







## Only the Cotton Statue Remains...

Continued from page 1

The distribution system irrigated 2.76 lakh acres through the Eastern Delta, 2.04 lakh acres through the Central Delta, and 5.20 lakh acres through the Western Delta canals. The Head Works Department was tasked with monitoring excess floodwaters, managing gate operations, and coordinating water release across deltas. All of this required daily interaction between departments that were once co-located at Dhavaleswaram but are now dispersed.

Successive irrigation ministers — from Pon-nala Lakshmaiah (during the united AP era) to Devineni Uma Maheshwara Rao, Anil Kumar Yadav, and Ambati Rambabu — failed to prioritize the restoration or preservation of Dhavaleswaram's significance. Despite its global recognition and vital role in the state's agricultural success, no concrete steps have been taken to bring back the lost departments or restore its administrative status.

Now, with Dr. Nimmala Ramanaidu, a leader with strong roots in the Godavari districts, assuming charge as the new Minister for Water Resources, there is renewed hope among the people. Known for his commitment and close association with the region, will he take the initiative to revive Dhavaleswaram's historic stature? Will he bring back the Eastern, Central, and Western Delta offices and reinstate Dhavaleswaram as the administrative nerve center of irrigation?

As it stands today, a solitary statue of Sir Arthur Cotton silently watches over a decaying legacy, and the people of the Godavari districts are waiting — hopeful that Minister Ramanaidu will not repeat the indifference shown by his predecessors and will instead honor the legacy of the great Bhagiratha of Godavari.

## Govt Eases Transfers for Ward Secretariat Staff

### Village secretariat employees protest exclusion from new transfer policy

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government has brought welcome relief for ward secretariat employees by relaxing transfer rules that were previously in place. In a key decision announced on Tuesday, the government has allowed ward secretariat staff to seek transfers to their own mandals, a move that is expected to benefit a large number of employees.

According to the latest orders, ward secretariat employees can also opt for transfers to other wards within the town or to other municipalities and corporations within the same erstwhile (joint) district. This marks a major shift from the earlier rules, which did not allow transfers to one's own mandal.

While the decision has been received positively by ward secretariat staff, it has triggered discontent among village secretariat employees, who belong to the same department. The Unified Action Committee of Village Ward Secretariat Employees expressed dissatisfaction over being excluded from the new relaxation, terming it unfair to apply two different sets of rules to employees under the same administrative framework.

In response, the committee called upon village secretariat employees across the state to submit petitions at all district and Mandal-level offices, urging the government to extend similar transfer flexibility to them. They asserted that equal treatment is essential to maintain harmony and motivation within the department.

This divergence in policy has now become a talking point among secretariat staff, with employees across the state watching closely to see if the government will respond to the demands of village secretariat employees in the coming days.

# Cabinet Clears Land Pooling for Amaravati

- **Kolusu Parthasarathy says focus on infrastructure, welfare of local farmers**
- **Land pooling to resume with uniform rules in Amaravati**
- **Free education and healthcare assured for local farmers**
- **Rs. 350 crore approved for dam safety works**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Andhra Pradesh Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy announced that the state Cabinet has decided to resume the land pooling process in Amaravati to develop infrastructure in the capital region. Addressing the media after the Cabinet meeting, he said the decision was made with future needs in mind and with uniform rules to ensure no inconvenience to the people.

The Minister also stated that water bodies will be preserved as per NGT and Supreme Court guidelines. "We have revised the rules. We will conduct a thorough investigation with the Joint Collector regarding assigned, endowment, and Lanka lands. Surveys will be carried out without causing border issues," Parthasarathy added.

The Cabinet resolved to provide free education and medical treatment to local farmers and prioritize completion of buildings where foundations were laid earlier. Construction work for GAD and HVD towers will proceed, with contracts handed over to NCC, L&T, and Shapoorji Pallonji. The Cabinet also approved the CRDA meeting decisions.

**Additionally, the Cabinet took the following key decisions:**

- **Land allocations to multiple institutions across the state**



- **approved.**
- **Upgradation of 40 building instructors' posts in the municipal department.**
- **Nine new Anna canteens to be established.**
- **Amendments to the Building Construction Act to simplify permit issuance.**
- **Tennis player Saket Sai to be appointed Deputy Collector under the sports quota.**
- **12.07 acres in Vadamalapet**

- **(Tirupati) to be transferred to the Tourism Department.**
- **50 acres in Gandikota allotted for building a resort.**
- **Rs. 350 crore released for safety works at Srisailem Dam and Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage.**
- **Polavaram Banakacharla project to benefit both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.**
- **The Ambedkar statue premises**

**es in Vijayawada to be shifted from the Social Welfare Department to the AP Cultural Department.**

- **Pending cultural infrastructure works to be completed using Cultural Department funds.**
- **Decision to build a state-of-the-art convention center in Amaravati.**
- **Cabinet ratified recent Investment Promotion Council proposals.**
- **4687 mini Anganwadi centers to be upgraded to main centers.**
- **Cognizant Technology to invest ₹1,582 crore on 22.19 acres in Madhurwada, Visakhapatnam.**
- **₹682 crore tenders approved for connecting E3 road to NH-16 in Amaravati.**
- **Administrative approval of ₹273.17 crore granted to AP Markfed for tobacco purchase.**
- **The government plans to procure 20 million tonnes of tobacco in the state.**
- **Decision to declare a crop holiday for tobacco cultivation next year.**

With these sweeping announcements, the Cabinet has laid down a roadmap that combines infrastructural progress with welfare support, especially for farmers and key public sectors.

## Only floodwaters being diverted in Polavaram-Banakacharla project

- **Cabinet clears 42 agenda items; urges MLAs to reach out to households**
- **Revenue issues to be resolved within a year, says CM**

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed ministers and senior leaders to address and dispel the concerns being raised by Telangana regarding the Polavaram-Banakacharla linkage project. During the cabinet meeting held at the Secretariat, the CM emphasized that only surplus floodwaters are being utilized through this project and that Telangana will not face any water loss.

"Though several irrigation projects were initiated in Telangana without any formal clearances, we never objected. Some leaders are now raising issues over this project purely for political reasons," Chandrababu said, urging his cabinet to respond effectively. He stressed that the responsibility to communicate the facts clearly to the public rests with the ministers and MLAs.

The cabinet meeting concluded after approving a total of 42 agenda items, which included key decisions related to capital development, governance, and welfare schemes. The cabinet also discussed the second phase of land acquisition in Amaravati, and it was decided to apply the same rules as the first phase to maintain uniformity and fairness. Additionally, it was resolved that the first step of good governance programs should be organized district-wise under the in-charge ministers, followed by events at the constituency level.

The CM reiterated that all pending revenue-related issues in the state



must be resolved within a year. "The habit of blaming technical issues to delay matters must stop. If there are genuine problems, officials can speak directly with me," Chandrababu stated firmly. He also assured that he will personally follow up on revenue issues regularly.

The cabinet further decided to launch an outreach campaign from July 1, with MLAs expected to take the achievements of the new coalition government over the past year to every household.

In a significant welfare move, the cabinet resolved to form a special committee to handle donations for the continued functioning of the popular Anna Canteens, ensuring sustainability through public and private support.

With these directions and decisions, Chandrababu appears focused on a balanced approach—advancing infrastructure while ensuring transparency, inter-state cooperation, and grassroots-level communication.

## 4 Lakh Jobs in a Year: Govt Declares Major Milestone

Ministers say coalition will surpass 20 lakh jobs target in five years



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

The Committee of Ministers on Employment Creation has declared that the coalition government's biggest success so far is the creation of 4 lakh jobs within a year. A review meeting was held on Tuesday at Minister Nara Lokesh's chamber in the State Secretariat to assess the government's progress in meeting its ambitious goal of creating 20 lakh jobs in five years.

Ministers TG Bharat, Ponguru Narayana, Kondapalli Srinivas, and BC Janardhan Reddy attended the meeting and gave directions to officials. Since June last year, the government has signed agreements worth ₹9.5 lakh crore with various companies, targeting 8.5 lakh job opportunities, of which 3,94,416 jobs have already been created.

According to the officials, the MSME sector led job creation with 1,18,268 units, employing 2,48,902 individuals. Additionally, 73,000 jobs were created through skill development programs, while the tourism sector contributed 49,765 jobs. Officials emphasized that while the average job creation in the MSME sector was about 50,000 annually in the past decade, it has increased fivefold under the current government's regime.

The ministers instructed that jobs created by both government departments and the private sector should be tracked and uploaded through village secretariats. The coalition government has set an ambitious goal to surpass 20 lakh jobs in five years, aiming to achieve it with focused coordination.

Minister Ponguru Narayana said that capital construction works have gained momentum, already employing over 10,000 workers in the unorganized sector. He emphasized that officials should focus on job creation in the manufacturing and services sectors, which hold the highest employment potential.

Senior officials including Ajay Jain, N. Yuvraj, Kantilal Dande, AP EDB CEO Saikanth Verma, APIIC MD Abhishek Kishore, Transco JMD Kirti Chekuri, and NREDCAP MD Kamalakara Babu also participated in the meeting.



# Baliya Discontent Rises in Kadapa...

No Posts, No Priority in TDP After Returning to Power



- Discontent among Baliyas growing after Sugavasi Balasubrahmanyam’s resignation
- Senior leaders like Ramachandraiah, Batyala Chengal Rayudu remain silent

### TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

Despite helping the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) regain power in Andhra Pradesh, the Baliya community in the joint Kadapa district is now expressing deep dissatisfaction. Their frustration stems from not being given political positions or priority, even after the party’s victory. The recent resignation of Sugavasi Balasubrahmanyam, who contested as a TDP candidate from Rajampet, has further fueled unrest within the community. The Baliyas have traditionally been a key support base for the TDP, playing a decisive role in every constituency across Kadapa. However, their influence is diminishing, and most of the current Baliya leaders are relegated to the second tier. Their voice, once strong with leaders like Sai Pratap, C. Ramachandraiah, Batyala Chengal Rayudu, and Sugavasi Palakondrayudu, is now rarely heard. According to party insiders, Balasubrahmanyam’s exit from TDP and his plan to join the YSRCP has added more fuel to this growing discontent. Baliya leaders feel used as a vote bank, but ignored when it comes to power sharing. Senior leaders from the community are also no-

ticeably inactive. MLC C. Ramachandraiah, who switched from YSRCP to TDP, did not attend the recent Mahanadu in Kadapa. Though once close to Chandrababu Naidu, he has remained completely silent, giving rise to speculation about internal dissatisfaction. Similarly, Batyala Chengal Rayudu, another veteran leader, is facing a tough political situation. After contesting from Rajampet in 2019 as per party orders, he was later replaced in the 2024 elections by Balasubrahmanyam, which led to a defeat due to lack of local support. Now, calls to hand over Rajampet leadership to local leaders have added to the confusion, with Batyala distancing himself from active politics. Adding insult to injury, the TDP leadership’s failure to visit the family of late Rayachoti MLA Palakondrayudu after his death has deeply hurt Baliya leaders and workers. This absence of emotional and political support has left second-tier leaders helpless and demoralized. With murmurs growing louder and senior leaders choosing silence, the TDP’s hold on the Baliya community in Kadapa is slipping. How the party leadership handles this unrest will be crucial to its future in the region. All eyes are now on whether any corrective steps will be taken before the situation turns worse.

# Skill Push with Jobs as the Core Agenda: CM



- ‘Naipunyam’ Skill Portal to map global job demand
- Cluster-based training model across regions
- ₹9.5 lakh crore investments expected to create 8.5 lakh jobs

### TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In a strategic push towards youth empowerment and economic growth, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has set a bold target of creating 20 lakh jobs through focused skill development across Andhra Pradesh. Chairing a high-level review of the Skill Development Department on Tuesday, the CM stressed that training initiatives must align with both national and international employment trends. The CM announced that the state’s skill ecosystem will be revamped through the comprehensive AI-enabled portal ‘Naipunyam’, which will integrate skill mapping, automated resume building, and job matchmaking tools. It will also serve as a platform to track job openings across India and abroad, streamlining employment connections. He directed officials to conduct job fairs in every constituency, aiming to secure at least 1,500 job placements per segment this year alone.

### ₹9.5 Lakh Crore Industrial Investments to Drive Jobs

The Chief Minister noted that the state has already attracted ₹9.5 lakh crore in industrial investment proposals, potentially generating 8.5 lakh jobs. He emphasized conducting skill gap analyses, especially for IT graduates, and strengthening apprenticeship programs in partnership with industry leaders. He also called for integrating soft skills training into the curriculum to enhance global employability.

### From Class 6 to Career: Lifelong Skill Development

As part of the Swarnandhra 2047 Vision, vocational education will be introduced from Class

6 onwards. The CM reiterated the government’s commitment to aligning skills with industry demand through strong industry-academic linkages. Adoption of the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) will ensure quality and consistency across training institutes.

### Cluster-Based Model for Region-Specific Training

Skill Development Minister Nara Lokesh outlined a cluster-based skill model that leverages each region’s economic strengths:

- **Krishna-Guntur:** Agriculture, food processing, textiles, quantum computing
- **Anantapur-Kurnool-Kadapa:** Green energy, automobile, drone tech
- **Srikakulam-Visakhapatnam:** Pharmaceuticals, med-tech, core engineering
- **Chittoor-Nellore-Prakasam:** Port logistics, granite, electronics manufacturing
- **East-West Godavari:** Aquaculture, petroleum sector skills

The government has also tied up with 162 industries for ITI collaborations and signed 63 MoUs with polytechnic colleges.

