



ECI 04
Announces
Exit Poll Ban
for Jubilee
Hills Bypoll

HYDRAA Removes
Encroachments in Rajendranagar

04



Kavitha Launches ‘Jagruthi Janam Bata’ Without KCR’s Image

TPN Bureau | October 15
Hyderabad: Kalvakuntla Kavitha has announced the launch of her month-long tour across Telangana districts under the banner “Jagruthi Janam Bata,” aiming to engage directly with people and understand grassroots social issues. Addressing the media, she outlined that the campaign will span four months, spend-

ing two days in each district to interact with residents from all communities. Kavitha emphasized that the initiative seeks actionable solutions for social Telangana rather than mere slogans. Remarkably, Kavitha confirmed that her campaign would not feature the image of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). “Telangana owes

much to KCR, but including his photo would be morally inappropriate. I am seeking my own path while continuing the work started under Jagruthi,” she said. She added that even during the initial Jagruthi launch, KCR’s photo was not used, with leaders like Jayashankar being highlighted instead. Kavitha addressed her suspension from BRS, explain-

ing that despite her dedication to Telangana’s social progress, internal party politics led to her exclusion. She criticized the state government for ignoring key issues affecting citizens, including agriculture, education, infrastructure, and public services, and stressed her intention to consult the public before making political decisions. She also released

the official campaign poster, which features Telangana Mata and Jayashankar, deliberately excluding KCR’s image to assert her independent stance. Kavitha pledged to focus on problems ranging from irrigation and bus services to fertilizer supply, highlighting the need for practical solutions rather than political rhetoric.

Uttam Reddy Vows to
Defend Telangana’s
Water Rights



TPN Bureau | October 15

Hyderabad: Telangana’s Minister for Irrigation and Public Utilities, Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, has made it clear that the state will not compromise on its rights over river waters and will push forward with the Banakachera project under all circumstances. Speaking at a gathering attended by AICC observer Sarath Raut, Kodad MLA Uttam Padmavathi, district Congress president Cheviti Venkanna Yadav, and PCC delegates including Lakshmi Narayana Reddy and Dongari Venkateswarlu, the minister firmly rejected attempts by BRS leaders to create confusion among the public with misleading statements.

Minister Reddy emphasized that the government is prepared to take legal action against anyone trying to halt the project.

“We have communicated our objections directly to the Union Minister for Water Resources through letters and official channels,” he said. He also stressed that raising the Almatti reservoir will not be accepted under any circumstances. He asserted that political alignments in neighboring states—Congress in Karnataka, BJP in Maharashtra, or TDP in Andhra Pradesh—do not affect Telangana’s legitimate claim over Krishna and Godavari waters.

Highlighting ongoing legal battles, Reddy noted that the state is vigorously pursuing its rights before the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal and the Supreme Court. “I personally attended tribunal hearings in my capacity as minister, the first ever from Telangana, to safeguard our water allocations,” he said. He contrasted this proac-

tive approach with BRS governance, criticizing the former administration for spending 1.8 crore on irrigation projects, including Kalwakurthi, Devadula, Nethanpadu, Koilsagar, Bhima, and SLBC, without yielding significant results.

The minister also outlined plans for pending projects, promising their completion before the next Assembly elections. Reddy highlighted Telangana’s record-breaking paddy production over the last two years, achieved through proper utilization of Krishna and Godavari waters, and asserted that irrigation development is central to ensuring food security and farmer welfare. “Our government is committed to finishing all pending irrigation projects and securing the state’s rightful water allocations,” he said.

Revenue Reforms Bring Relief to Telangana Farmers

TPN Bureau | October 15

Hyderabad: Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy announced comprehensive reforms in the state’s revenue administration on Wednesday, aimed at resolving long-standing land disputes and expediting pending applications under schemes such as Sada Bainama. Addressing officials at the B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, the minister congratulated 13 officers recently promoted from Deputy Collector to Special Grade Deputy

Collector, urging them to implement reforms efficiently at the grassroots level.

Minister Reddy elaborated that under the previous government, 9.26 lakh applications related to Sada Bainama remained unresolved due to procedural gaps in the 2020 ROR Act, even though applications were accepted. “Our government has now streamlined regulations to ensure rapid resolution of pending cases. Clear guidelines have been issued for processing Sada Bainama applications, and officials are expected to work closely with citi-



zens to meet expectations,” he said.

He stressed the importance of friendly administrative practices, including systematic promotions across departments to motivate

employees to perform efficiently. The minister emphasized that these changes align with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s vision of transparent, citizen-focused governance. “Re-

solving citizens’ long-standing grievances at the earliest will strengthen public confidence in government initiatives,” he noted.

Officials were also instructed to coordinate with local stakeholders, ensuring that land disputes are resolved in accordance with the law while maintaining accountability and public trust. Minister Reddy highlighted the government’s commitment to continuous monitoring and periodic review to ensure reforms translate into tangible benefits for Telangana residents.

Deepak Reddy is BJP candidate
for Jubilee Hills by-election

TPN Bureau | October 15

Hyderabad: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday announced Lankala Deepak Reddy as its candidate for by-election to Jubilee Hills Assembly seat in Telangana. The Central Election Committee of the party cleared the name of Deepak Reddy from the list of three names recommended by the party’s state unit.

The names of Deepak Reddy, Juturu Keerthi Reddy and Veerapameni Padma were reportedly sent to the party’s central leadership by the state election committee.

Deepak Reddy will be contesting as the BJP candidate from Jubilee Hills in his second consecutive election. He had finished third in the 2023 elections.

Maganti Gopinath of Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) had defeated former Indian cricket captain and



Congress candidate Mohammed Azharuddin by 16,337 votes to win the seat for the third consecutive term. In a multi-cornered contest, Gopinath had secured 80,549 votes while Azharuddin had polled 64,212 votes. Deepak Reddy was in third position with 25,866 votes.

Gopinath’s demise in June this year necessitated the by-election. The BRS has fielded Gopinath’s wife Maganti Sunitha.

The ruling Congress party announced Naveen Yadav as its candidate.

As per the schedule announced by the Election Commission of India, the official notification for the by-election was issued on October 13.

The last date for fil-

ing nominations is October 21. Scrutiny of nominations will be held on October 22, and withdrawal of candidature will be allowed until October 24. The polling will be held on November 11, while the counting of votes will take place on November 14.

Meanwhile, Hyderabad District Election Officer R.V. Kannan has announced that the Election Commission of India has issued a notification, prohibiting the conduct, publication, and publicity of exit polls in connection with the by-election.

The ban period will be from 7 a.m. on November 6 to 6:30 p.m. on November 11. During this time, no one is allowed to conduct, publish, or share any exit poll results or predictions, including on TV, radio, newspapers, websites, YouTube, WhatsApp, X, Facebook, Instagram, or any other digital platform.

BRS Declares Full
Support for BC JAC Bandh

TPN Bureau | October 15

Hyderabad: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has extended full support to the Telangana BC JAC’s “Bandh for Justice” scheduled for October 18. BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) emphasized that the bandh is a legitimate demand to secure 42 percent reservation for backward classes (BCs), criticizing Congress for misleading the community with unfulfilled promises.

Leaders of BC JAC, including Chairman R. Krishnayya, Working Chairman Jajula Srinivas Goud, Vice-Chairman VGR Naragoni, and Co-Chairman Rajaram Yadav, presented a memorandum to KTR seeking party backing for the statewide bandh. Rajaram Yadav clarified that the agitation aims to protect BC rights rather than oppose any political party, highlighting dec-



ades of systemic neglect faced by the community.

Senior BRS leaders, MLAs, former ministers, former municipal chairpersons, and representatives from various BC organizations participated in the meeting, underscoring the collective de-

mand for social justice. KTR recalled previous instances where 42 percent reservation had been partially supported but noted that Congress lacks commitment to fully implement the quota. The bandh is expected to unite multiple communi-

ties, parties, and organizations in advocating constitutional safeguards for BCs. The leaders stressed that achieving justice requires a collaborative approach transcending political and caste lines, with legislative and constitution-

al measures necessary to secure BC entitlements. The BRS has committed logistical and political support to ensure the bandh proceeds smoothly, signaling the party’s continued focus on social equity and inclusive governance in Telangana.



Telangana Records Historic Rice Yield, Sets New Procurement Benchmark

TPN Bureau | 15 October
Hyderabad: The Telangana government has set a new benchmark in agricultural productivity, recording an all-time high rice yield of 148.03 lakh metric tonnes, according to the State Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies, Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy. He noted that this level of yield is unprecedented not only in Telangana but across India's 29 states, including the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh.

The minister attributed this remarkable achievement to the pro-farmer policies implemented under the leadership of Chief Minister K. Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhathi Vikramarka. "The production surge is a direct result of the farmer-centric measures taken by the state government," he remarked.

On Wednesday morning, a video conference was conducted from the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat with district collectors to review the kharif rice procurement process. Key participants included Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, Agriculture Secretary Surendra Mohan, Transport Commissioner Raghunandan Rao, and Civil Supplies Commissioner Stephen Ravindra, among others.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy emphasized that procurement is a sensitive and critical process. He instructed officials to ensure that farmers face no inconvenience at the procurement centers. With an ambitious target of 80 lakh metric tonnes of rice purchases, the government is preparing a record-scale operation, involving expenditure of ₹22,000-23,000 crore. This includes 40 lakh metric tonnes each of Sanna and Doddalu varieties.

To facilitate the process, 8,342 procurement centers have been established across the state, including 4,259 through primary agricultural cooperative societies, 3,517 through I-KP centers, and 566 via other agencies. Complete transport arrangements have been instructed to ensure smooth transfer of the purchased rice. Payment for procured rice is expected within 48 hours of registration, and farmers will receive bonus payments on Sanna rice in addition to the support price.

Already, 1,205 centers in Kamareddy, Nizamabad, Medak, Siddipet, and Nalgonda districts have started operations. The minister directed officials to maintain all necessary equipment at the centers and to act swiftly in case of any emergency, including weather-related contingencies. A 24-hour helpline (1800-425-00333/1967) has been made available for farmers to report any issues.

This record harvest and the meticulous procurement plan mark a historic achievement for Telangana agriculture, reflecting strong government coordination and proactive administration.



Telangana Launches Comprehensive Procurement and Crop Review

TPN Bureau | 15 October
Hyderabad: As the kharif crop harvest begins, the Telangana government has taken proactive steps to ensure efficient procurement and market operations. Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao reviewed crop collection strategies in consultation with agencies including MARKFED, HACA, and RIC. He emphasized the importance of clean and well-equipped centers for rice collection, with tarpaulins and other essential equipment readily available in each district.

Highlighting the government's commitment to farmers, Minister Rao stated that despite the Centre not actively supporting maize purchases, Telangana would begin procurement through MARKFED from tomorrow, ensuring farmers' interests are prioritized. Similarly, arrangements are being made to commence soybean procurement immediately. Cotton procurement will also start promptly, following completion of CCI tender processes, with collectors instructed to notify ginning centers without delay.

To streamline operations, each unified district has been assigned a Head of Department (HoD) as the coordinating officer for all crop purchases. These officers are tasked with liaising with district collectors to ensure smooth procurement and to resolve any issues at the centers without inconvenience to farmers.

Specific appointments include: MD & Warehouse heads for Nizamabad, Director Horticulture for Warangal, Director Agriculture for Nalgonda, MD HACA for Mahabubnagar, Director Marketing for Khammam, Director Seed Certification for Adilabad, MD AGROS for Karimnagar, MD MARKFED for Medak, and MD OILFED for Ranga Reddy.

The review also included a detailed discussion on crop collection and market readiness, including equipment availability and cleanliness of procurement centers. The Agriculture Department, along with HACA and MARKFED officials, participated in the deliberations to ensure readiness for large-scale procurement.

The minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to complete procurement efficiently, reflecting strong coordination among Civil Supplies, Agriculture, and Cooperative departments, and ensuring farmers face no hardships during the harvest season.

