



BUZZ POINTS

Pawan Kalyan Orders Statewide Sanitation, Super Chlorination Drive



Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has directed officials to launch a state-wide super chlorination and sanitation drive in all villages severely affected by Cyclone Montha. Stressing that public health and safe drinking water are now the government's top priorities, he said coordinated efforts across departments are vital to prevent disease outbreaks in the aftermath of the cyclone.

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Minister Ravi Kumar Intensifies Power Restoration



Andhra Pradesh Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar conducted a comprehensive review of the cyclone's impact and the ongoing restoration works in the Machilipatnam region on Tuesday.

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Subhash Assures Farmers Full Support In Flood-Hit



State Labour Minister Vasamsetti Subhash Sudigali toured several rain and cyclone-affected villages in the Ramachandrapuram constituency on Tuesday, reaffirming the coalition government's commitment to stand by the farming community during the crisis. The minister inspected vast tracts of farmland that were inundated and completely destroyed due to the recent heavy rains, gusty winds, and cyclone conditions that swept through East Godavari district.

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TRUE POINT

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Lokesh Orders Swift Relief, Power Restoration Across Cyclone-Hit Andhra

Andhra Pradesh IT and RTGS Minister Nara Lokesh on Wednesday held a high-level virtual review meeting from the State Secretariat with district collectors of the regions hit by Cyclone Montha, directing immediate restoration of essential services, crop protection interventions, and comprehensive disease-control operations.



Cyclone Montha Ravages AP

TPN BUREAU, AP OCT 29:

Cyclone Montha unleashed devastation across Andhra Pradesh between October 26 and 29, 2025, as relentless downpours and violent winds battered coastal and inland districts, crippling infrastructure and inundating vast stretches of farmland. The State Agriculture Department's Cyclone Montha Crop Damage Alert Report detailed the extensive impact, noting rainfall exceeding 200 mm in several areas and wind speeds topping 80 kmph that left a trail of destruction across multiple sectors.

The cyclone's fury was most pronounced over the fertile delta districts of Godavari, Krishna, and Guntur, where continuous rainfall submerged thousands of hectares of standing crops. On October 28, Guntur recorded a staggering 255.64 mm of rain, the highest in the state, followed closely by Krishna with 235.98 mm, Bapatla with 226.34 mm, SPSR Nellore at 148.7 mm, and Tirupati with 123 mm. The incessant rainfall flooded fields, marooned villages,



Cyclone damages 87,000 hectares of crops in Andhra

and disrupted power and transport lines.

In Eluru, precipitation escalated sharply from 19.56 mm on October 27 to 142.75 mm the next day, flooding homes and farmlands alike. The districts of Palnadu (111.81 mm) and YSR Kadapa (111.61 mm) also experienced severe rainfall, while Konaseema, East and West Godavari, and Prakasam recorded between 70 mm

and 155 mm. The unrelenting showers inundated low-lying areas, prompting rescue teams to move stranded villagers to safer locations and clear blocked roads. Alongside the deluge, high winds lashed the coastal mandals for three consecutive days, uprooting trees, snapping power lines, and flattening banana and sugarcane plantations.

The report revealed

that Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema and Kakinada districts faced the strongest gusts, reaching 81 kmph on October 28. Tirupati, Nellore, Krishna, West Godavari, and Eluru closely followed, with winds ranging from 75 to 79 kmph. In Rayalaseema, Nandyal and Annam ayya districts recorded 50-60 kmph winds that battered groundnut and cotton crops, while northern coastal districts

Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Srikakulam—saw gusts between 55 and 65 kmph, triggering fishing bans and precautionary coastal evacuations.

Though rains have subsided, recovery efforts are expected to continue for several days as Andhra Pradesh battles to restore normalcy in the aftermath of Cyclone Montha.

CM Naidu Conducts Aerial Survey Of Cyclone-Hit Areas

Commends Officials for Effective Mitigation Efforts

TPN/VIJAYAWADA OCT 29:

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday conducted an extensive aerial survey of the districts battered by Cyclone Montha, emphasizing that advance planning, timely coordination, and collective efforts by officials, public representatives, and citizens significantly reduced the cyclone's overall impact on the state. Conducting the survey early in the morning, the Chief Minister covered Nellore, Prakasam, Palnadu, and Konaseema districts to assess the extent of crop



damage, infrastructure loss, and the condition of affected residents. Naidu noted that the administration's top priority was achieving zero loss of life while ensuring quick restoration of essential services and minimizing damage to livelihoods and proper

ty. "Due to the coordinated efforts of officials, public representatives, and citizens, Andhra Pradesh successfully faced the challenge posed by Cyclone Montha," the Chief Minister said. He observed that although the state managed to avert human

casualties, widespread crop losses were reported in several regions.

Paddy, cotton, maize, and black gram fields suffered heavy damage, particularly in Konaseema district where vast tracts of agricultural land remained submerged in floodwater. Setting protocol and security restrictions aside, Chandrababu Naidu visited a rehabilitation centre in Allavaram mandal of Konaseema district to personally meet cyclone-affected families. He distributed essential relief materials, including 25 kilograms of rice and other commodities, to evacuees and interacted with them to identify their immediate requirements.

The Chief Minister assured the affected people

that the government would stand by them until complete normalcy was restored. Later, Naidu visited Aragatlalepalem and Bandamurulanka villages, where he personally inspected flood-affected farmlands and damaged crops. Responding to requests from local farmers for clearing weed, silt, and debris from drainage canals, he directed officials to take up immediate restoration works to facilitate proper water outflow and prevent stagnation.

Following his field inspections, the Chief Minister returned to the Secretariat and chaired a high-level review meeting at the RTGS command centre to evaluate the progress of restoration activities.

TPN/VIJAYAWADA Oct 29:

Severe Cyclonic storm 'Montha' damaged crops spread across 87,000 hectares, 380 km of roads, and 14 bridges in Andhra Pradesh, according to preliminary estimates presented to Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday. At a review meeting on 'Montha' held in the secretariat, officials briefed Naidu that paddy, maize, cotton, and black gram crops were damaged in 304 mandals. "Crops in 87,000 hectares across 304 mandals were damaged. Besides paddy, cotton, maize, and black gram, crops in 59,000 hectares are waterlogged, affecting 78,796 farmers," said a press release.

Officials pegged the damage to roads and bridges at Rs 1,424 crore and losses to rural water supply infrastructure at Rs 36 crore. They also noted that rainfall had subsided in many districts as the system weakened. According to the report, the cyclone affected 18 lakh people in 1,434 villages and 48 municipalities. As many as 1,209 rehabilitation centres were set up, accommodating 1.6 lakh evacuees. Additionally, 3,175 pregnant women were shifted to safer locations, and 2,130 medical camps were organised. Efforts are underway to clear uprooted trees and restore traffic movement on affected routes.

Naidu directed officials to prioritise the restoration of power supply, sanitation, and the clearing of clogged drains. He also instructed that the distribution of rice and essential commodities to those staying in rehabilitation centres be expedited.

Three die due to Montha cyclone, state extends Rs 5 lakh ex gratia to kin

TPN/VIJAYAWADA Oct 29:

The number of deaths due to severe cyclonic storm Montha, which crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast earlier, rose to three. Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday directed officials to extend an ex gratia of Rs 5 lakh to the kin of three persons who died due to the severe cyclonic storm Montha, which made landfall past midnight Tuesday. During a review meeting on the cyclone at the Real Time Governance System (RTGS) at the secretariat, officials informed the Chief Minister that three persons died during the natural

calamity. "Officials informed (the Chief Minister) that three persons died in the state due to cyclone Montha until now and the Chief Minister directed them to extend a compensation of Rs 5 lakh to their families," said an official press release. 'Montha' damaged crops spread across 87,000 hectares, 380 km of Panchayat Raj roads, 2,300-km long Road and Buildings (R&B) Department roads and 14 bridges in Andhra Pradesh, according to preliminary estimates presented to Naidu on Wednesday.

Officials briefed Naidu that paddy, maize, cotton, and black gram crops were damaged in 304 mandals.

Govt To Ensure No Mandal Split In New District Map

TPN BUREAU VIJAYAWADA OCT 29:

The Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine the reorganisation of districts in Andhra Pradesh convened a crucial meeting at the State Secretariat on Wednesday, marking a significant step forward in the state's ongoing administrative reforms. The meeting was attended by several senior cabinet ministers, including Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Ponguru Narayana, Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar, Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav, Home and

Disaster Management Minister Vangalapudi Anitha, and Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, underscoring the multidimensional nature of the discussions.

Addressing the media after the meeting, Revenue Minister Anagani Satya Prasad elaborated on the GoM's deliberations and the rationale behind revisiting the previous government's plans for district reorganisation. He highlighted that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, along with Jana Sena Party Chief Pawan Kalyan, had made electoral promises to rectify the "unscientific" district structuring initiated by the last administration. Many citizens, local representatives, and govern-



ment officials had raised concerns regarding administrative difficulties, the splitting of traditional local units, and governance challenges stemming from the earlier reorganisation.

Minister Satya Prasad noted, "Today's GoM discussion is a reflection of our commitment to pro-

vide better governance and administrative convenience for the people of Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister has issued clear guidelines during a review of the preliminary report submitted by the committee, ensuring that the priorities of ease of administration and people's welfare

remain central to the proposed changes." He further revealed that along with the Chief Minister's inputs, valuable suggestions from all ministers involved were considered, making the reorganisation process inclusive and comprehensive.

One of the significant

decisions taken during the meeting was that division of districts must not result in the splitting of existing mandals (sub-district administrative units) or panchayats (village councils). The GoM emphasised that each Assembly constituency should remain intact within a single district to streamline governance, facilitate coordination, and avoid bureaucratic overlap. This approach aims to address long-standing complaints from local leaders and community members about fragmented administration and resource allocation.

Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar underscored the urgency of the GoM's work, noting the timing in relation to the forthcoming na-

tional census. "Our comprehensive report will be grounded in detailed study," Manohar stated. "We shall evaluate all pertinent factors, such as administrative efficiency, population distribution, and geographical boundaries, to ensure the reorganised districts cater effectively to the local needs. Our aim is to submit recommendations to the Chief Minister prior to the census, so that any changes can be smoothly integrated into national records and statistical frameworks." Revenue Minister Satya Prasad added that the GoM would reconvene in the near future to finalise its recommendations after further analysis and consultations.

The anticipated final report will be formally

submitted to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for review and approval, following which implementation strategies are likely to be drawn up by the state administration. The ministers expressed hope that the revised district structure would enable more equitable development, strengthen governance, and address the lingering challenges that have hampered progress across Andhra Pradesh's regions since the last reorganisation.

With the current government affirming its commitment to scientific and people-centric district planning, the people of Andhra Pradesh await substantive changes that could redefine regional administration, service delivery, and local devel-



YSRCP's One-Crore Signatures Rattle Naidu Govt



TPN | Vijayawada Oct 29: The YSR Congress Party's (YSRCP) ambitious One-Crore Signature Movement has turned into a major political storm across Andhra Pradesh, sending shockwaves through the TDP-led alliance government. The campaign, aimed at opposing the privatization of government medical colleges under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, has

drawn massive public response and put Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's healthcare policy under sharp scrutiny. YSRCP leaders alleged that the Naidu government's move to introduce private participation in public medical institutions was an attempt to commercialize healthcare and medical education, converting essen-

tial services into privileges reserved for the wealthy. They described the PPP model as an "anti-poor, pro-corporate scheme" and demanded its immediate withdrawal, asserting that such a policy would deny underprivileged students their right to affordable education and erode the foundation of public healthcare. "At a time when poor and middle-class fami-

lies look to the state for accessible healthcare and education, this government is handing over people's assets to private corporates," declared senior party leaders during district-level mobilizations. "Naidu's policy amounts to selling the future of the poor to profiteers." The leaders recalled that under the leadership of former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagann Mohan Reddy, the YS-

RCP government had laid the groundwork for 17 new government medical colleges across the state, with five already functional. The initiative, they said, was aimed at bridging the gap in medical infrastructure and expanding educational opportunities for rural students. "While we built institutions for the future, this government is plotting to dismantle them for private gain," party functionaries charged. Accusing the Naidu administration of pursuing a "publicity-driven governance model," YSRCP leaders criticized the government's focus on optics rather than genuine welfare. They claimed that the alliance government's promises had already begun to unravel within months of assuming power, and warned of a strong public backlash. "If this approach con-

tinues for three years, even the Constitution will tremble," a senior leader remarked, emphasizing growing discontent among the masses. Reports from various districts highlighted enthusiastic participation in the signature drive. Thousands of citizens reportedly signed their support at local collection counters and rallies organized by party units. In the Kadiri constituency, BS Maqbool led mobilization efforts across Gandlapenta, Somayajalapalli, and nearby villages. Perni Krishnamurthy (Kittu) spearheaded the campaign in Machilipatnam Rural North, while Madakasira coordinator Eera Lakkappa organized major drives in Amarapuram Mandal's Nidragatta village. Former MLA Sanjeevaiah led signature campaigns in Sullurupeta and Naidupeta of Tirupati dis-



trict, and ex-legislator Ganesh participated in the movement at Narsipatnam's Ammalapuram region. Describing the movement as the "voice of one crore families defending their right to education and healthcare," YSRCP announced plans to intensify the statewide campaign until the government formally scraps the privatization proposal. Party organizers stated that

the campaign symbolizes not just political opposition, but a people's assertion against inequality in access to healthcare and education. "The response from the public proves that this fight belongs to every citizen who values equality and justice," YSRCP leaders affirmed, vowing to continue their agitation until the government protects the sanctity of public medical institutions.

