## **Prominent Maoist Leaders Surrender to Telangana Police, Joining Mainstream Society**

TPN BUREAU, HY-DERABAD, OCT 10: In a significant development for law enforcement and peacebuilding in Telangana, several senior Maoist leaders surrendered to Telangana DGP Shivadhar Reddy during a formal ceremony. Leaders including KunkatiVenkataiah alias Vikas, MogilicherlaVenkatraju alias Chandu, and Thodem Gang alias Sony from Chhattisgarh left the insurgent movement to reintegrate into

These leaders had wielded substantial influence within state committees and were activeinvolved in revolutionary activities since the early 1990s. KunkatiVenkataiah was known for organizing peasant meetings in Siddipet district under the PDY, while MogilicherlaVenkatraju had joined



the movement at the tender age of 11.

The surrender follows sustained police negotiations and ideological differences. Highlighting the government's proactive approach, DGP Reddy noted that over 403 Maoists have recently laid down arms, aided by rehabilitation schemes, skill development pro-

grams, and family support initiatives. Officials emphasized that these efforts aim to curb insurgency, ensure public safety, and promote social harmony across Telan-

gana. Community reintegration, employment assistance, and vocational training are central to ensuring a smooth transition for former mili-



### **Bhatti Affirms Telangana'sCommitment** to Inclusive Urban **Development**

DERABAD, OCT 10: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka reiterated the Telangana government's commitment to holistic urban growth in Hyderabad, citing investments exceeding 20,000 crore over the past two years. Addressing the 15th NAREDCO Property Show, he highlighted rapid real estate expansion, including land in Rayadurg fetching 177 crore per

Vikramarka empha-

ing, focusing on midand lower-middle-class communities while carefully regulating high-end developments. Plans include transitioning Hyderabad's public transport to all-electric buses and extensive infrastructure investments, including an elevated corridor from Paradise Junction to the National Highway (1,487 crore) and road widening at Shamirpeta (3,619 crore).

The government residents.

has already spent 11,927 crore on water supply projects and proposed an additional 13,704 crore for water and sewage upgrades, totaling 25,631 crore. Schools with 25 acre campuses and hospitals are being modernized to ensure quality public services. Vikramarka stressed that urban development in Hyderabad aims to balance modernity with inclusivity, ensuring safe, efficient, and equitable growth for all



#### **TelanganaBandh on October 14:** Schools, Colleges Likely to Shut **Amid Protests**

TPN BUREAU, HY- schools and colleges DERABAD, OCT 10:Telangana is set to witness a statewidebandh on October 14, called by BC community organizations protesting alleged irregularities by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. As a precaution,

are likely to remain closed. and civic authorities are preparing for potential disruptions.

Law enforcement agencies have been instructed to maintain peace and order, while educational institu-

tions are coordinating with students and parents for safety. Public transport, markets, and offices may also face delays, reflecting the broader impact of community mobilization on state politics. Officials stressed the importance of safety,

awareness, and restraint during demonstrations. The bandh highlights the growing influence of organized community action and its ripple effects on daily life in Telangana.

## **Hyderabad Airport Makes History with Landing of World's Largest Cargo Aircraft**



TPN BUREAU, HY-DERABAD, OCT 10:Shamsabad Airport marked a milestone in aviation when the Antonov An-124, one of the world's largest cargo planes, touched down on its runway. The colossal aircraft, with its 24 wheels and wingspan loading. Aviation enthu-

covering 6,760 square feet, is engineered to carry extremely heavy and oversized cargo efficiently.

The An-124's design allows it to transport long trucks directly onto its loading ramp, facilitating rapid loading and un-

siasts and airport while boosting investor officials witnessed the landing, underscoring Hyderabad's growing importance as a global cargo hub. Experts say the event demonstrates the city's advanced infrastructure, including extended runways and heavy-duty tarmac,

confidence in logistics. trade, and industrial sectors. The landing reflects Telangana's strategic push to position Hyderabad as a key commercial gateway in India, further strengthening its role in international trade and aviation.

# HYDRAA reclaims government land worth 1,100 crore

V. Krishna Kumar | Hyderabad, October

HYDRAA conducted a major operation on Friday to remove illegal encroachments at multiple locations across the city, reclaiming a total of 12.5 acres of government land, estimated to be worth around 1,100 crore. The operation simultaneously cleared four key areas of unauthorized occupation.

In Banjara Hills Road No. 10, HYDRAA reclaimed 5 acres of land, valued at approximately 750 crore. In Medchal- spite 1.2 acres being Malkajgiri district, 7.5

land were secured, while in Rangareddy district, 680 square yards of land meant for public use were protected.

At Sheikpet Mandal, Banjara Hills Road No. 10, the 5-acre plot under Survey No. 403 was freed from encroachment. A complaint had been filed by revenue authorities stating that an individual named Parthasarathi had created a fake unregistered sale deed (Survey No. 403/52) and attempted to illegally occupy the land. De-

allocated for a drink-

work was being obstructed. HYDRAA investigated these complaints on the ground, confirmed the land as government property, and removed the

encroachments. Parthasarathi had installed fencing, deployed guards, and even kept attack dogs to intimidate locals. Four criminal cases were registered against him at Banjara Hills Police Station. He had allegedly used the land to erect sheds and serve alcohol, creating a nuisance. HY-DRAA demolished all illegal structures, fenced the 5-acre land.

acres of government ing water project, and marked it clearly as government property.

In Medchal-Malkajgiri district, encroachments on parks and roads in Medchal village's housing society layout were removed, protecting 3 acres of public land. Similarly, in Rangareddy district's TattiAnnamaram village, 680 square yards of parkland were reclaimed from encroachers. A local had even attempted to claim 270 square yards as private property, but HYDRAA intervened, fenced the area, and preserved it for public use.



www.truepointnews.com





#### **Telangana Horticultural University** Advocates Expansion of Fruit and Vegetable Cultivation

TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 9:

POINT

Fruit crop growth in Telangana stands at only 1.6%, while vegetable crops have declined by 8.4% over the past decade. Although horticultural crops cover just 6% of the state's gross cropped area, they contribute 30% of the Agricultural Gross Value Output (GVO).

The Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University recommends expanding fruit cultivation by 1.32 lakh acres and vegetable cultivation by 2.45 lakh acres by 2030. ICMR projections indicate fruit demand rising from 23.18 lakh tonnes to 23.74 lakh tonnes, and vegetable demand increasing from 163 lakh tonnes to 166.94 lakh tonnes by 2035. The university also advises promoting efficient daily consumption of 400 gm vegetables per person, while considering post-harvest losses, exports, and processing. The "Perspective Plan for Horticulture in Telangana-2035" aims to ensure food security, employment, and economic growth. These measures will modernize agriculture, improve productivity, and meet the nutritional needs of Telangana's population. Government support and infrastructure investments are planned to achieve these targets efficiently.

#### **Endowments Minister Acts** to Preserve Vemulawada **Temple's Reputation**



TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD,

State Endowments Minister Konda Surekha directed temple authorities to provide comprehensive details regarding the Vemulawada Laddu incident. Temple EO Ramadevi clarified that all food safety procedures were correctly followed.

While no lapses occurred, the minister emphasized protecting devotees' sentiments and the temple's reputation. She instructed monitoring and investigation to prevent misinformation, warning against publici-

ty that could harm public trust. The incident underscores the importance of strict food safety compliance, transparency, and clear communication with devotees. Minister Surekha's directives aim to maintain faith in temple administration, prevent potential conflicts, and enhance accountability among staff. Local devotees were reassured that proactive measures are being implemented, reflecting the government's commitment to preserving religious practices and pub-

## **Chief Minister Pays** Tribute to Late Lakshmi Narasamma



**DERABAD. OCT 10:** 

vanth Reddy participated in the memorial program of the late Lakshmi Narasamma, mother of MLA Bhupathi Reddy, in Borgam, Nizamabad district. The CM offered floral tributes and expressed condolences, acknowledging her role in shaping family and community

values. The memorial highlighted local respect for public ser-

vice and family legacies. Speeches, prayers, and a gathering of local leaders recognized her contributions to social welfare and community support. The CM's presence reinforced his connection with the people, demonstrating the importance of honoring public figures and their families. Local residents appreciated the gesture, noting that such participation strengthens civic engagement and trust in leadership.

## **Telangana Tourism Dazzles at NAREDCO Property Show**

The Tourism Department stall at the 15th NAR-EDCO Telangana Property Show at HITEX, Hyderabad, emerged as a major attraction for visitors. The stall was inaugurated jointly by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Tourism, Culture, and Archaeology Minister Jupally Krishna Rao.

The exhibit showcased stunning photographs of Telangana's iconic destinations, including the UN-ESCO World Heritage Ramappa Temple, Pulula Wildlife Sanctuaries, Someshila, Laknavaram, Nagarjuna Sagar Buddha Vihara, Bhuvanagiri Fort, and Pandavula Gutta. The presentation highlighted the state's rich cultural heritage, historical significance, and natural beauty, drawing attention from real estate developers, investors, and tourists

Visitors praised the innovative blend of modern exhibition techniques with traditional storytelling, while officials stressed tourism's potential as an economic driver—boosting employment, local businesses, and hospitality sectors. Lesser-known destinations were also highlighted, encouraging heritage and eco-tourism. The initiative reflects the state government's commitment to sustainable tourism, connecting citizens with cultural roots. Overall, the stall successfully merged information, visual appeal, and interactive experiences, establishing itself as a centerpiece of the property show.



## Indira Mahila Shakti Sarees to Empower Women from November 15



Hyderabad Lakes to Transform into

#### TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 10:

Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has directed that 65 lakh Indira Mahila Shakti sarees be ready for distribution by November 15. During a review meeting with senior officials of the Handloom and Weaving Department and TESCo, the minister emphasized timely production and efficient loan waiver processes for handloom

The initiative provides employment to approximately 6,900 workers over 6–8 months, with monthly salaries between ₹18,000-22,000. Discussions also covered distribution logistics to ensure sarees reach district warehouses on time. Incentives under the Telangana Netanna Bharosa scheme will reward production and support workers' families. The Telangana Handloom Label ensures quality control while strengthening the state's handloom brand. Future plans include government departments procuring textiles entirely through TESCo, offering sustained work to handloom and power loom associations. By November 15, the initiative aims to empower women, promote traditional crafts, and drive rural employment and local economic

# in Nizamabad



TPN BUREAU, HY-

Chief Minister Re-

### Major Recreational Spots by November TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT

HYDRA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath has instructed officials to com-

plete the development of Tammidikunta Lake in Madhapur and Nallakunta Lake in Kukatpally by November. Both lakes are being developed as key tourism destinations and community recreational

During field inspections, the commissioner emphasized proper drainage, construction of retaining walls, and bund strengthening to prevent water stagnation. The projects will maintain ecological balance while adding parks, walking tracks, shaded areas, and tree plantations to enhance outdoor activities and fitness for residents. The Nallakunta Lake initiative will cater to thousands of nearby residents, providing access to green spaces and fresh air. Timely completion will boost urban infrastructure, improve water management, and promote eco-friendly tourism in Hyderabad. Residents welcomed the initiative, expressing optimism about upgraded recreational spaces and enhanced environmental quality.



