



Open Challenge to Jagan: Nara Lokesh

- “I’ll resign if proven wrong, will Jagan apologise?” says IT Minister
- Lokesh says land allocated lawfully to Ursa at commercial rates
- Dares Jagan to prove allegations; ready to resign if guilty
- Accuses Jagan of chasing companies away during his term

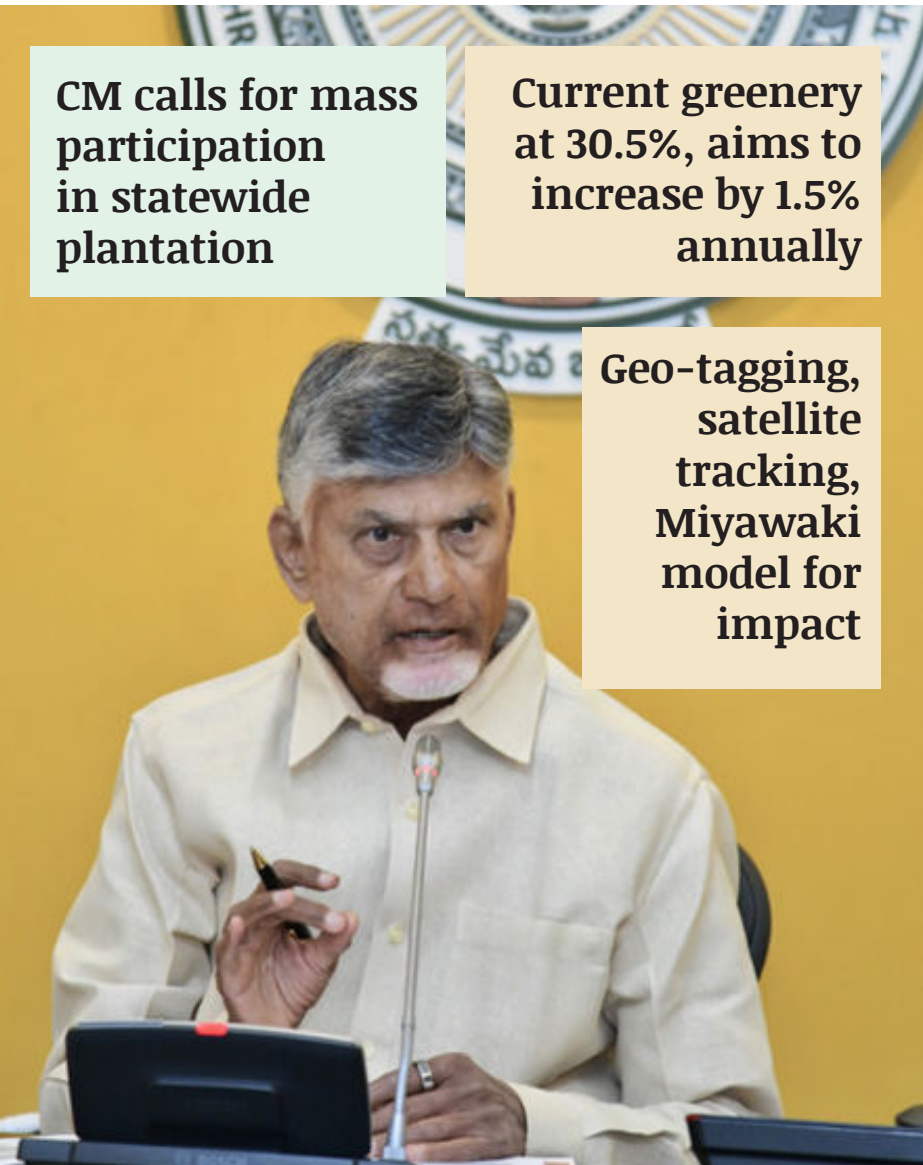
TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh State IT and Education Minister Nara Lokesh issued a direct challenge to YSRCP chief and former CM Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy over allegations regarding land allotments to Ursa Company in Visakhapatnam. Responding sharply, Lokesh said he is ready to resign from his ministerial post if the accusations are proven true. In return, he demanded that Jagan Reddy apologise to the youth of the state if the allegations are found false. “You (Jagan) have made serious allegations that lands were allotted to Ursa Company for just one rupee per acre in Visakhapatnam. I am clearly stating again — 3.5 acres were allotted at Rs 1 crore per acre in IT Park Hill-3, and 56.36 acres were allotted at Rs 50 lakh per acre in Kapuluppada. These were transparent decisions,” Lokesh clarified. Calling out Jagan for making baseless remarks from “Buradajalli Palace”, Lokesh questioned, “Are you ready to prove these allegations? Are you prepared for this open challenge?” The minister went further, criticising the previous YSRCP administration for failing to attract any major companies over the last five years, and alleged that many existing companies left Andhra Pradesh due to hostile governance.

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One Crore Saplings to Be Planted on June 5: CM Chandrababu

Green drive to push AP’s greenery to 50% by 2047



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has announced a massive green initiative to plant one crore saplings across the state on June 5, World Environment Day. The move comes as part of the government’s commitment to environmental protection and a long-term goal of significantly increasing the state’s green cover. During a high-level review meeting with top officials at the Secretariat, Chandrababu directed that the greenery in Andhra Pradesh, which currently stands at 30.5%, be increased by at least 1.5% each year. The CM also laid out an ambitious roadmap to achieve 37% greenery by 2033 and 50% by the year 2047. Calling for collective responsibility, he urged district collectors, ministers, MLAs, and other public representatives to actively participate in the June 5 program. “Saplings should be planted across educational institutions, hospitals, government premises, bus stations and

roadways. Tree guards must be installed to protect them,” he said. Chandrababu highlighted that the state’s greenery has improved from 29% last year to 30.5% now, and said this progress is encouraging. He emphasized that merely planting trees is not enough — safeguarding them is equally essential to ensure a sustainable and pleasant green Andhra Pradesh. To ensure transparency and accountability, the Chief Minister instructed officials to use satellite data to accurately assess forest and green cover, including CRDA areas, and to geo-tag every sapling planted. He also proposed involving corporate entities through CSR programs wherever required. Further, Chandrababu suggested that all reserve forest areas in Amaravati be developed using the Japanese Miyawaki afforestation method, with visible results expected in the next three years. He concluded by reaffirming the government’s dedication to turning Andhra Pradesh into a model green state through strategic planning and execution.

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In a significant step towards developing Amaravati as the administrative capital, the CRDA (Capital Region Development Authority) has approved the issuance of Letters of Agreement (LOAs) to companies for the construction of five key towers, including the GAD Tower. The total estimated cost for these constructions is ₹3673.44 crore. State Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister P. Narayana announced the deci-



Govt Takes Key Step on Polavaram–Banakacharla Project

- Officials to present detailed proposal to Centre today
- Project worth ₹81,000 crore to be explained to Union Finance Secretary
- Officials prepared to respond to Telangana’s objections
- CM Chandrababu Naidu personally pushed for Centre’s support

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The Andhra Pradesh government is taking a decisive step forward in its efforts to finalize the much-anticipated Polavaram–Banakacharla water diversion project. In a crucial development, state officials are set to present the detailed project proposal to Union Finance Secretary Ajay Seth in Delhi today at 3 pm. With an estimated cost of ₹81,000 crore, the Polavaram–Banakacharla project is being positioned as a game-changer for irrigation and agricultural development in the state. The project aims to divert surplus water from the Polavaram project to the drought-prone Rayalaseema region via Banakacharla, promising long-term benefits for farmers and the broader population. The presentation will be led by Andhra Pradesh Finance Secretary Piyush Kumar, Irrigation Advisor Venkateswara Rao, and other senior officials. They will explain the economic viability of the project, the proposed water distribution network, land acquisition concerns, and the expected impact on local communities. The state government has prepared a comprehensive set of responses to anticipated objections from Telangana, which has expressed concerns over water-sharing implications.

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Jagan Visiting Ganja Batch’s House for Political Gain: Minister Anita

Home Minister slams attempt to politicize Tenali issue

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

State Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha came down heavily on YSRCP chief Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of politicizing the Tenali incident by adding caste and religious angles to it for political gain. Speaking to the media after inaugurating the new Model Police Station in Satyanarayana-puram, Vijayawada, along with DGP Harish Gupta, Anitha made strong remarks against the former chief minister. She recalled that the DGP had already clarified that the youths involved in the Tenali incident had multiple cases registered against them. “Jagan going to the house of such a ganja batch is purely for political mileage and to incite caste and communal feelings,” she said. Anitha alleged that



Jagan, who once defended the attack on the TDP office by saying that his workers had BP, is now trying to turn criminals into victims for votes. She further questioned Jagan’s silence during previous YSRCP rule-related incidents.

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GAD Tower & 4 More Towers Cleared for Amaravati | ₹3673 Cr Cost

- Plans in motion for second phase of land pooling up to 40,000 acres
- CRDA okays LOA to NCC, Shapoorji, L&T
- Core capital works to finish in 3 years
- Minister Narayana slams Jagan’s Amaravati claims

sions at a press conference, following the 48th meeting of the CRDA held at Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu’s residence. The GAD Tower construction has been awarded to NCC Ltd for ₹882 crore, Towers 1 and 2 to Shapoorji Pallonji Group for ₹1487 crore, and Towers 3 and 4 to L&T for ₹1303 crore. The construction is based on designs developed between 2014–19 and will serve to house all government offices at a central location, streamlining public administration.

Minister Narayana emphasized that these buildings are being constructed in accordance with the earlier master plan to ensure transparency and functionality. “The aim is to make public service delivery easier by bringing all government departments under one roof,” he said. He also revealed plans for the second phase of land pooling, involving 40,000 acres. Of this, 10,000 acres are needed for a world-class

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Open Challenge...

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He highlighted that the current government, under the TDP-led alliance, is focused on creating 20 lakh new jobs and reviving the state's industrial ecosystem. "New investments are pouring in, companies are coming, and youth are finding jobs again. That's why Jagan can't bear it," said Lokesh. Taking a dig at the former CM, he said sarcastically, "Use this... you'll get some relief." He concluded by affirming that the new government is working transparently and is always open to accountability. "If anyone has evidence, come forward. We're ready for a debate," Lokesh said.

Govt Takes...

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This move comes after Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu personally met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Delhi last month, where he underscored the strategic importance of the Polavaram-Banakacharla project for Andhra Pradesh. The Centre responded positively and requested a detailed technical and financial report, prompting today's scheduled presentation. According to sources, the state will argue that the project is not only viable but will become self-sufficient over time, generating its own economic returns. Officials believe that the Centre is likely to respond favourably, especially given the state's proactive engagement and the projected benefits for agriculture, employment, and regional balance. With the state government actively addressing concerns raised by Telangana and demonstrating detailed preparedness, this meeting is expected to be a turning point in securing central clearance and funding support for the ambitious project.

Jagan Visiting Ganja Batch's...

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"Why didn't he respond when Dr. Sudhakar was publicly beaten just for asking for a mask? Why didn't he visit the house of Varaprasad, who was beheaded in a police station in Rajahmundry for opposing the sand mafia?" Anitha asked. She also pointed out the murder of a woman in Pulivendula, where, according to her, no meaningful action followed. Clarifying her government's stance, Anitha stated, "There are no illegal arrests or house arrests in our administration. The police are being given a free hand to act as per the law. Leaders should not obstruct police duties for political ends." She reiterated that law and order will be maintained strictly and that any attempt to undermine police functioning by giving communal or caste colors to incidents would not be tolerated.

CM Naidu to Launch National-Level AI Hackathon in Guntur

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

The Andhra Pradesh Police Department is set to host a landmark national-level "AI Hackathon" on June 27, 28, and 29 at R.V.R & J.C. Engineering College in Guntur. As part of the preparatory events, the official website and promo video of the hackathon were launched by Director General of Police Shri Harish Kumar Gupta at the State Police Headquarters in Mangalagiri on Thursday. Speaking at the launch event, DGP Harish Kumar Gupta announced that the prestigious hackathon will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. He stated that the primary objective of the hackathon is to identify and develop Artificial Intelligence-based solutions for policing and public service delivery. He emphasized that the initiative aligns with the Chief Minister's vision of integrating cutting-edge technology into governance. "This AI Hackathon is a strategic platform to build practical and scientific AI tools for law enforcement and ad-



ministration," the DGP noted. He added that the event reflects the state government's commitment to modernizing public services through innovation. The DGP further said that the hackathon has already drawn interest from numerous domestic and international IT companies, educational institutions, and startups. He confirmed that participation in the event is free of cost, and that top-performing teams will receive certificates and attractive cash prizes. To ensure fairness and excellence in selection, an expert committee comprising senior IPS officers, IT professionals, and academic researchers will evaluate the entries. Additionally, free accommodation will be provided to all short-listed teams.