Journalist Welfare Gets Top Priority in Telangana

TPN Bureau | 15 October
Hyderabad: Telangana's government continues to place significant emphasis on journalist welfare, according to Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy. Speaking at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat, the minister underscored that the state is committed to implementing welfare schemes ensuring that only eligible journalists benefit.

Minister Reddy held detailed discussions with Media Academy Chairman K. Srinivas Reddy, Information & Public Relations Commissioner C.H. Priyanka, and CPVO Malsur regarding the state's accreditation policy. He directed officials to adopt a scientific approach in issuing journalist accreditation cards and to complete the policy framework by the end of the month.

The minister emphasized that the policy should safeguard the dignity of journalists while ensuring timely issuance of accreditation cards. He reiterated the government's continuous efforts under Chief Minister K. Revanth Reddy's leadership to strengthen the welfare of media personnel and ensure structured access to benefits.



Sridhar Babu to Represent Telangana at Prestigious AusBiotech 2025

TPN Bureau | 15 October
Hyderabad: Telangana's Minister for IT and Industries, Sridhar Babu, has been accorded a rare honor to deliver a keynote address at the AusBiotech International Conference 2025, one of the most prestigious life sciences forums in the Asia-Pacific region. The conference will take place in Melbourne, Australia, from 21-24 October 2025, and Minister Babu is the only Indian minister invited to present at this forum.

The invitation, extended by Australia's Consul General Hillary McGeechie, underscores the growing recognition of Telangana's progress and opportunities in the life sciences sector. Minister Babu is expected to highlight the state's business-friendly policies, investment climate, and potential for further development in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and allied industries.

Over the past two years, Telangana has witnessed significant strides in life sciences innovation, and the minister's address is expected to focus on both the sector's growth and potential future collaborations. "This platform offers a rare opportunity to attract global investment into Telangana's life sciences ecosystem," he stated.

The state government views this recognition as a strategic step in showcasing Telangana as a hub for research, innovation, and sustainable industrial growth in the life sciences sector, aligning with its broader vision of technological and economic development.



BRS Questions Congress Over Misuse of Women and Children Cases



TPN Bureau | October 15
Hyderabad: BRS State General Secretary Dr. R.S. Praveen Kumar held a press conference at Telangana Bhavan to criticize the Congress and BJP for allegedly misusing law enforcement and the Election Commission to target women and children politically. He demanded FIRs against Rahul Gandhi and Revanth Reddy, highlighting what he described as biased handling of the Jubilee Hills by-election. Dr. Praveen Kumar condemned the filing of cases against BRS candidate Maganti Sunitha and her supporters for distributing election-related materials, calling it an injustice while simi-

lar violations by Congress candidate Naveen Yadav went unpunished. He argued that officials had selectively applied laws under the 1988 act to suppress BRS activities, while ignoring reported fake voter registrations favoring opposition candidates. He warned that the Congress was exploiting women's natural expressions of grief and emotion for political gain, citing insensitive remarks by leaders such as Ponnam Prabhakar. Dr. Praveen Kumar called for immediate action to protect women and children from politically motivated harassment and to uphold fairness during the election.

Raja Singh Slams Union Minister Kishan Reddy Over BC Issues

TPN Bureau | October 15
Hyderabad: MLA Raja Singh has renewed his criticism of Union Minister Kishan Reddy, accusing him of sidelining Backward Classes (BCs) in Telangana during elections. Singh claimed that despite repeated assurances of BC representation, Reddy has continuously exploited the BC vote for political gains without delivering tangible benefits. Speaking to the media, Singh stated, "Whenever elections approach, the BC community's interests are used as a political card, yet no real action follows.

Both small and large elections in Telangana have overlooked BC concerns under BJP leadership." Singh further questioned Reddy's commitment, urging him to clarify how many votes he would win in the upcoming Jubilee Hills bypoll and whether he would support BRS or Congress candidates. He highlighted that voters are monitoring the minister's promises closely, particularly in the Secunderabad parliamentary segment that includes Jubilee Hills, and called for accountability in upholding BC welfare.

BJP, Congress Allegedly Misusing Elections: Harish Rao

TPN Bureau | October 15
Hyderabad: In the run-up to the Jubilee Hills by-election, former Minister and senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao accused both the Congress and BJP of manipulating electoral processes and betraying public trust. Speaking at a public gathering, Rao highlighted the alleged failure of these parties to uphold promises made to vulnerable communities, including women, senior citizens, and marginalized groups. Rao criticized the Congress for reportedly consolidating 20,000 "bogus votes" and failing to deliver financial support promised to women and the elderly. According to him, schemes like pensions and grants under programs such as Dalit Bandhu, BC Bandhu, and Minority Bandhu were either delayed or not implemented. He contrasted this with the initiatives undertaken during KCR's tenure, including free water supply in Hyderabad's slums, Basti clinics, KCR kits for pregnant women, and pensions for elderly citizens, highlighting how BRS governance ensured tangible benefits for the poor. Further, Rao condemned the demolition of homes under the "Hydra" beautification project, noting that thousands of families were displaced without adequate rehabilitation. He accused Congress of selectively criticizing BRS while ignoring failures in implementing welfare programs. Rao urged the electorate to reflect on these governance lapses, questioning the sincerity of Congress and BJP claims in Telangana. He emphasized that only BRS could ensure the continuation of welfare programs, maintain social justice, and uphold the development initiatives that di-



rectly benefit the people, especially women and marginalized communities in Jubilee Hills.

Reddy JAC Opposes Political Misuse of BC Reservation Debate



TPN Bureau | October 15
Secunderabad: The Telangana Reddy JAC held an executive meeting at Royal Rev Hotel in Secunderabad. Addressing the gathering, Ram Reddy, president of Reddy JAC expressed concern over recent political developments following the allocation of 42% reservation for BCs in local body elections, which they said has created discord among rural communities. The JAC criticized political parties in Telangana for allegedly fomenting divisions among the public for vote-bank politics. Regarding the BC reservation issue, the leadership clarified their position following a petition filed in the High Court. They emphasized that while they are not opposed to BC reservations or the welfare of BC communities, they urge that all decisions should be made constitutionally and legally. The JAC leadership accused political parties of politicizing the court case to create unrest and misrepresent their stance. They cited the example of Maharashtra, where elections held contrary to the Supreme Court's ruling resulted in public losses, to highlight the importance of adhering to constitutional and judicial decisions. "Our aim in approaching the court was solely to seek clarity and uphold legal processes, not to oppose BC reservations," Ram Reddy said. "We remain committed to the Constitution and to abiding by the Supreme Court's verdicts."

Mallu Ravi Demands Justice for Dalit IPS Officer Puran Kumar

TPN Bureau | October 15
Nagarkurnool: Lok Sabha MP Dr. Mallu Ravi has appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ensure strict action against police officials responsible for the suicide of Dalit IPS officer Puran Kumar in Haryana. Expressing solidarity with the officer's family, Ravi demanded accountability for the DGP and other senior officials implicated in the tragedy. Ravi highlighted Puran Kumar's exceptional academic and professional record, including studies at Osmania University and IIMs, early entry into the civil services, and receipt of the President's Award. He emphasized the officer faced undue pressure, leading to his untimely death. The MP has also requested directives to all state CMs and DGPs to prevent similar incidents in the future. He confirmed that formal letters had been submitted to the Prime Minister's Office, and that he met with journalists in Delhi to discuss the matter. Ravi also announced that the incident would be raised in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Welfare Committee, which he is a member of, and briefed



the National SC Commission Chairman and the National Human Rights Commission. He reassured Puran Kumar's family of continued support and vowed collective advocacy with MPs from all states to ensure justice.

ECI Announces Exit Poll Ban for Jubilee Hills Bypoll

TPN Bureau | October 15 Hyderabad: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has officially announced a ban on exit polls in connection with the Jubilee Hills Assembly Constituency bye-election. District Election Officer and GHMC Commissioner RV Karan issued a press release outlining the restrictions. According to Notification No. 576/EXIT/2025/SDR/Vol.I, dated October 13, 2025, no individual or organization is permitted to conduct, publish, or broadcast exit polls in print, electronic, or digital media from 7:00 AM on November 6, 2025, un-



til 6:30 PM on November 11, 2025. This prohibition covers newspapers, television, radio, social me-

dia platforms, and other online channels. Violations of this directive are punishable

under Section 126A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which carries penalties

of up to two years imprisonment, a fine, or both. Additionally, Section 126(1)(b) prohibits the display of any election-related content, including opinion poll results, during the 48 hours prior to polling closure. The District Election Officer urged media houses, political parties, digital influencers, and stakeholders to strictly follow the rules to uphold electoral integrity and ensure transparent and fair elections. Authorities emphasized that adherence to the exit poll ban is crucial for maintaining the credibility of the democratic process in Jubilee Hills.



Two Women Arrested for Selling Alcohol in Jubilee Hills

TPN Bureau | October 15 Hyderabad: As part of intensified checks ahead of the Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election, the STF B Team, led by CI Biksareddy and SI Balaraju, conducted raids across several localities on Wednesday. During these inspections, the team discovered two women allegedly involved in illegal alcohol sales in Borabanda and Indiranagar areas.

being sold without a license. The arrested women, identified as Shwaramma and Mariamma, were taken into custody and handed over to the Amberpet Excise Station along with the seized alcohol bottles.

Officials further noted that these preventive measures aim to maintain law and order and ensure a fair election environment. Residents in the inspected areas expressed relief over the action, highlighting the impact of such operations on curbing local illegal trade networks.

The excise department continues to coordinate with local police teams for ongoing surveillance and enforcement actions, reiterating their zero-tolerance approach to unlicensed alcohol sales, particularly in residential and sensitive election areas.

The police recovered 173 bottles of liquor from the women's possession. The haul included a mix of quarts, half bottles, and beer bottles, all reportedly

Sangareddy Police Seize 260 kg Ganja Worth Rs 1.3 Crore

TPN Bureau | October 15 Sangareddy: Acting on intelligence inputs, Sangareddy police seized 260 kilograms of dry ganja worth Rs 1.3 crore from two vehicles en route from Odisha to Maharashtra on Wednesday. The interception took place at the Kamkole toll plaza

along National Highway 65 during the early hours.

The operation was led by S-NAB Inspector Nageshwar Rao and Municipally Sub-Inspector Rajesh Nayak, who discovered the contraband concealed inside the vehicles. Four individuals—Pitara Pari-

cha (25), David Paul (23), Dharamchand Paiko (30), and Sanjeev Kumar Paricha (35)—were arrested in connection with the case. Authorities also confiscated two cars and four mobile phones linked to the suspects.

Superintendent of Police Paritosh Pankaj

stated that strict action would continue against drug traffickers and urged citizens to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the authorities. Residents were encouraged to share information via the dedicated tipline at 87126 56777.

The seizure high-

lights the ongoing efforts of Sangareddy police in curbing organized drug trafficking and maintaining law and order along major transport corridors. Officials emphasized the importance of community participation in reporting illegal activities to prevent the proliferation of narcotics.

