

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

t°

H 33° C

L 25° C

VIJAYAWADA

t°

H 35° C

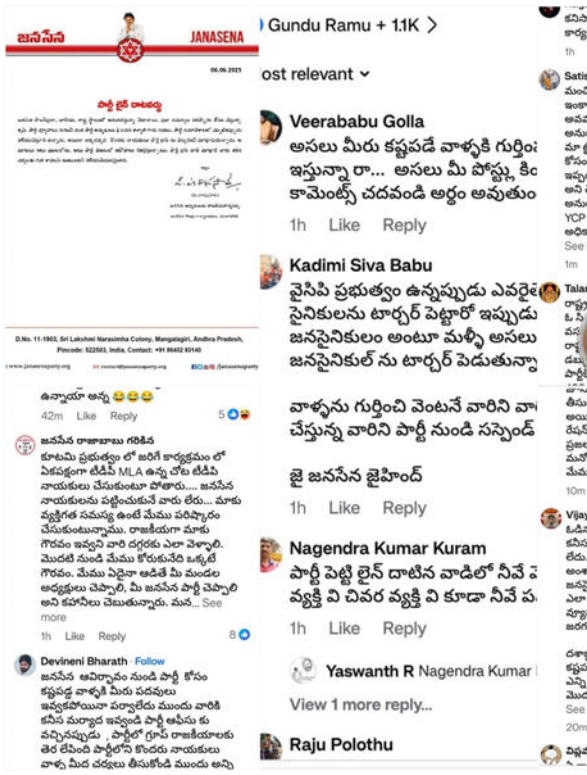
L 26° C

TIRUPATHI

t°

H 36° C

L 26° C



UNREST IN JANASENA EXPLODED @ SOCIAL MEDIA

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati
Janasena cadre and local leaders have lambasted the leadership of the party. They have responded very furiously against the order released from the Party Headquarters on Friday. Though the party has not mentioned the reasons or incidents in the order, they have warned the party people not to speak against the party line or strategies. “We came to know few have spoken against the party line. If this continues, stringent actions will be taken against them,” this is what was mentioned in the statement released by the party in the name of MLC Hari Prasad. But, within hours, the party cadre responded against this warning. They have questioned the party and Chief Pawan Kalyan: “What are you doing about the leaders who are looting people through corruption?” This is the major point raised in the comments made on social media. The second major one is: “In many areas, TDP leaders are humiliating us and not allowing us, though it’s an alliance government and Janasena is a partner of it.” In many constituencies, Janasena cadre are angry at the TDP leaders’ approach. This was highlighted when a small leader from Pedana attempted suicide. Recently, a leader from Tiruvuru questioned the corruption through illegal sand transportation. He was summoned by the party and asked for an explanation. The issue is that when he went to the office to submit his written reply, there was allegedly nobody to receive his letter. In the social media comments, one more issue

was also highlighted. PDS rice is being distributed through ration shops and after three days, the rice is lifted by the ration mafia, but no action was taken against it. Though Pawan Kalyan showcased a “seize the ship” episode and Minister Nadendla Manohar exposed a few instances regarding the ration mafia, there has been no clear-cut action against it, and there is allegedly no break for that mafia in the state. Raising all these issues, Janasena cadre have directly questioned Pawan Kalyan. Actually, the warning was issued by the party because of the uproar against the move to reinvestigate the Tuni case. A few questioned what Pawan is doing and why he can’t stop it. Though the move’s intention is said to be against Mudragada Padmanabham, many opined that it will hurt the emotions of the Kapu community. More than this, the warning

letter issued by the party has caused tremors within the party, with reverse allegations now surfacing. Many know that Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy allegedly utilized Mudragada as a weapon. Even the Tuni incident was allegedly hatched by YSRC and executed by their people. But the remark was made on the Kapu people because of Mudragada, some opined. Now, TDP is utilizing Pawan like this, a Kapu leader has alleged. “Whatever and however, Mr. Pawan Kalyan has to build the party organization in a constructive manner. He has to conduct regular meetings at the local level and listen to the opinions coming from the ground level. If he wants to listen only to the leaders around him, he will lose for sure, and issues like this will come to the forefront on a regular basis,” a leader opined.

The Trump/ Musk breakup is now official?

Trump warns of canceling government contracts to Musk
Elon Musk hints at forming a new political party
Tesla shares fall 14 percent, losing \$150 billion



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
The public fallout between Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk and former US President Donald Trump has escalated sharply, sending shockwaves through political and financial circles. Elon Musk, reacting strongly to recent events, has hinted at forming a new political party, signaling a significant shift in his political engagement. The dispute ignited when Musk criticized a recent government spending bill, calling it a “disgusting piece of garbage.” Trump responded with threats to cancel government contracts awarded to Musk’s companies. In retaliation, Musk warned about potentially decommissioning SpaceX’s Dragon spacecraft. The tension further deepened as Musk alleged Trump’s involvement in the Jeffrey Epstein files, which have not been made public. Musk tweeted, “Time to drop the really big bomb: [Donald Trump] is in the Epstein files. That is the real reason they have not been made public. Have a nice day, DJT!” Trump fired back via his social media platform Truth Social, expressing disappointment with Musk and accusing him of overreacting to the bill’s EV mandate cuts.

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- Chenab Bridge connects Kashmir by rail; Vande Bharat launched
- PM Modi dedicates Chenab Bridge to the nation during J&K visit
- USBRL project now fully operational, connecting Kashmir year-round

mulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, now connects the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country by rail for the first time in history. The Prime Minister landed at the Air Force Station in Udhampur and later visited the Chenab Bridge site where he formally inaugurated the iconic structure. Built over the Chenab River, the bridge is being hailed as an engineering marvel and a symbol of India’s growing infrastructure capabilities. This visit marks PM Modi’s first trip to Jammu and Kashmir following Operation Sindhur -

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Corona Cases Cross 5,300 in India



- Kerala tops the list; four new deaths reported in 24 hours
- 498 new Covid cases reported across India in a day
- Total active cases rise to 5,364; Kerala alone has 1,679
- Four deaths in 24 hours; Covid death toll now at 55

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
The Covid-19 pandemic is once again raising concerns across India, with the number of active coronavirus cases steadily increasing. According to the latest bulletin issued by the Union Min-

istry of Health and Family Welfare at 8 am on Friday, the total number of active Covid cases in the country has risen to 5,364. In the past 24 hours alone, India recorded 498 new coronavirus cases. The surge has also led to four fresh fatalities — two from Kerala and one each from Punjab and Karnataka. With these, the total number of Covid-related deaths during this new outbreak has reached 55. Kerala continues to report the highest number of

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Fake Ghee Supplied for Tirumala Laddu: CBI in High Court

- Bholebaba Dairy named as master-mind
- Bail hearing postponed to June 17
- CBI says fake ghee made with palm oil, chemicals was supplied to TTD
- Accused allegedly threatened witnesses; CBI opposes bail
- Bholebaba Dairy linked through front firms AR and Vaishnavi Dairies



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh
Shocking revelations have emerged in the Tirumala ghee scam, with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) informing the Andhra Pradesh High Court that fake ghee, made using palm oil and chemicals, was supplied for preparing the sacred Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) laddu prasadam. The CBI alleged that Bholebaba Dairy, already blacklisted

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PM Modi Inaugurates World’s Highest Railway Bridge

a major cross-border response to the Pahalgam terror attack in April that resulted in the deaths of 26 people. In addition to the Chenab Bridge, the Prime Minister also inaugurated India’s first cable-stayed railway bridge — the Anji Bridge — further enhancing connectivity in the region. He also flagged off two new Vande Bharat Express trains connecting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra with Srinagar. With the launch of these projects,

the entire 272-kilometre-long US-BRL project becomes fully operational. Officials believe these infrastructural developments will significantly boost tourism, improve local connectivity, and contribute to the economic growth of Jammu and Kashmir. The projects fulfil a long-standing dream of providing uninterrupted, all-weather transportation to the Kashmir Valley, even during harsh winters and difficult terrain conditions.

The Trump/Musk breakup is now official?

Trump said, “Elan is ‘annoying’, I asked him to go. I took away his EV mandate that made everyone buy electric cars that no one wanted... and he acted like a madman!” The escalating feud has severely impacted Tesla’s stock performance. Tesla shares plummeted 14 percent in a single day, wiping out over \$150 billion in market capitalization, with the company’s valuation dropping below the \$1 trillion mark for the first time this year, closing at \$916 billion. The stock has lost nearly 30 percent of its value so far in 2025, a sharp decline from the December 18 high of \$488.54 per share.

Despite this, Musk asserted on X (formerly Twitter), “Without me, Trump would have lost the election, Democrats would have controlled the House, and Republicans would have held the Senate 51-49,” underscoring his belief in his political influence. Musk’s active political stance marks a departure from his recent role as head of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) in the Trump administration, which ended on May 30. As tensions rise, the future of Musk-Trump relations remains uncertain, while Tesla’s market performance reflects the turbulence in this high-profile clash.

Fake Ghee Supplied for Tirumala Laddu: CBI in High Court

by the TTD, was the mastermind behind the fraud and operated through front companies AR Dairy and Vaishnavi Dairy. CBI counsel PSP Suresh Kumar presented the agency’s findings before the court on Thursday during the hearing on bail petitions filed by the accused. The court was told that the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team (SIT) found Bholebaba Dairy had no proper infrastructure to procure milk or manufacture ghee, as confirmed by farmers. The SIT concluded that fake ghee was being manufactured with palm oil and other chemicals and supplied to TTD via AR and Vaishnavi Dairies under a coordinated conspiracy. The CBI argued strongly against granting bail, stating that the accused were financially and politically influential and posed a threat to the investigation. A key witness, Sanjeev Jain, was allegedly attacked and forced to return to Delhi after landing at Tirupati airport. The CBI also informed the court that one of the accused, Ashish Rohilla, had planned to confess but a petition

was filed in his name without his knowledge, which he later complained about to the High Court Registrar via email. Senior advocates CV Mohan Reddy and S. Sriram, appearing on behalf of the accused, argued that their clients had been in judicial custody for four months, the investigation was complete, and the SIT had already filed the chargesheet. They claimed that only AR Dairy had any agreement with TTD, and directors of Bholebaba and Vaishnavi Dairies were not involved. They urged the court to grant bail, citing health issues and willingness to comply with any court-imposed conditions. Those seeking bail include AR Dairy MD Raju Rajasekharan (Accused No. 2), Bholebaba Organic Dairy directors Pomil Jain (Accused No. 3) and Vipin Jain (Accused No. 4), and Vaishnavi Dairy CEO Apoorva Vinaykanth Chavada (Accused No. 5). After hearing arguments from both sides, Justice TCD Shekhar adjourned the hearing to June 17 on the request of the accused’s counsel.

Corona Cases Cross 5,300 in India

active cases, standing at 1,679. The state is followed by Gujarat, West Bengal, and Delhi in terms of active caseload, health ministry officials said. The recent spike has triggered alarm among health authorities, who are closely monitoring the situation and urging people to follow safety protocols. Although the numbers remain significantly lower than previous pandemic peaks, the upward trend is being

treated seriously due to the potential for further spread. Public health experts have suggested that while vaccination coverage has helped control the severity, complacency could lead to faster transmission. States have been advised to enhance surveillance, test-trace-isolate strategies, and ensure hospital readiness in case of further escalation.

CM Naidu Plans Vizag Economic Region with 8 Districts

- CM targets \$120 billion economy by 2032
- Beach corridor from Moolapet to Kakinada

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is stepping up efforts to transform the state into a major economic hub, with a special focus on Visakhapatnam. On Friday, the Chief Minister met NITI Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam at the Secretariat, where a detailed discussion was held on accelerating the state’s development through strategic infrastructure and economic policies. During the meeting, Naidu revealed plans to establish a Visakhapatnam Economic Region by integrating eight districts around the city. The CM said this initiative aims to transform Visakhapatnam into a vibrant economic zone that could mirror Mumbai in terms of infrastructure and financial activity. He added that the state is targeting a \$120 billion economy by the year 2032, and this new region will play a critical role in achieving that target. To support this ambitious goal, the Chief Minister directed officials to identify one lakh acres of land across the state to accommodate upcoming industrial and development projects. Naidu stressed that improving infrastructure is



central to his government’s vision, with a focus on industrial clusters, ports, and urban transformation. As part of enhancing coastal connectivity and promoting tourism, the Chief Minister also announced plans to develop a beach road corridor from Moolapet to Kakinada. This proposed corridor, he said, will not only strengthen transport links but also boost tourism-related activity in the region. The meeting with NITI Aayog is seen as a significant step in aligning Andhra Pradesh’s development blueprint with national growth strategies. Analysts believe these bold decisions signal a renewed push by the new government to position Andhra Pradesh as a leading economic and industrial state in the country.

