satire or just a clever meme, the TACO trend is another example of how internet culture merges humor with real-world issues — especially when it involves someone as polarizing as Donald

'Where Are The Wheels?' Taiwan's Ultra-Low 'Banana Peel' Car Stuns the Internet

Tn a world where **⊥**car designs are constantly evolving, Taiwan has managed to grab global attention with a bizarre yet fascinating innovation — the "Banana Peel" car. Built by Stance Garage Taiwan (SGT) and led by designer Lan Dong, this ultra-low vehicle is turning heads across the

internet. With a body just millimetres off the ground, the Banana Peel has earned its name by appearing to "melt" into the road like an overripe banana skin.

Surprisingly, the car is not just for show it's fully functional. The base vehicle is a heavily modified 1990s Honda Civic, a model known for its modding potential. But SGT has taken customization to the extreme, creating a ride that appears completely seatless and almost wheel-less. The illusion is so convincing that many social media users have expressed disbelief. "Where does the driver sit?" one user asked. Another quipped, "I thought the car was buried in concrete!" while others simply wondered, "Where are the wheels?"

The car's sleek, banana-yellow exterior hugs the ground so closely that it seems more like a futuristic art piece than a mode

of transport. Still, this wild design is more than just internet eye candy. It's a testament to the bold experimentation and craftsmanship that continues to emerge from niche car communities around the world. According to Lan Dong, the intent was to "defy expectations and stretch the limits of what people think a car should be."

Photos and videos of the Banana Peel have gone viral on Instagram and TikTok, with car lovers and casual viewers alike sharing their amazement. Though it's unlikely to hit mainstream roads anytime soon, the Banana Peel is already a cult favorite on-

In the end, whether it's a glimpse into the future of car aesthetics or just a brilliant exercise in automotive creativity, the Banana Peel proves that sometimes, going low is the best way to stand out.

'Skip India' Trend: Why AI Startups **Are Turning Away from Local Clients**

Agrowing number of Indian AI startup founders are adopting a new approach — avoiding Indian enterprise clients altogether. This rising trend, now widely known as the "Skip India" movement, is driven by increasing frustration over how domestic businesses treat early-stage tech ventures.

While the issue may appear to be about money at first glance, it runs much deeper. According to several founders and industry voices, the problem lies in the

approach and mindset of many Indian enterprises. A viral LinkedIn post by finance professional Shubham Garg recently shed light on the issue, sparking fresh conversations in the startup ecosystem. Garg noted that companies often demand free proof of concepts (PoCs), expecting startups to invest significant time and resources into custom-built pilots without offering any commitment or payment in return.

These pilot projects can take weeks to complete, only for startups to be ghosted afterward or subjected to prolonged delays in decision-making. Founders also report vague communication, excessive negotiation over already modest pricing, and general reluctance to invest in innovative solutions unless they come from large, well-known players.

As a result, more founders are choosing to bypass Indian clients entirely and focus their energy on in-

ternational markets where there's a greater willingness to pay for innovation and a more professional

procurement process. The "Skip India" trend is not about rejecting Indian roots — rather, it reflects a strategic decision to survive and scale in more supportive environments.

Industry insiders worry that this shift could hurt the domestic ecosystem in the long run. If Indian businesses continue to undervalue local innovation, they may miss out on cutting-edge technologies being developed right at home. Moreover, it could push more talent and intellectual property out of the country.

The message from startup founders is clear: unless attitudes shift toward valuing time, expertise, and fair compensation, India risks alienating its own innovators — and losing out on the AI revolution being built within its borders.

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

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



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

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

Throughout the event, Rush remained composed and focused, subtly adjusting his balance and

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

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

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

"Chai Comes First": Hilarious **Titanic Video Resonates With Indians Everywhere**

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

Posted by popular content creator Andy Evans, widely known as Aussie Bhai, the video titled

"Indian People on Titanic" was shared on Instagram on May 26 and has already racked up over 9.7 million views. The short but hilarious clip imagines how an Indian might have reacted during the sinking of the Titanic—not with panic, but with a steaming cup of chai in hand.

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

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

The brilliance of the video lies not just in comes first.



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

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

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

PLAY ZONE

Carlos Alcaraz Battles Past Dzumhur to Reach French Open Last 16

Reigning French Open Champion Carlos Alcaraz had to dig deep on Friday to secure his place in the last 16 at Roland Garros, overcoming a spirited challenge from Bosnia's Damir Dzumhur. The second seed eventually triumphed 6-1, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in a match that tested his resilience and stamina far more than expected.