### Global Workforce: Targeting 1 Lakh Overseas Jobs by 2026

In a significant move, Andhra Pradesh has set a target of 1 lakh international job placements for its youth by 2026, scaling up to 3 lakh by 2029. To meet this, the state will offer foreign language training (German, Italian, etc.) and identify opportunities in healthcare, construction, IT, tourism, logistics, and manufacturing in Germany, Italy, Singapore and other nations. The CM urged the department to explore hybrid training models in collaboration with institutes like the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU) for robust language education. The initiatives under review mark a comprehensive overhaul of the state’s skill development ecosystem, with the goal of turning Andhra Pradesh into a global hub of skilled talent.

# Not A Double Engine, It’s A Trouble Engine: YS Sharmila

### TPN Correspondent | Nellore

Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) President YS Sharmila Reddy launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, and the ruling BJP-led alliance, terming it a “trouble engine” rather than a “double engine government.” Addressing a press conference in Nellore, Sharmila accused all three parties — TDP, Jana Sena, and YSRCP — of being different faces of the BJP. Sharmila questioned why the Mahila Shakti scheme was linked to the P4 (Praja Palana People’s Platform) initiative only after elections, stating that such post-election maneuvering amounted to cheating crores of women. “They promised ₹18,000 per woman, but are now backtracking. Two crore women were betrayed,” she said. She ridiculed the much-publicized Super Six schemes of the government, calling them a “Super Flop” and filled with false promises. “They claimed they would give ₹20,000 to every farmer. What happened? There are 85 lakh farmers, but only 45 lakh were included. What about the rest?” she asked. On YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, she said: “Talking about Jagan is not my agenda. But where was his humanity when an activist died under his convoy vehicle in Nallapadu? Calling it fake news is not



only shameful, it’s inhuman.” Sharmila also accused the state government of suppressing democratic protests. “When we organize fasts, we are arrested. When we question, our voices are crushed. But those who trample people under tires are given full permission,” she said, alluding to Jagan’s recent rallies. She strongly condemned the state government’s failure to address student scholarships, job creation, and women’s safety. “There is no job calendar, no fee reimbursement — arrears stand at ₹4,700 crore. Even Aarogyasri dues are over ₹4,000 crore,” she claimed. On BJP’s long-standing betrayal, she noted, “The Centre has done nothing for AP — from special status denial to the reduction in Polavaram height. None of the MPs dared speak against it. Neither Babu nor Pawan questioned the Centre even once.” Sharmila said her mission is not to build an image but to revive and strengthen the Congress Party. “I don’t need a super image or kingdoms. Our agenda is people’s agenda,” she asserted. She concluded by reiterating the Congress Party’s commitment to stand with the people, accusing the ruling coalition of mere theatrics. “They are not fighting for people; they are fighting for their own political survival. But we, the Congress, are fighting for justice — and we won’t stop.”

# Car That Caused Singayya’s Death Seized

### TPN Correspondent | Guntur

In a significant development, the Fortuner vehicle (AP40DH2349) involved in the recent accident that led to the death of a man named Singayya has been seized by the Nallapadu police. The car was reportedly being used by former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSRCP President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy at the time of the incident.



The incident has now taken a serious legal turn, with police naming YS Jagan as Accused No. 2 (A-2) in the case. Sources confirm that the Nallapadu police visited the YSR Congress Party office to serve notices in connection with

the case. The notices were received by Appireddy, the secretary of the YCP office. The seizure of the vehicle suggests that the investigation is moving forward rapidly, with forensic and technical assessments expected to follow. The police are reportedly probing the exact sequence of events that led to the fatal accident. The death of Singayya, who was allegedly struck during the former CM’s convoy movement, has raised serious concerns, prompting demands for transparency and accountability. Further legal proceedings are likely to unfold in the coming days as the investigation progresses.

# Jagan Will Do Anything for Power: MLC Ramgopal Reddy

### TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

MLC Bhumireddy Ramgopal Reddy launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of being willing to resort to any form of anarchy to regain power. Speaking to media persons on Monday, Ramgopal Reddy alleged that Jagan has even ignored his own family — including his sister YS Sharmila and mother Y.S. Vijayamma — in his quest for political dominance. “The incident involving the death of a party activist under Jagan’s convoy vehicle shows how far he is ready to go for power,” he remarked. He claimed the tragedy reflected Jagan’s indifference to basic human values. “If an activist dies under your vehicle, the first thing you do is go and meet the family. But Jagan did not even do that,” Ramgopal Reddy criticized. He said it was a matter of great shame that Ambati Rambabu



and Rajinikanth were sent to visit the grieving family, only after realizing the growing public anger. “The people of the state are

asthanam Chairman Ramana Reddy, and others also participated in the press meet.





**B. Krishnabharath, Psychologist,  
National Working President, Advanced  
Psychological Services Association  
(APA India), 99854 28261**

Pornography addiction has emerged as a pervasive issue affecting individuals across age groups and genders, posing a threat more insidious than many realize. Often starting as a casual curiosity or a means to cope with stress, this habit can spiral into a destructive force, wreaking havoc on personal lives, relationships, and mental health. In India, the statistics are alarming, re-

vealing the depth of this silent epidemic. **Disturbing Statistics** A survey in India reveals that 72% of men and 28% of women regularly consume pornography. Among South Indian students, a staggering 84.2% watch porn daily, averaging eight minutes per session, with 69% spending up to six hours weekly. Notably, 24% of female students believe porno-

graphy consumption is harmless. A separate survey of medical college students found 14% of male and 8% of female students admitted to addiction. These numbers underscore the widespread infiltration of this issue into society. **How It Begins** Psychologists identify several factors driving pornography addiction: **Stress Relief:** Many turn to pornography to escape stress, anxiety, or depression, seeking temporary relief from negative emotions. **Dopamine Rush:** Watching pornography triggers the release of dopamine, activating the brain's reward system and creating a cycle of seeking repeated gratification. **Vulnerability:** Individuals with low self-esteem, mental health challenges, or weak interpersonal relationships are more susceptible to addiction. **Sexual Stimulation:** The promise of instant gratification re-

inforces habitual viewing, forming neural pathways that make quitting difficult. **The Harmful Impact** Pornography addiction profoundly affects mental, emotional, and behavioral health: **Brain Function:** Frequent exposure impairs the prefrontal cortex, weakening impulse control and emotional regulation, as noted by neuro-psychologists. **Sexual Dysfunction:** Over time, addiction can lead to issues like premature ejaculation, reduced arousal during intimacy, or an inability to find satisfaction in real-life relationships. **Behavioral Changes:** It fosters unrealistic expectations about sex and intimacy, eroding emotional connections and straining relationships. **Recognizing Addiction** Not every instance of pornography consumption signals addiction. Key signs include: - Spending excessive time

(over 10 hours weekly) watching pornography. - Neglecting personal or professional responsibilities due to compulsive viewing. - Repeated failed attempts to quit, coupled with feelings of guilt or shame. - Difficulty finding satisfaction in real-life intimacy or forming emotional bonds. - Lying about viewing habits or isolating oneself to watch pornography, even during social or festive occasions. **Breaking Free** Overcoming pornography addiction is challenging and often requires professional intervention. Psychologists employ therapies like: **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT):** Helps reframe distorted thought patterns and behaviors. **Motivational Interviewing:** Strengthens the resolve to overcome addiction. **Mindfulness and Stress Management:** Equips individuals

to manage triggers effectively. **Couples Counseling:** Supports partners in rebuilding intimacy and addressing underlying issues. **Challenges in Recovery** The road to recovery can be fraught with withdrawal symptoms, including irritability, insomnia, intense cravings, and stress. However, persistence is key. Continued psychological counseling, and in some cases, medication, can help individuals overcome these hurdles and reclaim control over their lives. **Conclusion** Pornography addiction is a growing public health concern that demands attention. Its far-reaching effects on mental health, relationships, and societal well-being cannot be ignored. With awareness, professional support, and determination, individuals can break free from this cycle and build healthier, more fulfilling lives.

## New CCTV Cameras Inaugurated in Patamata Area

### CP Rajasekhar Babu highlights crime control with tech

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a significant step towards strengthening surveillance and public safety, newly installed CCTV cameras were inaugurated today in nine colonies under the Patamata Police Station limits of Vijayawada. The launch event was held at NAC Kalyana Mandapam and was attended by NTR District MP Sri Kesineni Shivanad (Chinni), MLA Sri Gadde Ramamohan Rao, and City Police Commissioner Sri S.V. Rajasekhara Babu IPS.

The CCTV installations span CTO Colony, Kanakadurga Nagar, Sri Ramachandra Nagar, Subbarao Colony, Kamineni Nagar, Nagarjuna Nagar, Bharathi Nagar, Ganesh Nagar, and Currency Nagar. The initiative was made possible through the generous contributions of local donors, for which the Police Commissioner expressed his gratitude.

Speaking at the event, CP Rajasekhara Babu said, "CCTV cameras play a crucial role in both controlling and investigating crimes. So far, 4,500 cameras have been installed in the district, including renovation of 1,900 cameras that had become non-functional due to lack of maintenance in the past five years."

He noted that the implementation of CCTV systems has led to a significant reduction in crimes and road accidents. "We've launched the Astra tool at 83 junctions to track vehicle flow in real time, easing traffic congestion. Drones donated by MPs and MLAs are also aiding real-time surveillance," he said.

The Commissioner stated that police have successfully caught phone and chain thieves and even tracked culprits up to the Nepal border using CCTV footage. He reaffirmed that under the guidance of CM Chandrababu Naidu, the department is harnessing technology for efficient policing. "We are building a database of 3,400 known criminals,



collecting their fingerprints and using it to monitor and deter crime," he added. On the drug menace, CP Babu revealed that 126 students were found to have consumed drugs and warned that offenders will face imprisonment under the PIT NDPS Act. He vowed to eliminate drug and marijuana transport in the next six months and said measures have been taken to curb eve teasing and enforce traffic safety. MP Kesineni Shivanad commended the Commissioner's efforts and said, "It has been a year since I took oath as MP, and I'm proud to be part of this public safety initiative. The CP's technological initiatives, from drones to the command control room, are crucial, especially during emergencies like floods and Dussehra." He also lauded the police's commitment to making Satyanarayanapuram a model station and expressed hope that all stations in NTR district would follow suit. "I will bring this to the attention of Home Minister Anita," he added. The Police Commissioner concluded by announcing plans to ensure at least four CCTV cameras in every village and ward within the Commissionerate. He acknowledged MP Sujana Chowdhury's ₹30 lakh contribution towards this goal and said NTR district is set to become a model in CCTV coverage.

## New Waste Management Model in NTR District

*Pilot project to make Andhra Pradesh dump yard-free begins with two rural-urban clusters*

- NTR district chosen for solid waste pilot project
- Two clusters formed covering 6 municipalities, 75 major panchayats
- First cluster to begin operations on October 2 – Swachh Diwas

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

In a major step towards comprehensive solid waste management, NTR district has been selected as the pilot site for a new cluster-based waste processing model that will integrate both rural and urban areas, Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman Komma Reddy Pattabhiram announced on Tuesday.

Speaking at a full-scale NTR district review meeting held at the Collector's Office in Vijayawada — chaired by MP Kesineni Shivanath (Chinni) and attended by local MLAs and senior officials — Pattabhiram outlined the plan to divide all municipalities (excluding Vijayawada) into two clusters. Jaggayyapet, Kondapalli, and Nandigama municipalities will form one cluster, while Thiruvur, Mylavaram, and Nuzvid will form the second. Additionally, 75 major panchayats with a population of over 5,000 have been identified and integrated into this model to ensure seamless coordination between urban and rural waste collection and processing.

"All garbage collected on a given day will be processed the same



day," Pattabhiram said, stressing that this model ensures efficiency, hygiene, and sustainability. He added that the first cluster is targeted to become operational by October 2, on the occasion of Swachh Diwas. He appreciated the active cooperation from local leaders including Jaggayyapet MLA Sriram Tathaiah, Thiruvur MLA Kolikapudi Srinivasa Rao, Mylavaram MLA Vasantha Krishna Prasad, and Nandigama MLA Thangirala Soumya, who are supporting the initiative to establish a cleaner and greener environment in their constituencies. The Chairman also revealed that

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has instructed officials to make Andhra Pradesh a dump yard-free state. As a first step, NTR district will be transformed into a dump-free zone, he said. "To support this effort, Swachh Andhra Corporation is ready to supply modern sweeping machines and essential equipment. We will make this district a model for waste management," Pattabhiram assured. The meeting was attended by NTR District Collector G. Lakshmi Shah, municipal chairpersons, commissioners, and other senior officials, who pledged their support to the pilot program.

## Outsourcing Employees Deserve Justice: AP JAC Amaravati

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh Joint Action Committee (JAC) Amaravati and the Contract & Outsourcing Employees Association have made a strong appeal to Municipal Administration Minister and APCAS Cabinet Sub-Committee Member Shri P. Narayana, demanding long-awaited reforms and justice for outsourcing employees in the state. JAC Amaravati Chairman Bopparaju and General Secretary Palisetty Damodar Rao, along with Association State President K. Suman and General Secretary E. Madhu Babu, met the Minister at his camp office in Vijayawada on Tuesday morning and submitted a detailed representation. They highlighted multiple pending issues, urging the government to fix the flaws in the current APCAS (Andhra Pradesh Corporation for Outsourcing Services) system and bring all outsourcing workers under its purview.