Govt Signs Key Agreement with NVIDIA for AI Skill Training

- MoU signed in presence of Minister Nara Lokesh
- 10,000 students to be trained in AI; 500 startups to be supported
- NVIDIA to partner in building AI infrastructure and resources

TPN Correspondent | Amaravati

In a major step toward making Andhra Pradesh a leader in artificial intelligence (AI), the state government signed a significant agreement with global AI computing giant NVIDIA. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), signed in the presence of Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh, aims to collaborate on the establishment of an AI University and provide skill training to youth in AI technologies. The agreement is part of the coalition government’s broader vision to transform Andhra Pradesh into a hub for AI research, innovation, and advanced education. As per the MoU, skill development training in AI will be provided to 10,000 students across engineering colleges in the state. Additionally, support will be extended for the incubation and growth of 500 AI-based startups. This initiative follows a meeting held in October last year, where Minister Nara Lokesh met NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang in Mumbai and proposed collaboration for setting up the AI University in Amaravati. With NVIDIA now officially on board, the project is moving into execution mode. The government also plans to equip the AI University with cutting-edge computing resources, advanced software platforms, and robust hardware infrastructure. The partnership will enable a collaborative ecosystem among the gov-



ernment, private sector, and academic institutions. It will also open up opportunities for student projects, research collaborations, mentorship, and market linkages — laying a solid foundation for an innovation-driven startup ecosystem. The agreement signifies a strategic leap toward positioning Andhra Pradesh at the forefront of AI-based transformation in India. Officials emphasized that this is not only a landmark in educational reforms but also a major employment and economic opportunity for the youth. Present at the MoU signing were NVIDIA South Asia Managing Director Vishal Dhupar, Strategic Business Director Ganesh Mahabala, AVP Primus Partner Suman Kasana, Education Secretary Kona Shashidhar, Collegiate Education Commissioner Narayana Bharat Gupta, and APSHE Chairman Prof. K. Madhumurthy, among others.

AP Liquor Case Hearing Postponed To June 10

- Vijayawada court delays bail hearing to June 10
- Investigation by ED and ACB gains momentum

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The ongoing high-profile liquor scam case in Andhra Pradesh has witnessed another delay as the Vijayawada court postponed the hearing scheduled for this week to June 10. The court was hearing bail petitions filed by some of the accused in the case. After listening to arguments from both prosecution and defense, the judge decided to adjourn the proceedings, citing the need for more time. This development comes at a time when investigative agencies, including the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), have intensified their probe into the scam. The agencies are uncovering more critical details, making the case more complex. Among the key accused facing charges are Raj Kasireddy, former Chief Minister YS Jagan’s former secretary K. Dhananjaya Reddy, and P. Krishna Mohan Reddy. Their names surfaced prominently in remand reports linked to other accused in the investigation. In a recent development, Dhananjaya Reddy, Krishna Mohan Reddy, and Bharati Cements Director Govindappa sought anticipatory bail from the Andhra Pradesh High Court, but their petitions were rejected, indicating the seriousness of the charges against them. The postponement of the hearing has sparked discussions on the increasing pressure on the government and law enforcement agencies to expedite the investigation and bring clarity to this scandal that has captured public attention in Andhra Pradesh.

Mega DSC 2025 Exams Begin in Andhra Pradesh

- 16,347 teacher posts to be filled
- Strict rules in place across 154 centers

TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

The much-awaited Mega DSC 2025 teacher recruitment exams began across Andhra Pradesh on Friday, marking a crucial step toward filling 16,347 vacant teaching posts in the state. Conducted in a computer-based format, the exams are being held in two daily shifts and will continue until June 30. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu extended his wishes to the candidates appearing for the exams through a post on X (formerly Twitter). “Best wishes to the candidates appearing for the AP DSC 2025 Teacher Recruitment Exam!” he wrote, acknowledging the significance of the process for lakhs of unemployed teacher aspirants. The exams are being conducted at 154 centers—137 within Andhra Pradesh and 17 outside the state. Each day will have two sessions, with the morning session running from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm, and the afternoon session

from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm. Authorities have laid down strict rules and guidelines to ensure a smooth and fair examination process. DSC Convener Venkata Krishna Reddy emphasized that no candidate will be allowed into the exam center even a minute after the scheduled time, urging all aspirants to report on time and strictly follow the instructions. Additionally, for candidates whose hall tickets lack photographs, officials have instructed them to carry two recent passport-size photographs. In cases of errors in hall tickets, candidates are advised to bring valid government-issued ID proof such as Aadhaar card, PAN card, or Voter ID. Officials have also asked candidates to maintain discipline and cooperate with exam staff, as the large-scale recruitment is being conducted under tight security and monitoring. The Mega DSC 2025 is seen as a significant step by the government in strengthening the state’s education system and addressing long-pending teacher shortages.

Telangana Will Not Accept Banakacharla Project: Uttam

AP’s Banakacharla project violates all inter-state water guidelines

TPN Correspondent | Telangana
State Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy on Friday strongly objected to the Andhra Pradesh government’s move on the Banakacharla irrigation project, asserting that Telangana will not accept the project under any circumstances. He alleged that the project blatantly violates all norms related to inter-state water dispute resolution, including the guidelines issued by the GRMB, CWC, and the Apex Council. Speaking to the media, Uttam revealed that he had already written detailed objection let-

ters to Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, explaining how Telangana’s interests were being sidelined. He disclosed that Union Minister Patil assured him that the Centre had not yet received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh and, if one is received, it would be strictly scrutinized in line with legal provisions. Uttam Kumar Reddy warned that the Telangana government will take a strong stand and fight uncompromisingly if any injustice is done. “We will not tolerate any encroachment on Telangana’s rightful share

of water. There is no question of backing down,” he asserted. He appealed to Telangana’s Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay to act swiftly and represent Telangana’s concerns before the Centre. The minister blamed the previous BRS government for failing to protect Telangana’s water rights. He alleged that during the last decade, while Telangana was entitled to 724 TMC of Krishna waters as per the original allocation, Andhra Pradesh was diverting up to 1,254 TMC annually with the BRS government’s silent cooperation. He claimed that this betrayal had

severely impacted the state’s irrigation prospects. Highlighting the Kaleshwaram project as another instance of poor planning and misuse of resources, Uttam said, “If the ₹68,000 crore wasted on Kaleshwaram had been used for Krishna basin projects, they would have been completed by now.” He criticized the decision to construct the project at Medigadda instead of Thummidihatti, calling it a costly mistake. He also questioned, “Wasn’t it the previous BRS government that agreed to allocate only 299 TMC to Telangana and 512 TMC



to Andhra Pradesh?” He called this a historic blunder that compromised the state’s rightful share. Uttam Kumar Reddy reaffirmed the Congress-led Tel-

angana government’s commitment to protecting the state’s water interests, stating that they will fight at every forum if necessary to ensure justice for Telangana.

From Now On, DSC Will Be Conducted Every Year: Minister Lokesh



TPN Correspondent | Amaravati
Education Minister Nara Lokesh announced that the Mega DSC (District Selection Committee) exams have been successfully conducted after a gap of seven years. He congratulated the entire machinery for starting the examinations in a disciplined and efficient manner. Speaking about the Mega DSC, he highlighted that this year’s recruitment involved the highest number of 16,347 teacher posts, calling it a historic milestone that could be recorded in golden letters. Minister Nara Lokesh further declared that from now on, the government will conduct the DSC exams every year to fill teacher vacancies and progressively improve the educational standards in the state. He emphasized that the ultimate goal is to establish AP Model Education within the next four years, which would signify a major leap in the quality of education across Andhra Pradesh. In addition to recruitment, Nara Lokesh pointed out that a transparent process for transfers and promotions has been initiated for the first time. He noted that around four thousand school assistants have already been promoted, marking a significant step in the career progression of teachers. The Minister also revealed the launch of Project A-A (Akshara Andhra), aimed at achieving 100 percent literacy across the state. Recently, Nara Lokesh held a detailed review meeting with senior officials from various education departments, including schools, intermediate, higher education, adult education, and comprehensive education, at his residence in Undavalli, to discuss the progress and future plans for the education sector.

Public Grievance Forum Held in Pendurthi, Pollution and Jobs Dominate Complaints

TPN Correspondent | Visakhapatnam
The constituency-level public grievance redressal forum for Pendurthi was held today, June 6, 2025, at the Telugu Desam Party office in Paravada. The program was organized under the leadership of APOILFED Chairman, Visakhapatnam District Parliament President, Pendurthi Constituency In-charge and former MLA Shri Gandhi Babji. People from across the Pendurthi constituency participated in large numbers and submitted their grievances. A total of around 100 complaints were received during the forum. Among the key concerns raised were pollution caused by pharmaceutical companies,



lack of employment opportunities for local residents, and various revenue-related issues. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Gandhi Babji assured the people that all complaints would be tak-

en seriously and efforts would be made to resolve them at the earliest. He instructed party leaders and officials to communicate with the respective departments and take necessary action swiftly.

Local leaders, party activists, and a large number of supporters were present at the event, which reflected the public’s trust in the redressal efforts taken by the constituency leadership.

CM Relief Fund a Boon for the Poor: MLA Madhavi Reddy 18 beneficiaries receive ₹12 lakh in aid from CMRF



TPN Correspondent | Kadapa
Government Whip and MLA Madhavi Reddy stated that the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund (CMRF) is proving to be a true lifeline for the poor, offering critical support during medical emergencies. On Friday, she personally handed over cheques worth a total of ₹12 lakh to 18 beneficiaries at her residence in Dwarkanagar, Kadapa. Speaking on the occasion, Madhavi Reddy said, “The CM Relief Fund is a boon for the underprivileged. Many families are pushed into debt due to medical expenses, and it is during such times that CM Chandrababu Naidu’s compassionate governance provides vital assis-

tance.” She emphasized that Chandrababu Naidu is a leader who stands with the poor, and the government’s swift response to genuine needs highlights its commitment to social welfare. “Whether it’s medical expenses or personal crises, our government ensures that no citizen is left helpless,” she added. The MLA assured that her doors are always open to those in need and reiterated her dedication to serving the people of Kadapa. She also called upon the public to come forward with any issues, promising that timely help will be extended through the appropriate government channels.

Praja Darbar Held in Srikalahasti; MLA Bojjala Sudheer Reddy Addresses Key Issues



TPN | C Shekar
Srikalahasti: A praja darbar program was organized at the PR Guest House in Srikalahasti town, bringing together officials from various departments and local leaders to address public concerns. The event saw the active participation of MLA Bojjala Sudheer Reddy, who engaged with officials and discussed important local issues. Speaking to the media, the MLA held discussions with the municipal department officials

regarding the collection of house tax and housing tax. He also instructed the electricity department to expedite the installation of new electric lights in villages surrounding the Srikalahasti constituency to improve rural infrastructure. MLA Sudheer Reddy expressed his strong displeasure over illegal constructions in Rajiv Nagar, Srikalahasti, and assured that he would personally oversee the monitoring and clearance of unauthorized house sites soon. Addressing concerns of the local press, he assured journalists that three cents of land will be allocated to them shortly in Srikalahasti. Additionally, he committed to the restoration of the Skit Engineering College to its former standards within the next two months. The program was attended by prominent local leaders including town presidents Vijay Kumar, Muniraja Naidu, Kurnool Prabhakar Reddy, former councilor Durga Prasad, and others like Vinay Balaji, Bujji Siddalaya, and Hari, who supported the MLA’s initiatives and plans.