Nara Lokesh Congratulates Nadendla Manohar

Ration distribution resumes through shops across AP

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

State Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh congratulated Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar for successfully launching the ration distribution system through cheap shops across Andhra Pradesh. The system, which began from yesterday, was described by Lokesh as a "progressive and people-centric initiative" aimed at ensuring the timely and dignified delivery of essential commodities to the poor. Minister Lokesh noted that under the previous system, an average of 11 lakh people received rations daily, while the new initiative saw 18.87 lakh families benefit on its first day alone. "This shows that people prefer the flexibility and accessibility of ration shops rather than waiting for vehicles that may or may not arrive," he said. Highlighting the advantages of



the new system, Lokesh said that people no longer need to miss work or wait uncertainly. "Now, ration can be availed from the nearest cheap shop for up to 15 days, offering greater convenience and freedom," he explained. He added that the government has made special arrangements to ensure that the elderly and disabled citizens receive ration at their doorsteps. Describing the initiative as a

reflection of the coalition government's commitment, Lokesh stated, "This is not just a policy change; it's a people-first approach. We will continue to work in line with the aspirations of the citizens." He praised Minister Nadendla Manohar for implementing the program in a festive and efficient manner, saying it marks a new chapter in public service delivery.

HM Anitha Inaugurates Satyanarayanapuram Model Police Station

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

State Home Minister Smt. Vanagalapudi Anitha on Thursday inaugurated the newly constructed Satyanarayanapuram Model Police Station at Muthyalampadu Street, G.S. Raju Road in Vijayawada. The modern building, equipped with advanced technological infrastructure, is a key step toward making police stations across Andhra Pradesh more efficient, secure, and citizen-friendly. Built with the support of the Andhra Pradesh Police Housing Corporation, the new station features separate rooms for officers, a sentry post, reception area, and women's help desk. It also houses high-tech departments like Cyber Crime, CDR Analysis, CCTNS, LHMS, and facial recognition camera systems. For the first time in the city, dedicated spaces like a gym for staff and playrooms for children have also been included. Speaking on the occasion, Home Minister Anitha emphasized the government's commitment to leveraging technology to fight crime. "AP Police is at the forefront of adopting modern systems. We are establishing model police stations with corporate-level infrastructure. In places like Vijayawada, strong security backed by technology is essential," she said.



She praised the department's achievements in controlling ganja, blade gangs, and cyber threats, stating that criminals are now being caught within 24 hours due to invisible policing and the efficiency of teams like Eagle. She lauded the environmental sensitivity of the new station and the proactive involvement of the public. "Such a facility sets the right atmosphere for complainants and motivates officers to perform better," she added. City Police Commissioner Sri S.V. Rajasekhara Babu IPS, who also addressed the gathering, stated that the NTR Police Commissionerate aims to ensure criminals can no longer act fearlessly. "Through initiatives like security committees, E-Pahara, AsTram, Cyber Citizens, and Victim Compensation, we are moving toward a tech-driven policing model," he said. He thanked

the Police Housing Corporation and acknowledged public contributions that are helping transform police stations into technologically advanced centers. NTR MP Sri Kesineni Shivanad (Chinni) appreciated the support of donors in modernizing police stations and announced that under the leadership of Home Minister Anitha, every station in the state would become a model station within the next two to three years. "This facility in Satyanarayanapuram has been constructed like a corporate office. We are working to make NTR District a role model in policing for the rest of the state," he said. In support of this initiative, Maa Arts Ravikumar (Chanti) and Kethineni Digitals' Kethineni Sarala, under the banner of "Maa Kethineni Charity," installed an LED screen at the station.



Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu Appointed FCI AP Chairman

TPN Correspondent | Palnadu

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Member of Parliament from Narasaraopet, Lau Srikrishna Devarayalu, has been entrusted with a significant responsibility by the Central Government. The NDA-led government has appointed him as the Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Committee of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). Official orders have been issued confirming the appointment, prompting celebrations among the TDP ranks. As Chairman, MP Lavu will head the FCI's state-level committee in Andhra Pradesh. His role will be crucial in monitoring key aspects such as procurement, storage, and distribution of food grains. He is expected to undertake extensive tours across the state to assess the ground-level conditions and functioning of procurement centers. Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu will also conduct a detailed study on the food grain procurement process, operational management of purchase centers, handling of other crop products, and enforcement of food quality standards. His findings and recommendations are expected to aid the Central Government in strengthening food security and transparency in procurement operations across Andhra Pradesh. Responding to his appointment, MP Lau expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Central Government for placing their trust in him. He stated that he considers this role as an opportunity to serve the farming community of the state and pledged to work towards ensuring fairness, efficiency, and farmer welfare in the procurement process. This new responsibility is being viewed as a significant development not only for the MP personally but also for the TDP, which sees this as recognition of its leadership within the NDA framework.

GAD Tower & 4 More...

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international airport similar to Shamshabad Airport in Hyderabad, another 2,500 acres for an international sports city, and 2,500 acres for smart industries. So far, around 24,000 acres have been voluntarily offered by farmers, with gram sabhas indicating support for land pooling. The CRDA has also sought to expand the land pooling area beyond the permitted 217 sq. km as per the existing act. In addition, the authority has approved exemption of registration fees for education and healthcare institutions in the capital region. Responding sharply to criticism by former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy, Minister Narayana said, "Jagan has no moral right to speak on Amaravati. He is spreading falsehoods without any facts. All cost decisions for the towers were made based on the recommendations of a committee of 22 chief engineers." He added that the government of Singapore, which had previously shown interest in developing Amaravati, faced hurdles during Jagan's regime, resulting in lost opportunities. The minister assured that the entire core capital development would be completed within three years and that Amaravati would soon emerge as a model administrative hub in the country.

Cash Option for Ration Rice Under Consideration

TPN Correspondent | Krishna

Andhra Pradesh Minister Kollu Ravindra has announced that the government is seriously considering the option of giving cash or alternative grains like ragi and sajja instead of rice to ration cardholders, depending on their preferences. He made these comments while launching the ration distribution program through a discount shop at Rajpet in Machilipatnam on Sunday. RTC Chairman Konakalla Narayana Rao, DCMS Chairman Bandi Ramakrishna, District Collector DK Balaji, and several other officials took part in the program. Addressing the public, Minister Ravindra came down heavily on the previous government, accusing it of misusing the Public Distribution System. "The rice meant for the poor was

looted and thousands of crores were swindled in the name of door-to-door delivery. Instead of helping the poor, that system caused them much hardship," he said. He explained that the new coalition government has introduced the distribution of ration goods through cheap price shops to ensure transparency, convenience, and timely access. "From now on, ration will be available at these shops from the 1st to the 15th of every month," he announced. Ravindra said the government is taking into account the repeated requests of cardholders to allow choice in their rations. "We are exploring the idea of offering cash or alternative grains like ragi and sajja to those who do not prefer rice. This will also help eliminate the long-standing rice mafia operating under the previous system," he said.



‘Back Stabbing Day’ on June 4: Malladi Vishnu

YCP to protest Chandrababu’s ‘betrayal’ of public promises

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

YCP senior leader and former MLA Malladi Vishnu came down heavily on Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of betraying the people of Andhra Pradesh. Speaking to the media after unveiling a poster for ‘Back Stabbing Day’ at the YCP office in Vijayawada Central constituency, Vishnu announced that a statewide protest will be held on June 4 to expose what he called the “backstabbing politics” of the TDP government. Vishnu alleged that the current government has completely misled the public by making grand promises like ‘Salute to Mother’ and free bus travel for women, but failed to deliver on core welfare commitments. “This is a rowdy rajyam and a police rajyam. People were misled and betrayed. Chandrababu stabbed them in the back after gaining their votes,” he said. He further alleged that after the TDP came to power, basic services were disrupted and key welfare systems were being dismantled. “The TDP government increased property tax and electricity charges, weakened the village secretariat system, and failed to implement the Arogyasri health scheme,” Vishnu said. He also criticized the privatization of medical colleges, claiming it would reduce access to healthcare and education for the poor. Vishnu said that June 4 will be observed as ‘Back Stabbing Day’ across the state to mark the betrayal of the people’s trust and to highlight the unkept promises made by the TDP during the elections. He called on party cadre and the public to participate in the protest and raise their voice against what he described as governance that has gone against the welfare of the common man.

TDP Leader Brutally Murdered in Nellore

Suspect Brahmayya arrested; police recover body parts from borewell

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

A gruesome murder has shocked the people of Nellore district, where Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader Tovuri Narasimham was brutally killed and his body cut into pieces before being dumped in a borewell. The incident took place in Jampalavarapalem of Lingasamudram mandal. According to police sources, the accused, identified as Brahmayya, is a resident of Neemthota. He allegedly stabbed Narasimham to death with a knife near the Tata Hotel area. The crime didn’t end there — in a horrific act, Brahmayya reportedly dismembered the victim’s body over the span of two days and disposed of the remains in a nearby borewell. Tovuri Narasimham is said to have worked as a security guard at Neemthota, while the accused was from the same locality. Although the exact reason for the murder is still under investigation, sources suggest that there may have been a serious personal or local dispute between the two. Following a complaint filed by Narasimham’s family, the police launched a manhunt and successfully apprehended Brahmayya. He is now in custody, and the investigation is underway to uncover the full details behind the motive.

Chandrababu’s Experience Useless for State: Jagan

- YCP chief accuses TDP-led coalition of reckless financial mismanagement
- Govt incurred 44% of 5-year debt in just one year, alleges Jagan
- Cites CAG, MOSPI data to highlight rising fiscal, revenue deficits

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

YCP chief and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has come down heavily on the TDP-led coalition government headed by N. Chandrababu Naidu, alleging that the government’s financial recklessness is pushing Andhra Pradesh toward an economic disaster. Addressing the media, Jagan said Chandrababu Naidu often boasts about his decades of experience and administrative skill, but that experience has done nothing to benefit the state. “The coalition government has already incurred 44% of the total debt we took in five years—within just one year,” Jagan alleged. He slammed the administration for amassing such heavy debts without initiating any major development or welfare programs. Quoting official data from the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Jagan painted a bleak picture of the state’s finances. He pointed out that key indicators such as fiscal deficit and revenue deficit have worsened under the new government.



He noted:

- *The fiscal deficit as a percentage of GSDP has jumped from 4.08% under the previous government to 5.12% under the current regime.*
- *The revenue deficit has also worsened, rising from 2.65% to 3.61%.*
- *Despite no major crisis like COVID-19, the debt-to-GSDP ratio has risen sharply to 35.64%.*
- *Only 23.49% of the loans raised for the 2024–25 fiscal*

were used for capital expenditure, compared to 33.25% during the YCP’s tenure.

Jagan alleged that the current government is misleading the people in the name of development while dragging the state into a deep financial crisis. “This kind of governance will only push Andhra Pradesh into a debt trap,” he warned, urging the Chandrababu Naidu government to restore financial discipline before the consequences become irreversible.

Sajjala Slams Govt Over Suresh’s Arrests

- Released on bail, re-arrested in old case, says Sajjala
- Sajjala visits Nandigam Suresh, Turaka Kishore in Guntur jail
- Alleges misuse of police force under ‘Red Book’

TPN Correspondent | Guntur

YCP senior leader Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy strongly criticized the Andhra Pradesh coalition government, alleging that it is operating like a dictatorship by misusing police power under the pretext of the ‘Red Book’. After visiting former MP Nandigam Suresh and party leader Turaka Kishore in Guntur district jail, Sajjala addressed the media and condemned the ongoing political vendetta. He claimed that 12 cases were filed against Nandigam Suresh, and accused the government of strategically arresting him each time he was granted bail. “When he was released on bail, they dug up an old case and arrested him



again. A PT warrant was ready even before he stepped out,” said Sajjala, expressing serious concern over the repeated re-arrests. Sajjala accused the government of unleashing state violence against common people and journalists and targeting YCP leaders and social media activists. “They are turning the police into a political

weapon. The system that should protect the law is being used to violate it,” he said. He compared the coalition government’s actions to dictatorial regimes seen in some remote parts of the world and warned that such abuse of power would not be tolerated by the people of Andhra Pradesh.



“When Will Axe-Stab Day? Sister Kicked Out Day?”: MLC Greeshma

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

TDP State Spokesperson and MLC Kavali Greeshma strongly objected to the YSR Congress Party’s (YSRCP) declaration of June 4 as “Back-stab Day”, lashing out at the party for insulting the people’s mandate. In a sharp rebuttal, she asked whether YSRCP would also declare days like “Axe-Stab Day” or “Day of Kicking Sister Out” to remind the public of the misdeeds committed during their own regime. Greeshma accused former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy and his party of making irresponsible statements to distract people from the massive scams and failures under their administration. “It’s ironic that June 4 — the very day people voted overwhelmingly to escape the YSRCP’s disastrous rule — is being labelled as Back-stab Day,” she remarked. She alleged that Jagan has not accepted the public’s verdict and continues to behave arrogantly. “Despite being rejected in the elections, Jagan and his leaders still haven’t come to their senses,” she said. The MLC went on to question Jagan’s credibility, citing several incidents from his tenure: “After falsely promising a liquor ban, weren’t you the one who stabbed thousands of women by pushing adulterated liquor and shaving their yellow hair? Didn’t you betray employees by refusing to repeal the CPS system?” Greeshma’s comments reflect the TDP’s intensified offensive post-election, as the party seeks to counter the YSRCP’s narrative and reinforce its position in the ruling alliance. She asserted that such misleading tactics by the opposition will only deepen public anger against them. She concluded by saying that the people are watching every move and will not fall for distractions meant to cover up five years of misrule.