They emphasized that during the 2014-2019 term, outsourcing employees had benefitted with a 50% wage hike and better working conditions. But under the later administration, critical issues such as exclusion from CFMS-based welfare schemes, denial of salary hikes recommended by PRC and CS Committees, and lack of policy clarity had caused immense hardship. The leaders expressed their gratitude to the new coalition government for forming a sub-committee dedicated to outsourcing employees and appealed to bring structural changes. "We request you to remove the remaining flaws in APCAS and ensure better services for the nearly 2.5 lakh outsourcing employees in the state. This will earn great public goodwill for the coalition government," they stated.



They also warned against a return to the old private agency system, citing past incidents where agencies failed to pay employee wages and misused savings, leading to government intervention and PD Act actions.





## Union Minister Praises Subhash's Service

### Bhupathi Raju lauds Subhash's personal and public efforts

**TPN Correspondent | Amaravati**  
Union Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma on Monday praised Andhra Pradesh Labour Minister Vasamsetty Subhash for his dedication to public service, both officially and personally. The two ministers met in Amaravati, where a cordial and friendly conversation unfolded. The Union Minister first inquired about Subhash's well-being and then asked about the ongoing development and welfare programs in his constituency. "I heard that you are not only active through government programs but also personally

involved in many social service activities. I feel very happy about that," Bhupathi Raju said, patting Subhash on the shoulder and encouraging him to continue the same spirit of service. "Your service programs will remain forever among the people," he added with a smile. Minister Subhash later brought a few departmental matters to the Union Minister's attention. In response, Bhupathi Raju assured that a follow-up meeting would be held soon to discuss development issues in detail. The interaction, marked by smiles and mutual respect, drew the attention of officials and public representatives present at the venue.

## IDPS Tadepalligudem Successfully Holds Apex Body Elections

### Newly elected body to work closely with school administration

**TPN Correspondent | West Godavari**  
International Delhi Public School (IDPS), Tadepalligudem, successfully conducted the School Apex Body Elections for the academic year 2024-25 on June 24, 2024, in a spirited atmosphere of democratic engagement and leadership development. The elections, a highly anticipated annual event, saw active participation from students, teachers, and parents, reflecting the school's commitment to fostering student voice and democratic values. The entire process—from nominations and campaigning to voting—was carried out with utmost transparency and fairness, setting a model for student-led governance. The newly elected Apex Body will take on the responsibility of representing student interests, working collaboratively with school management on various initiatives, and playing



an active role in enhancing the academic and extracurricular environment. The school management congratulated all the winners and expressed confidence that the student leaders will bring fresh energy and ideas to help the institution grow further. "This election is not just about choosing student leaders; it's about inculcating leadership, responsibility, and participation among students," the school said in a statement. With the elections concluded, IDPS Tadepalligudem now looks forward to an exciting academic year, enriched by the contributions of a dynamic and dedicated student leadership team.

## BC Welfare Issues Must Be Resolved: AISF Holds Dharna in Nuzvid

**TPN Correspondent | Nuzvid**  
The All India Students Federation (AISF) staged a protest in Nuzvid on Tuesday, demanding immediate resolution of long-standing problems at the BC Welfare Boys' Hostel in RR Peta. Students marched from the hostel through the main streets of the town and staged a dharna in front of the Sub-Collector's office. Addressing the gathering, AISF State Vice President M. Saikumar and Eluru District President D. Siva Kumar alleged that the conditions in the BC Welfare hostel were deplorable. They revealed that the hostel has been functioning without a cook for the past seven months, forcing students to prepare their own food on a daily basis. "This is a complete failure of the welfare system. Students are not only burdened with ac-

ademic responsibilities but are also being forced to cook due to administrative negligence," said Saikumar. The student leaders submitted a petition to Sub-Collector Bachu Smaran Raj, requesting swift action. The key demands include the appointment of a cook, commodity watchman, and necessary staff at the hostel. They stressed the urgency of addressing the issue to prevent further hardship for the students. AISF Eluru District Treasurer M. Kranthi Kumar, Nuzvid Town President Akash, Secretary Praveen, along with student representatives Murali, Naveen, and others participated in the protest. The AISF has warned of intensifying the agitation if the government fails to respond promptly to their demands.

# Stamp Scam Creates Sensation in Kalyanadurgam

*Meeseva Babu Arrested for Multi-Crore Stamp Tampering*

**TPN Correspondent | Anantapur**  
A sensational stamp scam has come to light in Kalyanadurgam, Anantapur district, with the arrest of Boya Errappa alias Meeseva Babu, who is accused of tampering with stamp duty documents and defrauding crores of rupees. The scam was uncovered during an internal audit of SRC Infra Developers, a firm owned by Kalyanadurgam MLA Amilineni Surendra Babu. Auditors discovered that the stamp papers submitted as guarantees to banks were fake, triggering immediate action by the company. According to initial reports, the fraud was committed under the guise of Meeseva services, with Errappa acquiring

a stamp vendor license in the name of his wife Katta Bhargavi. Investigations revealed that only within SRC Infra Developers, fake stamps amounting to ₹70 lakh were used. Following the discovery, SRC Infra Developers filed a formal complaint with the Anantapur Two Town Police, who swiftly registered a case and arrested the key accused, Boya Errappa. He is currently being interrogated. Police sources confirmed that the accused has been involved in stamp tampering since 2020, selling falsified stamp papers to various individuals and organizations. All stamp documents issued by Errappa have been identified as fake, with police now working to trace all recipients of the



forged documents. Officials suspect the total fraud could run into several crores, extending far beyond this single firm. The revelations have sent shockwaves through the local business and legal com-

munities. This high-profile stamp fraud, perpetrated over years under the disguise of legitimate Meeseva operations, is now under detailed investigation, and more arrests may follow.

## Invest in Nellimarla' Drive to Boost Industrial Growth

*MLA Lokam Madhavi assures full support to entrepreneurs and MSMEs*

**TPN | Narasimha Vizianagaram:** In a major push towards accelerating industrial development, Nellimarla MLA Lokam Naga Madhavi organized a dedicated initiative titled "Invest in Nellimarla" aimed at attracting new industries and supporting entrepreneurs in the constituency. Addressing the gathering, MLA Madhavi said Nellimarla offers a highly favorable environment for setting up industrial units, and assured that the state government and her office will provide all necessary support and permissions without delay. She encouraged investors and entrepreneurs



to make use of the opportunity, promising a single-window support system and personal involvement to resolve hurdles. Recalling her efforts over the past year, she explained how

she resolved the long-standing road issue related to the VMRDA (Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority), stating, "Despite many obstacles, we've cleared bottlenecks and are committed

to building infrastructure that supports business growth." Sri Lokam Prasad, Founder and CEO of Miracle Software Systems, highlighted the critical role of MSMEs in generating employment, especially for local youth. He encouraged budding entrepreneurs to move forward with confidence and assured them of his support in terms of both business and technical mentoring. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of plot owners and new entrepreneurs from the Kongavanipalem MSME Park, marking a promising beginning for industrial development in the region.

## Strict Action on Crimes Against Women and Children: Sailaja

*AP Women's Commission chief visits victims in Nellore, assures justice*

**TPN | Seshu Nellore:** Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission Chairperson Rayapati Sailaja declared that the Commission will not tolerate atrocities against women and children and will ensure the strictest possible action against perpetrators. Speaking to the media after visiting two young victims of recent incidents in Nellore district, Sailaja assured justice for the victims and support from the state machinery. On Tuesday, Sailaja visited ten-year-old Chenchamma, who was brutally beaten in Kakarla Dibba, Kudithipalem of Indukurupeta mandal, and another eight-year-old victim of a sexual assault case from Kanuparthipadu.

The victims are undergoing treatment at Apollo Hospital and the Government General Hospital in Nellore, respectively. She also inspected the One Stop Center at the GGH, which offers counseling and support to victims of abuse. Addressing a press conference later at the Roads and Buildings guest house, Sailaja condemned the superstitious and inhumane behavior of the perpetrators in the Chenchamma case. "The child was accused of stealing a cell phone based on superstition and the guid-



ance of astrologers. As a result, she was subjected to torture. Four of the five accused have already been arrested," she informed. In the Kanuparthipadu case, she praised the courage of the young victim and the swift action by the police. Sailaja emphasized the need to introduce children to concepts like good touch and bad touch from a young age to prevent such incidents. "There is a disturbing trend where even elders hesitate to communicate openly with children. This mindset must

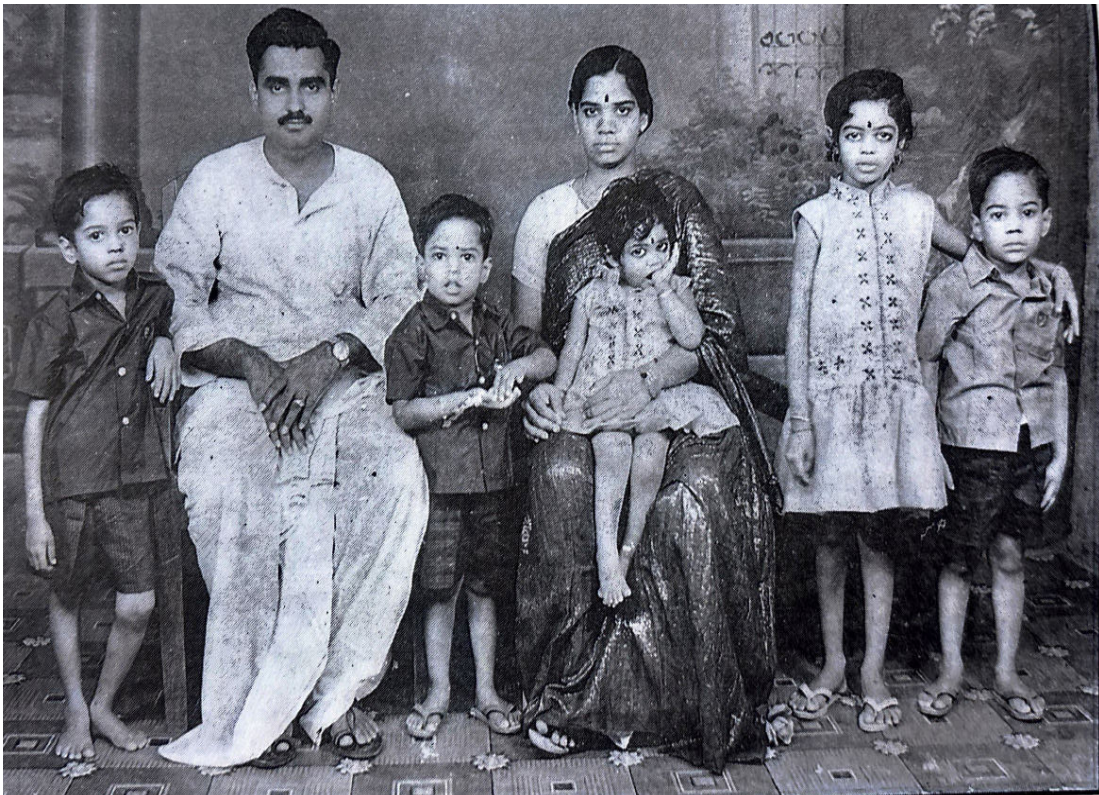
change," she added. She also highlighted the seriousness of the POCSO Act and said the Commission will pursue justice without political interference. "We have set up One Stop Centers in every district where victims receive counseling and awareness. Justice will be ensured." Local MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi, who accompanied the Chairperson, stated that the government is extending all possible help to Chenchamma. "She was treated at the local

PHC and later shifted to Apollo Hospital for better care. Her future development will also be supported," the MLA said. The visit drew participation from district officials including ICD SP D. Hey Na Sujana, staff from the Women and Child Welfare Department, and the police, all of whom assured their full cooperation in the cases. Sailaja reiterated that the Women's Commission stands firmly with victims and will act decisively to prevent such tragedies in the future.



