

CM Revanth Reddy Unveils Major Development Projects in Makthal; Lays Foundation Stones Worth 151.92 Crore



Makthal / Atmakur, Dec 1:

The Makthal constituency in Narayanpet and Vanaparti districts witnessed a landmark day of development as Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy participated in the Public Governance – Public Success Celebrations and launched several major projects aimed at transforming long-neglected regions.

At the massive public meeting held in Makthal, key ministers including Damodar Raja Narasimha, Walkiti Sridhar Hari, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Jupally Krishna Rao, along with MLAs, MLCs, and corporation chairpersons were present.

Decades of Neglect Ends: Minister Sridhar Hari

Addressing the gather-

ing, Minister Walkiti Sridhar Hari highlighted that Makthal's development had remained stagnant for decades.

"For years, projects were promised but never implemented. Although the Krishna River flows nearby, the region suffered without irrigation, forcing thousands to migrate," he said.

He credited Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for envisioning water security for the region through the Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme.

"When I requested that Makthal be included in the project name, the Chief Minister immediately renamed it the Makthal-Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation Project," he said.

With 5,000 crore sanctioned, the project will soon provide irrigation to one lakh acres, benefiting Makthal, Narayanpet, and



Kodangal. Sridhar Hari described the Chief Minister as "a modern Bhaagiratha and the architect of new Telangana."

New Hospital and Road Upgradation

Minister Sridhar Hari also thanked Deputy CM Damodar Raja Narasimha for sanctioning a 50-crore, 50-bed government hospital for Makthal.

He noted that the Makthal-Narayanpet road remained in poor condition for nearly five decades.

"Within minutes of placing the request, the Chief Minister and R&B Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy sanctioned 210 crore to develop the route into a four-lane road," he said.

He also appreciated Minister Sridhar Hari for allocating funds for temple and tourism

development. Foundation Stones for 151.92 Crore Works in Atmakur & Amarachinthia

Earlier in the day, CM Revanth Reddy laid foundation stones for a series of development projects in Vanaparti district:

15 crore for infrastructure and civic works in Atmakur Municipality

121.92 crore for constructing a High-Level Bridge downstream of the Priyadarshi Jurala Project

50-bed Community Health Centre for Atmakur town

15 crore for urban infrastructure improvements in Amarachinthia Municipality

Concluding his address, Minister Sridhar Hari assured the people of Makthal that he would bring more funds to accelerate development in the coming months.

Revanth Reddy Begins Football Practice Ahead of Messi Exhibition Match in Hyderabad



Hyderabad:

Telangana politician Revanth Reddy has taken to the football field, beginning practice sessions in preparation for a highly anticipated exhibition match featuring football legend Lionel Messi.

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The friendly match is scheduled to be held at UPPA Stadium, attracting football fans from across the city and the state.

What makes the event even more special is that Revanth Reddy will have the rare opportunity to play alongside Messi. Practice sessions are being held at the Marri Chennareddy Human Resource Development Center, where Reddy is honing his skills ahead of the upcoming event.

The exhibition match is part of Messi's "GOAT Tour", which will see the global football icon visit Hyderabad on December 13, as the match promises to be an unforgettable sporting experience for Hyderabad.

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BJP Telangana Submits Representation to Governor Against HILTI Policy



Hyderabad, Dec 1, 2025:

BJP leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy addressed the media regarding the party's strong opposition to the HILTI policy recently introduced by the Telangana Congress government. He stated that under the leadership of BJP Telangana President N. Ramchandar Rao, the party submitted a detailed memorandum to the Governor of Telangana, highlighting the potential massive financial loss the state treasury could incur due to the new policy.

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Over various other government orders, including those expanding the GHMC jurisdiction, which he described as part of "multiple scams and anti-people decisions" by the current administration.

He urged citizens to participate in the protest dharna scheduled for December 7, organized under BJP leadership, to oppose the HILTI policy and other public interest issues.

Eleti Maheshwar Reddy concluded by reaffirming the party's commitment to fighting corruption and flawed governance in the state. "The BJP will continue to oppose all policies and practices that harm the people or compromise public funds," he said.

AI University to Begin Operations in Two Months, Says IT & Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad, December 1, 2025:

Telangana's Artificial Intelligence University, being set up in collaboration with some of the world's leading academic institutions, is slated to begin operations within the next two months, announced IT & Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu. The initiative aims to provide advanced training in emerging technologies for software engineers and graduating students, preparing them for the rapidly evolving tech landscape.