Development Possible Only with Chandrababu...

TPN Correspondent | Nellore

In a significant political shift, over 1500 YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leaders joined the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in the presence of TDP senior leaders and Vemireddy couple—MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy and MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy—at Kammapalem in Kodavaluru mandal of Nellore district. The event, led by Bellam Venkaiah Naidu, marked a major boost to the TDP’s strength ahead of upcoming electoral challenges. The Vemireddy couple extended a warm welcome to the new entrants by presenting them with TDP scarves. Prominent among those who joined were YSRCP leaders Bellam Venkaiah Naidu, Garika Mastanayya, Dharmareddy Palem MPTC Uruturu Sesamma, Kammapalem Sarpanch Chauturu Lakshmaiah, Reddypalem’s Neelakantham Sridhar Reddy, Kammapalem MPTC Peeram Arunakumari, and Ramannapalem Sarpanch Kaki Srinivasulu. Addressing the gathering, MP Pra-



bhakar Reddy declared that only Chandrababu Naidu can ensure real development and welfare in Andhra Pradesh. “People are shifting towards TDP across the state, inspired by Chandrababu Naidu’s welfare model. YSRCP has no place for those who genuinely want to work for the poor,” he stated. He further emphasized the need for a coordinated effort between old and new party leaders to strengthen TDP’s base. He described his own entry into TDP as a decision guided by destiny and

highlighted how YSRCP had failed to provide a platform for sincere grassroots-level leadership. “The TDP offers real opportunities for service and development,” he added. MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy thanked the leaders who transitioned from YSRCP to TDP, praising their faith in the developmental vision of Chandrababu Naidu and Lokesh. She urged them to be proactive in resolving public issues and bridging the gap between the government and the people. “Unlike the past where power

was limited to a few individuals, we are committed to empowering every local leader,” she said. She also appealed to leaders to support her goal of making Kovur a corruption-free constituency and vowed to focus on the development of Kodavaluru mandal, which houses industries like IFFCO and Midhani. Among the new joiners, Bellam Kondaiah publicly apologized for not supporting Prabhakar Reddy in the past elections and pledged to follow the Vemireddy couple’s path of selfless service. Several other new entrants echoed this sentiment, citing Chandrababu’s development agenda and the couple’s people-centric leadership as their reasons for joining the TDP. TDP leaders Napa Venkateswarlu Naidu (Kodavaluru), Gutta Srinivasa Rao and Bezawada Jagadish (Buchireddypalem Urban & Rural), Srihari Reddy (Vidaluru), Sekhar Reddy, Kodur Kamalakara Reddy, former Jonnavada Temple Chairman Putta Subrahmanyam Naidu, Morla Murali and others also participated in the event.

Ganja Gangs Terrorised Tenali in YCP Govt: Nadendla Manohar

YSRCP turned Tenali into a hub for ganja, says Minister
Jagan's visit aims to create social rifts, alleges Manohar
Ration goods distributed to 34.81 lakh beneficiaries in two days

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
State Civil Supplies Minister Shri Nadendla Manohar strongly criticized the previous YSRCP government for turning Tenali—a town known for its rich history and cultural legacy—into a centre for ganja activity. Speaking at a press conference in Vijayawada on Monday, he alleged that two gangs were created and authorised to sell ganja openly, resulting in widespread anarchy and fear among the people. “The people of Tenali were living in constant fear. These gangs, operating under the influence of ganja, would randomly attack citizens and establish their dominance. What answer does Shri Jagan have for the victims of these gangs?” questioned Manohar. He accused former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy of attempting to create societal divisions through his planned visit to Tenali, likening it to the earlier controversy stirred in Amalapuram. He further highlighted a tragic incident involving Karthik, the son of a farmer named Shri Idara Poornachand. “Karthik, a software engineer working in Mumbai, was attacked last year on May 1st when he encountered a gang involved in ganja trafficking while riding a bike in Tenali. Such is the extent of lawlessness that prevailed,” he said. Manohar alleged that the former MLA openly boasted about his ties with these gangs and



even threatened voters, claiming the election would be wrapped up in five minutes. He cited an incident where a voter, Shri Sudhakar, was attacked at a polling booth. “Despite the YSRCP’s attempts to create unrest, the alertness of police and election staff thwarted their plans,” he said. He also revealed that these gangs had begun growing ganja in homes in the Aitanagar area, creating an atmosphere of fear, particularly for students from Telaprolu who had to pass through that region. “Even peaceful villages like Vallabhapuram were misled by these gangs who peddled ganja and corrupted the youth,” he added. The Minister pointed out that

Telangana police officers who came to investigate ganja sources were also attacked. “This is the legacy of the previous regime—officers trying to curb ganja trade were punished instead,” he said. “In contrast, the current government under Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan is working towards peace and development.” Turning to civil supplies, Manohar said the state government has distributed ration goods to 34.81 lakh beneficiaries through 29,760 ration shops in just two days. “We also delivered rations door-to-door to 3.73 lakh elderly and disabled persons. Last year, the previous government man-

aged to serve only 25.18 lakh beneficiaries using 9,260 MDU vehicles. Our numbers show a 60% improvement,” he said. He assured that ration shops would remain open from the 1st to the 15th of each month, with no need for people to leave their work. “We’ve introduced portability across the system and even supplied 10% more stock to each dealer to ensure cardholders receive uninterrupted service. Server issues were promptly addressed,” he added. Manohar concluded by urging Jagan to introspect before visiting Tenali, stressing that the current government is committed to restoring peace and law in all regions.

Vallabhaneni Vamsi discharged from AYUSH hospital

Returned to Vijayawada jail after three days of treatment!
Vamsi undergoing treatment on court orders
Medical report to court on June 5 on Vamsi's health

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

YCP leader and former Gannavaram MLA Vallabhaneni Vamsi, who was undergoing treatment at Vijayawada’s AYUSH Hospital due to respiratory issues, was discharged today following recovery. After three days of treatment, the hospital staff declared him fit, and he was immediately shifted back to Vijayawada district jail under police escort.



Vamsi, currently a remand prisoner in multiple legal cases, was admitted to the hospital after he reportedly suffered breathing difficulties. On court orders, the police facilitated his transfer to the AYUSH Hospital, where a specialized team of doctors attended to him. Officials confirmed that his condition has now stabilized. However, the court is awaiting a detailed medical report on his treatment and health status. According to sources at the hospital, the report will be formally submitted on June 5, and it is expected to play a key role in determining any further medical support or changes to Vamsi’s custodial conditions. Vamsi’s repeated health complaints have led to previous medical evaluations as well, especially during police custody for investigations in connection with multiple cases. His latest hospitalization followed episodes of severe respiratory distress, prompting a request for extended care. Now back in jail, Vamsi awaits further legal proceedings, with the court likely to review his medical report and make any necessary decisions regarding his continued detention or treatment.

Fake Sports Certificates Will Invite Criminal Action: SAP Chairman

Only genuine sportspersons will get jobs under Mega DSC

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

SAP (Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh) Chairman Animini Ravinayudu issued a strong warning on Monday that criminal cases will be filed against candidates who submit fake sports certificates and against the administrators of associations who issue them. He clarified that the state government will ensure a transparent and rigorous screening process for filling 421 posts under the sports quota in the upcoming Mega DSC recruitment. Reviewing the preparations with SAP officials and department representatives at the SAP headquarters in Vijayawada, Ravinayudu said no leniency will be shown to anyone involved in forging or misusing certificates. “Only genuine sportspersons should get government job opportunities. This process must remain corruption-free,” he stressed. He accused some sports associations and federations of exploiting job aspirants by selling fake certificates for large sums. “Such acts are playing with the future of real athletes. There are already some complaints under investigation,” he said. He emphasized that certificates submitted by candidates will undergo strict verification by officers of DSP rank. Ravinayudu announced that a special team will be formed to identify fraudulent certificates. Legal action, including criminal cases, will be initiated against both the issuers and the recipients of such fake documents. He warned that lifetime bans will be imposed on association presidents and secretaries who are found to have signed or approved fake certificates. “Only the officials who were in charge during the year the player participated will be considered valid for verification. Their signatures and supporting evidence will be thoroughly examined,” he added. The SAP Chairman also instructed district-level screening committees to work rigorously and suggested that the state-level committee adopt an even stricter stance. He warned that departmental action would be taken against any government official found negligent in the verification process. He proposed the introduction of physical fitness tests for candidates and recommended enhanced use of the DigiLocker system to ensure authenticity in the future. SAP AO R. Venkataramana Nayak, TSO SV Ramana, SOs Koteswar Rao, Mahesh, Surendra, Kishore, and Assistant Directors Venu and Malleswari Bhai participated in the meeting. Ravinayudu urged sports associations and candidates to cooperate fully to preserve the sanctity of the recruitment process and to ensure that only deserving sportspersons benefit.



Dr. Pasupuleti Hariprasad Takes Charge as Lepakshi Chairman

Promotion of Handicrafts is Pawan Kalyan’s Vision: Nadendla Manohar



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada
Dr. Pasupuleti Hariprasad, a prominent Jana Sena Party leader from Tirupati, officially assumed charge as Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Handicrafts Development Corporation (Lepakshi) on Monday. The ceremony, held at Lepakshi headquarters in Vijayawada, witnessed participation from leaders and cadres of the Jana Sena, TDP, and BJP, along with family members and corporation officials. The charge-taking event was conducted by Lepakshi Managing Director Viswa Manoharan, who also briefed Dr. Hariprasad

on the corporation’s operations. In his address, Dr. Hariprasad thanked Deputy Chief Minister and party chief Pawan Kalyan for the opportunity, stating, “This responsibility given by Pawan Kalyan garu, who holds great respect for traditional crafts, has increased my accountability.” Hariprasad pledged to work for the betterment of artisans across the state and said he would align his efforts with the broader vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. Outlining his plans for Lepak-

shi, he promised expansion of showrooms, enhanced sales, and special training programs to help revive fading art forms by encouraging youth to become skilled artisans. He committed to ensuring progress during his two-year tenure and making Lepakshi a financially robust institution. Minister for Civil Supplies Nadendla Manohar, who attended the ceremony as chief guest, lauded Dr. Hariprasad’s capabilities and said, “He has a track record of delivering results in every role he takes on.” He reiterated that the promotion of

traditional handicrafts is a core element of Pawan Kalyan’s vision and said a comprehensive action plan would be developed to popularize Andhra Pradesh’s handicrafts both in India and abroad. The grand swearing-in event was attended by several key political leaders and dignitaries, including Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao, Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivasulu, Tadepalligudem MLA Boliseti Srinivasulu, former MLA Kilari Roshaiiah, and Samineni Udayabhanu. Other notable attendees included APHMDIC Chairman Srinivasa Rao, Kapu Corporation Chairman Kothapalli Subbarayudu, Krishna and West Godavari DCM Chairmen Bandi Ramakrishna and Murali Krishna, and district Jana Sena presidents Gade Venkateswarlu (Guntur), Bandreddy Ramakrishna (Krishna), and Ammishetti Vasu (NTR). Kapunadu State President Velpuri Srinivasa Rao, TDP leader from Kadapa Hariprasad, and Jana Sena leaders Ghanta Swaroop and Keerthana also graced the occasion. Large numbers of Veera Mahilas, legal cell members, party activists, and leaders from all 14 constituencies of the erstwhile Chittoor district were present. The event began with special prayers and a traditional Poor-nakumbha welcome by Lepakshi officials.

TTD Protest Sparks Row Over Employee’s Role

YCP leader Achcharao’s outburst filmed and spread by TTD staffer?
TTD employee allegedly filmed and shared the video on party groups
Vigilance detains employee; Achcharao faces police bindover case

TPN Correspondent | Tirupati
A protest by YSR Congress Party (YCP) leader B. Achcharao inside the Tirumala Srivari Sarva Darshan queue has created ripples within the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) administration. The incident, which took place two days ago, has now taken a new turn with the emergence of a TTD employee’s alleged involvement in encouraging and spreading the protest video on social media.

Achcharao, a YCP leader from Kakinada, publicly raised slogans in the temple queue targeting the TTD chairman and officials, accusing them of mismanagement. The video of the protest quickly went viral, raising questions about who filmed it and why it was shared widely in YSRCP-affiliated groups. Initial findings by the TTD Vigilance Department have revealed that the video was cap-

tured by an employee of the TTD Health Department. Sources said the employee not only filmed the protest but also circulated the footage among party circles, potentially fanning the controversy. The employee has reportedly been detained and is currently being interrogated by vigilance officials. The controversy has gained traction in the wake of recent remarks by Tirupati MLA and YSRCP leader Bhumana

Karunakar Reddy, who claimed that over 2,000 employees of the TTD are affiliated with the YSRCP. These comments have raised concerns about political influence within the temple administration, and the present incident only deepens those suspicions. Meanwhile, Achcharao, facing criticism for his behavior in a sacred setting, issued an apology to the TTD, saying he lost his temper and did not intend



to hurt devotees’ sentiments. However, the police have filed a bindover case against him for allegedly attempting to stir controversy for political reasons and disrespecting the sanctity of the temple. As the investigation continues, intelligence agencies are ex-

amining whether the episode was a spontaneous act or part of a larger political ploy. The incident has sparked fresh debates over the neutrality of TTD operations and the role of politically affiliated staff within the revered temple institution.