# Dark Age Completes Fifty Years

The day democracy was silenced.  
The day when freedom was under bondage

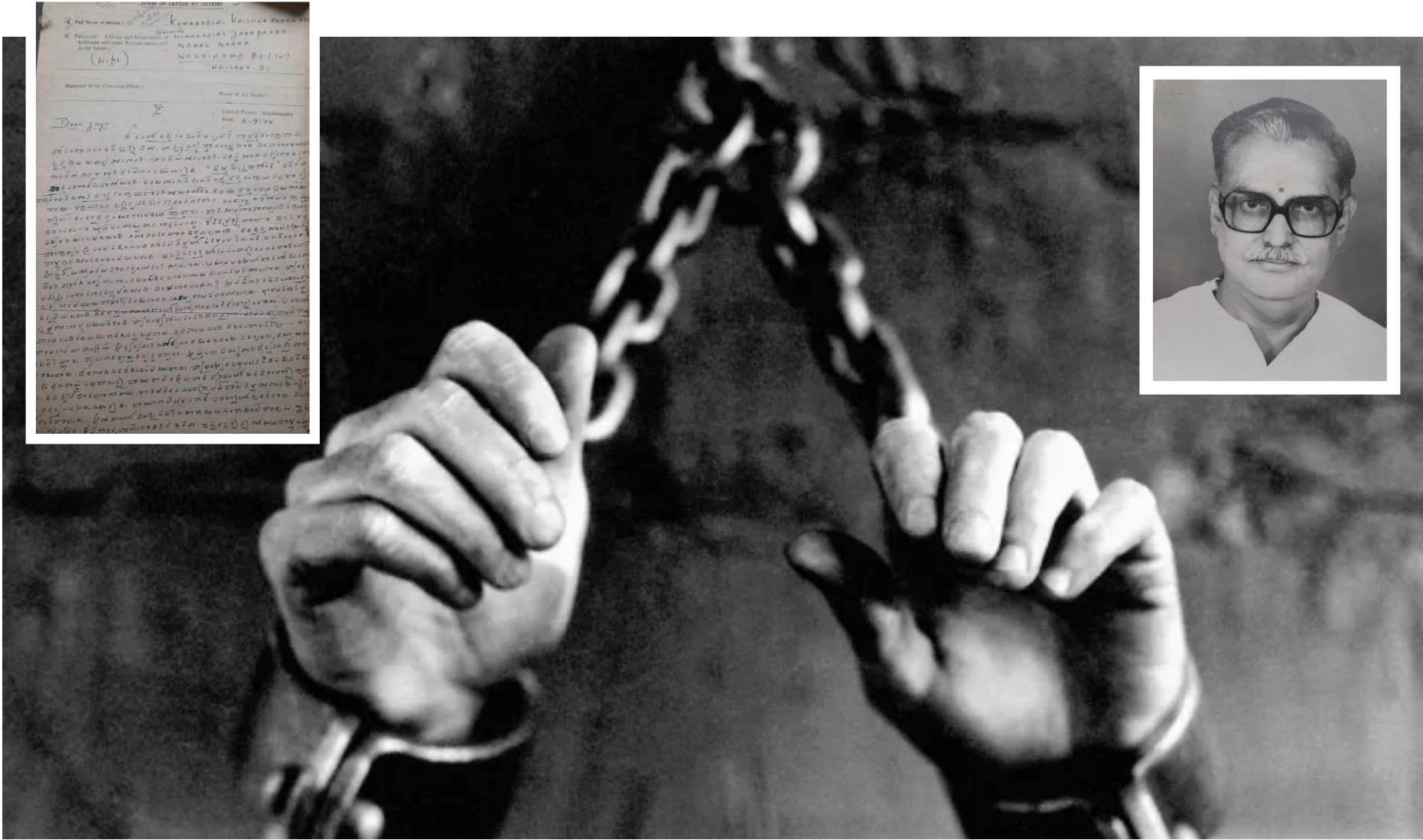


They remain the darkest days in the history of Indian democracy, etched into the nation's conscience even fifty years later. It was on this day, half a century ago, that the Government of India crushed the spirit of the Constitution and gagged the voice of its people. The night of June 25, 1975, changed India forever. That chilling announcement by the President over All India Radio, stating, "Emergency has been declared in view of the prevailing situation in the country," sounded like the last note in the song of freedom. Those who resisted were taken into custody across the country. Civil liberties were stripped off. Thousands, including prominent political leaders, student activists, journalists, and common citizens, were arrested under the draconian MISA Act (Maintenance of Internal Security Act). The press was muzzled. For 21 months, from June 25, 1975, to March 21, 1977, India lived fear-stricken. The meaning of justice was lost. When husbands were taken away and imprisoned, the cries of wives and children echoed in silence, unanswered.

## Mother India's Eclipse

A poetic cry for freedom. A lamentation of lost democracy. This is:

- The day democracy was in danger
- The day freedom was suppressed
- The Dhritarashtras who could not see with their eyes
- The Dronacharyas who could not hear with their ears
- The Bheeshmas who could not speak with their mouths
- The day MISAs were triumphant
- The day honesty was imprisoned
- The day those who stood up were chained
- The day the goddess of justice was blindfolded
- The day India was turned into Gandhari
- The day dictatorship eclipsed Bharat Mata



## The Cry of Democracy from Rajahmundry Jail

A letter that questioned the Emergency. A voice that refused to be silenced. Among those who were unjustly imprisoned was Komaragiri Krishna Mohan Rao, a fearless voice from Andhra Pradesh. He was one of the first leaders arrested under the Emergency, detained for 19 months under the MISA Act. During a time when most lived in fear and silence, Krishnamohan Rao tried to send out his voice through a heartfelt letter to his wife, Jaya, from Rajahmundry Central Jail. The authorities, however, suppressed this letter fearing its impact. Now, True Point brings to light the essence of that banned letter—one of over a hundred he wrote to his wife, daughter-in-law, and son Chandrasekhar during his imprisonment. The first of the five banned letters clearly captured the pain of a man torn from his family and democracy, filled with clarity, reason, and an unshakable belief in justice. "In this independent India," he wrote, "thousands of helpless women like you have spent more than 14 months without their husbands or sons—carrying the burden of mental agony and struggle." He questioned the fairness of imprisoning those who had committed no crime. He exposed the authoritarian motives behind the arrests, arguing that the government's aim was to instill fear and destroy democratic values.

## A Constitution Rewritten

Krishnamohan Rao's warning on the dangers to judiciary and federalism. Rao wrote that the 44th Constitutional Amendment, passed during the Emergency, was not a mere amendment—it was a rewrite of the Constitution. He explained how the amendment:

- Reduced the judiciary's power
- Prevented citizens from approaching courts
- Established tribunals that denied employees' basic justice
- Allowed the Centre to send armed forces into states at will

He called this an attempt to impose central dictatorship on states, causing awe still relevant in today's federal structure. His letter was not just a message to his wife—it was a scathing critique of tyranny. A plea to awaken the public. A call to action. A warning that every citizen must fight for the right to speak, or else democracy itself would perish. Thousands of such letters were written and suppressed by the government. They were feared not because they contained violence—but because they contained truth.

## The Letter That Spoke for a Nation

From the prison walls to history's pages. A reminder of what we must never forget. Krishnamohan Rao strongly criticized the roles of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Chief Minister Jagalam Vengal Rao, and leaders like Brahmananda Reddy and Om Mehta. He was deeply disturbed by Om Mehta's claim that "most of the arrested are smugglers" and Brahmananda Reddy's statement that "only a few were detained under MISA." He wrote with conviction, "People have lost the right to even approach courts. A rule where you don't even need to say who gave the order for arrest has shattered lives." He reminded readers that Indira Gandhi's 'Twenty Point Program' was not revolutionary, as similar ideas had long been advocated by the opposition. Yet the press was silenced, critics gagged, and the government ruled in the name of democracy—while practicing dictatorship. His letter asked, "How can a democracy function without opposition?" He pointed out that true democracy lies not in demanding acceptance of one's views, but in respecting diverse opinions.

## Democratic Warrior and Literary Crusader: Komaragiri Krishna Mohan Rao

AA life dedicated to democracy, literature, and public service. Born in 1936 in Ramanaidupeta, Machilipatnam, Komaragiri Krishna Mohan Rao left an indelible mark on Andhra Pradesh's political, literary, and social spheres. He:

- Was editor of *Srivani Patrika*
- Served as general secretary of *Andhra Pradesh Tutorials & Convents Association*
- Founded the *Center for the Study of Moral and Human Values*

He took part in several people's movements including the Bhu Satyagraha, Visakha Ukku Movement, Jai Andhra, Jayaprakash Narayan Movement, and Lok Satta Movement. He contested for the Jaggayyapet MLA seat in both 1974 and 1978. He spent two months in jail during the Jai Andhra Movement and 19 months during the Emergency. As a writer, his works include Balavignana Kosamu, Ramayana Pataru, Prema Jyothi, Sri Sathya Sai Shatakamu, Sai Chamatkaravani, Komaragiri Jail Letters, and Moral Education Necessity. His literary and activist legacy is a reminder of the enduring power of conscience and conviction.

## The Voice of a Wife: Komaragiri Jayaprada Remembers

A day etched in memory. A voice choked by pain, still echoing with truth. Speaking to True Point, Jayaprada, wife of Krishnamohan Rao, tearfully recalled the day her husband was arrested. "On June 26, 1975, at 10:30 a.m., police in mufty came to Jyoti Bhavan-Vivekananda Vidyaniketan in Nehru Nagar, Nandigama, and surrounded the building," she said. "They took him away without answering any questions." She was away at her father's funeral when he came to see her one last time. He said he had some urgent work in the village and wasn't sure when he'd return. "My husband's brother Rama Mohan would tell you everything," he said before leaving—words she says she can never forget. Two days later, she was informed he was in Vijayawada Sub-Jail and was asked to bring clothes. Soon, he was shifted to Rajahmundry Central Jail and kept there as a political prisoner without parole until January 21, 1977. "He was among the first to be arrested in Andhra Pradesh," she said. "With him were lawyers like Gottipati Murali Mohan, M.V. Ramamurthy, Vijayawada Mayor Aita Sriramulu, Gannavaram Samiti member Atluri Srimannarayana, and Guntur MLC Jupudi Yagnanarayana." Their story, like that of so many others, is not just one of suffering—but of the will to resist, the courage to speak, and the refusal to bow to tyranny.



**A Note:** (This article is a brief account based on the recollections and writings of Komaragiri Krishna Mohan Rao, and the reflections of his wife Jayaprada—presented to mark 50 years since the Emergency, the darkest phase in Indian democracy.)





## Rajnath Singh to Attend SCO Defence Meet in China

Bilateral Talks with Chinese, Russian Counterparts on Agenda

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to lead a high-level Indian delegation to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' Meeting scheduled to take place in Qingdao, China, on June 25–26, the Ministry of Defence announced on Tuesday.

The visit marks a significant diplomatic and strategic engagement for India, especially amid ongoing regional security concerns. The ministry stated that India attaches special importance to the SCO as a forum to promote multilateralism and enhance cooperation in political, security, economic, and people-to-people domains across the region.

During the summit, Singh will hold bilateral meetings with several of his counterparts from other SCO member nations, including China and Russia. His meeting with Chinese Defence Minister Admiral Dong Jun will be their second official engagement since October 2024, when India and China reached a disengagement agreement in eastern Ladakh following a prolonged military standoff that began in 2020.

Singh has previously engaged in three bilateral meetings with Chinese defence leaders. The first occurred in September 2020 in Moscow, the second in April 2023 in New Delhi—both held on the sidelines of earlier SCO Defence Ministers' Meetings. The third took place in November 2024 in Vientiane, Laos, during the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus.

Singh's upcoming interaction with Admiral Dong comes at a critical time, as both nations seek to maintain the momentum of de-escalation and build on the disengagement process in eastern Ladakh. Talks are expected to include ongoing border management, regional stability, and the broader security architecture in Asia.

India's participation in the SCO platform underscores its commitment to regional peace and its strategic outreach in multilateral forums involving China, Russia, and Central Asian nations.

## Operation Sindoor Asserts India's Stance Against Terrorism: PM Modi



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday declared that Operation Sindoor has sent a strong message to the world about India's uncompromising stance against terrorism. Speaking at an event marking the centenary of the historic conversation between spiritual reformer Sree Narayana Guru and Mahatma Gandhi, the Prime Minister said that his government takes all necessary actions in the nation's interest without hesitation.

Without directly naming Pakistan, PM Modi referred to the recent precision strikes following the Pahalgam terrorist attack, where civilians were brutally killed. "In just 22 minutes, India's military brought the enemy to its knees using made-in-India weapons," he said, describing the operation as a moment of pride for India's growing defence capability.

He emphasized that there is no safe haven for terrorists who target Indian lives, and underlined his government's resolve to neutralize threats beyond India's borders. "We have shown that no

hideout is safe for terrorists who spill Indian blood," he said.

Highlighting India's strides toward self-reliance in defence, the Prime Minister said, "Our dependence on foreign nations for defence needs is reducing. We are becoming *aatmanirbhar* (self-reliant) in this crucial sector." He expressed confidence that Indian-made weapons will earn global recognition in the years to come.

PM Modi also connected the government's current policies to the inclusive vision of Sree Narayana Guru, asserting that the past 11 years have witnessed India becoming stronger not just militarily, but also socially and economically.

He listed achievements in welfare—such as expanded housing, clean drinking water, and health insurance—as steps that have empowered the underprivileged. He also noted the increased number of prestigious institutions like IITs, IIMs, and AIIMS under his administration, reflecting a broader effort to make quality education and healthcare accessible to all.



## Indian Railways Mulls Marginal Fare Hike from July 1; AC and Long-Distance Travel to Cost More

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Starting July 1, Indian Railways is likely to implement a marginal increase in passenger fares, the first such hike in five years. According to official sources, the fare revision will apply to Mail, Express, and AC trains, but daily commuters and short-distance travelers will remain unaffected.

### As per the proposed changes:

- Mail and Express trains (non-AC): Fare to be increased by 1 paisa per kilometre.
- Air-conditioned coaches: Fare to go up by 2 paise per kilometre.
- Ordinary second-class tickets: No hike for journeys up to 500 km; however, journeys exceeding 500 km could see a 0.5 paisa/km increase.

