



BUZZ POINTS

From Biotech to Boxing: Telangana Eyes Deep Ties with Cuba



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Telangana Launches AI Innovation Hub to Lead India's Tech Future



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Revanth Reddy Backs AWS Expansion, Pitches Telangana as Data Hub



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# BRS Leads Amid Anti-Incumbency In Jubilee Hills, Predicts Chanakya

TPN Bureau, Nov 4  
Hyderabad:

The pre-poll survey conducted by CHANAKYA STRATEGIES for the Jubilee Hills by-elections—triggered by the sudden demise of sitting MLA Maganti Gopinath—predicts a victory for the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) party, which has taken the contest prestigiously against the ruling Congress. The survey results show a clear lead for the BRS in the initial party-wise vote share: BRS stands at 43%, followed by the Congress (INC) at 38%, the BJP at 10%, and 9% designated as Swing Voters. While the BRS leads Congress by 5%, the 9% swing voters are considered crucial, as they are likely to vote against the current government's performance. The analysis suggests that even if the Congress gains 2% and the BRS gains 4% from the swing vote, the BRS is still likely to win with a majority of approximately 5% to 8%. Six key

“Six key factors are influencing this by-election: caste equations, voter age, the two-year performance of the Congress government, the BJP's impact, campaign effectiveness, and voter expectations.”



factors are influencing this by-election: caste equations, voter age, the two-year performance of the Congress government, the BJP's impact, campaign effectiveness, and voter expectations. A major source of antagonism towards the Congress stems from its two-year rule, where more than half of its "Six Guarantees" remain unfulfilled. This failure has generated significant anger across all sections. Furthermore, policies like the free bus travel scheme

have angered auto drivers who depend on the routes for their livelihood. The "Hydra" land recovery drive by the government has alienated mass voters in slums and migrant laborers, who complain of losing their livelihood and land, leading them to distance themselves from the Congress. In terms of social equations, the BRS candidate, Maganti Sunitha (Kamma community and the late MLA's wife), is benefiting significantly from a sympathy wave, especially among women voters

over 30 years old (70% support) and Minority women, who also remember the late MLA's good work. The Congress candidate, Naveen Yadav (a BC-Yadav community member), is struggling with resentment from other BC communities who feel ignored by the party. Crucially, approximately 70% of settler votes (Andhra natives), who are vital in Jubilee Hills, favor the BRS, largely due to the severe slump in the Real Estate sector under the current Congress regime.

# Doctor Turns Drug Peddler, Held With Narcotics Worth 3 Lakh

TPN Bureau | Nov 4

In a deeply alarming incident, a Postgraduate medical doctor, identified as Dr. John Paul, has been apprehended by the Excise STF-B team for his involvement in drug trafficking from his rented residence in Musheerabad, Hyderabad. The case is particularly shocking as the physician, whose professional oath requires him to save lives, reportedly succumbed to drug addiction himself and became involved in the narcotics trade to fund his habit. According to STF Team Leader Pradeep Rao, Dr. John Paul was collaborating with three of his friends—Pramod, Sandeep, and Sharath (all Hyderabad residents who are currently ab-

sconding)—who would procure the illicit drugs from metropolitan cities like Delhi and Bengaluru. The arrested doctor's primary role was to store these imported drugs at his Musheerabad house and carry out sales to customers designated by the trio. As compensation for his role in the trafficking and sales network, Dr. John Paul was allowed to freely consume the drugs. Acting on precise intelligence, STF Sub-Inspector Balaraju, alongside Constable Vijay Krishna and other staff, conducted a raid and were astonished by the sheer quantity and variety of narcotics seized. The massive haul included 26.95 grams of OG Kush, 6.21 grams of MD MA, 15 LSD blots, 1.32 grams of Cocaine, 5.80



grams of Gummy Bears (Gummies), and 0.008 grams of Hashish Oil. SI Balaraju confirmed that the total street value of the confiscated drugs is estimated to be approximately 3 lakhs. While Dr. John Paul has been immediately arrested and is facing charges, cases have also been registered against the three absconding drug suppliers, Pramod, Sandeep,

and Sharath, with a major manhunt launched to dismantle the entire supply chain. Excise Enforcement Director Shanwaz Qasim commended the STF-B team for their decisive action, stressing the severity of a healthcare professional being caught peddling dangerous narcotics, which underscores the widespread challenge of drug abuse.

# Azharuddin Gets Minorities Welfare, Public Enterprises Portfolios



TPN Bureau | Nov 3

Mohammed Azharuddin, the newly inducted minister in the Telangana Cabinet and distinguished former Indian cricket captain and Congress leader, was officially allocated the significant portfolios of Minorities Welfare and Public Enterprises by Governor Jishnu Dev Varma on Tuesday. This allocation comes four days after Azharuddin was sworn into the Council of Ministers on October 31 at the Raj Bhavan ceremony. The allocation holds considerable political weight as Azharuddin, at 62, is now the first Muslim face in the Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy-led Cabinet, signaling a key strategic

move by the Congress party. Previously, the Minorities Welfare portfolio was managed by Scheduled Caste Development and Tribal Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar, while the crucial Public Enterprises Department was personally held by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. Azharuddin's elevation follows his earlier nomination by the State Cabinet in August to become a Member of the Legislative Council (MLC) under the Governor's quota. His induction into the Cabinet is strategically timed, coming just ahead of the high-stakes November 11 bye-election for the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency. This move is broadly interpreted as a focused ef-

fort by the Congress to strongly reach out to the Muslim electorate, which constitutes approximately 30 percent of the voters in the Jubilee Hills constituency, particularly after most of the party's key Muslim candidates, including Azharuddin himself in 2023, faced defeat in the last Assembly elections. Currently, Azharuddin also holds influential political positions as the working president of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) and a member of its Political Affairs Committee. With his swearing-in, the total strength of the State Cabinet has risen to 16 ministers, nearing the constitutional maximum limit of 18, including the Chief Minister.

# Telangana Speaker to Resume Hearing on BRS Defection Cases from Nov 6

TPN Bureau | Nov 4

Telangana Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar is set to commence the crucial second phase of the trial starting November 6, addressing the long-pending disqualification petitions filed by the BRS party against its MLAs who defected to the ruling Congress. The proceedings, conducted under the rigorous Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, are scheduled for multiple dates: November 6, 7, 12, and 13. This next phase will concentrate on the petitions seeking the disqualification of four key defected MLAs: Dr. Sanjay Kumar (Jagtial), Pocharam Srinivas Reddy (Banswada), Tellam Venkatrao (Bhadrachalam), and Arekapudi Gandhi (Serilingampally). The core activity of these hearings



will involve the cross-examination of the counsels representing the petitioners by the lawyers of the defected MLAs, and vice versa, marking an intensive legal scrutiny of the defection charges. This follows the initial phase of hearings held on September 29, October 1, and October 24, which focused on the cases of a separate batch of four MLAs: TPrakash Goud, Kale Yadaiah, Gudem Mahipal Reddy, and Bandla Krishnamohan Reddy. The resumption of the trial is historically significant, as it marks

the first time in the history of the Telangana Assembly that the Speaker is conducting such detailed, formal hearings on defection petitions. The current schedule was announced amidst reports indicating that the Speaker was obliged to approach the Supreme Court to request an extension of the original three-month deadline that the apex court had set on July 31 for concluding the inquiry, which expired on October 31. While the BRS originally sought the disqualification of ten MLAs, and eight have submitted their replies leading to the current trial, two MLAs, Danam Nagender and Kadiyam Srihari, have yet to respond to the Speaker's notices and have requested more time, thereby slightly delaying the conclusion of their respective cases.

# Two Killed, Several Injured in 3 Bus Accidents Across Telugu States

TPN Bureau | Nov 4

The Telugu states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are grappling with a disturbing spike in serious road accidents involving RTC and private buses, occurring immediately after the horrific Rangareddy collision that claimed 19 lives. The latest incidents, which caused two fatalities and numerous injuries, have generated widespread concern among commuters. In Andhra Pradesh's Sri Sathya Sai district, one person died and eight were injured early Tuesday when a private travel bus, belonging to Jabbar Travels and traveling from Hyderabad to Bengaluru, struck a truck from behind near Dhamajipalli. This incident is



the second fatal private bus accident on the same route in ten days, recalling the tragic October 24 accident near Kurnool where 19 people were burned to death after a V Kaveri Trav-

els bus caught fire. Concurrently, a private travel bus, Bharati Travels, overturned in Andhra Pradesh's Eluru district on Monday night, resulting in the death of V. Praveen Babu (25), a soft-

ware engineer en route to a new job, and injuring ten others. Meanwhile, in Telangana's Karimnagar district on Tuesday, an RTC bus collided with a tractor at Renukunta Bridge, injuring fifteen pas-

sengers. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar expressed profound concern over the series of bus accidents, immediately contacting the Karimnagar District Collector and hospital officials to ensure optimal care for the injured, offering to shift them to Hyderabad if necessary. The Minister publicly urged the state government via social media to treat the escalating rate of bus accidents as a serious concern, prioritize road safety, and implement special awareness and enforcement programs for the public to prevent further tragedies. These consecutive fatal incidents highlight urgent systemic failures in vehicle maintenance, driver diligence, and road safety infrastructure across the region.

## Human Rights Commission Seeks Reports on Chevella Accident

TPN Bureau | Nov 4

The Telangana State Human Rights Commission (TGHRC), led by Chairperson Justice Shameem Akther, took decisive and immediate suo motu cognisance of the deadly road ac-

cident in Ranga Reddy district that claimed nineteen lives and injured over thirty on Monday, recognizing the severe implications of recurring fatal accidents. Citing allegations of gross negligence in road safety, systemic enforcement failures, and infrastructural delays which fundamentally violate the Right to Life under Article 21, the TGHRC swiftly directed several high-level government entities to submit comprehensive factual and detailed action-taken reports. The key authorities mandated to submit these reports by a firm deadline of 11 AM on December 12 include the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the Telangana Road Transport

Corporation (RTC), and the state departments of Transport, Home, Mines and Geology, alongside the Collector of Ranga Reddy district. This broad directive indicates the Commission's intention to thoroughly investigate the entire spectrum of contributing factors, from national highway safety standards and RTC operational procedures to the regulation of quarrying and heavy vehicle movement (as the collision involved a gravel-laden tipper lorry). The TGHRC is prioritizing accountability and seeking systemic solutions to prevent future tragedies on Telangana's roads, signaling that the issue of road safety is now a top human rights concern in the state.





# From Biotech to Boxing: Telangana Eyes Deep Ties with Cuba



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, Telangana's IT and Industries Minister, Duddilla Sridhar Babu, met with H.E. Juan Carlos Marsán Aguilera, Ambassador of Cuba to India, and First Secretary Mrs. Maiky Díaz Pérez at the Secretariat, powerfully asserting the state's strategic commitment to forging deeper global partnerships through mutual exchange of skills and expertise with Cuba. The Minister highlighted that Telangana's proactive and innovation-focused policies, coupled with its world-class infrastructure, have positioned it as a national model for international cooperation. The detailed discussions spanned collaboration across high-priority sectors including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, Artificial Intelligence (AI), IT, innovation, agriculture, sustain

able farming, sports excellence, and culture. Minister Sridhar Babu went further, offering Telangana's robust support ecosystem—T-Hub, T-Works, and WE-Hub—to foster Cuban startups. He explicitly proposed collaboration in cutting-edge fields like AI-based diagnostics, advanced pharma research, and public health data management, recognizing Cuba's global strengths. To solidify these opportunities, he extended a formal invitation for the Cuban delegation to visit Genome Valley, acknowledged as one of the world's top seven life sciences clusters, to explore tangible ventures in research, manufacturing, and technology transfer. The Minister also expressed significant interest in leveraging Cuba's globally renowned expertise in boxing and athletics to elevate and

strengthen Telangana's state sports ecosystem and training facilities. Ambassador Aguilera, in turn, highly commended the State's forward-thinking and innovation-driven approach, confirming Cuba's strong willingness to expand cooperation across science, technology, healthcare, and cultural exchange with Telangana. The meeting's importance was underscored by the presence of key officials like Mr. Ma dhudan and Dr. Shakti Nagappan, who will ensure the follow-through and operationalization of the discussed collaborative ventures, paving the way for substantial bilateral progress. This strategic partnership aims to unlock new avenues for economic growth and cultural understanding for both Telangana and Cuba in the coming years

## Telangana Launches AI Innovation Hub to Lead India's Tech Future



### Revanth Reddy Backs AWS Expansion, Pitches Telangana as Data Hub

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy held a high-profile courtesy meeting with a delegation from Amazon Web Services (AWS) at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, marking a strong affirmation of the state's commitment to major global technology investment. The AWS team, led by Kerry Person, the Global Head of AWS Data Centers, along with Vikram Sridharan (Director of Infra Public Policy) and Anurag Kilnani, briefed the Chief Minister on the current status of the company's ongoing data center projects and its future expansion plans within Telangana. These multi-billion-dollar investments are crucial for consolidating