Youth from Srikakulam Dies by Suicide in Hyderabad

Jumped from Botanical Garden flyover; died during treatment

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad
A tragic incident took place in Hyderabad, where a 35-year-old youth from Srikakulam district died by suicide. The deceased, identified as Gottivada Chinna, had been staying at his sister’s residence in Gachibowli due to ongoing differences with his wife. According to police sources, Chinna, who worked as a painter, was reportedly under mental stress.

On Sunday, he jumped from the Botanical Garden flyover in a suicide attempt. Passersby noticed the incident and immediately rushed him to a nearby hospital. Despite efforts by medical staff, Chinna succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment. The Gachibowli police have registered a case and initiated a detailed investigation to ascertain the circumstances that led to the

incident. Police sources said they are also speaking with family members to gather more information. Chinna’s death has left his family and local community in shock. Authorities have urged people dealing with mental health issues or personal distress to seek help and support instead of resorting to extreme measures.

Public Welfare Is the Goal of the Coalition Government: Durga Prasad

TDP youth leader criticizes misuse of MDU vehicles by YSRCP

TPN | C Shekar

Tirupati: TDP youth leader and former municipal councilor media coordinator Nagamalli Durga Prasad said that the primary objective of the coalition government is to ensure public welfare. On Monday, he distributed rice and sugar to beneficiaries at a fair-price shop in the 23rd ward of Srikalahasti town, underlining the government’s commitment to restoring public convenience. Speaking on the occasion, Durga Prasad criticized the previous YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) government, stating that it had misused public funds under the guise of Mobile Dispensing Units (MDU). “The MDU vehicles were said to be introduced for home delivery of ration goods, but they never served the intended purpose. Instead, they created more difficulties,” he said. He explained that the vehicles were often parked far from homes, causing distress to cardholders, particularly the elderly and daily-wage earners, who had to wait long hours without knowing the arrival time of the vehicles.

He praised the coalition government for swiftly scrapping the MDU system and re-instating the traditional ration shop model, which allows beneficiaries to collect essential items at convenient times—between 8 am and 12 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm—from the 1st to the 15th of every month. Durga Prasad further said that the government has also taken a people-friendly step by arranging home delivery of ration items to the elderly and the disabled from the 1st to the 5th of each month, between 12 pm and 4 pm. “People are happy with this decision and are experiencing the change brought by the new government,” he said. He personally handed over ration goods to cardholders and received appreciation from the public. The beneficiaries also conveyed their gratitude to the coalition government and local MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy for their efforts in making essential services more accessible. TDP youth leader N. Vinay Kumar, ration dealers, ward residents, and several local citizens participated in the event.

Jawan Appeals to Pawan Kalyan and Lokesh for Justice

“Sir, I beg you to do justice” – Soldier seeks help through selfie video

TPN Correspondent | Sri Sathya Sai
A heart-wrenching appeal from a soldier stationed at the nation’s borders has brought to light an alleged land-grabbing incident in Huduguru village of Sri Sathya Sai district. Jawan Narasimha Murthy, currently serving in Jammu, released a selfie video seeking help from Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and State Minister Nara Lokesh. In the video, Narasimha Murthy emotionally pleads for justice, stating, “Sir, I beg you to do justice.” He revealed that a group of individuals from his hometown had illegally occupied his land, even though the court had ruled in his favor. Despite the clear court order, the occupants have refused to vacate the land, forcing the jawan to seek political intervention. Narasimha Murthy expressed deep disappointment with the inaction of the local administration. He alleged that the revenue officials and police, who are responsible for enforcing the court’s decision, were showing deliberate negligence. “The land belongs to me as per the court’s verdict. But still, no action is being taken. How is this justice for someone serving at the border?” he asked in the video. His direct appeal to Pawan Kalyan and Lokesh is now going viral on social media, evoking strong public sympathy and outrage. Many are calling for immediate government action, urging the authorities to not ignore the plea of a jawan safeguarding



the country while being wronged in his own village. The issue has now drawn the attention of both citizens and political observers, with growing pressure on the state government to act swiftly and uphold the rights of a soldier who stands for the nation’s protection.



Steps Strengthened to Curb Maternal and Infant Deaths in Nellore



TPN Correspondent | Nellore
District Medical and Health Officer (DMHO) of Sri Potti Sriram-

ulu Nellore, Dr. V. Sujatha, emphasized that strict preventive and corrective steps must be

taken to reduce maternal and infant mortality. She chaired a comprehensive review meet-

ing of the “Maternal and Infant Mortality Sub-Committee” and evaluated the reasons behind two maternal deaths and six infant deaths reported in April and May 2025 in the district. Dr. Sujatha underlined that early identification and registration of every pregnancy is critical. She instructed medical personnel to conduct all mandatory tests diligently and flag high-risk pregnancies for additional care. “The health supervisor concerned must take full responsibility until the mother delivers safely in a government hospital,” she said. She stressed the need for timely breastfeeding, administering the “zero dose” within 24 hours to every newborn, and ensuring all children under five receive scheduled vaccina-

tions and iron supplements to prevent anemia. She warned that any maternal or child death due to anemia caused by delayed or absent medical intervention will result in disciplinary action against responsible health officials. Dr. Sujatha also instructed the staff to ensure that all deliveries happen in government hospitals and that the benefits of government schemes such as Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) reach all eligible mothers and children. During the meeting, members of the medical expert committee recommended mandatory 2D Echo and TIFA scans for every pregnant woman in the district. They suggested iron tablets be given two to three

times daily for moderate anemia cases, and iron sucrose or ferrous carboxymaltose injections be administered for severe anemia. The review meeting saw participation from several key health professionals, including DC Heches Dr. Parimala, DLATO Dr. Sheikh Khader Wali, Gynecologist Prof. Dr. I. Indira, Associate Professors Dr. V. Mary Snigdha, Dr. Shobharani, Dr. Vijayalakshmi, and Dr. Sindhuja, as well as Dr. M. Hemanth Kumar, Dr. N. Jack Vasavi, Dr. Vijayakumari, DIO Dr. A. Umamaheswari, Deputy DMHOs Dr. P. Brijitha and Dr. S. Rajani, Demo Sri K. Kanakaratnam, DPHNO Smt. G. Manjula, ASO Ramesh, and other concerned officers and staff.

India's GDP Growth Slows to 6.5% in 2024-25

Missing \$5 Trillion Target and Overstated Economic Rankings



The National Statistical Office (NSO) recently released India's GDP estimates for 2024-25, revealing a real GDP growth of 6.5%, significantly down from 9.2% in 2023-24—a sharp 30% loss of momentum in just one year. Despite claims by Indian officials like NITI Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam and G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant, echoed by the Prime Minister, that India has overtaken Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy, this assertion is premature and inaccurate.

The slowdown signals a tough start to Modi 3.0 (2024-2029) after the mixed results of Modi 2.0 (2019-2024). While the previous five years saw an overall GDP growth of just 4.75%, the last two years showed promise with average growth of

8.4%. However, this momentum has faltered in 2024-25, with growth expected to hover around 6-6.5% in 2025-26 as well.

Several worrying trends emerge from the data. Manufacturing growth has tumbled to 4.5%, down from 12.3% the previous year, while trade, commerce, financial, and real estate sectors are also slowing. Moreover, the artificial boost from net taxes (high tax growth and subsidy cuts) is waning. Investment growth is moderating too, which could affect construction and related sectors.

These signals suggest India's GDP growth may remain stuck in the 5.5-6.5% range during Modi 3.0, far from the high expectations.

India's ambitious \$5 trillion GDP target for 2024-25, set in 2019, has clearly been missed. The country's GDP in dollar terms stood at \$3.91 trillion in 2024-25, far short of the goal. While India is projected to surpass Japan's GDP around 2026-27, it remains a lower middle-income country with a per capita income of \$2,540, much poorer than high-income nations like Japan and Germany.

Despite optimistic IMF forecasts, India still faces significant challenges before realizing its \$10 trillion economy dream by the mid-2030s. The popular vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India) remains elusive, underscoring the need for realistic goals and sustained economic reforms.

The Future of Warfare: Armies and Algorithms



The face of war is rapidly evolving. The next conflict may no longer begin with jets or missiles but with a few lines of code. Artificial intelligence (AI) is already transforming battlefields globally, with AI-powered drones and automated systems changing how conflicts are waged.

Unlike traditional weapons, AI is accessible, decentralized, and adaptable. A single machine-learning model can be repurposed for surveillance, misinformation campaigns, or even targeted strikes. This diffusion of military power beyond nation-states to data centers and cloud servers marks a fundamental shift in warfare.

Conflict today extends beyond physical borders. AI tools manipulate digital spaces—deepfake videos stir unrest, social media bots inflame tensions, and cyberattacks threaten critical infrastructure such as power grids and hospitals. The battlefield now includes information systems and public discourse, blurring the line between peace and conflict. This transformation poses serious challenges for law and security. International humanitarian laws like the Geneva Conventions were designed for conventional warfare and are ill-equipped to govern AI-driven conflicts. Questions about accountability arise—who is responsible if an autonomous drone causes civilian casualties? The commander, programmer, or the machine itself?

Moreover, AI's dual-use nature means it can serve both civilian and military purposes. Domestically, politically motivated groups can exploit AI to disrupt elections or cripple infrastructure without physical weapons, raising internal security concerns.

AI also redefines power dynamics. While large governments and corporations currently dominate AI, its open-source development threatens traditional monopolies. AI can decentralize innovation but also concentrate power through surveillance capitalism and militarization. India must lead in shaping ethical AI governance. With its strong IT sector and democratic values, India should advocate for bans on fully autonomous lethal weapons, clear accountability, and cyber resilience. Military forces need deep AI literacy to avoid overreliance on opaque technologies vulnerable to errors or manipulation.

The wars of the future will be fought not just on battlefields, but in algorithms and digital platforms.

Kamal Haasan's Linguistic Gaffe: Popularity Of Language Not Gauged By Antiquity But Usage

During the audio launch of his upcoming film Thug Life in Chennai, veteran actor Kamal Haasan stirred controversy by stating, "Kannada was born out of Tamil." This remark triggered sharp criticism from pro-Kannada groups in Karnataka, highlighting the sensitivity surrounding language identity in the region.

Haasan began his speech by declaring, "My life and my family are the Tamil language." He then addressed Kannada actor Shiva Rajkumar, saying, "Your language (Kannada) was born out of Tamil, so you too are a part of it (my family)." While Haasan's intention seemed to promote cultural unity between the neighboring states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, the statement backfired and ignited tensions instead.

This comment comes amid ongoing protests in Tamil Nadu against the three-language policy under NEP 2020, where many fear the imposition of Hindi. The protests emphasize that no language should be considered superior or imposed on others. Haasan's assertion that Kannada originated from Tamil appeared to place Tamil on a higher pedestal as the "source" language, which runs counter to the very essence of these protests advocating for linguistic equality.

The strong reaction from pro-Kannada groups must be understood in the context of historical and social tensions. During the 1990s, there was growing unease among Kannadigas over Tamil migration into Bengaluru. Many Kannadigas felt Tamils were not making sufficient efforts to learn Kannada, raising concerns about the survival and respect for Kannada lan-



guage and culture. Pro-Kannada organizations demanded government action to protect and promote Kannada within Karnataka.

In reality, linguistic experts agree that Tamil and Kannada are sister languages, both evolving separately over thousands of years. Languages naturally evolve and take diverse forms, each with their own distinct history and community of speakers. Debates about which language came first are largely unproductive and ignore the complex and intertwined histories of the Dravidian languages.

Ultimately, Kamal Haasan's statement, though likely intended as a gesture of unity, sparked a debate that many believe wastes time better spent on fostering mutual respect among languages and cultures.

Limiting Screen Time: Balancing Traditional Teaching with Controlled Digital Use

In today's digital era, smartphones have become an inseparable part of daily life, especially influencing communication within families and among adolescents. With India's adolescent population now reaching 253 million, it is vital to understand how digital media affects their social relationships and emotional well-being.

This generation of adolescents is the first to grow up fully immersed in digital technology. Research data shows that 86% of Indian teens own smartphones, and over 30% spend more than six hours a day online. Social media platforms like Instagram dominate their digital usage, with 72% of adolescents exhibiting signs of social media addiction.

While digital connectivity al-

lows teens to stay in touch with friends—81% use social media for this purpose—the downside is significant. Only 61% communicate regularly with their family members. This growing dependence on virtual interactions is contributing to a decline in meaningful face-to-face communication, leading to weaker family bonds and increasing emotional distance between parents and children.