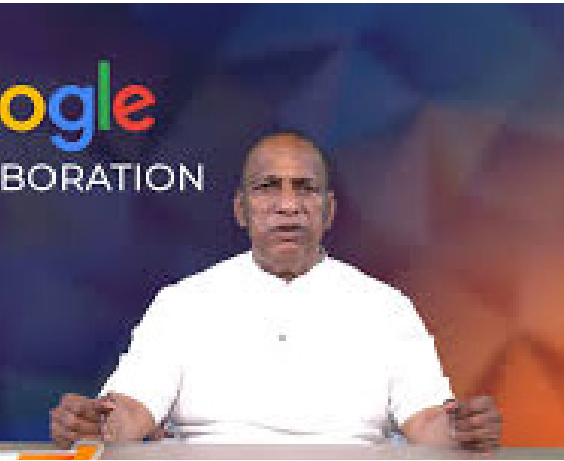
BRS Candidate Maganti Sunitha Files Nomination for Jubilee Hills



TPN Bureau | October 15 Hyderabad: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) candidate Maganti Sunitha filed her nomination papers for the upcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election at the Returning Officer's office on Wednesday. The event saw the presence of prominent party leaders, including BRS Working President KT Rama Rao, MLAs Talasani Srinivas Yadav, T Padma Rao Goud, and senior leader Vishnuvardhan Reddy. Addressing the media, KTR described the

bypoll as a contest between "transparent governance and a corrupt administration." He further stated, "This election is a fight between a pro-farmer rule of the BRS and a vulture's regime of the Congress. It marks the first step in BRS's comeback and signals the return of K Chandrashekhhar Rao's leadership in Telangana." Highlighting welfare programs, KTR noted that around 1.67 crore women had been denied promised monthly aid, senior citizens awaited Aasara pensions, and youth

sought employment opportunities. He emphasized BRS's commitment to initiatives such as Basthi Dawakhana, free drinking water, and KCR Kits, asserting that citizens looked to the party for relief. The by-election, necessitated by the death of BRS MLA Maganti Gopinath in June, is scheduled for November 11, with vote counting on November 14. Congress has nominated V Naveen Yadav as its candidate, setting the stage for a high-profile electoral battle in the constituency.



Mallareddy Group Launches India's Largest Digital Campus with Google Cloud

TPN Bureau | October 15 Hyderabad: The Mallareddy Group of Institutions inaugurated the "Digital Campus on Google Cloud" today in a grand ceremony at Mysamma Gud, marking one of India's largest digital education initiatives. Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma officially launched the program by lighting the ceremonial lamp. This strategic partnership with global technology giant Google aims to provide cutting-edge technical education, AI-driven learning, and globally recognized certifications to 50,000 students across Telangana. The campus, located in Hyderabad, represents the first major digital collaboration between an Indian educational institution and Google. The event witnessed participation from 50,000 students, faculty mem-

bers, and dignitaries. Highlighting the celebration, 50,000 balloons with the Google logo were released, symbolizing the digital partnership. Cultural programs organized by students further added vibrancy to the historic occasion.

Key attendees included Vaibhav Kumar Srivastava, India Head - Education & EdTech, and Siddharth Dalwadi, South India Head - Education & EdTech, alongside Mallareddy Group chairman Dr. Chamakur Bhadrareddy, vice-chairperson Dr. Preethi Reddy, and Medchal MLA Chamakur Mallareddy. Officials emphasized that this initiative would equip students with future-ready skills and significantly enhance employability, positioning the institution and Telangana as leaders in digital education innovation.

HYDRAA Removes Encroachments in Rajendranagar



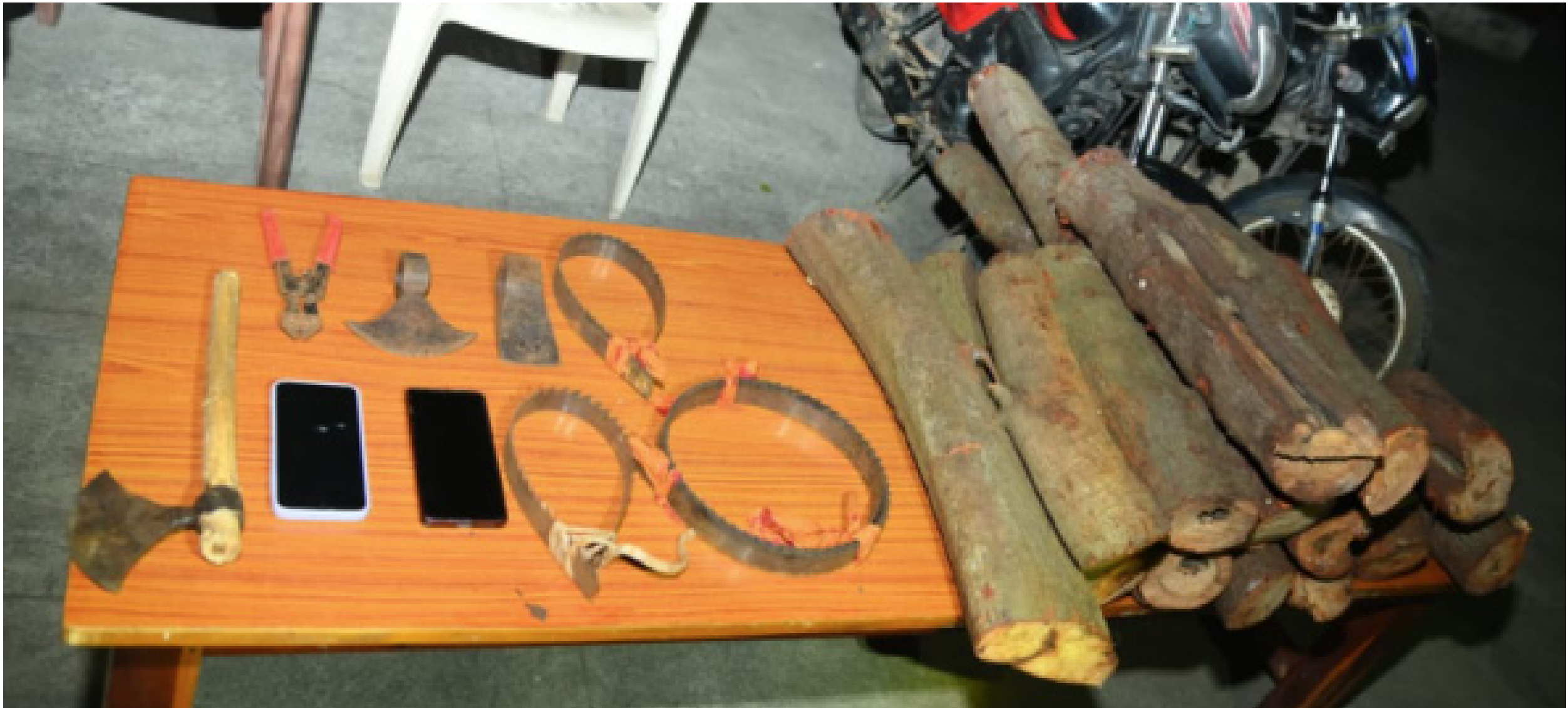
TPN Bureau | October 15 Hyderabad: In a significant move to reclaim public land, the Hyderabad Development Authority (HYDRA) removed illegal encroachments in Rajendranagar mandal on Wednesday. The operation focused on four parks in Badvel and Upparapalli villages, part of the Janachetanya Layout Phases I and II, which had been illegally occupied. HYDRA recovered 19,878 square yards of park land from encroachers. The land, estimated to be worth over Rs 139 crore, will now be restored for public use.

Reports indicate that several sheds, rooms, and temporary structures had been built on the parks, with encroachers occupying plots ranging from 500 to 3,000 square yards. HYDRA personnel demolished these unauthorized constructions and cleared the land, while fencing and protective measures are now being implemented to prevent future encroachments.

ensure swift action. Residents of the area had previously lodged complaints, emphasizing the loss of public spaces due to illegal occupation.

HYDRA officials emphasized that the parks are part of the city's planned green spaces under HUDCO-approved layouts. Reclaiming these areas ensures that the community retains its intended recreational and ecological benefits. The authority further assured continuous monitoring and active enforcement to safeguard public assets.

Inter-State Theft of Sandalwood Trees Foiled in Nalgonda



TPN BUREAU | October 15
Nalgonda: Nalgonda police, under the supervision of DSP K. Shivaram Reddy, arrested several inter-state criminals for illegally felling and transporting sandalwood trees cultivated by farmers over multiple years in Nalgonda and Secunderabad outskirts. The arrests were made following complaints regarding thefts in Kanagal Mandal and surrounding areas. On September 30, 2025, thieves cut ten sandalwood saplings from the Chiluk Vidyasagar orchard and attempted to remove five more. Acting on the complaint, police organized coordinated checks along Nalgonda-Devarakonda highways. On October 15 at 6 a.m., officers intercepted two suspicious motorcycles carrying tools such as rumps, axes, fencing wire cutters, and mobile phones. The suspects—Annabahu Lakshman Gaikwad, Divana Pardi, Dadd Singh, Majan, and Javas—were interrogated and confessed to multiple thefts across six locations over two months, causing an estimated financial loss of ₹1.66 crore. Investigations revealed that the criminals were guided by a Maharashtra-based mastermind who persuaded them to illegally cut high-demand sandalwood saplings, promising substantial monetary gains. Police have recovered eleven saplings, the motorcycles, cutting tools, and mobile phones used in the crimes. Cases have been registered across several police stations, including Kanagal, Narketpally, Gurrampode, Nalgonda Rural, and Chandur. Nalgonda SP, Sharat Chandra Power IPS, commended the efforts of CI-Chandur K. Adhi Reddy, SIs K. Rajiv Reddy, N. Venkanna, D. Saida Babu, and other officers for their swift and coordinated action. The operation highlights proactive policing to protect agricultural assets and prevent inter-state criminal networks from exploiting local farmers. Authorities have urged farmers to report suspicious activities and cooperate in safeguarding valuable resources.

Tragic Collision Claims Four Lives in Kamareddy



TPN BUREAU | October 15
Kamareddy: A devastating road accident in Kamareddy district claimed the lives of four members of the same family on National Highway 44 near Jangampally in Bhikkanur Mandal. According to local residents and police reports, a tipper truck traveling from Kamareddy towards Bhikkanur collided with a scooter coming from the wrong direction. The scooter was carrying a mother and her two young children, along with their grandfather. The impact was fatal—six-year-old boy and his mother died instantly at the scene. The grandfather and four-year-old girl sustained critical injuries and were rushed to the hospital, where they too succumbed to their injuries. The victims have been identified as residents of Khanimzun village. Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the accident, including the possibility of negligence or violation of traffic rules by the tipper driver. The incident has shocked the local community, highlighting ongoing concerns about road safety on National Highway 44, which witnesses heavy traffic including commercial vehicles. Authorities have urged drivers to exercise caution, particularly in areas with mixed vehicular and pedestrian movement, to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Surrendered Maoist Couple Ties the Knot with Police Support

TPN BUREAU | October 15
Bijapur: In an extraordinary gesture of goodwill, police officials in Pakhanjur facilitated the wedding of a surrendered Maoist couple, symbolizing their reintegration into mainstream society. Sagar Hirdo from Sukma district had joined the Maoist party in 2014, while Sachila Mandavi from Bijapur district became a member in 2020. Both recently surrendered to the authorities, expressing dissatisfaction with the party's policies. Following their surrender, the couple decided to marry, and the news reached Gondahur and Pakhanjur police stations. The wedding ceremony took place on Tuesday, coinciding with the inauguration of a newly constructed temple within the Pakhanjur police station premises. Police Station Officer Laxman Kewat encouraged the couple to embrace a peaceful life and urged other Maoists to lay down arms and pursue a future in the mainstream. The ceremony not only celebrated the union of two individuals but also marked a symbolic step toward rehabilitation and reconciliation, highlighting the state's efforts to support former insurgents in starting anew and contributing positively to society.