Hyderabad's growing reputation as a dominant data center and cloud infrastructure hub in India. The Chief Minister provided unequivocal assurance of the state government's full support and cooperation for their current and future investments, ensuring a seamless and favorable environment for their expansion. He specifically pledged to streamline bureaucratic processes and address any infrastructure needs to facilitate the completion of their projects on schedule. This proactive stance is part of the state's broader strategy to attract and retain large-scale Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the highly competitive IT and cloud services sector, which

is vital for creating high-value jobs and driving the state's digital economy forward. The meeting served as a powerful signal to the international investor community that the Telangana government prioritizes ease of doing business and is dedicated to fostering long-term partnerships with global technology leaders like AWS. By meeting directly with the global head, CM Reddy underscored the strategic importance the government places on technology infrastructure development as a cornerstone of the state's economic policy. The continued successful collaboration with AWS is seen as a key component of the state's long-term technological vision. (340 words)

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu proudly announced the formal establishment of the Telangana Artificial Intelligence Innovation Hub (TAIH), a monumental initiative strategically designed to achieve the ambitious goal of placing the state among the top 20 AI hubs in the world by 2035. The Minister emphasized the undeniable truth that the future rests entirely on Artificial Intelligence, stating that TAIH will function as the pivotal focal point for intensive AI-based innovation, research, and cross-sectoral collaboration, directly fulfilling the vision set

by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. The hub is structured to build a comprehensive AI ecosystem that will ensure Telangana becomes the "first name that comes to mind when people think of Artificial Intelligence in India." TAIH will be guided by the expertise of high-ranking officials, including the Special Chief Secretary (IT), the Commissioner of Mee-Seva, and the Joint Director of Emerging Technologies. A core component of the state's strategy involves the integration of AI into e-Governance to drive transformative results in public service delivery, healthcare, transportation, and education,



thereby significantly enhancing efficiency, transparency, and citizen experience. Minister Sridhar Babu recalled Telangana's strong record of digital pioneering, citing the successful hosting of the AI Global Summit in 2024—the first state in India to organize an event of such scale—and the successful implementation of its

own Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and the operational Telangana Data Exchange (TGDeX) platform. To bolster TAIH's capabilities, the state has actively forged strategic alliances with premier academic and research institutions like IIIT, BITS Pilani, ISB, NAL-SAR, IIT Hyderabad, and C-DAC, alongside secur-

ing commitments from global technology leaders such as Google, Microsoft, Infosys, and Amazon. This networked approach is aimed at creating a robust, enabling environment that cements Telangana's status as a definitive national leader in technology adoption and innovation for the decade ahead.

## Thummala Raises Maize Limit, Slams CCI's Cotton Cap



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, Minister for Agriculture and Marketing, Thummala Nageswara Rao, took decisive, pro-farmer action, first by immediately instructing the MARKFED MD to significantly raise the maize procurement limit from 18.5 quintals to 25 quintals per acre, responding

directly to farmers' requests and high yield forecasts. The Minister affirmed the State Government's commitment to buying maize at the Minimum Support Price (MSP), committing 2,500 crores of state funds for this purpose, despite the lack of Central support. Concurrently, the Minis-

ter escalated his battle against the Central Government's stringent cotton procurement policies, holding a crucial telephonic discussion with CCI CMD Lalit Kumar Gupta to address the impending ginning millers' strike and severe difficulties faced by cotton farmers. Minister Thummala unequivocally demanded the removal of the highly restrictive L1, L2, L3 allotment system and the widely criticized "7 quintal per acre limit," which he argued unfairly penalizes farmers with high yields. To mitigate losses from unsea-

sonal rains, he insisted that the CCI lift its strict norms and allow procurement of cotton with up to 20% moisture. He also highlighted the technical glitches with the Kapas Kisan App and the widespread distress caused by the non-procurement of rain-affected cotton. The Minister stressed that farmer welfare is the government's paramount objective and sought the urgent intervention of Central Ministers to resolve these issues. Additionally, as part of the weekly 'Rythu Nestham' program, Minister Thummala inaugu-

rated the distribution of Soil Health Cards, urging farmers to use them to understand their soil's nutrient composition, which would help them optimize fertilizer usage and significantly reduce costs. He also continued his advocacy for crop diversification, urging farmers with irrigation to switch from paddy and cotton to high-income crops like Oil Palm, for which the government is providing comprehensive support for seedlings, drip irrigation, and inter-cropping to boost farmer profitability.



## Most Injured in Chevella Bus Accident Set for Discharge

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, Police officials provided a significant update on the victims of the tragic head-on collision between a government bus and a gravel-laden tipper lorry in the Ranga Reddy district, confirming that most of the thirty people injured are expected to be discharged on Tuesday. A police of-

ficial assured the public that none of the victims sustained major, life-threatening injuries, which is a welcome relief following the severity of the accident.

A total of 38 passengers received immediate medical treatment across various hospitals following the Monday

incident, with eight of those individuals already having been released and sent home. While the injured continue to recover, the authorities have completed the necessary legal and administrative formalities for the deceased. The bodies of the nineteen people killed in the devastating

accident were respectfully handed over to their families after the mandatory post-mortem examinations were conducted.

The funeral rites for seventeen of the victims have already been concluded. The quick expected discharge of the injured indicates that

while the loss of life was tragic, the injuries sustained by the survivors were largely manageable, allowing them to return home swiftly and begin their recovery process. Authorities continue to monitor the situation and provide any necessary support to the affected families



# Ponnam, Meenakshi Woo Voters With ‘Praja Palana’ Success Pitch

TPN Bureau | Nov 4 — Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, accompanied by AICC Incharge Meenakshi Natarajan, led an energetic door-to-door campaign in the Ailam Colony area of the Yusufguda Division within the Jubilee Hills constituency, advocating strongly for Congress candidate Naveen Yadav. During their outreach, the leaders personally greeted and affectionately spoke with women and elderly residents, appealing to them to vote for the Congress party's "Hand" symbol. In their interactions with the residents, Minister Prabhakar and AICC Incharge Natarajan meticulously explained



the numerous welfare schemes and development initiatives implemented by the "Praja Palana" (People's Rule) government over the past two years, aiming to highlight the tangible benefits delivered to

the local populace. They jointly presented Naveen Yadav as an ideal candidate, emphasizing his background as an educated, local resident who remains constantly accessible to the people and is deeply committed to ensuring the comprehensive development of Jubilee Hills. They urged the voters to elect him, assuring that he would continuously work for their progress. This grassroots mobilization strategy, spearheaded by a state minister and a central party functionary, underscores the critical importance the Congress party places on winning the Jubilee Hills bye-election.

# BJP Calls Congress a Party of Deceit; Ponnam's Gold Remark Sparks Row



TPN Bureau | Nov 4 — The BJP strongly attacked the ruling Congress government during a media conference held at the State Party Office, with BJP SC Morcha National Secretary S. Kumar leading the charge, asserting that the Congress is a party built on deceit and that its leaders are willing to stoop to any level for votes and seats. He accused the Congress of making extravagant, undeliverable promises—like offering the sky—only to completely fail on implementation, calling the party's policy "promises

plenty, implementation zero." Kumar specifically highlighted the systematic deception of various social groups during the last Assembly elections through the "Declaration" promises—including the Mahila, Dalit, Kisan, and Yuva Declarations—and demanded to know the current status of these pledges, claiming they have all "vanished" and been thrown into the dustbin. Focusing on the Dalit Declaration, he pointed out the failure to implement key promises such as 12 lakh financial assistance per

family, and educational incentives like 10,000 for 10th pass, 50,000 for degree holders, and up to 5 lakh for higher studies and research. Kumar lamented that the Dalit Declaration exists only on paper, not in the lives of the people. The BJP leader then accused the Congress of repeating this "old drama" in the ongoing Jubilee Hills bye-election, attempting to fool the poor with broken promises. He cited recent statements by Congress ministers themselves as evidence of their betrayal, specifically men-

tioning Minister Ponnam Prabhakar's retraction on the promise to provide a tola of gold to newly married poor women, claiming the promise was based on an outdated gold price of 50,000. Kumar condemned this, asking if the value of the people's word is now measured by the price of gold, and also referenced Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha's alleged admission of having made promises "in a hurry." Kumar concluded by describing the Congress government as one defined by "squabbles,

fabricated promises, and deception," noting that internal party conflicts over bill payments have reached a level requiring the CMO's intervention. He dismissed Minister Prabhakar's prediction that the BJP would secure only 10,000 votes in Jubilee Hills, challenging him to resign if the BJP wins, and confidently predicted a grand victory for the BJP candidate, arguing that the public has recognized that both the previous BRS and the current Congress governance are equally chaotic and unreliable.

# Congress Cadre Rallies Behind Naveen Yadav in Show of Strength



TPN Bureau | Nov 4 — A crucial Coordination Committee meeting was held today at Gandhi Bhavan with the singular goal of ensuring the resounding victory of Congress candidate Sri Naveen Yadav in the highly contested Jubilee Hills bye-election, showcasing a strong display of party unity. The meeting was jointly led by Committee

Chairperson and Hyderabad Mayor Smt. Gadwal Vijayalakshmi and Co-Chairman, former MLA Sri Eeravatri Anil. The gathering brought together all members of the Coordination Committee, along with the in-charges of the seven divisions, chairmen, senior leaders, and party workers, all of whom unanimously pledged to work to-

gether toward the singular objective of "Naveen Yadav's Victory is Congress's Victory." Mayor Vijayalakshmi addressed the attendees, expressing confidence in the massive trust placed by the people of Jubilee Hills in the Congress party. She made a clear declaration that the party's collective resolution is to protect this trust and

work with impeccable coordination in every division to ensure Naveen Yadav wins with the highest possible majority. Former MLA Anil delivered a motivational address, calling upon every activist and leader to actively work at the booth level in their respective divisions. He succinctly defined the core principles for success, stating em-

phatically that "Unity, Coordination, and Discipline" are the essential formulas for achieving victory in the bye-election. The meeting concluded with a renewed sense of purpose and a unified strategy focused on robust grassroots mobilization to secure the Jubilee Hills seat for the Congress party.

# MINISTER PONGULETI WELCOMES MASS DEFECTIONS

TPN Bureau | Nov 4 — State Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, who is also the Congress Incharge for the Rehmat Nagar Division in Jubilee Hills, expressed strong confidence that the Congress party is poised to win the upcoming bye-election with a significant majority. The Minister's assurance came during a major event on Tuesday where a large number of leaders and workers from various political parties, including the Om Nagar Church Committee members in the Rehmat Nagar Division, officially joined the Congress party in his presence. Road

Safety Authority Chairman Mal Reddy Ram Reddy facilitated these mass defections, and Minister Ponguleti personally welcomed the new members by adorning them with Congress scarves. Speaking at the event, the Minister asserted that the development and welfare programs implemented by the government under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over the last 23 months will undeniably secure the victory for Congress candidate Naveen Yadav. He highlighted the scale of support, noting that this division has already seen the entry of numerous party workers, leaders, and members of auto

unions into the Congress fold, with more expected soon. Directly challenging the opposition BRS party, Minister Ponguleti questioned their moral authority to ask for votes, pointing out their failure to issue even a single ration card in the Jubilee Hills constituency during their ten years in power. In stark contrast, he stated that the Congress government has already issued new ration cards to 14,000 eligible families and updated the names on cards for approximately 8,000 people in Jubilee Hills within just 22 months of assuming office, clearly demonstrating the ruling party's commitment to the electorate.



# From Delhi to Gully, Only Congress is Truly Secular': Uttam Kumar Reddy



Hyderabad, November 4 — Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy declared on Tuesday that the Congress party is the only consistently secular force operating "from Delhi to Gully," and the sole political entity capable of defeating the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) nationwide. Addressing a minority meeting in Yusufguda as part of the Jubilee Hills bye-election campaign for Congress candidate Naveen Yadav, the Minister sharply criticized regional parties like the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), labeling them politically unreliable and instrumental in aiding the BJP's growth by fragmenting the secular vote.

The Minister warned that the BRS would face the same political decline as the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), whose opportunistic alliance with the BJP led to its downfall. Reddy accused the BRS of being a "silent partner of the BJP," pointing out that the party never protested when the Union government, led by the BJP, reduced budgets or targeted educational and employment opportunities for minorities. He contrasted the BRS's failure to protect minority institutions—citing the closure of nearly 80% of minority colleges during its regime—with the Congress's proven track record of empowerment. Highlighting the current Congress government's commitment, Uttam Kumar Reddy mentioned the landmark Minority Declaration, which included a promised budget of 4,000 crore and a dedicated Minority Sub-Plan, with 1,000 crore earmarked as subsidy for the first two years. He confirmed that while full release is still pending, the implementation process has begun. On the educational front, he noted that the Congress government has sanctioned 2,200 additional engineering seats for minority col-

leges in the last 22 months, along with an exclusive law college and pharmacy college for minority students. He also recalled the party's prior rule (2004-2014), during which six medical colleges were sanctioned for minorities. Furthermore, he underscored the historical role of the Congress in establishing the 4% reservation for minorities and its ongoing legal battle in the Supreme Court to protect it. He proudly stated that Telangana, under Congress, was the first state to officially oppose the proposed Wakf Amendment Act and that the party pioneered the concept of a separate minority budget in 1993-94, which grew substantially over the years. He concluded by appealing to minority voters in Jubilee Hills to rally behind Naveen Yadav, stressing that a vote for Congress is a vote to safeguard secularism, social justice, and constitutional rights, a role no regional party can fulfill.