#### Real Estate Vital to Telangana's Growth. Says Minister Jupally Krishna Rao

TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 10:

Tourism, Culture, and Archaeology Minister Jupally Krishna Rao underlined the pivotal role of real estate in Telangana's economic growth during the 15th NAREDCO Telangana Property Show at HITEX, inaugurated by Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka

and the minister. Highlighting Hyderabad's rapid expansion, he noted modern infrastructure supporting IT, Pharma, Aerospace, Electric Vehicles, and AI sectors. Record land values, with recent sales reaching ₹177 crore per acre, demonstrate investor confidence. Tourism investments totaling ₹15,000 crore further signal strong growth prospects. Real estate and tourism complement each other, as hotels, resorts, and infrastructure development stimulate local businesses and employment. The minister also encouraged sustainable urban planning and world-class amenities to maintain Hyderabad's competitive edge. Developers, NAREDCO officials, and stakeholders discussed strategies to balance growth with heritage and ecological considerations, aiming to create a thriving ecosystem where real estate drives economic prosperity while supporting cultural tourism.

POINT







TPN BUREAU, HY-DERABAD, OCT 10

A press release demanded the immediate repatriation of 12 Gulf workers stranded in Jordan for 22 months. The release criticized the Congress government for failing to implement an effective Gulf or NRI policy, leaving workers without guidance or a toll-free helpline.

Former Minister Harish Rao highlighted that workers from Nirmal, Kamareddy, Nizamabad, Jagityal, and Siddipet faced severe hardships, with no support from their companies or funds to return home. The BJP contrasted this with store public trust.

the previous BRS governance, which ensured worker migration and welfare.

The statement called on Telangana CM Revanth Reddy and central ministers Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay to take immediate action for the safe return of the workers. It condemned Congress for making promises on Gulf welfare and NRI policies but failing to deliver. The release urged the establishment of helplines, repatriation plans, and structured support systems, stressing accountability and swift action to protect migrant workers and re-

#### **Cyberabad Police and SCSC Honor Traffic Marshals for Dedicated Service**



TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct

Cyberabad Police and the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC) organized a felicitation ceremony for traffic marshals volunteering for over a year in the IT corridor. Starting with 50 volunteers in July 2024, the program now has 135 active marshals assisting in traffic management during peak hours in Gachibowli, Kondapur, and

Hitech City. Joint CP – Traffic Dr. Gajarao Bhupal praised the initiative as a model of publicprivate collaboration. Rajesh Balaraju, Joint Secretary of SCSC Traffic Forum, highlighted corporate support from Raheja Group, Amazon, Wipro, ICICI Bank, Divyasree, and Sharath City Mall. Helmets and safety kits sponsored by Shri Ram Life Insurance were distributed.

Officials noted significant drops in congestion and signal violations since the program's launch. Top-performing marshals were honored, reaffirming the commitment to safer and more organized traffic management in

# **Etala Rajender Calls Out Congress** Over Local Body Election Delays

TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 10

Etala Rajender addressed a press meet in Huzurabad, sharply criticizing the Congress party for lacking commitment, sincerity, and decisiveness in Telangana's local body elections. He pointed out that despite promises of holding elections within six months with 42% BC reservation, two years have passed without any polls. Rajender emphasized that the government should conduct elections immediately without deception or manipulation.

Highlighting his enduring dedication to public welfare over political gain, Rajender described himself as a lifelong activist with 25 years of association with Huzurabad and a record of consistent electoral victories. He criticized the Congress for creating confusion among ward members, sarpanches, and council representatives regarding pending payments, unpaid bills, and delayed salaries. He also cited issues in residential schools, outsourced staff wages, anganwadi worker salaries, guest lecturer payments, and pending farmer loan waivers, urging the government to clear all arrears before

Rajender underscored Telangana's BC population and the necessity of constitutional reservation guarantees, accusing Congress of misleading voters while reaffirming BJP's consistent support for rightful BC reservations. He concluded by asserting that he will continue standing with the people, protecting marginalized communities, and ensuring justice, emphasizing that public service takes precedence over personal



## B. Vinod Kumar Presses Congress on BC Reservations and GO No. 9



Former MP B. Vinod Kumar addressed a press meet at Telangana Bhavan regarding GO No. 9 and BC reservation status, criticizing Congress for failing to honor its commitments. He noted that promises by CM Revanth Reddy on 42% BC reservations remain unimplemented, leading to public disappointment.

Kumar contrasted Congress's inconsistency with historical examples of constitutional amendments for political purposes, questioning why BC rights were not safeguarded. He also highlighted Supreme Court rulings limiting local body reservation increases, stressing the need for parliamentary action.

Challenging Rahul Gandhi and other Congress leaders, Kumar urged them to take adequate steps in parliament to protect BC reservations in Telangana. He praised BRS and BJP efforts in constitutional compliance and collaboration between state and central authorities, urging Congress to abandon theatrics, implement pending reservations, and rebuild public trust through transparent

## Balmoor Venkat Slams Kavita for Politicizing Unemployment

TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 10

MLC Balmoor Venkat criticized Kavita for using unemployed youth as a political tool, stating that her past record shows no genuine commitment to their welfare. He emphasized that his team has consistently fought for unemployed youth, ensuring notifications and appointments were executed properly, whereas Kavita avoided meaningful action.

Venkat highlighted that over 60,000 government positions have already been filled, with more notifications pending. He warned against coaching center owners collaborating with political leaders to exploit jobless youth and urged the unemployed to focus on preparing for exams rather than falling for political theatrics.

Calling for responsible leadership, Venkat stressed that vulnerable citizens should not be used for personal or political gain. He encouraged citizens to prioritize their



over political exploitation, ment to fair and transpar- ment processes.

preparation and welfare reaffirming his commit- ent governance in recruit-

#### **Anjan Kumar Yadav to Guide Congress in Jubilee Hills By-Election**

TPN BUREAU, HYDERABAD, OCT 10

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar met the media after discussions with senior Congress leader Anjan Kumar Yadav regarding the Jubilee Hills by-election. Prabhakar said candidate selection was a collective decision, factoring in current political realities.

Yadav, a two-time MP and former party working president, has been actively involved in COVID relief efforts and Hyderabad's party development. Under his guidance, the Congress aims to secure victory in Jubilee Hills through strong local engagement and welfare initiatives.

Prabhakar emphasized the party's commitment to transparent decision-making in consultation with AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan. Drawing on Yadav's strategic experience in previous Cantonment elections, he stated that organized campaigning and collaborative effort would ensure Congress maintains credibility and a service-oriented focus in the upcoming by-election.





## Rachakonda Police Dismantle Inter-State **Drug Network, Seize ₹1 Crore Worth Narcotics**

In a major breakthrough against narcotics trafficking, Rachakonda SOT Malkajgiri and Keesara Police jointly arrested 26-year-old Lokesh Bharat from Chhattisgarh, who was supplying drugs across multiple states. Authorities seized 7 kilograms of opium, 2 kilograms of poppy straw, and a mobile phone valued at nearly ₹1 crore.

Lokesh, a hotel manager by profession, turned to drug trafficking seeking easy money. His network spanned Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana, distributing narcotics in small packets to evade detection. Police have launched a manhunt for Jagadish Gujjar, Lokesh's accomplice from Rajasthan, who remains at large.

Rachakonda Commissionerate revealed that over the past 10 months, 403 drug offenders have been arrested as part of their intensified anti-narcotic campaign. Commissioner DS Chauhan lauded the team's dedication and reaffirmed that stringent action will continue against narcotic smugglers.

Preliminary investigation indicates the drugs were sourced from North Indian border areas and transported to Hyderabad via private vehicles. Seized narcotics have been sent for forensic analysis. Authorities urged the public to report suspicious activities to maintain a drug-free Hyderabad, emphasizing ongoing operations to dismantle the entire



## **BJP Prepares Booth-Level Strategy** for Jubilee Hills By-election



Telangana BJP, led by State President N. Ramchander Rao, held a key strategy meeting to prepare for the Jubilee Hills by-election and upcoming local body elections. Leaders from eight city districts attended the session, where Rao urged karyakartas to work at the booth level with a coordinated, people-centric campaign.

Rao criticized both Congress and BRS for neglecting Hyderabad's development, blaming them for infrastructure failures, including open manholes and flood mismanagement. He accused Congress of raising RTC bus fares under the guise of welfare and promised to expose "dark political deals" between Congress, BRS, and MIM.

The BJP chief called for 42% BC reservation in local bodies and stressed the party's commitment to justice for marginalized communities. The party candidate for Jubilee Hills will be announced soon. Rao encouraged collective campaigning, describing a by-election victory as a "gift to Prime Minister Narendra Modi," and energized cadres pledged to strengthen BJP's presence in Hyderabad.

#### ₹1 Crore Robbery at Brilliant **Engineering College Shocks Abdullapurmet**



Ranga Reddy Excise

**Enforcement Seizes ₹8 Lakh** 

**Worth of Illicit Liquor** 

**TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10:** 

Ranga Reddy Excise Enforcement teams conducted a surprise operation at Pahad Shareef, seizing 198 bottles of liquor worth approximately ₹8 lakh, illegally transported from Delhi and Goa. Authorities registered cases against 12 individuals attempting to bypass state tax regulations.

Officers AES Jeevan Kiran, CI Subash Chander Rao, and SI Venkateshwarlu led

the operation. Director Shanawaz Qasim, Deputy Commissioner P. Dasharath, and Assistant Commissioner R. Kishan commended the team for swift action.

Officials said the liquor was intended for sale during the festive season, bypassing legal excise channels. Enforcement teams will continue checks across highways and city outskirts to curb smuggling and ensure compliance with Telangana



**TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10:** 

A robbery at Brilliant Engineering College in Abdullapurmet saw burglars break open lockers and escape with ₹1 crore in cash. The funds reportedly belonged to three colleges that stored money in one secure location.

Staff discovered broken lockers early morning, and initial investigation suggests a single perpetrator may have executed the theft. The culprits removed the DVR system connected to 200

CCTV cameras, obstructing video evidence.

Police are inspecting the campus and collecting forensic evidence, including fingerprints. Investigators believe the culprit had prior knowledge of locker locations and cash storage processes. Security measures are under review, and patrols around educational institutions have increased. Authorities remain confident of cracking the case soon.

#### **Ganja Bust in Dhoolpet: One Arrested, Six Under Investigation**

www.truepointnews.com

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10:

In a coordinated operation based on credible intelligence, STF A Team and Dhoolpet Excise Station staff raided a residence in Lower Dhoolpet, Imlibagh, arresting Virender Singh while selling ganja. Police seized 1.240 kilograms of ganja from House No. 14-10-55/A.