The Minister made these remarks while inaugurating the Covalent AI Innovation Centre, which currently employs around 500 engineers. Covalent has ambitious plans to expand its workforce by creating 3,000 new jobs over the next two years, reinforcing Hyderabad's status as a key hub for technology and innovation. Highlighting the importance of continuous skill development, Sridhar Babu noted, "The rapid growth of Artificial Intelligence has made it essential for professionals, whether in coding or other technology domains, to upgrade their skills. The upcoming AI University will serve as a platform for reskilling and upskilling, equipping the workforce with cutting-edge capabilities."

During the event, the Minis-



ter commended Covalent Chairman C.V. Subramanyam, praising his inspiring journey. Subramanyam began with just 18 employees decades ago under the banner of Cigniti and has grown it into a global organization employing thousands today.

Sridhar Babu also emphasized Hyderabad's growing global prominence, comparing it with major international hubs. "While Silicon Valley represents global technology leadership, Shenzhen symbolizes world-class production, and Singapore stands for discipline and good governance—Hyderabad is emerging as a

unique combination of all three," he said.

The Minister further highlighted Hyderabad's strategic advantages. "The city has the highest number of Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India, attracting leading global banking and financial institutions.

In the life sciences sector, Hyderabad produces one-third of the country's vaccines, and several healthcare innovation centres are coming up. Such an ecosystem is unmatched anywhere else in India," he added, attributing these achievements to the government's strong commitment to advanced research and development.

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Telangana Rising 2047 Summit and Global Summit: Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Outlines Vision for State's Transformation

Hyderabad, December 1, 2025: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka held a media conference at the Secretariat to present the key highlights of the "Telangana Rising-2047 Policy Document" and the upcoming Telangana Rising Global Summit, underlining the state government's ambitious developmental vision.

Addressing the media, the Deputy CM said that under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the people's government, guided by the ethos of Indiramma Rajyam, has collectively prepared a comprehensive roadmap titled "Telangana Rising 2047." This initiative aims to outline a long-term strategy for Telangana's socio-economic transformation and mark the completion of two years of the Congress government in office.

The Telangana Rising

2047 Summit will be held from December 1 to 6 across erstwhile district headquarters to showcase governance achievements, development initiatives, and welfare programs. The schedule includes:

December 1: Makthal, erstwhile Mahabubnagar district

December 2: Kothagudem, erstwhile Khammam district

December 3: Husnabad, erstwhile Warangal district

December 4: Adilabad district headquarters

December 5: Narsampet, erstwhile Warangal district

December 6: Devarakonda, erstwhile Nalgonda district

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will participate as the Chief Guest at the celebrations in each district, alongside Ministers, MLAs, MLCs, and MPs from the respective areas. The Deputy



CM highlighted that the event will engage local communities and showcase Telangana's developmental progress and governance achievements over the past two years.

A special focus of the summit will be on education, with the Chief Minister participating at Osmania University to lay foundations for major

development works and engage in discussions with intellectuals regarding higher education reforms.

The Global Summit, scheduled for December 8 and 9 at the Future City, will provide a platform for presenting Telangana's governance accomplishments and future vision. On December 9, a Vision Documentary

will be released, highlighting how Telangana aims to transform into a Three Trillion Dollar Economy over the coming decades. Distinguished leaders and global achievers from India and abroad have been invited to witness the unveiling of Telangana's ambitious roadmap.

To engage the public and further showcase

Telangana to the world, exhibition stalls at the Global Summit will be open from December 11 to 13, highlighting key sectors and achievements of the state. Additionally, the celebrations will feature a grand football match on December 13 at Uppal Stadium, where global football icon Lionel Messi will participate, demonstrating Tel-



Sri Batti Vikramarka Mallu
Hon'ble Deputy CM

strategic planning, and commitment to inclusive growth, aiming to position Telangana as a globally competitive, economically strong, and socially progressive state by 2047.

Telangana Government Allocates 448 More RTC Buses to Women Self-Help Groups, Boosting Financial Empowerment

Hyderabad, December 1, 2025: The Telangana government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, has taken a significant step to strengthen women's financial empowerment by announcing the allocation of 448 additional RTC buses to women's self-help groups (SHGs) across the state. The decision, jointly announced by Transport Minister Ponnambalam Prabhakar and Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Women & Child Welfare Dr. Danasari Seethakka, aims to expand the successful initiative that already has 152 RTC buses managed efficiently by Mandal-level women's federations.

The new allocation is part of the state's broader strategy under the Indira Mahila Shakti Scheme, which seeks to provide women with sustainable income avenues while promoting their active participation in public transport services. Each bus is expected to generate approximately 70,000 per month in rental income for the women's groups, significantly enhancing the economic independence of rural women.