Boosting Agro-Industries for Farmers' Prosperity



TPN BUREAU | October 15
Nustulapur: Manakondur MLA Dr. Kavvampalli Satyanarayana emphasized the need for focused attention on agro-industries as a key avenue for additional income for farmers. He was the chief guest at a program organized by the Animal Husbandry Department in Nustulapur village on Wednesday, which launched a vaccination drive against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in livestock. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Kavvampalli noted that while agriculture receives significant government support, agro-industries like dairy farming and livestock rearing are equally critical for farmers' financial stability. He highlighted that healthy animals are vital for the growth of these industries and urged farmers to provide proper feed and nutrition to their livestock. The MLA stressed the importance of preventive care, encouraging farmers to remain vigilant against animal diseases and immediately consult veterinary centers if infections occur. He underscored the necessity of FMD vaccinations, explaining that untreated infections could significantly reduce milk production in cows and buffaloes. Dr. Kavvampalli pointed out that many farmers lack awareness about animal treatment and are hesitant to administer medicines, emphasizing the government's special measures to prevent FMD, including weekly vaccination drives that all farmers should take full advantage of. The program saw participation from officials of the Animal Husbandry Department, including the Assistant Director, veterinarians, as well as local political leaders such as Mandal Congress President Bandari Ramesh, and party members Kotta Tirupatireddy, Goguri Narsimha Reddy, Budharapu Srinivas, Chiranjeevi, Varala Anil, S. Kondal Rao, Chintal Lakshma Reddy, and T. Srinivas. Dr. Kavvampalli's remarks underline the government's dual focus on both agriculture and allied sectors, aiming to secure sustainable income streams for rural communities while maintaining livestock health and productivity.

Minister Investigates Student Death at Social Welfare Gurukul

TPN BUREAU | October 15
Husnabad: Telangana Education Minister Ponnampallil Satyanarayana visited the Social Welfare Gurukul at Jillelagadda in Husnabad on Wednesday to review the circumstances surrounding the accidental death of student Vivek on October 7. The minister spoke with teachers to understand the events leading to the tragic incident. Commenting on the case, Minister Prabhakar said, "It is unfortunate that Vivek passed away while playing with his peers. Preliminary inquiries suggest the death was accidental, though further investigations are ongoing to ensure all angles are examined." He assured that the government will provide due support and compensation to the student's family. "The student's death should not be politicized. Such incidents must not recur, and teachers and staff must personally supervise children to prevent accidents in the future," he added. The minister's visit reflects the state's commitment to maintaining safety and accountability in residential schools. By reviewing the incident directly with staff, the authorities aim to reinforce preventive measures, ensure proper student supervision, and strengthen institutional safety standards across all gurukuls. Minister Prabhakar stressed that while accidents can occur, rigorous oversight and monitoring are essential to safeguarding students, reinforcing the government's focus on welfare and protection in educational institutions.

Minister Pledges Free and Fair Voting Rights

TPN BUREAU | October 15
Husnabad: Minister Ponnampallil Satyanarayana participated in a large-scale rally and signature campaign from Anabheri Chowrasta to the Ambedkar Statue in Husnabad constituency, calling for vigilance against electoral malpractice. Speaking to a gathering of supporters, he alleged that several ruling-party operations across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, and Karnataka have undermined democracy through vote manipulation. He praised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for highlighting such irregularities nationwide and stressed the need for the Election Commission to act decisively. Minister Prabhakar called on local residents to assert their voting rights freely and to participate actively in signature campaigns documenting voter grievances. Addressing youth Congress leaders, he emphasized proactive outreach to households to ensure that every citizen's vote counts and to raise awareness of electoral fraud. He also recounted instances of administrative negligence, including the alleged suicide of IPS officer Puran Kumar in Chandigarh, highlighting the need for accountability and transparency. Minister Prabhakar's campaign underscored citizen participation, emphasizing that awareness, activism, and vigilance are crucial to protecting democratic rights. The rally concluded with calls for unity, civic engagement, and safeguarding constitutional freedoms.



Nitish and Tejashwi: 11 Key Forces That Will Decide Bihar’s 2025 Election



As Bihar heads into a high-stakes assembly election, the battle is far from straightforward. While the spotlight often falls on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and opposition leader Tejashwi Yadav, this election is being shaped by a far more complex web of political forces. Shifting alliances, social welfare dynamics, caste arithmetic, and the emergence of a third front have all made this one of the most unpredictable elections in Bihar’s recent history.

Here are the 11 major factors that will ultimately decide who forms the next government in the state.

1. Alliance Chemistry and Internal Friction

The NDA and the Mahagathbandhan (MGB) are both grappling with internal tensions. The NDA, led by BJP and JD(U), has brought in smaller players like the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM), but these additions haven’t come without complications. In 2020, a lack of effective vote transfer between BJP and JD(U) damaged their prospects. This time, the Jan Suraj Party (JSP) may disrupt intra-alliance vote transfers further.

Vote Transfer between Partners in Bihar & Leakages		
Leakage between BJP and JDU highest		
Vote transfer between NDA partners	Voted NDA	Leakages
JDU-HAM contested seats		
Traditional JDU-HAM Supporters	75%	25%
Traditional BJP supporters	55%	45%
BJP contested seats		
Traditional JDU-HAM Supporters	70%	30%
Traditional BJP supporters	75%	25%
Vote transfer between MGB partners	Voted MGB	Leakages
INC contested seats		
Traditional INC Supporters	84%	16%
Traditional RJD Supporters	83%	17%
RJD contested seats		
Traditional INC Supporters	82%	18%
Traditional RJD Supporters	90%	10%

The MGB faces its own coordination hurdles with new allies like the Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), alongside a faction of the LJP. Seat-sharing remains unresolved, and friction is growing with the Congress asserting itself post its Voter Adhikar Yatra success.

Maintaining internal unity and ensuring seamless vote transfers across alliance partners will be key for both sides.

2. Leadership Preferences: Fragmented Loyalties

Tejashwi Yadav leads in Chief Ministerial preference polls, but only marginally. His appeal is mostly limited to the MY (Muslim-Yadav) vote and some segments of youth. Nitish Kumar, though still respected, is facing

voter fatigue after nearly two decades in power. Prashant Kishor, once a strategist, now poses a fresh political challenge. Leaders like Chirag Paswan and Samrat Choudhary appeal to specific caste groups.

However, only 15% of voters base their decision on CM faces. A larger share is driven by development, caste, religion, and local issues. This diffused focus makes cohesive leadership appeal even more critical.

3. Pro- and Anti-Incumbency: A Split Verdict

VoteVibe surveys indicate that 48% of voters are anti-incumbent, while 32% are pro-incumbent and 14% remain neutral. This near-even split creates a volatile environment where coalition cohesion and voter mobilisation matter more than overarching popularity.

Although discontent exists with Nitish Kumar’s government, the opposition is fragmented. If MGB consolidates anti-incumbent sentiment effectively, it has a strong shot. But NDA’s last-minute welfare schemes have boosted pro-incumbency sentiment from 18% in July to 34% in September, complicating the narrative.

4. The Welfare Push: Last-Minute Lifeline or Election Gimmick?

The NDA has launched a sop spree, targeting women, youth, farmers, senior citizens, and labourers. Key schemes include:

₹10,000 business grant for women

Unemployment allowance for youth

125 units of free electricity

₹5,000 for daily labourers

Increased pensions for elderly and widows

Despite these efforts, Bihar’s per capita income remains one-third of India’s average, the same as in 2005. Opposition parties argue that short-term welfare measures can’t mask long-term underdevelopment. Whether voters buy into the immediate relief or punish the lack of structural change remains to be seen.

5. Modi vs Rahul: National Leaders in a State Battle

Unlike previous elections, national leaders are playing a significant role. The election is increasingly becoming Modi vs Rahul, rather than Nitish vs Tejashwi.

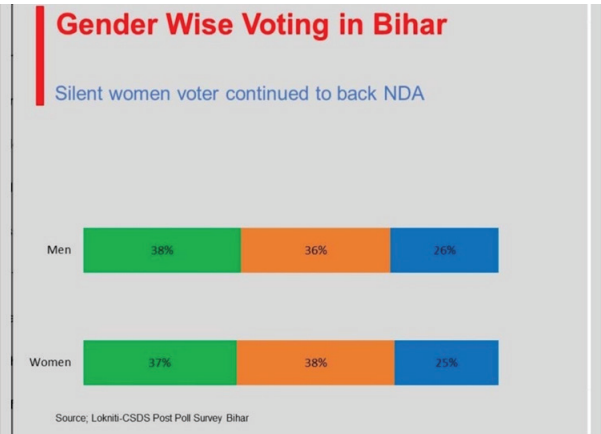
PM Modi holds a 52% approval rating in Bihar compared to Rahul Gandhi’s 41%, per C-Voter. However, Gandhi is gaining ground through his Bharat Jodo Yatra and outreach among Dalits, minorities, and youth. His appeal complements Tejashwi’s, creating a potentially powerful combination for the MGB.

Meanwhile, NDA banks heavily on Modi’s charisma and welfare narrative, hoping it offsets any local dissatisfaction with Nitish.

6. Women Voters: Bihar’s Silent Game Changers



Women account for nearly 50% of Bihar’s voters, and in 2020, their turnout exceeded men’s in 167 seats. The NDA won 99 of those.

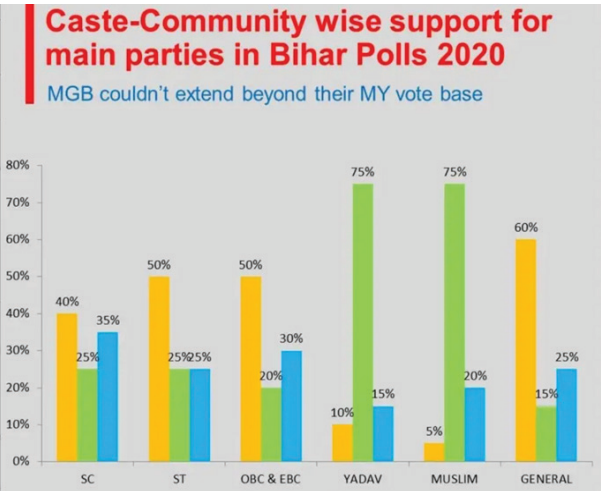


Nitish Kumar has historically focused on female welfare — from bicycle schemes to police quotas and self-help groups. The new ₹10,000 Mahila Rozgar Yojana aims to expand this base.

The MGB, meanwhile, is attempting to woo women with a monthly ₹2,500 direct benefit promise. The question is: Will women choose trusted continuity or tempting alternatives?

7. Youth: Angry, Unemployed, and Politically Crucial

With 35% of voters under 35, young voters are a decisive force. They’re less swayed by past governance vs. “jungle raj” narratives. Their focus is on jobs, education, and migration.



Tejashwi’s promise of “a government job in every home” may sound utopian, but it resonates emotionally. Prashant Kishor appeals to educated and urban youth, especially via digital platforms.

The youth are angry, and their vote is split. Who wins this group could tip dozens of tight races.

8. Caste Dynamics: Still the Heart of Bihar Politics

Caste remains the strongest voting determinant in Bihar. The traditional NDA support base (Upper Castes, Non-Yadav OBCs, EBCs, Mahadalits, and Paswans) adds up to 68%. But their actual 2020 vote share was only 37%, showing leakages and cross-voting.

EBCs (26%) and SCs (20%) are the real swing voters. MGB is trying to counter with Mukesh Sahni (EBC) and Rajesh Ram (SC) as potential Deputy CMs.

The NDA’s edge lies in its multi-caste leadership—

from Nitish (Kurmi) to Choudhary (Kushwaha) and Paswan (Dalit). How much caste leaders can pull their community votes remains to be tested.



9. The Dalit Vote: Diverse, Divided, and Decisive

Dalits, especially Paswans and Ravidas, make up 20% of the electorate. The NDA traditionally dominated these votes through Chirag Paswan and Jitan Ram Manjhi. But the Ravidas vote is showing signs of shifting to MGB and Congress, who are highlighting representation gaps and promising social justice.

Prashant Kishor is also trying to attract young, educated Dalits through development-focused messaging rather than caste identity. These shifts could influence up to 40 reserved seats, where 2020 saw NDA win 22 and MGB 18.

10. Muslim Voters: Reliable Yet Restless

Muslims, at 18% of the population, have long been a pillar of MGB support. But this bloc is no longer monolithic. AIMIM’s emergence and JSP’s appeal among young Muslims threaten to fragment it.