AP BJP Chief Urges Quick Rehab In Cyclone-Hit Areas



TPN Visakhapatnam, Oct 29: Andhra Pradesh BJP President PVN Madhav has called for the swift completion of damage assessment in areas ravaged by Cyclone Montha, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts by district and state-level officials to ensure prompt relief for affected communities. He also appreciated the state administration for its advance preparedness, which helped in reducing potential loss of life and property.

Addressing the media on Wednesday, Madhav said that timely relief operations and accurate evaluation of the cyclone's devastation are crucial to restoring normalcy at the earliest. He urged officials to complete enumeration of losses without delay so that compensation packages could be disbursed efficiently. "The same determination shown in cyclone preparedness should now be reflected in rehabilitation and restoration works. Every affected family must receive the help they need without bureaucratic delay," he stated. The BJP leader commended the proactive steps taken by the state government before the cyclone made landfall, including advance evacuation, setting up of relief centers, and

alerting fishermen to remain onshore. However, he noted that several districts continue to be battered by heavy rains even after Cyclone Montha's dissipation, making relief efforts ongoing and challenging. Madhav urged authorities not to close relief and rehabilitation centers until complete normalcy returns across coastal regions. He particularly stressed the importance of restoring electricity on a war footing, stating that uninterrupted power supply is essential for resuming communications, water supply systems, and other essential services. "The power department must continue round-the-clock efforts to restore electricity and support field-level teams with necessary resources," he insisted. Highlighting the severe damage to agriculture, Madhav expressed concern over the plight of farmers whose livelihoods were severely affected. He reported extensive damage to coconut plantations in coastal districts and called for immediate financial aid to coconut growers. Similarly, he urged the state to extend special assistance to banana, paddy, and aquaculture farmers who suffered significant crop and infrastructure losses due to the cyclone's heavy rains and flooding. "These farmers form

the backbone of our rural economy and must not be left to struggle alone during this crisis," he added. The BJP state president also appealed for relief measures for fishermen who have been unable to venture into the sea for the past five days due to rough weather conditions. He requested that compensation or temporary livelihood support be extended to fisher families who have lost their incomes. Madhav further drew attention to agricultural laborers whose daily earnings have been disrupted, emphasizing the need for employment support and community-based work programs until regular agricultural activities can resume. Madhav lauded the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister K. Pawan Kalyan, acknowledging their quick decisions and effective coordination during and after the cyclone. He attributed the minimized impact of Cyclone Montha to their timely interventions and disaster management efforts. He also commended the NDA government's role in issuing timely weather alerts and supporting relief operations through central agencies, ensuring that lifesaving assistance reached the affected population promptly.

Honouring Sardar Patel's 150th Birth Anniversary

TPN VIJAYAWADA OCT 29: As India commemorates the momentous 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the nation stands united in homage through the "Unity March," a nationwide movement paying tribute to the Iron Man of India. The celebrations transcend festivity, prompting reflection on Patel's decisive and visionary role in shaping the political and territorial unity of post-independence Bharat. His enduring legacy continues to inspire generations of leaders and citizens, reinforcing the values of integrity, courage, and unwavering commitment to national unity. A Symbol of Integrity and Statesmanship Sardar Patel emerged as an incomparable symbol of integrity and statesmanship during a critical juncture in India's history. Revered for his resolute leadership and moral clarity, Patel was the principal architect behind the integra-

tion of over 562 princely states into a unified nation. At a time when India was a mosaic of fragmented territories, Patel's "Nation First" philosophy guided every decision, placing the greater good above personal ambition. Despite widespread support within the Congress to become the first Prime Minister of independent India, Patel voluntarily stepped back, demonstrating humility and a deep-rooted dedication to the unity and progress of Bharat. The Unification of Bharat: Diplomacy and Decisioness Patel's nation-building strategy was marked by pragmatic diplomacy, tact, and an unyielding will. Through persuasive engagement with the rulers of princely states, Patel successfully convinced nearly all to accede to the Indian Union, averting major internal instability during a volatile period. His approach combined negotiation with



firmness, best illustrated in the cases of Junagadh and Hyderabad. When diplomacy reached its limits, Patel was swift and decisive, utilizing administrative authority and, when necessary, the strength of India's newly formed government to complete the integration process. This method ensured that the unity achieved was not temporary, but enduring. Lessons from Jammu and Kashmir Patel's exclusion from directly handling the Jammu and Kashmir issue created complexities that have continued to

challenge the unity of India to this day. In stark contrast to the clarity and resolution demonstrated in other state integrations, the handling of Kashmir highlights the importance of Patel's vision in national consolidation. His ability to overcome obstacles, negotiate with firmness, and act in the nation's interest remains unmatched and, in many respects, instructive for today's leaders. Enduring Relevance in Modern India As India advances toward Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Viksit Bharat" mission aimed at building a strong, progressive, and united nation Patel's legacy serves as a beacon for current and future generations. The ideals of unity, selfless service, and integrity espoused by Sardar Patel are the cornerstones upon which Bharat's enduring strength is founded. His life underscores the principle that true leadership resides not in the pursuit of power, but in the unification and upliftment of society. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's life and work remain woven into the very fabric of India's identity. The celebration of his 150th birth anniversary is more than a mark of remembrance; it is a call to emulate his vision, determination, and commitment to the nation. As citizens gather in tribute, Patel's wisdom reminds Bharat that unity is its greatest strength, and that the spirit of "Nation First" must continue to guide its journey into the future.

Naidu's Real-Time IMS Puts Governance In Motion: MLA

TPN | Vijayawada Oct 29: Speed, coordination, and transparency have emerged as the cornerstones of Andhra Pradesh's latest governance reform with the launch of the Real-Time Incident Management System (IMS), an initiative of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The new system, integrated under the Real-Time Governance Society (RTGS), aims to set unprecedented standards in public grievance redressal by transforming how citizen issues are tracked, managed, and resolved across the state. Gajuwaka MLA Palla Srinivasa Rao described the IMS as a revolutionary leap in governance, noting that it redefines the concept of responsive administration by replacing the traditional Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) with a far more dynamic, technology-driven solution. "Every issue arising at the field level now reaches the

government instantly. Departments respond without delay and remain actively engaged until the grievance is fully resolved," he said. "This is governance in motion fast, accountable, and citizen-focused." At the heart of the IMS lies real-time coordination among government departments. For every reported grievance, a dedicated WhatsApp group is automatically created, comprising the concerned Minister, Secretary, District Collector, and Superintendent of Police. This group remains active until the issue is resolved, ensuring constant communication and immediate action. Citizens, too, can track the status of their complaints through an interactive IMS dashboard, fostering transparency and public participation. "The system ensures that governance is not reactive but proactive," Srinivasa Rao explained. "By empowering citizens to monitor



progress and by holding officials accountable at every stage, IMS represents a new era of participatory governance." He pointed out that this structure bridges the gap between government institutions and the people, building trust and responsiveness at all administrative levels. Credit for this forward-looking reform, he added, goes to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's long-standing vision of digital governance and the technological foresight provided by Information Technology Minister Nara Lokesh. Together, their leader-

ship has driven Andhra Pradesh toward becoming a national model in the use of real-time data and digital tools for administration. "They have built a governance framework that is responsive, data-driven, and people-centric," Srinivasa Rao remarked. "Andhra Pradesh is once again setting a benchmark that other states can emulate." The new system forms part of a broader effort to modernize public administration in Andhra Pradesh through digital transformation. The RTGS, launched earlier by Naidu, already plays a

crucial role in collecting and analyzing real-time data on various government operations. With the addition of the IMS, the focus now expands to prompt action on citizen grievances and rapid coordination between field officers and top-level officials. According to Srinivasa Rao, initiatives like RTGS and IMS signify a shift from conventional service delivery to preventive governance—a system where data not only helps in solving problems but also in predicting and preventing them. "This is how vision and innovation come together to build a 'Viksit Bharat'-ready governance model," he said. With the Real-Time IMS, the Andhra Pradesh government aims to ensure that every citizen's voice reaches decision-makers instantly, turning governance into a vibrant, living mechanism that listens, acts, and delivers without delay.

Heavy Rain Batters Vijayawada as Cyclone Montha Crosses Andhra Coast

TPN Amaravati, October 29: Vijayawada and several parts of coastal Andhra Pradesh woke up to heavy rainfall and gusty winds on Wednesday morning after severe cyclonic storm Montha made landfall near Narasapur in West Godavari district late Tuesday night. The impact of the storm was visible across several areas as trees were uprooted, roads flooded, and normal life disrupted in many parts of Krishna and Guntur districts. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Montha crossed the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam, south of Kakinada, around midnight between 11:30 pm Tuesday and 12:30 am Wednesday. The landfall process,

which began around 7:30 pm on Tuesday, continued for nearly five hours before completing in the early hours of Wednesday. The IMD bulletin released at 5 am said that after crossing the coast, Montha moved northwestwards at a speed of about 10 km per hour during the past six hours and weakened from a severe cyclonic storm into a cyclonic storm. As of 2:30 am Wednesday, the system lay centered about 20 km west-northwest of Narasapur, 50 km northeast of Machilipatnam, 90 km west-southwest of Kakinada, 230 km southwest of Visakhapatnam, and 470 km southwest of Gopalpur in Odisha. The weather office stated that the cyclone, named Montha a Thai word meaning “fragrant

flower” is expected to move northwestwards across coastal Andhra Pradesh, maintaining the intensity of a cyclonic storm for the next several hours before weakening into a deep depression. “The rear sector of the Montha has entered the land, and the system is gradually losing strength,” the IMD said. In Vijayawada, heavy rain accompanied by strong winds battered the city in the morning hours, leading to the uprooting of trees in several localities. The main roads including Bandar Road and Eluru Road witnessed waterlogging, causing traffic disruptions and slowing down vehicular movement. Municipal teams were deployed to clear fallen trees and restore normal

traffic flow. Many low-lying residential colonies and markets in the city reported flooding, prompting the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation to issue alerts and advise residents to stay indoors unless necessary. Authorities also cautioned fishermen along the coast not to venture into the sea as squally weather conditions were likely to persist through the day. The IMD forecast indicated light to moderate rainfall at most places in Andhra Pradesh and Yanam, with heavy to very heavy rainfall expected at a few locations till Wednesday evening. Isolated places in coastal districts could receive extremely heavy rainfall exceeding 20 cm during the same period. For Thursday, the weather

office predicted moderate rainfall at many places with heavy rainfall at isolated pockets over north coastal Andhra Pradesh. State disaster management teams have been placed on high alert, and officials are monitoring the movement of the storm closely. Relief measures, including the evacuation of people from vulnerable areas, have been initiated in parts of West Godavari and Krishna districts. Power supply was temporarily disrupted in some localities, but restoration efforts are underway. As Montha weakens further inland, weather authorities have advised caution and preparedness as residual rainfall activity is expected to continue over the next 24 hours.



Ministers Review Amaravati Land Allotments and Irrigation Safety Narayana Dismisses Misinformation Campaigns



TPN/VIJAYAWADA Oct 29: Andhra Pradesh Urban Development and Municipal Administration Minister Dr P Narayana on Wednesday addressed the media at the Secretariat, reviewing key issues concerning Amaravati land allotments and flood management measures. The meeting, held along with Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, aimed to clarify public concerns and reaffirm the government's commitment to transparency and farmer welfare. Dr Narayana strongly condemned the spread of misinformation on social media about the allotment and registration of returnable plots to farmers who contributed land under the Amaravati Land Pooling Scheme (LPS). He said that certain individuals were deliberately spreading false propaganda to create confusion among landowners and the public. “Some individuals are intentionally spreading false propaganda to mislead the public,” the minister asserted, adding that the government's land allotment process was progressing systematically and nearing completion. According to official data, 30,635 farmers had pooled a total of 34,911.23 acres under the LPS, and all are entitled to receive developed plots in return. Out of these, 29,644

farmers, who had contributed 34,192.19 acres, have already received their returnable plots. Since the formation of the new government, an additional 2,727 farmers covering 3,188 acres have received their allotments. The minister assured that the remaining 991 farmers, corresponding to 719 acres, will be allotted their plots shortly. Dr Narayana also revealed that 8,441 plots related to 2,501 farmers are yet to be registered due to various technical and procedural reasons. To ensure faster resolution, officials are personally coordinating with individual farmers to complete the process. “We are personally interacting with the farmers to complete the pending registrations. The entire allotment and registration process will be completed within the next four months,” he said. The minister added that lease payments amounting to 3.15 crore for 484 farmers remain pending due to technical issues and would be disbursed soon after resolution. Reiterating the government's commitment to farmer welfare, Narayana emphasized that all procedures related to Amaravati development were being executed in a transparent, phased manner. He urged farmers to re-

main patient and cooperative, assuring them that no eligible beneficiary would be left out. He made it clear that the administration would not tolerate attempts to spread baseless rumors that could disturb public confidence in the state's land management system. Turning to flood management and irrigation safety, Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu reviewed the precautionary measures being implemented following the recent heavy rains across the state. Officials were instructed to strengthen bunds, inspect canals, and ensure timely maintenance of flood protection infrastructure to prevent breaches or inundations in flood-prone zones. The minister also discussed plans for long-term sustainability of irrigation networks to withstand increasing climatic challenges. The two ministers expressed satisfaction with the progress being made and stressed that coordination between departments is vital for protecting both farmers' rights and infrastructure safety. The government, they added, is determined to ensure fair treatment of Amaravati farmers and guarantee that all developmental promises made under the Land Pooling Scheme are fully honored.