Alcaraz looked to be cruising early on, breaking Dzumhur twice in each of the opening two sets to build a commanding lead. However, the Bosnian world number 69, who had not advanced past French

Open qualifying in his last four attempts, refused to back down. He fought back to take the third set, capitalizing on a noticeable dip in Alcaraz's energy levels and concentration.

The momentum shifted further in the fourth set when Dzumhur broke serve right at the start, sending a clear message that he wasn't ready to exit quietly. Alcaraz's frustration became visible as three break points slipped through his fingers in the following game. But the Spaniard regrouped and managed to level the set at 3-3 before securing another crucial break that put



him back in control.

Despite his early dominance, Alcaraz admitted the match was far from enjoyable. "Today I honestly didn't enjoy it that much. I suffered quite a lot," he said in his post-match interview. "That's why doing a really good result in a Grand Slam is really difficult — you have to maintain a really high level for three to four hours."

The 21-year-old also confessed to struggling with motivation midway through the match. "It was really difficult for me to

boost myself. I had to give everything I had inside me. In the end, I'm just proud about getting the win."

With this victory, Alcaraz has now won 18 of his last 19 matches on clay. He advances to face US 13th seed Ben Shelton in the fourth round. Shelton, an Australian Open semi-finalist, reached this stage after defeating Italian qualifier Matteo Gigante in straight sets following a second-round walkover. Shelton is one of four American men still alive in the tournament, setting the stage for an exciting showdown.

PSG vs Inter Milan: European Glory on the Line in **Champions League Final**

The stage is set in Munich for one of the most anticipated matches in European football as Paris Saint-Germain and Inter Milan face off in the UEFA Champions League final on Saturday, May 31, 2025. With both clubs eager to claim continental supremacy, this clash promises high drama and history in the making.

For PSG, this is another shot at the elusive title that has long evaded them despite years of heavy investment and superstar signings. After falling short in the 2020 fi-

nal against Bayern Munich, the French giants return with a new-look squad under coach Luis Enrique. The likes of Neymar, Kylian Mbappé, and Lionel Messi have moved on, but Enrique has built an exciting team with players like Ousmane Dembélé, Desire Doué, and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia stepping up to lead the charge.

"The motivation for me is to win the Champions League title for the first time for PSG," said Enrique, who previously won the competition with Barcelona in 2015. A second title would place him among an elite group of coaches who have lifted the trophy with two different clubs.

Meanwhile, Inter Milan enters the final hoping to bounce back from domestic disappointment. The Italian giants narrowly missed out on the Serie A title and were eliminated in the Coppa





Italia semifinals, leaving the Champions League as their only remaining shot at silverware this season.

Coach Simone Inzaghi, who led Inter to the final in 2023 where they lost to Manchester City, is seeking redemption. "I dreamed of playing the Champions League final. I didn't do it as a player, but thanks to this group of players, I've been in two finals as a head coach," said Inzaghi. "We are proud to be Inter."

Inter has won the European Cup three times in its history, with the last triumph coming in 2010. PSG, in contrast, is still seeking its first.

With legacy, redemption, and history on the line, this final could be a defining chapter for both clubs — and for European football.

Asian Athletics Championships: Sachin Bags Silver, Kujur and Ramraj Win Bronze for India



Tndia added three more med-Lals to its tally on the final day of the 26th Asian Athletics Championships in Gumi, South Korea, with standout performances from javelin thrower Sachin Yadav, sprinter Animesh Kujur, and hurdler Vithya Ramraj on Saturday, May 31, 2025.

Sachin Yadav stole the spotlight in the men's javelin throw by clinching a silver medal with a personal best effort of 85.16 meters. The 25-year-old athlete from Khekra village near Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh, showcased remarkable form, surpassing his previous best of 84.39 meters. He finished just behind reigning Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem of Pakistan, who secured the gold with a throw of 86.40 meters.

India's other javelin contender, Yashvir Singh, also impressed with a personal best of 82.57 meters, earning him a fifthplace finish in a highly competitive field.

Earlier in the day, Animesh Kujur gave India its first medal of the day in the men's 200m final. The 21-year-old sprinter clocked an impressive 20.32 seconds, setting a new national record

and winning the bronze. Kujur's performance eclipsed his own previous best of 20.40 seconds, recorded earlier this year. Japan's Towa Uzawa claimed the gold in 20.12 seconds, while Saudi Arabia's Abdulaziz Abdu I Atafi narrowly edged out Kujur for silver with a time of 20.31 seconds.