# Madhapur Drug Racket Busted: 13 Held, Hunt on for Nigerian Peddlers

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Madhapur Additional DCP Uday Reddy addressed the media, confirming a significant drug bust operation conducted by the Madhapur SOT (Special Operations Team) and Gachibowli Police at the SM Co-Living Hostel. The initial raid at the co-living facility led to the seizure of drugs from Teja Krishna (an Architect hailing from Kadapa) and Lokesh Reddy. Acting

on the information provided by them, the police subsequently apprehended four more individuals at the Hotel Night Eye, recovering additional drugs. In total, 13 people have been arrested in connection with the drug racket, with six others currently absconding. The arrested include six peddlers and five consumers. DCP Reddy disclosed that Teja Krishna was sourcing the drugs from two



Nigerian nationals based in Bengaluru, who are currently absconding and will be taken into custody soon. Teja Krishna was responsible for bringing the drugs from Bengaluru and selling them locally to youth and students in Hyderabad. The investigation revealed that the entire network involves 19 individuals, including nine peddlers, with four peddlers currently among the ab-

sconding. Police have collected all transaction details and remanded the arrested accused. It was also noted that Teja Krishna is a habitual offender, with three prior cases registered against him under the NDPS Act. This bust highlights the persistent issue of drug trafficking targeting Hyderabad's young population and the involvement of interstate and international suppliers.

## Online Betting Claims Policeman's Life, Sajjanar Calls for Vigilance

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — CP Sajjanar responded with deep sadness to the suicide of Constable Kothari Sandeep Kumar, who was stationed at Sangareddy Police Station. Initial reports suggest that Sandeep Kumar took the drastic step after becoming addicted to online games and betting, and incurring substantial financial losses. CP Sajjanar expressed his distress, stating that it is extremely painful that a police constable, whose duty is to create awareness among the public against the dangers of online betting, himself became addicted and resorted to suicide. He emphasized the universal truth that ups and

downs are natural in life, and that suicide is never the solution to any problem, urging everyone facing difficulties to seek help instead. Sajjanar highlighted that online betting and gaming addiction are increasingly destroying the lives of youth nationwide, and called for greater vigilance. He noted the rising number of incidents where police personnel and other security staff face issues due to online addictions and financial crises, underscoring the need for stricter departmental measures and enhanced counselling programs for the force. While extending condolences to Constable Sandeep Kumar's

family, the CP directed officials to conduct a thorough investigation into the social and financial distress caused by this addiction and implement adequate measures to prevent such recurrences within the police department. He warned the public that online betting often involves fraudulent schemes that promise high profits but ultimately lead to devastating losses, driving individuals to despair. CP Sajjanar concluded that this tragic case serves as a stark reminder to youth and government employees alike about the severe risks associated with online addictions.



## Germany's Deutsche Börse to Set Up GCC in Hyderabad



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Hyderabad, already a sought-after hub for technology development and innovation, is set to welcome another major facility: a Global Capability Center (GCC) from Germany's Deutsche Börse Group. This announcement was made during a meeting between Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and a German delegation at the Secretariat. The delegation, led by German Consul General Michael Hasper, briefed the Chief Minister on the establishment of the GCC as part of the company's strategic expansion. The new facility is projected to create at least 1,000 job opportunities

in the IT sector within the next two years. CM Revanth Reddy extended his gratitude to Deutsche Börse for choosing Hyderabad, affirming the city as the best destination for investments and assuring the delegation of the People's Government's full support to global investors. The Chief Minister used the opportunity to urge German companies to consider further investments in key sectors of Telangana's economy, specifically IT, Pharma, and Automobile. He stressed the state's readiness to strengthen ties with Germany for enhanced economic collaboration. Furthermore, the CM ap-

pealed to the German delegation for cooperation in promoting Hyderabad as an innovation hub. He made a specific request to the German Consul General to facilitate the appointment of German language teachers in Hyderabad to teach the language to Telangana students. The CM also requested assistance in providing vocational education and skills development training through TOMCOM (Telangana Overseas Manpower Company). Other attendees at the meeting included Amrita Desai, Deutsche Börse CIO/COO Dr. Christoph Bohm, CM Special Secretary Ajith Reddy, and Vishnuvardhan Reddy

# Amberpet Abduction Drama Ends with 10 Arrests, Ex-Wife Behind Plot



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — The Amberpet police successfully cracked the sensational kidnapping case that took place on October 29th in DD Colony, Amberpet. East Zone DCP Bala Swamy announced the arrest of 10 individuals involved in the crime, revealing that the victim, Manthri Shyam, was abducted and held for a ransom

of 1.5 crore. The police seized three cars, two two-wheelers, and eight mobile phones from the accused. Based on CCTV footage, police identified that six of the accused used rental cars to abduct Shyam. The investigation uncovered that the main conspirator was Madhavi Latha, the victim's ex-wife, who had married Manthri Shyam in

the US but divorced him within three years. After the divorce, Shyam changed his name to 'Ali' and entered into a second marriage with a woman named Fathima. Madhavi Latha reportedly plotted the kidnapping after learning that Shyam had sold property worth 20 crores, which he had inherited from his father. The gang's key opera-

tive was identified as Sai from Ramanagar. Among the arrested, G. Preethi worked as a Lady Bouncer, while another woman, L. Saritha, rented an apartment in the victim's building two days before the incident to monitor his movements. The accused initially took the victim to Cherlapally and demanded 30 lakhs. Shy-

am cleverly managed to call a friend to arrange the money, and that friend promptly alerted the police. Shyam also managed to escape and provided crucial details to the authorities. The police have registered a case and arrested 10 people, with DCP Bala Swamy confirming that the remaining four accused will be apprehended soon.

# Drunken Rage Leads to Murder; Cops Arrest Accused Within Hours

TPN Bureau | Oct 4, 2025 — The Balanagar police under the Kukatpally zone successfully cracked a murder case that occurred yesterday evening within the Balanagar Police Station limits in a swift operation, arresting the accused within just 12 hours. The accused was identified as Sidapuram Ajay (24), a known old offender re-

siding in Gurumurthy Nagar. According to the police, the accused was apprehended based on CCTV camera footage. ACP Naresh Reddy, speaking at a press conference held at the Balanagar ACP office, confirmed that the murder was committed under the influence of alcohol. The police recovered the weapon used in the

crime—a vegetable cutting knife—from the accused. ACP Naresh Reddy stated that the accused is being remanded today. The press conference was also attended by Balanagar CI Narsimha Rao, SIs, and other police staff, who were commended for their quick response and efficiency in solving the case.



# Hyderabad Excise Destroys Drugs Worth Over 1 Crore



The Hyderabad Excise Division conducted a large-scale operation on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, to destroy narcotics and ganja seized in 104 registered cases across the Ameerpet,

Dhoolpet, Kachiguda, Musheerabad, and Nampally excise stations, with the total street value of the contraband estimated to be more than 1 crore. The operation was carried

out at the premises of GJ Multicove Private Limited in Shadnagar, Ranga Reddy district, under the supervision of AES Srinivasa Rao, following directives from Hyderabad Deputy

Commissioner Anil Kumar Reddy. The massive cache of destroyed substances included 295 kilograms of Ganja, 7.65 grams of MDMA, 1.25 kilograms of Straw Poppy, and smaller

quantities of Cocaine, Hashish Oil Penal Injections, and High Chloride, underscoring the Excise Department's commitment to dismantling the drug supply chain.



# Heavy Rains Lash Telangana; Farmers and Residents Worried

ABN | Nov 04, 2025 — Heavy rains accompanied by thunder and gusty winds lashed several parts of the erstwhile Warangal district, continuing from the morning hours. The weather change caused significant disruption, particularly in Warangal city, where a sudden downpour for about half an hour turned city roads into virtual ponds, leading to major traffic jams and difficulties for commuters. Adding to the distress, the heavy rainfall caused cotton and

maize produce to become drenched at the Enumamula Market, leading to visible anxiety and anguish among farmers over crop damage and potential financial losses. The region, including Warangal, Hanamkonda, and Kazipet, is already struggling to recover from the recent devastation caused by 'Montha' Cyclone. The renewed rainfall has now triggered fears of flooding among residents in low-lying areas. The Telangana Weatherman predicted that

heavy rains accompanied by thunder and lightning are likely in parts of West, Central, and South Telangana, including Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Siddipet, Rangareddy, Mahabubnagar, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, Narayanpet, Gadwal, Medchal-Malkajigiri, and Yadadri-Bhongir. Moderate rains with thunder and lightning are also expected in Rajanna Sircilla, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Khammam, Mahabubabad, Hanamkonda, Warangal, and Jangaon districts. In

response to the persistent rains, Mayor Gundu Sudharani, along with local corporators and officials, conducted a field inspection in the 11th Division, Pothana Nagar, under the GWMC (Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation) limits. She specifically inspected the condition of the drains and immediately directed officials to take urgent action to prevent water stagnation and ensure continuous monitoring to minimize inconvenience to the public.



## Minister Thummala Intervenes in CCI Cotton Procurement Crisis



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Minister for Agriculture and Marketing, Thummala Nageswara Rao, took crucial action to address the mounting issues faced by cotton farmers and ginning millers, personally contacting Lalit Kumar Gupta, the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), via telephone. The Minister's primary appeal was for the CCI to ensure that cotton procurement continues smoothly and without interruption, thereby preventing dis-

tress among cotton farmers. Minister Thummala brought to the CMD's attention the strong objections raised by farmers regarding two critical issues: the restrictive norms on moisture content and the mandatory slot booking system for procurement. Furthermore, he detailed the demands and grievances raised by the ginning millers' association, whose threatened strike over new CCI rules has stalled the entire procurement process. A key demand conveyed by Minister Thummala was

the immediate withdrawal of the arbitrary rule limiting cotton purchase to only 7 quintals per acre, urging the CCI CMD to take up this critical issue with the concerned Central Ministers, as the limit is detrimental to farmers with higher yields. He also strongly advocated for leniency on the moisture content, pleading with the CCI to allow procurement of cotton with moisture content above 12% to avoid losses to farmers, especially given unseasonal weather conditions. The Minister sep-

arately spoke with Ravinder Reddy, the President of the Ginning Mills Association, to understand their concerns and assure them of his intervention. Finally, Minister Thummala made a public appeal to Central Ministers Bandi Sanjay and Kishan Reddy to personally intervene and take immediate initiative to resolve the complex issues stemming from the new CCI regulations and the demands of the ginning millers, emphasizing the need to safeguard farmer welfare in Telangana.



## Srihari, Gopichand Play Opening Game at Int'l Challenge 2025

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Minister Vakkanti Srihari was the Chief Guest at the inauguration of the Telangana India International Challenge 2025 Badminton Tournament, which commenced at the GMC Balayogi Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad. The Minister officially inaugurated the prestigious

tournament, underscoring the state government's commitment to promoting sports excellence. The inauguration ceremony was graced by several key figures from the sports community. Minister Srihari participated in the traditional lighting of the lamp alongside Sports Government Advisor Jitender,

Sports Authority Chairman Sivasena Reddy, and the renowned Padma Bhushan awardee and General Secretary of Telangana Badminton, Pullela Gopi chand, as well as VC MD Soni Bala Devi. Following the official proceedings, Minister Vakkanti Srihari and Pullela Gopichand engaged in a

friendly game of Badminton, symbolically kicking off the tournament. The presence of the Minister and top sports dignitaries highlights the significance of the event in the national and international badminton calendar, aiming to provide a platform for emerging talent in the sport.

## Utkoor Railway Station Upgrade Finally on Track



TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Minister Vakkanti Srihari announced that the long-standing demand of the people of Utkoor is finally set to be fulfilled, with the Utkoor Railway Station soon to be upgraded to a Crossing Station. The Minister met with Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, the General Manager (GM) of South Central Railway (SCR), at Rail Nilayam on Tuesday to discuss the project. Minister Sri-

hari highlighted that the upgrade of Utkoor is a persistent aspiration for residents across approximately 30 surrounding villages in the Makthal, Narayanpet, and Vikarabad districts, potentially benefiting over 60,000 people who rely on rail travel for their livelihood and commuting to various cities. During the meeting, the Minister recalled that the State Cabinet has already sanctioned 438 crores for

the land acquisition required for the Vikarabad-Krishna new railway line project, which is a crucial development for the region. Utkoor Station is identified as one of the stations along this 122 km new line alignment, which connects Krishna-Makthal-Narayanpet-Damargidda-Balampet-Daulatabad-Kodanagal-Pargi-Vikarabad. The Minister emphasized that upgrading Utkoor to a crossing station

would provide immense relief and improve connectivity for the rural population. SCR GM Sanjay Kumar Srivastava responded positively to the request and assured the Minister that the railway station would be upgraded. The meeting was attended by SCR Deputy GM Kotla Uday Nath, Railway Secretary Srinivas, and local Congress leaders including Yagneshwar Reddy and Shiva.

## Jupally Inaugurates Training for Excise Personnel, Stresses Law Enforcement

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Minister for Prohibition and Excise, Jupally Krishna Rao, addressed the inaugural ceremony for the new batch of trainees at the Excise Academy, urging the newly selected Assistant Excise Superintendents (AES) and Sub-Inspectors (SIs) to excel in their training and achieve a strong command over the Excise Act. The training commenced on Tuesday for AES officers selected through Group-1 and 84 SIs selected through Group-2 examinations. Minister Jupally commended the trainees for their hard work and success in clearing the highly competitive exams. He emphasized the crucial role of Excise personnel in effectively curbing illegal activities

such as drug trafficking, ganja cultivation, Non-Duty Paid Liquor (NDPL), and spurious liquor. Highlighting a special provision for this batch, the Minister announced that, unlike previous batches, the trainees would also receive weapon training. He further incentivized high performance by stating that those who show exceptional talent during the training would be recognized

and awarded accelerated promotions. He concluded with a personal appeal, urging the trainees to work with honesty and integrity and live up to the aspirations of their parents. Principal Secretary Raghunandan Rao stressed that the Excise Department should not be viewed merely as a revenue-generating body, but rather one that focuses on developing high levels of skill and expertise in law enforcement. Commissioner Hari Kiran reiterated the importance of adhering to government policies, responsibly curbing the drug menace and spurious liquor, and assured the trainees that all necessary facilities, including sports amenities, would be provided during the training.