Investigations revealed Singh was part of a small local supply chain distributing narcotics in the area. Police have registered a case against six individuals: Kamalesh Bai, Nandini Bai, Anita Bai, Radhika, Rachana Bai, and Singh. The seized ganja and related materials were handed over to Dhoolpet Excise

Station for further

STF A Team Leader Anji Reddy stated the operation is part of continued efforts to curb illegal ganja trade in densely populated neighborhoods like Dhoolpet. Singh was remanded to judicial custody, and raids are ongoing to apprehend remaining suspects.

Authorities believe the gang sourced ganja from Agency areas of Andhra Pradesh, smuggling it into Hyderabad in small quantities to avoid detection. Patrolling and surveillance have intensified in sensitive zones, with officials stressing that public tip-offs remain crucial to making Hyderabad a drug-free city.

#### **Congress Ministers Rally Leaders** Ahead of Jubilee Hills By-election



**TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10:** 

In a show of solidarity ahead of the Jubilee Hills by-election, Congress ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Vivek Venkatswamy, along with AICC In-charge Secretary Viswanathan and Faheem Qureshi, met Borabanda Corporator Baba Fasiuddin and former Yousufguda Corporator Sanjay Goud to review campaign strategies.

The ministers stressed the importance of unity, coordination, and doorto-door campaigning to secure a strong victory for Congress candidate Naveen Yadav. Leaders

were urged to visit households to explain welfare schemes such as free power, housing for the poor, and youth employment initiatives, highlighting the government's commitment to public welfare. They also emphasized countering opposition propaganda and using social media effectively to engage young voters. Local leaders left the meeting energized vowing to strengthen Congress's presence in Jubilee Hills and secure an overwhelming victory, confident that the party flag would fly high once

#### **Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Holds High-Level Strategy Meet with CN Reddy**



Minister Ponnam Prabhakar met senior leader CN Reddy to strategize for a decisive Congress win in the Jubilee Hills by-election. Reaffirming that Naveen Yadav is the official candidate, he urged local leaders to intensify outreach, highlighting state welfare schemes such as Rythu Bharosa, Gruha Jyothi, and Mahalakshmi programs.

Prabhakar dismissed rumors of internal rifts,

asserting Congress re mains united under CN Reddy's leadership. He highlighted Rahmath Nagar Division as a critical area for securing a large victory margin. Party members were directed to form coordination committees, monitor booth-level progress, and maintain close voter engagement. He concluded that a disciplined and united campaign would make Jubilee Hills a model win for

Congress.

POINT







TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th -

Ahead of the Jubilee Hills by-election scheduled for November 11, 2025, GHMC Commissioner and District Elec-tion Officer R.V. Karnan issued an important advisory to ensure that every eligible voter can exercise their franchise

Karnan clarified that voters whose names appear in the electoral rolls but do not possess a voter ID (EPIC) can still vote by presenting any one of 12 approved photo identifica-tion documents. These include Aadhaar Card, MNREGA Job Card, Bank/Post Office Passbook with Photo, Health Insurance Card (Ayushman Bharat/ Ministry of Labour), Driving Licence, PAN Card, Smart Card under NPR, Indian Passport, Pension Document with Photo, Government/PSU Service ID Card, MP/MLA/MLC ID Card, and Unique Disability ID Card

Emphasizing the mandatory nature of voter identification to ensure fairness and transparency, Karnan urged citizens to double-check their names on the voter list and keep one of the approved ID proofs ready before polling day to avoid last-minute hurdles.

Polling officials will be available at every booth to assist elderly and differently-abled voters, with wheelchairs and special queues arranged at all major polling centers. Awareness programs through print, social media, and local cable channels are underway to ensure no voter misses the opportunity to cast their vote.

The GHMC Election Depart ment has also launched a helpline number and website link for voters to verify polling station details and download digital slips. Karnan concluded, "Free and fair elections are the foundation of democracy. Every voter must exercise this



## Errabelli Dayakar Rao Calls 42% BC Reservation "Foolish Political Drama"



TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th — Senior BRS leader and former minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao criticized the Telangana Congress government for announc-

ing 42% reservations for Backward Classes in local body elections, calling it "an act of foolishness" aimed at political mileage rather than social

welfare.

Addressing a gathering in Warangal, Rao questioned why Congress, which ruled India for over 55 years, never implemented such

reforms if it genuinely cared for BCs. He cited the Telangana High Court's stay order on the quota as evidence that the government attempted to cheat the public with

an unconstitutional order. Rao further argued that conducting elections without the Governor's consent was legally wrong and politically irresponsible, adding that rural Telangana is already suffering due to government inefficiency. He accused the Congress of creating administrative chaos instead of strengthening village-level institutions.

Highlighting the misuse of G.O. 9 for publicity, Rao said Congress was manipulating BC sentiments to consolidate votes, while ignoring Supreme Court limits on reservations. He linked this to the TSRTC bus fare hike, claiming the government burdened men while pretending to provide free travel to women, pointing out 1,350 crore in loans taken under the guise of welfare.

Rao concluded that Telangana's people will soon recognize the difference between KCR's governance and Congress' propaganda.

# Errabelli Slams Congress Over BC Quota, Bus Fare Hike

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th — BRS leader Errabelli Dayakar Rao lashed out at the Congress government, criticizing its attempt to enforce 42% BC reservations through G.O. 9 without proper legal approval, calling it a reflection of political immaturity and desperation for publicity. Rao reminded that the Telangana High Court stayed the order after two days, citing a violation of the Supreme Court's 50% reservation cap. He pointed out that issuing the election notification despite pending legal issues shows Congress' disregard for constitutional procedures.

He also highlighted the government's negligence towards rural development, weakening Zilla and Mandal Parishads, and misleading the public about BC welfare.

Rao strongly criticized the TSRTC fare hike, calling it economic mismanagement disguised as welfare. He alleged that Congress is pushing for the sale of RTC assets, undermining a system rebuilt responsibly under former CM KCR.

He concluded that both the BC reservation drama and RTC fare hike demonstrate Congress' focus on political theatrics rather than development.



## **BJP's Gangadi Krishna Reddy Slams Congress** for Deceiving BCs

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th -

BJP district president Gangadi Krishna Reddy on Friday sharply criticized the Telangana Congress government, accusing it of misleading Backward Classes (BCs) under the guise of reservation promises.

Speaking to the media, Reddy said the Congress government issued an invalid G.O. promising 42% BC reservation in local body elections, even after the High Court stayed its implementation. He alleged that the move was a political stunt, deliberately designed to mislead BC voters rather than genuinely uplift the community.

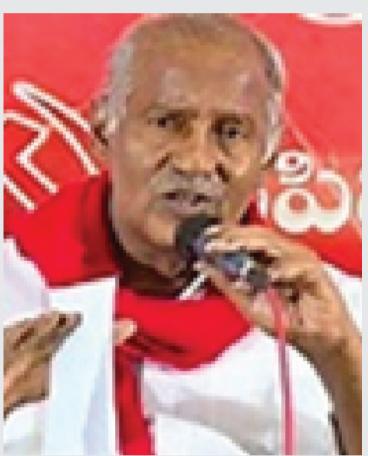
"Congress leaders were fully aware that increasing reservations beyond the Supreme Court's 50% limit was unconsti-

order to create false hope," Reddy said. He also criticized the government for rushing the election notification before the Governor's three-month approval period ended, describing it as an indication of "clear bad intentions."

Reddy accused the government of failing to fulfill promises from the Kamareddy BC Declaration and of conducting an improper community survey while withholding caste-wise statistics, raising doubts about transparency.

He warned that the BJP would continue to fight both legally and politically to ensure justice for BCs and expose the Congress government's double

#### **Kunamneni Sambasivarao Blames BJP for BC Reservation Chaos**



TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th -

CPI State Secretary Kunamneni Sambasivarao criticized the BJP and BRS for their reaction to the Telangana High Court's stay on the 42% BC reservations, calling their response "politically opportunistic and morally bankrupt."

Addressing the media, he accused both parties of celebrating the stay order rather than supporting backward classes. He questioned whether their stance stemmed from hatred for the government or indifference to BCs, noting that the CPI had actively supported the BC Bill and became an impleaded party in the court case.

Kunamneni cited examples like Tamil Nadu, where quotas beyond 50% are legally accommodated under the 9th Schedule. He said the Centre can amend the Constitution, but BJP's refusal blocks BC welfare nationwide.

He urged Congress to take a leadership role, unite parties, and pressurize the Centre collectively, even organizing protests if needed. He stressed that BC justice should rise above party politics, demanding transparency, publication of caste survey data, and lawful enhancement of BC representation in local bodies.

# Activists Urge Telangana Govt to Convert Vacant Buildings into Shelters for Homeless

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 10th -

On World Homeless Day, social activists urged the Telangana government to repurpose unused government buildings into night shelters for homeless citizens. The meeting at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram brought together activists, GHMC officials, and representatives from 12 existing shelter

Proposals included converting large vacant buildings such as BRK Bhavan and the DWAKRA Building (opposite Ambedkar Bhavan) into fulltime shelters. Activist Sajaya noted that after the Secretariat demolition and construction of the new building, BRK Bhavan remained half-empty and deteriorating, warning it could become unsafe without maintenance.

She emphasized that dedicating a few floors to shelters could provide relief to hundreds living on pavements. Other speakers highlighted the lack of permanent identity for the homeless, making access to Aadhaar cards and welfare benefits nearly impossible.

The activists plan to meet Chief Minister Revanth Reddy with a detailed proposal to convert vacant public buildings into shelters. They called upon GHMC to increase shelters from 12 to at least 25 across Greater Hyderabad, stressing that providing homes is a basic human right and constitutional





they are not central to per-

judged by whether central

banks achieve low and sta-

ble inflation, financial stability, and effective manage-

ment of liquidity. Excessive

interventions in currency or bond markets to generate

profits could create moral

hazard, as markets may rely too heavily on central bank

Experts suggest adopting

best practices such as mark-

to-market accounting in line

with International Financial

Reporting Standards (IFRS)

and separating income rec-

ognition from distribution.

Unrealised gains should be

retained as capital buffers

rather than automatically transferred to governments,

a practice already followed

in countries like Australia

and the UK. Stress tests and

forward-looking income dis-

tribution rules can ensure

resilience and protect

Ultimately, central banks'

credibility hinges not on ac-

counting losses but on their

ability to meet mandates

such as price stability and fi-

nancial security. Paper losses

should not hinder them

from routine functions, including administrative

spending. What truly mat-

ters is whether they uphold

stability and public trust.

independence.

support.

formance assessment. Instead, success should be





# Has Britain gone too far with its digital controls?

Modi's Governance Model:

A man in a stroller-pushing couple being stopped and arrested outside a police van with cameras on Oxford Street has become a striking symbol of Britain's growing use of live facial recognition. Since January 2024, the technology has helped police charge or cite more than 1,000 people in London, scanning crowds against a database of 16,000 wanted individuals. Authorities say the tool boosts safety, but vices, and experimenting critics see a dangerous ex-

surveillance.