In the women's 400m hurdles, Asian Games medallist Vithya Ramraj delivered a strong performance to win bronze. The 26-year-old from Tamil Nadu finished in 56.46 seconds. China's Mo Jiadie captured the gold in 55.31 seconds, closely followed by Bahrain's Oluwakemi Adekoya, who secured silver in 55.32 seconds. Fellow Indian athlete Anu Raghavan finished seventh with a time of 57.46 seconds.

In the women's 200m final, Jyoti Yarraji, already a gold medallist in the 100m hurdles earlier in the week, finished fifth with a time of 23.47 seconds. Nithya Gandhe took seventh place, clocking 23.90 seconds.

India's strong finish in the championships highlighted both emerging and consistent talent across disciplines.

I got four fifties but wish I had more: Rohit Sharma, after big knock against GT

Veteran batter Rohit Sharma delivered a vintage performance on Friday, May 30, 2025, leading Mumbai Indians (MI) to a crucial 20-run victory over Gujarat Titans (GT) in the IPL Eliminator in Chandigarh. His blistering 81 off 50 balls laid the foundation for MI's total of 228/5, securing their place in Qualifier 2 against Punjab Kings on June 1 in Ahmedabad.

Despite his match-winning knock, Rohit expressed a touch of regret over his overall season performance. "I've got only four fifties this IPL.

I would've liked more," he admitted during the post-match presentation. Still, with 410 runs this season, he stands as MI's second-highest run-scorer, behind the prolific Suryakumar Yadav (673 runs).

Rohit acknowledged the role of luck in his innings, having been dropped twice. "Today, the luck went my way. I had



to make the most of it, and I'm glad I cameo (22 off 9 balls). did," he said. He also highlighted the challenge of batting under dew, which made conditions tricky for both sides. Rohit was full of praise for opening partner Jonny Bairstow, who gave MI a fiery start. "We've seen what Bairstow can do. He took his chances, and it paid off. We always want that kind of start,"

he said. MI skipper Hardik Pandya echoed the sentiment, lauding both openers for setting the tone early.

Hardik also credited Jasprit Bumrah's impact, calling him a "luxury" in high-pressure moments. "Whenever the game gets out of hand, you just bring in Bumrah. He's like Mumbai housing prices that valuable!" joked Pandya. Gujarat Titans' captain Shubman Gill, meanwhile, rued the missed opportunities in the field. "We dropped three sitters during the powerplay. That made a big difference," he said. Gill acknowledged that the final overs slipped away, especially with Pandya's late

Despite the defeat, Gill praised his side's fight, especially the 84-run partnership between Sai Sudharsan and Washington Sundar. "There are a lot of positives to take forward," he added, concluding that a score of 210 would have been par

on this pitch.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty Bow Out in Singapore Open Semifinals After Fierce Battle

India's top men's doubles duo, ■Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, wrapped up their spirited campaign at the Singapore Open Super 750 with a hard-fought semifinal finish on Saturday. In a gripping three-game contest, the Indian pair went down 21-19, 10-21, 18-21 to Malaysia's Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in a match that lasted 64 minutes.

Satwik and Chirag, former world No. 1s, came into the semifinal eager to make a mark after a challenging season marked by injuries and inconsistent form. Currently ranked 27th in the world, the duo began the match confidently, using their trademark aggressive play and sharp net work to take the opening game 21-19. Their strong start seemed to indicate they had found their

However, the momentum quickly shifted in the second game. Struggling to ad-

rhythm against a familiar rival.



just to the court's tricky drift, the Indian pair appeared out of sync as the Malaysian team surged ahead, dominating the game 21-10. The deciding third game was a rollercoaster, with Satwik and Chirag initially leading before Chia and Soh mounted a determined comeback.

Despite falling behind, the Indian pair refused to give in. They showed im-

mense grit, saving seven match points in an intense final stretch. But in the end, the Malaysians held their nerve to close out the match, ending India's hopes of reaching the final.

This semifinal finish marks a promising step forward for Satwik and Chirag as they work to regain their top form ahead of the Paris Olympics. Although their Olympic qualification campaign was cut short by earlier setbacks—including a previous defeat to the same Malaysian duo—they demonstrated they remain a formidable force on the international stage.

The Indian team can take heart from their performance in Singapore, where they battled hard and showed glimpses of their peak prowess. With continued focus on fitness and consistency, Satwik and Chirag will aim to reclaim their place among the world's elite in the months ahead.

'Colour Photo' and 'Baby' Makers to Reveal Title Glimpse of New Film on June 2 Their new project re-

 $T^{\text{ollywood's acclaimed}}_{\text{filmmaker duo SKN}}$ and Sai Rajesh, known for delivering emotionally powerful and memorable films like Colour Photo and Baby, are back with a brand-new project. The producers have announced that the title and a glimpse of their upcoming film will be officially unveiled on June 2 at 5:04 PM.