State Orders Supply of Essential Commodities to Cyclone-Hit Families

TPN AMARAVATHI OCT 29: In a swift humanitarian response to the devastation caused by Cyclone Montha, the Andhra Pradesh government has issued orders to distribute essential commodities free of cost to affected families and fishing communities across the coastal regions. The initiative aims to ensure immediate relief for thousands of people who have lost their livelihoods and face shortages of food and household necessities due to the cyclone's impact. According to official directions from the state government, every affected household will receive 25 kilograms of rice, one kilogram of red gram (toor dal), one kilogram of onions, one kilogram of potatoes, one kilogram of sugar, and



one litre of edible oil. Recognizing the severe economic setback suffered by fishermen, the government has announced a special allocation of 50 kilograms of rice for each fishing family. Chief Secretary-level instructions have been issued to the Civil Supplies Commissioner to commence the supply and distribution of rice, dal, oil, and sugar with-

out delay. Parallel orders have been directed to the Commissioner of Marketing to manage the procurement and distribution of perishable items like onions, potatoes, and other vegetables to ensure smooth and timely delivery. Officials have been asked to coordinate closely with the local administrations in the affected coastal districts to identify beneficiaries

and oversee equitable distribution. Special provisions have also been made to ensure transportation facilities and stock availability in remote and heavily damaged areas. District Collectors have been tasked with daily progress monitoring and reporting to the Secretariat. The government's proactive measures come amid continuous efforts to assess the cyclone's

damage to property, fisheries, crop fields, and infrastructure. Preliminary assessment teams have identified widespread losses in several mandals due to high winds and flooding, causing disruption to normal life and fishing activities along the coast. Chief Minister's Office sources stated that maintaining food security and extending relief to every affected family remains the administration's top priority. The government has also assured that the supply of essential commodities will continue until normalcy returns in the affected zones. These relief operations reflect the state's commitment to providing timely support to vulnerable communities and rebuilding lives in the aftermath of Cyclone Montha.

Officials on High Alert as Flood Threat Looms In Krishna District



TPN Amaravati, Krishna District Oct 29: The powerful impact of Cyclone Montha has brought widespread heavy rains and strong winds across the Krishna district, causing significant disruption to daily life and damage to property and crops. Several parts of the district continue to experience torrential downpours, with many agricultural fields submerged under rising water levels. In Kuchipudi, the famous cultural village of Krishna district, strong gales uprooted a massive tamarind tree estimated to be nearly a hundred years old. The tree collapsed onto two residential houses, causing

considerable property damage, though no casualties were immediately reported. The incident also disrupted traffic on the Kuchipudi-Barlapudi main road, where efforts are now underway to clear the debris and restore movement. Meanwhile, in Nandigama, authorities have sounded an alert following reports of heavy inflows into the Munneru rivulet, a tributary that often swells during periods of extreme rainfall in Telangana. Officials revealed that the Munneru is currently receiving 30,000 cusecs of floodwater, with projections suggesting that the flow could cross the one-lakh-cusec mark

later tonight. Continuous rainfall in Telangana's upper catchment areas has raised concerns about further escalation of the flood situation in downstream villages. Nandigama Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) K. Balakrishna personally inspected the situation at Lingala, where the rising water level of the Munneru has become a matter of concern. He instructed revenue, police, and disaster management teams to remain on high alert and to be ready for emergency evacuations. People residing in low-lying and flood-prone areas have been advised to move to safer locations as a pre-

cautionary measure. The authorities have also urged residents living near the Munneru riverbanks, particularly around Penuganchiprolu and the Sree Tirupatamma temple surroundings, to vacate their homes immediately to avoid potential danger from flash floods. In Mylavaram constituency, local MLA Vasana zha Krishnaprasad conducted an extensive inspection tour on Wednesday to review flood preparedness and public safety measures. Beginning his visit at the Scheduled Tribe Colony in Kondapalli Municipality, the legislator inspected the local drainage systems to ensure proper flow and prevent water stagnation. He then visited Santinagar, also in Kondapalli, where he reviewed the Budameru diversion channel and assessed its structural condition under the pressure of the heavy rains. Later in the day, MLA Krishnaprasad visited the rehabilitation center established

at the Junior College in Mylavaram, where temporary shelter and basic amenities have been arranged for flood-affected families. He interacted with local officials and volunteers to ensure that relief materials, food, and medical aid were being supplied without delay. Continuing his inspection, the MLA reached Venkataapuram village under G. Konduru Mandal to examine the breach reported at the Erra Cheruvu (Red Pond). Steps are being taken to strengthen the embankment and prevent further erosion due to the ongoing rains. The district administration remains in constant coordination with disaster management authorities as rainfall continues through the night. With forecasts predicting sustained heavy showers under the cyclone's influence, officials have advised citizens to stay indoors, avoid venturing near water bodies, and heed government warnings until conditions stabilize.

Chief Whip Assures Full Support to Cyclone- and Flood-Affected Families



TPN VINUKONDA OCT 29: In the aftermath of the recent Montha cyclone that brought heavy rains and flooding to parts of Palnadu district, Andhra Pradesh Government Chief Whip and Vinukonda MLA G.V. Anjaneyulu toured

several affected areas to oversee relief and rehabilitation measures. During his extensive visit on Wednesday, he assured residents that the government stands firmly behind every family impacted by the disaster and that all necessary

support will be provided until normalcy is restored. Starting his visit from the low-lying residential colonies in Vinukonda town, Anjaneyulu personally inspected the situation in the inundated localities and interacted with the displaced

people who have been sheltered in rehabilitation centers. He reviewed ongoing relief operations with the district and municipal officials, stressing that immediate and coordinated action must be taken to prevent further hardship to the

residents. He warned that any negligence in implementing relief measures would invite strict action from the administration.

The Chief Whip visited the rehabilitation camp set up at Nirmala School in Vinukonda, where several flood-affected families have been relocated. He interacted with the evacuees to assess the quality of food, shelter, drinking water, and medical facilities provided to them. Directing officials to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities, he emphasized that no one in the camp should face any shortage or distress. "There is no need to panic; the government is by your side through this difficult time," Anjaneyulu told the affected families, offering reassurance and empathy.

He also toured the flood-hit colonies of Arundhati and Rajaka under the Brahmanapalli Panchayat, which were among the worst-affected due to the sudden rise in



water levels. Authorities have since shifted residents from these submerged areas to safer locations, including the Nirmala School camp. The Chief Whip praised the rescue teams and local volunteers for their timely assistance in relocating people before the situation worsened.

Reviewing the broader relief operations, Anjaneyulu instructed the officials to identify all flood-prone zones and move vulnerable families to secure shelters im-

mediately. He also stressed the need for round-the-clock monitoring of water levels, proper sanitation at the camps, and adequate medical preparedness to prevent the spread of diseases in the aftermath of stagnant water.

Expressing deep concern over the losses caused by the cyclone and floods, he stated that rehabilitation of affected families and restoration of damaged infrastructure will be prioritized by the government. He

urged public representatives and officers to work in complete coordination to ensure that no household is left without help.

Chief Whip Anjaneyulu's visit brought a sense of relief and hope to many distressed families. His hands-on inspection of relief centers, direct communication with victims, and caution to officials underscored the government's commitment to stand beside cyclone-hit communities during this testing period.

MLA Aravind Babu Inspects Low-Lying Areas, Reassures People Amid Cyclone Monta Impact.



TPN, Narasaraopet (Palnadu District) Oct 29: In the wake of Cyclone Monta's heavy impact on several regions of Andhra Pradesh, Narasaraopet MLA Dr. Chadlavada Aravind Babu actively reviewed the situation in the flood-affected areas of his constituency. Beginning Tuesday night, the MLA continued his field visits across various low-lying localities, personally interacting with residents and ensuring safety measures were in place. Accompanied by Municipal Commissioner Jaswanth Rao, officials from multiple departments, and representatives from the coalition parties, Dr. Aravind Babu inspected critical localities including Guntur Road, Sattenapalli Road, Barampet, and other flood-prone wards such as 1, 5, 12, and 34. The team made special arrangements to shift the affected residents to nearby municipal schools using government-arranged buses.

The MLA personally distributed food packets to the evacuees, offering reassurance and moral support during this period of distress. Speaking to the gathered residents, Dr. Aravind Babu urged them not to panic. He reiterated that the state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, was fully prepared to deal with the cyclone's aftermath. All departments were working in close coordination to minimize public hardship and respond effectively to any emergencies.

The MLA later visited the Yanadi Colony in Kotappakonda, where several homes had been inundated. He instructed municipal officials to expedite the removal of floodwaters and undertake immediate sanitation measures to prevent any outbreak of diseases. Continuing his inspection, Dr. Aravind Babu surveyed streams and water channels in Rompicherla and Narasaraopet mandals to ensure that flood discharge paths remained unobstructed. He also advised residents in the vulnerable zones to remain alert and follow the precautionary guidelines issued by local authorities.

The MLA reviewed the arrangements of emergency personnel, mandal revenue officers, and engineering departments to ensure there were no lapses in disaster management readiness. Dr. Aravind Babu emphasized that protecting citizens from natural calamities was a top priority for the government. He noted that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh were continuously monitoring the cyclone's progression and coordinating with administrative officials and public representatives to ensure timely response and relief distribution across the state.

"The government is taking every possible measure to ensure people's safety and minimize damage. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's swift, proactive guidance has helped strengthen coordination between field officials and local representatives," the MLA said. During his inspection, Dr. Aravind Babu was joined by coalition leaders, party functionaries, municipal staff, and members of various government departments. His hands-on approach and direct engagement with the people drew appreciation from residents, who expressed gratitude for his immediate attention to their problems amid challenging weather conditions. The MLA affirmed that rehabilitation measures would continue until normalcy was restored and assured that the administration would not rest until every affected family received the necessary assistance and support.

MLA Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy Inspects Flood-Hit Areas

Directs Coordinated Relief Measures

TPN Macharla (Palnadu District) Oct 29: Macharla MLA Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy has directed officials and alliance party cadres to act with coordination and efficiency in handling the aftermath of the montha cyclone and the resulting floods across several parts of the Palnadu district. The legislator personally toured flood-affected areas on Wednesday to assess the situation and oversee immediate relief efforts. Continuous heavy rainfall over the past two days, triggered by the cyclone, has caused large-scale flooding in low-lying regions.



war footing. He also communicated with senior district authorities over the phone to report the ground situation and seek additional assistance where necessary. The MLA stressed that all key departments, police, municipal services, electricity, fire, and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) must remain fully active and accessible to people in need.

He urged teams to intensify relief operations to ensure no household is left unsupported. Reviewing the flooding caused by the Chandravanka stream, he informed higher authorities of the prevailing conditions and appealed for prompt

intervention to prevent further loss. Speaking to the media after his tour, Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy assured that comprehensive relief measures were being delivered to all affected families. He emphasized that, if required, more rehabilitation centers would be set up to accommodate displaced residents and provide them with food, shelter, and medical support.

He appealed to citizens to immediately report any emergencies or distress situations to designated toll-free helplines so that authorities could respond without delay. Highlighting a recurring concern, the MLA noted that floods

from the Chandravanka stream have consistently affected nearby villages during every cyclone season. He said that a detailed project proposal for constructing a protective retaining wall along the stream had already been submitted to the coalition government. Expressing hope, he mentioned that funds for this construction would be sanctioned soon, describing it as a permanent solution to the Chandravanka flood problem.

Reddy also addressed local infrastructural issues, particularly the low-lying bridge connecting Chandravanka to Jammalamadaka. He pledged that steps

would be initiated to rebuild the bridge at a higher level to ensure safer connectivity during monsoons. Officials accompanying the MLA included Macharla Municipal Commissioner Venubabu, Tahsildar Kiran Kumar, Municipal Chairman Madhar Saheb, and Vaddera Corporation Director Komera Durgarao. Senior leaders from the Telugu Desam Party, including Kazam Saidayya and Shashidhar Reddy, were also present during the visit. Julakanti Brahmananda Reddy reaffirmed his commitment to continuous monitoring of the situation. He reiterated that officials and party functionaries would remain on duty round-the-clock to assist residents until normalcy is fully restored. His inspection and directives reflect the government's proactive approach toward safeguarding lives and restoring essential infrastructure in flood-affected localities of Palnadu district.

TDP Leader Praises CM Chandrababu's Effective Disaster Management

TPN Narasaraopet Oct 29: TDP Palnadu district president Kommalapati Sridhar praised Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's swift action in protecting people from natural disasters, saying that no one after Chandrababu has shown such dedication to public safety. Speaking at a press conference held at the TDP district office in Narasaraopet on Wednesday, Sridhar lauded the



Chief Minister and Minister Nara Lokesh for closely monitoring the impact of Cyclone Monta and ensuring that the public faced minimal

hardship. He added that Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan also reviewed the cyclone's intensity and provided necessary ad-

vice and instructions to officials. Sridhar remarked that Chandrababu Naidu has always been known for his disaster management skills, recalling how efficiently he handled previous natural calamities in Andhra Pradesh.