Parents are increasingly concerned about their children's screen dependence, noting challenges such as difficulty in maintaining eye contact and engaging in deep, meaningful conversations. These changes in communication patterns highlight the need for a balanced approach that integrates traditional teaching methods with controlled digital

exposure. Limiting screen time is not about cutting off technology altogether but about finding a healthy middle ground. Encouraging adolescents to engage in offline activities and family interactions can help restore the emotional connection that digital communication sometimes lacks. Schools and parents can work together to promote digital literacy while emphasizing the importance of real-world relationships.

In conclusion, combining traditional teaching with mindful use of digital media offers a way forward. By managing screen time effectively, families can nurture stronger bonds and support adolescents in developing healthy communication skills in both digital and real-world environments.



PM Modi to Convene High-Level Meeting on India's Diplomatic Outreach

Regarding Pahalgam Attacks and Operation Sindoor

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to hold a high-level meeting with members of the multi-party delegations that were recently dispatched to 33 countries. This strategic initiative forms part of India's diplomatic effort to brief the international community on the recent Pahalgam terror attacks and Operation Sindoor, a critical security operation.

According to sources familiar with the matter, the meeting is expected to take place in New Delhi on either June 9 or 10. The gathering will bring together a cross-section of India's political and diplomatic leadership to assess the progress of these diplomatic missions and plan further steps.

The multi-party delegations sent abroad comprise members of Parliament from various political parties, senior government officials, and experienced diplomats.



These teams were entrusted with the sensitive task of engaging foreign governments, international organizations, and influential stakeholders to present India's perspective on the recent developments related to national security.

India's outreach aims to highlight the gravity of the Pahalgam terror

attacks, which shook the region and drew widespread condemnation, as well as to provide detailed insights into Operation Sindoor — a decisive action taken to counter terrorism and restore peace. By briefing global partners, India hopes to strengthen international cooperation against terrorism and build support for its security pol-

icies.

Officials indicate that the upcoming meeting will be a platform for the Prime Minister to receive detailed reports from the delegation members regarding their interactions, feedback received, and any concerns raised by the countries visited. It will also serve to align future diplomatic efforts to maintain a unified and robust international response.

This high-level meeting underscores India's proactive diplomatic approach in addressing terrorism and ensuring its narrative reaches a broad global audience. It reflects the government's commitment to safeguarding national security while fostering collaborative partnerships worldwide. The outcomes of this session will likely shape India's diplomatic strategy in the weeks to come, reinforcing its stance against terror and its resolve to uphold peace and stability in the region.



Kamal Haasan Approaches Court for 'Thug Life' Release Protection Amid Kannada Language Row

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Actor-politician Kamal Haasan has moved the Karnataka High Court seeking protection to ensure the smooth release of his upcoming film Thug Life, scheduled to hit theatres on June 5, amid rising protests over his recent comments regarding the Kannada language.

The controversy erupted during the film's audio launch in Chennai on May 24, where Haasan remarked that "Tamil gave birth to Kannada." This statement triggered a sharp backlash across Karnataka, with pro-Kannada groups staging protests in cities like Bengaluru, Belagavi, Hubballi, and Mysuru. Demonstrators demanded a public apology, calling Haasan's remarks disrespectful and historically insensitive.

The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC) responded with a stern warning, stating that Thug Life would not be permitted to release in Karnataka unless Haasan issues a formal apology. The controversy further escalated when Karnataka's Kannada and Culture Minister, Shivaraj Tangadagi, wrote to the KFCC recommending a ban on all Kamal Haasan films in the state if he fails to express regret.

Despite the uproar, Haasan, 70, has stood by his comments while offering clarification. Speaking in Chennai, he stated, "I think what I said was said with a lot of love. Historians have taught me the language's history... I didn't mean anything offensive." His remarks were intended to reflect historical linguistic connections, he claimed, not to disparage Kannada.

However, the clarification has done little to pacify cultural activists and political leaders in Karnataka, many of whom argue that the comment is emblematic of Tamil linguistic chauvinism. "Despite the actor's stature, the people of Karnataka cannot tolerate his remarks on their land, water, and language," Minister Tangadagi asserted.

Faced with a potential ban on his film, Haasan has now turned to legal channels, requesting judicial protection for Thug Life's theatrical release in Karnataka. The court is expected to hear the plea later this week, just days before the scheduled premiere.

The row underscores the fragile nature of inter-state linguistic sensitivities in southern India and raises broader questions about artistic freedom, historical interpretation, and regional identity.

Paraguay President Santiago Pena Palacios Begins First State Visit to India

To Strengthen Bilateral Ties

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

President of Paraguay, Santiago Pena Palacios, arrived in New Delhi on June 2, 2025, for his first-ever state visit to India. He was accorded a ceremonial welcome with a Guard of Honour at Palam Air Force Station and warmly received by Minister of State Harsh Vardhan Malhotra, underscoring the growing friendship between the two nations.

The visit, which will continue until June 4, aims to deepen and expand cooperation across political, economic, and cultural domains. At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Pena is accompanied by a high-level delegation including ministers, senior officials, and business leaders.

During his stay in Delhi, President Pena will hold high-level talks with Prime Minister Modi and other senior Indian officials



to review the full spectrum of India-Paraguay relations. As part of the visit's formalities, Prime Minister Modi will host a lunch in his honour, while President Droupadi Murmu is also expected to meet the visiting dignitary and host a banquet. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar are scheduled to meet with President Pena, reflecting

the importance India places on this diplomatic engagement.

Following the official engagements in the capital, President Pena will travel to Mumbai, where he will interact with state political leaders, business representatives, startups, innovators, and technology experts. This leg of the visit aims to foster economic ties and promote innova-

tion and industry collaboration between the two countries.

India and Paraguay have enjoyed warm bilateral relations since establishing diplomatic ties in 1961. Their cooperation spans sectors such as trade, agriculture, health, pharmaceuticals, and information technology. Paraguay remains a key trading partner for India in Latin America, with several Indian companies actively engaged in the Paraguayan automobile and pharmaceutical industries. Similarly, Paraguayan enterprises, often through joint ventures, maintain a presence in India, bolstering economic links.

Both countries share aligned views on global challenges, including United Nations reforms, climate change, renewable energy, and counterterrorism efforts. President Pena's visit is expected to reinforce this partnership and explore new avenues for collaboration on regional and international issues.

'Bharat Gen': India Launches Indigenous AI Model for Multilingual Innovation

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant step toward strengthening India's AI capabilities, Union Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on Monday launched 'Bharat Gen', an indigenous AI-based Large Language Model (LLM) tailored for Indian languages. The launch marks a pivotal moment in India's digital transformation journey, with a focus on inclusivity, ethics, and cultural relevance.

Developed under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), Bharat Gen has been implemented through the TIH Foundation for IoT and IoE at IIT Bombay. The initiative is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and involves collaboration with a consortium of premier academic institutions, researchers, and tech innovators across the country.

Speaking at the launch, Dr. Singh described Bharat Gen as a "national mission to create AI that is ethical, inclusive, multilingual, and deeply rooted in Indian values and ethos." The platform supports 22 Indian languages and integrates text, speech, and image modalities, offering a comprehensive suite of AI capabilities that can be deployed across diverse sectors. "This initiative will empower key sectors like



healthcare, education, agriculture, and e-governance by providing AI solutions that are region-specific and linguistically accessible," Dr. Singh said. He added that the model is designed to democratize AI, ensuring its benefits reach even the remotest corners of the country.

Citing a real-world application from his constituency in Udhampur, Dr. Singh shared a success story where an AI-powered virtual doctor provided medical consultations in local dialects. "This not only builds trust among rural patients but also has a placebo-like psychological effect, significantly improving healthcare outcomes," he said.

Bharat Gen also plays a transformative role in grassroots governance. The minister highlighted the integration of multilingual feedback systems with public grievance platforms like CPGRAMS, enhancing citizen participation and transparency in administrative processes.

India Sees Nearly 4,000 Active COVID-19 Cases as Kerala and Maharashtra Lead Surge

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India currently has 3,961 active COVID-19 cases, according to the Health Ministry's latest data, with 203 new cases reported since Sunday. The recent rise in cases is primarily driven by Kerala and Maharashtra, which are witnessing the highest numbers of active infections.

Kerala tops the list with 1,435 active cases, followed by Maharashtra at 506 cases. Maharashtra has reported three recent COVID-related deaths, including a 67-year-old man suffering from severe pneumonia and a 21-year-old with diabetic ketoacidosis. The national capital, New Delhi, has recorded 483 active cases and two deaths—a 60-year-old woman recovering from intestinal surgery and a 22-year-old woman with pre-existing lung disease due to tuberculosis.

Other states showing significant numbers include Gujarat with 338 cases, West Bengal with 331, Karnataka at 253, and Tamil Nadu with 189 cases and two deaths involving patients with comorbidities. Northern states such as Uttar Pradesh have 157 active cases, Punjab six (including one death), Rajasthan 69, Puducherry 38, and Haryana 28.



Hospitals are reinforcing preparedness measures. At Delhi's Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Dr. Pawan Kumar, head of the COVID-19 unit, confirmed they have a dedicated 9-bed isolation ward and have recently discharged four recovered patients. He reassured the public that most cases remain mild and stressed the importance of consulting a doctor and getting tested if symptoms appear.

Union Minister of State for Health and AYUSH, Prataprao Jadhav, emphasized that the central government is fully prepared to manage any escalation. He noted that infrastructure established during earlier COVID waves—such as oxygen plants and ICU beds—has been reviewed and enhanced to ensure readiness. While the case load remains manageable, health authorities continue to closely monitor the situation across states.



Indian-Origin Restaurateur Asma Khan Features in Guinness World Record-Setting Song ‘195’

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India-born British chef and restaurateur Asma Khan has joined an extraordinary global initiative that set a new Guinness World Record for the most nationalities contributing vocals to a single musical recording. The song, titled “195”, features women from all 195 countries and aims to raise awareness about gender equality while sparking a worldwide movement focused on healing through sound frequencies.

“195” was produced by The Frequency School, a collaboration of US Grammy-nominated producer Maejor alongside Martina Fuchs, Kingsley M, Brandon Lee, and Aaron Dawson. The song premiered at the 55th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) held in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, in January 2025. Martina Fuchs, the executive producer, shared her vision of uniting ordinary women worldwide to promote women’s rights and support mental health through this pioneering musical project.

Asma Khan stands out not only as a key contributor to this landmark recording but also as one of the UK’s most influential female chefs. She is the founder and owner of Darjeeling Express, a popular London restaurant celebrated for its all-female kitchen and authentic homestyle Indian cuisine inspired by Khan’s family recipes and Kolkata heritage.

Khan’s culinary journey has received global recognition. In 2024, TIME magazine named her among the 100 most influential people in the world. Beyond her work in the kitchen, she is a passionate advocate for the United Nations World Food Programme. She has also been honored with fellowships from prestigious institutions such as Queen’s College, Oxford, and King’s College London, where she completed her PhD in British Constitutional Law.

This powerful collaboration through “195” highlights the transformative potential of music to unite diverse voices in advocating for equality and peace. Asma Khan’s participation underscores her ongoing commitment to creating positive social impact both inside and outside the culinary world.

Bangladesh Unveils New Taka Notes Without Bangabandhu’s Image

Highlights Hindu and Buddhist Heritage

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

In a major symbolic shift, Bangladesh’s interim government on Monday unveiled new currency notes that do not feature the image of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father of the nation widely known as ‘Bangabandhu’. The new banknotes, introduced by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, mark the first time since Bangladesh’s independence in 1971 that Mujib’s portrait will be absent from the Taka.

The redesigned currency instead showcases prominent cultural and historical landmarks from across the country, including Hindu and Buddhist temples, in what authorities describe as an effort to “depoliticise” national symbols. This decision has sparked criticism from several quarters, with opponents accusing the Yunus-led interim government of attempting to erase or undermine Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’s legacy.

Since the birth of Bangladesh following the liberation war against



Pakistan, Mujib’s image has been featured on all denominations of the national currency. The sudden departure from this tradition has been seen by many as part of a broader move to reduce the political influence of the Mujib legacy, particularly the Awami League, the party traditionally aligned with

his vision.

Critics also point to recent government actions such as the revision of history textbooks, the removal of Bangabandhu statues from key public spaces, and a diminishing focus on his role in official narratives as evidence of a deliberate

campaign to sideline his contributions to Bangladesh’s independence.

However, government officials have defended the change, claiming it is intended to foster national unity and reflect Bangladesh’s diverse cultural heritage, especially amid growing concerns over the treatment of religious minorities. The inclusion of Islamic, Hindu, and Buddhist sites on the new notes, they argue, reflects the country’s pluralistic identity and architectural richness.

Chief Adviser Yunus shared a preview of the new currency on social media platform X, stating that the notes aim to highlight “historical and archaeological architecture” significant to Bangladesh’s identity. While supporters of the move view it as a progressive step toward inclusive national symbolism, opponents argue that sidelining Sheikh Mujibur Rahman sends a troubling political message during a period of instability and rising international scrutiny.