The announcement was made with much anticipation, with a promotional post stating: "They gave us Colour Photo. They stunned us with Baby. Now... From the same creators, AN-OTHER CULT is on the

way." This has already sparked curiosity among fans and industry insiders about what the duo has planned next.

Colour Photo, released in 2020, received wide acclaim and went on to win the National Award for Best Regional Film, along with the Gaddar Award for Second Best Film that year. The film was praised for its raw storytelling and emotional depth. Following that, Baby emerged as a massive box office success, cementing SKN and Sai Rajesh's reputation as creators of impactful, youth-centric cinema.



lease.

The film is a joint production under SKN's Mass Movie Makers and Sai Rajesh's Amrutha Productions. Given the success and cult following of their previous works, expectations are running high for what could be another emotionally resonant and culturally significant film.

film.

mains untitled for now,

but it's already creating

buzz, especially with the

announcement that legendary composer Mani

Sharma will be han-

dling the music. Known

for his rich and timeless

compositions, Sharma's

involvement adds a lay-

er of excitement to the

This upcoming film will

feature a fresh cast,

with young actors tak-

ing on the lead roles.

While the identities of

the cast and full crew

are still under wraps,

more details are expect-

ed to be revealed during

the official glimpse re-

Fans and movie lovers are eagerly waiting for June 2, hoping to catch a first look at what could be yet another gem in the duo's growing legacy of modern Telugu cinema classics.

Lakshmi Manchu Joins Karan Johar's 'The Traitors': A Bold **Step Towards Bollywood**

Actor and filmmaker Lakshmi Manchu is stepping into the Bollywood spotlight with a surprising and bold move her participation in Karan Johar's upcoming reality show The Traitors. After a relatively quiet few years in Tollywood, Lakshmi is now making headlines in the Hindi entertainment circuit. The trailer for The Traitors dropped recently, and fans were quick to notice her among the star-studded ensemble.



Suryagarh Palace, The Traitors promises a highstakes game of deception, strategy, and survival. The show, hosted by Bollywood heavyweight Karan Johar, is slated to premiere on Amazon Prime Video on June 12. Lakshmi's presence in the trailer — alongside popular names from Bollywood and the influencer world — signals a fresh start and a possible new phase in her career.

Lakshmi Manchu, who was last seen in Yakshini (2024) on Disney+ Hotstar and Pitta Kathalu (2021) on Netflix, has been relatively inactive in the Telugu film industry recently. Since relocating to Mumbai in 2024, she has kept a low profile in Tollywood circles, fueling speculation about a shift in her professional focus. Her casting in The Traitors seems to confirm this pivot toward the Hindi entertainment space.

Set against the opulent backdrop of Rajasthan's The show also features an eclectic mix of celebrities, including Purav Jha, Karan Kundrra, Harsh Gujral, Ashish Vidyarthi, Uorfi Javed, Raftaar, Jasmine Bhasin, Anshula Kapoor, Raj Kundra, Maheep Kapoor, Jannat Zubair, Mukesh Chhabra, and Sudhanshu Pandey, among others. With such a diverse cast, The Traitors is poised to be a major reality event on OTT this year.

> If the show strikes the right chord with viewers, Lakshmi Manchu could very well find herself with a new fanbase and opportunities in Bollywood. With her unique charm and multilingual appeal, she may finally bridge the gap between her South Indian roots and the Hindi mainstream.

> All eyes are now on June 12, as Lakshmi gears up for what could be a defining moment in her ca-

Kamal Haasan's 'Thug Life' Registers Strong Advance **Bookings Ahead of Release**

Thug Life, the much-awaited gangster action drama starring Ulaganayagan Kamal Haasan and directed by the gearing up for a grand worlderhouse creative team, the film tain the momentum. is already making waves with impressive advance bookings, especially in international markets.

an and Mani Ratnam after decades, fueling massive excite-

enthusiasts. Also featuring Simbu in a pivotal role, Thug Life has captured attention with its gritty teasers, intense legendary Mani Ratnam, is character reveals, and striking visuals. The production team wide release on June 5, 2025. is aggressively promoting the With a stellar cast and a pow- film across platforms to main-

Advance ticket sales have taken off to a remarkable start overseas. In North America alone, the film has already crossed The film reunites Kamal Haas- the \$250K mark in premiere bookings, and it's on track to region, surpassing his previment among fans and cinema est-grossing premiere in the dustry sources report similar solid global anticipation.



become Kamal Haasan's high- ous blockbuster Vikram. In-

strong trends in other international territories, indicating

Meanwhile, advance bookings in India are set to begin shortly. Given the film's hype and fanfare, domestic pre-sales are also expected to reflect strong optimistic about the film's Ananth backing the project. box office performance, citing the ensemble cast.