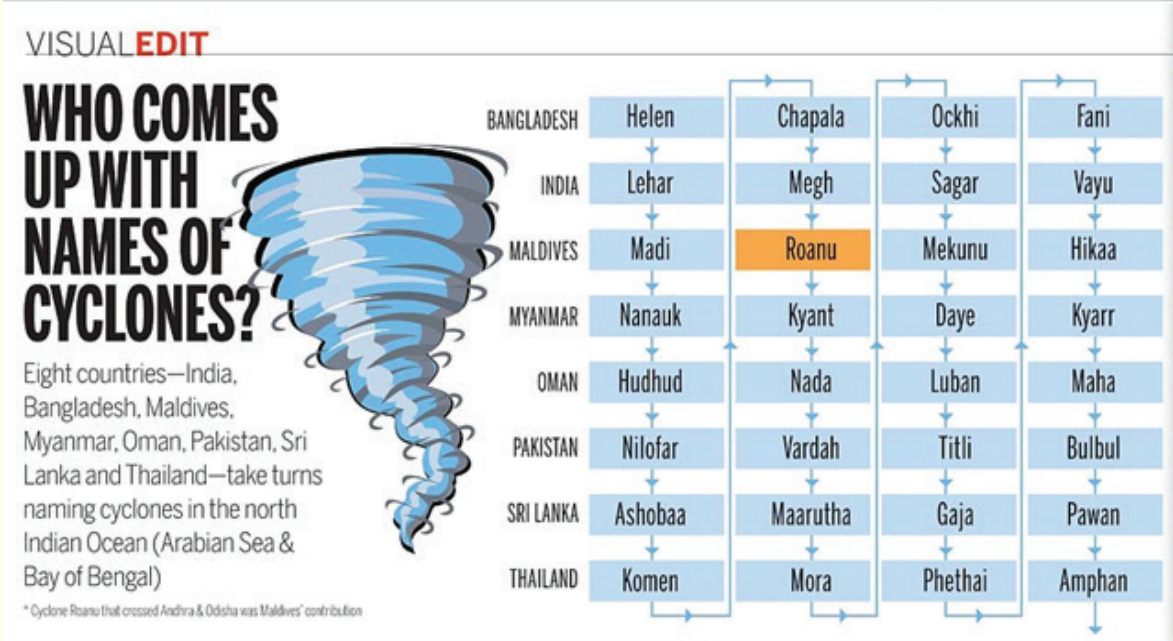
He noted that the Chief Minister had implemented well-planned precautionary and rehabilitation measures ahead of the cyclone and

had directed MLAs, ministers, and alliance leaders to conduct relief operations across affected areas.

Expressing confidence, Sridhar said the people of Andhra Pradesh feel reassured knowing that Chandrababu Naidu is personally overseeing the cyclone situation, as they believe no one else can safeguard the state's citizens with such commitment and expertise.

From Montha to Amphan: How Cyclones Get Their Names

Decoding Cyclone Names



Vindamuri Krishna Kumar

TPN, Bureau -

Cyclones often bring widespread destruction, causing immense property damage, loss of life, and severe disruption to communities. Yet, the name of a cyclone—announced almost instantly by meteorological authorities—often captures public attention more than the storm itself. How are these names chosen, and what do they mean? The story behind cyclone naming is both organized and international.

The latest cyclonic storm, Cyclone Montha, formed in the west-central Bay of Bengal, currently centered 160 km from Machilipatnam, 240 km from Kakinada, and 320 km from Visakhapatnam. Forecasts suggest it could intensify and make landfall near Kakinada, between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam. The storm's name, Montha, might raise questions: who named it and what does it signify?

According to the Visakhapatnam Cyclone Warning Center, the name Montha originates from Thailand. Derived from the combination of “Mom” and “Tha,” in Thai, Montha refers to a fragrant flower that holds cultural significance, often placed near Buddhist statues and in temples as a sacred symbol.

The tradition of naming cyclones in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea started in 2000, under the guidance of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Member countries include India, Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, each maintaining a list of 13 names. Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia,

UAE, and Yemen joined in 2018. Names are proposed alphabetically by country, starting with Bangladesh, followed by India, and continuing in order of the member nations.

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), one of six Regional Specialized Meteorological Centers (RSMC) worldwide, is tasked with issuing cyclone warnings, advisories, and announcing names. Cyclone naming serves practical purposes: it simplifies communication for disaster management, scientists, media, and the general public. Names make it easier to issue warnings, track simultaneous cyclones, and record historical data.

The selection process ensures that names are free of political, religious, or cultural sensitivities, gender-neutral, non-offensive, easy to pronounce, and limited to eight letters in English. Each member country provides spelling and pronunciation guidance, while a governing panel reviews and can reject proposed names. Names once used for North Indian Ocean cyclones cannot be reused, ensuring uniqueness.

The IMD follows lists approved in meetings dating back to 2004, after extensive discussion among member states. The previous list expired after Cyclone Amphan, and the current list is set to remain valid for 25 years. Annually, up to five cyclones form in the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, and North Indian Ocean, with each being assigned the next available name from the approved list.

Cyclone naming has become an essential part of modern disaster management. It allows governments, media, and citizens to communicate clearly and act quickly in preparation for potentially catastrophic storms like Cyclone Montha, linking science, culture, and international cooperation in a single, memorable identifier.

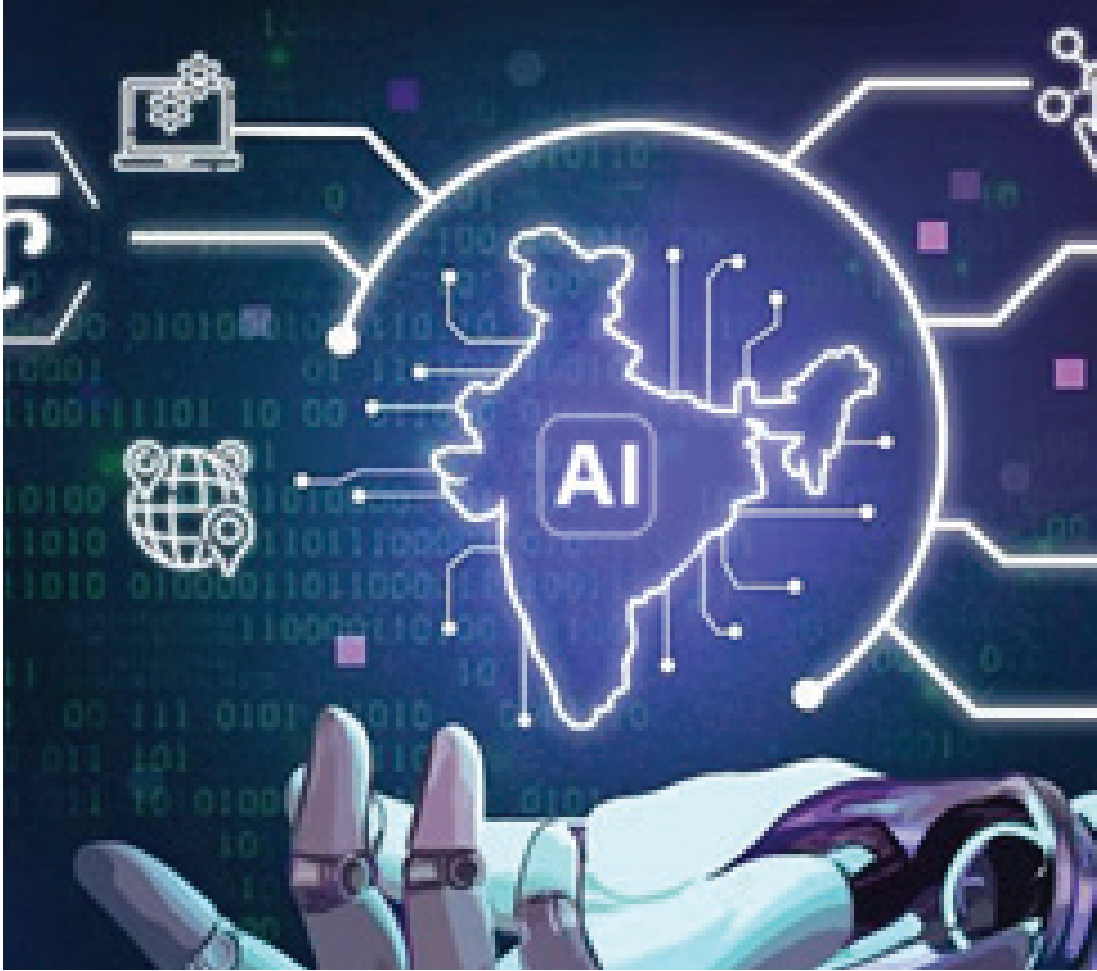
Labelling AI Content Alone Won't Solve Misinformation: India Needs Smarter Rules

The Union government has proposed India's first major Artificial Intelligence regulation, seeking to address the growing threat of AI-generated misinformation. On 22 October, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) released draft amendments to the Information Technology (IT) Rules, 2021, introducing obligations for social media companies to label synthetic or AI-generated content shared on their platforms.

Under the proposed rules, platforms enabling the creation or circulation of AI content must embed metadata, superimpose visible labels covering 10 per cent of the content, and verify user declarations when synthetic material is uploaded. The move aligns India's regulatory direction with the European Union and China, both of which have introduced AI labelling norms.

However, experts warn that labelling alone cannot curb misinformation. Large-scale detection of synthetic content is technologically difficult, and errors—such as missing fake posts or mislabelling genuine ones—could distort public trust. Unlabelled content might even appear more authentic to users, inadvertently amplifying falsehoods.

The draft rules also raise legal concerns by diluting India's safe harbour protections—a key provision that shields social media platforms from liability for user-generated content. The amendments allow platforms to remove posts based on user complaints without court orders, and require them to monitor and act on synthetic content



proactively. This could turn social media intermediaries into arbiters of online speech, reversing the Supreme Court's *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* precedent, which placed the burden of judging illegality on the State, not private entities.

Critics argue that this shift may lead platforms to over-censor content to avoid enforcement risks, undermining free

expression. Parliamentary committees have also cautioned against giving social media companies excessive discretion in moderating speech.

Instead of relying solely on labels, experts recommend a multi-layered approach—promoting transparency standards, such as those by the Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity, and investing in me-

dia literacy to help users recognise synthetic information.

As AI-generated content grows exponentially, India's regulatory response must go beyond cosmetic labelling. Effective policy will require collaboration between the government, platforms, and users, grounded in transparency, accountability, and public education.

Delhi's Air: The Myths That Keep Choking Us



Every winter, Delhi sinks once again into a thick haze of smog, triggering a familiar cycle of outrage, blame, and quick fixes. Yet, as author A.K. Mehta writes, the real barrier to clean air isn't a lack of technology or governance—it's the persistence of myths that distort how we understand and tackle the problem.

The first myth is that Delhi's air pollution is unique. While the city's smog is severe, history shows that other global capitals once faced similar crises. London's streets were blanketed in soot through the mid-20th century, while Los Angeles and Beijing endured decades of choking smog. These cities cleaned up their air not through miracles but through discipline and long-term investment—upgrading fuel standards, reforming transport sys-

tems, and enforcing strict emissions policies. Delhi's challenge, therefore, is not exceptional; it is solvable with sustained commitment.

Another enduring misconception is the belief in instant solutions—that one dramatic intervention could clear the air overnight. This year's favourite fix, for instance, is cloud seeding, the process of inducing artificial rain to wash away pollutants. However, experts point out that cloud seeding works only when moisture-laden clouds are already present. It can temporarily reduce pollution but cannot create rain from a clear sky.

The truth, Mehta argues, is that clean air comes from thousands of small, consistent actions rather than grand gestures. Effective air management requires watering dusty roads,

greening open soil, maintaining vehicles, enforcing construction rules, and managing the city's airshed—all actions that require discipline and cooperation from citizens, contractors, corporations, and the government alike.

Delhi's fight for breathable air, therefore, demands collective responsibility. It's not just about bans or emergency measures during winter but about consistent year-round action. Cleaner air won't arrive as a gift from the state; it will emerge when everyone—from policymakers to pedestrians—treats the air they breathe with the same seriousness as life itself.

Until that shift happens, Delhi's skies may clear briefly, but its lungs will remain under siege—trapped not just by pollution, but by the myths that keep the crisis alive.

Bihar Beyond Buddha and Mandal: Why the 2025 Polls Matter for Indian Democracy

As Bihar heads to the polls, the state once again finds itself at the crossroads of history and politics. Known as the land of Buddha and the birthplace of democracy, Bihar's legacy extends far beyond its current economic challenges. It was here that ancient republican assemblies, or sanghas, once flourished—earning Bihar a reputation as one of the earliest cradles of democratic governance.

Bihar's modern story, too, has shaped India's political fabric. It was in Champaran that Mahatma Gandhi launched his first satyagraha in India in 1917, and from Bihar that Jayaprakash Narayan led

the movement against Indira Gandhi's Emergency in the 1970s, ushering in India's first non-Congress government.

Today, Bihar represents another crucial test—one that could define the trajectory of Indian democracy itself. Despite the BJP's dominance across North India, Bihar remains the only major Hindi-speaking state where the party has never ruled alone. Here, the enduring legacy of Mandal politics, rooted in lower-caste empowerment, continues to resist the consolidation of Hindu nationalism that transformed Uttar Pradesh.