While traditional loyalty to RJD and Congress remains, underrepresentation (only 8% MLAs) has sparked community discontent. AIMIM offers assertive Muslim representation but risks acting as a vote-splitter in tight seats—especially in Seemanchal.

If Muslims consolidate behind MGB, it could sweep Muslim-heavy constituencies. If not, the NDA could benefit again, as it did in 2020.

11. The PK Wildcard: Spoiler or Kingmaker?

Prashant Kishor’s Jan Suraj Party is the biggest wildcard in this election. He has created buzz, especially among urban, youth, and upper-caste voters. His 10% vote share in recent bypolls reduced the MGB’s tally from 3 to 0 and handed the NDA key wins.

In over 83 seats with thin victory margins, even a small JSP vote could tilt the balance. Kishor’s strategy may be to force a hung assembly, where he can play kingmaker.

The biggest test for JSP is turning social media support into actual votes.

Conclusion: A Battle of Margins, Not Waves

With no clear wave in sight, Bihar 2025 will be an election of wafer-thin margins. A mere 2-3% shift in women’s votes, youth mobilisation, caste realignment, or minor party interference could decide the outcome.

More than Nitish or Tejashwi, it is the interplay of these 11 powerful factors—from alliance mechanics to demographic shifts—that will shape Bihar’s political destiny in this high-stakes election.

India Needs a Trade Exposure Inflation Index to Tackle Global Price Shocks

India’s inflation story is no longer confined to domestic monsoons or policy rate hikes. It now has a global dimension—from Indonesia’s palm oil exports to freight costs on Red Sea routes. And yet, India lacks a dedicated tool to measure how much of its inflation is imported.

Despite recent moderation in headline inflation—retail inflation dropped to 3.16% in April 2025 and 1.55% in July—external factors like global commodity prices, rupee depreciation, and shipping disruptions continue to impact household costs. For example, over 85% of India’s crude oil is imported, and a 1.2% rupee fall in FY24 raised input costs across sectors.

To address this, experts propose a Trade Exposure Inflation Index (TEII)—a new tool to quantify imported inflation. It would break down consumer prices into three trade-exposed components: imported goods (like electronics), imported inputs (like fertilisers), and exchange rate effects. Initial estimates suggest 40% of India’s recent inflation may have come from external sources.

The TEII would not replace the Consumer Price Index (CPI) but act as a complementary lens, much like “core inflation.” It could guide smarter policymaking—combining monetary tools with trade, tariff, or stockpile strategies. For instance, during 2022–24, when RBI raised rates by 250 basis points, a TEII might have revealed that much of the inflation was beyond the central bank’s control.

India already has the data infrastructure



needed for TEII—CPI weights (MoSPI), import exposure (DGCIS), and exchange rate studies (RBI). A joint working group could

launch it within a year.

In a globalised economy, ignoring imported inflation risks misdiagnosing the problem—and using

the wrong tools to fight it. With TEII, India could lead the way in building inflation transparency and smarter economic coordination.

“Towering Statesman”: PM Modi Condoles Death Of Ex-Kenyan PM Raila Odinga

TPN Bureau | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday expressed deep sorrow over the passing of former Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga, who died at the age of 80 while undergoing medical treatment in Kerala’s Ernakulam district.

Taking to social media platform X (formerly Twitter), PM Modi remembered Odinga as a “towering statesman and a cherished friend of India.” Odinga had been receiving treatment in India for the past few weeks and breathed his last earlier in the day.

“Deeply saddened by the passing of my dear friend and former Prime Minister of Kenya, Mr. Raila Odinga. He was a towering statesman and a cherished friend of India,” PM Modi wrote.

The Prime Minister recalled his long-standing association with Odinga, which began during Modi’s tenure as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. “He had a special affection for India, our culture, values and ancient wisdom. This was reflected in his efforts to strengthen India-Kenya ties,” Modi added.

Odinga, a major political figure in Kenyan politics and a five-time presidential candidate, played a pivotal role in shaping Kenya’s democratic journey. His contributions extended beyond politics, with strong ties to India culturally and diplomatically.

PM Modi also noted Odinga’s deep appreciation for Ayurveda and India’s traditional medical systems, highlighting how Odinga had witnessed their positive impact on his daughter’s health. “He particularly admired Ayurveda, having seen its benefits first-hand,” Modi stated.

Offering condolences to Odinga’s family and the people of Kenya, PM Modi said, “I extend my deepest condolences to



his family, friends, and to the people of Kenya in this hour of grief.”

The Indian government is expected to co-

ordinate with Kenyan authorities for formal arrangements as tributes pour in globally.

27 Maoists Surrender in Chhattisgarh’s Sukma

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant development in Chhattisgarh’s insurgency-hit Sukma district, 27 active Maoists surrendered before the police on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. The surrender took place in the presence of senior police officials and was confirmed through an official statement by the Sukma police.

Among the surrendered individuals are 17 men and 10 women, including two hardcore Maoists, who were described as key figures in the outlawed group. Together, the group carried a combined bounty of 50 lakh, highlighting the importance of this mass surrender in the ongoing efforts to combat Left-Wing Extremism in the region.

The police termed this a major success in their continued efforts to weaken Maoist influence in south Chhattisgarh, particularly in the Sukma and Bastar regions, which have long been hotbeds of Naxalite activity. Officials attribute the surrender to sustained pressure from security forces, along with intensified community outreach programs aimed at encouraging militants to rejoin mainstream society.

The surrendered Maoists were reportedly influenced by state rehabilitation policies, which offer financial support, employment assistance, and protection for those willing to give up arms and cooperate with authorities. Over recent months, the Chhattisgarh government has ramped up its efforts to create awareness about these schemes in remote tribal areas.



Photographs released by the police show the surrendered Maoists standing alongside security personnel, symbolizing a step forward in restoring peace in the region. The district administration is expected to begin the process of verifying their involvement and enrolling them in the state’s sur-

render and rehabilitation program.

With this latest surrender, the state hopes to send a strong message to remaining insurgents, offering them a chance to return to a life of dignity while reinforcing its commitment to peace and development in conflict-affected zones.

‘Vijay Arrived 7 Hours Late...’ MK Stalin Slams TVK Boss Over Karur Stampede

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Wednesday held actor-turned-politician Vijay and his party, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), responsible for the tragic Karur stampede that claimed 41 lives on September 27. The CM made the remarks during a heated session in the state Assembly, pointing to “gross mismanagement” by the TVK.

Stalin said the police were informed that the event would begin at 3 pm and last five hours. However, TVK later told authorities that Vijay would arrive by noon, requiring changes to the security plan. Ultimately, Vijay arrived seven hours late, causing a massive crowd surge. “This was a key reason behind the stampede,” Stalin said.

He also slammed the organisers for failing to provide basic amenities such as drinking water and toilets, particularly for women. The Chief Minister further revealed that two ambulance drivers were attacked by TVK workers, and emergency vehicles were vandalised while trying to help the injured.

In response to TVK’s claim that the state cut power to the venue, Stalin clarified that the generator was shut off to prevent further mishaps during the chaos.

The stampede occurred as thousands waited for Vijay to appear. The crowd swelled to over 25,000, far exceeding the expected 10,000. The police had prepared for 20,000 people but were overwhelmed as barricades collapsed.

The Supreme Court has ordered a CBI probe into the incident, a move welcomed



by TVK. The investigation will be led by a three-member panel headed by former SC judge Justice Ajay Rastogi.

So far, two TVK functionaries have been arrested, and cases have been filed against

top leaders N. “Bussy” Anand and Nirmal Sekar. The political blame game continues, with the NDA also criticising both the TVK and the DMK for “administrative collapse.”

Prashant Kishor Opts Out of Bihar Polls, Sets 150-Seat Target for Jan Suraaj



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a key political move ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, Jan Suraaj Party founder and political strategist Prashant Kishor announced on Wednesday that he will not contest the upcoming polls, citing organisational priorities and the larger interest of the party.

Speaking to PTI in an exclusive interview, Kishor said the decision was taken collectively by the party. “If I were to contest, it would have distracted me from necessary organisational work,” he explained. The party has fielded another candidate from Raghopur, where Kishor was expected to challenge RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav.

Kishor, widely known for crafting several high-profile election campaigns—including PM Modi’s 2014 victory—declared that anything less than 150 seats in the polls would be a personal defeat. “If we do well, we will have the mandate to transform Bihar.

If we don’t, it means people haven’t shown enough confidence in us,” he said. “There will be no middle ground—either under 10 seats or more than 150.”

Kishor also ruled out the possibility of supporting either NDA or the INDIA bloc in case of a hung assembly, stating that he does not foresee a fractured mandate.

Reacting to his announcement, RJD spokesperson Mrityunjay Tiwary claimed Kishor has already accepted defeat. “He knows his party will be humiliated and has stepped back before the battle began,” Tiwary said.

Bihar goes to polls in two phases on November 6 and 11, with results to be declared on November 14. Kishor predicted a defeat for the ruling NDA, pointing to its struggle in finalising candidates and seat-sharing arrangements.

The elections will serve as a crucial test for Kishor’s political debut on the electoral front.

Bihar Assembly Polls: JD(U) Releases First List of 57 Candidates

CM Nitish to Begin Campaign Oct 16



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Patna: The Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] on Wednesday released its first list of 57 candidates for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections, with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar set to launch his campaign on October 16 from Samastipur district. The move comes amid ongoing seat-sharing discussions and confusion within both the ruling NDA and the Opposition’s Mahagathbandhan.

The JD(U)’s candidate list reflects a mix of sitting MLAs, new faces, and loyal party workers, with sources indicating a focus on caste balance and winnability. The party is expected to release its second and final list of candidates by October 17.

Nitish Kumar, who is seeking another term as Chief Minister, will begin his campaign with a rally in Samastipur on Thursday. According to party insiders, he will focus on JD(U)’s development agenda, social welfare schemes, and law-and-order

track record to connect with voters.

Significantly, poll strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor, who had previously been speculated to enter the electoral fray, will not contest the elections. His name was absent from the first list, and party sources confirmed he will play no direct role in the campaign.

With both the NDA and Mahagathbandhan still ironing out seat-sharing formulas, JD(U)’s early candidate announcement is seen as a strategic move to assert leadership within the alliance and gain early momentum.

The Election Commission is yet to officially announce the full schedule, but the polls are expected to be held in multiple phases across late October and November.

As political temperatures rise in Bihar, all eyes are now on Nitish Kumar’s first campaign rally, which is expected to set the tone for the JD(U)’s electoral messaging.

India Growing Force On World Stage: UK PM Keir Starmer After Mumbai visit



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer updated the House of Commons on Tuesday about his successful two-day visit to Mumbai last week, leading the largest UK trade delegation ever to India. The visit culminated in securing deals worth around £1.3 billion, aimed at boosting trade, investment, and job creation between the two countries.

Addressing Parliament, Starmer emphasized the strengthening partnership following the “historic” India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) signed in July during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to the UK. The deal is expected to expand bilateral trade beyond the current £44 billion annually.

“India is a growing force on the world stage, projected to become the third largest economy by 2028,” Starmer said. He highlighted the “living bridge” of family, history, and shared future opportunities that unite both nations.

During his first official visit to India as UK Prime Minister, Starmer

held talks with PM Modi and announced that more British universities will establish campuses in India, reinforcing the UK’s role as a top international education provider.

He also outlined the deepening of the UK-India Technology Security Initiative to enhance collaboration in the tech sector. The new deals include investments in advanced manufacturing, defence, car production, and Bollywood filmmaking in the UK, which are expected to create over 10,600 jobs across the country.

A joint statement from the UK-India dialogue reaffirmed support for early UK parliamentary ratification of the CETA and welcomed the reactivation of the Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) to oversee the agreement’s implementation.

Leading a delegation of 127 business leaders, entrepreneurs, and university heads, Starmer pledged to further open doors for British businesses in India, with the ambitious Free Trade Agreement set to make trade quicker, cheaper, and easier for both nations.