Simbu, Thug Life boasts an impressive lineup including Trisha, Ashok Selvan, San-Nassar, and Abhirami in key will open.

roles. The movie is being jointly produced by Raaj Kamal Films International, Madras Talkies, and Red Giant Movies, with Kamal Haasan, Mani Ratnumbers. Trade analysts are nam, R. Mahendran, and Siva

the combined draw of Kamal With a gripping plot, cinemat-Haasan, Mani Ratnam, and ic grandeur, and a legendary team both in front of and behind the camera, Thug Life is In addition to Kamal and one of the most anticipated Indian films of the year. As June 5 approaches, all eyes are on the box office to see just how ya Malhotra, Pankaj Tripathi, big this action-packed saga

Sreeleela's Viral 'Engagement' Photos Spark Rumors - Here's the Truth Actress Sreeleela, who rose to fame Awith her hit Kannada and Telugu

films, recently stirred a buzz on social media with some surprising photos, leading fans to speculate about a possible engagement or wedding. The young actress, now also working in Bollywood alongside stars like Kartik Aaryan, shared a series of pictures on her Instagram Stories that left many wondering about her relationship status.

In the photos, Sreeleela is seen dressed in a stunning saree, styled like a tradi-

tional bride. Another set shows her wearing a pink outfit with family and friends applying haldi (turmeric) on her cheeks, a common ritual in Indian pre-wedding ceremonies. A sindoor-like mark on her forehead added to the bridal vibe. She captioned the posts, "Big Day for me... Coming Soon," which fueled fan theories that she might be secretly engaged or married.

Fans quickly took to social media, asking if the actress was tying the knot, with many convinced the photos were from an engagement ceremony. Others speculated that it could be a film shoot or an advertisement, given the elaborate traditional setup.

However, the real story is quite different. The pictures were not from a wedding or engagement but were actually part of Sreeleela's birthday celebrations according to the Telugu lunar

calendar (tithi). While her official birthday is on June 14, her family observes the occasion based on traditional customs, which explains the festive and ritualistic atmosphere.

Adding to the intrigue are ongoing rumors linking Sreeleela with Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan. The duo is currently working together on a new film and have been spotted spending time off-screen, sparking dating rumors. In a lighthearted moment, Kartik's mother once expressed she hopes for a doctor as a daughter-inlaw — a fun coincidence since Sreeleela herself is pursuing medical studies.

For now, fans can rest easy knowing Sreeleela's "big day" was a cultural birthday celebration, not an engagement. But the buzz around her personal life and career continues to keep her in the spotlight.

Sekhar Kammula Marks 25 Years in Cinema with Chiranjeevi's Blessings

 $R^{
m enowned}$ Telugu filmmaker Sekhar Kammula recently celebrated a major milestone—25 years in the film industry—and he chose none other than Megastar Chiranjeevi to mark the occasion. The director, known for his unique storytelling and heartwarming films, shared glimpses of the celebration on his official X (formerly Twitter) account, including memorable pictures with Chiranjeevi.

Kammula's journey began with Dollar Dreams, a modest debut that introduced his sensitive, realistic style

of filmmaking. He truly rose to prominence with Anand, a sleeper hit that released alongside Chiranjeevi's Shankar Dada MBBS and still made a strong impact at the box office. From there, he delivered several acclaimed films including Godavari, Happy Days, Leader, Fidaa, and Love Story, each adding to his reputation for creating emotionally resonant cinema.

The director expressed that celebrating this special milestone with Chiranjeevi was deeply meaningful. He regards the Megastar as a source of inspiration not only for him but for countless aspiring artists from the Telugu states. Chiranjeevi, who carved his path from humble beginnings to become a towering figure in Indian cinema, graciously accepted Kammula's request and attended the celebration, visibly pleased to be a part of the occasion.



As he steps into the next phase of his career, Kammula is currently working on Kuberaa, a highly anticipated film starring Dhanush, Nagarjuna Akkineni, and Rashmika Mandanna. Set for release on June 20, the film promises to be a grand cinematic venture, aligning with the significance of the director's silver jubilee in the industry. Given the ensemble cast and the expectations surrounding the project, many are hopeful that Kuberaa will not only be a commercial success but also join the ranks of Kammula's cult classics.

With humility and consistency, Sekhar Kammula has carved out a space for himself in Telugu cinema, and this celebration with Chiranjeevi serves as a reminder of his inspirational journey—and the paths yet to be taken.