This resistance stems from the

legacy of Karpoori Thakur, who as chief minister in 1978 introduced a 26% reservation policy for OBCs, cementing the foundations of caste-based social justice politics. His ideological heirs—Lalu Prasad Yadav and Nitish Kumar—have kept this vision alive for decades. The BJP's posthumous Bharat Ratna for Thakur in 2024 signalled an attempt to align with this legacy, but whether it translates into political dominance remains uncertain.

Beyond electoral arithmetic, the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter rolls in Bihar has stirred concerns

about disenfranchisement. Critics argue that the process risks excluding vulnerable communities and undermining the neutrality of democratic institutions.

Political scientists warn that such trends reflect democratic backsliding, where executive power encroaches upon independent institutions. Bihar's elections, therefore, are more than a regional contest—they are a litmus test for India's democratic resilience. Whether the polls reinforce backsliding or revive the state's historic democratic spirit will reveal much about the direction in which India's democracy is headed.



Rahul Gandhi vs BJP Over His “PM Will Dance” Comment At Bihar Rally



TPN Bureau | New Delhi
Congress leader Rahul Gandhi ignited a political storm in Bihar on Wednesday after making controversial remarks about Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the launch of the party's state election campaign. Addressing a rally, Gandhi said Modi

“will dance if you ask him to” and accused the ruling BJP of “stealing elections” in previous states, including Maharashtra and Haryana, while warning voters to remain vigilant in Bihar.
The BJP was quick to retaliate, condemning Gandhi's comments as those of a “lo-

cal goon” and asserting that he had insulted all Modi supporters. Party leaders accused Gandhi and Congress of mocking Indian voters and undermining democracy, while also claiming that the opposition was “openly standing with intruders.”
Union Home Minister Amit

Shah addressed Gandhi's “Voter Adhikar Yatra,” highlighting the opposition's repeated allegations of Election Commission-BJP collusion during their foot march across eastern Bihar.
Gandhi also criticized reports of a specially constructed pond on the Yamuna

in Delhi, claiming the Prime Minister used it for Chhath Puja rituals instead of performing the ceremony in the river. “There is no Yamuna there... he went to bathe in his 'swimming pool,’” Gandhi said.
The Congress is allied with Tejashwi Yadav's Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in Bihar. Yadav, recently named the opposition's chief ministerial candidate, focused on poll promises during his rally, including cooking gas cylinders at Rs 500 and 200 free electricity units per household, while criticizing Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for allegedly being “remotely controlled” by the BJP.
The campaign has also sparked debates over the legacy of socialist leader Karpoori Thakur, with Congress naming Gandhi as “Jan Nayak,” a move opposed by Hindustan Awam Morcha and the ruling alliance.
Bihar will vote in a two-phase election starting November 6, with results declared on November 14, setting the stage for a heated contest between the BJP-JDU alliance and the Congress-RJD opposition.

President Murmu Meets Rafale Pilot, Pakistan Claims Debunked



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi
President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday met Squadron Leader Shivangi Singh, the first female Indian pilot to fly the Rafale, at Ambala Air Force Station in Haryana. Singh posed with the President and gave her a hands-on tour of the fighter aircraft, dismissing recent Pakistani social media claims that she had been captured during Operation Sindoor.
Varanasi-born Singh, who has become a symbol of women's achievements in the Indian Air Force, was seen standing tall in flight overalls alongside the President, with the Rafale jet in the background. The visit highlighted India's op-

erational readiness and reaffirmed confidence in its air force personnel.
The Pakistani claims, circulated widely on social media, suggested that Singh's aircraft had been shot down and that she had been captured. Indian authorities clarified that these reports were false, and videos purporting to show her “grief-stricken family” were unrelated, actually depicting the family of Sergeant Surendra Kumar.
Operation Sindoor, launched in May as a response to a terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir's Pahalgam region, involved heightened aerial operations along the border. Pakistani sources had exaggerated their military success, claiming to have downed six Indian jets, including Singh's, while India reported that Pakistan suffered losses in the engagement.
President Murmu's visit underscores India's commitment to honoring its armed forces while countering misinformation. The interaction with Squadron Leader Singh also served to inspire young women across the country, highlighting their growing role in the defense sector. The display of India's Rafale capability and Singh's leadership reflects the nation's continued focus on operational excellence and gender inclusion in the armed forces.

Bastar Faces Bloodiest Push Against Maoists



TPN Correspondent | Chhattisgarh
As the March 31, 2026 deadline to eliminate Left Wing Extremism (LWE) approaches, Bastar remains a flashpoint of violence, with decades of conflict leaving deep scars on the region.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has described this period as the “final phase” of India's long war against Maoist insurgency, but the human and operational cost continues to mount.
Official records from 2001 to October 27, 2025,

show Bastar has witnessed 3,404 armed encounters between security forces and Maoists, with 1,541 insurgents killed. The year 2025 alone was among the deadliest, registering 89 encounters and 224 Maoist fatalities, the highest in two

decades. Security forces have lost 1,315 personnel in the same period, with particularly heavy casualties in 2010 and 2017 due to ambushes and IED attacks.
Civilian casualties remain stark: 1,817 innocents have died, often targeted as al-

leged informers by Maoist squads. Explosives recovered from Maoist hideouts number 4,312, including 820 in 2025, alongside 3,327 recorded weapon seizures, reflecting the insurgents' continued militarization.
Parallel to the violence, a growing number of Maoists have surrendered. Between 2001 and 2025, 7,826 cadres laid down arms, including 1,319 in 2025 alone. Security operations also resulted in 13,416 arrests over 25 years, highlighting the persistent cycle of recruitment and conflict in the region.
Despite years of counter-insurgency efforts, Bastar's forests remain tense, with fear and fatigue dominating village life. As the March 2026 deadline looms, authorities hope for a decisive push toward peace, yet the region's bloody history casts a long shadow.
The figures tell a stark story: 3,404 encounters, 1,541 Maoists killed, 1,315 security personnel dead, 1,817 civilian casualties, 7,826 surrenders, 13,416 arrests, and 4,312 explosives seized. Bastar's struggle against Maoism continues, with the jungle still burning.

India Must Reduce Dependence On Foreign Critical Technology, Energy: Goyal

TPN Correspondent | Srinagar
Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday emphasized the need for India to reduce its dependence on foreign critical technologies and energy resources to ensure long-term growth and national sovereignty.
Speaking at an economic forum, Goyal highlighted that strategic autonomy in technology and energy is essential for India to strengthen its manufacturing sector, secure its supply chains, and maintain global competitiveness. He stressed that while imports have supported rapid development, over-reliance exposes the country to geopolitical risks and supply disruptions.
“India must invest in homegrown technologies and energy solutions. This is not just about economic growth—it is about safeguarding national interests and ensuring sustainable development,” Goyal said. The minister pointed out sectors such as semiconductors, renewable energy, electric mobility, and advanced manufacturing as key areas where

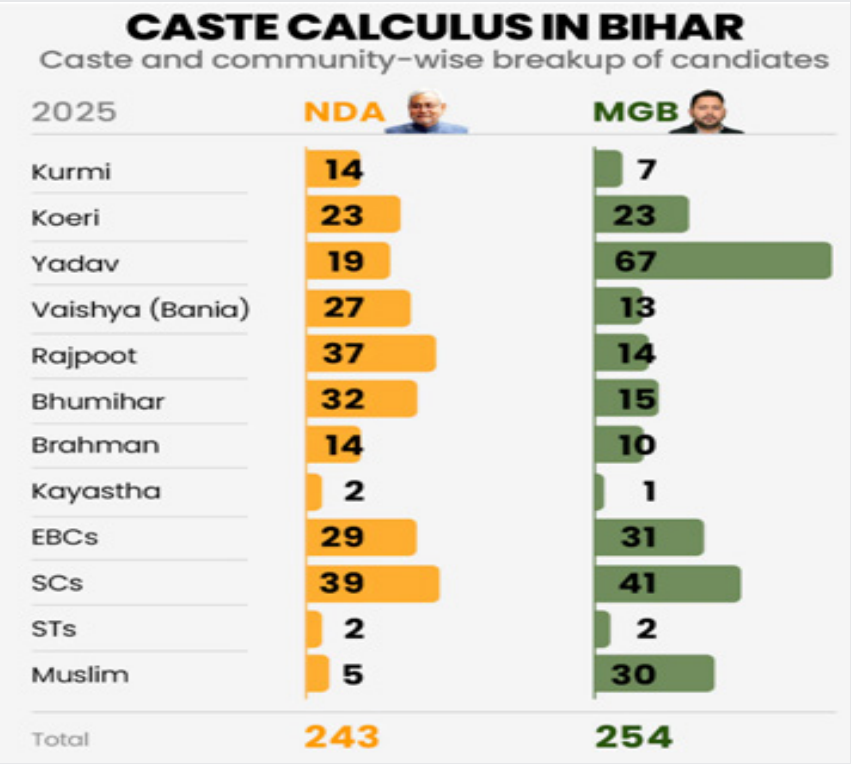


domestic capabilities need to be strengthened.
Goyal also urged businesses and startups to focus on innovation and research in critical technologies. “We need an ecosystem where Indian enterprises can develop cutting-edge solutions, reducing the country's dependence on imports while

creating high-value jobs at home,” he added.
The minister's remarks come at a time when India is strategically expanding its industrial base and pursuing policies to encourage self-reliance under the “Make in India” and “Atmanirbhar Bharat” initiatives. Goyal underlined that investments in

renewable energy, battery storage, and digital infrastructure are critical to achieving energy security and technological independence.
He concluded by stating that reducing foreign dependence is a long-term endeavor requiring collaboration between the

government, private sector, and research institutions. “This is the path to sustainable growth, economic resilience, and national sovereignty,” he said, reinforcing India's commitment to building a robust domestic industrial and technological foundation.



TPN Correspondent | Patna
Bihar heads to the assembly polls in two phases starting November 6, both major political alliances—the NDA and the Mahagathabandhan (MGB)—have prioritized caste arithmetic over inclusive representation in their ticket distribution. The strategy underscores a shift from election slogans to hard-nosed calculations aimed at winnability.
The MGB, which campaigned on the progressive slogan “JiskiJitni Sankhya Bhaari, UskiJitni Hissedaari” (representation proportional to population), and the NDA, with its inclusive “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas” tagline, have both leaned on their traditional vote banks.
Within the NDA, the BJP

has emphasized upper-caste consolidation. Rajputs have been allocated 21% of tickets and Bhumihars 16%, far above their estimated 3% population share each. Muslim representation has been nearly eliminated, while Yadavs—a core MGB bloc—received just 6% of BJP tickets. JD(U) has reinforced its Luv-Kush support, giving 12% of tickets to Kurmis, 13% to Koeri/Kushwahs, and 19% to Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs). Muslim candidates constitute only 2% of NDA nominations despite forming 18% of Bihar's population.
On the other hand, the MGB, led by RJD, has doubled down on its Muslim-Yadav (M-Y) base, giving Yadavs 37% of tickets—more than double their 14% population share—and

Muslims 13%. To counter the perception of “Yadav Raj,” upper-caste representation has been reduced to 8%, while Kushwaha and EBC candidates each receive 10%. The Congress has fielded 34% upper-caste and 15% NYOBC/EBC candidates to expand the alliance's reach and balance caste representation.
Analysts say the allocation reveals a pragmatic electoral approach where parties are consolidating core voter bases rather than pursuing broader inclusion. The Bihar election, spanning two phases, will conclude with results on November 14, setting the stage for a high-stakes contest shaped as much by caste arithmetic as by campaign promises.

Pakistan-Afghanistan Talks Fail Over Militancy Dispute



TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

Pakistan confirmed on Wednesday that recent talks with Afghanistan aimed at tackling cross-border terrorism have failed, accusing Kabul of backtracking on commitments to control militancy along the border.

The discussions, held over four days from October 25, were facilitated by Turkiye, which hosted officials from both nations. The agenda focused on finding a mutual framework to curb militant activities affecting Pakistan's border regions. Despite repeated efforts, the two sides could not reach a consensus.

Pakistan's Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, emphasized that Islamabad had approached the talks in good faith, expecting concrete measures from Kabul to curb terrorism. He alleged that Afghan authorities did not uphold previously agreed commitments, undermining regional security cooperation.

"The outcome of these talks is disappointing. Pakistan remains committed to peace and stability in the region, but such unilateral backtracking hampers joint efforts against terror-

ism," Tarar said.

The discussions were part of an ongoing effort to strengthen bilateral relations and address security concerns, including cross-border militant infiltration and extremist activities. Pakistan had urged Afghanistan to take strict action against groups operating from its territory and carrying out attacks in Pakistan.

Afghanistan's response to the breakdown has not been officially detailed, but sources indicate that differing interpretations of prior agreements and security arrangements contributed to the stalemate.

Regional analysts say the failure underscores the persistent challenges in coordinating counterterrorism measures between the two neighboring nations. Observers also highlight the importance of international facilitation, such as Turkiye's role, in bridging differences, though diplomatic negotiations remain delicate and complex.

Pakistan has reiterated that it will continue pursuing dialogue while simultaneously safeguarding its border areas through enhanced security measures.