### Exemptions

- The fare hike will not apply to:
- Suburban tickets
- Monthly season tickets
- Second-class travel up to 500 km

These revisions come at a time when the Railways is grappling with revenue shortfalls. In FY 2024–25, Indian Railways earned ₹75,457 crore from passenger services, falling short of the budgeted ₹80,000 crore. Data shows that 715 crore passengers used Indian Railways during this period, with 81 crore in AC and sleeper classes and 634 crore in unreserved categories. Experts like M. Jamshed, former Member (Traffic), Railway Board, support the fare hike, calling it a "long overdue rationalisation." He estimated that the proposed fare increase could add ₹1,500–1,600 crore in annual passenger revenues. Previous fare revisions occurred in 2013, 2014, and 2020.

Despite these measures, the financial sustainability of the Railways remains a concern. The 2025–26 fiscal target of ₹92,000 crore in passenger revenue appears ambitious. Officials also emphasize the need for better services — such as cleaner coaches and improved meals — alongside the fare adjustments. From a passenger perspective, the hike remains modest. A second AC ticket from Delhi to Mumbai may rise by just ₹27.

## India Evacuates 292 More Citizens from Iran Under Operation Sindhu



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

India continued its large-scale evacuation mission, Operation Sindhu, with 292 more Indian nationals safely returning from Iran early Tuesday morning. The special chartered flight from the Iranian city of Mashhad landed at New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport at 3:30 am, bringing the total number of evacuees from Iran to 2,295, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

The evacuation comes amid escalating tensions in the region following the U.S. bombing of three major Iranian nuclear facilities. In response, Iran and Israel have exchanged hundreds of missiles and drones over the past week, targeting cities, military bases, and strategic infrastructure.

"Under Operation Sindhu, India remains committed to the safety and security of its citizens in conflict zones," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated. He confirmed that 290 Indian nationals and one Sri Lankan were among those evacuated on the most recent flight.

India also evacuated 165 of its citizens from Israel using a C-17 military transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force. These individuals were initially moved from Israel to Amman, Jordan, via land border crossings before being flown to India. Union Minister L. Murugan received the evacuees upon arrival.

Since the operation began last week, India has conducted several evacuation flights not only from Iran but also from Armenia and Turkmenistan. Flights from Yerevan and Ashgabat have also brought back Indian nationals amid the unfolding regional crisis.

Iran temporarily lifted its airspace restrictions last Friday, allowing India to operate three chartered evacuation flights from Mashhad. The first two flights landed in New Delhi on Friday and Saturday, carrying 290 and 310 Indian nationals respectively. The Indian government continues to monitor the situation and is prepared to scale up evacuation efforts as needed to ensure the safety of its citizens abroad.

## Unwarranted: New Delhi slams Islamic bloc's remarks on Indian Muslims

India strongly rejected statements made by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) following its foreign ministers' conclave in Istanbul, Turkey. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) described the OIC's remarks as "unwarranted," "factually incorrect," and "driven by Pakistan," alleging that Islamabad was using the Islamic bloc to push its anti-India agenda.

During the two-day meet, the OIC accused India of the "social marginalisation" of Indian Muslims and urged dialogue with Pakistan on bilateral issues such as Kashmir and the Indus Waters Treaty. The body also condemned what it called India's "military aggression" following the Pahalgam terror attack.

### Responding sharply, the MEA said:

"These statements, driven by Pakistan, which has turned terrorism into statecraft, reflect the continued misuse of the OIC platform for narrow political ends."

India categorically rejected any third-party comments on its internal matters, especially Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that it remains an "integral and sovereign" part of the country.



On Operation Sindoor, India clarified it was a legitimate act of self-defence targeting terrorist infrastructure inside Pakistani territory following the Pahalgam terror attack, which killed dozens of civilians. The MEA dismissed Pakistan's claim that it only aimed at Indian military targets, calling it "absurd" and highlighting the civilian casualties caused by Pakistan's failed retaliatory strikes.

The ministry further criticized Pakistan's human rights record and history of fostering terrorism, calling its accusations "ironic" and "hypocritical." It warned the OIC of diminishing credibility if it continued allowing its platform to be hijacked by Pakistani propaganda.

India urged the OIC to reconsider its direction and focus on genuine multilateral cooperation rather than politicization influenced by one member state.



# Zelenskyy and Trump Set to Meet at NATO Summit Amid Tensions Over Russia Sanctions

TPN Correspondent | Washington

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and U.S. President Donald Trump are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, on the sidelines of the NATO summit in The Hague, a senior Ukrainian presidential source told AFP. Though Zelenskyy has been a prominent figure at recent international summits due to the ongoing conflict with Russia, his strained relationship with Trump has kept him from the main working sessions with NATO members. The source confirmed that the details of the meeting are being finalized, with talks expected to take place in the early afternoon in the Netherlands. Key topics on the agenda include Ukraine's purchase of a defense



package, which will largely consist of advanced air defense systems crucial to countering Russian attacks. Additionally, the two leaders are set to discuss efforts to increase sanctions on Russia and potentially lower the current oil price cap imposed on Moscow. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine over three years ago, Western allies have maintained an oil price cap of \$60 per barrel on Russian exports, aiming to restrict Moscow's war funding. Ukraine and

its supporters are pushing to reduce this cap further to \$45 to intensify economic pressure on Russia. However, Trump has caused frustration among Western allies by resisting calls for new sanctions against Russia. He has openly criticized Zelenskyy, accusing him of prolonging the war by refusing to negotiate over Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014. Trump's stance has complicated the unified Western approach to Russia's aggression. The upcoming meeting between Zelenskyy and Trump will be closely watched, as it highlights the ongoing geopolitical complexities surrounding the Ukraine conflict and the challenge of maintaining allied cohesion in facing Moscow's actions.



## Never Before Ever: US President Trump lashes out at Israel for violating ceasefire with Iran

U.S. President Donald Trump publicly criticized Israel on Tuesday for launching military strikes shortly after a ceasefire agreement with Iran had been brokered by the United States and Qatar. Speaking before departing for the NATO summit in The Hague, Trump emphasized that Israel's response was disproportionate and risked undermining the fragile truce.

Trump pointed to a single Iranian missile fired hours after the ceasefire was scheduled to begin. The missile missed its target and caused no damage, according to U.S. intelligence. Trump questioned why Israel chose to retaliate, especially given the minimal impact of the Iranian action. "One rocket that didn't hit anything should not be the reason to break a ceasefire," he told reporters.

According to the Israeli Defense Forces, two missiles were fired from Iran toward northern Israel roughly three and a half hours after the ceasefire started. This came after Iran's earlier barrage, which killed four people in Beersheba. In response, Israel conducted a limited airstrike on a radar installation near Tehran—just as Trump was addressing the press.

Using his Truth Social platform, Trump issued direct warnings to Israel, urging the country to stand down and bring its aircraft back. "ISRAEL. DO NOT DROP THOSE BOMBS. BRING YOUR PILOTS HOME, NOW!" he posted. He later added that Israeli pilots should conduct a symbolic "Plane Wave" to Iran and return without attacking.

In a phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Trump reportedly delivered a stern message, urging restraint. Netanyahu's office described the conversation as positive and said Trump expressed confidence the ceasefire would hold.

Following Trump's intervention, Israeli ministers were directed to avoid making public statements, and no further major strikes were reported. Trump also clarified that regime change in Iran is not a U.S. objective, backing away from earlier hints to the contrary.

# India Provides 1000 Tonnes of Rice and Medicines to Support Flood Victims in Cameroon

TPN Correspondent | Cameroon

India recently handed over 1,000 metric tonnes of rice along with essential medicines to Cameroon in a humanitarian effort to aid victims of the devastating floods that struck the country's Far North Region in 2024. The official handover ceremony took place on Monday in Yaounde and was jointly presided over by Cameroon's Minister of Territorial Administration, Paul Atanga Nji, and India's High Commissioner to Cameroon, Vijay Khanduja. The Indian High Commission in Cameroon highlighted that this gesture underscores India's solidarity with Cameroon during times of crisis and strengthens the cooperation among nations of the Global South. A post on the High Commission's Facebook page stated, "This humanitarian gesture is aimed at supporting



victims of the devastating floods... reflecting India's solidarity with the people of Cameroon during times of need." It also reaffirmed India's role as a reliable partner to Cameroon in challenging times. Earlier in April, India had sent a similar consignment of 1,000 metric tonnes of rice to Cameroon. Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for India's Ministry of External Affairs, described these efforts

as part of India's committed partnership with the Global South, emphasizing the country's dedication to humanitarian support and international cooperation. India and Cameroon share a long-standing friendly relationship dating back to Cameroon's independence in 1960. India opened its resident High Commission in Yaounde in 2019, further deepening ties. India has also supported Cameroon's agricultural development through a \$37.65 million Line of Credit for rice and maize plantation projects, completed in 2017. Additionally, India has been assisting Cameroon with capacity building under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Program since 1964, providing over 180 training slots annually, along with scholarships through the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR).

# Ceasefire That Isn't? Israel Orders Strikes, Iran Denies Launching Missiles



TPN Correspondent | Iran

Tensions escalated once again as Israel vowed to "respond forcefully" following what it described as Iran's violation of a ceasefire agreement. This came hours after Tehran reportedly launched a fresh missile barrage on Israel, despite both sides having earlier agreed, under a US-brokered proposal, to a phased 24-hour ceasefire.

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz declared that he had ordered the Israeli army to carry out powerful strikes targeting regime sites in Tehran in retaliation for the ceasefire breach. "I instructed the Israeli army to respond forcefully to Iran's violation of the ceasefire by launching powerful strikes against regime targets in the heart of Tehran," Katz said in an official statement.

The ceasefire plan was initially announced by US President Donald Trump, with Israel agreeing to a "test ceasefire" lasting until 7 pm local time. During this period, Israel pledged not to conduct any mil-

itary operations, awaiting Tehran's compliance. Reports indicated that if Iran maintained the truce until the deadline, Israel would consider extending the ceasefire.

However, Iran denied launching new missiles towards Israel, with Iranian state media quoting the General Staff of the Iranian army saying no recent missile launches had occurred. The Supreme National Security Council of Iran claimed that its forces had forced Israel to unilaterally cease fire and asserted that Tehran remained "on high alert" against any acts of aggression.

Iran's security body described its actions against Jerusalem as a "divine gift" leading to "victory and triumph," which compelled Israel to "accept defeat" and halt its attacks. The statement warned that Iranian forces remain ready to deliver a "decisive and regret-inducing response" to any further aggression. The conflicting claims underscore the fragile nature of the ceasefire and the high tensions continuing in the region.

# Chaos at Doha, Dubai Airports as Flights Cancelled Following Iranian Missile Strike



TPN Correspondent | Dubai

Operations at Doha's Hamad International Airport and Dubai International Airport were thrown into disarray on Tuesday after Iran launched a missile strike on a U.S. military base in Doha, prompting the temporary closure of airspace over Qatar, Bahrain, and Kuwait. The closures resulted in widespread flight disruptions, leaving tens of thousands of passengers stranded and terminals overwhelmed.

According to data from FlightRadar24, more than 250 flights were cancelled and 230 delayed in Doha alone, while Dubai International Airport saw over 140 cancellations and 450 delays. Major international carriers, including British Airways, Lufthansa, Air India, and flydubai, either suspended or rerouted flights due to airspace congestion and safety concerns.

Virgin Australia reported that over 25,000 passengers were stranded at Hamad International Airport. Qatar Airways announced efforts to restore operations but warned that delays would continue at least through June 26.

Social media was flooded with images and videos showing exhausted travelers lying on terminal floors, massive queues stretching for hundreds of meters, and growing frustration among passengers. "I haven't slept in 19 hours, and I've been in line for nine," one traveler told Reuters. "They only gave us water."

Julien Moutte, a Paris-bound traveler stuck at Doha airport for 15 hours, echoed the sentiment: "There's no clear communication, and people are just left waiting."

The airspace closures have affected the Middle East's role as a key transit hub between Europe and Asia, intensifying the impact across global aviation routes. Both airports are working to manage the chaos, but the backlog continues to grow.

The disruptions come amid heightened regional tensions, with Iran's missile strike escalating fears of further military action. Authorities have urged travelers to check with airlines for updates and avoid non-essential travel until the situation stabilizes.





# Markets End Higher Despite Volatility; Nifty Holds 25,000 Amid West Asia Ceasefire Confusion

Domestic stock markets gained moderately today. Despite the initial gains, they ended on a low note. The reason for this is the news of the Iran-Israel ceasefire. The benchmark and sectoral indices started the morning with a gap down on the news of a ceasefire agreement between the two countries. They hovered at their highest levels till afternoon. However, the indices fell sharply after Israel said that the ceasefire did not go in their favor and that the opposing country had fired missiles. Overall, the Nifty gained 72 points and the Sensex gained 158 points. However, the fact that the Nifty remained above 25000 is a good sign.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,896 in the previous session, opened at 82,534 on Tuesday. It touched an intraday low of 81,900. It touched an intraday high of 83,018. It ended at 82,055, up 158 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 25,179, touched a low of 24,999 and a high of 25,317. It closed at 25,044, up 72 points. The Nifty Bank rose 402 points to settle at 56,461.

In the Nifty50, 33 companies gained and 17 lost. Adani Ports, Jio Finance, Shriram Finance, Grasim, Tata Steel were the top gainers. ONGC, Power Grid, IndusInd Bank, Trent, HCL Tech were the biggest losers. Today, PSU Bank, Metal, Finance, Telecom, Private Bank, Consumer Durables, Auto, Healthcare, FMCG, Pharma indices rose. Media and Oil indices were mixed.