Sri Lanka PM Harini Amarasuriya to Visit Delhi on October 16



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Sri Lanka’s Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya is set to arrive in New Delhi on October 16, 2025, for a three-day visit featuring high-level meetings with Indian government officials and business leaders. This visit follows her recent trip to Beijing, where she participated in the ‘Global Leaders’ Meeting on Women 2025’ and met Chinese President Xi Jinping.

This will be Prime Minister Amarasuriya’s first official visit to India since taking office last year. During her stay, she is scheduled to hold important discussions with India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. Sources in New Delhi confirm that Jaishankar is expected to call on the Sri Lankan leader on the day of her arrival.

The visit aims to strengthen bilateral ties between India and Sri Lanka, focusing on cooperation in economic, strategic, and cultural areas. Engagements with India’s business community are also planned, high-

lighting the importance of enhancing trade and investment links between the two neighboring countries.

Prime Minister Amarasuriya’s tour comes at a time when Sri Lanka is actively pursuing stronger diplomatic and economic partnerships amid regional geopolitical shifts. Her prior engagement in China’s global summit reflects Sri Lanka’s balanced foreign policy approach, seeking constructive relations with major powers in the region.

The three-day schedule in India will include official meetings, business forums, and cultural exchanges designed to deepen mutual understanding and cooperation.

This visit is viewed as a significant step in bolstering the long-standing friendly ties between India and Sri Lanka, reaffirming their commitment to regional stability and shared development goals. Further details of the agenda and agreements expected from the visit will be announced in the coming days.

Trump Labels BRICS an ‘Attack’ on U.S. Dollar, Threatens Tariffs

TPN Bureau | Washington

U.S. President Donald Trump has described the BRICS grouping as an “attack” on the U.S. dollar, asserting that his threats of tariffs forced nations to reconsider joining the bloc. Trump claimed that after he warned countries against aligning with BRICS, “everybody dropped out,” underscoring his tough stance on what he calls the group’s “anti-American” policies.

BRICS is an influential international coalition comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, and recently expanded to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates. The bloc is seen as a counterbalance to Western economic dominance and has been exploring ways to reduce reliance on the U.S. dollar in global trade and finance.

Trump has frequently criticized BRICS, suggesting that its efforts to challenge U.S. economic supremacy threaten American interests. During his tenure, he repeatedly warned member countries of potential tariff increases and other trade restrictions in response to policies he deemed unfair or hostile to the United States.

“Their actions are a direct attack on the U.S. dollar and American economic leadership,” Trump said in recent comments. He reiterated that his headline approach was aimed at protecting U.S. jobs and industries from what he de-



scribed as “anti-American” economic moves by the BRICS nations.

The BRICS bloc has been pursuing initiatives to strengthen economic cooperation among member countries, including discussions on creating alterna-

tive payment systems and expanding trade in local currencies to reduce dependence on the dollar.

Trump’s remarks highlight ongoing tensions between the United States and emerging global powers seeking to re-

shape international economic structures. While his approach has been controversial, it reflects broader concerns in Washington about maintaining America’s economic influence in an evolving multipolar world.

India Drops to 85th in Henley Passport Index 2025; Singapore Tops

TPN Correspondent | Sidoarjo

The latest Henley Passport Index 2025 has ranked the Indian passport at 85th position globally, offering visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to only 57 countries. This marks a decline for India in the annual ranking, reflecting growing challenges for Indian travelers amid changing global visa policies.

The Henley Passport Index, compiled by global citizenship advisory firm Henley & Partners, measures the strength of passports based on the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. The index is widely regarded as an indicator of a country’s global mobility and diplomatic reach.

Topping the list this year is Singapore, whose passport grants visa-free access to 194 countries, making it the most powerful passport in the world. Japan and Germany closely follow, with access to 193 destinations each.

Other top-ranking passports include South Korea (192), Finland and Italy (190), and Luxembourg (189). These countries benefit from strong diplomatic ties and open travel agreements worldwide.

India’s drop to 85th place contrasts sharply with regional neighbors like the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, which have steadily climbed the rankings in



recent years due to aggressive diplomatic and economic outreach.

The decline highlights the need for India to enhance bilateral relations and negotiate better travel arrangements to improve the global mobility of its citizens. Visa restrictions not only affect personal travel but can also impact business, education, and cultural exchanges.

As global travel dynamics continue to evolve, India faces the challenge of boosting its passport’s standing to keep pace with other emerging economies.

Top 10 Passports in Henley Passport Index 2025:

- Singapore – 194 countries
- Japan – 193
- Germany – 193
- South Korea – 192
- Finland – 190
- Italy – 190
- Luxembourg – 189
- Spain – 188
- Austria – 188
- Denmark – 187

India’s passport strength remains modest, underscoring the importance of diplomatic efforts to expand travel freedoms for its citizens.

Deadly Cross-Border Clashes Erupt Between Afghan Taliban and Pakistan

TPN Correspondent | Gaza

Dozens of people have been killed and many more injured in the deadliest exchange of gunfire in years between Afghan Taliban forces and Pakistan’s military along their shared border. The latest clashes, which took place early Wednesday, mark the second violent confrontation this week, escalating tensions between Islamabad and Kabul and raising fears of a broader regional conflict.

The fighting centered around Pakistan’s Chaman district and Afghanistan’s Spin Boldak district, a key border area in Kandahar province. Reports indicate that the Afghan Taliban forces destroyed a Pakistani border outpost and captured a tank used by Pakistani forces to target Taliban positions.

Both sides blamed each other for initiating the violence. Afghanistan claimed its forces killed 58 Pakistani soldiers during the overnight operations. In contrast, Pakistan asserted it had killed over 200 Afghan fighters while losing 23 soldiers.

Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid shared details of the clashes on X (formerly Twitter), stating that Pakistani forces launched an early morning attack on Spin Boldak using light and heavy weapons. Mujahid said that this strike killed at least 12 civilians and injured over 100.

Responding to the attack, Afghan forces reportedly retaliated strongly, killing numerous Pakistani soldiers, seizing weapons and tanks, and destroying Pakistani military installations in the area. Muja-



hid emphasized the readiness of the Afghan fighters to defend their homeland and people against what they described as “aggressor soldiers.”

The violence comes amid growing hos-

tility between the two neighboring countries and threatens to destabilize the already volatile region. Officials from both sides have yet to agree on a ceasefire, raising concerns of continued clashes in the

border region.

This latest incident underscores the fragile peace and complex security dynamics along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.



India's September Trade Deficit Hits 13-Month High of \$32.15 Billion

New Delhi: India's trade deficit surged to a 13-month high of \$32.15 billion in September 2025, driven by a sharp rise in imports compared to exports, official data revealed on October 15. The deficit widened from \$26.5 billion recorded in September last year, reflecting growing demand for foreign goods amid economic recovery and inflationary pressures.

Exports grew by 6.7% year-on-year to reach \$36.38 billion in September, showing steady improvement supported by strong global demand for Indian products such as pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, and textiles. However, imports climbed at a faster pace of 16.6% annually, reaching \$68.53 billion. This surge was primarily due to higher crude oil prices, increased purchases of electronic goods, and rising demand for raw materials and machinery.

The widening trade gap underscores the challenges India faces in managing its external balance, especially with volatile global commodity prices and geopolitical uncertainties impacting supply chains. Energy imports remain a significant contributor to the import bill, with crude oil and petroleum products accounting for a major share.

Economists suggest that while export growth is encouraging, the faster rise in imports is a cause for concern as it puts pressure on the country's current account deficit and foreign exchange reserves. The government has been focusing on boosting manufacturing and export competitiveness through initiatives like 'Make in India' and expanding free trade agreements to curb the trade imbalance.



Despite the trade deficit increase, India's overall trade volumes continue to recover from the pandemic-induced slump, signaling resilience in the economy. Policymakers will likely monitor these trends closely to balance growth with external stability.

Bharti Airtel Partners with IBM to Strengthen Airtel Cloud Services



Bharti Airtel has announced a strategic partnership with global tech giant IBM to enhance its Airtel Cloud offering, enabling customers to access IBM's advanced Power Systems as-a-service. This collaboration is set to boost Airtel Cloud's capabilities in delivering secure,

scalable, and AI-ready cloud infrastructure to enterprises across India.

As part of the partnership, Airtel Cloud customers can now deploy IBM's Power Systems portfolio, including the latest IBM Power11 servers, which are designed to sup-

port AI workloads, mission-critical applications, and high-performance computing needs. These systems will be offered on a flexible, as-a-service model, allowing businesses to scale on demand while optimizing costs.

The IBM Power11 servers are equipped with autonomous capabilities and AI readiness, aligning with the growing demand for intelligent infrastructure in industries such as banking, telecom, manufacturing, and healthcare. Airtel's extensive data center network across India will host these systems, ensuring low-latency and secure access for Indian enterprises.

Ajay Chitkara, Director and CEO of Airtel Business, said, "This partnership with IBM is a major step in our mission to offer cutting-edge cloud solutions to Indian businesses. As digital transformation accelerates, our customers require agile and reliable infrastructure, and with IBM's powerful systems, we're well-positioned to meet that need."

Sandip Patel, Managing Director, IBM India & South Asia, added, "We are excited to collaborate with Airtel to bring the performance and security of IBM Power to more Indian enterprises. This partnership underscores our commitment to empowering organizations with the technology needed to thrive in the AI era."

The move comes as more Indian companies shift to hybrid and multi-cloud strategies to modernize operations. The Airtel-IBM collaboration is expected to accelerate this trend, offering a robust platform for innovation and digital growth.

Sensex, Nifty Open Higher Tracking Asian Market Rally

Indian stock markets opened on a positive note on Wednesday, buoyed by strong cues from Asian peers and rising hopes of an interest rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve later this month.

The 30-share BSE Sensex surged 354.57 points to 82,384.55 in early trade, while the NSE Nifty gained 109.55 points to reach 25,255.05. The rally comes a day after both indices ended in the red amid global uncertainty.

Gains in early trade were led by key Sensex constituents such as Asian Paints, NTPC, Bajaj Finance, Bharat Electronics, Bajaj Finserv, and Power Grid. On the other hand, Tech Mahindra, Axis Bank, Infosys, and Titan saw some profit booking and traded in the red.

The upbeat sentiment on Dalal Street mirrored broader gains across Asian markets, where indices such as South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng were trading higher. Investors appeared optimistic after Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell signaled the possibility of two rate cuts this year, citing concerns over a sharp slowdown in U.S. hiring and its potential impact on economic growth.

"Fed Chair Jerome Powell's comments have increased market expectations of policy easing, which is supportive for risk assets globally," said Jigar Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities.

Meanwhile, Brent crude prices dipped 0.19% to USD 62.27 per barrel, providing some relief for oil-importing countries like India.

On the institutional front, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹1,508.53 crore on Tuesday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) remained net buyers, purchasing stocks worth ₹3,661.13 crore.



The positive opening follows Tuesday's losses, when the Sensex fell 297.07 points and the Nifty dropped by 81.85 points. Investors will now focus on upcoming economic data and corporate earnings for further direction.

FM Sitharaman Urges Farmers to Use PMFME, PMDDKY for Profitable Farming



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday called on farmers to actively leverage government schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) and the Pradhan Mantri Dhan Dhanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY) to make agriculture more profitable and sustainable.

Speaking at the inauguration of a Farmers' Training and Common Facility Centre in Karnataka's Koppal district, Sitharaman emphasized the government's commitment to promoting rural entrepreneurship and creating jobs in villages. The newly inaugurated facility was funded through her Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) fund.

Highlighting the benefits of the PMFME scheme, Sitharaman said it supports value addition in agricultural produce and provides both financial and technical assistance to small food processing units. "More than ₹3,700 crore has been disbursed to states under PMFME since 2020, leading to the emergence of over one lakh agriculture entrepreneurs," she said.