Indian-American MIT Student Banned from Graduation Ceremony After Pro-Palestinian Speech

TPN Correspondent | New York

Megha Vemuri, the 2025 class president at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), was barred from attending her graduation ceremony following a speech condemning the war in Gaza, sparking widespread controversy. Vemuri, an Indian-American student and double major in computation and cognition and linguistics, delivered the speech during the OneMIT Commencement event on May 29, 2025, wearing a keffiyeh, a symbol of pro-Palestinian solidarity.

In her speech, Vemuri praised her peers for protesting the Gaza conflict and criticized MIT’s alleged ties to Israel. However, school officials



said her speech differed significantly from the version she had submitted in advance, accusing her of deliberately misleading organizers and leading a protest from the stage.

As a result, MIT informed Vemuri that she was prohibited from attending the undergraduate cere-

mony on May 30 and barred from campus until the event concluded. The university maintained it supports free expression but stood by its decision, emphasizing that the punishment was warranted due to Vemuri’s actions. She will still receive her degree, which her family confirmed would be mailed to her.

Vemuri expressed disappointment not in missing the ceremony but at MIT’s decision to penalize her without clear policy violations or due process. “I see no need for me to walk across the stage of an institution that is complicit in this genocide,” she stated. Her father highlighted her academic achievements and criticized the university’s actions as hypocritical regarding free

speech. The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) condemned MIT’s move, calling for respect of academic freedom and student voices speaking out against genocide and in support of Palestinian rights.

The incident is part of a broader pattern of campus tensions across the U.S., where students at universities like New York University, Harvard, and Columbia have faced disciplinary actions over pro-Palestinian protests since the Gaza conflict intensified in 2023. This year, MIT introduced stricter rules on protests, reflecting a more stringent approach to unsanctioned demonstrations compared to previous years.

Australian Deputy PM Richard Marles to Visit India in Key Indo-Pacific Security Push

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles will visit India this week as part of a broader four-nation tour aimed at strengthening Canberra’s security and diplomatic ties across South and Southeast Asia. His visit to India marks the first by a senior Australian minister since Prime Minister Anthony Albanese secured a second term in office following the recent parliamentary elections.

Marles’ trip, scheduled from June 2 to 5, will include high-level meetings in India as well as visits to the Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia. The timing coincides with the fifth anniversary of the Australia-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, a key framework underpinning the close cooperation between the two nations in the Indian Ocean region.

“Australia values our relationships with neighbours in the Indo-Pacific. Our deepening cooperation is at the heart of Australia’s approach to ensure the Indo-Pacific remains open, inclusive, and resilient,” Marles said in a statement ahead of the visit. He expressed eagerness to engage with regional leaders and explore ways to collaboratively foster peace, security, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific, while respecting each country’s sovereignty.

India and Australia have steadily expanded their strategic and economic ties in recent years. The two countries signed the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) in 2022, a significant milestone in boosting bilateral trade. Currently, both nations are negotiating a more comprehen-



sive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) to further deepen economic integration.

Marles’ visit underscores Australia’s commitment to strengthening regional partnerships amid growing geopolitical challenges in the Indo-Pacific. It also reaffirms the importance of the Australia-India relationship within the broader framework of regional security and economic collaboration.

The Deputy Prime Minister’s engagements in India and other key regional capitals reflect Canberra’s strategy to build resilient partnerships, ensure regional stability, and promote shared values in an increasingly complex geopolitical environment.

South Korea’s Presidential Race Marred by Personal Attacks and Controversies

TPN Correspondent | Seoul

South Korea’s presidential election has been overshadowed by bitter personal attacks and controversies, detracting from meaningful policy discussions. The race between the Liberal frontrunner Lee Jae-myung and conservative candidate Kim Moon Soo has turned increasingly hostile, following the ousting of former president Yoon Suk Yeol amid a martial law scandal.

During the final debate, Lee called Kim “Yoon Suk Yeol’s avatar,” while Kim labeled Lee a “harbinger of monster politics and dictatorship.” Trailing in the polls, Kim has focused on criticizing Lee’s economic promises and legal troubles. A seemingly casual comment by Lee about the profitability of coffee shops sparked outrage, with Kim’s party accusing Lee of alienating small business owners. Lee had explained that during his tenure as Gyeonggi governor, he encouraged unlicensed food vendors to transition to legal businesses, using coffee shops as an example of higher profitability.

The election has also been rocked by scandals involving Yoon’s wife, Kim Keon Hee, who is under investigation for allegedly receiving luxury gifts from a Unification Church official. Lee accused Yoon of acting as a “shadow ruler” behind Kim, while Kim avoided directly addressing whether he would pardon Yoon if elected.

Another hot topic is the “room salon” controversy—a symbol of South Korea’s male-oriented nightlife. Lee’s party alleged that a



judge involved in Yoon’s rebellion trial frequented such a bar, raising questions about judicial impartiality. The judge denied wrongdoing, calling his outings ordinary social activities.

Conservative attempts to unify behind a stronger candidate failed, as efforts to replace Kim with former Prime Minister Han Duck-soo were rejected. Kim, calling the move a “political coup,” has since tried to ally with another conservative contender, but Lee has dismissed these overtures.

As Tuesday’s vote approaches, the campaign remains chaotic and contentious, reflecting deep divisions within South Korean politics.

Markets Trim Losses to End Slightly Lower Amid Positive Cues and Selective Buying

Domestic stock markets closed moderately lower on Monday. The benchmark indices, which started with a huge gap-down due to mixed signals internationally, gradually covered their losses. Nifty 180 and Sensex recovered from an intraday fall of 600 points. This was due to the impact of the GDP print, the possibility of RBI cutting interest rates, and the rupee strengthening against the dollar. Investors bought attractive stocks. Overall, Sensex fell by 77 points and Nifty 34 points.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,451 in the previous session, opened at 81,214 on Monday. It touched an intraday low of 80,654. It reached an intraday high of 81,474. It finally closed at 81,373, down 77 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,669, touched a low of 24,526 and a high of 24,754. It closed at 24,716, down 34 points. The Nifty Bank rose 153 points to settle at 55,903.

In the Nifty50, 20 companies gained while 30 lost. Adani Ports, Mahindra & Mahindra, Eternal, Power Grid, Hindustan Unilever were the top gainers. Hero Moto, Tech Mahindra, JSW Steel, HDFC Life, Tata Steel were the biggest losers. Realty, PSU Bank, FMCG, Consumer, PSE, Private Bank and Energy indices rose. IT, Metal, Consumer Durables, Pharma, Oil and Finance indices rose.

Market breadth on NSE today was equal for buyers and sellers. Out of a total of 3014 shares traded, 1529 gained and 1402 lost. 68 shares touched their 52-week high and 38 touched their 52-week low. Upper circuit reached 109 and lower circuit reached 103.

Frontier Springs Limited received orders worth Rs. 92 crore from Kapurthala Rail Coach Factory. SPML Company got a project worth Rs. 258 crore from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply Board. SML Isuzu sold 1543 units in May 2025. Mahindra & Mahindra sold 84,110 units with a growth rate of 17%. Tata Motors sold 70,187 units. Titagarh Rail Systems' revenue was Rs.1035 crore

and net profit was Rs.64 crore. Solar Industries received an order worth Rs.402 crore from Coalindia. Reliance Power and Intellect Design registered new 52-week highs. AstraZeneca Pharma and Indian Bank touched new lifetime highs.

Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC)

IRFC reported a 4.1% YoY rise in revenue to ₹6,723 crore for Q4 FY25. However, net profit slightly declined by 1.15% YoY to ₹1,681.87 crore. The company's operating margin remains strong at over 99%, reflecting its efficient business model. The board approved a plan to raise ₹60,000 crore in FY26 through various financial instruments.



INDIAN RAILWAY FINANCE CORPORATION

AU Small Finance Bank

AU Bank posted robust growth in Q4 FY25, with net interest income (NII) up 56.6% YoY to ₹2,093.93 crore. Net profit rose 35.86% YoY to ₹503.7 crore. However, loan loss provisions surged nearly 4x YoY to ₹635 crore, indicating rising credit costs. The bank still maintained healthy profitability, supported by strong growth in advances and a low-cost deposit base.



Bank of Baroda

Bank of Baroda reported net profit growth of 5.6% YoY to ₹5,419.7 crore

in Q4 FY25. However, NII fell 5.4% YoY to ₹12,072 crore due to margin pressure from rising deposit costs. Despite this, the bank declared a final dividend of ₹8.35 per share. The market reacted negatively to the NIM squeeze, resulting in a significant drop in the share price post-results.



बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals

Glenmark posted revenue growth of 6.3% YoY in Q4 to ₹3,256.2 crore and a return to profit with ₹4.65 crore, after a loss in the same quarter last year. However, the results missed analyst expectations due to weak performance in key segments. This led to a 3% drop in share price after the results were announced.



glenmark

United Breweries Ltd. (UBL)

UBL reported a 7.5% YoY decline in revenue to ₹4,427.2 crore, but net profit rose 20.2% YoY to ₹97.6 crore. The improvement in profitability was driven by cost control and increased beer demand, especially in urban markets. Operating profit rose nearly 52% YoY, and the company remains optimistic about future growth despite industry-wide pricing pressure.



Tata Motors Reports 8.6% Sales Decline in May 2025, Sells 70,187 Units Amid Profit Drop



Tata Motors on Sunday announced an 8.6% year-on-year decline in vehicle sales for May 2025, continuing the trend of softness in its core domestic market. The company sold a total of 70,187 units in May this year, down from 76,766 units during the same period in 2024, according to an official statement.

The domestic market bore the brunt of the slowdown, with sales falling 10% to 67,429 units in May 2025 from 75,173 units a year ago. Commercial vehicle sales also dipped by 5%, with 28,147 units sold last month compared to 29,691 units in May 2024.

Within the commercial vehicle segment, the domestic sales of medium and heavy commercial vehicles (MH&ICV), including trucks and buses, declined slightly to 12,406 units in May 2025 from 12,987 units in May 2024. However, when exports were factored in, total MH&ICV sales showed a marginal rise to 13,614 units from 13,532 units year-on-year.

These sales figures encompass

the performance of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Limited and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited, both subsidiaries of Tata Motors Limited.

This sales update follows Tata Motors' recent financial report revealing a sharp 51% drop in consolidated net profit for the fourth quarter (Q4) of FY25. The company reported a net profit of Rs 8,470 crore for January-March 2025, down significantly from Rs 17,407 crore during the same quarter last year. This decline came despite steady revenues and improved performance by its luxury subsidiary, Jaguar Land Rover (JLR).

Tata Motors also declared a final dividend of Rs 6 per equity share for FY25, which is subject to shareholder approval.

On a positive note, JLR's robust demand in North America and Europe offered some respite, delivering a 1.1% increase in sales volume and 2.4% growth in revenue, partially cushioning the overall impact of the sales slump in Tata Motors' domestic business.

Steel and Aluminium Stocks Drop Up to 2.5% After US Doubles Import Tariffs to 50%

Shares of Indian steel and aluminium companies fell sharply on Monday, following the announcement by US President Donald Trump that the United States will double import tariffs on steel and aluminium products from 25% to 50%, effective June 4, 2025. This move triggered a significant decline in metal stocks, reflecting investor concerns over the impact on exports and profitability.



Among the metal stocks, Hindalco experienced the steepest intraday fall, dropping 2.4% to a low of Rs 633.35. Other major players also saw notable losses: NALCO and Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) slipped 2.2% to Rs 176.40 and Rs 126.40 respectively. JSW Steel and Tata Steel shares declined around 2%, with JSW Steel touching Rs 993.80 and Tata Steel falling to Rs 157.65. Jindal Stainless and NMDC also registered losses of 1.6%, closing at Rs 633.35 and Rs 70.04, respectively.

The tariff hike poses a serious challenge to India's export-oriented metal sector. According to government data, India exported USD 4.56 billion worth of iron, steel, and aluminium products to the US in fiscal year 2025. This includes USD 587.5 million from iron and steel, USD 3.1 billion from articles made of iron or steel, and USD 860 million from aluminium and related products. The increased tariffs threaten to undermine the

competitiveness of these exports in the crucial US market.

The move by the US government is seen as part of broader protectionist trade policies aimed at boosting domestic production but risks sparking retaliatory measures and disrupting global metal supply chains. Analysts warn that Indian metal companies may face reduced demand from the US, impacting revenues and margins, especially in a market already grappling with fluctuating commodity prices and rising input costs.

Investors are closely monitoring the situation as the tariff changes come into effect, with the possibility of further volatility in metal stocks in the coming weeks. The government and industry bodies are expected to engage with US authorities to seek relief and explore alternative markets to mitigate the impact of the tariff increase.

Rs 2000 Notes Worth Rs 6,181 Crore Still Circulating Two Years After RBI Withdrawal

Despite the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) announcement in May 2023 to withdraw Rs 2000 denomination banknotes from circulation, high-value notes worth Rs 6,181 crore remain in use, official data revealed on Monday. This marks a significant decline from Rs 3.56 lakh crore in circulation at the time of the withdrawal announcement but shows that a small portion of these notes are still legally valid.