Today, market breadth turned in favor of buyers on NSE. Out of 2976



stocks traded, 1966 gained. 917 lost. 44 shares reached 52-week highs and 31 shares reached 52-week lows. 111 touched the upper circuit and 53 touched the lower circuit.

There are reports that Indian Railways will increase fares. It is estimated that there will be an increase of one paise per kilometer for non-AC mail and express, and up to two paise for AC. The rupee rose by one percent against the dollar and settled at 85.93. Mutual funds are demanding that midcap shares be classified. Union Minister Kumaraswamy said that the central government will take a decision on the rare earth metals extraction subsidy scheme in 15-20 days. Bajaj Consumer shares rose 20% today. IndiGo and SpiceJet share prices rose 4% due to the fall in crude oil prices. Gautam Adani said that the logistics and energy sectors have been shaken by the West Asia war. Globe Civil Projects IPO received a 4-fold response on the first day in

the afternoon.

## Torrent Power Ltd.



Torrent Power reported a robust Q4 FY25 with a significant 146.3% year-on-year (YoY) increase in net profit, reaching ₹1,059.6 crore. This was primarily driven by a substantial one-time non-cash reversal of deferred tax liabilities and gains from the sale of non-current investments. Torrent Power maintains a strong balance sheet with healthy financial ratios. The company is well-positioned for growth with an under-construction pipeline of over 3 GW of renewable energy projects and a 3 GW Pump Storage Hydro power project. Despite a slight revenue dip in Q4, the company's ability to maintain profitability and its strategic investments in renewables suggest a positive long-

term outlook.

## L&T Finance Ltd (LTF)



L&T Finance (LTF) recorded a 15% increase in net profit for Q4 FY25, reaching ₹636 crore. Revenue grew by 9.6% YoY to ₹4,022.9 crore. For the full FY25, the company's net profit grew by 14% to a record ₹2,644 crore. LTF management highlighted resilient performance despite headwinds and a strong focus on asset quality and collection efficiency. The company believes FY25 marks a significant step towards sustainable and predictable growth. LTF is transforming into a retail-focused non-banking financial company (NBFC) with an emphasis on urban finance and two-wheeler financing, which are showing good growth.

## Coromandel International Ltd.



Coromandel International reported a strong Q4 FY25 with consolidated net profit surging over two-fold to ₹578 crore (from ₹164 crore in Q4 FY24) and total income rising 28% to ₹5,114 crore. Coromandel's performance reflects resilience in the fertilizer sector and strong demand for agri-solutions. The company is expanding its retail business (crossing 900 stores), stabilizing rock phosphate production in Senegal, and progressing on new manufacturing projects. Coromandel's focus on farmer initiatives and strategic expansions in both domestic and international markets

positions it for sustained growth in Indian agriculture. The stock has shown strong performance recently.

## Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFS)



Jio Financial Services reported a 2% YoY increase in consolidated net profit to ₹316 crore for Q4 FY25, with revenue from operations rising 18% YoY to ₹493 crore. On a sequential basis, revenue grew 13%, and PAT increased 7%. JFS is rapidly expanding its presence in the financial services sector. Recent key developments include acquiring SBI's entire 17.8% stake in Jio Payments Bank, making it a wholly-owned subsidiary. The Jio BlackRock Mutual Fund, a 50:50 joint venture, also launched its investment analytics and risk management platform.

## Hyundai Motor India Ltd.

Hyundai Motor India is preparing for its highly anticipated IPO, which is expected to be India's largest, valued at up to ₹27,870.16 crore. Hyundai Motor India is the second-largest auto OEM in India and the largest exporter of passenger vehicles. It boasts a diverse portfolio across various segments and powertrains, including a growing EV presence. The company's strong brand, extensive sales and service network, and consistent financial performance position it well for future growth in the Indian automotive market.



## India's Economic Activity Hits 14-Month High in June, Led by Manufacturing Surge: PMI Survey



India's economic momentum surged in June 2025, with business activity expanding at its fastest pace in over a year, according to the HSBC Flash Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) survey. The Composite Output Index, which combines manufacturing and services data, rose to 61, up from 59.3 in May—its highest level in 14 months. Any reading above 50 signifies expansion, while below 50 indicates contraction.

The robust performance was primarily driven by strong export demand, increased employment, and subdued inflation, signaling a broad-based economic recovery. The PMI report highlighted that the uptick in export orders was the strongest since comparable data began in September 2014, underscoring India's growing role in global trade.

Manufacturing led the upswing, with firms reporting a sharp rise in new orders and backlogs. This backlog pressure prompted many manufacturers to accelerate hiring. The services sector also saw

improved momentum, although employment growth in services slightly eased compared to May.

HSBC's Chief Economist, Pranjul Bhandari, noted, "The combination of robust global demand and rising backlogs prompted manufacturers to increase hiring. Employment growth is also healthy in the services sector."

Encouragingly, the survey also reported a cooling in cost and inflationary pressures. Input costs for private sector companies—ranging from labor to metals like copper and steel—rose only modestly. The overall inflation rate softened to a ten-month low and remained below the long-term average, offering relief to businesses and consumers alike.

This PMI data comes as a strong signal of economic resilience amid global uncertainties, with India maintaining growth on the back of export strength, stable inflation, and job creation across key sectors.

## S&P Raises India's FY26 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.5%

Cites Domestic Resilience and Favorable Global Conditions

S&P Global Ratings on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, revised India's GDP growth forecast for FY26 upward to 6.5%, citing supportive domestic conditions and a favorable external environment. The forecast aligns with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) earlier projection and assumes a normal monsoon, lower global crude oil prices, income tax concessions, and monetary policy easing.

This revision comes just a month after S&P had downgraded India's FY26 estimate to 6.3%, largely due to concerns over global uncertainties and potential economic shocks from new U.S. tariffs. However, improved domestic indicators and stabilizing global energy markets have prompted the agency to adopt a more optimistic view.

India, which imports about 90% of its crude oil and roughly half of its natural gas, is highly sensitive to global energy price fluctuations. S&P acknowledged the escalating



geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, particularly the recent U.S. military strikes on Iran's key nuclear sites following Israeli counterattacks. While these developments could raise the risk of sustained oil price hikes, S&P believes current global oil markets are well-supplied, minimizing the chances of a long-term energy price shock.

The report further highlights India's resil-

ient domestic demand, which plays a critical role in cushioning the economy from external shocks. Unlike export-heavy economies, India's reliance on internal consumption and services has made its economic outlook comparatively more stable.

S&P also warned of broader global risks, especially the ripple effects of U.S. trade policies and rising geopolitical instability. "The increase in U.S. import tariffs and the uncertainty surrounding them could weigh on global trade, investment, and overall growth," the report noted.

Despite these external headwinds, India's economy is expected to maintain momentum, driven by structural reforms, fiscal incentives, and stable macroeconomic fundamentals. As the world navigates volatile conditions, India's internal strengths are likely to be the cornerstone of its growth in FY26.

## Gold Prices Dip Amid Weak Demand; Silver Remains Steady

Gold prices in the national capital declined by ₹160 on Monday, settling at ₹99,800 per 10 grams for 99.9% purity, according to the All India Sarafa Association. This drop comes amid continued selling by jewellers and stockists. On Friday, gold had closed at ₹99,960 per 10 grams. Similarly, gold of 99.5% purity fell by ₹150, closing at ₹99,100 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes), down from its previous level of ₹99,250. Meanwhile, silver prices remained unchanged, trading flat at ₹1,05,200 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes), despite the volatility seen in gold. On the global front, spot gold slipped slightly to \$3,365.40 per ounce, after briefly surging to \$3,413.80 earlier in the day. The pullback was attributed to market caution as investors await-



ed geopolitical developments, especially Iran's response following the U.S. air strikes on Tehran, said Kaynat Chainwala, AVP – Commodity Research at Kotak Securities. Investors are now closely watching key economic indicators, including Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell's congressional testimony, U.S. GDP

data, and core PCE inflation figures, all of which are expected to offer more clarity on future monetary policy moves. The mixed messaging from the Fed in recent weeks has added to market uncertainty. Additionally, the release of flash Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) data from major economies like the U.S. and the

UK is expected to provide further cues on global economic momentum.

Despite the price drop, domestic gold prices have risen by 4% in June, noted Riya Singh, Research Analyst – Commodities and Currency at Emkay Global Financial Services. However, they are still trading at a discount to global prices, largely due to weakened jewellery demand. Singh added that investment demand for gold bars and 10g coins remains strong, driven by inflation concerns, lower fabrication costs, and increased monetisation following the RBI's relaxed norms on loans against gold. This policy shift has further encouraged household gold monetisation, offsetting some of the impact of sluggish festive season buying.



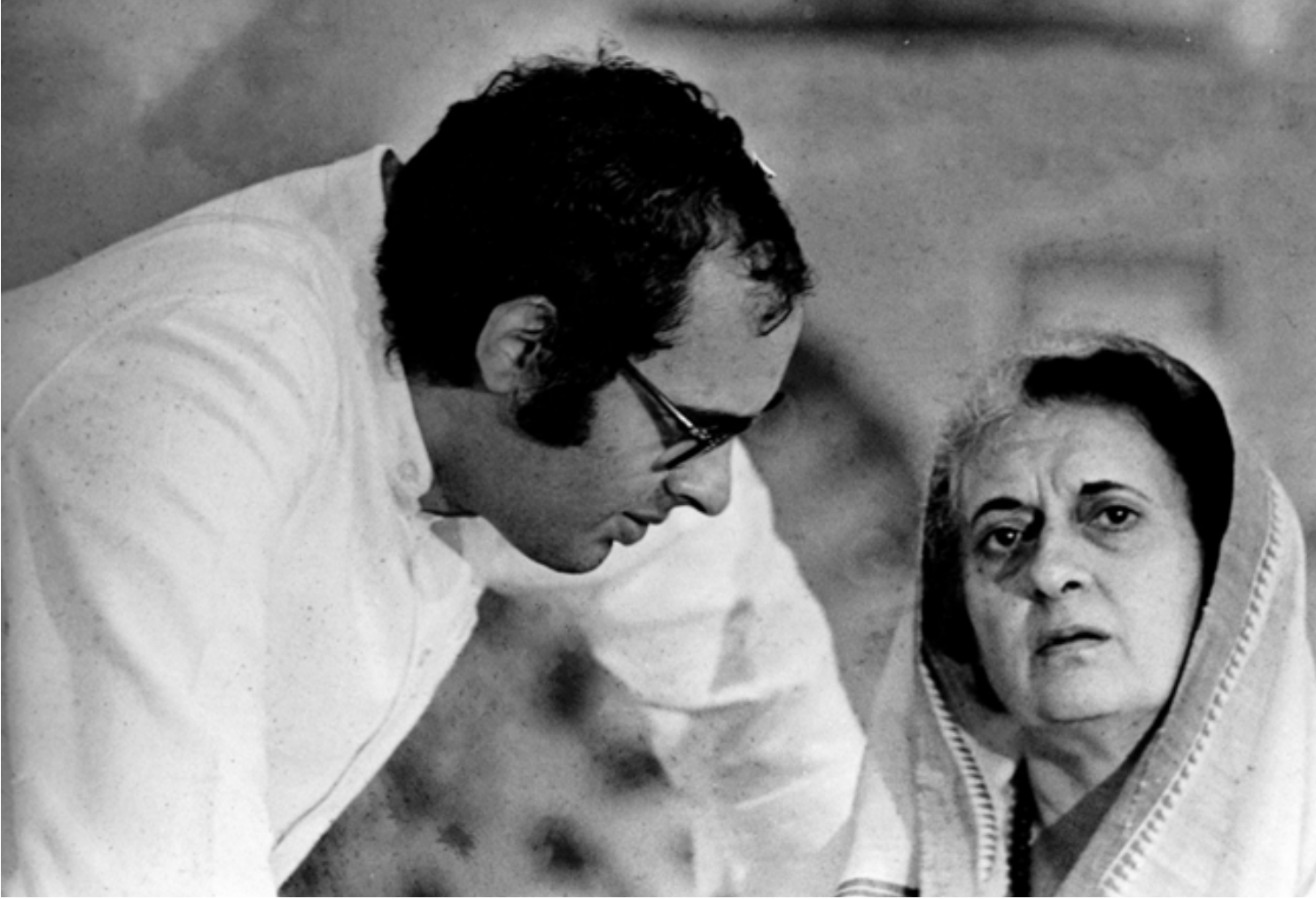
# The Circumstances That Led to the Emergency

## A History Beyond 1975

Emergency was imposed in India on June 25, 1975. Fifty years have passed this year! In fact, none of us know that Emergency was imposed in our country from 1962 to 1968. The then President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan imposed a state of emergency in the country due to the China war. Similarly, V.V. Giri imposed a state of emergency from 1971 to 1977 during the Bangladesh war. That means our country was in a state of emergency in 1966, when Indira Gandhi was sworn in for the first time, and in 1971, the second time — which was important! But that situation had no effect on the people!! The first internal emergency was imposed in 1975. That ‘stain’ on Indira Gandhi, who took the most controversial decision, has not yet been removed. However, this small attempt is to remember the circumstances and politics of 1975 and to inform the current generation. Before Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency, there was a state of emergency in India twice, each lasting six years. However, the emergency imposed by Indira led to severe public opposition. Even after half a century, those dark shadows continue to haunt Indira's personality. This article is to provide this background.