In this context, letters were



sent to SERP CEO Divya Devarajan and RTC MD Nagireddy, confirming that the Mandal women's federations have completed the acquisition process for the 448 buses and are ready to hand them over to RTC for operations once the necessary approvals are obtained. This expansion will substantially increase the number of buses run by women's federations under RTC, reinforcing their role as direct stakeholders in the state's public transport system. The ministers highlighted that the success of the existing 152 bus-

es has paved the way for this new initiative, demonstrating the capability and discipline of women's federations in managing complex operations efficiently. Minister Ponnambalam Prabhakar and Dr. Seethakka expressed their satisfaction over the move, emphasizing that women's empowerment through direct economic participation not only uplifts families and communities but also contributes to the strengthening of the rural economy.

The ministers further noted that the government is committed to expanding this scheme fur-

ther, enabling more women's SHGs to access similar opportunities in the future. They reiterated that the ultimate objective is to ensure that women achieve financial self-reliance while playing a significant role in the overall development of Telangana.

By facilitating women-led management of RTC buses, the Telangana government continues to demonstrate its focus on inclusive development, providing rural women with consistent, stable income sources and fostering broader economic participation at the grassroots level.

Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao Resolves Cotton Procurement Standstill in 330 Ginning Mills Across Telangana

Hyderabad, December 1, 2025:

State Agriculture Marketing Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has successfully intervened to resolve a major procurement stalemate affecting cotton farmers and ginning mills across Telangana. Thanks to his proactive efforts and detailed discussions with the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and central authorities, 330 ginning mills in the state have now resumed cotton purchases, ensuring smooth market operations and financial relief for farmers.

The problem arose due to new regulations imposed by CCI, which prevented several ginning mills from obtaining the necessary purchase permissions. This created a significant bottleneck in the cotton supply chain, forcing the Ginnings' Association to call for a strike. As a result, farmers who had cultivated cotton for the season found themselves unable to sell their produce, while mill workers faced operational disruptions and financial relief for farmers.

Minister Tummala expressed satisfaction at the resolution, emphasizing the government's unwavering commitment to supporting farmers and stabilizing the agricultural market. "Ensuring uninterrupted cotton procurement is crucial for the financial security of our farmers and the operational continuity of ginning mills. The state government will continue to remove procedural obstacles and facilitate timely

purchases to strengthen the agricultural sector," he said.

The Ginnings' Association, led by President Ravinder Reddy, expressed their appreciation for the Minister's timely intervention. "Minister Tummala's initiative has provided immense relief to thousands of farmers and mill employees. His proactive approach ensured that procurement could resume efficiently, restoring confidence in the market," Reddy stated.

According to official data shared by the Minister, Telangana has already collected 4.03 lakh metric tonnes of cotton, amounting to a total purchase value of 3,201 crore. The resumption of cotton purchases in all notified mills will not only provide farmers with the financial returns they deserve but also ensure steady supply for the textile and ginning industry, supporting local employment and the economy.

Minister Tummala's decisive action demonstrates the importance of responsive governance in addressing agricultur-

CM Revanth Reddy Meets HUDCO Chairman Sanjay Kulshreshtha to Discuss Funding for Key Infrastructure Projects

Hyderabad, December 1, 2025: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy held a cordial meeting with Sanjay Kulshreshtha, Chairman and Managing Director of HUDCO, at his Jubilee Hills residence to discuss financing major infrastructure initiatives in Telangana.

The meeting was attended by senior government officials, including Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, CMO Chief Secretary Srinivas Raju, Finance Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, and other senior bureaucrats.

During the discussions, CM Reddy emphasized the urgent need for loan approvals to sup-

port the construction of the Metro Rail network and the Regional Ring Road, key projects aimed at enhancing urban mobility and connectivity across Hyderabad and surrounding areas.

Another significant point of discussion was the Greenfield Highway project planned from Future City to Amaravati and then to Chennai, which will connect four southern states. The Chief Minister requested HUDCO's support for loans to accelerate this strategic infrastructure.

CM Reddy also highlighted the bullet train project planned as part of this corridor and stressed the importance

of early financing to ensure timely completion.

Addressing social infrastructure, the Chief Minister requested HUDCO's assistance in fast-tracking funding for the construction of 2 million Indiramma houses to be completed over the next decade, emphasizing the government's commitment to affordable housing for citizens.

The meeting also included a discussion on the ongoing development of Bharat Future City, with CM Reddy detailing the government's efforts to establish it as a modern, sustainable urban hub.