## Congress Complains to ECI Against 'Fake Survey Reports' Targeting CM Revanth Reddy

TPN Bureau | Nov 04, 2025 — Mettu Sai Kumar, Chairman of the Fisheries Corporation, lodged an official complaint with the Election Commission of India (ECI) regarding several media channels and reporters broadcasting false accusations and fake survey reports against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. The complaint was filed with both the Chief Electoral Officer in Hyderabad and the Re-

turning Officer for the Jubilee Hills constituency, which is currently undergoing a crucial bye-election. Sai Kumar specifically named several outlets—including T News Telugu, Signal TV, Mirror TV, Telugu Scribe, News Line Telugu, YR TV, and freelance reporter Raghuvir Rathod—accusing them of deliberately airing false surveys and unverified news. He asserted that these actions not only consti-

tute a violation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), but also fall under the serious criminal offence of Criminal Defamation according to Sections 499 and 500 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). Sai Kumar vehemently criticized the malicious campaigns, stating that their clear intent is not only to damage the reputation and image of the Chief Minister but also to deliberately mislead the voters during

the election period. He argued that the propagation of such baseless information and fabricated surveys undermines the democratic process and creates an uneven playing field. He strongly urged the Election Commission to take immediate and decisive action against the named channels and individuals to halt the malicious campaign and prevent the continued circulation of fake survey reports.



# Trump’s China Deal Seen as Self-Sabotage

US President Donald Trump’s recent meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in South Korea has raised concerns over Washington’s strategic position, with analysts suggesting Trump has “shot himself in the foot.” The high-profile encounter, meant to resolve tensions from the trade war he initiated, ended with a 12-month truce but left key US interests potentially compromised.

Trump sought a deal to end the trade war, which began with tariffs on Chinese goods in April. While he hailed the meeting as a “great success,” Xi remained composed, securing concessions without giving up much. China agreed to suspend its latest export controls on rare earth minerals for a year—resources critical to smartphones,

advanced electronics, and military systems—and resumed soybean imports from the US, a politically significant move.

In return, Trump reduced tariffs on China and suspended port fees on Chinese ships. He also relaxed US export controls, allowing American tech firms, including Nvidia, to engage with Chinese companies. This has alarmed US security experts, as China could gain access to advanced AI chips crucial for military and technological advancement. Critics argue this could strengthen Beijing’s strategic edge while undermining US technological containment policies.

The truce reflects a broader miscalculation. China has long planned for technological and trade supremacy, imple-



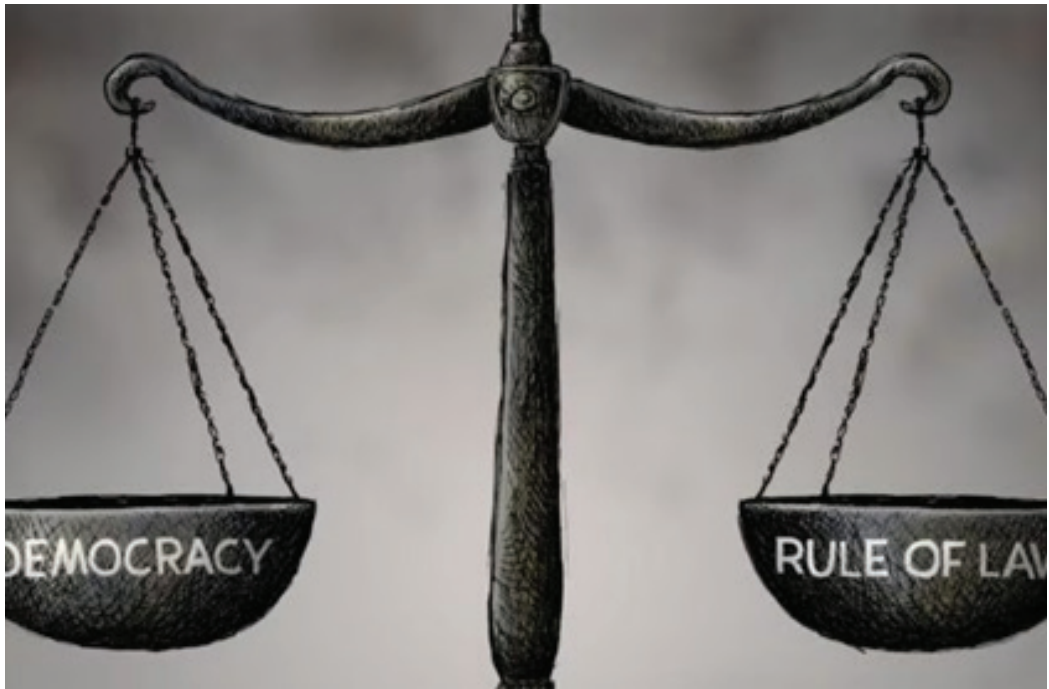
menting policies like “Made in China 2025” to enhance self-reliance in high-tech manufacturing. Xi also sought new markets to reduce dependence on the US, using rare earth minerals as leverage during the trade conflict. Trump’s concessions effectively delay China’s restrictive licensing measures, giving Beijing additional time to advance its technological ambitions.

The agreement’s ripple effects extend globally. Countries like India, Europe, and Canada are recalibrating strategies amid US-China competition. India, in particular, faces dual challenges: navigating US tariffs while managing strategic rivalry with China. The situation highlights the importance of diversifying trade partnerships and building self-reliance in high-tech and defense sectors.

Trump’s approach, seen by many as transactional, risks undermining US economic and national security objectives. While the 12-month truce may allow time for a broader deal, it also provides China with breathing space to consolidate technological gains. Analysts warn that the apparent short-term victory for the US may, in fact, empower Beijing in the long-term, exposing vulnerabilities in Washington’s trade and security strategy.

The Trump-Xi encounter underscores the delicate balance between diplomacy, commerce, and national security, with global powers and allies closely watching the consequences of the US concessions.

## Supreme Court Upholds Lawyer-Client Privilege



The Supreme Court has reinforced the sanctity of attorney-client privilege, delivering a verdict that underscores the independence of the legal profession as a constitutional necessity. The judgment comes after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) summoned Senior Advocates Arvind Datar and Pratap Venugopal earlier this year, sparking concerns over the confidentiality of lawyer-client communications.

The ED withdrew the summons following protests from the Supreme Court Bar Association and

the Bar Council of India and issued instructions that no advocate should be summoned without the prior approval of the ED director. However, the incident prompted the Supreme Court to take up the matter suo motu, questioning whether a lawyer could be summoned merely for giving legal advice or representing a client.

The case also had roots in Ahmedabad, where a police officer summoned a lawyer who had filed a bail plea in a money-lending dispute, demanding details of the case. The High Court refused intervention, highlighting a

growing tension between investigative agencies and the legal profession. A three-judge bench led by Chief Justice B R Gavai, with Justices K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjaria, heard the matter and recognized the broader implications for the right to legal defence.

The Supreme Court stressed that if lawyers could be summoned for performing their professional duties, the right to defence risks being treated as a privilege granted by the state rather than a constitutional guarantee. The judgment began with a reference to Shakespeare’s Henry VI:

“The first thing we do, let’s kill all the lawyers,” explaining that it served as a caution against silencing those who defend law and order.

Crucially, the Court highlighted Section 132 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, which preserves confidentiality between lawyers and clients—a principle rooted in Section 126 of the Indian Evidence Act of 1872. Communications made to a lawyer in professional confidence cannot be disclosed unless intended to further a crime or reveal a crime committed after the lawyer’s engagement. The privilege is the client’s, enabling full disclosure to their advocate without fear of self-incrimination.

Legal experts hailed the verdict as a vital reaffirmation of constitutional protections. “The independence of the Bar is not a professional courtesy; it is essential to the rule of law,” noted one advocate. The ruling sends a clear message: investigative authorities cannot overstep and encroach on the professional space of lawyers, ensuring that citizens retain their fundamental right to defence and legal counsel.

The Supreme Court’s judgment thus strengthens the framework of attorney-client confidentiality, reinforcing that the lawyer’s duty is to defend, while the state’s duty is to investigate—neither may usurp the other.

## India’s Quasi-Federal Model Remains Strong



As India approaches the 76th anniversary of its Constitution, experts highlight the resilience and relevance of its quasi-federal governance. The Indian Constitution, while neither fully federal nor purely unitary, balances strong central authority with commanding state units, enabling the world’s largest democracy to manage extraordinary diversity under a single legal and political framework.

The Constituent Assembly deliberately designed India’s federal structure to maintain unity while allowing regional autonomy. Dr. B R Ambedkar emphasized that India’s federation is “indestructible” and not based on an agreement between states, ensuring that no state has the right to secede. He also noted the challenge of balancing Centre-state powers, cautioning against making the Centre so strong that it could undermine the federal compact. Other leaders, including B G Kher, stressed that India’s federalism emerged from its unique struggle for independence rather than fear of external threats.

Article 1 of the Constitution declares India a “Union of States,” and the Constitution provides for a dual polity, bicameralism, and a division of powers through the Union, State, and Concurrent Lists. Parliament holds the power to modify state boundaries under Article 3 and legislate on State List subjects during emergencies. The Rajya Sab-

ha represents regional interests, acting as a check on majoritarianism in the Lok Sabha.

Today, India’s quasi-federal framework faces challenges, particularly fiscal centralisation. The implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) has reduced states’ taxation powers, causing revenue shortfalls of 19-33%, further compounded by delayed compensation payments. Administrative and political centralisation, including the use of emergency powers during the Covid-19 pandemic, has also tested the federal balance.

Despite these pressures, India’s quasi-federalism has proven resilient. It has enabled coordinated national programs like Pulse Polio, facilitated inter-state dispute resolution under Articles 262 and 263, and created a unified market through GST. Cooperative institutions such as the GST Council, Niti Aayog, Inter-State Council, and Zonal Councils provide mechanisms for dialogue and consensus. The 73rd and 74th Amendments further strengthened local governance by empowering Panchayats and municipalities.

India’s federal system, rooted in the principle of “self-rule with shared-rule,” demonstrates that unity and diversity can coexist. By accommodating regional aspirations while preserving national cohesion, the quasi-federal model continues to be a strategic asset, ensuring that India’s diversity strengthens rather than fragments the country.

Ravindra Garimella and Shristi Srivastava are experts in constitutional and parliamentary affairs.

# Mokama Strongmen Reshape Bihar Poll Battle

Mokama, Bihar: As the state assembly elections approach, Mokama’s notorious strongmen, Anant Kumar Singh and Suraj Bhan Singh, are once again shaping the political landscape. Both hailing from the Bhumihar community, their decades-long rivalry has moved from bullets to ballots, but violence and intimidation remain entrenched in this riverside township.

Suraj Bhan, 60, sentenced to life in 2008 for a 1992 murder in Begusarai, cannot contest elections himself. Instead, his wife Veena Devi is the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) candidate, vying for the seat against Anant Singh, 58, a Janata Dal (United) leader recently arrested in connection with the murder of Jan Suraj supporter Dular Chand

Yadav. Gunfire and stone-pelting have again marked Mokama’s political arena, highlighting its long history of crime intertwined with politics.

Mokama has long relied on musclemen like Singh and Bhan to maintain electoral influence. Dular Chand’s killing during a clash between Jan Suraj campaigners and Singh’s supporters underscores the continuing volatility. Residents express frustration over persistent violence. “There is no way to live peacefully here. Every other constituency has moved on, but Mokama remains under the grip of bloodshed,” said local resident Amlesh Kumar.

Both strongmen rose from personal tragedy and ambition. Suraj Bhan entered crime after the murder of his

cousin Moti Singh in 1989 and gradually leveraged criminal influence into politics. He later expanded into railway contracts, extending his reach into Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, amid violent confrontations with rival strongmen. Meanwhile, Anant Singh’s trajectory began after the murder of his elder brother in the 1980s. With his brother Dilip Singh paving a political path, Anant built muscle power in Mokama and secured contracts at the NTPC Barh plant, consolidating wealth and influence.

Over decades, both have blended crime with politics to maintain control in Mokama. Their influence has made them indispensable to state leaders like Nitish Kumar and Lalu Prasad Yadav, who rely on these figures to secure elector-

al gains.

The 2025 elections mark the closest the two have been to a direct contest in years, with their proxies—Veena Devi and Anant Singh himself—leading campaigns. Mokama voters face a choice between candidates whose political power remains inseparable from a legacy of violence, extortion, and control over key contracts. The outcome may determine whether this region finally sees a break from its bloody past or continues its cycle of crime-fueled politics.

Mokama remains a stark reminder of how criminal networks continue to shape Bihar’s political landscape, highlighting the enduring relevance of strongmen in local elections despite legal and moral constraints.