### Indira's Rise and Internal Party Conflict

Apart from being the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira was also known to all Congress members for her advice to the Prime Minister to sort out internal matters. She was appointed as the Congress President in 1959 and played a major role in taking key decisions such as abolishing the communist government in Kerala and providing asylum to the Tibetan Buddhist monk Dalai Lama in India, despite being anti-Chinese. In 1964, after the sudden death of her father Nehru, when Lal Bahadur Shastri took over as Prime Minister, she joined the government as a minister at his request. Since she had to be an MP to be a minister, she became a member of the Rajya Sabha. (Although she was Nehru's daughter, she had not been a member of any legislature until then.) Shastri's sudden death in 1966 again created a political leadership vacuum. Morarji Desai was a leader with all the qualifications for the post of Prime Minister! Observers expected that Y.B. Chavan could compete with him or that they could reach a compromise. Madras Chief Minister Kamaraj Nadar, who rushed to Delhi on hearing the news of Shastri's death, had a different idea. Not only was Indira Nehru's daughter, but she was also his chief aide. Kamaraj estimated that if Indira became Prime Minister, it would be easy for the Congress to win the next seven elections. But everyone knew she was inclined towards socialism like Nehru! Leaders like Atulya Ghosh, S.K. Patil, and Morarji Desai did not agree with Indira and Nehru's socialist views. A contest for the post of Prime Minister was inevitable. As a result, Indira got 355 votes and Morarji 169 in the election held in the Parliament building. (All Congress MPs from both houses were present in this voting.) On 24 January 1966, Indira Gandhi became the Prime Minister of India. Indira, who had socialist views, faced obstacles at every step from leaders like Morarji who supported capitalist ideology. Although the Congress party won the 1967 general elections (the last elections held for both the Assembly and Parliament) and Indira Gandhi was elected Prime Minister, the results clearly signaled the weakening of



the Congress. The Swatantra Party of Rajagopalachari and NG Ranga won 44 seats and became the main opposition. The Congress could not win a majority of seats in Gujarat, Madras, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Kerala. The Congress, which had won 361 seats under Nehru's leadership in 1962, had to make do with 243 seats under Indira Gandhi in 1967 — losing 78 seats. In the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, the home state of Nehru and Indira, the Congress also lost power, dropping from 249 to 199 seats. Chaudhary Charan Singh became the Chief Minister with the support of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (now BJP), the Communists, and other anti-Congress parties. Kamaraj's experiment that Congress would benefit by projecting Nehru's daughter did not work! Even if a comprehensive treatment was done, the Congress did not seem to have any chance of survival. At that time, Prime Minister Indira shook up the 'Aavadi' Congress resolutions that her father had planned and failed to implement. She took over the Finance Ministry from Deputy Prime Minister Morarji (as a result, Morarji resigned from his post). Indira Gandhi immediately announced the nationalization of banks. By July 15, 1969, an ordinance was issued to take over 14 banks with deposits exceeding ₹50 crores. Indira Gandhi started implementing her own agenda with the slogan 'Garibi Hatao' (Let's eradicate poverty).

### Presidential Election of 1969 and Party Split

Internal differences in the Congress flared up. Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy filed his nomination as the Congress party's candidate for the post of President of India. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi herself endorsed and signed his nomination. The then Vice President V.V. Giri filed his nomination as a contender. His reasoning: "Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was Vice President during Rajendra Prasad's time, became President. Zakir Hussain, who was Vice President during Sarvepalli's time, became President. Why do you avoid me when it comes to me?" All the anti-Congress parties fielded C.D. Deshmukh — a former RBI Governor and minister in Nehru's cabinet (husband of our Durgabayamma). If Sanjeeva Reddy, who was supported by all the anti-socialist leaders of the 'Syndicate' — like Morarji, S.K. Patil,



Undavalli  
Arun Kumar  
Former  
Rajahmundry MP

Atulya Ghosh — had won, then Indira's story was over! But if the Congress Working Committee called for 'defeat Sanjeeva Reddy', then the Prime Minister would have to resign. Indira's men began campaigning for V.V. Giri. D.P. Mishra, Chandrashekhar, Mohan Dharia — known as the Young Turks — supported Indira and backed Giri. Congress was deeply divided. At that time, a statement made by Congress President Nijalingappa proved to be a boon for Indira. Fearing that Sanjeeva Reddy would lose, Nijalingappa sought support from the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and independents. That was a big mistake. By reaching out to parties like Jana Sangh (now BJP), which had been fundamentally opposed to Congress policies, Nijalingappa was seen as betraying the party. Indira openly declared, "All Congressmen should vote according to their conscience." V.V. Giri didn't win the presidential election easily. He didn't get the required number of votes in the first round. He won in the second round with second-preference votes. D.P. Mishra, who was with Indira during the tense counting, wrote in his autobiography that when Indira asked, "V.V. Giri is losing... what should I do now?", he replied, "Resign immediately!" But there was no President to resign to — this election had been held due to the death of Hussain. Chief Justice Jagmohanlal Sinha (Jackie) was to be the authority to accept resignation. Despite the chaos, Giri won with second preference votes. However, Indira's troubles were far

from over. She was suspended from the Congress' primary membership. Of 429 Congress MPs, 310 backed Indira. Yet she lost majority in the Lok Sabha. Her opponents' attempts to unseat her were thwarted by support from CPI, DMK, and some independents. The Nationalization of Banks ordinance was struck down by the Supreme Court. The abolition of Privy Purses passed in Lok Sabha but failed in the Rajya Sabha. Meanwhile, rumors of a military coup circulated.

### The Gujarat Agitation and JP's Movement

In December 1970, Indira dissolved the Lok Sabha and called for mid-term elections. The opposition shouted slogans like "Poverty is a problem" and "Indira is a problem." But Indira (R) won a massive victory with her own symbol — cow and calf. She addressed 300 public meetings, traveled 36,000 miles, and rallied the public. She became the people's charioteer — power was given to her. Her popularity surged — for bank nationalization, abolishing privy purses, land reforms, and especially for helping create Bangladesh. By 1972, she was also victorious in several state elections. She became 'Indiramma' in the hearts of the poor. No leader could match her. Then came the 1974 Gujarat student agitation, sparked by hostel mess fee hikes, which became a full-fledged anti-Congress, anti-Indira movement. With Jayaprakash Narayan stepping in, the movement became national. This 70-year-old Gandhian, a freedom fighter and socialist, who once helped Chambal dacoits surrender, now inspired students and masses. Indira dismissed Gujarat CM Chimanbhai Patel in 1974 and imposed President's Rule. But when elections were finally held in June 1975, Congress lost. Opposition alliances won 88 seats, Indira's Congress (R) got 75, and Chimanbhai's new party got 12 — those 12 ended up forming the government with the opposition. It was now clear: the movement wasn't against Chimanbhai; it was against Indira.

### The Court Verdict and Emergency Declaration

**Then, on June 12, 1975, a bombshell: the Allahabad High Court declared Indira's Lok Sabha election from Rae Bareilly void. Justice Jagmohanlal Sinha cited two reasons:**

- ***She campaigned before her aide Yashpal Kapoor's resignation was accepted.***
- ***Government funds were used for venue and electricity for her speeches.***

Other allegations — of vote-buying and helicopter expenses — were dismissed. But she was disqualified and given 20 days to appeal. Nationwide protests began. JP Narayan and Morarji Desai demanded her resignation. Nani Palkhivala argued for a stay in the Supreme Court. Justice Krishna Iyer granted a conditional stay — she could remain PM but not vote in Parliament. But JP gave a speech at Ramlila Maidan urging police and military not to obey the government. Morarji told foreign journalist Oriana Fallaci that from the next day, Indira wouldn't be allowed out of her house. These were not ordinary people — they were senior leaders who once worked with her father Nehru. Then came midnight, June 25, 1975. President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, under Article 352(1), signed the Emergency proclamation — on the recommendation of Indira Gandhi, who cited Rule 12 of the Rules of Business, bypassing cabinet approval. She said she would hold a cabinet meeting the next day. On July 23, 1975, the Lok Sabha ratified the Emergency — 336 in favor, 59 against. The Supreme Court overturned the Allahabad verdict on November 7, 1975, but without arguing the Emergency's validity. **Reflections and Unanswered Questions** Fifty years have passed. Some still call it a dictatorship, a constitutional betrayal. Many of us believed Article 352 should've been removed. But after Congress said "sorry," even those critics fell silent. Even after Justice Krishna Iyer's stay, did JP and Morarji need to demand resignation? Indira would be reelected in six months. Why threaten to confine her and call for police disobedience? If the entire country voted against the Emergency, how did undivided Andhra Pradesh elect 41 out of 42 Congress MPs? Did we love darkness? Why did Tamil Nadu and Kerala reject the anti-Emergency narrative? Even in defeat, Indira got 34.5% of the vote — just 2.1% less than BJP got in 2024. All anti-Indira parties together got only 41.3%. Without Emergency, could Indira have ruled a single day after June 26, 1975? Her options were few: resign, or dissolve Parliament. Since when does Parliament's will get replaced by processions and dharnas? No party has ever secured 50% of votes in India — even in 1984 after her death, Congress didn't. So, is it democratic to remove a PM on purely technical grounds? Under JP — a socialist — parties like Jana Sangh and Swatantra ran the movement to bring down another socialist, Indira. Should she surrender? Or revolt? Indira chose to fight. She lost the 1977 election. And the country saw what that strange coalition of ideological opposites could — and couldn't — do. Then in 1980, they said again: "Indira ko bulao, desh bachao." She returned.

**(Currently, Article 352 remains — with one change: instead of "internal disturbances," it now reads "armed rebellion.")**  
**(A brief account based on the reflections of Former Rajahmundry MP Undavalli Arun Kumar.)**



## Club World Cup 2025: Paris Saint-Germain Defeats Seattle Sounders 2-0 to Advance to Round of 16



Paris Saint-Germain secured their place in the round of 16 at the Club World Cup 2025 with a 2-0 victory over the Seattle Sounders on Monday at Lumen Field in Seattle. The win helped PSG top Group B on goal difference after Atlético Madrid edged past Botafogo 1-0.

PSG's defense was rock solid, not allowing a single shot on target throughout the match. The first goal came in the 35th minute when Vitinha's shot, initially heading wide, deflected off teammate Khvicha Kvaratskhelia and found the net. The European giants doubled their lead in the 66th minute after Seattle's transition defense faltered, leaving Achraf Hakimi unmarked at the back post. A precise pass from Bradley Barcola allowed Hakimi to control and finish calmly.

The match was witnessed by a crowd of 50,628 fans in the 68,740-capacity stadium, creat-

ing an electric atmosphere. A significant moment came with Jordan Morris's return to the pitch for Seattle, his first game since April. Morris, a hometown favorite, received a warm ovation as he rejoined the team, highlighting his importance in Seattle's qualification for the tournament.

PSG will now face the runner-up of Group A in the round of 16, with the match scheduled for Sunday at Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Meanwhile, Seattle's journey in the Club World Cup has ended.

Paris Saint-Germain coach Luis Enrique praised the intensity and quality shown by both teams, calling it a tough but enjoyable match. Meanwhile, Morris expressed his disappointment at missing the tournament but remains optimistic about his future contributions, saying he looks forward to what lies ahead.

## Naomi and Victoria Azarenka Advance to Second Round at Bad Homburg Grass Tournament



Former world number ones Naomi Osaka and Victoria Azarenka both progressed to the second round of the Wimbledon warm-up tournament at Bad Homburg on Monday.

Japan's Osaka secured a hard-fought victory over Serbian qualifier Olga Danilovic with a score of 7-6 (8/6), 7-6 (7/4). The match featured an intense serving duel, first grass-court victory of the year and ends a three-match losing streak following early exits in Rome, the French Open, and Berlin as she continues her comeback after maternity leave.

Osaka, who entered the main draw as a wildcard, showed resilience by saving four break points and coming back from a 4-2 deficit in the first-set tiebreak. She next faces fifth seed Emma Navarro from the United States in the second round. "It's my first

grass-court win of the year, so I'm really excited about that," Osaka said. "I think I have potential on grass, but everyone else is also really good. I can never take the wins for granted."

Meanwhile, 35-year-old Victoria Azarenka, a two-time Australian Open champion, comfortably defeated Germany's Laura Siegemund 6-2, 6-2. Azarenka had to go through qualifying rounds for this event but showed no signs of fatigue as she cruised into the next round. She will face Poland's Iga Swiatek next.

In other matches, Croatian Donna Vekic reversed last year's final result at Bad Homburg by defeating Diana Shnaider 6-3, 6-3. Vekic saved all four break points she faced and will play Czech player Linda Noskova, who beat Australia's Ajla Tomljanovic 6-3, 6-2.

## India Dominates Mongolia with a 13-0 Victory in AFC Women's Asian Cup Qualifiers

India made a stunning start to their AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 qualification campaign by thrashing Mongolia 13-0 at the 700th Anniversary of Chiang Mai Stadium in Thailand on June 23, 2025. The Blue Tigresses led 4-0 at halftime and went on to secure their biggest-ever win in the tournament's history, surpassing their previous record 10-0 victories against Guam in 1997 and 2005.

The star of the match was Pyari Xaxa, who scored an incredible five goals at the 29th, 45th, 46th, 52nd, and 55th minutes. Soumya Guguloth contributed two goals (20', 59'), while Priyadharshini Selladurai also netted a brace (73', 86'). Additional goals came from Sangita Basfore (8'), Rimpa Haldar (67'), Malavika (71'), and a penalty by Grace Dangmei (75').