Sanjay Kulshreshtha was invited to the Telangana Rising Global Summit, scheduled for Dec

ember 8 and 9, to witness the state's vision for development and participate in discussions with national and international leaders.

The CM underlined that these projects are part of the government's long-term vision to transform Telangana into a global development hub, focusing on urban mobility, housing, and integrated smart city initiatives.

This meeting reflects the state government's proactive approach in coordinating with financial institutions to ensure timely funding for large-scale infrastructure and urban development projects, paving the way for Telangana's sustainable growth and regional connectivity.



BRSV Issues Strong Warning in Jangaon; Sends Harpic & Brush to Kadiyam Srihari “Insulting KTR Will No Longer Be Tolerated” – BRSV Leadership

Jangaon, Telangana

The BRSV (Bharat Rashtra Samithi Vidarthi) student wing issued a sharp warning to Congress leader Kadiyam Srihari following his recent remarks against former Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR). At a press conference held today at the Jangaon MLA office, BRSV leaders condemned Srihari's comments as “deeply inappropriate and politically unethical.”

BRSV State Secretary Rajesh Naik, addressing the media, said Srihari had stooped to personal insults, abandoning political decency.

“Your own past statements praising KTR's leadership stand as proof. We have released those videos today. The same leader whom you once glorified— you now attack out of political spite. Is this your idea of political culture?” he questioned.

Rajesh Naik said Srihari's contradictory stand exposed his dual nature.

“When you were in BRS, you almost worshipped KTR. Today, you insult him for political survival. This hypocrisy is the sole reason we symbolical-



ly sent you Harpic and a bathroom cleaning brush. Clean the dirt of your own words first—that is our message,” he said.

Issuing a stern warning, he added: “You won on the car

symbol. You have no moral right to abuse the very party because of which you are an MLA. If you truly have courage, resign immediately and face the people again. If you target our leaders,

BRSV will not remain silent.”

Speaking about governance, Rajesh Naik said:

“People of Ghanpur constituency are asking only one question— where are the

six guarantees promised by the Congress government? Out of 420 announcements, not one has been delivered. When you cannot fulfil commitments made to the people, you lose the right to make allegations against others.”

He further added that personal attacks only reflect leadership weakness.

“You yourself praised KTR's contribution to Telangana's development. Those videos now stand as a mirror to your political double standards,” he stated.

Jangaon District Coordinator Tirumala Reddy also warned Srihari to focus on public welfare instead of baseless accusations.

“Stop making false, unnecessary statements against KTR. If you continue this behaviour, our response will be even stronger. Ultimately, people will judge every word you speak,” he said.

BRSV leaders concluded by demanding that the Congress government first answer the public on the status of its guarantees and development promises.

“Instead of attacking KTR, address the real issues troubling the people,” they stated.

Harish Rao Hits Back at Bhatti: “You Are Unfit for Politics, Not Me”



Hyderabad:
Former Minister and MLA T. Harish Rao strongly countered comments made by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, stating that irresponsible remarks in politics only lead to “trouble right from the beginning.” Harish Rao's sharp response has intensified the political war of words between the ruling and opposition leaders.

Appealing to farmers not to resort to extreme steps, Harish Rao urged them not to lose confidence. He assured that the BRS party would continue fighting until all promises made to farmers are fulfilled.

“Please do not lose hope. BRS stands with every farmer. Good days will return for farmers when KCR's government comes back,” he said.

He concluded by calling on the Congress government to implement its manifesto commitments without further delay and prevent more such tragedies.

Reacting to Bhatti Vikramarka's claim that he never demanded commissions from contractors for clearing bills. “I never took 20-30% commission for bill payments like you do. If that makes me unfit, then I am happy to be unfit,” he remarked, alleging corruption within the current ruling establishment.

He asserted that integrity and strong administrative track record define true political fitness. “For 10 years we governed with discipline. We ensured timely payments,

contractors staging protests in front of the Finance Minister's chamber in the Secretariat. He questioned whether such scenes had ever occurred in the state's political history.

“Has there ever been a time when contractors held dharnas right at the Finance Minister's chamber? If this is happening now, who is unfit—you or me?” he asked.

Escalating his attack, Harish Rao stated that he never demanded commissions from contractors for clearing bills. “I never took 20-30% commission for bill payments like you do. If that makes me unfit, then I am happy to be unfit,” he remarked, alleging corruption within the current ruling establishment.

Political observers note that the exchange reflects the growing tension between the BRS and the Congress government, especially as the opposition intensifies its criticism on governance issues such as finances, bill payments, irrigation, and welfare delivery.