The embrace of facial recage and verification checks for digital platforms like Instagram and Reddit, pushing back against encrypted serwith artificial intelligence to

liberties groups warn that such steps intrude on daily cials argue they are prag-

Wain of the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, which supports the policies Britain's Department for Science, Innovation and Teched the state to use modern tools against crime, child exploitation, and border

Farage, call it censorship and "borderline dystopian." Ofcom CEO Melanie Dawes defended the law, stressing it aims to protect children, not nology said citizens expect- stifle speech. The issue has

US, with Donald Trump's administration and lawmakers

Officials say this reduces backlogs and frees caseworkers from routine tasks. but insiders worry about oversight gaps and legal challenges. Critics argue that Al-driven decisions in sensitive cases risk undermining accountability without clear

cies balance security, privacy, and technological change, the debate over surveillance and digital governance

#### Maria Corina Machado gets the Nobel Peace Prize 2025 life, but government offiognition is part of a wider threats, while pledging that condemning Britain's poliregulatory safeguards. push under Prime Minister freedoms would be cies as attacks on free speech Supporters see these Keir Starmer to deploy admatic measures to protect safeguarded. and American tech firms. measures as necessary vanced technology in govcitizens in the digital era. The new online safety law Britain has also rolled out modernization, while deernance. Moves include ex-"There's a big question has stirred controversy. Child Al tools to streamline immitractors warn of eroding libpanding oversight of online about what is freedom and safety advocates back it, but gration, using algorithms erties. As Britain becomes a speech, introducing stricter what is safety," said Ryan opponents, including Nigel towscreen asylum claims. test case for how democra-

No-bell for Trump: Venezuela's

In a landmark moment for Venezuela, Maria Corina Machado, a veteran opposition leader and industrial engineer, has been awarded the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize for her tireless efforts in promoting democratic rights and peaceful political transition in her country.

age, non-interest-bearing

reserves from commercial

banks, and interest on gov-

ernment bonds, much of

which returns to govern-

ments as dividends. While profits help maintain inde-

pendence and resilience,

The Norwegian Nobel Committee made the announcement on their official X (formerly Twitter) handle, stating:

"The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize to Maria Corina Machado for her tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy."

Machado has long been a key figure in Venezuela's prodemocracy movement, often facing repression, legal threats, and political disqualification by the Maduro-led regime. Despite these obstacles, she has consistently advocated for free elections, civil liberties, and institutional reforms in a nation plagued by authoritarian rule, economic collapse, and widespread human rights abuses.

Her win is being seen as a major recognition not just for her, but for the broader Venezuelan opposition movement that has battled to restore democratic governance for over a decade. Supporters across Latin America and beyond have

hailed the award as a timely spotlight on Venezuela's ongoing crisis and the resilience of its democratic fighters.

Interestingly, former U.S. President Donald Trump was also among the high-profile names nominated for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize. In August, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt had publicly endorsed Trump for the award, claiming he had "ended several conflicts around the world." This fueled significant public speculation and debate leading up to announcement.

However, the Nobel Committee's decision clearly leaned toward recognizing grassroots efforts in volatile political landscapes, with Machado's on-ground activism and unwavering resolve taking precedence over political leaders' diplomatic legacies.

Machado's Nobel win adds to a growing list of global figures celebrated for non-violent resistance and democratic advocacy. As Venezuela prepares for its next round of political developments, this international honor is expected to significantly boost her influence both at home and abroad.

The award not only acknowledges Maria Corina Machado's courage, but also serves as a powerful message to authoritarian regimes — that the world is watching, and that voices for democracy cannot be silenced.

#### Turning Crises into Catalysts for Growth As Prime Minister Naren-In just over a decade, Indra Modi enters his 25th dia has shifted from being one of the "Fragile Five" economies to the world's fourth-largest economy, thanks in part to reforms like GST, digital banking, direct benefit transfers, and income-tax relief. Over 27

consecutive year in executive office — first as Chief Minister of Gujarat (2001-2014) and then as India's Prime Minister since 2014 one theme has remained constant: transforming crises into opportunities. This philosophy has come to define what many now call the Modi Model of Opportunity-Driven Governance.

His journey began in 2001, when Gujarat was devastated by a massive earthquake. With little administrative experience, Modi took charge of a broken state and launched a grassroots transformation. Water management reforms, canal restoration, and participatory irrigation were introduced alongside technological interventions like the creation of BISAG (Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics), which pioneered satellite-driven planning in India.

He also launched the Vibrant Gujarat Summit, which turned the state into a magnet for investment, laying the foundation for similar national efforts later. By the time Modi moved to Delhi in 2014, India was battling fiscal stress, policy paralysis, and infrastructure bottlenecks.

crore people have exited extreme poverty, and rural per-capita spending has quadrupled in 14 years. Welfare delivery has become more direct and leakproof through the Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) trinity.

On the global stage, India has shed its "emerging potential" label and is now seen as a growth engine, ranking 39th on the Global Competitiveness Index (up from 71 in 2014) and a topfive investment destination at Davos 2025. Defence exports have surged, and even nuclear capacity has doubled.

Infrastructure, too, is transforming. From the world's longest LPG pipeline to the first Hyperloop test track, and the success of UPI and India Stack in global fintech, India is exporting not just goods but governance models.

Modi's governance blends technological pragmatism with citizen-focused storytelling, turning policies like Swachh Bharat



and Digital India into its centenary in 2047, the map where constraints be- the foundation for movements. As India eyes Modi model offers a road-

come catalysts, and crises,

renewal

#### X





## Mental Health Fundamental To Our Overall Well-Being: PM Modi

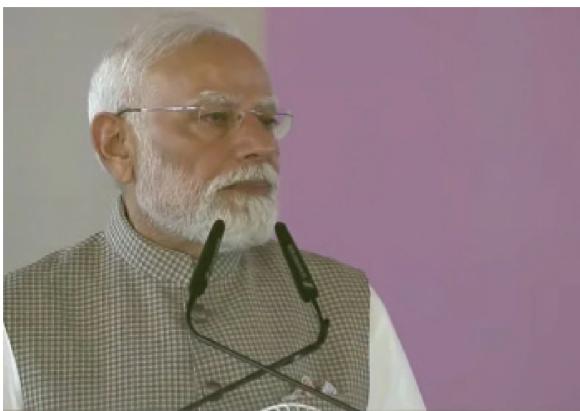
TPN Bureau | Mumbai

POINT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked World Mental Health Day by emphasising that mental health is a crucial component of overall wellbeing. In a post on social media platform X, PM Modi called for greater compassion and mainstream conversation around mental health issues like anxiety and depression.

"World Mental Health Day serves as a powerful reminder that mental health is a fundamental part of our overall well-being," the Prime Minister stated. He urged citizens to reflect on the fast-paced nature of modern life and show empathy towards those facing mental health challenges. The Prime Minister also praised the efforts of mental health professionals and caregivers, saying, "Let us also work collectively to create environments where conversations around mental health become more mainstream. My compliments to all those working in this field and helping others heal and find happiness."

According to the National Mental Health Survey (2016), around 13.2% of Indians experience a diagnosable mental health condition in their lifetime, with 10.6%



currently affected. Depression, especially among women, is among the most common conditions. To address this growing concern, the government has launched key initiatives like Tele-MANAS, which offers 24/7 mental health counsel-

ling in 20 languages across 36 states and has received over 23.8 lakh calls since 2022. The District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) now covers over 700 districts, supported by multidisciplinary teams. The Ayushman Arogya Mandirs initiative is also expanding access to mental health services at the primary healthcare level, with cashless treatment under AB PM-JAY for 22 mental disorder procedures. This year's theme, "Access to Services – Mental Health in Catastrophes and

Emergencies," highlights the urgent need to support people affected by humanitarian crises, according to the WHO. PM Modi called for continued efforts to build a world where mental health is valued, protected, and

### Stay Within Limits": Mamata Banerjee Targets State's Poll Body Chief



TPN Correspondent |

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee issued a stern warning to the state's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Manoj Agarwal, on Thursday, cautioning him to "stay within his limits." Speaking to reporters at the state secretariat, Banerjee alleged that the CEO was threatening government officers, despite facing corruption allegations

himself.

"That CEO from this state, who has allegations against him – which I will talk about when the time comes – I hope he stays within his limits. Don't overreact," Banerjee said, without naming Agarwal directly. Her remarks came as an Election Commis-

sion (EC) delegation, led by senior official Ganesh Bharti, concluded a two-day visit to review the state's preparedness for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The EC has reportedly set an October 15 deadline for completing preparations, though no official timeline has been announced.

Banerjee's comments triggered a sharp response from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which accused the Chief Minister of threatening a constitutional functionary. Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari raised the issue with the Chief Election Commissioner of India in a post on X (formerly Twitter), calling for immediate

"It is with grave concern that I draw attention to the audacious threats made by Mamata Banerjee against the Chief Electoral Officer," Adhikari said. He also referenced a past incident from July 28, when Banerjee allegedly threatened Booth Level Officers during an administrative meeting in Bolpur. The BJP has welcomed the SIR process, claiming that over 1 crore "fake" voter names may be removed from Bengal's electoral rolls. The EC delegation, meanwhile, met with district officials across the state, barring flood-affected North Bengal. With elections approaching, tensions between the ruling TMC and the EC appear to be

## Amit Shah Reviews J&K Security, Praises Response After Pahalgam Attack

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday chaired a high-level meeting to review the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, following the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam. The meeting, held in New Delhi, was attended by J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and senior officials from security and intelligence agencies.

During the meeting, Shah commended the swift and coordinated action taken by the J&K administration and security forces in response to the Pahalgam terror attack. He said their efforts had significantly contributed to strengthening the overall security environment in the Union Territory.

Sources said the meeting focused on the current threat assessment, counter-terror operations, and steps taken to prevent cross-horder infiltration Special attention was also given to the protection of civilians, infrastructure, and personnel involved in ongoing development projects in the region. The Home Minister reviewed the preparedness of forces ahead of the upcoming winter season, when infiltration attempts along the



Line of Control (LoC) are typically expected to rise. Officials briefed him on recent intelligence inputs and counter-insurgency strategies.

Shah reiterated the government's commitment to ensuring lasting peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir. He directed the security agencies to maintain a high level of alertness and continue proactive operations to eliminate remaining terrorist threats.

The recent attack in Pahalgam, which claimed the lives of security personnel, has triggered increased se-

curity across the region. Officials said enhanced surveillance and intelligence coordination are already in place. The meeting also reviewed the progress of infrastructure development and public outreach initiatives being carried out under the Union Government's J&K development

plan.
Amit Shah stressed the need for continued coordination among central and state agencies to maintain peace and support the region's path toward economic growth and normalcy.



#### Jairam Ramesh Slams PM Modi Over'Selective Diplomacy' Amid Gaza Crisis

TPN Correspondent

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Friday criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for what he called "selective diplomacy" and misplaced international pri-

dra Modi for what he called "selective diplomacy" and misplaced international priorities. He accused the Prime Minister of ignoring critical humanitarian issues like the ongoing crisis in Gaza while engaging in high-profile conversations with global leaders.