India quickly took control of the game, with Basfore opening the scoring by heading in a precise cross from Soumya. Soumya then doubled the lead with a powerful volley off a Rimpa cross, which ricocheted off the post and went in. Pyari Xaxa continued her impressive

performance by scoring twice more before halftime, including a long-range strike into the top corner.

The Blue Tigresses came out even stronger after the break, with Pyari completing her hat-trick off a Grace cross and adding two more goals shortly after. Following a goalkeeping error, Soumya scored India's eighth goal, prompting coach Crispin Chettri to rotate the squad, giving playing time to Purnima Kumari, Priyadharshini, Malavika, Ranjana Chanu, and goalkeeper Monalisha Devi.

India's dominance continued as Rimpa, Malavika, and Priyadharshini added three more goals in quick succession. Grace Dangmei's penalty made it 12, before Priyadharshini sealed the emphatic 13-0 win, marking a memorable day for the Blue Tigresses.

## Bumrah's Five-For Hands India Slim Lead as First Test Hangs in Balance

Jasprit Bumrah's five-wicket haul helped India take a slender 6-run first-innings lead over England on Day 3 of the first Test at Headingley. By stumps, India had stretched that advantage to 96, reaching 90 for two, with K.L. Rahul anchoring the innings with a fluent unbeaten 47 (75 balls, 7x4). Despite starting the day at 209 for three, England nearly matched India's imposing 471-run total, finishing their innings at 465. The day saw India under sustained pressure, with the hosts dominating for large stretches thanks to a fine counterattack led by Harry Brook and Jamie Smith. Brook dazzled with a brilliant 99 (112 balls, 11x4, 2x6) on his home ground before falling one run short of a deserved century, caught in the deep off a short ball from Prasidh Krishna. Smith contributed a valuable 40, and their aggressive approach exposed India's erratic bowling. Prasidh, despite picking up three wickets, was expensive, conceding 128 runs in just 20 overs. Mohammed Siraj had mixed returns, alternating between effective and wayward spells. Bumrah, India's standout performer, finished with figures of 5 for 83. However, much of the damage was already done



by the time he struck late in the innings. The lower-order resistance from Chris Woakes (38) and Brydon Carse (22) added a frustrating 55-run eighth-wicket stand for the visitors. India's fielding didn't help either—Brook was dropped twice, first by Pant on 46 and then by Jaiswal on 82. These lapses proved costly as England kept the pressure on. With two days left and overcast conditions forecast, the match remains finely poised. The first session on Day 4 could prove decisive as India look to build a defendable target and England aim to keep them in check.

## India Stage Strong Comeback as England Reach 269/4 at Tea on Day 5 of Headingley Test

India mounted a spirited fightback on Day 5 of the first Test at Headingley, reducing England to 269/4 at tea while defending a target of 371. With the match delicately poised, the visitors struck at regular intervals in the second session to halt England's momentum on what has otherwise been a batter-friendly pitch.

England, resuming after rain interruptions, had looked in control with opener Ben Duckett scoring a brilliant 149 before he was dismissed by Shardul Thakur. Thakur delivered a decisive double-blow, removing both Duckett and Harry Brook (0) on consecutive deliveries, turning the tide in India's favor. Earlier, pacer Prasidh Krishna had set the tone for the session with two key wickets — Zak Crawley, who scored a fluent 65, and Ollie Pope for just 8 runs.



Joe Root (14 not out) and England captain Ben Stokes (13 not out) were at the crease when the umpires called for an early tea due to rain, the second weath-

er interruption of the day. England still need 102 runs in the final session to secure a memorable victory, while India require six more wickets to go 1-0 up in the series.

India's bowling attack, led by Thakur (2/28) and Krishna (2/69), showed renewed energy and precision in the afternoon session, raising hopes of a dramatic finish. Despite the relatively docile nature of the pitch, the Indians managed to extract enough movement and bounce to challenge the English batters.

With just one session remaining and all results still possible, the Headingley Test is headed for a thrilling finish. Much will depend on the experienced pair of Root and Stokes, while India will look to keep the pressure on with attacking field placements and disciplined bowling.





## Dulquer Salmaan Acquires Kerala Rights for Pawan Kalyan’s ‘Hari Hara Veera Mallu’

Tollywood power star Pawan Kalyan is all set to enthrall audiences with his much-awaited period action adventure, Hari Hara Veera Mallu: Part 1 – Sword vs. Spirit. Slated for release on July 24, 2025, the film has already generated massive buzz across the country. In a significant development, Malayalam heartthrob Dulquer Salmaan has acquired the Kerala distribution rights for the film.

Dulquer’s production house, Wayfarer Films, will be handling the Kerala release of the magnum opus. This collaboration marks a key pan-Indian move, highlighting the growing trend of cross-industry partnerships in Indian cinema.

Directed by Krish Jagarlamudi and Jyothi Krishna, Hari Hara Veera Mallu promises to be an epic cinematic experience. Set against a historical backdrop, the film blends action, drama, and rich storytelling. Pawan Kalyan headlines the cast in a powerful lead role, while Nidhhi Agerwal stars as the female lead.

The film boasts an impressive ensemble including Bobby Deol, Nasser, Nargis Fakhri, Anupam Kher, Subbaraju, Sunil, Vikramjeet Virk, and Nora Fatehi. Music is being composed by the Oscar-winning M.M. Keeravani, promising a grand and stirring soundtrack.

With cinematography by Manoj Paramahansa and production design by Thota Tarani, the film’s visual and artistic scale is expected to be top-notch. Hari Hara Veera Mallu will be re-



leased in two parts, with the first installment set to hit screens this July.

Produced by A. Dayakar Rao under the Mega Surya Productions banner and presented by A.M. Ratnam, the film is shaping up to be one of the biggest Telugu releases of the year. With Dulquer Salmaan on board as a regional distributor, expectations for its pan-India success have soared even higher.

## Allu Arjun Exits ‘Icon’ Project, Producer Dil Raju Confirms New Lead in Pipeline



The long-delayed film Icon, once announced with Allu Arjun in the lead, is officially moving forward—without its original star. In a recent statement, producer Dil Raju confirmed that Icon Star Allu Arjun is no longer associated with the project, citing scheduling conflicts and shifting priorities following the massive success of Pushpa.

Directed by Venu Sriram, who previously helmed Vakeel Saab, Icon had been in the pipeline for years. A poster featuring Allu Arjun had even been released, creating significant buzz among fans. However, with the actor now heavily invested in the Pushpa franchise and other high-profile projects, the makers have decided to cast a new lead.

Dil Raju explained the situation, saying, “Allu Arjun is currently occupied with other major commitments. There is no possibility of doing Icon with him now. We are planning to

go ahead with another hero for the project after Venu Sriram completes his upcoming film Thammudu with Nani.”

He added that Icon remains a passion project and that the story has universal appeal. “It is an action film with strong human emotions. The script deserves to be brought to life, and we will do that with a suitable actor,” Raju stated.

Venu Sriram, meanwhile, is currently focused on Thammudu, which is also being backed by Dil Raju. Once that project wraps, attention will return to Icon, which is expected to proceed with fresh casting.

Though fans may be disappointed by Allu Arjun’s exit, the confirmation that Icon is still on track offers hope that the project will finally take off with a new face leading the charge.

## Tamil Actor Sriram Remanded to 14-Day Judicial Custody in Drug Case

Tamil actor Sriram, known for his work in both Tamil and Telugu cinema, has been remanded to 14-day judicial custody in connection with a drug case. The Chennai Narcotics Intelligence Unit arrested the actor on Monday, June 24, 2025, following allegations of drug procurement and usage.



According to reports, Sriram—whose real name is Srikanth and hails from Andhra Pradesh—was taken into custody and questioned for over nine hours at the Nungambakam police station. During the interrogation, authorities collected his blood samples for forensic testing. Following the probe, Sriram was produced before a magistrate, who ordered judicial custody until July 7.

The actor was allegedly involved in procuring drugs from former AIADMK leader Prasad, who is also under investigation. Along with Sriram, two others were detained on suspicion of buying and consuming narcotics substances. Police claim the actor not only consumed drugs but also maintained connections with drug suppliers.

In the aftermath of the arrest, Sriram has reportedly filed a bail application, though further details on the hearing are awaited.

Sriram made his acting debut with the Tamil film Roja Kootam, which was dubbed in Telugu as Roja Poolu. He gained popularity among Telugu audiences with his roles in films like Okariki Okaru, Aadavari Matalaku Arthale Verule, and Okariki Iddaru. More recently, he appeared in the web series Harikatha.

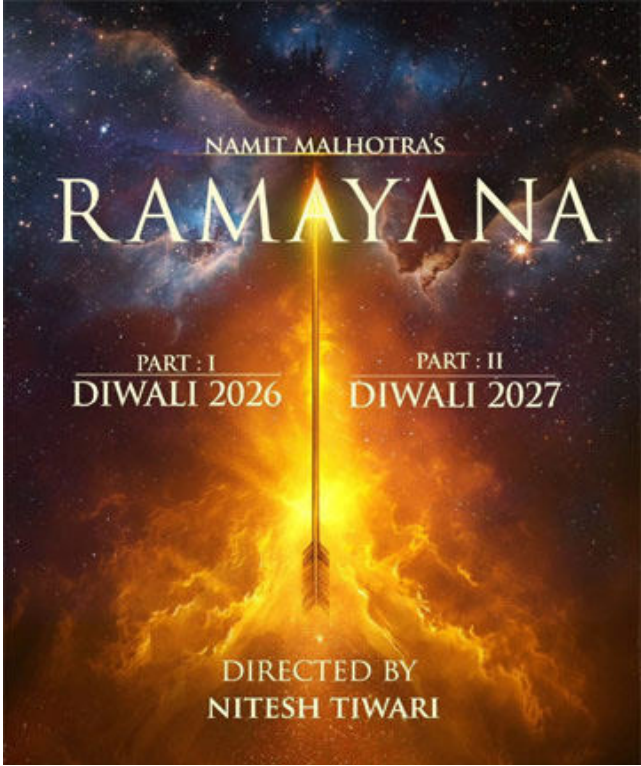
His arrest has sparked widespread discussion within the South Indian film industry, adding to growing concerns about drug usage among celebrities. The case is currently under further investigation, and updates are expected in the coming days.

## Ramayana Movie Title Announcement Video Coming Soon – Here’s What We Know

The much-anticipated mythological epic Ramayana, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Nitesh Tiwari, is fast becoming one of Indian cinema’s most ambitious and high-budget projects. With a star-studded cast and a sweeping two-part narrative, the film is set to redefine mythological storytelling on the big screen.

Ranbir Kapoor will portray Lord Rama, while Sai Pallavi takes on the role of Sita. The film’s announcement video, initially planned to be a teaser, has now been re-censored and extended to a full three-minute runtime—raising fan expectations even higher. Although the official release date of the title announcement video has not been disclosed yet, excitement continues to build across social media and fan forums.

The film boasts a powerhouse ensemble cast, featuring Sunny Deol, Yash, Kajal Aggarwal, Ravi Dubey, Arun Govil (famously known for his portrayal of Rama in the



1980s TV series), and Lara Dutta. Each actor is set to play a key character from the legendary epic, bringing depth and grandeur to the retelling.

Ramayana will be released in two parts, with the first installment scheduled for Diwali 2026 and the second for Diwali 2027, promising back-to-back festive blockbusters. The film is being produced by Namit Malhotra and Kannada superstar Yash, adding further weight to the scale and vision of the project.

With high-end VFX, extensive pre-production, and a faithful yet contemporary approach to the Ramayana tale, this cinematic experience is expected to appeal to audiences across generations and geographies.

Stay tuned as the official title reveal video drops soon—this mythological epic is ready to roar.

## Manoj Bajpayee Unveils First Look Poster of The Family Man Season 3

Excitement is building among fans as Manoj Bajpayee shared the first look poster for the much-anticipated third season of The Family Man. The popular Prime Video series, created by Raj & DK, is gearing up for its next chapter, though the official release date remains under wraps.

The announcement came through a collaborative social media post featuring Manoj Bajpayee, Priya Mani Raj, and Prime Video. The striking poster showcases Manoj Bajpayee in his iconic role, immediately catching the at-



lenges of a demanding secret service job and

tention of fans eager for more action-packed drama. The post was captioned, “All eyes on our family men. #TheFamilyManOnPrime, New Season, Coming Soon,” hinting at the thrilling continuation of the story.

The Family Man has been widely praised for its gripping narrative, intense performances, and the unique blend of high-stakes espionage with everyday family drama. Manoj Bajpayee’s portrayal of Srikant Tiwari, a middle-class man juggling the chal-

family life, has won critical acclaim and a loyal fanbase.

While details about the plot of Season 3 are still under wraps, the poster’s release has sparked discussions and high expectations across social media platforms. Fans are eagerly speculating about the new threats and personal struggles that Srikant and his team will face in the upcoming episodes.

The first look poster release marks an important milestone in the series’ promotional journey, signaling that the wait for The Family Man Season 3 is nearing its end. As anticipation builds, viewers can expect Raj & DK to reveal more updates soon.

Stay tuned for further announcements on the release date and exclusive previews, as The Family Man prepares to return with more thrilling espionage and heartfelt moments.