Amazon Lays Off Thousands Amid AI-Driven Restructuring



TPN Correspondent | San Francisco

Thousands of Amazon employees in the U.S. woke up Tuesday to early-morning messages informing them that they had been laid off, part of a broader reduction of around 14,000 corporate roles. Many affected workers were retail managers, according to sources and screenshots reviewed by Business Insider.

The notifications, sent via text, instructed employees to check their personal or work emails and contact a help desk regarding their employment status. A memo from Amazon's HR head, Beth Galetti, confirmed that impacted employees would continue to receive full pay and benefits for 90 days, along with a severance package.

The layoffs come as Amazon pursues a major restructuring aimed at efficiency and increased adoption of artificial intelligence tools. In an internal blog post, Galetti highlighted that AI represents the most transformative technology since the Internet, enabling companies to in-

novate faster in exist-

ing and new markets. "These changes are occurring despite Amazon's strong financial performance," she noted. The company has been streamlining operations over the past few years by reducing management layers, tightening spending, revamping performance evaluation and compensation structures, and requiring corporate staff to return to the office five days a week.

Amazon's cost-cutting measures accelerated after pandemic-era expansion slowed. Earlier in 2025, the company froze hiring in its retail division, and its cloud computing arm, Amazon Web Services, also implemented layoffs in July.

The move reflects a broader trend in the tech sector, where companies such as Microsoft and Meta have undertaken significant workforce reductions despite strong revenues. Experts say AI and automation are increasingly driving these changes, reshaping corporate structures and job roles across industries.

Trump Hails Modi as 'Tough', Announces India Trade Deal

TPN Bureau | Tokyo

U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday praised Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing him as "tough as hell," a "father," and the "nicest-looking guy," while also announcing that he is "doing a trade deal with India."

Trump made the remarks during his keynote address at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEOs Luncheon in Gyeongju, where he highlighted his engagement with leaders across the region. The U.S. President underscored his admiration for Modi's leadership style, noting that his decisiveness and firmness have contributed to stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

In the same speech, Trump reiterated his controversial claim of having personally intervened to avert a "nuclear war" between India and Pakistan in May. He asserted that his diplomatic efforts helped de-escalate tensions between the two nuclear-armed nations, and claimed that seven aircraft were shot



down during the crisis.

While Trump's remarks on averting conflict have not been independently verified, they come amid heightened attention on U.S.-India relations and expanding trade ties. The planned

trade deal, according to Trump, will strengthen economic cooperation and open new avenues for investment between the two nations.

Experts note that closer U.S.-India trade engagement could have far-

reaching implications for regional supply chains, technology partnerships, and defense collaboration. The announcement is likely to be welcomed by Indian business communities looking to expand ex-

ports and attract foreign investment.

Trump's colorful characterization of Modi as both a "killer" and a "father" reflects the former U.S. President's unique style of political commentary,

blending personal admiration with assertive rhetoric. The trade deal signals a deepening of bilateral ties at a time when both countries are navigating complex geopolitical dynamics in the Indo-Pacific.

India to Repatriate 500 from Thailand After Scam Hub Raid

TPN Correspondent | Bangkok

India will repatriate 500 of its citizens from Thailand following a crackdown on a major scam hub in Myanmar, Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul announced on Wednesday. The move comes after authorities in Thailand received a wave of workers fleeing across the border in the wake of raids on sprawling fraud compounds.

The KK Park compound, located near the Thailand-Myanmar border, has been notorious for hosting operations where internet scammers target victims through romance and business cons. Many of those staffing these facilities claim they were trafficked into the hubs, although analysts note that some workers join willingly, lured by the promise of high salaries.

More than 1,000 individuals reportedly crossed into Thailand over the past week after Myanmar's military raided one of the country's largest scam centers. Images from the Mae Sot District in Tak Province show people navigating the Moei River by boat to escape the crackdown.

Thai authorities have coordinated with the Indian government to ensure safe repatria-



tion. "We are working closely with Indian officials to facilitate the return of their citizens," Charnvirakul said.

These scam operations have flourished along Myanmar's loosely governed border regions since the country's 2021 mili-

tary coup and the subsequent civil unrest. Such hubs have become a magnet for both trafficked workers and those seeking quick financial gains, exploiting the lawlessness in certain border areas.

The repatriation of 500 Indi-

ans highlights growing international concern over cross-border scams and the welfare of workers caught in these illicit operations. Governments in the region are now under pressure to tighten border controls, improve labor protections, and clamp

down on criminal networks that profit from these schemes.

India's move to bring back its citizens underscores its commitment to ensuring the safety of its nationals abroad, even amid complex regional security challenges.

Netanyahu Orders Strikes in Gaza Amid Hostage Tensions

TPN Correspondent | Buenos Aires

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday ordered immediate "forceful strikes" in the Gaza Strip, accusing Hamas of violating the ceasefire. The announcement came after Hamas reportedly fired on Israeli forces in southern Gaza and returned the remains of a hostage previously recovered.

Minutes after the strikes were ordered, Hamas stated it would postpone the handover of another hostage body scheduled for Tuesday evening. The Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades said in a statement that any Israeli escalation would impede the search, excavation, and recovery of the bodies.

On Monday, Hamas handed over the 16th of 28 hostage bodies under the ceasefire deal effective from October 10. However, forensic checks revealed the remains belonged to the same hostage returned two years ago — Ofir Tzarfati. Israeli officials accused Hamas of staging the discovery, claiming the remains had been reburied before being handed over to the Red Cross. Tzarfati's family condemned the act, stating it was the third time they had been forced to rebury their son.

According to the Associated Press, Israeli troops were



fired upon in Rafah on Tuesday, prompting them to return fire. Israeli government spokeswoman Shosh Bedrosian emphasized that "nothing is off the table" regarding consequences for Hamas but

added that all actions were coordinated with the United States, including President Donald Trump and his team.

The situation has escalated tensions in the region, with both sides accusing each other

of ceasefire violations. Netanyahu's decision to authorize strikes underscores Israel's determination to respond swiftly to perceived provocations, while Hamas continues to link the transfer of hostage

remains to Israeli actions.

The international community has urged restraint as the fragile ceasefire faces mounting pressure amid ongoing hostilities and complicated hostage negotiations.

Coal India Q2 Profit Falls 50%

Coal India Ltd (CIL) reported a sharp decline in its consolidated net profit for the second quarter, falling 50.2% sequentially and missing market expectations. The company's earnings were weighed down by lower production volumes and softening coal prices.

CIL's Q2 revenue stood at Rs 30,187 crore, down 15.8% from Rs 35,842 crore in the previous quarter, broadly in line with Bloomberg's forecast of Rs 30,394 crore. The decline reflects subdued demand from power and industrial sectors amid moderating fuel prices.

Analysts pointed out that while Coal India remains a dominant player in India's coal market, rising operational costs and falling dispatches have impacted profitability. The company's margins narrowed significantly, raising concerns among investors about near-term earnings growth.

Despite the setback, CIL continues to benefit from government support and long-term contracts with state utilities. The company has also been focusing on cost optimization, mechanization of mines, and expansion into renewable energy projects to diversify revenue streams.

Industry experts noted that the decline in Q2 profits aligns with seasonal trends, as mon-



soon-related disruptions and lower off-take from thermal power plants typically weigh on output and revenue during the period.

Coal India remains a key

supplier to India's energy sector, and any recovery in power demand or domestic coal prices could help restore margins in coming quarters. Investors will closely watch the compa-

ny's operational updates, production targets, and cost-control measures to gauge future performance.

The latest results highlight the challenges faced by tradi-

tional energy companies amid changing market dynamics and increasing competition from alternative fuels, even as Coal India retains a strategic position in India's coal supply chain.

Amazon to Cut 14,000 Corporate Jobs Globally



Amazon on Tuesday announced plans to reduce its corporate workforce by approximately 14,000 employees worldwide, as part of its ongoing efforts to streamline operations and become a leaner, A I - d r i v e n organization.

The Seattle-based e-commerce giant, which employs over 1.5 million people globally, said the move is aimed at reducing bureaucracy and improving operational efficiency. Contrary to some media reports suggesting 30,000 layoffs, the company clarified that the corporate job cuts would affect a smaller segment, with implications across multiple geographies, including India.

In India, Amazon employs between 1.2 lakh and 1.3 lakh people, with around 35,000 in corporate roles, according to industry sources. "A few thousand roles" are expected to be impacted in the country. The layoff exercise is scheduled to commence within the next few days, with managers undergoing special training to communicate the

changes sensitively and manage interactions with affected employees.

The decision comes amid wider restructuring in the technology and e-commerce sectors, as companies focus on automation, cost optimization, and adapting to new business models. Analysts note that Amazon's move mirrors similar steps taken by global tech giants in recent months to control expenses and prioritize high-growth areas.

Industry insiders highlighted that while the corporate layoffs are significant, Amazon continues to expand its operational workforce in logistics, delivery, and cloud computing divisions to support business growth. The company emphasized that affected employees would receive severance packages and support during the transition.

The announcement is expected to have ripple effects in India's corporate sector, sparking conversations on workforce realignment and the increasing role of AI in corporate decision-making.

Markets Rebound on Fed Rate Cut Hopes



Indian stock markets rebounded in early trade on Wednesday, supported by global cues, hopes of a U.S. Federal Reserve rate cut, and fresh for-

eign fund inflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex gained 287.94 points to 84,916.10, while the 50-share NSE Nifty rose 86.65 points to 26,022.85 in

early trading. Investors were buoyed by optimism that the Fed may reduce interest rates, which could ease global liquidity conditions and spur investment in

emerging markets like India.

Among Sensex constituents, Asian Paints, Tata Steel, Trent, Larsen & Toubro, State Bank of India, and Adani Ports were ma-

ior gainers, leading the recovery. Market participants noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) had resumed buying, contributing to the positive momentum.

Sectorally, banking, metal, and infrastructure stocks outperformed, reflecting investor confidence in domestic economic growth despite lingering concerns over inflation and global economic uncertainties. Analysts said that optimism around corporate earnings and government reforms also supported buying sentiment.

Globally, key indices in Asia and Europe showed mixed-to-positive trends following upbeat corporate results and easing concerns about interest rate hikes. Wall Street futures indicated a positive opening, reinforcing risk-on sentiment in Indian markets.

Market experts cautioned that while early gains were encouraging, investors should remain watchful of macroeconomic developments and global cues, which could influence volatility in the near term.

Overall, Wednesday's early rebound highlighted the impact of international monetary policy expectations and foreign capital inflows on domestic equities, underscoring India's sensitivity to global financial conditions.

Rupee Slips to 88.27 Against Dollar



The Indian rupee weakened by 8 paise to close at 88.27 against the U.S. dollar on Tuesday, tracking weak domestic equities and foreign fund outflows. The depreciation reflects investor caution amid global and domestic market movements.

Forex traders noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) sold equities worth 55.58 crore on October 27, 2025, putting pressure on the currency. Despite the outflows, the rupee's decline was limited as a softening U.S. dollar and easing crude oil prices provided some support.

The dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six major currencies, fell 0.09% to 98.69, indicating mild weakness in the U.S. currency in global markets. Analysts said that a weaker dollar tends to ease pressure on emerging market currencies, including the rupee, even when domestic factors exert downward pressure.

Sectorally, persistent selling in equity mar-

kets, coupled with cautious trading ahead of upcoming macroeconomic data, influenced currency movements. Market participants highlighted that short-term fluctuations in the rupee are often driven by global risk sentiment, crude oil price trends, and capital flows.

Economists observed that while the rupee's recent depreciation is modest, continued foreign fund outflows or sharp volatility in crude oil prices could create further downward pressure. They advised monitoring macroeconomic indicators and global market cues closely for clues on the near-term trajectory of the currency.

Overall, the rupee's performance on Tuesday reflects a balance between domestic equity market weakness and global cues, underscoring its sensitivity to both local and international developments. Investors and exporters are expected to track currency movements closely in the coming days.

IIP Growth Slows to Three-Month Low in September

India's industrial activity moderated in September 2025, with the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) registering a growth of 4%, marking a three-month low. The data, released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, also highlighted that industrial growth during the first half of the financial year (April-September) was the slowest in at least five years.

The IIP growth in September last year stood at 3.2%, reflecting a modest improvement over the same period. Industrial expansion had accelerated to 4.3% by July 2025, but growth momentum slowed in subsequent months. Analysts attributed the slowdown to a combination of factors, including muted domestic demand, cautious private investment, and lingering global economic uncertainties.

Sectoral data showed that manufacturing, which constitutes the largest share of the index, experienced a deceleration, while mining and electricity generation also contributed to the overall slowdown. The moderation in industrial output is expected to weigh on overall GDP growth in the second half of the fiscal year.

Economists noted that while



some sectors, such as capital goods and consumer durables, showed pockets of resilience, the overall trend reflects a cautious business environment. They emphasized the need for

policy measures to stimulate investment, boost infrastructure development, and incentivize industrial production.

The Ministry of Statistics will release more detailed

data on sector-wise and use-based IIP growth in the coming weeks, which will offer further insights into industrial performance. Meanwhile, market participants

and policymakers are closely monitoring the trend, as industrial output remains a key indicator of economic health and manufacturing activity in India.