YS Jagan Consoles Narayana Reddy’s Family Over Tragic Death

Assures full support from YSRCP to grieving family

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa

Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy reached out to the bereaved family of YSRCP leader Narayana Reddy from Maidukuru constituency, who tragically ended his life on Thursday. The former CM spoke to the family over the phone and assured them that the YSRCP would stand by them in this time of grief. Party Disciplinary Committee Chairman and former Maidukuru MLA Raghurami Reddy also communicated with the family members to understand the circumstances that led to Narayana Reddy’s suicide. According to the relatives, Narayana Reddy, a flower vendor from Dumbalagattu village in Khajipet mandal, took the extreme step after an allegedly false ganja case was filed against him, leading to his arrest and mental distress. The family accused the local police of severe harassment during his custody, particularly because he was unable to pay a bribe. They said that this humiliation and custodial pressure drove him to



despair and ultimately to suicide. His death has left his wife and two children in a vulnerable state, with their future now uncertain. YS Jagan expressed his deep sorrow over the incident and consoled the grieving family, urging them not to lose hope. He assured them that the party would provide necessary support to ensure their well-being and pledged to take up the matter with seriousness.



Fertilizers Adequately Available for Kharif Season

11.09 LMT fertilizer stock available across Andhra Pradesh

Nano Urea and Nano D.A.P. introduced as eco-friendly alternatives
Farmers urged to verify MRP, report black marketing



TPN Correspondent | Andhra Pradesh

In preparation for the Kharif 2025 season, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has ensured the abundant availability of fertilizers across the state, according to Director of Agriculture Sri S. Dilli Rao, IAS. The Department of Agriculture, through a robust supply mechanism, has made all key fertilizers available to support uninterrupted agricultural operations during the upcoming season.

As per the Fertilizer Distribution Plan – Kharif 2025, a total of 16.76 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of fertilizers are planned for distribution. This includes Urea (6.22 LMT), D.A.P. (2.60 LMT), M.O.P. (0.70 LMT), S.S.P. (0.94 LMT) and Complex Fertilizers (6.30 LMT).

The opening stock as of April 1, 2025, was 7.14 LMT, and between April 1 and June 6, 3.95 LMT of fertilizers have already been supplied, exceeding the demand of 2.07 LMT during the same period.

As of June 6, 2025, 11.09 LMT of fertilizers are available in the state, with 9.09 LMT in stock across Co-operative Societies, Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs), MARK-FED Warehouses, Retailers, and Company

Godowns. Additionally, 2.01 LMT is ready for immediate distribution through RSKs and co-operative networks.

So far, 2.00 LMT of fertilizers have already been sold to farmers across the state, including 0.92 LMT Urea, 0.15 LMT D.A.P., 0.14 LMT M.O.P., 0.18 LMT S.S.P., and 0.62 LMT Complex Fertilizers.

For the month of June alone, the Government of India has allocated 2.35 LMT of fertilizers to Andhra Pradesh, which includes significant quantities of all key categories. These will be monitored and supplied through authorized channels under the direct supervision of the Agriculture Department.

The department also announced the availability of new Nano Urea and Nano D.A.P., touted as 100% efficient alternatives to conventional fertilizers, aiming to promote sustainable agricultural practices.

Advisory to Farmers:

Always verify the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the fertilizer bags.

Pay only the MRP and insist on a receipt. Report any cases of hoarding, overpricing, or black marketing. Strict legal action will be taken under the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985, and licenses will be cancelled for any violations.

The Department emphasized that there is no shortage of fertilizers and both domestic production and imports are meeting current demands.

This assurance comes as a significant relief to farmers preparing for the Kharif season, reinforcing the state's commitment to agricultural productivity and farmer welfare.

VMC Chief Plans Comprehensive Measures to Tackle Monsoon Challenges

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dhyanachandra H M conducted a teleconference on Friday morning with the heads, staff and secretaries of the Engineering, Sanitation, Town Planning departments. The discussion focused on identifying and addressing problems arising during rainfall in the VMC limits.

The Commissioner instructed officials to identify monsoon-related issues in all three constituencies under VMC and implement necessary measures for immediate and long-term solutions. He directed them to submit a detailed report covering the nature of problems encountered during rains at the Secretariat, ward, and constituency levels, along with proposed temporary and permanent solutions.

Each Secretariat has been asked to identify and report the number and location of dangerous potholes, and to ensure that they are repaired immediately. Locations where rain-water tends to stagnate should be



marked as black spots, and VMC vehicles must be deployed to clear the water. If the existing fleet is insufficient, additional vehicles should be arranged.

He also directed that roads with potholes that may pose a danger during rains should be repaired promptly. If repair is not possible immediately, warning signboards should be placed to alert the public. The Commissioner asked officials to analyze the causes of water stagnation in the city and submit a report with both short-term and

long-term remedies so that rain-water does not remain stagnant on city roads.

In case of unexpected floods, areas prone to waterlogging must be identified in advance, and necessary arrangements should be made to inform residents and shift them to designated rehabilitation centers. He questioned officials about flood-prone zones in each constituency, and officials shared the relevant information with the Commissioner.

Additionally, officials were instructed to identify the rehabilitation centers where the affected population can be relocated and submit a detailed report on the same.

On another note, the Commissioner stressed the need to accelerate the desilting process in city canals. He stated that desilting must be an ongoing process, and that drains within the city as well as the outfall drains leading to final discharge points should be covered completely.



KL University achieves milestone in placements with over 7,000 offers across engineering and non-engineering streams

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

KL University continues its stellar performance in campus placements, with over 7,000 job offers and more than 5,000 students placed across various disciplines. The university's engineering stream achieved 100% placements, while students from degree and postgraduate programs also recorded impressive success with offers from over 155 companies, announced Dr. Saravana Babu, Senior Director of the University Placements Department, during a press meet held at the University Administration Office on Friday.

He said over 450 national companies and 50 international firms visited the campus for recruitment. Despite engineering placements concluding, many students are still participating in campus drives as new and better offers continue to roll in.

Dr. M. Kishore Babu, Dean of MHS Department, highlighted the growing success in non-engineering placements. Over 1,500 offers were made by top firms including Bank of America, Deloitte, ITC, Accenture, and TCS, with 1,087 students placed and the highest CTC reaching ₹10.7 lakh in degree streams.

The university recently launched an 'Industry on Campus' program, aiming to establish 15 companies on campus; three are already operational. "Our goal is to ensure every student receives skill-based training and quality placements," said Admissions Director Dr. J. Srinivasa Rao. Dignitaries including Bollineni Suresh Babu, Dr. P. Venugopal Rao, and Samuel Philip Babu attended the event, reaffirming KL University's commitment to industry-academia synergy.

Dr. Chalapathy, Associate Dean, and other university officials were present at the program.

AIIMS Mangalagiri crosses 25 lakh OPD consultations



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

AIIMS Mangalagiri has achieved a significant milestone by crossing 25 lakh OPD consultations since the launch of its services just over five years ago, reinforcing its role as a beacon of quality healthcare in the state.

In a release, the institute attributed this achievement to its commitment to accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare. From its early days, AIIMS Mangalagiri has rapidly earned the trust of lakhs of patients across the state and neighbor-

ing regions, thanks to its dedicated and multidisciplinary medical teams.

"This milestone is a reflection of the compassion, professionalism, and tireless service of our staff," the institute noted, reaffirming its commitment to serve with empathy and clinical excellence.

With growing demand for specialized and general care, AIIMS Mangalagiri continues to expand its services, staying true to its mission of being a center of medical innovation and patient-centered care.

‘Shining Stars Award’ to honour top SSC and Intermediate students

TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The state government has launched the 'Shining Stars Award' scheme for the academic year 2024-25. The initiative replaces earlier award systems and aims to felicitate meritorious students from all managements, both government and private, in SSC and Intermediate public examinations.

According to a recent government order, the award will be conferred upon students who secure top marks in their respective categories. In the SSC category, students scoring 500/600 (83.33%) and above will be eligible at the mandal level, while Intermediate students scoring 830 and above will be selected at the district level. Special provisions are also made for students in the CWSN (Children With Special Needs) category.

Each awardee will receive a medal, certificate, and a cash prize of Rs 20,000. In to-

tal, 6 students per mandal from SSC (OC, BC, SC, ST categories) and 36 students per district from Intermediate streams (MPC, BiPC, HEC, CEC/MEC, Vocational) will be honoured, alongside CWSN achievers.

"The Shining Stars Award is a celebration of talent, hard work, and the spirit of education," said Kona Sasidhar, Secretary, School Education Department. "By recognising the toppers across categories without income limitations, we hope to encourage a culture of merit and educational continuity across the state."

The awards will be presented at a special programme chaired by the District In-charge Ministers on June 9, 2025, at the respective district headquarters. The Board of Intermediate Education will bear the full expenditure of the programme and has been directed to release funds to district collectors accordingly.

CRDA pledges priority resolution for Amaravati assigned land issues



TPN Correspondent | Vijayawada

The Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (AP CRDA) has assured farmers that their petitions, particularly related to as-

signed lands in Amaravati, will be resolved on a priority basis.

Addressing farmers and farm labourers during a Grievance Day programme at the CRDA office in

Tullur, Additional Commissioner G. Suryasai Praveen Chand, said that all petitions regarding assigned land issues and returnable plot-related flooding will be handled promptly as per government directions.

CRDA's Planning Department will take up complaints related to street flooding, he added. Out of 23 complaints received during the programme, 18 were related to land matters, and several were resolved on the spot with help from various department officials.

The Additional Commissioner instructed staff to expedite pending matters and warned against delays. He also urged farmers to utilize the Grievance Day held every Friday from 10 AM to 1 PM.

Officials present included Special Deputy Collectors B. Sai Srinivasa Nayak, M. Seshi Reddy, K.S. Bhagyaekha, and others. The initiative reflects the CRDA's renewed effort to address the concerns of Amaravati's capital region residents in a transparent and timely manner.

Former MP Yarlagadda Ankineedu Prasad Passes Away

Body to be brought to Challapalli for public homage

He was a key figure in education and temple development in Krishna district

TPN Correspondent | Krishna
Former Machilipatnam MP and prominent member of the Challapalli royal family, Sri-manthu Raja Yarlagadda Ankineedu Prasad Bahadur, passed away on Friday at the age of 86. According to family sources, he breathed his last at his residence in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The news of his demise has cast a pall of gloom across the Krishna district, especially in Challapalli and the surrounding areas.

Ankineedu Prasad was not only a former Member of Parliament but also a notable figure in the field of education and temple administration. He served as the correspondent of Srimanthuraja Yarlagadda Sivaramaprasad Bahadur (SRYSF) Junior College in Challapalli and played a key role in expanding access to quality education in the region.

The mortal remains of Ankineedu Prasad will be brought to Challapalli on Saturday to allow the public to pay their last respects. Several political leaders and community representatives have expressed their grief over his passing, describing it as a great loss to society.

Avanigadda MLA Mandali Budha Prasad paid rich tributes, recalling the legacy of the Challapalli Zamindar family in both feudal and democratic systems. "As hereditary trustees of the temples in Challapalli Estate, Ankineedu Prasad and his brothers made outstanding contributions to the develop-



ment of temples like Mopidevi, Sriakulam, Pedakallepalli, Yarlagadda, and Sivaganga. Their services brought immense benefit to the local community," he said. "Through SRYSF High School and College, they provided educational opportunities to thousands of underprivileged students," he added, noting that Ankineedu Prasad's death was a huge personal and public loss.

APRTC Chairman and senior leader Konakalla Narayana also expressed his deep sorrow, stating, "Ankineedu Prasad garu was a man of great compassion, always accessible to the common people. He never discriminated based on caste, creed, or party and was loved by everyone." He described him as a rare political leader and humanitarian whose presence will be deeply missed.

Several local leaders and residents of the Krishna district remembered Ankineedu Prasad for his humility, public service, and dedication to social causes. His death is being seen as an irreparable loss to the political and social fabric of the region.

‘Yogandhra’ Program Grandly Organized at Chintapalli Beach



TPN Correspondent | Vizianagaram
The 'Yogandhra' program was grandly organized at Chintapalli Beach in Vizianagaram district, drawing thousands of enthusiastic participants. Conducted under the auspices of the state government, the event saw people coming together to perform various yoga asanas, promoting health and wellness.