In a sharply worded post on social media platform X, Ramesh said, "Prime Minister Modi spent all day yesterday talking to UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer and sending message after message of praise and admiration to President Trump. He did not, of course, forget to speak to the man who had unleashed the genocide on Gaza, the Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu, also during this time."

Ramesh's remarks come amid growing international criticism of Israel's military actions in Gaza and concerns about India's diplomatic stance. The Congress leader questioned Modi's silence on the suffering in Gaza, calling it a moral failure in India's foreign policy.

eign policy.

He also mocked former US
President Donald Trump for
his repeated and controversial claim that he halted "Operation Sindoor" — a military
campaign in South Asia —
using trade tariffs as a diplomatic tool. "Yesterday was
also the day when President

Trump, during his meeting with Finland's President Alexander Stubb, reached the half-century mark on his claim that he stopped Operation Sindoor using trade and tariffs as his brahmastra," Ramesh said.

The comment referred to Trump's repeated boasts about using economic pressure to stop regional conflicts, a claim that has not been substantiated by international observers.

With tensions escalating in the Middle East and Indian opposition parties growing more vocal, Ramesh's remarks highlight the sharp divide in how India's foreign policy is being perceived across the political spectrum.



# India to Upgrade Kabul Technical Mission to Full Embassy: Jaishankar

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India will upgrade its Technical Mission in Kabul to the status of a full Embassy, announced External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday. This move signals India's intent to strengthen diplomatic ties with Afghanistan despite the ongoing challenges posed by the Taliban government. Jaishankar made the announcement during a meeting with Amir Khan Mut-

taqi, Foreign Minister of the Taliban administration, at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. The talks highlighted India's commitment to Afghanistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. India had shut its Embassy in Kabul in 2021 following the Taliban's takeover after the withdrawal of U.S.-led NATO forces. However, India reopened a Technical Mission in Kabul a year later to maintain diplomatic engagement and assist in de-

velopmental projects. During the meeting, Jaishankar also raised concerns about Afghan refugees being pushed back into Afghanistan from Pakistan, urging collaborative efforts to address the humanitarian crisis. Both ministers identified cross-border terrorism as a shared threat and discussed the importance of closer cooperation to combat it

"India is fully committed to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Afghanistan. Closer cooperation between us contributes to your national development, as well as regional stability and resilience. To enhance that, I am pleased to announce today the upgrading of India's Technical Mission in Kabul to the status of Embassy of India," Jaishankar said. This upgrade is expected to boost India's diplomatic presence and deepen bilateral relations amid a complex

geopolitical environment marked by security challenges and humanitarian concerns. India's move also underscores its strategic interest in maintaining stability in Afghanistan and countering regional threats, particularly from cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan. The elevation of the mission to an Embassy marks a significant step in India-Afghanistan ties under the evolving regional landscape.

PINT







#### Maria Corina Machado Awarded **Nobel Peace Prize 2025**

TPN Bureau | Washington Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado has been awarded the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize for her unwavering fight for democracy and her role as a unifying force in Venezuela's fractured opposition. The Norwegian Nobel Committee praised her for promoting democratic values and standing firm against authoritarianism, despite grave personal risks

Machado, a longtime critic of President Nicolás Maduro, was disqualified from running in the last election despite being the opposition's frontrunner. The government crackdown that followed saw mass disqualifications, arrests, and violent suppression of dissent. More than 20 people died during post-election protests, and diplomatic ties with several countries, including Argentina, were severed.

In his announcement, Nobel Committee Chair Jorgen Watne Frydnes described Machado as a "key, unifying figure in a political opposition that was once deeply divided." He lauded her deci sion to remain in Venezuela despite threats and persecution, calling her an inspiration for millions across Latin America.

Forced into hiding since January, Machado has not been seen in public. Her chosen replacement, Edmundo



cution and was later granted asylum in Spain.

This year's Nobel Peace Prize comes amid global attention on democratic backsliding and political repression. There had been speculation that the prize might go to Donald Trump

brokering a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, but the committee instead chose to highlight civilian resist-

ance in Latin America. Machado now joins a distinguished list of Nobel laureates recognised for peaceful resistance and advocacy authoritarian regimes.

The Nobel Peace Prize is the only Nobel award presented in Oslo, Norway. Last year, it was awarded to Japan's Nihon Hidankyo, a group of atomic bomb survivors campaigning against

## Trump Team Plans New H-1B Visa Curbs After \$100,000 Fee Hike



TPN Correspondent

The Donald Trump administration is preparing to tighten restrictions on the H-1B visa programme, following a steep hike in mandatory fees to \$100,000. The latest proposed changes aim to overhaul how employers use the permit and who qualifies, with the goal of increasing oversight and protecting U.S. workers. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has introduced a rule under the title "Reforming the H-1B Non-

immigrant Visa Classifica-

tion Program" in the Federal Register. Key proposals include stricter scrutiny of employers, redefining eligibility for cap exemptions, and tighter regulations on third-party job placements. The changes could particularly affect nonprofit research organisations, universities, and healthcare institutions, which are currently exempt from the annual visa cap. It remains unclear whether these exemptions will remain un-

der the new rule. "These changes are intended to improve the in-

tegrity of the H-1B programme and better protect U.S. workers' wages and working conditions," the DHS stated. A final rule could be published as early

as December 2025. The Trump administration is also considering replacing the current H-1B lottery system with a wagebased selection model prioritising higher-paying jobs over random selection. This move could have a major impact on thousands of Indian professionals, who account for nearly 75% of approved H-1B applica-

tions, according to the Pew Research Centre. The H-1B visa is a key pathway for high-skilled foreign workers to gain employment in the U.S., especially in tech, healthcare, education, and research sectors. Despite criticism, research shows H-1B workers often earn equal or higher wages compared to American peers, due to legal wage protections. With the new rule, the Trump administration is signaling a broader immigration crackdown, especially on skilled worker visas central to U.S. industries.



**TPN Correspondent** Islamabad

Pakistan's federal government has suspended mobile and internet services in Islamabad and Rawalpindi ahead of a major anti-Israel protest called by the Islamist political party Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP). The move comes amid heightened security concerns surrounding TLP's planned "Agsa Million March" from Faizabad to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. The protest is aimed at opposing the recently brokered Gaza

rael and Hamas, which TLP claims was an "embarrassing surrender" by the Shehbaz Sharif government and Pakistan's military leadership to U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

To counter potential unrest, authorities have placed containers and trailers at key intersections across Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Roads near Faizabad Junction have already been blocked, and police in Rawalpindi have begun seizing transport vehicles to prevent crowd mobilization. According to tion and prevent misinforreports, security forces have arrested at least 280 TLP activists in a preemptive crackdown. The Islamabad Police have also detained local TLP leaders and increased their presence across sensitive areas of the capital. Pakistan's Ministry of Interior has directed the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) to cut off mobile and internet services in both cities from midnight on Friday, with no official timeline for restoration. The shutdown is intended to disrupt protest coordina-

mation during the rally.

Several educational institutions in Islamabad and Rawalpindi have announced temporary closures due to safety concerns, while businesses in the affected areas are bracing for disruptions. The protest and the government's response come at a time of growing political and public unrest in Pakistan over its foreign policy stance on the Gaza conflict. With the internet blackout and mass arrests, tensions are expected to remain

#### "If Not India, Who?" Palestine Envoy Asks New Delhi To Lead Gaza Reconstruction

**TPN Correspondent** Sidoarjo

Palestine's Ambassador to India, Abdullah Abu Shawesh, has called on New Delhi to take a leading role in alleviating the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and shaping its post-war future. In an exclusive interview with NDTV, the envoy said India's historic ties with Palestine and its strong relationship with Israel give it a unique position to press for peace and accountability.

Abu Shawesh urged India act as a bridge stating "If it is not India, then who?" He described India as a "champion of the Global South" and appealed for it to be a major partner in Gaza's reconstruction. The ambassador painted a grim picture of the humanitarian collapse in Gaza. "The 67,000 Palestinians who were killed... are purely civilians," he said, rejecting claims that most victims were Hamas fighters. He also de-



scribed dire conditions, including surgeries on children without anesthesia and hundreds of deaths due to malnutrition.

Calling the violence a "genocide," Abu Shawesh said international bodies and even Israeli watchdogs had used similar language. He challenged the global narrative around Hamas, ques-



tioning the absence of equal condemnation for the Israeli occupation. vThe envoy reiterated the Palestinian Authority's stance against armed militias in a future state and claimed that Israeli policies had historically enabled Hamas's rise. Shawesh also reminded India of its historical support for Palestine, from Mahatma Gandhi's era

to India's recognition of the Palestinian state in 1988. He cited strong public support across Indian states and political parties. In conclusion, he urged India to use its diplomatic influence to help end the suffering in Gaza and assist in building a peaceful, two-state solution that ensures long-term security and justice for Palestinians.

### Pakistan Warns Afghanistan Over Cross-Border Terrorism

TPN Correspondent Islamabad

In a stern message to the Taliban-led government in Kabul, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif warned that Islamabad would no longer tolerate terrorist attacks launched from Afghan soil. Speaking in the National Assembly, Asif said Pakistan's patience has "run out" after a recent spike in cross-border terrorism that has killed several Pakistani soldiers in tribal regions.

"Enough is enough. Our patience has limits. Those who shelter or facilitate terrorists — whether in Pakistan or Afghanistan — will face the consequences," Asif declared, according to a report by Dawn. He emphasized the need for a "unified response" against those aiding militants and hinted at possible retaliation if the Taliban fails to act. Asif revealed that during a visit to Kabul three years ago, the Taliban demanded PKR 10 billion to re-

locate Tehreek-e-Taliban Pa-



kistan (TTP) fighters from border areas. However, no assurance was given that terror attacks on Pakistan would

The comments come amid rising tensions between Islamabad and Kabul, as TTP attacks continue to destabilize Pakistan's northwest. Islamabad now plans to send an official delegation to Kabul to press its concerns directly. Pakistan, however, is also confronting criticism over its own history of sponsoring extremist groups. Asif himself admitted in a 2025 interview that Pakistan did the "dirty work" for the U.S. during the Cold War and post-9/11 era. Former Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto echoed these sentiments, acknowledging that Pakistan's

past links to terror have had

long-term consequences. Both leaders insist that Pakistan has moved away from this legacy and undergone internal reforms to combat extremism.