# PM Modi Alleges Congress Trying to Undermine RJD in Bihar Polls



TPN Bureau | New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused the Congress of attempting to destroy its Bihar ally, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), claiming the party wants to capture the RJD's vote bank in future elections. Speaking at rallies in Sa-

harsa and Katihar, Modi alleged that Congress had deployed leaders from outside Bihar, including a former Punjab Chief Minister, to campaign—leaders he claimed had a history of making anti-Bihar statements. Modi also targeted the RJD, alleging that it had

reduced the prominence of Congress leaders' photos on campaigning material and predicted a complete breakdown of the alliance post-polls. Addressing the issue of alleged infiltration in Seemanchal, a region with a dense Muslim population, Modi claimed that outsid-

ers were being provided benefits such as free foodgrains and healthcare at the expense of local residents. He accused both the Congress and RJD of protecting these "infiltrators" for electoral gains. The PM highlighted the development work of the

NDA government, citing the Kosi Mahasetu project, which was stalled under the UPA, but restarted under his leadership and dedicated in 2020, reducing travel distance across the river from 300 km to 30 km. He also contrasted funding for Nalanda University, noting that while the UPA allocated ₹30 crore, the NDA provided ₹2,000 crore, resulting in a modern campus with students from 21 countries. Modi lauded Indian women for their achievements, referencing the Women's World Cup win and noting women's growing role in defense and other fields. The rallies in Bihar were also addressed by UP CM Yogi Adityanath, Home Minister Amit Shah, Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnis, and Union Minister Chirag Paswan, reinforcing the BJP's campaign ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections. Modi's speeches combined attacks on opposition alliances with a focus on development achievements, aiming to consolidate support in key Seemanchal constituencies.

## “You Know What Happened To Me”: BJP Leader’s Warning For Shashi Tharoor

TPN Correspondent | Srinagar

Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor has sparked debate after his article in Project Syndicate, titled “Indian Politics Are a Family Business”, critiquing dynastic politics in India. The piece examines the prevalence of family-led parties, including Congress, Samajwadi Party, DMK, Trinamool Congress, and National Conference, and calls for a shift toward meritocracy. Tharoor argued that dynastic politics undermines Indian democracy, stating that “when political power is determined by lineage rather than ability, commitment, or grassroots engagement, the quality of governance suffers.” He advocated reforms like legally mandated term limits, internal party elections, and voter education to ensure leaders are chosen based on merit. The article drew an unusual reaction from Shehzad Poonawalla, former Congress leader turned

BJP spokesperson, who praised Tharoor as a “very insightful” writer but warned of potential backlash. Poonawalla described Tharoor as “Khatron ke Khiladi”—one who plays with danger—citing the Congress “first family” as “very vengeful.” Poonawalla referenced his own experience criticizing Rahul Gandhi in 2017, when he faced political consequences for calling out dynastic leadership. Tharoor, a four-time MP from Thiruvananthapuram, has long been considered a rebel within Congress, having contested the party president election against Mallikarjun Kharge and called for internal reforms in 2022 alongside a group of 23 leaders. His positions after the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, including endorsing parts of the government's response, further strained his relations with Congress leadership. The recent article is ex-



pected to deepen existing rifts, as Tharoor continues to challenge dynastic politics from within a party historically dominated by family leadership. His call for merit-based politics

comes amid ongoing debates over the future direction of Indian political parties and governance standards. This episode highlights the delicate balance within

party dynamics, where outspoken leaders may face both admiration and political risks for challenging entrenched hierarchies.

## India, Israel Strengthen Anti-Terror, Trade Cooperation



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

India and Israel on Tuesday discussed ways to enhance anti-terror cooperation and expand ties in trade, infrastructure, and regional connectivity during high-level talks in New Delhi. The discussions took place between External Affairs Minister S.

Jaishankar and Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar, highlighting both countries' commitment to a global “zero tolerance” approach to terrorism. The two sides also reviewed the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), focusing on how the initiative could

strengthen regional trade and connectivity. Officials said the corridor is seen as a key project to link markets across India, the Middle East, and Europe, boosting investment and economic cooperation. Amid the talks, India expressed hope that the U.S.-brokered Gaza peace plan

would lead to durable stability in the region, reflecting New Delhi's broader focus on promoting peace and security in West Asia. The meeting also touched upon plans for a possible visit to India by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the coming months, under-

lining the importance of diplomatic engagement in deepening bilateral relations. Both ministers emphasized the need for joint initiatives in technology, innovation, and infrastructure development, while reiterating the countries' shared commitment to fight terrorism and extremism globally. This round of discussions reflects India and Israel's ongoing efforts to strengthen strategic ties, combining security collaboration with economic and trade partnerships. Enhanced cooperation under frameworks like IMEC is expected to facilitate smoother trade flows and investment opportunities between Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. The talks signal a continued trajectory of close engagement, as both nations look to balance security priorities with economic growth, while maintaining dialogue on regional peace and stability initiatives.

## Rahul Gandhi Slams Modi for Distracting Youth with Social Media



TPN Correspondent | Patna

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of keeping the youth occupied with social media, including reels on Instagram and Facebook, to distract them from pressing issues such as education, health, and employment. Addressing consecutive rallies in Aurangabad district, Gandhi alleged that Modi was promoting “addiction” to social media as a deliberate strategy to prevent young people from questioning the government's policies. “This is the new high (‘nasha’) of the 21st century. He wants such a scenario because it ensures that the youth remain distracted and do not hold his government ac-

countable,” Gandhi said. The former Congress president also accused Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah of engaging in “vote chori” (vote theft) in Bihar, claiming the NDA knows it cannot win the upcoming assembly elections. Gandhi urged voters to support the INDIA bloc, promising that, if elected, it would focus on the welfare of the extremely backward, socially marginalized, and Dalit communities. Gandhi outlined his vision for Bihar, including transforming the state into a manufacturing hub with products proudly labelled “Made in Bihar” and establishing a state-of-the-art university at Nalanda to revive the region's historical prominence

in education. He also criticized Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, accusing him of turning Bihar's youth into labourers while destroying employment opportunities. Gandhi further alleged that Kumar operated under the directions of officials in New Delhi and pointed to frequent question paper leaks, which he said primarily benefit financially privileged students. The Congress leader's remarks highlight his push to frame the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections as a choice between youth empowerment and governance neglect, urging citizens to vote for development, education, and employment reforms over social media distractions.

## Tejashwi Yadav Promises Rs 30,000 for Women Ahead of Bihar Polls



TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Tuesday announced that his party will provide Rs 30,000 annually to women in Bihar in a single transfer if voted to power, under the proposed ‘Mai Bahin Maan Yojana’. The scheme is scheduled to be implemented on Makar Sankranti (January 14, 2026). The announcement comes just days ahead of the first phase of Bihar Assembly polls on November 6 and aims to counter the ruling NDA's ‘Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana’, under which Rs 10,000 has already been transferred to over 1 crore women to support entrepreneurship and small

businesses. Speaking at a press conference in Patna, Yadav said, “All the mothers and sisters in Bihar are excited about the Mai Bahin Maan Yojana. People say that this scheme will provide them with economic justice.” The RJD's manifesto earlier pledged Rs 2,500 per month for women starting December 1, along with Rs 30,000 annually for the next five years. Responding to public demand, Yadav said the entire annual amount will be transferred in one go on January 14. In addition to women-focused financial support, Yadav promised incentives for farmers, including Rs 300 per quintal of paddy and Rs 400 for wheat as a bonus

over the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He also highlighted administrative reforms, promising the posting of teachers, police, healthcare workers, and other employees within a 70-kilometre radius of their home districts. Yadav reiterated his commitment to reintroducing the Old Pension Scheme (OPS), which has been a key demand among government employees in the state. Bihar will vote in two phases—November 6 and 11—with counting scheduled for November 14. Yadav's announcement is seen as a strategic move to consolidate support among women voters and counter the NDA's poll outreach in the run-up to the elections.



Global Peace Prayer Festival 2025 Kicks Off in Thimphu



TPN Correspondent | Buenos Aires

The Global Peace Prayer Festival 2025 commenced on Tuesday at the Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu, with Bhutan Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay attending the opening ceremony. The 13-day spiritual gathering, running from November 4 to 17, aims to unite Buddhist leaders, practitioners, and peace advocates from around the world to promote harmony, compassion, and global peace.

Organized by the Royal Government of Bhutan, the festival brings together representatives from Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana traditions, reflecting the nation's effort to harness the transformative power of mindfulness and loving-kindness. The opening day featured the sacred Jabzhi Dhoechog ritual, conducted by the Central Monastic Body at Kuenselphodrang, which combines peaceful offerings with protective elements to cleanse negative karma from body, speech, and mind.

At Changlimithang Ground, participants engaged in a non-sectarian Global Peace Prayer, with prayers offered in English, Tibetan, and Dzongkha, accompanied by simultaneous translations.

Nine Climbers Killed In Sperate Avalanches In Nepal

TPN Correspondent | Kathmandu

At least nine climbers, including two Nepali guides, have lost their lives in two separate avalanche incidents in Nepal, officials confirmed on Tuesday. The tragedies occurred in the Himalayan regions of Mt. Yalung Ri and Mt. Panbari, highlighting the persistent dangers faced by mountaineers in Nepal's high-altitude peaks.

The first incident struck near Mt. Yalung Ri (6,920m) under Gaushankar Rural Municipality on Monday morning. Seven climbers were buried in the avalanche while attempting to scale the peak, according to Deputy Superintendent of Police Gyan Kumar Mahato. A joint rescue mission was mobilized to retrieve the victims' bodies.

The deceased climbers included two Nepali guides, two Italians—Paolo Cocco and Marco Di Marcello—a Canadian, a French, and a German national. Additionally, five climbers, including three Nepalis and two French nationals, sustained injuries and were airlifted to hospitals in Kathmandu. Four more climbers with minor injuries were also rescued from the site.

In a separate tragedy in the Manaslu region, two Italian climbers, Stefano Farronato and Alessandro Caputo, who had been missing

since heavy snowfall on October 28, were found dead inside their tent at Camp I of Mt. Panbari (6,887m). Their bodies were recovered from an altitude of 5,242 meters on Tuesday. Another Italian climber, Velter Paralion, who had been stranded with them, was rescued earlier on Sunday.

The Nepal Tourism Board expressed deep sorrow over the incidents, issuing condolences to the families of the victims. "We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of lives in the avalanche. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families and friends of the seven victims in Yalung Ri mountain," the board stated.

These incidents underscore the extreme risks faced by mountaineers in Nepal's high-altitude ranges, especially during the pre-winter season when heavy snowfall and avalanches are common. Rescue teams continue their operations to ensure the safety of survivors and recover the deceased.

Complementing the spiritual programs, the festival will feature exhibitions of Kalachakra art, artefacts, and scholarly seminars, showcasing Bhutan's dedication to preserving and sharing its rich Buddhist heritage.

The Global Peace Prayer Festival 2025 stands as a historic occasion, promoting unity, devotion, and collective healing, sending a powerful message of hope, compassion, and peace in today's divided world.



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“New York Will Be Economic, Social Disaster If Mamdani Becomes Mayor”: Trump

TPN Bureau | Washington

US President Donald Trump has endorsed former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo in his independent bid for New York City mayor, warning voters against electing Democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani. In a post on Truth Social, Trump described Mamdani, 34, as a “communist” and claimed a Mamdani victory would lead to a “complete and total economic and social disaster” for the city.

Trump, who often refers to New York as his first home, threatened that federal funds for the city could be restricted to the bare minimum if Mamdani were elected. “If Communist Candidate Zohran Mamdani wins the Election for Mayor of New York City, it is highly unlikely that I will be contributing Federal Funds, other than the very minimum as required... this once great City has ZERO chance of success, or



even survival,” he wrote. Highlighting Cuomo's track record, Trump argued that a vote for the

former governor would be a safer choice. “I would much rather see a Democrat, who has had a Record of Success, WIN, than a Communist with no experience and a Record of COMPLETE AND

TOTAL FAILURE,” Trump said, referencing Mamdani's tenure as an Assemblyman and ques-

tioning his ability to lead the city.

Trump also criticized GOP nominee Curtis Sliwa, claiming that voting for him could inadvertently support Mamdani. He even took a jab at Sliwa's signature red beret, suggesting he would look better without it.

The endorsement comes as New York City prepares for its mayoral election on November 4, in a race that has drawn national attention due to the mix of independent, Democratic, and Republican candidates. Trump's intervention underscores the high stakes and polarized atmosphere surrounding the vote, as he seeks to influence the outcome in favor of Cuomo over both Mamdani and Sliwa.

The election is expected to be closely watched, with voters evaluating experience, political ideology, and leadership ability as they head to the polls.

“We Weren’t The First Nor...”: Pak Responds To Trump’s Claim On Testing Nukes

TPN Correspondent | Florida

A senior Pakistani official has reiterated that Islamabad will not be the first to resume nuclear tests, following remarks by US President Donald Trump suggesting that Pakistan might be secretly testing its nuclear weapons. Speaking to CBS News, the official emphasized, “Pakistan was not the first to carry out nuclear tests and will not be the first to resume nuclear tests.”

Trump, in a recent interview on CBS's 60 Minutes, claimed that countries including Russia, China, North Korea, and Pakistan have allegedly conducted underground nuclear tests without public disclosure. He added that the United States might need to conduct its own tests to avoid being the only country not testing. “They don't go and tell you about it... They test way underground, where people don't know exactly what's happening



with the test. You feel a little bit of a vibration,” Trump said.