District Collector Dr. BR Ambedkar and other senior officials actively participated in the program. The District Collector urged everyone to make yoga an integral part of their daily lives and encouraged all citizens to join the movement by becoming a part of 'Yogandhra'.

Vishwa Vallabha Tirtha Swamiji Visits Sri City

Swamiji inaugurates Navagraha, Rashi, Nakshatra forests at Prasanna Venkateswara Temple



TPN | C Shekar
Tirupati: The 36th Peethadhipathi of the Sode Vadiraja Math and a prominent figure among the Ashta Mathas of Udipi, Sri Vishwa Vallabha Tirtha Swamiji, visited Sri City on Friday, bringing a wave of spiritual reverence to the industrial hub. Swamiji, accompanied by his disciples, was warmly received in a traditional manner

by Sri City Managing Director Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy at the local business center. Dr. Sannareddy apprised the seer of the industrial zone's progress, employment generation, eco-friendly initiatives, and green development efforts. Addressing a special gathering of Sri City industrial CEOs and residents, Swamiji noted that the remarkable growth

of Sri City was a combination of human effort and divine grace. "There is spiritual energy in the name 'Sri City' itself," he said, urging all to integrate spirituality into their lives for inner peace and balance. He conveyed his blessings to the people and administration of Sri City and hoped for its continued prosperity. Later, the Swamiji visited the

Sri Prasanna Venkateswara Swamy Temple, where he formally inaugurated the Navagraha Vanam, Rashi Vanam, and Nakshatra Vanam—three sacred groves dedicated to celestial and astrological significance—developed within the temple premises.

Dr. Ravindra Sannareddy expressed that Swamiji's visit on the auspicious Ekadashi day was a rare spiritual privilege for Sri City. He highlighted that the timing of the inauguration, just a day after World Environment Day, was deeply symbolic, blending spiritual awareness with environmental consciousness. He said the initiative would serve as an inspiration to reinforce nature conservation through divine principles.

The gathering expressed heartfelt gratitude to Sri City management, calling the Swamiji's blessings and presence a rare spiritual boon for residents and employees alike.

The Goal Is To Solve People's Problems: MLA Prashanthi Reddy

Promises housing for all and pledges phased development for Gumalladibba



TPN Correspondent | Nellore
Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy reaffirmed that the coalition government is committed to the welfare of the poor and ensuring development reaches every segment of society. Participating

in a public grievance redressal program held in Gumalladibba village of Kovur mandal on Thursday, the MLA directly interacted with villagers and listened to their issues. Speaking on the occasion, she said that "no one should be left

without a house" and assured that housing would be provided to the landless, particularly among the Scheduled Tribes. The MLA also planted saplings in a local school as part of World Environment Day celebrations and emphasized the importance of environmental consciousness. Highlighting recent development efforts, she announced that a handloom cluster in Patur has been established with MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy's support at a cost of ₹76 lakh, and added that this would empower local weavers. She stressed the need to raise awareness about solar energy and sustainable practices in rural areas to ensure

long-term benefits for future generations. Prashanthi Reddy said the government's aim is to develop villages without corruption and vowed to address the key issues facing Gumalladibba, such as housing shortages, pensions, drainage systems, and CC roads, in a phased manner. She stated that solutions will be provided at the earliest through proper coordination with concerned departments. Expressing gratitude for the opportunity to serve the people, the MLA urged citizens to come together and support local development. Party leaders, activists, and government officials from Kovuru mandal were present at the event.

Awareness Can Beat Brain Tumor, Say Medicovert Doctors

Early detection key to safe treatment and full recovery

TPN Correspondent | Nellore
On the occasion of World Brain Tumor Day, observed on June 8, Neurologist Dr. Dinesh Gangapatnam and Neurosurgeon Dr. J. Dheeraj of Nellore Medicovert Hospital emphasized the importance of awareness and early detection in overcoming brain tumors. They said that with timely diagnosis and proper treatment, the disease can be successfully tackled.

The doctors pointed out that common symptoms like headaches, forgetfulness, dizziness, and fatigue are often dismissed as routine issues, but can actually signal deeper neurological problems. "A persistent headache, especially severe in the

mornings, sudden behavioral changes, blurred vision, speech disturbances, confusion, or unexpected seizures should not be ignored," Dr. Dinesh Gangapatnam warned. He added that brain tumors can affect individuals of all ages, from children to the elderly. "Early-stage symptoms may resemble minor health concerns, but if left unchecked, they can evolve into life-threatening conditions," he explained.

The doctors highlighted that MRI scans and other diagnostic tests can help in detecting tumors early, allowing for quicker and more effective intervention. They assured that Nellore Medicovert Hospital has a dedicated department equipped with ad-

vanced imaging and surgical technologies for the treatment of brain tumors.

"Our mission is not just to treat brain tumors but to restore life and confidence in our patients," said Dr. J. Dheeraj. He stressed the hospital's commitment to multi-disciplinary care, with support from various departments ensuring complete treatment and post-operative recovery.

They advised the public not to overlook warning signs and to seek medical advice promptly. "A small scan can make a big difference in your future. Be alert. Be proactive," the doctors concluded, encouraging everyone to treat neurological symptoms with the seriousness they deserve.

TDP Lays Foundation for Rayalaseema Projects

All 'Super Six' schemes will be implemented: R. Srinivas Reddy

TPN Correspondent | Kadapa
TDP Polit Bureau Member and Kadapa District President R. Srinivas Reddy has asserted that the TDP-led alliance government is committed to implementing every promise made to the people, and is steadily delivering on its development agenda. Speaking at a press conference at his residence in Dwaraka Nagar on Friday, he said the government has already begun laying the foundation for key projects, especially in Rayalaseema, and is actively rolling out the 'Super Six' wel-

fare schemes. He announced that the 'Thaliki Vandanam' and 'Annadata Sukhibhava' schemes will be launched this month, and the free bus travel facility for women will be implemented by August 15. He reiterated that the TDP government has already laid the foundation for multiple irrigation and infrastructure projects in the Rayalaseema region, marking a significant leap toward regional development.

R. Srinivas Reddy criticized the opposition YSRCP, accusing it of



spreading false propaganda out of frustration over the visible progress under the current government. "People are witnessing the change, and they are

not willing to believe the lies being spread by YCP," he stated. He highlighted the TDP's track record, stating, "In the 42-year history of our party, we have

delivered real development in just 22 years, while YSRCP only tried to derail the state's progress." He reaffirmed the government's focus on Kadapa, especially in light of the promises made during the Mahanadu event. "We are committed to transforming the Kopparthi-Orvakal industrial corridor into a major industrial hub," he said.

According to him, 27 major, minor, solar, wind, pump storage, and power plants will be launched soon with a combined target of 27,000 mega-

watts of power generation and an estimated investment of ₹1.10 lakh crore. He also confirmed that the Kadapa Steel Plant, under the management of Jindal Steel Industries, will begin construction soon, with production scheduled to start in three years.

R. Srinivas Reddy concluded by affirming that the CM is determined to ensure Rayalaseema's upliftment, and the state government is taking bold steps to fulfill that commitment in a time-bound manner.

Will Nepal Witness the Return of the Monarchy? A Nation at a Crossroads

On June 1, Kathmandu witnessed dramatic scenes as a massive pro-monarchy rally, led by former Home Minister Kamal Thapa, attempted to march toward Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli's residence. The crowd chanted slogans calling for the restoration of the Hindu monarchy, abolished in 2008. Police responded with force—batons and tear gas—ultimately arresting Thapa and several others. Hours later, they were released. This protest is part of a growing wave of monarchist sentiment sweeping through Nepal, driven by economic hardship and public frustration with corruption among republican leaders. Ironically, Thapa, who once suppressed anti-monarchy protests as Home Minister during the 2006 uprising, is now leading calls to restore the very system he helped dismantle

The monarchy in Nepal was abolished following a mass uprising against King Gyanendra's rule, resulting in the country's transition to a Republic. International support, particularly from India, the U.S., and China, endorsed the change. The King vacated the Narayanhiti Royal Palace, which was later converted into a museum. Yet, almost two decades later, dissatisfaction with the current political system has sparked a resurgence in royalist activity. Smaller political parties, intellectuals, and even members of the royal family are joining the call for a return to constitutional monarchy. King Gyanendra himself has become more visible, attending public events and meeting with pro-monarchy leaders. His return from Pokhara recently drew thousands to welcome him—highlighting the depth of public discontent.

However, constitutional hurdles make any real change improbable. Nepal's current Constitution has no provision for reinstating a monarchy. A two-thirds majority in Parliament would be required to amend it—an unlikely feat given the monarchists' limited representation. Most major political parties remain firmly opposed to such a reversal. Though monarchists are trying to court support from India and China, both nations have shown little interest in supporting a royal restoration. Even within the royal family, uncertainty looms over succession, as former King Gyanendra's son lacks public support, while his grandson is still studying abroad. For now, a return of the monarchy seems more symbolic than feasible—a reflection of public disillusionment, but not yet a political reality.



An Appeal to End the Poison of Primetime TV Debates



This is not just an opinion but an urgent appeal to everyone involved in India's primetime television debates—participants, organizers, and sponsors alike. We are all witnessing how these debates have become toxic battlegrounds filled with abuse, shouting matches, and polarizing rhetoric. The recent incident where a ruling party spokesperson hurled vile insults at an opposition member is just one example of a disturbing trend. These debates prioritize sensationalism over substance, creating an "us vs them" mindset that spills over from studios to society, deepening divisions.

Indian democracy, the world's largest, has always thrived on vibrant, respectful debates rooted in liberty and equality. Yet today, public discourse—especially on TV and digital platforms—has turned poisonous, filled with hate, misinformation, and personal attacks. Instead of constructive dialogue addressing urgent issues like unemployment, education, and healthcare, debates have become arenas of mudslinging and emotional manipulation, undermining democratic values.

The deliberate use of inflammatory language targeting religion, caste, and regional identities

further divides society. Social media amplifies this, creating echo chambers that demonize the "other" and fuel hostility. This toxicity has even led to real violence, threatening India's pluralistic fabric. Media owners, anchors, politicians, and spokespersons must remember that democracy depends on dissent, protest, and critique. But when abuse replaces argument, voices are silenced, creating fear and discouraging participation. This erosion of trust weakens democratic institutions and corrupts public discourse.

Moreover, misinformation spreads rapidly, distorting public opinion and enabling manipulation by those in power. Parliament and newsrooms have become stages for insults and sensationalism instead of reasoned debate.

To save our democracy, we must collectively demand civility, fact-based discussion, and mutual respect. Democracy is not just about elections—it is about how we speak and listen to each other. Only through respectful dialogue and true listening can we protect democracy from being corroded by the poison of prime-time debates.

RCB Clinches Maiden IPL Title but Victory Parade Cancelled

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) finally ended their 18-year wait for an Indian Premier League (IPL) trophy by defeating Punjab Kings in a thrilling final at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on June 3, 2025. In a tense battle of nerves, RCB channeled years of frustration and heartbreak to secure a narrow six-run victory, lifting their maiden IPL championship.

The victory was more than just a win—it was a cathartic moment for the team and its passionate fanbase. The iconic chant, "Ee Sala Cup Namde" (This time the Cup will be ours), turned into a celebratory declaration: "Ee Sala Cup Namudu" (The Cup is ours this time). Led by captain Rajat Patidar and cricket legend Virat Kohli, RCB played with determination and grit, sealing a commanding finish to a dramatic season.

The triumph held special significance for Virat Kohli, who has long been associated with the team and faced personal highs and lows in his IPL journey. "This moment is right up there, but five levels below Test cricket," Kohli remarked after the win, highlighting the prestige and challenge of international cricket while celebrating

the IPL milestone.

Plans were underway for a grand victory parade in Bengaluru on June 4 to honor the team's historic success. The celebrations were scheduled to begin at 3:30 pm from Vidhana Soudha, the seat of Karnataka's state government, proceeding to the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, RCB's home ground. Fans eagerly awaited the parade to cheer their heroes and revel in the citywide jubilation.