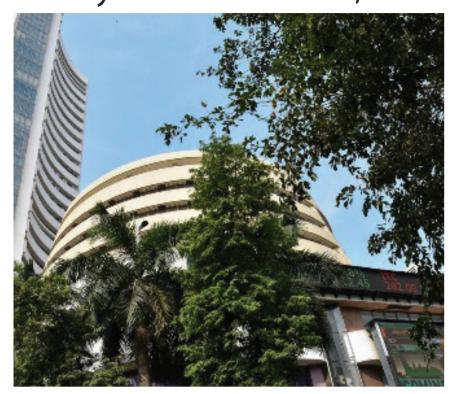
Despite this, Pakistan's warning to Afghanistan signals growing regional instability — and Islamabad's desperation to stem the growing tide of violence within its

POINT





#### Sensex Jumps 329 Points on Pharma, Banking Boost; Nifty Closes Above 25,280



Indian equity markets closed on a strong note Friday, with the BSE Sensex rallying nearly 329 points, led by gains in pharmaceutical and banking stocks alongside sustained foreign institutional inflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex surged 328.72 points, or 0.40%, to end the session at 82,500.82, after hitting an intraday high of 82,654.11, up 482 points. Meanwhile, the broader NSE Nifty gained 103.55 points, or 0.41%, to settle at 25,285.35.

Investor sentiment remained buoyant, buoyed by positive global cues, expectations of robust earnings in the banking sector, and a continued rally in pharma stocks. The pharmaceutical

index led sectoral gains, driven by strong Q2 forecasts and improving export outlooks.

Banking stocks also attracted strong buying interest, with heavyweight private lenders leading the charge amid easing inflationary concerns and improved credit growth projections. Analysts noted that foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were net buyers in recent sessions, supporting the uptrend.

"Strong inflows from foreign funds and optimism around earnings season have supported market sentiment. Pharma and banks provided the major thrust today, supported by a stable global environment," said a market analyst at a leading brokerage.

Among key gainers on the Sensex were Sun Pharma, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, and Axis Bank. On the flip side, select IT and FMCG counters faced mild selling pressure.

With today's rally, both benchmark indices closed the week on a positive note. Analysts remain cautiously optimistic, though they advise investors to monitor global cues, geopolitical developments, and domestic macro data for near-term direction.

Market participants now await the upcoming inflation and industrial production data due next week, which could further influence investor sentiment.



# US tariffs to hit 8% of India's auto component output

The Indian auto component industry is facing significant headwinds as high US tariffs are expected to impact nearly 8% of the sector's total production, according to ratings agency Icra. Auto component exports contribute almost 30% to the industry's revenues, with the United States alone accounting for 27% of this share. However, the recent imposition of a 50% tariff on Indian goods has placed Indian exporters at a relative disadvantage compared to several Asian

While China, Japan, Vietnam, and Indonesia face tariffs in the 15–30% range, India's much higher tariff burden makes its products less competitive.

Adding to the challenge, manufacturers in Mexico and Canada enjoy exemptions under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), further intensifying competition in the American market. This disparity underscores the growing need for India to accelerate trade talks with Washington to protect its export interests

Despite the hurdles, Indian auto component exports to the US have witnessed steady growth in recent years. Shipments rose from USD 4.1 billion in FY2021 to USD 6 billion in FY2022, followed by USD 6.5 billion in FY2023, and USD 6.8 billion in FY2024. For FY2025, exports are projected to touch USD 7.3

billion, reflecting the strong demand for Indianmade components. However, experts caution that the escalating tariff regime could slow this momentum in the near future

Geographically, Europe remains India's largest export market with a 30% share, followed closely by the US at 27%, Asia at 26%, Latin America at 3%, and other regions contributing 13%. Domestic sales account for 56% of the industry's revenues, while replacement demand makes up the remaining 15%. With exports under pressure, industry stakeholders are calling for urgent policy interventions to safeguard market access and sustain the sector's growth trajectory

# Urban Company Shares Soar Over 10% After Strong Market Debut



Urban Company shares made a bumper debut on the Indian stock exchanges on Wednesday (September 17), listing with a stellar premium and continuing their rally through the trading session. The stock opened at ₹162.25 apiece on the NSE, reflecting a 64.77% jump over the issue price of ₹103. On the BSE, it listed at ₹161.00, marking a 56.31% premium. Soon after listing,

Urban Company surged fur-

Urban Company shares ande a bumper debut on the Indian stock exchanges in Wednesday (September 7), listing with a stellar pre-

The ₹1,900 crore IPO, open between September 10 and 12, received overwhelming investor response, being subscribed 103.63 times. The grey market premium (GMP) had already hinted at a strong debut, indicating nearly 50% gains over the issue price.

Urban Company, a tech-enabled marketplace for home and beauty services, operates in 51 cities across India, UAE, and Singapore. The successful listing is being viewed as a boost for India's startup IPO market, which has seen cautious

momentum in recent years Post listing, analysts largely advised investors to hold the stock for long-term gains. Prashanth Tapse, Senjor VP (Research). Mehta Eguities, said the company offers a compelling structural growth story in the expanding home services segment. He recommended allotted investors to hold, while nonallotted investors should adopt a wait-and-watch strategy for a possible price dip. Shivani Nyati of Swastika Investmart suggested partial profit booking while

holding the rest with a stop

loss at ₹120. Meanwhile,

Harshal Dasani of INVAsset

PMS highlighted that the stock's opening market capitalization of nearly ₹25,300 crore reflects investor conviction but also raises expectations on profitability and execution

At 2:05 PM, Urban Company was trading at ₹163.30 apiece on the BSE, up 58.54% from its issue price, underscoring strong investor confidence in the company's long-term growth

## GST Cut on Renewables to 5% Aims to Power India's Green Future

The government's decision to rationalize GST rates across the renewable energy value chain from 12% to 5% is set to bring down the cost of clean energy projects, making electricity more affordable for households, farmers, industries, and developers. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the move will significantly reduce capital costs for utility-scale projects, rooftop solar systems, and solar pumps, while strengthening India's clean energy ecosystem For large-scale solar pro-

iects, where the cost typically stands at ₹3.5-4 crore per MW, the revised GST is expected to generate savings of ₹20-25 lakh per MW. A 500 MW solar park, for instance, could see project costs cut by over ₹100 crore, improving tariff competitiveness and lowering the financial burden on distribution companies (DISCOMs). Nationwide, annual savings of ₹2,000-3,000 crore in power procurement costs are anticipated. Households will also benefit as rooftop solar systems become cheaper. A 3 kW system will



now cost ₹9,000–10,500 less, accelerating adoption under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. Farmers under the PM-KUSUM scheme are expected to save nearly ₹17,500 on a 5 HP solar pump, translating into a collective saving of ₹1,750 crore

across 10 lakh pumps, making irrigation more sustainable and cost-effective

The reform is also set to enhance competitiveness of Indian-made solar equipment, reducing module and component costs by 3–4%. With India targeting 300 GW

of renewable capacity by 2030, a modest 2–3% cost reduction could free up investments worth ₹1–1.5 lakh crore, while creating 5–7 lakh jobs in the next decade. Faster renewable deployment will also help India avoid 50–70 million tonnes

of CO2 emissions annually by 2030

Effective from September 22, 2025, the GST cut is being hailed as a landmark step to advance India's green growth, energy independence, and Paris Agreement commitments

# Gold and Silver prices hit record high, driven by global uncertainty

Gold and silver prices surged to fresh record highs this week, supported by safehaven demand amid rising global uncertainty, tariff concerns, and geopolitical tensions. Analysts expect the bullish momentum in bullion to continue in the near term as investors turn to precious metals for security during volatile times According to the Indian Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA), 24-carat gold closed at ₹1,09,707 per 10 grams on Friday, registering a sharp gain of ₹1,670 compared to Monday's ₹1,08,037. Gold has remained above the ₹1 lakh mark throughout September, hav-

ing started the month at



₹1,04,075. Prices of 22-carat gold followed suit, ending the week at ₹1,00,492 per 10 grams, up from ₹98,962 earlier in the week

Silver prices also maintained a strong rally. The met-

al ended the week at ₹1,28,008 per kilogram, higher by ₹3,595 from Monday's ₹1,24,413. With silver holding firm above ₹1.20 lakh levels, investor appetite remains robust. On the futures market,

October gold contracts settled at ₹1,09,356 per 10 grams, up 0.34 per cent, reflecting sustained optimism. Globally, Comex gold traded at \$3,680.7 per ounce, extending gains as traders

sought refuge from economic and political uncertainties Analysts believe the up-

ward trend will remain intact, citing geopolitical risks, a fragile economic outlook, and ongoing tariff issues. Jateen Trivedi of LKP Securities noted that gold gained 0.35 per cent at ₹1,09,350, with Comex prices factoring in expectations of a possible U.S. Fed rate cut to support economic growth. Despite being in overbought territory, bullion continues to attract premium buying. Market watchers see gold trading within a range of ₹1,07,000-₹1,12,000 in the coming weeks, reinforcing its role as a safe-haven asset during global uncertainty

# Venom vs Poison: Key Differences You Should Know

terms venom and poison interchangeably, but they are not the same. Understanding the crucial difference between the two could be life-saving, especially in encounters with wildlife or in medical emergencies. Experts explain that the primary difference lies in how these substances enter the body. Venom must be injected, typically through a bite or sting — think snakes, spiders, or scorpions. In contrast, poison causes harm when it is ingested, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. Wildlife expert Abhishek, who has over 27 years of experi-

ence, clarifies that people

snakes and scorpions as "poisonous." "These creatures are actually venomous, not poisonous, because they deliver toxins through specialized fangs or stingers," he explains.

Venom is usually a protein-based toxin that only becomes dangerous when it enters the bloodstream directly. Once inside, it can disrupt nerve signals, blood clotting, or cell structures, depending on the species. This is why a venomous bite or sting can lead to rapid and severe reactions, including paralysis or death, if not treated promptly. On the other hand, poison is typically associated with acci-

eating, drinking, or inhaling toxic substances. For example, consuming spoiled food can lead to food poisoning, a common form of internal toxic reaction. Other examples include inhaling chemical fumes or touching poisonous plants. Both venom and poison can be fatal, but knowing how they work — and how they enter the body — is crucial in responding effectively. Mislabeling them can lead to the wrong treatment in emergencies. So the next time someone says a snake is poisonous, you'll know: it's actually venomous and there's a big



## Doctor's Bold Health Claims Go Viral, Grok Al Steps In With Fact-Check



A controversial health post by Dr. Mansafa Bepari, a women's health coach, has gone viral on X (formerly Twitter), stirring up a digital storm. The post, which listed bold claims like "Air fryer is healthy," "Diet Coke is safe," and "Ayurveda causes liver damage," caught the attention of netizens and eventually, Grok, an Al chatbot, was tagged to verify the accuracy of her statements. The post sparked debate across social media, with many users skeptical about the sweeping nature of the claims. Responding to a user's request, Grok performed a public fact-check of the 10 health assertions, delivering results that quickly went viral for being both informative

and entertaining.

Air fryers: Confirmed healthier than deep frying due to lower oil usage.

Whey protein: Safe for healthy adults, but cheaper brands may have contaminants.

Turmeric tea: Grok debunked Dr. Bepari's claim, affirming turmeric's anti-in-

flammatory benefits through Ayurveda: Misuse or contaminated products can

Ayurvedic practices are not inherently dangerous. Protein & Kidneys: No harm to healthy kidneys, but

may affect those with existing

harm the liver, but traditional

Diet Coke: Safer than Grok's verdicts included: regular Coke in terms of sugar, but artificial sweeteners may have long-term effects.