While Trump's allegations stirred global attention, historical records

show that no nation other than North Korea has conducted nuclear detonations in recent decades. Russia and China last tested in 1990 and 1996, respectively.

The United States, a signatory of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) since 1996, conducted its final nuclear test in 1992.

Pakistan's nuclear history indicates its last known nuclear explosive tests occurred in 1998, after which Islamabad declared a unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing, though it has not signed the CTBT. Pakistani authorities have consistently emphasized their commitment to maintaining regional stability and refraining from initiating nuclear detonations.

Experts suggest that Trump's comments may reflect geopolitical concerns about nuclear deterrence rather than confirmed evidence of clandestine testing. Analysts note that Pakistan continues to rely on its existing arsenal while engaging in diplomatic efforts to reassure the international community about its nuclear policy.

The exchange underscores ongoing tensions over nuclear capabilities in South Asia and highlights the sensitivity surrounding statements by global leaders regarding weapons testing. Pakistan remains firm on its stance of not being the first to resume nuclear tests.

India Sends 40 Tonnes of Relief Material to Jamaica, Cuba

TPN Correspondent | Balochistan

India on Tuesday dispatched 40 tonnes of humanitarian aid to Jamaica and Cuba in the aftermath of Hurricane Melissa, reaffirming New Delhi's commitment to support its Global South partners during natural disasters.

An Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft carrying 20 tonnes of relief supplies for each country took off from New Delhi this morning. The shipment includes Aarogya Maitri BHISHM Cube field hospitals, food and daily utility items, medicines, medical equipment, power generators, shelter material, hygiene kits, and rehabilitation support items, aimed at assisting affected communities in recovery and rebuilding efforts.

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar highlighted India's dedication to timely disaster relief, stating, “India stands with our Global South partners in the face of such natural disasters and will assist our friends in recovery and reconstruction.” He added that the initiative reflects India's



broad humanitarian outreach guided by the Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam ethos, focusing on rapid assistance to nations impacted by climate-induced calamities.

Hurricane Melissa, a powerful tropical storm,

recently swept across parts of the Caribbean, causing widespread destruction to infrastructure and disrupting essential services. The storm has claimed around 50 lives so far and left communities in urgent need of aid.

Officials emphasized that India's support includes both immediate relief and resources for medium-term rehabilitation, such as medical care, shelters, and basic utilities. The deployment of BHISHM Cube field hospitals

will provide essential healthcare services in affected regions, while food, hygiene kits, and shelter material will assist families displaced by the storm.

This humanitarian gesture underscores India's

active role in international disaster relief and solidarity with countries facing climate-related crises, strengthening ties with Caribbean nations while offering timely support to save lives and rebuild communities.



# India’s 92% AI adoption rate the highest in Asia Pacific: BCG report

India has emerged as the front-runner in workplace artificial intelligence (AI) adoption in the Asia Pacific region, with 92% of employees using AI in their daily work, according to a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG).

Across the Asia Pacific, 78% of workers regularly use AI, surpassing the global average of 72%. The report, published by BCG X, the firm’s technology build and design arm, highlights the region’s leadership in integrating AI across workplaces, from offices to frontline operations.

“India’s AI adoption rate, the highest in Asia Pacific, signals not just enthusiasm but readiness for the next phase of transformation,” said Nipun Kalra, India Leader, BCG X. He noted that 58% of frontline Indian employees receive clear guidance on AI use, nearly double the regional average, fostering responsible and scalable innovation.

The study shows AI adoption is no longer confined to managerial roles. Across Asia Pacific, 70% of frontline employees now use AI weekly or more, compared to 51% globally, demonstrating how workers at all levels are driving digital transformation.

Despite optimism, concerns



remain. 52% of employees worry AI may replace their roles, while only a third fully understand how AI tools work. Additionally, 58% admitted they would use AI without company approval, underscoring the need for better governance and oversight.

BCG emphasized that sustained AI progress will require effective leadership, upskilling, and organizational design. “Organizations must move from experimentation to reimagining operating models, building governance, skills, and structures

that turn AI’s promise into measurable enterprise and economic value,” Kalra added.

The findings highlight India’s readiness for large-scale AI adoption and the critical need for structured frameworks to ensure that the technology benefits

both businesses and employees while mitigating risks.

This report positions India not only as a regional leader in AI adoption but also as a model for responsible and strategic AI integration across emerging economies.

## Markets Slip on Foreign Fund Outflows, Weak Asian Cues



Equity markets opened lower on Tuesday, weighed down by foreign fund outflows and weak cues from Asian peers. The BSE Sensex slipped 55 points to 83,923.48, while the NSE Nifty 50 dipped 40.95 points to 25,722.40 in early trade.

Among the Sensex stocks, Power Grid, Eternal, HCL Tech, Maruti, Tata Motors, and Infosys were the major laggards, while Bharti Airtel, Titan, Reliance Industries, and Mahindra & Mahindra gained ground.

According to exchange data,

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) sold equities worth Rs 1,883.78 crore on Monday, continuing a trend of persistent outflows. In contrast, Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought shares worth Rs 3,516.36 crore, providing partial support to the market.

“FIIs’ renewed selling is constraining the rally in the market. In the last four days, FIIs have offloaded equities worth Rs 14,269 crore. Higher valuations in India and muted earnings growth are restrain-

ing foreign investors, who are now focusing on cheaper markets with better earnings potential,” said V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited.

In Asian markets, most indices traded lower, with South Korea’s Kospi, Japan’s Nikkei 225, and Shanghai’s SSE Composite under pressure. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng was an exception, trading in positive territory.

US markets ended mostly higher on Monday, providing mixed global cues. The Brent crude benchmark slipped 0.20% to USD 64.76 a barrel, adding to the cautious sentiment.

In the previous session, the Sensex had inched up 39.78 points to 83,978.49, while the Nifty gained 41.25 points to settle at 25,763.35. Analysts suggest that market direction will continue to be influenced by FIIs’ selling patterns, domestic earnings growth, and global economic cues.

The early weakness highlights investor caution amid valuation concerns and global volatility, even as domestic institutional support offers some cushion to the markets.

## Rupee Rises 11 Paise to 88.66 Against Dollar



The Indian rupee rebounded on Tuesday, settling 11 paise higher at 88.66 against the U.S. dollar amid a mix of domestic and global factors.

Forex traders noted that while the rupee showed signs of recovery, gains remained limited due to a firm dollar, continued foreign fund outflows, and subdued domestic equity markets. These factors tempered a sharper appreciation in the currency.

Early trade saw the rupee hovering around 88.70 before gradually strengthening as selling pressure eased. Analysts attributed the recovery to improved market sentiment and lower demand for dollars in the spot market.

“While the rupee’s rebound is encouraging, persistent foreign capital outflows and a strong greenback globally are preventing more significant gains,” said a senior forex dealer at a leading Mumbai-based bank.

The U.S. dollar index, which measures the greenback’s performance against a basket of major currencies, remained supported by expectations of stable interest rates in the United States. This limited the rupee’s upward movement despite some domestic buying

interest.

In the domestic equity markets, the Sensex and Nifty opened lower amid cautious investor sentiment, further restricting foreign inflows and keeping pressure on the currency.

Analysts suggest that in the near term, the rupee is likely to trade in a narrow range, influenced by global dollar trends, foreign institutional investor (FII) activity, and domestic macroeconomic indicators such as trade balance and inflation data.

The rupee had faced pressure in the previous sessions due to large outflows by foreign investors, with equities witnessing net selling. However, improved domestic demand for the currency and easing market concerns provided support, allowing the rupee to recover part of its losses.

With global markets expected to remain volatile, forex traders are closely watching U.S. economic data, crude oil prices, and domestic fund flows to gauge the currency’s trajectory in the coming weeks.

The rupee’s rebound, though modest, reflects resilience amid global uncertainties and ongoing volatility in capital markets.

## SBI Q2 Net Profit Jumps 10% to ₹20,160 Crore



State Bank of India (SBI) reported a 10% year-on-year rise in net profit for the second quarter ended September 30, 2025, at ₹20,160 crore, driven by improved asset quality and gains from strategic investments.

A key contributor to the robust performance was the sale of a 13.18% stake in Yes Bank, which generated a profit of ₹4,593 crore. This exceptional gain significantly boosted the bank’s overall net earnings for the quarter.

The bank’s performance also reflects strengthened asset quality across its lending portfolio, which helped offset pressures from other operational costs. Analysts note that SBI’s proactive approach in managing non-performing assets and strategic stake sales is reinforcing its financial position.

“This quarter’s results highlight SBI’s ability to generate exceptional returns through smart investment decisions while maintaining healthy

lending practices,” said an industry expert.

SBI, India’s largest public sector lender, continues to leverage its wide branch network and digital banking footprint to drive growth, while balancing risk management and capital allocation. The gains from the Yes Bank stake sale underscore the bank’s focus on unlocking value from strategic investments.

With robust capital buffers and improved asset quality, SBI is well-positioned to maintain steady growth in the coming quarters, even as the broader banking sector faces challenges from fluctuating interest rates and evolving credit demand.

The bank’s strong quarterly performance also strengthens investor confidence, reflecting its continued dominance in India’s banking landscape and its capacity to capitalize on both operational and strategic opportunities.

## Microsoft Signs \$9.7B Deal With IREN for Nvidia Chips

Microsoft has entered into a \$9.7 billion contract with data-center operator IREN, securing access to Nvidia’s advanced chips to address the growing demand for artificial intelligence (AI) computing power. The deal aims to help Microsoft overcome bottlenecks that have limited its ability to fully capitalize on the AI boom.

According to IREN’s filing, a portion of the funds from Microsoft’s prepayment will be used to finance part of its \$5.8 billion deal with Dell, which supplies Nvidia’s GB300 chips and other equipment essential for Microsoft’s AI infrastructure.

The announcement had an immediate impact on the stock market. IREN shares surged more than 20% in premarket trading on Monday, reflecting investor optimism about the strategic partnership. Dell’s shares also rose 5%, given its role in providing the AI-server hardware that Microsoft will deploy.

Analysts say the deal underscores Microsoft’s commitment to expanding its AI capabilities at a time when demand for high-



performance computing is skyrocketing. By securing priority access to Nvidia chips through IREN, Microsoft can accelerate the rollout of its AI products and services while managing supply chain challenges.

“Access to cutting-edge Nvidia chips is critical for Microsoft to

maintain competitiveness in the AI sector,” said an industry analyst. “This deal not only strengthens its data-center capacity but also helps hedge against global semiconductor supply constraints.”

The partnership also illustrates the growing trend of tech

giants collaborating with data-center operators to secure hardware essential for AI workloads, signaling the strategic importance of supply chain management in the AI race.

Microsoft and IREN did not provide exact timelines for deployment, but the scale of the

contract indicates a significant expansion of Microsoft’s AI infrastructure in the coming months. The move is expected to reinforce Microsoft’s position in the AI market while giving IREN and Dell a substantial boost in revenue from chip-related contracts.



French Students React to Spicy Andhra Chicken Curry



A viral video capturing the reactions of a group of French students tasting Andhra chicken curry for the first time has won hearts on social media. The clip, shared on Instagram by @amarprashanth\_07\_yt, shows the students attempting the fiery South Indian delicacy with rice, revealing both their struggle with the spice and their enjoyment of the dish. In the video, the French students are seen eating the curry in the traditional Indian way, mixing it with rice using their hands. The expressions on their faces range from shock at the heat to sheer delight. While some struggle with the intensity of the spices, one student is seen licking his plate clean, clearly impressed by the flavor despite the fiery kick. The video has struck a chord with viewers online, celebrating not only the boldness of the students but also the richness of Indian cuisine. It reflects how food can bridge cultural gaps, bringing people together through shared experiences.