On PMDDKY, Sitharaman noted that the government has allocated ₹24,000 crore in the 2025-26 Union Budget. The scheme is designed to enhance agricultural productivity, promote crop diversification, and uplift farmer incomes, especially in 100 low-performing agricultural districts, including Koppal.

She also reassured farmers about the benefits of the ongoing GST reforms, stating that they are aimed at simplifying tax processes and indirectly supporting rural economies.

The Finance Minister further highlighted that over 43 lakh farmers in Karnataka have benefitted from the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, which provides ₹6,000 annually to eligible farmers in three instalments through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Sitharaman urged farmers to take advantage of these initiatives, saying, "With the right support, agriculture can be transformed into a thriving, entrepreneurial sector for the rural youth."

Gold Hits Record ₹1.27 Lakh Per 10 Grams on Fed Rate Cut Hopes



New Delhi: Gold prices soared to an all-time high of ₹1,27,500 per 10 grams in domestic futures trade on Wednesday, as global investors rushed to safe-haven assets amid heightened geopolitical tensions and expectations of U.S. Federal Reserve rate cuts.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), December gold futures rose ₹1,244 or 0.98% to touch the new record. The February 2026 contract also surged by ₹943 to ₹1,28,435 per 10 grams. The rally was mirrored in the global markets, where Comex gold futures jumped nearly 2% to hit a record USD 4,211 per ounce.

Analysts attributed the sharp rise to increased safe-haven demand following renewed concerns over U.S.-China trade tensions and signs of a slowing U.S. economy. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell recently hinted at the possibility of two rate cuts this year, saying a slowdown in hiring poses a significant risk to economic growth.

"Gold prices climbed to USD 4,200 per ounce and extended their bullish run as investors sought safety and ramped up bets on additional monetary easing," said Jigar Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities.

The latest spike was also fuelled by U.S. President Donald Trump's accusations of "economically hostile" behavior by China, following Beijing's decision to halt soybean imports and impose sanctions on U.S.-linked firms. Trump warned of potential retaliatory measures, including a cooking oil embargo.

Silver prices followed suit, with MCX silver futures for December delivery rising ₹1,256 to ₹1,60,760 per kg. Global Comex silver touched USD 51.27 per ounce, inching closer to its Tuesday record of USD 52.49.

Despite an optimistic global growth outlook from the IMF, the ongoing trade and geopolitical frictions continue to support gold and silver's bullish momentum.

1kg Gold for a Rolls-Royce by 2030?

Can 1 kilogram of gold buy you a Rolls-Royce by 2030? Industrialist Harsh Goenka's viral post suggests it might.

The RPG Enterprises Chairman recently took to X (formerly Twitter) to illustrate gold's skyrocketing value over the decades by comparing it to popular car models. His post, blending finance with nostalgia, has garnered over 9 lakh views and sparked debate on the power of

long-term gold investment.

"In 1990, 1kg gold could buy a Maruti 800. By 2000, an Esteem. In 2005, an Innova. In 2010, a Fortuner. In 2019, a BMW. In 2025, a Land Rover," Goenka wrote. He concluded, "Lesson: Keep the 1kg gold — in 2030 it may equal a Rolls-Royce, and in 2040, a private jet."

Goenka's post came amid record-high gold prices. In Mumbai, 24K gold recently touched

1,28,890 per 10 grams, while silver soared to 1,90,000 per kg. On the MCX, gold futures for December delivery crossed 1,22,000 per 10g, driven by strong demand and expectations of lower interest rates.

Globally, gold surged past \$4,060/oz, its highest ever, amid geopolitical uncertainty and central bank buying. In India, gold ETFs saw historic inflows—8,363 crore in September 2025, up 285% from August, as per AMFI data.

The 52% annual jump in gold prices is fuelling optimism about its future value. While a Rolls-Royce might seem ambitious, Goenka's point is clear: gold, as an asset, has preserved and expanded purchasing power like few others.

As gold continues its golden run, Goenka's post offers both a humorous and thought-provoking lens into long-term wealth building.



Man Caught Begging Inside Bengaluru Metro, Video Goes Viral

A video of a man begging inside a Bengaluru Metro train has gone viral on social media, raising concerns about security and enforcement of public transport rules. The footage, reportedly shot by a commuter, shows the man walking through a moving Namma Metro train, requesting alms from passengers.

The incident is said to have occurred on the Green Line between Mantri Square Sampige Road and Srirampura stations. In the video, commuters appear surprised, with some visibly uncomfortable. The man, casually dressed and carrying a small bag, is seen addressing passengers in Kannada.

Begging is strictly pro-



hibited under the rules of the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), and such incidents are rare in the well-guarded metro system. The video's viral spread has sparked a debate about safety, enforcement, and how beggars are entering the metro despite multiple

layers of ticket checks and security at station entrances.

BMRCL officials have acknowledged the video and stated that they are investigating the matter. "We are reviewing CCTV footage and will strengthen surveillance at key stations," a BMRCL spokesperson said.

Netizens expressed mixed reactions. While some criticised the lapse in security, others pointed to the larger issue of poverty and urban displacement. "It's shocking but also sad. This shows how people are struggling," a user commented on X (formerly Twitter).

The incident has reignited discussions around the need for enhanced monitoring, especially during peak hours, and the importance of sensitising security personnel to maintain vigilance without compromising on humane treatment.

As Bengaluru's metro network expands, ensuring that public spaces remain safe, accessible, and orderly remains a key challenge for city authorities.

Are You Addicted to Ultra-Processed Foods? 10 Warning Signs

Ultra-processed foods (UPFs) — like chips, instant noodles, biscuits, and packaged snacks — now make up a major part of modern diets. But could you be addicted to them?

Mounting research shows that UPFs not only contribute to weight gain and poor metabolic health, but they also alter how we eat. A landmark NIH trial found people consumed significantly more calories on an ultra-processed diet than on a whole-food one, even when the meals were nutritionally matched.

Researchers now warn of an "ultra-processed food addiction" pattern — marked by strong cravings, com-



pulsive overeating, and difficulty cutting back. Here are 10 signs that UPFs may be taking control of your diet:

- You always reach for packaged foods when tired or busy.
- You crave specific snacks, not just food.
- You eat more than intended and can't stop.

You choose UPFs even when healthier options are available. Your portion sizes have slowly increased. You eat UPFs when stressed or emotional. You're always thinking about your next UPF snack. Cutting back causes irritability or poor

sleep. You use UPFs to reward or celebrate. You return to UPFs quickly after dieting. Experts suggest small steps — like replacing one frequent UPF with a whole-food alternative, eating slowly, and increasing protein and fibre — to regain control.

If cravings feel compulsive or distressing, consult a health professional. Some individuals benefit from behavioural therapy or structured dietary support.

UPFs may be convenient and tasty, but recognising the signs of over-dependence is key to taking back control of your health and habits

Why You Feel Sleepy After a Heavy Meal: Explained



Ever felt like taking a nap right after a big lunch? You're not alone — and there's a scientific reason behind this post-meal drowsiness.

After we eat, our body begins the complex process of digestion. To break down food and absorb nutrients, more blood is directed toward the stomach and intestines. This temporary shift in blood flow means slightly less oxygen reaches the brain, which can lead to feelings of sluggishness or sleepiness.

But the type of food we consume also plays a key role. Meals high in carbohydrates — such as rice, bread,

pasta, and sweets — cause a spike in blood glucose levels. In response, the body produces more insulin to manage this sugar. Insulin, in turn, helps certain amino acids, especially tryptophan, enter the brain.

Once in the brain, tryptophan boosts the production of serotonin and melatonin, two chemicals that regulate mood and sleep. This hormonal effect, combined with reduced brain oxygen levels due to redirected blood flow, creates the perfect setup for a post-meal nap.

This is why heavier meals — particularly those high in carbs —

are more likely to trigger drowsiness compared to lighter, balanced meals.

To avoid feeling sleepy after eating, experts recommend:

- Eating smaller portions
- Including more protein and fibre in meals
- Avoiding excessive sugar and refined carbs

Taking a short walk post-lunch to stimulate blood circulation

In essence, your body isn't "shutting down" — it's just prioritising digestion. So, next time you feel like dozing off after biryani or a rich thali, know that your biology is simply doing its job.



WhatsApp Tests Status Update Notifications for Selected Contacts

WhatsApp is reportedly testing a new feature on Android that lets users receive notifications when specific contacts post new status updates. This upcoming functionality aims to give users more control over whose updates they want to follow closely, enhancing the overall experience of staying connected.

Currently available in WhatsApp beta version

2.25.30.4 for Android, the feature allows users to activate alerts directly from the status update screen. To enable it, users open a contact's status, tap the overflow menu, and select "Get notifications." After confirming, they will receive real-time alerts whenever that contact shares a new status. Notifications can also be muted at any time through the same menu.

When a chosen contact posts a status update, WhatsApp sends a notification showing the contact's name and, if the update includes an image or video, a small preview is displayed. This helps users quickly see important updates without needing to open the app, improving convenience and engagement.

The feature is being rolled out gradually to beta users, allowing

WhatsApp to monitor its performance and ensure stability before a wider release. Importantly, the contacts for whom notifications are enabled are not informed, allowing users to discreetly follow key updates without alerting others.

This new functionality fits into WhatsApp's ongoing efforts to provide a more personalised and user-friendly experience. By prioritising updates

from selected contacts, users can better manage notifications and focus on the posts that matter most to them, avoiding distractions from less important status updates.

The feature is expected to roll out to a broader audience soon, with further enhancements likely as WhatsApp continues to refine its status update features across devices.

Norway Chess Launches Total Chess World Championship Tour



The organisers of Norway Chess have announced the launch of the Total Chess World Championship Tour, a groundbreaking new series that will crown a combined champion across three chess disciplines: Fast Classic, Rapid, and Blitz. The tour is set to begin in 2027 following a long-term agreement signed with the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

Norway Chess CEO Kjell Madland revealed that the tournament will be an annual event featuring four tournaments each year held in various global cities. The prize pool will total a minimum of USD 2.7 million annually, with USD 750,000 allocated for each of the first three events and USD 450,000 for the finals, alongside performance bonuses.

Madland said, “We expect the Total Chess World Championship Tour to become one of the most prestigious events in the chess calendar.” The tour will complement the traditional World Chess Championship, which focuses on classical chess, as both formats have been officially approved by FIDE.

A key innovation is the inclusion of Fast Classic chess, a faster format of classical chess with time controls as short as 45 minutes, alongside Rapid and Blitz formats. The combined results across these three disciplines will determine the overall FIDE World Combined Champion.



Messi’s Two Assists Help Argentina Crush Puerto Rico 6-0

Lionel Messi delivered two assists as reigning World Cup champions Argentina thrashed Puerto Rico 6-0 in a friendly match relocated from Chicago to a different venue on Tuesday night. The game was initially scheduled for Monday in Chicago but was moved last week due to low ticket sales and an ongoing immigration crackdown in the city.

Playing on the field he calls home with Inter Miami in Major League Soccer, Messi set up Gonzalo Montiel’s goal with a deft lob in the first half. Later, in the 83rd minute, Messi’s clever back pass led to Lautaro Martínez’s second goal of the night. Martínez and Alexis Mac Allister each scored twice for Argentina, with the South American giants also benefiting from an own goal by Puerto Rico.

The match had unusual circumstances on and off the field. Tickets were available for as low as \$25 shortly before kickoff—rare for a match featuring Messi—and the stadium was only half-filled initially, though attendance improved during the game. Argentina, ranked No. 3 by FIFA, faced Puerto Rico, ranked 155th, which fielded some college players including goalkeeper Sebastian Cutler, who made notable saves against Messi.