However, the planned victory parade has now been cancelled. Bengaluru police reportedly denied permission, citing security and logistical concerns. This decision disappointed many fans who had hoped to take part in the live celebrations and witness their champions up close.

Despite the cancellation, the spirit of RCB's victory remains undiminished. The team's historic win marks a significant chapter in IPL history, bringing joy and pride to Bengaluru and cricket enthusiasts across India. While the parade may not take place, the memories of this triumph will surely live on in the hearts of RCB supporters for years to come.



Why India Is Urging FATF to Ease Rules for UPI Payments

The global payments landscape is at a critical juncture as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) prepares to decide on reforms to its Recommendation 16 (R.16) in June 2025. This international body sets anti-money laundering (AML) standards that significantly impact digital payments worldwide. The core issue under debate is whether to continue exempting traditional card payments from certain reporting requirements while denying the same relief to instant payment systems (IPS) like India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI), despite IPS often having equal or superior security measures. Currently, FATF's rules favor card net-

works, widely used in developed countries, assuming they are less risky. However, evidence contradicts this. UPI handled over \$2.2 trillion in transactions in FY 2023-24, with a fraud rate below 0.01%, lower than many card payment systems in OECD countries. UPI employs real-time monitoring, dual-factor authentication, and strong regulatory oversight, making it highly secure. Yet, IPS systems do not receive the same regulatory exemptions, putting them at a competitive disadvantage. India, along with countries like Brazil, Indonesia, and Malaysia, has strongly pushed FATF to adopt a fairer approach—treating payment systems

with similar risk profiles equally. The FATF Secretariat has even suggested a middle ground: exempt IPS that meet specific AML and counter-terrorism financing (CFT) standards. Still, some FATF members remain hesitant to make this change. This hesitation risks perpetuating an outdated framework that favors legacy Western card networks over innovative payment solutions emerging in developing countries. Such bias undermines the FATF's goal of technology-neutral and globally inclusive standards. It also raises questions about the organization's legitimacy and fairness in the eyes of the Global South, where IPS are critical for finan-



cial inclusion. India insists that if equitable treatment for IPS is not included, the entire R.16 reform should be postponed. With FATF's current leadership prioritizing financial inclusion, sidelining

IPS would contradict this focus. The world watches as FATF decides whether to embrace innovation and fairness or cling to legacy rules that hinder progress.



PM Modi to Attend G7 Summit in Canada, Thanks Mark Carney for the Invitation

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has confirmed his participation in the upcoming G7 Summit in Canada, signaling a positive shift in India-Canada relations. Modi will attend the summit, set to take place from June 15 to 17, following an invitation from Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney.

The news puts an end to weeks of speculation about whether Modi would attend the summit, marking the first time since 2019 that India will be represented at the G7, despite not being a formal member. India is often invited due to its

status as one of the world's largest and fastest-growing economies.

Modi took to social media to announce his visit, revealing that he had spoken with Carney on the phone to thank him for the invitation. He also congratulated Carney on his recent election victory, reinforcing the growing warmth between the two countries. "As vibrant democracies bound by deep people-to-people ties, India and Canada will work together with renewed vigour, guided by mutual respect and shared interests," Modi posted. This marks a departure from the era under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau,

during which tensions between India and Canada escalated due to various diplomatic and political disagreements. Modi's message of mutual respect signals a new chapter in the bilateral relationship, with both nations poised to collaborate on shared global challenges. Modi's visit to Canada for the G7 Summit is seen as a sign of India's growing influence on the world stage, further cementing its role as a key global player. The summit, which will bring together leaders from the world's major economies, is expected to discuss a wide range of pressing global issues.

26/11 Mumbai Attack: Delhi Court Extends Tahawwur Rana's Judicial Custody Till July 9



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

A Delhi court on Friday extended the judicial custody of Tahawwur Hussain Rana, a key accused in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, until July 9. The decision came after Rana was produced before the court via video conferencing at the conclusion of his earlier remand period.

Special Judge Chander Jit Singh passed the order during the proceedings and also sought a health status report from Tihar Jail authorities by June 9. The directive followed concerns raised by Rana's legal counsel regarding his deteriorating health condition.

Rana, a Pakistani-origin Canadian national, is considered a close associate of David Coleman Headley (also known as Daood Gilani), the main conspirator behind the 2008 Mumbai attacks. Headley, a U.S. citizen of Pakistani descent, had conducted reconnaissance missions ahead of the attacks and is currently serving a 35-year sentence in the United States after turning approver.

Tahawwur Rana was extradited to India earlier this year after the U.S. Supreme Court, on April 4, dismissed his final plea challenging the extradition. He had been in U.S. custody for his involvement in separate terror plots, including one targeting a Danish newspaper.

Rana's arrest and extradition are viewed as a significant step in India's ongoing efforts to bring all perpetrators of the 26/11 attacks to justice. The brutal assault on Mumbai began on November 26, 2008, when 10 heavily armed Pakistani terrorists infiltrated the city via sea and targeted multiple high-profile locations — including the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Oberoi Trident Hotel, and the Nariman House Jewish center.

Over 166 people, including foreign nationals, lost their lives in the nearly 60-hour siege, which remains one of the deadliest terror attacks on Indian soil. Investigations into the wider network of conspirators are ongoing.

Kamal Haasan, DMK, AIADMK Candidates File Nominations for Rajya Sabha Polls in Tamil Nadu



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant political development, six candidates, including top actor and Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM) president Kamal Haasan, filed their nomination papers on Friday for the June 19 Rajya Sabha biennial elections from Tamil Nadu. All six are expected to be elected unopposed, filling the vacancies of members retiring on July 24, 2025.

Kamal Haasan, whose MNM allied with the ruling DMK ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, submitted his nomination papers at the Secretariat in Chennai in the presence of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin. The move marks Haasan's formal entry into parliamentary politics after his active cam-

paigning for the DMK alliance in the previous general elections. Also filing nominations were three candidates from the DMK: SR Sivalingam, a senior party leader from Salem, P. Wilson, a prominent advocate and sitting Rajya Sabha MP re-nominated by the party, and Ruqayya Malik alias Kavignar Salma, a poet, writer, and DMK office-bearer.

The AIADMK, led by general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami, nominated: I.S. Inbadurai, Advocate Wing Secretary, and M. Dhanapal, a former MLA and Chengelpet East District Presidium Chairman.

All six candidates submitted their

papers to Returning Officer B. Subramaniam, Additional Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly.

Several political leaders and allies were present, including Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, VCK chief Thol Thirumavalavan, Congress' K. Selvaperunthagai, and CPI(M)'s P. Shanmugam. The elections were announced by the Election Commission last month to fill the seats of outgoing Rajya Sabha members, including MDMK's Vaiko and PMK's Anbumani Ramadoss. Given the strength of the respective parties in the Tamil Nadu Assembly, a contest is unlikely, and all candidates are expected to be elected unopposed.

Indian Navy to Commission First Next-Gen Anti-Submarine Ship 'Arnala' on June 18

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

New Delhi, June 6, 2025 — Marking a major milestone in India's maritime defense capabilities, the Indian Navy will commission its first next-generation Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), named 'Arnala', on June 18 at the Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam.

Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) under a public-private partnership with L&T Shipbuilders, 'Arnala' is the lead ship of a 16-vessel fleet being constructed at an estimated cost of ₹13,000 crore. The ship will be formally inducted into service in a ceremony presided over by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan.

Designed for subsurface surveillance in coastal and shallow waters, 'Arnala' is also equipped to carry out search and rescue operations, mine laying, and low-intensity maritime combat missions. With its advanced sonar systems and maneuverability, the ship will enhance India's ability to detect and neutralize submarine threats, especially enemy submarines operating close to the coastline.

The ASW-SWC project is being jointly executed by two of India's premier shipyards — GRSE in Kolkata and Cochin Shipyard Limited, each tasked with building eight ships. The induction of these vessels will significantly augment the Navy's coastal defense

preparedness and underwater warfare capabilities.

Named after the historic Arnala Fort off the Vasai coast in Maharashtra, the ship symbolizes India's maritime legacy and strategic vision. The Navy said in a statement, "The ship is designed to have a formidable presence at sea. Its robust construction and advanced capabilities ensure that it can withstand the challenges of the maritime domain, safeguarding India's waters from emerging threats."

'Arnala' represents a significant step toward the Navy's goal of indigenous defense manufacturing and operational modernization.



“With The Man Who Lost His Mind?” Trump Rejects Talks Of A Call With Musk

TPN Correspondent | Washington
Less than 24 hours after a fiery exchange of words and social media attacks, rumors circulated about a potential phone call between U.S. President Donald Trump and Tesla CEO Elon Musk, aimed at de-escalating their very public dispute. However, the damage had already been done. Elon Musk’s companies saw their valuation tumble by over \$150 billion, while Trump faced mounting allegations threatening to shake his presidency.

A Missed Call?

Reports initially suggested that President Trump’s aides had scheduled a call with Musk for Friday morning, which was later confirmed by a White House official. However, just hours before the call was to take place, another official contradicted the statement, claiming there were no plans for a conversation.

In an early morning phone interview with ABC News, Trump dismissed the idea with a sharp



jab, saying, “You mean the man who has lost



his mind?” Trump added that he was “not par-

ticularly” interested in speaking with Musk and implied that it was Musk who sought the conversation, not the other way around.

The Fallout: A Bitter Break-Up

This public snub came after a volatile week that saw the relationship between the two billionaires go from friendly to explosive. Their falling-out centered around the controversial ‘One Big Beautiful Bill,’ which Trump passed, removing tax cuts for electric vehicle manufacturers, including Tesla. Musk, who had fought fiercely to retain these tax incentives, saw Tesla’s stock plummet by over 14%, wiping out \$150 billion in value.

Musk, feeling betrayed, publicly reminded Trump that his political career owed much to Musk’s financial and moral backing during the 2024 election. The once-close relationship between Trump and Musk, which had been characterized by mutual praise, appeared to be irreparably damaged after these events.

School Bombing in Northwest Pakistan Highlights Ongoing Threat to Education

TPN Correspondent | Peshawar
A government high school in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s Tank district was bombed early Friday morning by unidentified assailants, in yet another attack targeting educational institutions in northwest Pakistan, police confirmed.

The explosion occurred in Akbari village, under the jurisdiction of the Gul Imam police station. According to police sources, the attackers used explosives to destroy the school building, causing several classrooms to collapse. No casualties were reported, but the infrastructure suffered significant damage.

No militant group has claimed responsibility so far. However, local authorities suspect splinter factions of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), which are known to operate in the Tank district and have a history of targeting schools — particularly those educating girls.

These attacks are part of a long-standing campaign by extremist groups opposing formal education, especially for girls. According to figures compiled by local non-governmental organizations, over 450 schools have been destroyed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the past decade alone. Many students have been forced to either abandon their education or study amid the ruins of damaged buildings.



This incident follows a deadly school bus explosion in Balochistan that killed five people, including three children, underscoring the persistent risks faced by students and educators across Pakistan’s volatile regions.

The Pakistani Taliban held sway in many parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and nearby tribal areas for years until military operations pushed them back. However, sporadic violence continues, with educational institutions remaining prime targets. The 2012 attack on Malala Yousafzai in Swat Valley — a vocal advocate for girls’ education — shocked the world and brought global attention to the issue. Malala later became a Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

The latest attack serves as a grim reminder that the battle for safe, accessible education in Pakistan’s northwest is far from over.

Japan’s Ispace Loses Contact With Moon Lander ‘Resilience’ After Touchdown Attempt

TPN Correspondent | Tokyo

Japanese space startup Ispace has announced it was unable to re-establish communication with its uncrewed lunar lander Resilience following a touchdown attempt on the Moon early Friday morning. The mission, dubbed Hakuto-R Mission 2, was Ispace’s second bid to achieve a successful lunar landing after a failed attempt in 2023.



Resilience was aiming to make Ispace the first private company outside the United States to land a spacecraft on the Moon. The planned touchdown was scheduled for 4:17 a.m. JST (1917 GMT, Thursday), following a meticulously planned hour-long descent from lunar orbit.