McDonald’s CEO Picks Snack Wrap as Favourite Menu Item

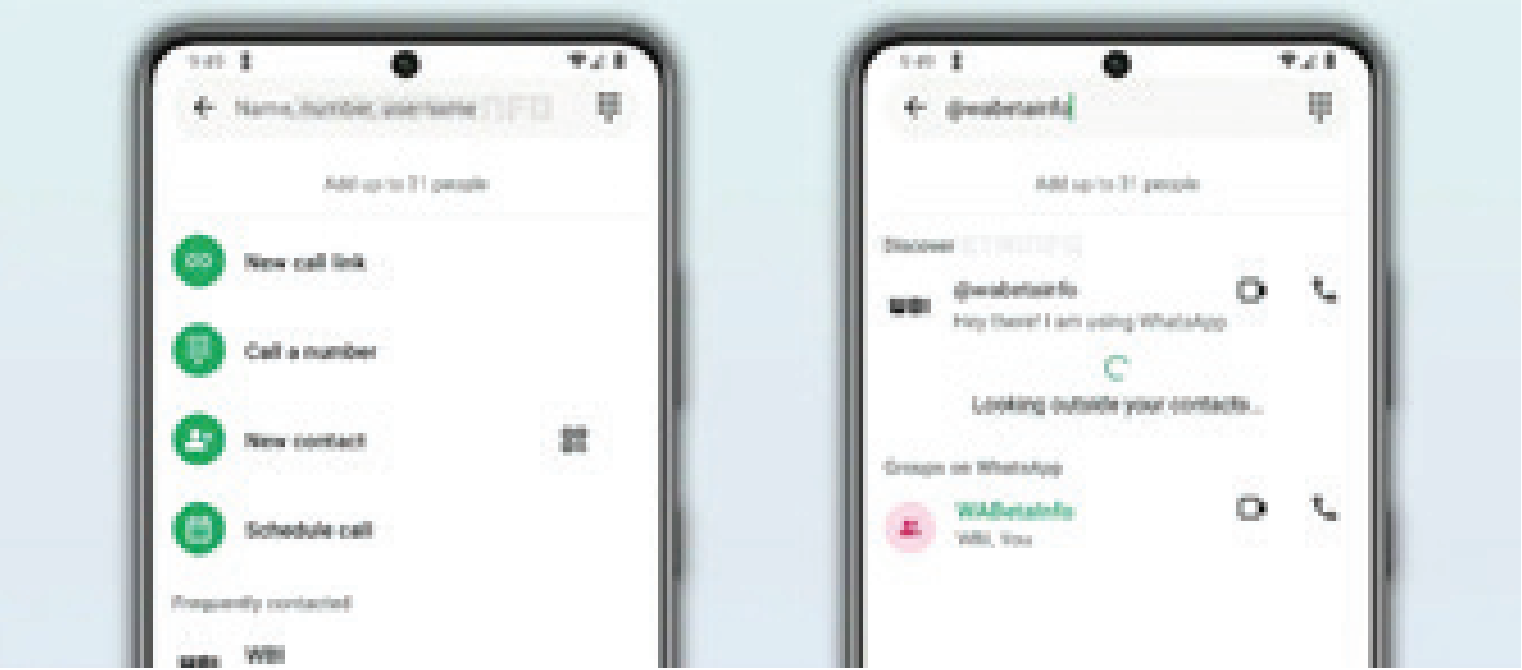


McDonald’s CEO Chris Kempczinski recently revealed his favourite menu item in a playful “McDonald’s Menu Item Tournament,” surprising fans by choosing a non-burger item as his top pick. The tournament, shared on LinkedIn, featured popular menu staples including Big Mac, Egg McMuffin, World Famous Fries, McCrispy Chicken Sandwich, Filet-O-Fish, Chicken McNuggets, Vanilla Cone, Apple Pie, Quarter Pounder with Cheese (QPC), and Snack Wrap. In the bracket-style challenge, Kempczinski initially favoured the Egg McMuffin over the Big Mac, showing his fondness for McDonald’s breakfast offerings. The fries, often celebrated as a fan favourite, performed strongly, defeating the Egg McMuffin, McCrispy, and Filet-O-Fish, but eventually lost to Chicken McNuggets. The McNuggets then progressed through the rounds, surpassing McCrispy Strips but falling short against the Vanilla Cone. The tournament’s semi-finals saw the Quarter Pounder with Cheese edge out the Vanilla Cone, leading to a

final showdown between the QPC and the Snack Wrap. In a surprising turn, Kempczinski crowned the Snack Wrap—comprising McCrispy Strips, shredded lettuce, cheese, and a soft tortilla—as his ultimate favourite. The choice carries special significance, as the Snack Wrap made a return to McDonald’s US menus in July 2025 after nearly ten years off shelves. Fans and social media users responded positively to the CEO’s pick, appreciating the spotlight on a beloved, once-retired menu item. The video offered a rare, personal glimpse into the preferences of McDonald’s top executive, showing that even the leader of a global fast-food empire has his own quirky favourites. The Snack Wrap’s victory underscores its enduring popularity and reminds fans of the simple pleasures beyond burgers and fries. Kempczinski’s fun tournament not only engaged food lovers worldwide but also celebrated the diversity of McDonald’s menu offerings, from breakfast classics to desserts and nostalgic favourites.

WhatsApp May Soon Let Users Call Others via Username

WhatsApp is reportedly developing a new feature that will allow users to call or message others using usernames, eliminating the need to exchange phone numbers. This functionality, spotted in recent beta releases for iOS and Android by feature tracker WABetaInfo, could significantly simplify connecting with new contacts while maintaining privacy. The feature will let users search for a person’s username in the Calls tab. If a match is found, users can tap on voice call or video call buttons to initiate a conversation. Depending on privacy settings, the caller may also see the person’s profile photo before connecting. While the feature is still in development, it promises to offer a more streamlined way of communication, similar to Signal’s existing username-based calls. To prevent misuse by spammers or scammers, WhatsApp plans to introduce a “username



key” system. Unknown users attempting to place a call would need to enter the correct username key to connect. This feature is expected to be optional but could play a crucial role in enhancing security while enabling easier communication. Apart from username-based calls, WhatsApp is actively testing several other features. These include cover photos for chats, in-chat storage management, media and sticker filters, message limits for

new chats, and a channel quiz feature. Users may also soon be able to reply and react to messages from Apple Watch and secure chat backups with passkey encryption. No official timeline has been shared regarding the rollout of these features. They are expected to first appear on the beta channel, where WhatsApp will test them before making them available to all users. Once released, these updates could mark a significant shift in how WhatsApp handles privacy, contact discovery, and user interaction. This development indicates WhatsApp’s growing focus on enhancing usability while balancing security and privacy for its over 2 billion global users.

Ignyte Launches Ultra-Light Airlite Helmets in India

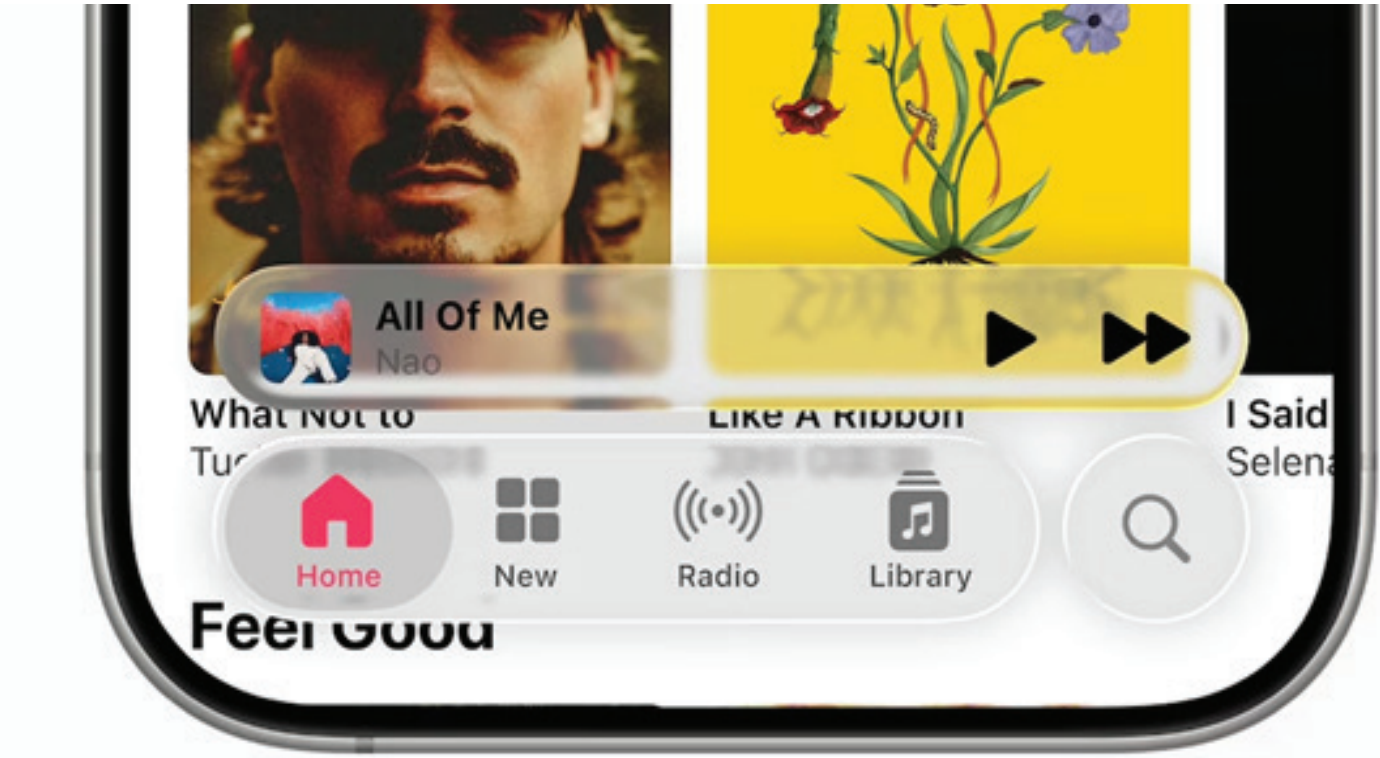
Ignyte, the premium brand of Steelbird Hi-Tech India Ltd, has launched its Airlite Series helmets in India, setting a new benchmark in ultra-lightweight, high-safety motorcycle helmets. The series introduces flagship models AI-10 and AI-14, certified under ECE 22.06 (Europe) and DOT (USA) standards, ensuring global-level safety for riders. Weighing just 900 grams (ECE) and 800 grams (DOT), the Airlite helmets are designed to provide a zero-fatigue riding experience without compromising impact protection. They are crafted using Ignyte’s proprietary balloon moulding technology, featuring a multi-impact Expanded Polypropylene (EPP) liner, which efficiently absorbs energy and rebounds after impact for lasting protection, surpassing traditional EPS liners. The helmets sport an ultra-light fiberglass composite shell with controlled resin distribution for uniform thickness and superior strength. Riders can choose between Double D-Ring and Micrometric Buckle retention systems, combining professional-grade safety with every-



day convenience. The premium interiors use imported, anti-allergenic fabric that is replaceable and washable, ensuring long-term comfort and hygiene. The optical-grade polycarbonate visor provides distortion-free clarity, scratch resistance, and UV protection. The Airlite Series also offers dual-shell sizing for precise fit and balanced aesthetics, catering to riders of all head sizes. Each model is certified under ISI, ECE 22.06, and DOT standards, reflecting Ignyte’s commitment to meeting the most demanding global safety requirements. Pricing for the Airlite Series starts at Rs 6,659 for the AI-10E (ISI + ECE 22.06), with the AI-14E (ISI + ECE 22.06) priced at Rs 6,999. The DOT variants—AI-10 and AI-14—are priced at Rs 6,649 and Rs 6,859, respectively. The helmets will be available at authorized Steelbird and Ignyte dealerships and leading online platforms across India, offering riders an ideal blend of lightweight comfort, advanced safety, and modern design for every journey.

iOS 26.1 Lets Users Tone Down Liquid Glass Effect

Apple’s iOS 26.1 update brings a new option to adjust the controversial Liquid Glass effect, which debuted in iOS 26 last September. The feature, praised for its sleek glossy appearance but criticized for reducing readability, can now be toggled between Clear and Tinted modes, giving users more control over their display experience. The Liquid Glass effect adds a high-translucency, glass-like finish across iPhone interfaces. While visually striking, many users found it distracting and inconsistent across different wallpapers. iOS 26.1 addresses these concerns by allowing users to reduce transparency and gloss with the Tinted option, making menus and app backgrounds easier to read. To adjust the Liquid Glass effect, users should first ensure their device is updated to iOS 26.1. Then, navigate to Settings > Display & Brightness > Liquid Glass. Selecting Clear preserves the original glossy look, while Tinted tones down the effect, giving the interface a more opaque and neutral appearance. This makes text and icons clearer, improving usability without losing the modern aesthetic. The update is available for iPhone 11 and newer models, including the second-generation



iPhone SE. While the change may seem minor, it reflects Apple’s willingness to respond to user feedback, a shift from the company’s typically cautious approach to design changes. iOS 26.1 also includes several security fixes and other enhancements, but the Liquid Glass toggle has emerged as the most talked-about feature. For users who struggled with the overly reflective interface, the update offers a simple solution to restore readability while maintaining the stylistic appeal of Apple’s bold visual choices. With the Tinted setting, Apple balances visual innovation and practical usability, allowing users to enjoy a modern interface without compromising on clarity—a move likely to win over critics of the original design.



# Sinner, Alcaraz to Face Off in South Korea Exhibition Ahead of Australian Open

Tennis fans are in for a treat as Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz, the world's top two men's players, are set to clash in an exhibition match in South Korea this January. Organisers announced on Monday (November 3, 2025) that the high-profile encounter will take place at the Incheon Inspire Arena on January 10, just eight days before the Australian Open kicks off in Melbourne.

The match will be part of the prestigious Hyundai Card Super Match series, which has previously hosted some of the biggest legends in tennis, including Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic, Pete Sampras, Maria Sharapova, and Venus Williams. The inclusion of Sinner and Alcaraz continues the event's legacy of featuring the sport's elite.

Both players have been in scintillating form, dominating men's tennis in recent seasons. Between them, Sinner and Alcaraz have claimed nine of the last ten major titles, cementing their rivalry as



one of the most exciting in modern tennis. Their exhibition in South Korea will offer fans an early glimpse of their form and intensity ahead of the new season. The matchup also highlights tennis's growing global reach, with Asia becoming an increasingly popular destination for high-profile events. Organisers expect a packed house at Incheon's state-of-the-art arena, as Korean fans get a rare opportunity to witness two of the sport's brightest stars in action.

With both athletes eyeing strong starts to their 2025 campaigns, the South Korea exhibition promises to deliver world-class tennis and a thrilling preview of what could be another fierce battle for Grand Slam supremacy at the Australian Open.

# Mirabai Chanu to Move Up to 53kg as Her Weight Class Is Axed from 2028 Olympics



Olympic silver medallist Mirabai Chanu will compete in a higher weight category at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, after her current 49kg division was dropped from the Games. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has re-

structured the weightlifting programme, increasing the total number of events to 12 — six for men and six for women — leading to the removal of Chanu's long-time category.