Why Cyclones Move Towards Land



Tropical cyclones, powerful weather systems that form over warm ocean waters, are driven and directed by large-scale wind patterns in the atmosphere. These storms typically develop where sea surface temperatures exceed 26°C, providing the heat and moisture they need to intensify. However, their eventual movement — whether they make landfall or remain over the sea — is determined entirely by surrounding winds. Cyclones generally form between 5° and 20° north and south of the equator, regions dominated by the trade winds. These winds blow from east to west as part of the Hadley circulation, a massive global convection system created by uneven solar heating. Warm air rises near the equator, moves poleward at high altitudes, cools and sinks around 30° latitude, and then flows back toward the equator near the surface. Due to Earth's rotation, this returning air is deflected westward by the Coriolis effect, generating the easterly trade winds that push cyclones toward the west — and, in many cases, toward land. This is why tropical cyclones in the North Indian Ocean often travel from the Bay of Bengal or the Arabian Sea toward India, Bangladesh, or Myanmar. Similarly, storms in the Atlantic typically move westward toward the Caribbean or the southeastern United States. If global geography or wind patterns were reversed — if the trade winds blew from west to east instead — most cyclones would be steered away from land, drastically reducing landfall events. Ultimately, cyclones don't "seek" land; they are simply carried by the winds that dominate tropical regions. Their devastating landfalls are, therefore, a consequence of geography and atmospheric circulation rather than any natural preference of the storms themselves.

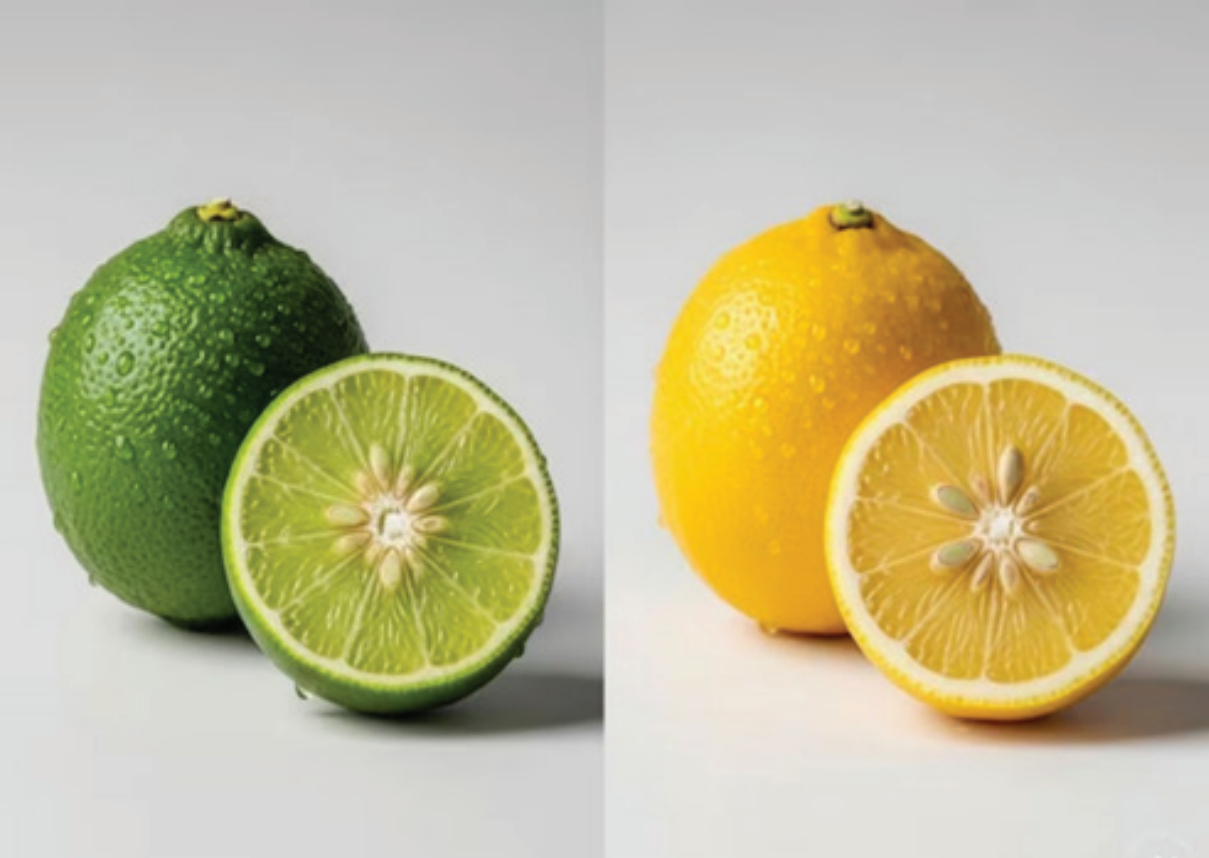
Why We Don't Feel the Earth Moving



Even though the Earth is constantly spinning and hurtling through space, we don't feel any of this motion — and that's because everything around us is moving along at the same steady pace. The Earth rotates once every 24 hours, which means someone standing on the equator is traveling at about 1,600 km per hour due to the planet's spin. At the same time, the Earth orbits the Sun at an astonishing 1,07,000 km per hour. Despite these immense speeds, we don't sense any movement because it's smooth and constant. Our bodies, including our inner ears — which help detect balance and motion — can only feel changes in speed or direction, known as acceleration. For example, when a car suddenly starts, stops, or turns, we feel it immediately. But once the car cruises smoothly at a constant speed, that sensation disappears unless we look outside. The same principle applies to the Earth. Since its rotation and revolution are stable and unchanging, there's no acceleration for us to detect. Everything — the air, oceans, buildings, and even our bodies — moves together with the planet, maintaining a constant relative position. We only notice Earth's motion indirectly, through natural phenomena like day and night, caused by the planet's rotation, or seasons, resulting from its orbit around the Sun and tilted axis. Without these clues, there's nothing in our everyday experience to suggest we're moving at such extraordinary speeds. In short, the reason we don't feel the Earth move is not because it isn't moving — it's because it moves perfectly smoothly, carrying us along with everything else on its surface through space.

Lemon vs Lime: The Subtle Difference Everyone Misses

They may look alike, taste similarly sour, and both boost immunity — but lemons and limes are not the same fruit. While often used interchangeably in kitchens around the world, these citrus cousins have distinct differences in appearance, flavour, and nutrition that set them apart. The lemon, easily recognised by its bright yellow colour and oval shape, is the larger of the two. The lime, by contrast, is smaller, rounder, and usually green. Both belong to the same citrus family and are rich in vitamin C, known for strengthening the immune system and promoting healthy skin. When it comes to taste, lemons tend to be more sour yet slightly sweet, owing to their higher citric acid content balanced with mild sugar levels. Limes, meanwhile, have a sharper, more pungent flavour with a hint of bitterness. Their zest and juice



are popular in pickles, cocktails, and various international cuisines, from Thai and Mexican to Indian dishes. Lemons, on the other hand, are commonly used in desserts, marinades, and refreshing drinks like lemonade. Nutritionally, both fruits are excellent detoxifiers and aid digestion. However, lemons generally contain slightly more vitamin C and folate, while limes offer more antioxidants and a stronger aroma. In everyday cooking, choosing between lemon and lime often comes down to flavour preference and recipe type. Lemons pair well with sweet or mild dishes, while limes add a bold kick to spicy or tangy foods. So, while the two may seem almost identical at first glance, a closer look — and taste — reveals that lemons and limes each bring their own unique zest to the table.

Organic vs Non-Organic Foods: Which Is Better for Your Health?

Walk through any supermarket and you'll see shelves lined with products proudly labelled "organic." From fruits and vegetables to cereals and snacks, organic foods have become a global trend. Many consumers believe they're healthier and better for the environment, while others argue they're just pricier versions of regular produce. So, what truly sets organic and non-organic foods apart? **How They're Grown:** Organic foods are cultivated without synthetic pesticides, fertilisers, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Farmers rely on natural techniques like composting and crop rotation to maintain soil health. Non-organic foods, on the other hand, use modern farming methods and chemical inputs to increase yield and efficiency, which may leave small traces of residues—though typically within safe regulatory limits. **Nutritional Value:** Research shows that while organic produce can contain slightly higher levels of antioxidants, the overall nutritional difference is minor. Both organic and conventional foods provide similar amounts of vitamins and minerals. Experts suggest that eating a diverse range of fresh, seasonal foods is



far more important than focusing solely on labels. **Pesticide Exposure:** Organic produce generally has fewer pesticide residues. However, conventional foods are regularly tested and deemed safe. Washing or peeling fruits and vegetables can further reduce exposure, making non-organic options safe for most people. **Environmental Impact:** Organic farming supports biodiversity, enhances soil fertility, and reduces pollution. Conventional farming, though more productive, can deplete resources and harm ecosystems due to heavy chemical use. **Cost and Accessibility:** Organic food often costs more due to lower yields and higher labour needs. Budget-conscious consumers can mix and match—choosing organic for thin-skinned fruits like strawberries and non-organic for produce with protective peels such as bananas or avocados. Ultimately, both options can be part of a healthy, balanced diet when chosen thoughtfully.

China's Heatwaves Threaten Hairy Crab Supply

China's famous "hairy crabs," a seasonal delicacy prized for their sweet meat and golden roe, are under threat as the country battles worsening heatwaves linked to climate change. Farmers say the last three years have been the most difficult in over a decade for crab cultivation, with extreme temperatures disrupting breeding and survival rates. For farmers like Xie Dandan, 34, who has spent more than ten years raising hairy crabs, rising temperatures have become a major concern. "From 2022, it feels like the weather has been getting worse every year," she said, as she prepared freshly harvested crabs for customers at her farm in Jiangsu province — the heartland of China's hairy crab industry. The labour-intensive process of cultivating these freshwater crustaceans begins with larvae being raised in ponds for about a year. They are then transferred to fenced wetland farms where they grow until harvest season in autumn. However, sustained high temperatures and reduced rainfall have heated water bodies, lowered oxygen levels, and increased the risk of disease — all factors that threaten crab survival. Hairy crabs, traditionally enjoyed steamed and served with vinegar, are a symbol of Chinese culinary culture, especially around the Mid-Autumn Festival. But this year, farmers report lower yields and smaller crabs, leading to supply shortages and higher prices across restaurants and markets. Experts warn that climate change could make such challenges more frequent, forcing farmers to adapt by investing in shaded ponds, aeration systems, and improved water management. As the heat intensifies, the fate of China's beloved hairy crabs — once a reliable seasonal luxury — now hangs in the balance, with both farmers and food lovers anxiously watching the changing climate's toll on this iconic delicacy.



World No.1 Alcaraz Shocked by Norrie at Paris Masters

World number one Carlos Alcaraz suffered an unexpected first-round exit at the Paris Masters on Tuesday, losing 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to 31st-ranked Cameron Norrie. The 22-year-old Spaniard admitted he had “no feeling at all” for the ball, struggling through a mid-match slump that mirrored his earlier struggles at Roland Garros this season.

“Even in the first set that I won, I felt I could do much more,” Alcaraz said. “I tried in the second set, but it was totally the opposite... I had no feeling at all.” Despite his poor performance, he praised Norrie for taking full advantage of his mistakes.

Norrie, in contrast, played with poise on the 17,500-capacity La Defense Arena centre court, keeping his composure through key points and drawing admiration from the crowd for precise shot-making, including a stunning passing shot and a perfectly placed lob. “Such a special win to beat probably the most confident player in the world right now,” Norrie said.

Alcaraz’s early exit opens



the door for rival Jannik Sinner to potentially claim the top ranking if he goes deep in the tournament. The Spaniard had returned to competition after a three-week break due to an ankle injury that forced him to skip the Shanghai Masters.

Other notable results included Taylor Fritz cruising past Australian qualifier Aleksandar Vukic 7-6 (7/4), 6-2, and Daniil Medvedev defeating Jaume Munar 6-1, 6-3. Rising stars also impressed: 19-year-old Joao Fonseca overcame Denis

Shapovalov, while Canadian Felix Auger-Aliassime staged a comeback to beat Francisco Comesana.

Meanwhile, wildcard Valentin Vacherot continued his remarkable form, defeating 14th seed Jiri Lehecka 6-1, 6-3, and will face cousin

Arthur Rinderknech in a rematch of the Shanghai final. The winner of that clash will meet Norrie in the third round. Sinner, seeded second, begins his Paris campaign against Belgium’s Zizou Bergs on Wednesday.

Medvedev Cruises Into Second Round at Paris Masters



Former world number one Daniil Medvedev began his Paris Masters campaign with a dominant 6-1, 6-3 victory over Spain’s Jaume Munar on Tuesday. The 2020 Paris Masters champion looked in fine form on the centre court at the new La Defense Arena, wrapping

ping up the first set in under 30 minutes and breaking Munar in the sixth game of the second set to seal the win. Medvedev will now face Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov in the second round.

Meanwhile, Canadian ninth seed Felix Auger-Ali-

assime kept his hopes of qualifying for the ATP Finals alive with a comeback 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, 6-3 win over Argentina’s Francisco Comesana. Auger-Aliassime is currently ninth in the ATP Finals race and needs a strong run in Paris to secure a spot in Turin for

his second career appearance at the season-ending tournament.

Another standout performance came from Valentin Vacherot, the Monegasque wildcard and Shanghai Masters winner. Vacherot continued his sensational form by defeating 14th seed

Jiri Lehecka 6-1, 6-3 in under an hour. Vacherot will face his cousin Arthur Rinderknech in a repeat of the Shanghai final, with the winner set to meet either Medvedev or Dimitrov in the next round.