According to a live data feed provided by Ispace, the lander’s altitude abruptly dropped to zero just before the expected landing time. However, no confirmation of a successful landing or subsequent data transmission was received. The company stated that it is currently analyzing telemetry data to determine what went wrong during the critical final moments of the descent.

“We have not been able to establish communication with the lander after the expected touchdown time,” Ispace said in a statement. “We are continuing to investigate the situation and will

provide updates as soon as we have more information.”

This marks the second unsuccessful attempt by Ispace to land on the Moon. Its first mission in April 2023 ended in failure when the lander crashed during the final descent phase due to a navigation error.

Despite the setback, Ispace remains one of the leading contenders in the private lunar exploration sector, aiming to provide commercial transport services to the Moon in partnership with international space agencies and commercial partners.

Industry analysts say while the mission may not have ended in success, it reflects the growing ambition and capabilities of private aerospace firms in advancing space exploration beyond Earth orbit.

Former Nepal PM Madhav Kumar Nepal Charged in Patanjali Land Misappropriation Case

TPN Correspondent | Brussels
Kathmandu: In a significant political and legal development, Nepal’s anti-corruption body has filed a graft case against former Prime Minister and CPN-Unified Socialist chairman Madhav Kumar Nepal, along with 93 others. The charges relate to a land misappropriation scandal involving Patanjali Yogpeeth-Nepal.



The Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Authority (CIAA) on Thursday formally accused Madhav Nepal of facilitating the questionable purchase of government and public land in the Kavre district, roughly 40 kilometers from Kathmandu. The land was reportedly allocated for Patanjali Yogpeeth to establish a yoga center and herbal farming project — a venture said to be backed by Indian spiritual leader and Patanjali founder Baba Ramdev.

The CIAA alleges that the transaction was carried out in violation of land acquisition norms and that Nepal, during his tenure, played a key role in bypassing regulatory processes to benefit the or-

ganization.

As a direct consequence of the chargesheet, Madhav Nepal, a sitting member of Nepal’s federal parliament, has automatically lost his parliamentary seat — in accordance with the country’s legal provisions disqualifying indicted individuals from holding public office.

The filing of the case has stirred political waters in Nepal, with opposition parties demanding broader investigations into alleged collusion between political figures and foreign-linked entities. Patanjali’s land dealings in Nepal have long been under scrutiny, with civil society groups raising concerns over transparency, land use, and national interest.

This marks one of the most high-profile corruption cases in recent Nepalese political history, implicating a former prime minister and a prominent political leader. The case now heads to the Special Court, where proceedings will determine the extent of legal culpability of Madhav Nepal and others involved in the deal.

US Army Develops 3D-Printed Skin to Heal Soldiers’ Battle Wounds

The US Army is advancing cutting-edge bioprinting technology to produce 3D-printed skin and tissues that could revolutionize battlefield medicine. In collaboration with the University of Hawaii, the US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center (DEVCOM CBC) has launched a research initiative aimed at treating soldiers’ injuries more effectively — particularly severe burns and wounds.



Bioprinting uses bio-inks made from living cells, proteins, and nutrients to create three-dimensional, functional replicas of human tissues and organs. The technology holds immense potential for military medicine, enabling rapid tissue repair and even organ regeneration on the battlefield or in remote areas.

Under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), DEVCOM CBC and the University of Hawaii are executing two joint work statements (JWS). One of these focuses on developing advanced organ models using bioprinting. Dr. Jason Barnhill, an associate research professor at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM), is partnering with DEVCOM CBC’s bioengineering expert Priscilla Lee to create tools for evaluating chemical compounds and responses in

human tissue. Dean Sam Shomaker of JABSOM highlighted the global impact of the project, saying, “These efforts have the potential to save the lives of frontline soldiers and civilians. Introducing innovative biofabrication technologies to remote regions supports not only USINDOPACOM’s mission but global humanitarian efforts.” Lee is specifically researching immune responses using bioprinted cell culture models, which could lead to new biomaterials for treating wounds from burns, toxic gas exposure, and antibiotic-resistant infections.

Bioprinting stands as a beacon of innovation in medicine, with its ultimate goal being the ability to print entire organs using a patient’s own cells. If successful, this technology may redefine how we treat injuries — both in combat zones and in hospitals worldwide.

“Markets Soar on RBI Rate Cuts, Global Cues; Nifty Closes Above 25,000, Sensex Gains 746 Points”

Domestic stock markets showed strength today. They closed with huge gains on Friday. Positive signals from global markets, RBI cutting the repo rate by 50 basis points and the cash reserve ratio by 100 basis points, signaling more cuts in the future, and inflation falling below the target of 4% gave strength to the indices. Shares of realty, banking and finance sectors gave impetus to this. This ended two consecutive weeks of losses in the markets. In total, Nifty rose by 252 points and Sensex by 746 points.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,442 in the previous session, started at 81,434 on Friday. It touched an intraday low of 81,140. It reached an intraday high of 82,299. Finally, it closed at 82,188 with a gain of 746 points. The NSE Nifty, which opened at 24,748, touched a low of 24,671 and a high of 25,029. It closed at 25,003, up 252 points. The Nifty Bank rose 817 points to settle at 56,578.

In the Nifty50, 46 companies gained while 4 lost. Shriram Finance, Bajaj Finance, JSW Steel, Axis Bank, and Maruti were the top gainers. HDFC Life, BEL, Bharti Airtel, and Sun Pharma were the biggest losers. Today, realty, finance, metal, private bank, auto, consumer durable, PSU bank, oil, IT, telecom, and FMCG indices rose. The me-



dia index lost heavily.

Market breadth turned in favour of buyers on NSE today. Out of 2993 stocks traded, 1673 gained and 1229 lost. 95 stocks touched their 52-week highs and 18 stocks touched their 52-week lows. The upper circuit was 93 and the lower circuit was 59.

The rupee strengthened by 16 paise to settle at 85.63 against the dollar. CLSA downgraded Shobha Realty to Underperform from Hold. Bajaj Holdings sold 0.65% stake in Bajaj Finserv for Rs 2002 crore in a block deal. Bernstein gave positive ratings to SBI Life and HDFC Life. Today, most of the banking, finance and AMC companies reached 52-week highs. It is learnt that India has asked the US to reduce the universal tariff by 10% as part of the trade deal. Dalmia Bharat, ACC and Dalmia Bharat have been given a Nuvoco reduce rating. Jagil Prepaid Ocean has taken 100% stake in GreenEdge Enterprises. 40 lakh shares changed hands in National Aluminium. 2.2 crore shares changed hands in NTPC Green.

Adani Group’s Tax Contribution Soars to Rs 74,945 Crore in FY25, Up 29%



The Adani Group announced a significant 29% increase in its total tax contribution to the exchequer for fiscal year 2025, reaching Rs 74,945 crore compared to Rs 58,104 crore in FY24. This growth reflects the company’s expanding business operations and its commitment to tax transparency as part of its broader Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) framework.

Out of the total tax contribution, direct taxes amounted to Rs 28,720 crore, while indirect taxes contributed Rs 45,407 crore. Other contributions, including social security benefits for employees, totaled Rs 818 crore. To give context, the Rs 74,945 crore tax paid by the group is nearly equivalent to the cost of building the entire Mumbai Metro network or hosting a modern Olympic Games.

Key contributors within the group’s portfolio include Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL), Adani Cement Limited (ACL), Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ), and Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL). The tax details are disclosed through independent annual reports of seven publicly listed Adani

entities, including Adani Energy Solutions Limited, Adani Power Limited, Adani Total Gas Limited, and Ambuja Cements Limited. Additionally, the figures incorporate taxes paid by NDTV, ACC, and Sanghi Industries, which are held by these entities.

The Group has also published a detailed document titled ‘Basis of Preparation and Approach to Tax’ on the websites of its listed companies. This document offers a comprehensive breakdown of global taxes paid, including direct taxes, indirect taxes collected on behalf of stakeholders, and other contributions.

Emphasizing transparency, the Adani Group stated that this voluntary initiative aims to build stakeholder trust and promote accountability in global tax practices. The group continues to balance rapid growth with social responsibility, focusing on transforming India’s infrastructure while creating long-term value. An independent professional agency has verified the group’s global tax contribution for added credibility.

RBI Slashes Repo Rate by 50 bps to Spur Growth, Shifts Policy Stance to Neutral

In a significant move aimed at stimulating economic growth, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on June 6, 2025, reduced the policy repo rate by 50 basis points to 5.50%. This marks the second rate cut this year, following a cumulative reduction of 100 bps since February 2025.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, while delivering the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) statement, emphasized that the decision is aligned with the central bank’s medium-term inflation target of 4% (within a +/- 2% band), while simultaneously supporting growth recovery. With this adjustment, the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate now stands at 5.25%, and both the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate have been revised to 5.75%.

In addition to the repo rate cut, the RBI also announced a reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by 100 basis points, bringing it down to 3.0% of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL). This cut will be implemented in a staggered manner throughout the year to infuse durable liquidity into the banking system.

The RBI has also revised its monetary policy stance from “accommodative” to “neutral,” signaling a cautious approach ahead. “Monetary



policy space has narrowed after recent rate cuts. From here, our stance will depend on incoming data and evolving global conditions,” Governor Malhotra noted.

For FY26, the central bank projects real GDP growth at 6.5%, with quarterly estimates ranging between 6.3% and 6.7%. CPI inflation is projected to average 3.7% for the year, assuming a normal monsoon, with risks deemed evenly balanced.

The move reflects the RBI’s balancing act between fostering growth and maintaining price stability in a volatile global economic environment.

Gold Loan Stocks Surge as RBI Proposes Higher LTV Limit for Small Loans



Gold loan stocks saw a notable rally on Friday, June 6, 2025, after RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra proposed a hike in the loan-to-value (LTV) ratio for small-ticket gold loans. The new guideline suggests increasing the LTV ratio to 85% for gold loans up to ₹2.5 lakh, compared to the current limit of 75%. This change is aimed at boosting lending flexibility for non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

The announcement triggered sharp buying in shares of gold-financing firms. Muthoot Finance surged over 7% intraday, trading at ₹2,450.40 against its previous close of ₹2,294.60. Manappuram Finance also rose more than 5%, touching ₹248.46 from an opening price of ₹234.84. IIFL Finance and other lenders in the gold loan segment witnessed similar upward momentum.

The LTV ratio defines the maximum loan one can receive against the pledged gold. A higher LTV ratio means customers can borrow more money for the same gold value, which

is expected to increase loan disbursements and widen the customer base for gold financiers. This move is also seen as a potential earnings booster for NBFCs specializing in gold-backed lending.

The RBI’s revised proposal comes as a shift from earlier draft norms, which had suggested a uniform 75% LTV cap for both banks and NBFCs. In addition to the LTV hike, the RBI also announced simplified operational norms, including no mandatory credit appraisal for small-ticket loans and relaxed end-use monitoring, especially for non-PSL loans.

Governor Malhotra noted that final guidelines would be released by today or Monday morning, emphasizing regulatory clarity and compliance consistency.

The announcement followed a broader 50 basis points repo rate cut to 5.50%, sparking optimism across the financial and banking sectors.

Customer Allegedly Finds Ants in Maggi Ordered from Zepto Café

Company Responds Amid Rising Concerns

A customer's shocking discovery of ants in a bowl of Maggi noodles ordered from Zepto Cafe has sparked outrage on social media. The incident, highlighted in a viral Instagram video, shows four bowls of noodles — one empty and three partially eaten — with multiple dead ants clearly visible at the bottom. The post quickly gained traction, amassing over two million views.

Tagging Zepto's official handle, the customer wrote, "@zeptonow this is disgusting. However, I'm shocked to see their cafe still operating with deceptive offers like 'Buy 1 get 1 free' — serving food with insects is unacceptable! They're prioritizing fast delivery over hygiene and health."

Zepto, a 10-minute quick-commerce food delivery platform, responded in the comments section: "Hey! At Zepto, we take quality seriously, and we regret any inconvenience caused if this product doesn't meet your expectations. Please DM us your order details so we can address this promptly at Zepto speed!"



In response, the customer replied, "@zeptonow we got our refunds gladly, but what about this kind of food which we consumed? These were just ants. What if there was a cockroach or any other insect? This is all about hygiene! People can get food poisoning — we expect better food quality, not just fast deliveries."