Puerto Rico nearly shocked Argentina early on with a long-range attempt that just missed. Despite the competitive spirit, Argentina dominated throughout, using the match as part of their preparations for the 2026 World Cup set to be hosted across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

Ronaldo Sets World Cup Qualifier Record, Extends Lead Over Messi



Cristiano Ronaldo made history once again by scoring twice in Portugal’s 2-2 draw against Hungary in a FIFA World Cup qualifier on Tuesday, extending his lead as the all-time top scorer in World Cup qualifying matches. The 40-year-old forward netted his 40th and 41st goals in World Cup qualifiers, breaking the previous record held by former Guatemala striker Carlos Ruiz.

Ronaldo opened the scoring in the 22nd minute with a close-range finish and added his second in first-half stoppage time. His brace took his tally to 41 goals in 51 qualifying appearances, a remarkable achievement that sets him well ahead of other greats in the competition.

Lionel Messi, for comparison, has scored 36 goals in 72 World Cup qualifiers for Argentina, placing him third on the all-time list. The Al-Nassr striker also holds other major international records, including most international goals (143) and most appearances for a men’s national team (over 215). Ronaldo’s latest feat cements his status as one of football’s greatest goal scorers.

Despite Ronaldo’s heroics, Portugal could only manage a 2-2 draw as Hungary equalized in stoppage time through Dominik Szoboszlai. Portugal coach Roberto Martínez admitted the team failed to manage the final minutes effectively, costing them a crucial win.

Portugal leads Group F with 10 points, five ahead of Hungary, keeping their qualification hopes for the 2026 World Cup alive with two games remaining. After the match, Ronaldo expressed optimism on X (formerly Twitter), saying, “We are getting closer to our goal! Let’s go, Portugal.”

The draw, while disappointing, highlights Ronaldo’s continuing influence on the international stage as he pursues even more milestones late into his storied career.

Noman Ali, Shaheen Afridi Shine as Pakistan Beat South Africa in 1st Test

Lahore: Pakistan secured a thrilling 93-run victory over World Test Champions South Africa in the first Test at Gaddafi Stadium on Wednesday, thanks to exceptional performances by left-arm spinner Noman Ali and pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi.



Chasing a challenging target of 277 on a deteriorating pitch that offered sharp turn and variable bounce, South Africa was bowled out for 183 on day four. Noman Ali was the standout bowler, taking 4 wickets for 79 runs in the second innings and finishing with match figures of 10-191, marking his third ten-wicket haul in Tests.

The 39-year-old exploited the spinning track expertly despite a resilient 73-run partnership between Dewald Brevis and Ryan Rickelton in the morning session. Brevis, who scored an aggressive 54 with six fours and two sixes, was eventually trapped by Noman’s turning delivery. Rickelton’s stubborn 45 was ended by Sajid Khan just before lunch. Fast bowler Shaheen Afridi also played a crucial role, taking 4 wickets for 33 runs, including important scalps of Kyle Verreynne, Prenelan Subrayen, and Kagiso Rabada.

Ayush Shetty, Anmol Kharb Exit Early at Denmark Open 2025

India’s young badminton talents Ayush Shetty and Anmol Kharb faced early exits at the Denmark Open 2025 after losses in the opening round at Odense on Tuesday. In the men’s singles, 20-year-old Ayush Shetty, ranked 30th globally, fought a tough battle against France’s world No. 15 Toma Junior Popov. The match lasted 77 minutes with Shetty narrowly losing 21-19, 17-21, 21-15.

Ayush started strong, keeping pace in a closely contested first game before losing a late surge. He bounced back in the second, taking a slim lead to force a decider. However, Popov dominated the final game to seal the win.

In women’s singles, 18-year-old Anmol Kharb, ranked 46th, went up against Indonesia’s Putri Kusuma Wardani, world No. 7. Anmol lost 21-9, 21-14 in a match lasting 34 minutes. After a one-sided first game, Anmol fought back in the second, leveling at 14-all, but Wardani finished strong with seven consecutive points. Kharb was India’s sole female singles representative at the event. In men’s doubles, the Indian pair of Pruthvi Krishnamurthy Roy and Sai Pratheek K were defeated 21-13, 21-17 by Liu Kuang-Heng and Yang Po-Han of Chinese Taipei.



Meanwhile, Kavipriya Selvam and Simran Singhi lost 21-4, 21-11 to Bulgaria’s Gabriela Stoeva and Stefani Stoeva in women’s doubles. The Panda sisters, Rutaparna and Swetaparna, are scheduled to play later in the day. Indian stars Lakshya Sen, along with top men’s doubles duo Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, are set to begin their campaigns on Wednesday at the BWF Super 750 event.

“Trend Set Cheyy” from Jatadhara is a Catchy Dance Anthem



The makers of Jatadhara, Sudheer Babu's upcoming fantasy-action entertainer, have released their latest promotional song titled “Trend Set Cheyy”, and it's already setting the tone for a lively musical ride. Bursting with energy and youthful appeal, the track blends modern beats with eye-catching visuals and is winning hearts across platforms.

Composed by Raees & Zain – Sam, the song features a fast-paced, contemporary soundscape that resonates with today's youth. Lyricist Shree Mani adds his signature flair, cleverly mixing Telugu and English in a way that's both catchy and culturally rooted. The result is a peppy number that complements the stylish and intense world of Jatadhara.

Vocals by Spoorthi Jitender and Rajeev Raj infuse the track with infectious energy. Their dynamic singing enhances the vibrant vibe of the song, making it a surefire crowd-puller.

Set in a trendy pub setting, the video highlights Sudheer Babu's effortless dance moves alongside Shreya Sharma, adding visual appeal to the already energetic audio.

Choreographed with flair and packed with colorful aesthetics, “Trend Set Cheyy” breaks the mythological intensity of Jatadhara with a fun, party-ready detour. The track is expected to be a chart-topper and a favorite at dance floors and playlists.

Jatadhara is produced by Zee Studios in collaboration with Preena Arora, and marks the Tollywood debut of Sonakshi Sinha. The film is a bilingual (Telugu-Hindi) mythological fantasy drama and is slated for a grand theatrical release on November 7, 2025.

With its striking blend of mythology and modern style, Jatadhara continues to build buzz — and “Trend Set Cheyy” is the latest reason fans are getting excited.

Shriya Saran Stuns with Bold New Look



Shriya Saran continues to steal the spotlight in 2025 with her bold choices—both on screen and off it. After impressing Telugu audiences with contrasting roles this year, the veteran actress shows no signs of slowing down.

Earlier this year, she appeared in a sizzling special number in Suriya's Retro, exuding vintage glamour and energy. On the other end of the spectrum, she played a strong-willed mother in the emotionally charged film Mirai, proving her versatility once again. Both performances were met with praise, as Shriya seamlessly blended style and substance.

Now, the actress is making waves on social media with her latest photo shoot. Dressed in a pink halter-neck bralette and matching skirt, Shriya strikes graceful, sculpted poses that have left fans and fashion circles talking. With minimal accessories—a pair of simple earrings—and her hair tied up in a high ponytail, the look

is effortlessly elegant yet daringly bold.

Her poised expression and statuesque styling suggest more than just a fashion moment—it almost feels like she's channeling a character, or perhaps setting the tone for an upcoming role. Either way, the response has been overwhelmingly positive, with fans praising her confidence, charm, and timeless appeal.

While no official announcements have been made, industry buzz suggests Shriya is in talks for a couple of OTT projects, indicating her growing interest in digital platforms. With her strong presence and adaptability, she's expected to bring depth and glamour to any role she takes on next.

As always, Shriya Saran proves that age is just a number, and style, when backed by talent, never goes out of fashion. Her journey continues to inspire and intrigue audiences across generations.

Sai Durgha Tej Unleashes Fierce Avatar in ‘Asura Aagamana’ Glimpse

In a fiery birthday surprise for fans, the makers of Sambarala Yetigattu have unveiled a powerful glimpse titled Asura Aagamana, featuring Mega Supreme Hero Sai Durgha Tej in what appears to be his fiercest avatar yet.

Released on the special occasion of Sai Durgha Tej's birthday, Asura Aagamana is the first official glimpse from the highly anticipated film Sambarala Yetigattu. Directed by debutant Rohith KP and produced by K Niranjan Reddy and Chaitanya Reddy under Primeshow Entertainment, the glimpse sets the tone for an intense action-packed drama.

The visuals hint at a gripping tale of rebellion, with Sai Durgha Tej leading a fearless fight against oppression—possibly against the mythological Asuras, symbolizing tyranny and injustice. Set against a hauntingly powerful score, the glimpse captures high-octane action, emotional gravitas, and a deep sense of purpose.

Tej, known for his impactful screen presence, seems to have undergone a complete transformation. With a rugged look and intense eyes that reflect both pain and power, this is clearly a new dimension in his acting journey. His commanding performance in the glimpse promises a raw and powerful portrayal, one that could redefine his



on-screen identity. Fans and cine-goers have already begun hailing Asura Aagamana as one of the most exciting teasers in recent times. The combination of fresh direction, strong visuals, and Sai Durgha Tej's magnetic presence is expected to elevate Sambarala Yetigattu as a must-watch film.

Ram Charan's Peddi on Track for March 2026 Release



Ram Charan's much-anticipated rural action entertainer Peddi is right on schedule for its theatrical release on March 27, 2026. Directed by Uppena fame Buchi Babu

Sana, the film is shaping up to be a high-energy sports drama set in a rustic backdrop.

Breaking the usual trend of big-budget films facing delays, Peddi

has managed to stay on track. The producers, Mythri Movie Makers, who are presenting the film, confirmed during the promotions of Dude that there will be no changes

to the release timeline.

The production team recently completed a high-energy song shoot featuring Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor in Pune. Although initially planned for a Diwali release, the song is now being fine-tuned to meet PAN-India standards, prioritizing quality and perfection over speed.

Behind the scenes, post-production work, including editing and VFX, is progressing simultaneously to ensure the film is ready on time. The team is reportedly working round the clock to meet the deadline.

Peddi boasts a powerful ensemble cast, including Kannada superstar Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and Divyenndu of Mirzapur fame. The film is being produced by Venkata Satish Kilaru under Vriddhi Cinemas, marking his ambitious foray into large-scale cinema.

Adding to the excitement is the film's music, composed by the legendary A.R. Rahman, which is expected to elevate the emotional and dramatic core of the story.

With a compelling mix of action, sports, and rural drama, Peddi is gearing up to be a major theatrical event in early 2026, promising Ram Charan fans an intense and memorable cinematic experience.

Vamshi Paidipally's next: Aamir Khan out, Salman Khan in?

After much speculation, fresh reports suggest a major change in Tollywood director Vamshi Paidipally's upcoming Bollywood venture. Originally in talks with Aamir Khan, the filmmaker is now reportedly in discussions with Salman Khan for the same project.

Aamir Khan, who recently delivered the emotionally resonant Sitaare Zameen Par, is currently preparing for his next big project — the Dadasaheb Phalke biopic, to be directed by Rajkumar Hirani. This will mark their third collaboration after the massive success of 3 Idiots and PK. With his plate full, Aamir is said to have backed out of Vamshi Paidipally's film, despite being impressed with the script during earlier meetings.

Vamshi, who last directed Varisu starring Thalapathy Vijay, has not announced any new projects since. However, his long-gestating Bollywood dream now seems to be getting a new lease of life, with Salman Khan reportedly being the top choice for the lead role. Sources suggest that initial talks with Salman have taken place, and if all goes well, the collaboration will be made official soon.

The film is likely to be produced by renowned Telugu producer Dil Raju, who has already ventured into Hindi cinema and maintains a strong rapport with Vamshi. If the Salman-Vamshi combo materializes, it will mark a



fresh and exciting addition to Salman Khan's upcoming lineup, and a significant Bollywood breakthrough for Vamshi.

As of now, no official confirmation has been made by either party. Fans of both Salman and Vamshi are eagerly waiting for an announce-

ment. One thing's for sure—this high-profile project could become one of the biggest pan-India ventures in the coming year.