Harish Rao's retort is expected to further fuel debate in Telangana's political circles in the coming days.

Former Minister Harish Rao Blames Congress Govt for Tenant Farmer's Suicide in Khammam

Hyderabad, December 1:

Former Telangana Minister and BRS senior leader T. Harish Rao strongly criticized the Congress government, alleging that its “betrayal and negligence” towards tenant farmers has pushed them into deep distress, leading to tragic incidents like the suicide of tenant farmer Banothu Veeranna in Khammam district's Nekonda pally mandal.

Veeranna, unable to repay loans and devastated after failing to secure a proper price for his harvested crop, consumed pesticide. Before taking the extreme step, he recorded a selfie video explaining his helplessness—citing mounting debts, lack of crop support, and total ab-



sence of government assistance. Harish Rao said the video “exposes the Congress government's false promises and failures.”

Calling the incident “not suicide, but a death caused by government betrayal,” Harish Rao said the Congress came to power by making grand promises but failed to deliver.

He reminded that during the elections, the Congress had promised 15,000 per year as Rythu Bharosa to tenant farmers and had even issued bond papers assuring the same. “But after coming to power, they forgot their promises. This deception has cost farmers their lives,” he said.

Harish Rao alleged

that farmers are being left at the mercy of middlemen due to the government's inability to procure crops on time and ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP). “No support, no buyers, no MSP—how do you expect farmers to survive?” he questioned.

He demanded that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who is

scheduled to tour Khammam district tomorrow, must visit the family of Veeranna and provide immediate ex gratia compensation.

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Harish Rao said that during the current government's tenure, unprecedented incidents have been taking place—particularly

Palamuru's Plight Ignored; Former Minister Singireddy Nirjan Reddy Responds to Revanth Reddy's Remarks

Makthal, Telangana —

Former Minister Singireddy Nirjan Reddy strongly criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's comments made during the Makthal public meeting, stating that Palamuru's condition today resembles “crying after ignoring one's own suffering.”

He questioned what special contribution Revanth Reddy made for the district apart from repeatedly claiming to be a “Palamuru Bidda.” Nirjan Reddy stated that the Chief Minister's promises were cross-

ing boundaries while not a single concrete work has been delivered in two years.

He highlighted that despite several foundation stones being laid, not a single brick has been placed for the so-called Integrated International Schools. He also condemned Revanth Reddy's repeated false statements regarding debts allegedly incurred during KCR's tenure.

According to Nirjan Reddy, the actual borrowings during KCR's 10-year rule stood at only 3.48 lakh crore, while the

development on the ground speaks for itself.

In contrast, the Congress government, within just two years, has taken 2.50 lakh crore in loans, excluding corporation borrowings, he said.

He alleged that welfare schemes were diluted, development works sidelined, and farmers abandoned to their fate. He added that Revanth Reddy deceived farmers with fake claims of bonus and behaved like a broker in agricultural matters.

Nirjan Reddy



said the Congress government's slogan “Telangana Rising” reflects only rising debts, not rising development. Even dur-

ing the COVID-19 crisis, Telangana's revenue grew by up to 25%, but under Congress rule it has now fallen to -0.76%, exposing governance failure.

Ridiculing Revanth Reddy's statements that Telangana would become a \$1 trillion economy by 2034 and \$3 trillion by 2047, he said such grand claims from a leader who “cannot remove even a stone from a quarry” are laughable.

He accused the Chief Minister of destroying the Panchayat Raj system in just two years, collapsing the state's education sector, and

abandoning key Palamuru projects.

Nirjan Reddy challenged Revanth Reddy to prove his sincerity by immediately completing the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project and ensuring irrigation water reaches farmers.

The former minister concluded that the Congress government's reckless borrowings, stalled welfare programs, and backward-moving development clearly reveal its misleading and deceptive governance style.

Shyam Prasad Nagar Residents Appeal for Double Bedroom Housing; Representation Submitted to Deputy Mayor

Hyderabad, December 1 —

Representatives of the Shyam Prasad Nagar Welfare Association from Baglingampally met GHMC Deputy Mayor Mote Srilatha Shobhan Reddy at the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation headquarters on Monday and submitted a formal petition seeking allotment of Double Bedroom (2BHK) houses for long-settled families in the area.

Residents explained that for nearly 30 years, hundreds of families have been living in temporary huts on government land in Shyam Prasad Nagar. Despite repeated assurances from various elected representatives over the decades, no permanent housing has been provided so far, leaving the families distressed and un-



certain about their future.