This isn't the first time Zepto's food safety practices have been questioned. In a recent inspection, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found "serious non-compliance" at Zepto's Dharavi warehouse in Mumbai. Issues included fungal growth on food, expired items, and poor storage conditions. As a result, the FDA has suspended the food business license for that warehouse, raising broader concerns about the company's overall food safety standards.

"It Matches Your Outfit!" – Chef Fiona Afshar's Patterned Pasta Wins Over the Internet

What happens when culinary creativity meets fashion? Chef Fiona Afshar has answered that question with her latest viral creation — patterned pasta inspired by the vibrant designs of clothing brand Mister Zimi. In a visually mesmerizing reel, Chef Fiona showcased her unique process of transforming simple pasta dough into an edible work of art, gaining over 2 million views and an outpouring of praise from across the internet.

The video begins with Chef Fiona crafting dough in a spectrum of vivid colors. Each hue is carefully kneaded and rolled into thin sheets using a pasta machine. She then cuts out playful shapes such as stars using customized cutters. These patterned dough sheets are artfully layered and rolled into cylindrical pasta shapes before being left to dry.

Once cooked, the final pasta pieces look like something straight out of a fashion runway — colorful, intricate, and almost too pretty to eat. The dish was finished with a light drizzle of oil and sauce, allowing the design to remain the star of the plate. "Bringing @misterzimi's vibrant



patterns to life on pasta. A playful blend of art and flavour. Who says your plate can't wear prints?" she captioned the post.

Social media users flooded the comments with admiration. One user wrote, "It matches your outfit!! Just when I think your creativity cannot get cuter ... bam!" Another added, "So beautiful and incredible technique! Not sure how appetising it is, but I love them!!"

From food lovers to fashion enthusiasts, Fiona's latest pasta art has captured imaginations worldwide. It's not just a recipe — it's a celebration of creativity on a plate. As one fan summed it up: "I aspire to make my food look this beautiful! Wow! Just wow!"

Snapchat Launches Apple Watch App With Scribble and Dictation Support

Snapchat has officially expanded its presence to the Apple Watch, introducing a dedicated app that lets users stay connected on the go. Announced on Thursday, the new Apple Watch app allows users to preview incoming messages and respond using Scribble, Dictation, or emojis. While users can't send Snaps or initiate new chats directly from the watch, the app offers a streamlined way to stay in touch through simple interactions. It requires watchOS 9.0 or later and is now available for free on the Apple Watch App Store.

This launch extends Snapchat's footprint beyond smartphones, tablets, and web browsers, aligning with the platform's goal of being available across all commonly used devices. Snapchat, which currently boasts over 900 million users worldwide, emphasized its commitment to keeping people connected across an increasingly diverse device ecosystem.

Interestingly, the Apple Watch functionality isn't



entirely new—users have long been able to mirror Snapchat notifications from their iPhones. However, this stand-alone app brings added convenience with direct support for Apple Watch input methods like Scribble and Dictation.

In parallel, Snapchat has also introduced its popular Lens Studio on iOS and the web, previously available only as a desktop application. The move aims to make augmented reality (AR) creation more accessible. Now, iPhone users can design and publish lenses using AI-powered tools directly from their devices. Creators can incorporate Bitmojis and use AR effects to develop personalized and expressive Lenses.

While the desktop version of Lens Studio remains the go-to for professional developers, the mobile and web versions open the door for casual users and budding creators. Lens Studio is now available for free on the iOS App Store and online at lensstudio.snapchat.com.



Chenab Rail Bridge: Inside the Tech Powering the World's Tallest Railway Bridge

The Chenab Rail Bridge, hailed as the highest railway bridge in the world, is set to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marking a milestone in India's infrastructure journey. Located in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, the bridge spans 1,315 meters across the deep Chenab River gorge and is a part of the ambitious Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project.

Constructed by Afcons Infrastructure under the Konkan Railway Corporation, the bridge towers 359 meters above the riverbed—making it 35 meters taller than the Eiffel Tower. With a total project cost of ₹1,486 crore, the Chenab Rail Bridge has a designed lifespan of 120 years and is built to withstand wind speeds of up to 266 kmph and train speeds of 100 kmph.

The bridge's unique two-rib steel arch with open spandrel design ensures strength and flexibility. Each of its massive steel segments weighs 34 metric

tonnes and was installed using the world's tallest cable crane, supported by a 127-meter-high pylon—taller than Delhi's Qutub Minar.

To withstand the harsh environment and seismic activity in the region (zone V), the bridge is made from weathering steel, which resists corrosion and adapts to extreme temperatures ranging from -20°C to 45°C. Its 5.84 lakh kilometers of welds—almost equal to the distance between Jammu Tawi and New Delhi—were tested using Phased Array Ultrasonic Testing, a first for Indian Railways.

For safety, over 100 advanced sensors are embedded throughout the structure. These are part of a real-time Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) system that tracks wind, load, vibration, and temperature. If any abnormal readings are detected, automated alerts are sent to halt train movement, ensuring complete operational safety.

Woman Books Ola Ride for Just 180 Metres to Escape Street Dogs, Internet Amused

In a quirky yet relatable moment that has gone viral on social media, a woman booked an Ola Bike ride to travel a mere 180 metres — and the reason has left netizens both amused and sympathetic. Captured in a short video shared by the rider, the clip begins with the Ola driver arriving at the pickup point and asking the woman for the one-time password (OTP). However, when he checked the destination, he was visibly surprised to find it was just 180 metres away.

Perplexed, the rider asked if she had made a mistake in selecting the drop location. The woman calmly respond-



ed that the address was correct. She explained that she took the ride simply to avoid a group of aggressive street dogs in the area.

The incident, which quickly gained traction online, struck a chord with many who understand the fear and anxiety that can come from encountering stray animals, especially in areas where dog attacks are not uncommon. The video, shared on Instagram, has received thousands of views and comments, with users calling the woman's decision both practical and brave. "She did what she had to. Street dogs

can be terrifying!" commented one user. Another joked, "This has to be the most justified short ride in Ola history." Some viewers praised her quick thinking, while others shared similar experiences of altering their walking routes or waiting for help to pass through areas with street dogs.

While the ride may have been unusually short, it highlights a larger concern about stray dog safety in urban areas. In the end, the woman's decision sparked a broader conversation online — and gave the internet a moment of levity and relatability.

Norway Chess 2025: Gukesh Overcomes Wei Yi, Sets Up Final Clash with Caruana as Carlsen Battles Erigaisi

World Champion D. Gukesh continues to press hard for the Norway Chess title after a crucial victory over China's Wei Yi in the ninth round of the prestigious Stavanger tournament. With one round remaining, Gukesh sits second with 14.5 points, just half a point behind five-time World Champion Magnus Carlsen, who edged past American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana in a tense battle.



Gukesh's win came after Wei Yi missed a critical Bishop move on the 40th turn, allowing the Indian prodigy, playing White, to seize the advantage and force a resignation. This marked Gukesh's third classical victory in the tournament, following wins against Carlsen and fellow Indian Arjun Erigaisi. Reflecting on the match, Gukesh said, "I'm happy with today's game and hopeful for another strong performance in the final round."

The final round promises a gripping finish: Gukesh will face Caruana, while Carlsen takes on Erigaisi. Carlsen's recent comeback win against Caruana, capitalizing on a late blunder, boosted his chances of clinching his seventh Norway Chess title since 2016. "This win improves my situation a lot. Erigaisi will fight hard, so I'm ready for a battle," Carlsen

commented.

Meanwhile, American GM Hikaru Nakamura, with 13 points, remains in contention but will need favorable outcomes elsewhere.

In the women's section, two-time world rapid champion Koneru Humpy lost to China's Lei Tingjie, missing a chance to secure the title. Humpy now trails Ukrainian GM Anna Muzychuk, who leads by two points after a dominant win over Chinese world champion Ju Wenjun. The final round will be decisive for the women's crown as well.

Thursday's results set the stage for a thrilling conclusion in both the open and women's categories at Norway Chess 2025.

Rob Walter Named New Head Coach of New Zealand Men's Cricket Team

Rob Walter has been appointed as the new head coach of the New Zealand men's cricket team across all three formats, replacing Gary Stead. Walter, 49, officially takes charge ahead of New Zealand's upcoming tour to Zimbabwe, which includes a T20 tri-series against Zimbabwe and South Africa, followed by a two-Test series.



Walter's coaching resume is impressive. He previously served as South Africa's limited-overs coach from January 2023 until April 2025, leading the team to the semifinals of the 2023 ICC World Cup and the Champions Trophy in ODIs, as well as the final of the T20 World Cup last year. Before his stint with South Africa, Walter was well-established in New Zealand domestic cricket, coaching Otago for five years and working with Central Districts.

Gary Stead, who coached New Zealand's team since 2018, stepped down from the limited-overs roles earlier this year but had intended to remain Test coach. However, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) preferred appointing a single coach to oversee all formats, prompting the search for a replacement.

Rob Walter expressed enthusiasm about the

new role, saying, "It's an amazing opportunity to work with such a talented group of players and support staff during a period filled with global events and major bilateral series. I just can't wait to get started."

NZC chief executive Scott Weenink praised Walter's credentials, stating, "Rob is a world-class coach with an outstanding pedigree. His success domestically in New Zealand and on the global stage with South Africa makes him the ideal candidate to lead the Black Caps."

Walter's appointment marks a new chapter for New Zealand cricket as the team looks to build on its strong performances in recent years under his experienced guidance.

Nations League Semifinal: Yamal Shines as Spain Thrills Past France 5-4

Spain's teenage sensation Lamine Yamal stole the spotlight with two goals, leading Spain to a thrilling 5-4 victory over France in the Nations League semifinal on June 5, 2025, in Stuttgart. The 17-year-old outperformed French stars Desire Doue and Ousmane Dembélé, helping Spain secure a place in the final against Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal on June 8.

The match, billed as a clash between young talents, turned out to be the highest-scoring game in Nations League history. Spain dominated early, racing to a commanding 5-1 lead before France mounted a late but ultimately insufficient comeback.

Nico Williams opened the scoring

in the 22nd minute after a brilliant assist from Mikel Oyarzabal, who skillfully maneuvered past two defenders. Minutes later, Mikel Merino extended the lead to 2-0, capitalizing on a quick one-two with Oyarzabal. Despite threats from France's Théo Hernandez hitting the crossbar and saves by Spain's goalkeeper Unai Simón denying efforts from Doué, Mbappé, and Dembélé, Spain remained relentless.

A penalty earned by Yamal after a foul by Adrien Rabiot saw the young striker confidently convert to make it 3-0. Pedri quickly followed, expertly chipping past the French goalkeeper. France was awarded a penalty due to a foul by Pedro Porro,



which Mbappé converted, but Yamal answered back, slotting in Spain's fifth goal.

France scored three late goals, including a debut goal from substitute Rayan Cherki and an own goal from Spain's Daniel Vivian, before Cherki assisted Randal Kolo Muani in stoppage time. However, the comeback fell short.

Yamal said, "It was a great game. In the end, it was a little close, but we played very well and deserved to win."

Spain now looks ahead to the final showdown with Portugal, eager to claim the Nations League title.

Piyush Chawla Retires from All Forms of Cricket After Two-Decade-Long Career

Indian leg-spinner Piyush Chawla on Friday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, bringing the curtains down on a career that spanned over two decades and saw him lift two World Cups with Team India.

The 36-year-old made the announcement through an emotional Instagram post, stating, "After more than two decades on the field, the time has come to bid adieu to the beautiful game. Though I step away from the crease, cricket will always live within me."

Chawla was a member of India's historic 2007 T20 World Cup-winning squad and the 2011 ODI World Cup team. He represented India in 3 Tests, 25 ODIs, and 7 T20Is, taking 43 wickets in total across formats. "From representing India at the highest level to being part of the victorious 2007 T20 and 2011 ODI World Cup squads, every moment in this incredible journey has been nothing short of a blessing," he wrote.