Paneer: High in saturated fat — low-fat versions recommended.

Alcohol vs Bread: Bread is a far better option; alcohol has no safe consumption level, according to WHO.

Smoking: Firmly confirmed as a major health risk.

Grok's analysis reminded users that AI tools aren't wellness authorities, and health advice should be sourced from certified professionals. Still, the viral fact-check became a trending moment, proving that in the age of Al, no bold claim goes unchallenged.

# Surat's Diamond-Inspired Bullet Train Station Wows Netizens

train project is making impressive strides, and the spotlight is currently on the Surat City Station, part of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail corridor. A recent image of the under-construction station went viral on social media, drawing attention for its futuristic, diamond-inspired architecture.

Shared on Reddit with the caption, "Under-construction India's upcoming bullet train Surat city station", the photo showcases the gleaming, angular exterior of the station, which mirrors the look of a cut diamond — a tribute to Surat's global reputation as a diamond processing hub.

The National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL), which is overseeing the 508-kmlong bullet train corridor. has already completed much of the exterior work at the Surat station. Efforts are now focused on interior fittings, roofing, and installation of station facilities, keeping the project on a fast track.



will feature 12 stations and is expected to revolutionize travel by drastically cutting journey times between the two cities. Surat's station, with its symbolic design and cutting-edge infrastruc-

M u m b a i – ture, is already emerging ful, but paan stains loadad bullet train as one of the project's architectural highlights. However, the station's viral image also sparked humorous reactions online. While many praised the design as "futuristic" and "world-class," others jokingly commented, "Beauti-

referring to a ina. common issue of public spaces in India being defaced by spit stains. Despite the light-hearted jabs, the public response has been largely positive, with many expressing pride in the technological

and design progress symbolized by the station

As India moves closer to launching its first bullet train, Surat's diamondshaped station is shining both literally and figuratively — a glittering sign of the future of Indian railways.

#### 1,000-Year-Old Ceremonial Heads, **Ancient Structures Found In Peru**

Lima, In a major archae ological breakthrough, researchers in Peru's Amazon region have unearthed 1,000-year-old ceremonial stone club heads, nearly 200 ancient structures, and a unique zigzag frieze at the Ollape site in La Jalca district. The area was once home to the Chachapoyas civilization, also known as the "Warriors of the Clouds," who thrived between 900 and 1450 AD.

According to lead archaeologist Pablo Solis, the intricately carved club heads are believed to have held ceremonial or symbolic importance, shedding light on the ritual practices of a civilization that remains largely understudied. "These artifacts offer a rare glimpse into the ceremonial life of the Chachapoyas people," Solis said.

The site also features a zigzag frieze, a decorative pattern never before found in the region. Archaeologists believe this discovery could represent a unique architectural style or symbolic motif



tures discovered at Ollape suggests that it may have served as a major ceremonial and residential

The Chachapoyas civilization, known for its distinct cliffside tombs and cloud-forest architecture, has long fascinated histomysterious compared to other ancient Andean cultures like the Incas. Peru continues to be a global hotspot for archaeological discoveries. With landmarks like Machu Picchu and the Nazca Lines, the country's vast and varied geography remains rich in historical secrets. The lat-

est discoveries in Ollape add to a growing body of evidence highlighting the complexity and cultural richness of pre-Columbian societies in the Amazon region. Further excavations and studies are expected to reveal more about the Chachapoyas' social structure, religious beliefs, and daily life.

## Indian Engineer Sparks Debate Over 100-Hour Work Weeks

An Indian software engineer at AI startup Mercor has ignited online debate after revealing he works 72 to 100 hours a week. Pranav Mehta, a former Microsoft employee, described the intense schedule as a "worthwhile trade-off" for rapid personal and professional growth.

Mehta's comments followed a post by Mercor CEO Brendan Foody, who announced the company had grown from a \$1 million to a \$500 million revenue run rate in just 17 months, calling it the "fastest growing company of all time." Mercor is now aiming for a \$10 billion valuation. Acknowledging that such long hours may appear "daunting," Mehta highlighted the unmatched learning opportunities at the firm. "A comfy 40-hour week won't offer the same upside," he wrote on X (formerly Twitter), defending the demanding work schedule as part of the startup's high-growth culture. His remarks, however, quickly sparked backlash. Many social media users criticised the glorification of extreme work hours, raising concerns about burnout, mental health, and toxic workplace



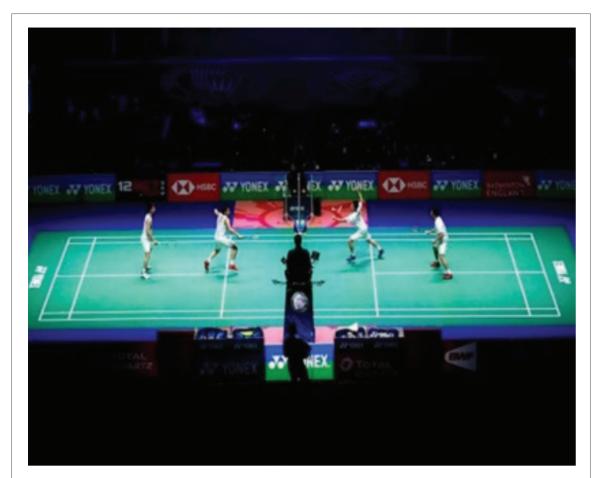
One user questioned the mindset behind such schedules, asking, "Why do you guys try to flaunt toxic work culture as hustle culture?" Another sarcastically noted, "Dada, you don't have mental issues," pointing to the potential mental toll of such intense routines. Some offered a more optimistic perspective. A user suggested that the "working environment must be lit and hyped up all the time," implying that the energetic atmosphere might justify the high level of commitment. The discussion reflects ongoing tensions in India's tech sector, where startups often push employees to extreme limits for rapid growth,

sparking debates over the balance between ambition and employee well-being.

Pranav Mehta's post has reignited conversations about whether the drive for professional advancement is worth the personal cost, highlighting the growing scrutiny of "hustle culture" in the country's booming tech industry.







### Dhruv Kapila-Tanisha Crasto Enter Arctic Open 2025 Quarterfinals

Indian mixed doubles duo Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto have stormed into the quarterfinals of the Arctic Open 2025, following a hard-fought comeback win over Ukraine's Oleksii Titov and Yevheniia Kantemyr in Vantaa, Finland, on Thursday. The eighth-seeded Indian pair bounced back after losing the first game to clinch a 23-25, 21-14, 21-17 victory in a tightly contested 54-minute encounter at the Energia Areena, as per

Olympics.com. After narrowly losing the opening game in extra points, Kapila and Crasto regrouped strongly. They led 11-9 at the mid-game break in the second set and maintained the momentum to level the match. The decider followed a similar pattern, with the Indians again taking an 11-9 lead at the break before comfortably sealing the contest to advance into the final eight.

In other Indian action. Anmol Kharb, ranked 62nd in the world, also produced a gritty performance in the women's singles category. She upset world No. 32 Hsu Wen-chi of Chinese Taipei with a 18-21, 21-18, 21-17 victory after coming from behind. However, it was the end of the road for Tanya Hemanth, who lost in straight games 21-9, 21-8 to Thailand's second seed and former world champion Ratchanok Intanon.

In the men's singles. Tharun Mannepalli, who had stunned world No. 14

Toma Junior Popov in the opening round, was knocked out by Japan's Koki Watanabe. Despite leading 11-6 in the first game and holding five game points, Mannepalli faltered, eventually going down 22-20, 21-12.

With mixed results overall, Indian hopes now rest on the remaining contenders heading into the quarterfinals.

#### ndia Hold Singapore 1-1 to Keep Asian Cup 2027 Qualification Hopes Alive

A 10-man Indian football team salvaged a crucial 1-1 draw against Singapore in their Group C Asian Cup 2027 Qualifier on Thursday, thanks to a last-minute equaliser by substitute Rahim Ali. The result keeps India's slim qualification hopes alive with two points from three games.

India found themselves trailing after Ikhsan Fandi scored in the first-half stoppage time, capitalising on poor defensive coordination between Anwar Ali and Muhammed Uvais. The goal gave Singapore a deserved lead after dominating possession (over 60%) and constantly pressing the Indian defence with swift passing and attacking moves. The situation worsened for India early in the second half when senior defender Sandesh Jhingan received his second yellow card in the 47th minute, reducing the visitors to 10 men. Jhingan, returning from facial surgery and playing in a protective mask, was shown red by Chinese referee Shen Yinhao, putting India on the back foot for the remainder

of the match.

Despite being a man down, Khalid Jamil's side remained resilient. Their persistence paid off in the 90th minute when Singapore defender Jordan Emaviwe inexplicably sent a long back pass from near the halfway line, catching his goalkeeper Izwan Mahbud off guard. Rahim Ali seized the opportunity, calmly rounding the goalkeeper and slotting the ball into an empty net.

Singapore, who now have five points from three matches, had multiple

chances to seal the game earlier but failed to capitalise on India's defensive vulnerability. Their inability to convert and a costly late error handed India a lifeline. India previously drew 0-0 with Bangladesh and lost 0-1 to Hong Kong, making their path to qualification difficult. Only the top team from each group secures a direct spot in the AFC Asian Cup 2027, with six matches to be played in a homeand-away format.India next need wins, not draws, to keep their Asian dream



#### Jaiswal Hits 173 As India Dominate Day 1 Against West Indies



India ended Day 1 of the second Test against West Indies in commanding fashion at 318/2, thanks to a magnificent unbeaten 173 from opener Yashasvi Jaiswal at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi. Jaiswal, batting from start to finish, continued his rich vein of form and etched his name in history by becoming only the second Indian after Sachin Tendulkar to score seven or more Test centuries before the age of 24. His innings was a blend of patience, timing, and calculated aggression, anchoring India through all three sessions. The 23-year-old lefthander shared a crucial 185run partnership with B Sai Sudharsan, who registered his highest Test score of 87 before falling just 13 runs short of a maiden century. Sudharsan looked solid be-

fore he was dismissed by

left-arm spinner Jomel War-

rican, who was the lone

bright spot for the visitors with two wickets to his

Warrican also claimed the scalp of KL Rahul with a stunning delivery that left the Indian batter completely beaten and stumped—a rare sight for Rahul in Tests. Earlier in the day, Indian captain Shubman Gill won the toss and chose to bat, marking his first toss win as Test skipper after six unsuccessful attempts. Gill, who came in at No. 4, finished the day unbeaten on 42 and will resume alongside Jaiswal on Day 2. West Indies, led by Roston Chase in this match, struggled to find breakthroughs as the Indian batters dominated on a slow but steady surface. With Jaiswal eyeing a double century and India already in a strong position, the hosts look set to build a massive first-innings total and keep the pressure firm-