Chanu, who won silver

at the Tokyo Olympics (2021) in the 49kg class, will now move up to 53kg, the lowest weight division available for women at the LA Games. The decision was confirmed after the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) released

new Olympic categories on Monday, marking the second major category reshuffle within a year.

India's chief national coach Vijay Sharma said the change could benefit Chanu in the long run. "This is good for Mirabai

because cutting down to 48kg was always taxing for her body," Sharma told PTL. "She will continue in the same class till the Asian Games next year, after which we'll begin preparing her for 53kg."

Chanu, 31, has often spoken about the physical strain of maintaining a sub-49kg frame. Moving up a category will allow her to add muscle mass and potentially improve her overall lifts. She recently clinched gold at the Commonwealth Championships and silver at the World Championships in the 48kg class.

The new Olympic weight categories, which take effect from August 1, 2026, will feature 53kg, 61kg, 69kg, 77kg, 86kg, and +86kg for women and 65kg, 75kg, 85kg, 95kg, 110kg, and +110kg for men.

Despite the shift, Chanu remains one of India's top medal hopes as she begins her journey toward the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics in a new division.

# Mohsin Naqvi Unlikely to Attend ICC Meet as BCCI Raises Asia Cup Trophy Issue

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi is reportedly unlikely to attend the ongoing ICC Executive Board meeting in Dubai, where the BCCI is expected to raise the contentious issue surrounding the Asia Cup trophy. The trophy has remained locked inside the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) headquarters in Dubai since the tournament's conclusion in late September.

According to sources, Naqvi's absence may be due to "domestic political issues" in Pakistan, though his decision has drawn attention given that he also serves as ACC chairman. The meeting, which began on Tuesday (November 4, 2025), was expected to see heated discussions over the trophy controversy — an incident that has strained cricketing relations between India and Pakistan.

The issue stems from the Asia Cup 2025 final, where the Indian players reportedly declined to accept the trophy from Naqvi following his anti-India remarks during the tournament. As a result, the trophy presentation ceremony was never



held, and the silverware has since remained unclaimed at the ACC's Dubai office.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is now pushing for a formal resolution to the matter at the ICC meeting. Officials are likely to question Naqvi's conduct as both PCB and ACC head, arguing that his statements and actions have politicized a continental cricket event.

With Naqvi expected to skip the meeting, ACC representatives may instead handle the matter on his behalf. However, his absence could further complicate discussions, leaving the trophy dispute unresolved.

The controversy under-

scores the continuing tensions between India and Pakistan in cricket governance, despite efforts by the ICC to maintain neutrality and promote cooperation among member boards.

# Pakistan Women's Coach Muhammad Wasim Sacked After World Cup Debacle



The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has sacked Muhammad Wasim, head coach of the national women's cricket team, following the team's disastrous performance in the recently concluded ICC Women's ODI World Cup. The decision comes after Pakistan finished last in the eight-team tournament, co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka.

Pakistan, led by Fatima Sana, endured a forgettable campaign — losing four matches, while three others were washed out due to rain. Despite having topped the qualifying rounds in Lahore earlier this year to secure their World Cup berth, the team failed to register a single win in the main event, playing all their matches in Colombo.

In a statement, the PCB confirmed that Wasim's contract expired at the end of the tournament and would not be renewed. The board is now on the lookout for a new head coach, with sour-

es indicating that a foreign candidate is being considered. If no suitable option is found, former Pakistan captain Bismah Maroof could be appointed to the role.

Wasim, a former Test cricketer and ex-chief selector of Pakistan's men's team, had taken over the women's side last year. His tenure saw a string of underwhelming results, including Pakistan's Asia Cup semifinal exit and an early league-stage elimination in the T20 World Cup earlier this year.

A PCB insider revealed that the entire support staff would also be replaced soon as part of a broader overhaul aimed at rebuilding the women's setup.

The changes come amid India's triumphant Women's World Cup victory, which has further highlighted the contrasting fortunes of the two neighboring cricketing nations on the global stage.

# Sangram Singh Makes History with LFL Europe Win



India's wrestling icon turned MMA fighter Sangram Singh has made history by becoming the first Indian to win at the Levels Fight League (LFL) Europe. The victory came at LFL 20 in Amsterdam, where Sangram faced Tunisia's Hakim Trabelsi, a younger and experienced MMA striker.

From the opening bell, Sangram showcased his superior wrestling skills, controlling the fight with strategic positioning and precise striking. He maintained dominance by keeping the match in clinch and body-lock positions, neutralizing Trabelsi's attacks while staying calm and composed.

The fight ended decisively in the second round when Sangram executed a flawless bar arm choke submission, a variant of the rear-naked choke, forcing Trabelsi to tap out. This finish highlighted Sangram's fight IQ, technical mastery, and mental toughness.

This win adds to Sangram Singh's growing MMA legacy in Europe. He had earlier made a sensational debut at the Gama International Fighting Championship in Tbilisi, Georgia, defeating Pakistani fighter Ali

Raza Nasir in under 90 seconds. Even at the age of 40, Sangram continues to prove that discipline, confidence, and determination define a champion more than age.

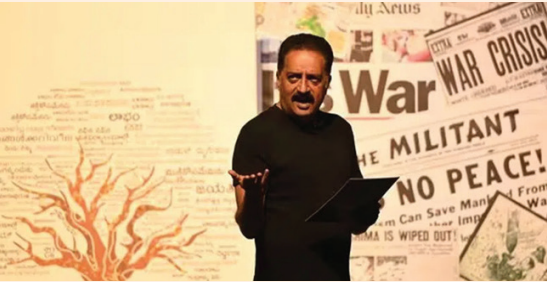
Speaking after the match, Sangram said, "This win belongs to every young Indian dreaming of competing on the world stage. Levels Fight League gave me the platform to showcase Indian grit and resilience in Europe. I hope my journey inspires many more to pursue their dreams with dedication and courage."

Coach Bhupesh Kumar praised Sangram's strategy and patience, noting that his wrestling skills and tactical discipline were key to controlling the fight. LFL President Donovan James Alexander Panayiotis hailed Sangram as an inspiration, adding that his energy, humility, and relentless spirit make him a perfect ambassador for Indian sportsmanship.

LFL officials called the victory a milestone moment in Indian MMA history, with Sangram Singh now cementing his status as a symbol of courage, resilience, and excellence on the global stage.



“Awards Are Being Compromised”: Prakash Raj’s Strong Words on National Film Awards



Veteran actor Prakash Raj’s recent comments on the National Film Awards have sparked a heated debate across the Indian film industry. Speaking during the announcement of the 55th Kerala State Film Awards, where he served as the jury chairman, Prakash Raj made some candid and controversial remarks about the credibility of national-level awards.

The actor stated, “I am not afraid to say that the National Film Awards are now being compromised. I am happy to serve as the chairman of the Kerala jury because the state government assured complete freedom in the selection process without interference.” His remarks were perceived as a sharp critique of what he sees as growing bias and favoritism within the national awards system.

He went on to add, “Only a few are getting priority in the awards system. When juries start compromising, a great actor like Mammootty does not need such awards.” These strong words have since gone viral, drawing intense reactions from fans and industry insiders alike.

The comments came shortly after Mammootty won the Best Actor award at the Kerala State Film Awards for his stellar performance in Bhramayugam, marking yet another milestone in his illustrious career. While the win was widely celebrated, Prakash Raj’s remarks have stirred discussion about the transparency and integrity of award juries across the country.

Alongside Bhramayugam, films like Manjummel Boys also won top honours this year. Concluding his statement, Prakash Raj appealed to filmmakers to focus more on children’s cinema, urging directors and writers to create stories that speak to audiences of all ages, emphasizing that cinema should represent every section of society.

AKT to Premiere Two Days Early in the USA



Actor Ram Pothineni is all set to charm audiences with his upcoming film Andhra King Taluka (AKT), directed by Mahesh Babu P under the prestigious Mythri Movie Makers banner. The film, slated for a global release on November 28, has already created massive buzz with its catchy songs and powerful teaser, both of which have received an overwhelming response from fans and critics alike.

In an exciting update, the makers have announced that AKT will premiere two days earlier in the USA, giving overseas fans an exclusive first look on November 26. To make the occasion even more special, Ram Pothineni himself will embark on a promotional tour across the USA — his first ever international promotion campaign.

The tour, scheduled from November 26 to 30, will see Ram attending premiere shows, interacting with fans, and participating in meet-and-greet events during special screenings. This move reflects the team’s confidence in the film’s potential to make a strong mark at the overseas box office.

The makers believe that the film’s engaging storyline and emotional depth will resonate particularly well with Telugu audiences abroad, who have consistently supported romantic dramas with fresh and relatable themes.

With Mythri Movie Makers backing the project and a promising promotional strategy in place, expectations are high that Andhra King Taluka will open to record numbers both in India and overseas. As excitement builds, all eyes are now on Ram Pothineni’s much-anticipated USA tour and the early premieres that will set the stage for one of the most awaited releases of the year.

What Is the First Spark? New Poster from Dulquer Salmaan’s Kaantha

The anticipation around Dulquer Salmaan’s much-awaited period drama Kaantha is reaching new heights. Following the successful release of the energetic Rage of Kaantha track, the makers have now unveiled a new poster teasing that the “first spark” will be revealed at 4 PM today.

Directed by Selvamani Selvaraj, Kaantha is a grand pan-India project set against the backdrop of the 1960s, promising to transport audiences to a bygone era of Indian cinema. The latest poster, featuring Dulquer Salmaan, Bhagyashree Borse, and Samuthirakani, has gone viral across social media platforms, leaving fans speculating about what the “first spark” might signify—whether it’s a teaser, a scene reveal, or a musical surprise.

The film has already generated massive buzz with its promotional content. The recently released song “Ammadivee”, a soulful melody featuring Dulquer and Bhagyashree, has struck a chord with music lovers. Meanwhile, Rage of Kaantha set the tone for the movie’s intense and dramatic theme, amplifying excitement for what’s to come.

Adding to the film’s star power, Rana Dagubati is co-producing Kaantha alongside Dulquer Salmaan, marking a unique collaboration between Malayalam and Telugu cinema industries. The movie aims to blend historical storytelling with grand visuals, celebrating the charm and spirit of the golden era of Indian film culture.

With its release set for November 14, Kaantha is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about releases of the year. Fans are now eagerly waiting to see what the much-teased “first spark” will ignite at 4 PM — a glimpse that could set the stage for yet another Dulquer Salmaan blockbuster.



Manjummel Boys Triumphs as Mammooty Wins Seventh Best Actor Award



The 55th Kerala State Film Awards, often hailed as the Oscars of Bollywood, celebrated the finest achievements in Malayalam cinema at a grand ceremony held at the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Hall, Thrissur. Announced by Cultural Affairs Minister Saji Cherian on November 3, 2025, the awards honoured the best works from films released in 2024.

Instituted in 1969, the Kerala State Film Awards are the highest recognition in Malayalam cinema, celebrating excellence in performance, storytelling, and technical brilliance. This year’s jury, chaired by actor-director Prakash Raj, evaluated 128 films, narrowing them down to 26 finalists through detailed screenings and discussions.

Among the biggest winners of the evening was the survival drama Manjummel Boys, which emerged as the Best Film, reaffirming its place as one of Malayalam cinema’s most compelling recent releases. The film’s gripping narrative, emotional depth, and technical finesse were widely praised by critics and audiences alike.

Veteran superstar Mammootty added another feather to his illustrious cap, winning his seventh Best Actor award for his powerful performance that once again showcased his unmatched versatility and enduring command over the craft. His latest win further cements his status as one of India’s greatest living actors.

The awards also highlighted the growing diversity and creativity in Malayalam cinema, honouring emerging talents and innovative filmmakers who continue to push artistic boundaries.

With Manjummel Boys and Mammootty leading the honours, the 55th Kerala State Film Awards reflected both the artistic legacy and the dynamic evolution of Malayalam cinema—proving once again why it remains one of the most respected film industries in India.



Meenakshi’s First Look from NC24: Archaeologist on Duty

Naga Chaitanya is all set to explore the realms of myths and mysteries in his upcoming film #NC24, directed by Karthik Dandu, best known for Virupaksha. The film is being produced under SVCC and Sukumar Writings, with BVSN Prasad and Sukumar as producers and Bapineedu as presenter.

After intriguing audiences with an intense glimpse earlier, the makers have now unveiled the first look of Meenakshi Chaudhary, the leading lady of the film. Stepping away from the conventional heroine roles, Meenakshi essays the character Daksha, an archaeologist driven by passion and courage.

In the striking poster, Meenakshi is seen dressed in rugged field gear, sporting spectacles and examining an ancient artifact through a magnifying glass. The backdrop of a dimly lit cave adds an aura of adventure and discovery, hinting at the pivotal role her character plays in uncovering the film’s central mystery.

Her look has already sparked curiosity among fans, who are eager to see how her character blends with the film’s mythical and suspenseful narrative.

Adding further excitement, Sparsh Shrivastava, known for his performance in Laapataa Ladies, makes his Tollywood debut with this project. The shooting for NC24 is currently progressing in Hyderabad.

With a compelling premise, a strong technical team, and intriguing character reveals, NC24 promises to be a thrilling cinematic journey that intertwines ancient secrets with modern-day exploration.