Chawla also enjoyed a fruitful IPL career, playing for multiple franchises including Punjab Kings, Kolkata Knight Riders, Chennai Super Kings, and Mumbai Indians. He was part of KKR's 2014 title-winning squad and famously scored the winning runs in the final



against Punjab Kings. He extended his heartfelt thanks to his coaches, the IPL franchises, and especially his late father. "A special mention to my late father, whose belief in me lit the path I walked. Without him, this journey would never have been possible," Chawla said. Starting his career at just 15, Chawla made headlines when he bowled out Sachin Tendulkar with a googly in the Challenger Series in 2005-06. He ends his domestic career with over 1,000 wickets — a remarkable achievement for a modern leg-spinner.

India Announces Final 25-Member Squad for AFC Asian Cup Qualifier Against Hong Kong

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has confirmed a trimmed 25-player squad for the upcoming AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Hong Kong on June 10. Head coach Manolo Marquez made the announcement after assessing performances during the recent international friendly tour in Thailand.

Initially, a 28-member squad was named for the Thailand tour, where India faced a 2-0 defeat in a FIFA international friendly. Following the match, goalkeeper Hrithik Tiwari and defenders Mehtab Singh and Subhasish Bose were released from the squad and are set to return to India. The remaining players have now shifted to Bangkok to prepare for the critical qualifier.

India began their qualification campaign in March with a goalless draw against Bangladesh. With all four teams in the group currently level on one point each, the upcoming fixture carries added pressure and significance.

In Wednesday's friendly against Thailand, India showcased moments of creativity and resilience, but were undone by defensive errors



and missed chances. Thailand capitalized with goals from Benjamin Davis (8') and Poramet Arjvilai (59') to secure the win. Despite the loss, Marquez noted encouraging signs of progress as the team focuses on regrouping for the crucial encounter with Hong Kong.

Final 25-member squad for the Hong Kong match:

Goalkeepers: Vishal Kaith, Gurmeet Singh Chahal, Amrinder Singh
Defenders: Naorem Roshan Singh, Rahul Bheke, Chinglensana Singh, Anwar Ali, Boris Singh, Sandesh

Jhingan, Asish Rai, Abhishek Singh
Midfielders: Suresh Wangjam, Naorem Mahesh Singh, Ayush Chhetri, Udanta Singh, Lalengmawia Ralte, Liston Colaco, Ashique Kuruniyan, Brandon Fernandes, Nikhil Prabhu

Forwards: Sunil Chhetri, Edmund Lalrindika, Manvir Singh, Suhail Ahmad Bhat, Lallianzuala Chhangte

Head Coach: Manolo Marquez

India will aim to gain momentum and secure a vital three points in their quest for AFC Asian Cup qualification.

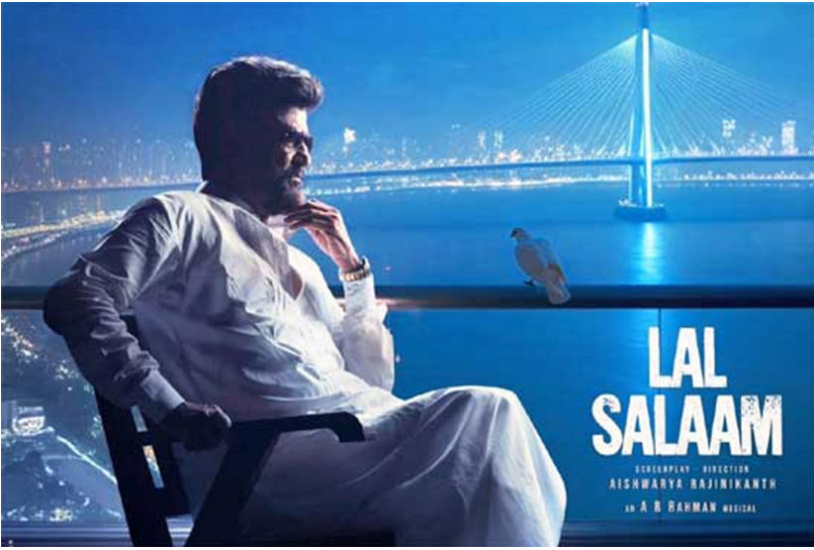


Rajinikanth’s Lal Salaam Lands on OTT with Extended Cut — But Misses a Key Element

Over a year after its theatrical debut, Aishwarya Rajinikanth’s *Lal Salaam* has finally arrived on OTT, now streaming on Sun NXT. Featuring Vishnu Vishal and Vikranth in lead roles and a special appearance by Rajinikanth, the film struggled to find its footing in cinemas and failed to leave a lasting impact despite the hype surrounding its release.

The digital version comes with an extended cut, including additional scenes not seen in theatres. While this may sound appealing to fans, it remains uncertain whether the added footage improves the film’s pacing or simply elongates an already criticised narrative. Many viewers felt the film lacked emotional depth and suffered from uneven storytelling — shortcomings that even a powerful music score by AR Rahman couldn’t fully redeem.

One notable disappointment with the OTT release is the absence of the Telugu version. Although it was released theatrically in both Tamil and Telugu, the digital platform currently only offers the Tamil version. No official update has been provided regarding the Telugu release, leaving a section of the audience underserved.



The film, produced by Lyca Productions, features a strong supporting cast including Senthil, Jeevitha, Thambi Ramaiah, Ananthika Sanilkumar, Vivek Prasanna, and Thangadurai. Despite the presence of familiar names and promising themes, *Lal Salaam* received lukewarm reviews upon its initial release and failed to make waves even during its Hindi television premiere.

With minimal buzz surrounding the film’s quiet OTT launch, the question remains whether this digital second chance can breathe new life into *Lal Salaam*, or if its moment in the spotlight has already passed. For now, the film remains a missed opportunity — extended cut or not.

Housefull 5: A Comedy That Drowns in Its Own Chaos

Housefull 5, the latest installment in the long-running comedy franchise, attempts to blend absurdity with mystery aboard a luxury cruise — and fails spectacularly. Directed by Tarun Mansukhani and written by Sajid Nadiadwala, the film is a chaotic mess that sacrifices logic, coherence, and smart humour for loud gags and relentless tomfoolery.

Set during the 100th birthday celebration of a UK billionaire on a cruise ship, the film opens with a murder by a masked killer. More deaths follow, leading to the arrival of two bumbling British-Indian cops and an over-the-top Interpol chief (played by Nana Patekar) who’s armed with beedis and folk dance moves. Instead of tightening the mystery, the film spirals into an illogical frenzy, packed with cringe-inducing comedy and dragged-out gags.

Akshay Kumar, Riteish Deshmukh, and Abhishek Bachchan play three men claiming to be “Jolly,” each accompanied by their respective “wives” — played by Nargis Fakhri, Sonam Bajwa, and Jacqueline Fernandez. The women serve little purpose beyond dance numbers



and feeble comic relief. Supporting roles from Chitrangada Singh, Fardeen Khan, Shreyas Talpade, and Dino Morea fail to add any meaningful substance.

The humour relies heavily on slapstick, dated pop culture references, and callbacks to previous *Housefull* films — with little success. Johnny Lever replaces Boman Irani as Batuk Patel, Nikitin Dheer channels his Chennai Express persona, and Sanjay Dutt and Jackie Shroff show up as characters named Baba and Bhiddu. Even these nostalgic touches can’t rescue the film.

Ultimately, *Housefull 5* is a tone-deaf attempt at comedy, buried under layers of absurdity and hollow spectacle. It may entertain die-hard franchise fans, but for most viewers, it’s a painful ride through cinematic chaos. A 1.5-star misadventure that should’ve stayed ashore.

Akhil Akkineni Marries Zainab Ravdjee in an Intimate Ceremony, Grand Reception to Follow

Tollywood star Akhil Akkineni has officially tied the knot with his longtime girlfriend, Zainab Ravdjee, in a serene and private wedding ceremony held in the early hours of Friday, June 6, 2025. The couple, who have been in a steady relationship for over three years, got engaged on November 26, 2024, and have now begun their marital journey with blessings from close family and friends.

The ceremony, which followed traditional Hindu customs, took place at the residence of Akkineni Nagarjuna, Akhil’s father and veteran actor. The wedding was intentionally kept low-key to respect the couple’s preference for privacy, despite the buzz surrounding the Akkineni family. The intimate event saw the presence of select industry personalities, including megastar Chiranjeevi, actor Ram Charan, and filmmaker Prashanth Neel, among other close associates.

Zainab Ravdjee comes from a well-known and respected family. Her father, Zulfi Ravdjee, is a reputed figure in the construction industry. The union of these two prominent families has generated considerable attention, with wedding pictures now circulating widely on social media, earning admiration for their simplicity and elegance.

While the wedding itself was a quiet affair, celebrations are far from over. The Akkineni family is set to host a grand reception on June 8 at Annapurna Studios in Hyderabad. The guest list reportedly includes top names from the film fraternity, politics, business circles, and beyond, making it one of the most anticipated events of the season.



With this union, Akhil and Zainab have not only sealed their love story but also brought together two influential families. Fans and well-wishers across the country have flooded social media with blessings and congratulatory messages for the newlyweds.

Suriya’s Ambitious Film Vaadivaasal Reportedly Shelved After Long Delay

In a disappointing turn of events for Tamil cinema fans, the much-anticipated project *Vaadivaasal*, starring National Award-winning actor Suriya, is rumored to have been shelved. The ambitious period drama, directed by acclaimed filmmaker Vetrimaaran, has been in development for over three years, but recent buzz from Kollywood circles suggests that the film may no longer be moving forward.

Sources close to the production claim that the delay was primarily due to the unavailability of a completed bound script. Despite early preparations and multiple rounds of discussion, Vetrimaaran reportedly could not finalize the screenplay, prompting Suriya to step away from the project. The actor was expected to take on a dual role, portraying both a father and son in a storyline centered around Jallikattu, the traditional and culturally significant bull-taming sport of Tamil Nadu.

Initially touted to begin filming in the latter



half of 2025, with a grand release planned for Pongal 2026, *Vaadivaasal* had generated immense excitement. The collaboration between Suriya and Vetrimaaran was seen as a dream team by many, especially given their individual successes and passion for rooted, socially relevant stories.

The project also had the backing of some major industry names, including

veteran producer Kalaipuli S. Thanu and popular music composer GV Prakash Kumar, adding to its prestige. However, the apparent shelving of *Vaadivaasal* has triggered mixed reactions—ranging from disappointment among fans to speculation about whether the film could be revived in the future.

For now, it seems that *Vaadivaasal* will remain a missed opportunity in Tamil cinema, unless official confirmation offers a different update. Fans are still hopeful that the film might eventually see the light of day with the right creative momentum.

Deepika Padukone Reportedly Dropped from Kalki 2 After Exit from Spirit

Bollywood star Deepika Padukone, who recently embraced motherhood, is reportedly navigating a turbulent phase in her career. Following her alleged removal from Sandeep Reddy Vanga’s upcoming project *Spirit*, fresh reports indicate that she may now be dropped from *Kalki 2*, the much-anticipated sequel starring Prabhas.

According to a report by Bollywood.mobi, Deepika’s recent request for “shorter work hours” post-childbirth has reportedly led to friction on the

sets of *Kalki 2*. The makers are now said to be reconsidering her role in the film altogether, although no official confirmation has come from either the production team or the actress herself.

This comes on the heels of her reported fallout with the *Spirit* team, where disagreements over remuneration and allegations of “unprofessional behaviour” led to her exit. While neither Deepika nor the filmmakers have publicly addressed the issue, industry

insiders suggest that her changing priorities after motherhood may be contributing to the tension.

The *Kalki* franchise, with its massive scale and ensemble cast, is one of the most ambitious sci-fi epics in Indian cinema. The first part, *Kalki 2898 AD*, features Deepika Padukone in a key role alongside Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan, and Kamal Haasan. Fans had anticipated her continued presence in the sequel, making the latest developments particularly surprising.

Despite the speculation, Deepika remains one of Bollywood’s most bankable stars. However, the current reports raise questions about how the industry accommodates actors’ personal transitions — particularly motherhood — and the balance between professional expectations and personal well-being.

As *Kalki 2* prepares to move forward, all eyes are now on the producers’ final decision and whether Deepika will be part of the sprawling sci-fi saga’s next chapter.