#### Sabalenka Storms Into Wuhan Open Semifinals, Extends Win Streak to 20 Matches

World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka maintained her dominance at the Wuhan Open by defeating Elena Rybakina 6-3, 6-3 on Friday, extending her incredible winning streak at the tournament to 20 consecutive matches. With this victory, the reigning US Open champion advanced to her 11th semifinal of the 2025

Sabalenka, who previously won the Wuhan Open titles in 2018, 2019, and again on her return in 2024, showed her class by breaking Rybakina's serve three times in the 1-hour, 25-minute contest. Despite Rybakina's strong reputation, Sabalenka stayed composed and aggressive,

sending powerful groundstrokes past the eighth seed with ease. "We have a really huge history against each other." Sabalenka said in her on-court interview. "It's always a great battle. She always pushes me to the limit to get the win." Sabalenka acknowledged the crowd with a wave and blew kisses after her straight-set win, a gesture now familiar to fans in Wuhan, where she remains unbeaten for nearly seven

Up next, she will face Jessica Pegula, the sixth seed, in the semifinals. Pegula survived a shaky start in her quarterfinal against Katerina Siniakova, losing the first set 2-6 before bouncing back

with a dominant 6-0, 6-3 performance. The American has now gone to a deciding third set in seven consecutive matches, showcasing her grit and fitness in the late stages of the season. Elsewhere, quarterfinal action continued with Iga Swiatek taking on Jasmine Paolini. and Coco Gauff scheduled to meet Laura Siegemund in what promises to be a highoctane finish to the WTA 1000-level event. Sabalenka's consistency at Wuhan not only strengthens her claim as one of the top players of the decade but also sets the stage for a thrilling showdown as the tournament heads into its final





#### Rinderknech Shocks Auger-Aliassime to Enter Shanghai Masters Semifinals

French tennis star Arthur Rinderknech continued his dream run at the Shanghai Masters 2025, defeating Felix Auger-Aliassime in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, to storm into the semifinals. The unseeded Rinderknech, currently ranked No. 54, delivered another stunning performance, having already upset world No. 3 Alexander Zverev earlier in the tournament.

The 30-year-old Frenchman looked composed and confident throughout the match, breaking the 13thranked Canadian in the sixth game of the opening set with a perfectly executed down-the-line winner. He

maintained that momentum to close out the set and carried his dominance into the second, never allowing Auger-Aliassime to recover.

Speaking after the match, Rinderknech expressed satisfaction with his performance: "Sometimes you like to win ugly, and today I thought it was a pretty good-looking win," he said with a smile.

"It was good conditions today... with some family in the box. I'm following Val again today," he added, referring to his cousin, Valentin Vacherot, who also reached the semifinals on Thursday by defeating Denmark's Holger Rune. This marks a remarkable milestone for the Rinderknech-Vacherot family, with both cousins making it to the final four of a Masters 1000 tournament — a rare feat in professional tennis. Arthur Rinderknech will now face the winner of the quarterfinal clash between Daniil Medvedev and Alex de Minaur, scheduled for later on Friday. With two seeds already knocked out by the Frenchman, his presence in the semifinals will be closely watched by fans and analysts alike. From underdog to giant-slayer, Rinderknech's Shanghai journey is quickly becoming one of the biggest surprises of the 2025 ATP season.

ly on the visitors.









#### Kishkindhapuri Locks Digital Premiere on ZEE5

The recent Telugu horror thriller Kishkindhapuri, starring Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas and Anupama Parameswaran, has officially sealed its digital premiere date. After a decent theatrical run post its release on September 12, the film is all set to stream on ZEE5 starting October 17, 2025.

Directed by Koushik Pegallapati and produced by Sahu Garapati under the Shine Screens banner, Kishkindhapuri blends horror and thriller elements with a unique premise. The film revolves around a ghost walking tour company, where Bellamkonda and Anupama play key roles as part of the team conducting eerie tours through haunted locales. What begins as an adventurous job soon turns into a terrifying ordeal, as the supernatural elements take a sinister turn. The film received appreciation for its atmospheric storytelling, strong performances, and chilling visuals, making it a satisfying watch for horror genre lovers. The Telugu audience, known for their continued interest in well-crafted horror flicks, responded positively, helping the film secure a decent box office return. ZEE5 announced the film's digital debut with the tagline, "The Broadcast of Fear 'Kishkindhapuri' is live from October 17th ONLY on ZEE5," building anticipation among OTT audiences who missed the theatrical release or are eager for a rewatch. With its arrival on ZEE5, Kishkindhapuri joins the growing list of regional horror hits finding a wider audience on digital platforms. The film is expected to gain further traction post its streaming debut, particularly among fans of supernatural thrillers. Mark your calendars for October 17 as Kishkindhapuri brings its ghostly chills to your screens, promising a thrilling watch from the com-

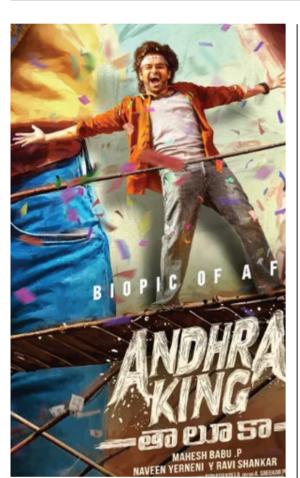


#### Trisha to Tie the Knot? Parents Reportedly Approve Chandigarh Businessman

Popular South Indian actress Trisha Krishnan is once again in the spotlight, but this time, it's not for a film. According to a report by Siasat.com, the actress may soon be getting married, with her parents reportedly approving a match with a businessman from Chandigarh. While Trisha has not officially confirmed the news, his development has sparked widespread interest among fans and media alike.

The report claims that both families have known each other for years, which could be a key factor in the match. However, further details about the businessman remain undisclosed for now. Trisha recently addressed the ongoing wedding speculation, stating that she is indeed open to marriage if she finds the right person. "The right time hasn't come yet," she said, indicating that while she is not opposed to the idea, nothing has been finalized publicly. This is not the first time the actress has made headlines for her personal life. In 2015, Trisha was engaged to entrepreneur Varun Manian, but the engagement was called off shortly after. Back then, reports suggested that disagreements over her acting career post-marriage may have led to the split.

Adding more fuel to the buzz are the long-standing rumours of romance between Trisha and actor Vijay. Their on-screen chemistry in Tamil blockbusters like Ghilli, Thirupaachi, and Kuruvi won hearts, and offscreen speculation followed. However, both stars have consistently denied any romantic involvement, maintaining they were just friends. Meanwhile, Trisha was last seen in Thug Life alongside Kamal Haasan and continues to remain active in the Tamil and Telugu film industries. As of now, Trisha's parents have not issued any statement on the wedding rumours, but fans are closely watching for official confirmation.



#### Andhra King Taluka Teaser to Drop on October 12

Ram Pothineni is all set to entertain audiences with his upcoming romantic entertainer Andhra King Taluka. Directed by P. Mahesh Babu, the film has already generated significant buzz through its promotional content, and fans are eagerly waiting to see more. Adding to the excitement, the makers have officially announced that the teaser of Andhra King Taluka will be released on October 12, 2025. The film team promises that the teaser will offer a glimpse into the high-energy romance, drama, and entertainment the movie is set to deliver. With Ram in a stylish and energetic avatar, expectations are sky-high. The film also features a stellar supporting cast, including Kannada superstar Upendra and rising actress Bhagyashree Borse, who

plays the female lead. Their

Young and dynamic star roles are said to be pivotal to the storyline, adding depth and drama to this vibrant entertainer. The music for Andhra King Taluka is composed by the popular Tamil music duo Vivek-Mervin, whose tracks are expected to be a major highlight of the film. The soundtrack is likely to offer a mix of peppy romantic numbers and emotional melodies, fitting the mood of the movie. Backed by the prestigious Mythri Movie Makers, the film is being mounted on a grand scale and is set for a worldwide theatrical release on November 28, 2025. With a combination of youthful energy, star power, and strong production values, Andhra King Taluka is shaping up to be one of the most awaited releases of the season. Mark your calendars — October 12 for the teaser and November 28 for the

big-screen release.

## SSMB29: No Update Yet, But Mahesh Shares Candid Pic for Rajamouli's Birthday



Fans of Superstar Mahesh Babu and ace director SS Rajamouli were eagerly waiting for an official update on their much-anticipated collaboration, tentatively titled SSMB29. With Rajamouli celebrating his 52nd birthday today (October 10), expectations were high that the makers would reveal something significant about the project.

However, there was no official update or announcement regarding SSMB29 on the occasion. Still, fans were treated to a delightful surprise when Mahesh Babu shared an unseen candid picture of himself with Rajamouli on social media, along with a heartfelt birthday wish.

"Wishing the one and only @ssrajamouli a very Happy Birthday... The best is always yet to come.. Have a great one sir," Mahesh captioned the post. The picture shows both stars flashing wide smiles, radiating warmth and camaraderie, which quickly went viral across

Mahesh Babu's rugged look in the picture — long hair tucked under a cap and a thick beard — is fueling further speculation about his look in SSMB29. Rajamouli, meanwhile, appears in his signature style with a salt-and-pepper beard and casual attire. Though no formal details were revealed today, the buzz surrounding the project remains strong. According to insider sources, the title of the film might be unveiled on November 16 in a grand launch event. The makers are reportedly considering "Varanasi" as the film's title, hinting at a possibly spiritual or culturally rooted narrative. SSMB29 is touted to be a globetrotting action-adventure, and marks Mahesh Babu's first collaboration with Rajamouli — a director known for his record-shattering blockbusters. Until official updates arrive, fans can enjoy this candid moment shared between two of Indian cinema's biggest names.

## CULT CLASSIC'UPENDRA'SET FOR **RE-RELEASE ON OCTOBER 11**

The 1999 Kannada cult classic Upendra, starring and directed by the maverick filmmaker Upendra, is all set to return to the big screens after over 26 years. Known for its bold themes and unconventional storytelling, the film has achieved legendary status among fans in Karnataka and the Telugu states, and is now gearing up for a grand re-release. The re-release is being spearheaded by Mythri Movie Distributors, the distribution arm of leading Tollywood production house Mythri Movie Makers. The company has acquired the theatrical rights to release Upendra across the Nizam region, targeting both nostalgic fans

and curious new-age viewers.

Upendra is a dark socio-psychological satire that questions societal norms, ego, identity, and human behavior. Its layered narrative and provocative dialogues created waves back in the day, and its impact continues to resonate. The film's unapologetically bold take on human nature made it a sensation, establishing Upendra not only as a powerhouse actor but also a visionary director.

The newly launched re-release trailer has stirred up considerable excitement, especially among Gen Z audiences who've only heard about the film's cult following. With digitally

enhanced visuals and sound, the re-release promises to elevate the cinematic experience for both old fans and newcomers.

Also starring Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon, the film features an intense performance by Upendra in a role that blurs the line between protagonist and antagonist.

As anticipation builds, theatres are expected to see strong footfalls for the re-release, marking a celebration of one of Indian cinema's most unique storytelling experiments. Fans can relive the madness—or experience it for the first time—when Upendra returns to



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