The basti residents expressed concern that despite enduring hardships for many years, they have not received any concrete support from the government. They said that lack of proper housing has made their lives unstable, especially for children and elderly residents who have been waiting for secure accommodation for decades.

The delegation appealed to the Deputy Mayor to ensure that their

concerns would be presented to In-charge Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. She stated that the government is committed to addressing urban housing issues and promised that all necessary steps would be taken to secure justice for the basti residents.

She further added that the matter would be reviewed with GHMC officials and the concerned departments to explore viable options for the construction or allotment of 2BHK houses for the eligible families.

The Shyam Prasad Nagar Welfare Association thanked the Deputy Mayor for giving them a patient hearing and expressed hope that their decades-long wait for permanent housing would finally move towards a solution.

DEO and Child Protection Commission Probe Poornima School Assault Incident

Kukatpally, December 1 —

The shocking incident of brutal assault on a toddler at Poornima Vidyaniketan School, Sharpen Nagar, has drawn strong reaction from the Medchal-Malkajgiri District Education Officer (DEO) Vijayakumari and Child Protection Commission Member Saritha, who initiated an immediate inquiry on Saturday.

DEO Vijayakumari announced that the school has been temporarily closed following the incident. She stated that strict action would be taken against the institution based on the findings of the comprehensive investigation ordered into the assault committed by the school's ayah. She also confirmed that she has spoken to district educational authorities

and appropriate measures will be implemented as per their recommendations.

Officials revealed that the injured toddler is currently receiving treatment at Ram Hospital, suffering serious injuries caused by the attack. A case has already been registered at the local police station, and police have moved swiftly to take action. By afternoon, both the school ayah and the school principal were arrested and sent to judicial remand in connection with the assault.

Meanwhile, Kukatpally MEO Jameela has officially sealed the school premises, ensuring that no activity takes place until further notice.

DEO Vijayakumari and Commission Member Saritha visited the crime scene, interacted with

staff, and inspected the surroundings as part of their inquiry. They also met the attending doctor and gathered details about the toddler's medical condition. Officials emphasized that such acts of cruelty will not be tolerated and that strong punitive action is being pursued.

Joining the inspection were CWC Chairperson Raja Reddy, Medchal District Child Protection Officer Intiyaz, and other officials, all of whom assured that justice would be ensured for the victim and her family.

Authorities reiterated that all educational institutions must strictly follow child safety protocols and that any negligence or abuse will result in severe consequences.

Hyderabad Metro Rail Inducts 20 Transgender Personnel to Strengthen Women's Safety and Inclusive Mobility

Hyderabad, December 1 —

Hyderabad Metro Rail, one of India's largest and most advanced urban transit networks with 57 stations across three corridors, continues to serve nearly 5 lakh passengers daily. With women making up almost 30% of total commuters, their safety, comfort, and confidence remain a top priority for the Metro Rail authorities.

Aligned with the Government of Telangana's commitment to inclusivity, dignity, and equal opportunity, Hyderabad Metro Rail has taken a progressive step by inducting 20 transgender personnel into its security workforce. This initiative reflects the gov-

ernment's broader mission to empower marginalized communities by creating meaningful employment avenues and promoting social inclusion.

To further strengthen the safety ecosystem for women passengers, Hyderabad Metro Rail continues to adopt proactive and capacity-enhancing measures across its network. These efforts aim to build greater trust, improve the commuting experience, and ensure a secure environment for women throughout their journey.

The newly recruited transgender personnel, having completed their Induction Security Training, will begin duties from December 1, 2025 at select Metro stations and inside Metro trains.

Their deployment enhances not only the operational security footprint but also the social inclusivity that the Metro Rail system stands for.

Their key responsibilities include:

- Women Commuter Safety: Supporting and reinforcing safety measures in general areas and in ladies-only coaches.

- Passenger Guidance and Support: Assisting passengers with directions, information, and on-ground facilitation.

- Baggage Scanner Assistance: Monitoring scanner operations to ensure smooth and secure passenger flow.

- Street-Level & Concourse Security: Maintaining a visible and reassuring security presence across station

premises.

• Overall Station Security: Contributing to safe, orderly, and commuter-friendly station environments.

The engagement of transgender personnel marks a significant milestone in Hyderabad Metro Rail's mission to deliver an inclusive mobility experience. Their presence will strengthen frontline services, promote safety—especially for women passengers—and enhance overall public confidence in Metro Rail operations.

Hyderabad Metro Rail reiterates its commitment to building a safe, efficient, and inclusive transportation system for all, continuing to set benchmarks in social empowerment and modern urban mobility.