Other early-round victories included Canadian Gabriel Diallo, who beat the Netherlands’ Tallon Griekspoor 6-3, 6-4, and France’s Corentin Moutet, who overcame American lucky loser Reilly Opelka in three sets.

The marquee clash of the day will feature world number one Carlos Alcaraz, who will play his opening match against Britain’s Cameron Norrie in the round of 32. Alcaraz, returning after a short injury break, will look to make a statement after missing the Shanghai Masters and will be under pressure to maintain his top ranking as the Paris Masters unfolds.

With top seeds advancing smoothly and emerging talents making headlines, the Paris Masters promises high drama as players jostle for crucial ranking points ahead of the ATP Finals.

Fulham Edge Wycombe in Penalties to Reach Quarter-Finals



Fulham survived a scare from third-tier Wycombe to reach the League Cup quarter-finals after a 1-1 draw at Adams Park on Tuesday. Marco Silva’s side fell behind early when Cauley Woodrow scored in the fourth minute against his former club. The Cottagers responded in the 48th minute as Josh King netted his first senior goal to level the match.

Despite heavy pressure from Fulham, Wycombe defended resolutely, with Anders Hagel-sjaer clearing a Kevin Mbabu strike off the line in the final seconds. The tie was settled via a penalty shoot-out, in which Fulham twice missed chances as Ryan Sessegnon and Jonah Kusi-Asare were denied by Wycombe goalkeeper Will Norris. However, after Donnell McNeill’s effort was saved, Issa Diop scored the decisive penalty, sending Fulham through. The win ended a four-game losing streak that had dropped Fulham to 17th in the Premier League.

West London rivals Brentford

also advanced, thrashing Grimsby 5-0 at Blundell Park. The fourth-tier Mariners had shocked Manchester United and Sheffield Wednesday in earlier rounds but were quickly subdued. Mathias Jensen opened the scoring from 20 yards, followed by a Keane Lewis-Potter header and Reiss Nelson strike before halftime. Fabio Carvalho added a penalty in the second half, with Nathan Collins completing the rout. Brentford manager Keith Andrews praised his squad’s depth and competitiveness, aiming for their first major cup final.

Third-tier Cardiff City joined the quarter-finals after beating Championship side Wrexham 2-1 in an all-Welsh clash. Yousef Saleh gave Cardiff the lead, before Kieffer Moore equalised for Wrexham. Will Fish secured victory with a 71st-minute finish. Cardiff reached the quarter-finals for the first time since the 2011-12 final, with boss Brian Barry-Murphy highlighting the team’s resilience and composure under pressure.

Rohit Sharma Becomes No. 1 ODI Batter



Former India skipper Rohit Sharma created history on Wednesday by becoming the No. 1-ranked player in the ICC Men’s ODI Batter Rankings for the first time in his career.

Rohit moved up two spots to claim the top position following his unbeaten century in the third and final ODI against Australia in Sydney, where he led India to a commanding nine-wicket victory. The 38-year-old right-hander, in a destructive partnership with Virat Kohli (74*), struck 13 fours and three sixes to score his 33rd ODI century, overtaking Afghanistan’s Ibrahim Zadran and India teammate Shubman Gill in the process. Rohit has consistently featured in the top 10 of the rankings over the last decade.

India spinner Axar Patel also benefited from the Sydney win, climbing six places to 31st among ODI bowlers and four spots to eighth in the ODI all-rounder rankings. Other notable ODI movements include New Zealand’s Mitchell Sant-

ner rising to fourth and Australia’s Josh Hazlewood moving to eighth among bowlers, while England’s Harry Brook surged 23 spots to 25th among batters.

The latest Test rankings saw South Africa’s Keshav Maharaj jump nine places to 13th after taking nine wickets against Pakistan in Rawalpindi, with teammate Simon Harmer climbing 26 spots to 45th. South African batters Aiden Markram (up two spots to 15th) and Tony de Zorzi (up seven spots to 47th) also moved up, alongside all-rounder Kagiso Rabada, now 11th. Pakistan’s Shan Masood improved five spots to 42nd.

In T20I rankings, South Africa’s Corbin Bosch rose 40 places to 53rd among bowlers, while Pakistan’s Mohammad Nawaz jumped to sixth among all-rounders, and Saim Ayub moved up five spots to 49th in the batter rankings.

Rohit’s ascent to the top underscores his enduring class and consistency, cementing his place among the elite of world cricket.

Oman Replaces Pakistan at Junior Hockey World Cup

Oman will join the lineup for the upcoming FIH Men’s Junior World Cup 2025 in Tamil Nadu, following Pakistan’s late withdrawal, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced on Wednesday. The tournament is scheduled from November 28 to December 10, with matches to be held in Chennai and Madurai.

Oman earned the spot as the next highest-ranked team from the Junior Asia Cup 2024, stepping in after Pakistan decided not to participate despite qualifying through last year’s continental championship. The Pakistan Hockey Federation informed the FIH that the team would not accept the invitation, citing internal consultations with their government before the event.

Pakistan had been placed in Group B alongside India, Chile, and Switzerland. With Oman taking their place, the group composition has been updated ahead of the tournament. This late withdrawal marks the second recent instance of Pakistan pulling out from a major hockey event in India, after the Men’s Asia Cup in



Rajgir, Bihar, where Bangladesh replaced them. The withdrawal also cost Pakistan a chance to qualify for next year’s World Cup, as the Asia Junior Cup served as a qualifying event.

The FIH had initially postponed the official draw

for nearly a month to accommodate Pakistan’s decision-making, eventually holding the ceremony at its headquarters in Lausanne. The Men’s Junior World Cup 2025 will feature 24 teams for the first time, alongside the Women’s edi-

tion, reflecting the FIH’s Empowerment and Engagement strategy aimed at promoting wider participation.

Germany enters the tournament as the defending champions, having won the 2023 edition in Kuala Lum-

pur, Malaysia. The inclusion of Oman ensures the tournament maintains full participation and competitive balance, while giving the Middle Eastern nation an opportunity to showcase its growing hockey prowess on the global stage.

Baahubali: The Epic – Full Interview Video Released



The makers of Baahubali have released the full interview video featuring director S.S. Rajamouli along with actors Prabhas and Rana Daggubati, ahead of the film's special re-release as Baahubali: The Epic. The two-part blockbuster will now be presented as a single cinematic experience, hitting theaters on October 31, 2025.

In the interview, Rajamouli, Prabhas, and Rana took fans down memory lane, sharing behind-the-scenes stories from the making of both Baahubali: The Beginning and Baahubali: The Conclusion. The trio discussed challenges faced during the shoot, including action sequences, visual effects, and the creation of the iconic Mahishmati kingdom that became a landmark in Indian cinema.

Prabhas spoke about the physical and emotional preparation required for his role as Amarendra and Mahendra Baahubali, while Rana re-

flected on portraying the antagonist Bhallaladeva, highlighting the intensity and depth needed for the character. Rajamouli, in turn, elaborated on his directorial vision and how he balanced grandeur with storytelling, ensuring that every scene resonated with audiences.

The interview also revisited fan reactions to the original releases, including the unprecedented excitement surrounding the film's cliffhanger moments and box office milestones. Both actors expressed gratitude to their fans for the enduring support that helped Baahubali achieve cult status.

With the re-release as Baahubali: The Epic, the makers aim to provide audiences a unique experience by combining both parts seamlessly, enhanced with additional cinematic touches for theaters. The full interview video, now available online, has further fueled excitement, reminding fans of the film's epic scale and cinematic legacy.

Korean Star Don Lee Joins Prabhas in Spirit



Korean actor Don Lee, popularly known as Ma Dong-seok, is all set to make his Indian cinema debut in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's upcoming film Spirit, starring Prabhas. According to reports from a Korean entertainment portal, Don Lee will portray a pivotal character who stands in opposition to Prabhas' role, setting the stage for an epic cinematic showdown.

The casting of Don Lee has generated immense excitement among fans of both Indian and Korean cinema. Known for his powerful screen presence and action-packed performances in films like The Outlaws and Train to Busan Presents: Peninsula, Don Lee is expected to bring a fresh intensity to the high-octane narrative of Spirit.

Directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, who has earned a reputation as one of the most controversial yet commercially successful filmmakers in recent times, Spirit is anticipated to

be a visually spectacular and action-heavy drama. The collaboration between Prabhas, a pan-Indian star, and Don Lee, a Korean action icon, is being hailed as a landmark moment in Indo-Korean cinema relations.

While specific plot details are being kept under wraps, insiders suggest that the film will feature intense action sequences, larger-than-life stunts, and an engaging storyline that pits two powerful personalities against each other. Fans are eagerly awaiting promotional material, with the first look and teaser expected to release in the coming months.

Produced by a leading studio in collaboration with international partners, Spirit is shaping up to be one of the biggest action spectacles in Indian cinema. With the inclusion of Don Lee, the project is expected to attract a global audience, potentially marking a significant step in cross-cultural collaborations in South Asian cinema.

Malavika Mohanan in Mega158? Denies Rumours

Actress Malavika Mohanan has clarified that she is not part of Megastar Chiranjeevi's upcoming 158th film, tentatively titled Mega158, putting an end to widespread speculation on social media.

The big-ticket project is set to be directed by Bobby, who previously collaborated with Chiranjeevi on the successful Waltair Veerayya. Rumours about Malavika joining the cast had created significant buzz online, with fans eagerly anticipating a fresh pairing with the Telugu superstar.

Addressing the speculation, Malavika said she would be thrilled to share screen space with Chiranjeevi in the future but emphasized that she is not involved in this particular project. "While I would love to work with him



someday, the reports about my casting in Mega158 are not true," the actress stated.

Currently, Malavika is fully focused on her upcoming film The Raja Saab, which stars Prabhas and is directed by Maruthi. The movie, described as a horror-comedy, is scheduled to release on January 9, 2026, across multiple Indian languages.

Industry insiders note that the initial casting of Mega158 is still under wraps, and fans are eagerly awaiting official announcements re-

garding the lead actors and supporting cast. With Chiranjeevi returning to the big screen in a high-profile project, expectations are high, and every casting update generates intense discussion online.

Mega158 marks another collaboration between Chiranjeevi and director Bobby, following the box-office success of Waltair Veerayya. The film is expected to feature high-octane action sequences, star-studded music, and elaborate production values, further heightening anticipation.

While Malavika Mohanan fans may be disappointed by the news, her upcoming The Raja Saab promises to be a major draw, especially with the combined star power of Prabhas and her growing popularity in pan-Indian cinema.

Netflix Buys Gujarati Horror Film for Rs. 3.5 Crore

Vash Level 2, the latest Gujarati horror film, has made waves on Netflix since its digital premiere, receiving strong audience reactions and earning praise from the filmmakers. Reports suggest that Netflix acquired the digital rights for approximately Rs. 3.5 crore, marking the highest amount ever paid for a Gujarati film.

The movie, also released in Hindi, is being hailed as a milestone for Gujarati cinema, showcasing the growing popularity and commercial potential of regional films in India. Netflix will stream Vash Level 2 for three and a half years, holding exclusive rights to both



the Gujarati and Hindi versions for the first year. Following this period, the producers have the option to release the film on other streaming platforms.

Produced by Kalpesh Soni and Krunal Soni and directed by Krishnadev Yagnik, the film features a star-studded cast, including Janki Bodiwala, Hitu Kanodia, Monal Gajjar, and veteran actor Hiten Kumar. The film's music is composed by Andrew Samuel, while Shivam Bhatt handled editing, contributing to the overall high production values.

Industry insiders note that the deal reflects the rising significance of regional content in India's OTT market, where platforms like Netflix are increasingly investing in diverse stories to cater to pan-Indian audiences.

The strong reception of Vash Level 2 demonstrates that Gujarati films can attract substantial viewership and generate meaningful revenue beyond traditional theatrical releases.

The success of Vash Level 2 could pave the way for more Gujarati and regional films to secure significant digital deals, encouraging filmmakers to invest in high-quality production and storytelling for wider audiences.

The film's horror genre and bilingual release strategy are also seen as key factors in its digital success.

Ram Pothineni's Andhra King Taluka May Be Preponed

Ram Pothineni's upcoming Telugu film Andhra King Taluka is reportedly eyeing a possible preponement ahead of its scheduled release on November 28, 2025. The movie, directed by Mahesh Babu. P of Miss Shetty Mr. Polishetty fame, is said to focus on Tollywood fandom and extreme fan culture in Andhra Pradesh.

The film's USA distributor recently announced early premieres on November 26, a departure from the standard practice of holding premieres just a day before the official release. Industry observers suggest that this move could hint at a preponement to November 27, though an official confirmation from the makers is still awaited.

Andhra King Taluka stars Bhagyasri Borse as the female



lead, with Upendra playing a key supporting role. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, the film's music is composed by the Vivek-Mervin duo. So far, the makers have released two songs and a teaser, with the third single scheduled for release on October 31, adding to the anticipation among fans.

The buzz surrounding a possible date change has intensified as Telugu cinema enthusiasts eagerly await a solo release for the Ram Pothineni starrer. Analysts note that preponing releases is often used to capitalize on festival weekends or avoid clashes with other major films, and this could be a strategic move to maximize box office collections.

With Andhra King Taluka promising high-energy performances, catchy music, and a storyline celebrating fan culture, expectations are high. The industry is closely watching for an official release date announcement, which will settle speculation and allow fans in India and abroad to plan for early screenings.