On May 19, 2023, the RBI declared the Rs 2000 notes would be withdrawn from circulation. Since then, the total value of these notes in public hands has dropped dramatically, with 98.26% of the currency already returned to the central bank. As of May 31, 2025, Rs 6,181 crore worth of Rs 2000 notes continue to be legal tender and remain in circulation.

The RBI initially allowed the deposit and exchange of Rs 2000 notes at all bank branches up to October 7, 2023. Even after that deadline, the facility remains available at 19 RBI issue offices across the country, enabling holders of these notes to deposit or exchange them.

Moreover, since October 9, 2023, the RBI has permitted individuals and entities to deposit

Rs 2000 notes into their bank accounts through these issue offices. In addition to physical deposits, people can also send Rs 2000 banknotes via India Post from any post office within India directly to RBI issue offices for credit to their bank accounts.

This extended facility aims to ease the process of returning high-value currency, ensuring those holding Rs 2000 notes have ample opportunity to exchange or deposit them legally. The RBI continues to encourage the public to return the remaining notes to the banking system.

The phased withdrawal of Rs 2000 notes was part of the RBI's efforts to manage currency circulation and reduce risks related to unaccounted cash. With over 98% already returned, the move has seen substantial success, even as a small volume remains in circulation.

Will AI Lead to Humanity’s Decline? Indian-Origin Expert Issues Stark Warning



As artificial intelligence rapidly integrates into everyday life, concerns about its long-term impact on humanity are mounting. Indian-origin computer science professor Subhash Kak, based at Oklahoma State University, has issued a dire warning about the future, predicting that AI could eventually “replace everything” — from jobs to decision-making roles — potentially leading to societal collapse. In an interview with The Sun, Professor Kak predicted a dystopian future where AI renders much of human labor obsolete. He warned that as machines become capable of doing nearly everything humans currently do, birth rates could plummet. “Raising children will seem impractical in a world where jobs are scarce,” he said. If current trends continue, Kak forecasts that by the year 2300 or 2380, the global population could shrink to just 100 million — down from today’s 8 billion — turning once-bustling cities like London and New York into ghost towns. Kak emphasized that while AI will not become conscious, it will still be able to perform most tasks currently done by humans, including complex office

work and decision-making. This transformation, he believes, will be socially devastating and could lead to widespread unemployment and a sense of purposelessness. This projection aligns with earlier warnings from tech figures like Elon Musk, who has expressed concern over declining birth rates and humanity’s reliance on AI. Musk has even suggested that establishing colonies beyond Earth could serve as a safeguard against global catastrophe. Professor Kak’s conclusions draw from his recent book *The Age of Artificial Intelligence*, in which he analyzes how emerging AI tools are already reshaping industries and personal lives. While some, like Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the recent AI Action Summit in Paris, remain optimistic — arguing that technology creates new jobs even as it eliminates old ones — Kak’s perspective offers a sobering counterpoint. As the world grapples with AI’s rise, voices like Kak’s raise critical questions about whether society is prepared for the profound changes ahead.

Chinese Paraglider’s 8,000-Meter Ascent Video Likely AI-Generated: Investigation Reveals



A viral video that claimed to show a Chinese paraglider accidentally soaring to over 8,000 meters has come under scrutiny, with evidence now suggesting the footage was at least partially generated using artificial intelligence. The incident, initially believed to be an extraordinary real-life survival story, is now being questioned after digital forensics indicated synthetic manipulation. The video in question features Peng Yujiang, a 55-year-old paraglider, allegedly being lifted from 3,000 to nearly 8,000 meters due to unusual wind conditions. According to initial reports, Peng braved freezing temperatures of -40°C and dangerously low oxygen levels, fighting off hypoxia and frostbite to land safely. The remarkable feat quickly captured global attention, with many applauding his resilience and composure under extreme circumstances. However, a deeper investigation by NBC News and AI-verification firm GetReal Labs revealed inconsistencies. A version of the video uploaded to Facebook on May 25 contained a watermark from Doubao AI — a content generation tool owned by ByteDance — raising suspicions about its authenticity. The first five seconds of the video,

showing Peng gliding at high altitude with his legs dangling, were identified as likely AI-generated. “Our Inspect platform analyzed extracted frames and confirmed that certain images are synthetic,” said GetReal Labs, noting that the first few seconds differed significantly in quality and content from the rest of the footage. While the authenticity of the remaining portion of the video is still unclear, several news agencies have taken action. Reuters, which had distributed the clip without the AI watermark, has since removed it. Other outlets followed suit, with some stating they are working to eliminate the footage from circulation due to AI concerns. Peng reportedly used second-hand paragliding gear during the flight, adding to the skepticism surrounding the story’s credibility. Despite initial admiration for his supposed calm under life-threatening conditions, the emerging evidence suggests that the viral video may not reflect reality. The incident serves as a stark reminder of how convincing AI-generated content can be, and underscores the growing need for verification in the digital age.

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PhD Required for Canteen Manager Job at Top Chinese University Sparks Debate

A leading Chinese university has stirred online buzz after listing a job opening for a canteen office manager — with an unusual requirement: applicants must hold a PhD. Southeast University, a top-tier institution based in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, posted the vacancy on its official website on May 22. While the position itself seems typical — managing food services, overseeing contractors, ensuring food safety, and handling administrative duties — the qualifications listed go far beyond expectations for such a role. Applicants are required to possess a doctoral degree, be proficient in English and office software, and ideally have relevant experience. Preference will also be given to candidates who are members of the Communist Party of China. This hiring choice has spotlighted a growing issue in China’s job market — credential inflation. In recent years, job postings across the coun-



try increasingly demand higher academic qualifications for positions that previously required only undergraduate degrees. What was once a bachelor-level job now often requires a master’s or even a PhD. Southeast University is part of China’s elite “985” and “211” projects — a group of the nation’s top 39 universities, which includes institutions like Tsinghua and Peking. These universities are seen as breeding grounds for China’s academic elite and offer prestigious, secure career paths often referred to as the “golden rice bowl.” A study in Humanities and Social

Sciences Communications noted that Chinese universities have raised the bar for new faculty hires, demanding more advanced degrees and academic achievements. Similarly, research in *Nature* highlighted a marked rise in educational qualifications, especially at elite institutions. This surge in overqualified candidates is a symptom of a larger issue: China produces millions of graduates annually, but the job market is failing to create enough high-skilled roles to accommodate them. As a result, many postgraduates are settling for positions well below their qualifications, leading to underemployment. A BBC report described the resulting tension — young professionals stuck in a market mismatch, chasing job security in an economy that doesn’t match their academic investment. This PhD-for-canteen-manager requirement may be extreme, but it reflects a larger trend reshaping China’s workforce.

Tinder’s New Height Preference Filter Sparks Controversy Among Users

Tinder is testing a new feature that’s causing quite a stir — a height preference filter that allows users to set their desired height range for potential matches. While still in the testing phase, the feature is being rolled out to a limited group of Tinder Gold and Platinum subscribers, according to a report by TechCrunch.



The update was first spotted by a Reddit user, who found the height option under the app’s Discovery Settings. While the concept seems simple, it’s already sparked debate across social media about the implications of filtering matches based on physical traits — particularly height.

Tinder’s Vice President of Communications, Phil Price Fry, addressed the move, saying it was part of the app’s broader goal to help users “connect more intentionally.” He emphasized that the feature isn’t designed to work as a “hard filter,” meaning

it won’t completely exclude users outside of a person’s set preference. Instead, it’s intended to help surface matches that align more closely with a user’s interests.

“We’re always listening to what matters most to our Tinder users,” Fry said. “Testing the paid height preference is a great example of how we’re building with urgency, clarity, and focus.”

Despite Tinder’s reassurances, the feature has received mixed reactions

online. Critics argue that it encourages superficiality and could reinforce unrealistic dating standards, particularly for men, who often face pressure over their height in online dating scenarios. Others defend the update, saying preferences are a natural part of dating and that similar filters for age, distance, and lifestyle habits already exist.

“This is part of a broader effort to enhance intentional dating,” Fry added. “Not every test becomes a permanent feature, but each one teaches us how to deliver smarter, more personalized experiences.”

Tinder has not confirmed whether the height preference setting will roll out globally or remain exclusive to premium users. For now, the test reflects the app’s ongoing effort to evolve based on user feedback — even if that means courting a little controversy along the way.

Indian Junior Women’s Hockey Team Falls 2-4 to Argentina in Four Nations Tournament Finale



The Indian junior women’s hockey team concluded its campaign at the Four Nations Tournament with a 2-4 loss to hosts Argentina, in a high-paced match that saw early fireworks and dominant play from the home side.

India’s standout performer was Kanika Siwach, who continued her impressive form by scoring both goals for her team in the 11th and 45th minutes. Despite her efforts, India couldn’t overcome Argentina’s early momentum and attacking prowess.

The match began at a blistering pace, with four goals scored in the first quarter alone. Sol Guignet Gunazu gave Argentina the lead in the 5th minute, followed by Sol Ollala De Labra, who doubled their advantage just two minutes later in the 7th. India responded through Kanika in the 11th minute, narrowing the deficit with a sharp and well-timed finish.

However, Argentina quickly regained control. Milagros del Valle Alastra found the net in the 13th minute, re-establishing the two-goal cushion and ending a

frantic opening quarter with the score at 3-1 in favor of the hosts.

The second quarter saw a dip in tempo, with both teams focusing more on structure and possession, resulting in no goals during the period. Argentina struck again in the third quarter, this time through Maxima Duportal, who extended the lead to 4-1 in the 37th minute.

India showed signs of a comeback late in the third quarter, when Kanika scored her second goal in the 45th minute, bringing the score to 4-2 and offering a glimmer of hope for a late fight-back. However, the Argentine defense held firm during the final quarter, effectively shutting down India’s attacking efforts and securing the win.

With this result, India wrapped up its participation in the tournament, showing flashes of promise but ultimately falling short against a well-drilled Argentine side. Kanika Siwach’s performances remain a bright spot, and her consistency will be a key asset as India continues to build toward future international competitions.

Glenn Maxwell Retires from ODI Cricket to Focus on T20 World Cup

Australian cricket star Glenn Maxwell has officially announced his retirement from One Day Internationals (ODIs) to focus on T20 cricket, including preparations for the 2026 ICC Men’s T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka. The 36-year-old all-rounder said he wanted to step aside “not for selfish reasons” but to allow the next generation to step up as his body struggles with the physical demands of the 50-over format.



Maxwell, known for his explosive batting and handy off-spin, played 149 ODIs for Australia. He will forever be remembered for his iconic 201-run innings against Afghanistan at the 2023 World Cup — a knock hailed as one of the greatest in ODI history. Battling intense cramps in Mumbai’s heat with Australia reeling at 91/7, Maxwell staged a miraculous recovery to guide his team to victory. Australia went on to lift the World Cup, defeating India in the final in Ahmedabad.

Speaking on the ‘Final Word Podcast’, Maxwell reflected, “I felt like I was letting the team down with how my body was reacting. I told George Bailey (Chair of Selectors) that I wouldn’t make it to the 2027 World Cup, and it’s better for someone else to take the spot

and make it their own.”

Maxwell recently returned from the IPL with Punjab Kings, though a broken finger cut his campaign short. He emphasized that he never wanted to “hold on” to his spot just for the sake of staying in the team.

With a strike rate of 126 — second only to Andre Russell in ODI history — Maxwell finishes his ODI career with four centuries, 23 fifties, and 77 wickets, and was a crucial part of two World Cup-winning squads.

Cricket Australia praised Maxwell’s contribution, with CEO Todd Greenberg calling him one of the “most exciting and influential ODI players.” Chief selector George Bailey added, “He’ll go down as one of the one-day game’s most dynamic players. Thankfully, he still has a big role to play in T20s.”

Maxwell’s retirement follows teammate Marcus Stoinis, who also stepped away from ODIs earlier this year.

RCB’s Virat Kohli Seeks to End 18-Year Wait Against Tenacious Punjab Kings

The IPL 2025 final, set to take place on June 3 at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, promises a thrilling showdown between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Punjab Kings (PBKS). This summit clash is not just a battle for the coveted trophy but also a deeply emotional moment as Virat Kohli aims to end his 18-year wait for an IPL title with RCB. Meanwhile, Punjab Kings, led by the astute Shreyas Iyer, are determined to claim their maiden IPL crown.

Kohli, playing in his fourth IPL final, will have the backing of thousands of fans donning his jersey number 18, making the occasion even more special. Recently retired from Test cricket and with India’s next ODI series still months away, this final might be Kohli’s last major appearance on the big stage for some time. His consistent form throughout the season, scoring 614 runs, has anchored RCB’s batting lineup, supported by key players like Phil Salt, Mayank Agarwal, Rajat Patidar, and Jitesh Sharma.

RCB cruised into the final with an emphatic eight-wicket win over Punjab in Qualifier 1, showing greater depth and balance in their batting than in previous years. The fitness of powerful



hitter Tim David, who missed recent matches due to injury, remains uncertain but could be crucial in the final overs.