New Swimming Pool and Multi-Purpose Function Hall to Open Soon in Lalapet

Secunderabad — Secunderabad MLA and former Deputy Speaker Tigulla Padma Rao Goud instructed officials to expedite the ongoing development works in Lalapet, including the construction of a new multi-purpose function hall and a modern swimming pool, so that both facilities can be inaugurated at the earliest.

Padma Rao Goud conducted an inspection tour in the Lalapet area on Monday. He reviewed the progress of the 12-crore GHMC project, which includes the construction of a state-of-the-art multi-purpose function hall along with a well-equipped swimming pool. He also in-

spected the construction works of the new 50-bed hospital building, being built at a cost of 13 crore under the Health Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said that the upcoming function hall is being designed to serve as an affordable venue for weddings and other ceremonies, especially benefiting the poor and middle-class families of the area. He added that Lalapet will soon have a high-quality swimming pool with advanced facilities, suitable not only for local residents but also for hosting national and international-level competitions.

Padma Rao Goud emphasized that the new



works without delay and ensure that all facilities are made available to the public at the earliest.

The MLA also stressed the importance of incorporating world-class amenities in the swimming pool, noting that the infrastructure should meet the standards required for professional competitions.

Engineering officials Madhavi, Venu, and several local leaders accompanied the MLA during the inspection. They assured that construction activities are being carried out on a fast track and that all pending works will be completed within the stipulated timeline.

Three Suspects Arrested in Someshwar Jewellers Heist; 15 kg Silver Recovered in Khaki-style Operation

Qutbullapur, December 1, 2025: In a daring police operation reminiscent of a Bollywood thriller, the Medchal Police successfully apprehended three suspects involved in the Someshwar Jewellers robbery that took place last month in Bourampet, under Duddingal Police Station limits.

Addressing the media, Medchal Additional DCP Papurusottam Yadav explained that on November 7, 2025, the gang had rented a shutter shop adjacent to Someshwar Jewellers. Under the cover of night, they drilled into the shop wall and stole 15 kilograms of silver jewellery, escaping before the authorities were alerted. Investigations revealed that the robbery was orchestrated by six individuals from Rajasthan.

Acting on technical leads, police formed three operational teams and conducted a well-coordinated operation, arresting three of the culprits and recovering the stolen silver. The remaining three suspects are still at large, but the police assured that they would be apprehended shortly.

The Additional DCP

highlighted that some areas in northern Rajasthan are known for harboring criminals with access to lethal weapons, and local residents often avoid cooperating with law enforcement. Despite these challenges, the Duddingal police acted efficiently, ensuring the culprits were caught, which he described as a matter of pride for the department.

Police also issued a public advisory for landlords, emphasizing the importance of verifying tenant identity before renting property. Landlords should collect complete background information and ID proofs to prevent misuse of their premises for criminal activities.

During the operation, officers recovered:

1.15 kilograms of silver jewellery

2.A Bolero vehicle used in the crime

3.A 4-foot-long iron rod, employed to break into the shop

The successful operation involved the efforts of Ch. Shankar Reddy (Medchal ACP), Y. Nageshwar Rao (ACP), Inspector P. Satish, SI M. Balareddy, DI Dali Naidu, SI D.N. Ishwar,



SI Shankar, along with other Crime and CCS staff including Venkataiah, Rajinikanth, Harish, and Lachchayya.

The Additional DCP commended the team for their professionalism, stating that such operations underscore the capabilities and commitment of the Medchal Police in safeguarding citizens and curbing organized crime. He assured the public that the police will continue to maintain strict vigilance, ensuring safety and security across the region.



CM Revanth's Husnabad Public Meeting Preparations Reviewed by Minister Ponnam Prabhakar



Husnabad:

Ahead of the massive public meeting scheduled for December 3, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inspected the ongoing arrangements in Husnabad, accompanied by senior officials and key political leaders. The meeting, which Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is set to address, is expected to draw huge crowds from the undivided Karimnagar region, including Siddipet and Hanumakonda districts.

Speaking to the media after reviewing the preparations, Minister

Prabhakar instructed officials to speed up all arrangements to ensure the success of the event. He stated that the Chief Minister's visit has brought a new wave of enthusiasm to the region and expressed confidence that Husnabad would witness rapid development in the coming years.

The minister noted that the meeting marks two years of the government's completion, and the Chief Minister, Ministers, MLAs, and MLCs will attend the gathering to interact with the people and

highlight the government's achievements. "Villagers themselves are coming forward and expressing their desire to participate in the meeting. They believe in the development agenda of this government," he said.