On the other hand, Punjab Kings, despite a heavy loss to RCB in Qualifier 1, bounced back strongly by defeating five-time champions Mumbai Indians in Qualifier 2. Under Iyer’s leadership, PBKS have transformed from perennial underachievers to genuine title contenders. Iyer’s remarkable record of leading three different teams to IPL finals underscores his tactical acumen

and hunger for success.

Punjab’s bowling unit, though missing Marcus Jansen, showed resilience on a batting-friendly pitch. The return of spinner Yuzvendra Chahal to full fitness could be a decisive factor against his former team.

With measures like an extended playing window and a reserve day in place to avoid weather disruptions, fans can expect an intense, uninterrupted contest as both teams chase IPL glory.

Gukesh Defeats World No.1 Carlsen in Norway Chess Thriller

Reigning world chess champion D Gukesh achieved a major career milestone on Sunday, June 1, 2025, by defeating Magnus Carlsen, the world number one, for the first time in a classical game during Round 6 of the Norway Chess tournament in Stavanger. The 19-year-old Indian prodigy, who recently celebrated his birthday, managed to turn the tables on the five-time world champion in a dramatic four-hour encounter.



The win came just days after Carlsen had handed Gukesh a tough defeat in the tournament’s opening round, denting his early momentum. On Sunday, however, the teenager showed remarkable resilience. Despite appearing to be on the brink of another loss, Gukesh fought back brilliantly and secured victory after 62 intense moves, earning a crucial three points.

The result propelled Gukesh to third

place on the leaderboard with 8.5 points, just one point behind co-leaders Magnus Carlsen and Fabiano Caruana of the United States. It marks not only a personal triumph for Gukesh but also a psychological breakthrough, as he now knows he can beat the world’s top-ranked player under the toughest conditions.

While Gukesh chose not to speak to the

media after the win, his coach, Grzegorz Gajewski of Poland, expressed pride and optimism. “It gives him a huge pump of confidence because once you’ve done it, you know you can do it again,” said Gajewski. He added that this victory could spark a shift in mindset among other Indian players, proving that Carlsen is no longer invincible.

“This is a confidence boost for the rest of the tournament, and we hope to break another unbreakable margin,” Gajewski said.

The game’s significance goes beyond just the scoreboard. It symbolizes a changing of the guard in world chess, with the young Indian star asserting himself as a worthy world champion and a genuine rival to Carlsen in classical formats. The victory is likely to inspire a new generation of Indian chess players and adds even more excitement to the remaining rounds of the Norway Chess tournament.

Satwik-Chirag Lead India’s Charge as Shuttlers Aim for Glory at Indonesia Open

India’s top badminton duo, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, are back in action and eager to continue their inspiring comeback at the USD 1,450,000 Indonesia Open Super 1000 tournament starting Tuesday at the iconic Istora Senayan arena. The former world No.1 pair, who reclaimed some momentum with a semifinal finish at last week’s Singapore Open after recovering from injuries, are looking to go all the way and defend the title they won in 2023.

Currently ranked 27th, Satwik and Chirag hope to climb closer to the top 20 following their recent performances. Their opening match pits them against Indonesia’s Leo Rolly Carnando and Bagas Maulana, and a win could set up a clash against Malaysia’s Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik, a pair that has been a tough rival for the Indians.

Satwik’s recent health issues and Chirag’s back injury sidelined them for weeks, but their tactical brilliance was on full display last week as they upset the world No.1 Malaysian duo Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin en route to the Singapore semifinals.

Meanwhile, two-time Olympic medallist P.V. Sindhu is aim-



ing for a strong run after a difficult start to 2025, hampered by a hamstring injury and early exits from tournaments. Last week, she showed signs of resurgence before narrowly losing to Tokyo Olympic champion Chen Yu Fei. With new coach Irwansyah Adi Pratama guiding her, Sindhu faces former world champion Nozomi Okuhara in a highly anticipated match that could reignite her campaign.

Other Indian shuttlers in action include HS Prannoy, fresh from a 2023 World Championships bronze, and Lakshya Sen, who is recovering from a back injury and faces a tough opener against world No.1 Shi Yu Qi. Women’s singles players like Anupama Upadhyaya, Rakshitha Sree Ramraj, and Malvika Bansod also gear up for challenging matches.

In doubles, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand take on Japan’s top pair, while India fields four mixed doubles pairs eager to make their mark in the tournament.

With a strong Indian contingent ready to fight, the Indonesia Open promises thrilling badminton action and a chance for India to shine on one of the sport’s biggest stages.



Squid Game Season 3 Trailer Drops: Will This Deadly Game Finally End?

Netflix has officially released the much-anticipated trailer for Squid Game: Season 3, setting the stage for what promises to be the most intense chapter yet. After the explosive global success of Season 1 and the somewhat polarizing reactions to Season 2, all eyes are now on the upcoming finale, premiering on June 27, 2025.

The trailer picks up where the second season left off, with protagonist Gi-hun still determined to put an end to the brutal and manipulative games once and for all. Haunted by loss and driven by justice, he continues his mission to dismantle the sinister organization behind the deadly contest — despite being warned, watched, and hunted.

Season 2 ended on a dark note with the shocking death of Jung-bae at the hands of the Front Man, and Season 3 teases a direct confrontation between Gi-hun and his masked nemesis. The emotional weight of the past two seasons carries over into the new one, but this time, the stakes are even higher.

According to the trailer, viewers can expect a brand-new set of games, with none repeated from previous seasons. The visuals hint at even more elaborate and psychologically tormenting challenges, designed not just to test physical endurance but also morality and



trust.

Netflix has also labeled Season 3 as “the final season,” with the tagline: “Every game must come to an end.” This suggests that the long-running mystery of who controls the game — and whether it can be stopped — may finally be answered.

The cast of Squid Game: Season 3 is stacked with talent, including Lee Jung-jae, Lee Byung-hun, Yim Si-wan, Kang Ha-neul, Wi Ha-jun, and Park Gyu-young, among others. The series also features a special appearance by Park Hee-soon. As with the previous seasons, the show is directed by Hwang Dong-hyuk.

With heightened drama, fresh games, and a final showdown looming, Squid Game fans are eagerly counting down to June 27. Will justice prevail, or will the game claim more lives before it ends?

Siddhu Jonnalagadda’s Telusu Kada Locks Diwali Release Date

Star Boy Siddhu Jonnalagadda is all set to charm audiences once again with his upcoming romantic drama Telusu Kada. The film, which marks the directorial debut of renowned stylist Neeraja Kona, now has an official release date — it will hit theatres on October 17, 2025, as a special Diwali release. To mark the announcement, the makers dropped a lively and colorful video featuring the film’s lead trio — Siddhu Jonnalagadda, Srinidhi Shetty, and Raashi Khanna. The promotional clip teases the film’s upbeat tone, hinting at a vibrant and emotionally rich journey packed with romance, humor, and feel-good moments. Produced by People Media Factory, Telusu Kada is positioned as an emotional yet entertaining film that explores love and relationships through a fresh lens. Known for his boy-next-door charm and effortless screen presence, Siddhu appears to be stepping into a role that blends heart and humor, a combination his fans have always loved. Joining him are Srinidhi Shetty, known for her impactful roles in action-dramas, and Raashi Khanna, who brings her signature charm and energy to the screen. The trio’s chemistry is expected to be a major highlight of the film. Adding to the buzz is the music by celebrated composer Thaman S, who is known for delivering hit soundtracks that resonate deeply with audiences.



His compositions are expected to play a significant role in shaping the emotional core and vibrant mood of Telusu Kada. Neeraja Kona, who has been a stylist for several major South Indian stars, steps into the director’s chair for the first time. With her strong visual sense and industry experience, expectations are high for her debut film. As Diwali approaches, Telusu Kada promises to offer a heartwarming cinematic treat. With a talented cast, a fresh directorial vision, and a festive release window, the film is already generating significant anticipation among movie lovers.

Stranger Things Season 5 Set for Three-Part Release This Year, Premiere Dates Announced

The wait is finally over for fans of the hit sci-fi series Stranger Things. Netflix has officially announced that the highly anticipated fifth and final season will be released in three parts later this year, with premiere dates confirmed for November, December, and New Year’s Eve.

At the recent Tudum fan event held at the Kia Forum in Los Angeles, Netflix revealed the exciting schedule. The first part of Stranger Things 5 will debut on November 26, 2025, followed by the second installment dropping on Christmas Day, and the series finale arriving just in time for New Year’s Eve. The announcement was made amidst a nostalgic look back at the series with stars Finn Wolfhard, Caleb McLaughlin, and Noah Schnapp.

Creators Ross and Matt Duffer provided some insight into the scale and emotional weight of the final season. Ross shared, “We spent a full year filming this season. By the end, we’d captured over 650 hours of footage. So, needless to say, this is our biggest and most ambitious season yet. It’s like eight blockbuster movies. It’s pretty insane.”



Matt added, “At the same time, we think it’s our most personal story. It was super intense and emotional to film — for us and for our actors. We’ve been making this show together for almost 10 years. There was a lot of crying. There was so much crying. The show means so much to all of us, and everyone put their hearts and souls into it. And we hope — and believe — that passion will translate to the screen.”

Stranger Things Season 4 premiered in two parts during the summer of 2022, with episodes released separately in May and July. The series stars a talented ensemble cast including Millie Bobby Brown, Finn Wolfhard, Noah Schnapp, Gaten Matarazzo, Caleb McLaughlin, Priah Ferguson, Natalia Dyer, Charlie Heaton, Maya Hawke, Joe Keery, David Harbour, Winona Ryder, and Brett Gelman.

With the final season promising an epic conclusion split across three festive releases, Stranger Things fans can prepare for an intense and emotional ride as the beloved series wraps up nearly a decade of storytelling.

Anushka Shetty’s ‘Ghaati’ Release Date Announced: A Riveting Action Thriller Set for July 11

Director Krish is gearing up to deliver another gripping action thriller, Ghaati, starring Anushka Shetty in the female lead role and Vikram Prabhu as the male lead. Fans eagerly awaiting this intense drama now have a date to mark on their calendars—Ghaati is set to hit theatres on July 11, 2025.

The official release date poster has already sparked excitement with its evocative imagery. It features Anushka, Vikram, and their group crossing a river, burdened with heavy jute bags strapped to their backs. The backdrop of the rugged hills adds a sense of scale and grandeur to the film’s narrative, hinting at the challenges the characters might face.

The movie’s tagline—“Victim. Criminal. Legend.”—succinctly captures the essence of Ghaati, suggesting a complex storyline filled with shades of morality and intense action. The film is produced by Rajeev Reddy and Sai Babu Jagarlamudi, and is presented by the renowned production house UV Creations.



The visual narrative of the film will be brought to life by cinematographer Manojh Reddy Katasani, while the music score is composed by Nagavelli Vidya Sagar, adding to the film’s immersive experience.

In the lead-up to the release, the makers have already rolled out two distinct glimpses introducing the principal characters played by Anushka Shetty and Vikram Prabhu. These teasers have helped build intrigue around their roles and the storyline. Audiences can expect regular updates and promotional content as the release date approaches, aimed at heightening the anticipation and buzz around Ghaati.

With Director Krish’s reputation for crafting intense, well-rounded narratives and a powerful cast, Ghaati promises to be a thrilling cinematic experience. As July 11 draws nearer, excitement is sure to build among fans of action-packed films and those eager to see Anushka Shetty take on another challenging and dynamic role.

Tourist Family: A Heartfelt Family Drama Now Streaming on Jio Hotstar

Tourist Family, the Tamil family entertainer, is now available in Telugu on Jio Hotstar from June 2, 2025. Directed by debutant Abishan Jeevinth, this simple yet emotional drama has already won hearts at the box office. Here’s a quick look at what makes the film worth your time.

The story follows Dharmadas (M. Sasikumar), his wife Vasanthi (Simran), and their two children, Nithushan (Mithun Jai Sankar) and Mulli (Kamalesh Jagan), as they flee worsening inflation in Sri Lanka and illegally cross into Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu. With help from a relative, Prakash (Yogi Babu), they settle in a colony where they rent a house from inspector Raghavan (Bagavathi Perumal). However, a bomb blast in the city triggers suspicion towards Sri



Lankan refugees, leading to tension and uncertainty. The film explores their struggle for survival and dignity

amid mistrust.

The biggest strength of Tourist Fami-

The film’s emotional scenes, from heartfelt family moments to the

struggles of everyday life, resonate strongly with middle-class audiences. Technical aspects such as Aravind Viswanathan’s cinematography and Sean Roldan’s soothing music complement the narrative beautifully. Editor Barath Vikraman keeps the pacing tight and engaging.

On the downside, the story is straightforward with few twists, and some supporting characters, like Nithushan, could have been better developed. Despite minor flaws, Tourist Family is a touching, well-crafted film that will leave you with a smile and a lump in your throat.

Rating: 3.5/5
Watch Tourist Family with your family for a wholesome, emotional experience.