Prabhakar explained that Telangana's development model focuses on core urban, regional, semi-urban, and rural clusters, with a vision-based approach. He said that people of Husnabad constituency have always shown affection and strong support, and the govern-

ment is committed to fulfilling their aspirations.

Regarding the election code currently in force in some villages, the minister clarified that no official mobilization is being done by the government. "People are voluntarily attending. We are not organizing any political mobilization due to the Model Code of Conduct," he clarified.

The minister said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will focus primarily on education, agriculture, and employment during the

Husnabad meeting. The CM will also lay foundation stones for several upcoming development projects. "His tour will significantly accelerate development across Husnabad," he affirmed.

Speaking on specific local issues, Prabhakar stated that if the poll code was not in place, the government would have distributed cheques to Gouravelli project oustees during the CM's visit. He reaffirmed that the government remains committed to their rehabilitation.

On national political developments, Minister Prabhakar strongly condemned the FIR filed against Rahul Gandhi in the National Herald case, calling it an attempt to suppress the opposition. He accused central agencies like the ED of acting as "extensions of the BJP" targeting opposition leaders whenever important parliamentary sessions approach.

He alleged that the BJP aims to distract the nation from its failures and avoid discussion on issues such as electoral roll irregularities, 12

years of governance lapses, Rafale, Kashmir security lapses, Bihar blasts, and hate-driven political violence.

"Rahul Gandhi has always fearlessly questioned the government in Parliament. These cases are intended to silence him, but he will face them courageously," Prabhakar said.

He added that the Telangana government is moving forward with a Vision-2047 plan, aiming to position the state as a national develop-

ment model. Highlighting Hyderabad's natural advantages—pleasant climate, strong infrastructure, water facilities, roads, airport connectivity, and low pollution—Prabhakar said the city has immense potential for future growth.

"Our government is committed to developing Telangana by dividing it into urban, semi-urban, and rural sectors and implementing targeted strategies. With collective cooperation, Telangana will continue to rise," he concluded.



Modi In Tamil Nadu: A High-Voltage Start, But What About Past Baggage?



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's high-profile roadshow in Coimbatore on Tuesday is widely seen as the launch of the National Democratic Alliance's (NDA) campaign for the 2026 Tamil Nadu elections. While the spectacle showcased the BJP's organisational strength, the underlying political terrain remains challenging for the party in a state that has long resisted its expansion.

The biggest hurdles lie within the NDA itself. The AIADMK, the BJP's main ally in Tamil Nadu, continues to navigate internal divisions after the expulsions

of VK Sasikala, O Panneerselvam, and TTV Dhivakaran. The exit of two prominent Thevar community leaders has weakened the party's influence in western Tamil Nadu, traditionally an AIADMK stronghold. The recent removal of veteran leader KA Sengottaiyan adds further uncertainty. AIADMK's successive election losses in 2019, 2021, and 2024, two of them in alliance with the BJP, have reinforced perceptions of the national party's electoral isolation.

Other NDA constituents face their own challenges.

The Pattali Makkal Katchi

(PMK) is witnessing a leadership tussle between founder Dr S Ramadoss and his son Anbumani Ramadoss, raising the possibility of a split or internal competition. The Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK), once an ally, has yet to decide its political direction. Adding to the unpredictability is actor Vijay's Tamilaga Vettai Kazhagam (TVK), debuting in 2026. Vijay has repeatedly positioned the BJP as an ideological opponent, ruling out any alliance and potentially attracting former NDA partners.

The DMK, in contrast,

enters the election season from a position of continuity. Its alliance has remained intact through three consecutive victories. The party leans on welfare schemes, such as monthly Rs 1,000 support for women, free bus travel, and assistance for government-school college students, while highlighting faster double-digit economic growth. Politically, it continues to challenge the BJP on issues central to Tamil Nadu's identity, including NEET exemption, Hindi imposition, alleged financial discrimination, and the Keeladi

archaeological report, themes that resonate strongly with the electorate.

Coimbatore, where Modi showcased the BJP's local presence, remains one of the few areas of firm support. The roadshow aims not just to energise cadres but also to test whether the BJP can recalibrate its approach to a state where national narratives often fail to gain traction. The outcome will reveal whether this spectacle can translate into tangible electoral momentum or remain a symbolic display in a still-challenging terrain.

Bihar Polls Reignite Vote-Seat Debate



The recent Bihar elections have once again sparked discussions on the gap between vote share and seat share, with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) securing a majority of votes but far fewer seats than proportionality would suggest. Calls to shift India from the first-past-the-post (FPTP) system to Proportional Representation (PR) have gained traction. However, experts caution that PR carries significant drawbacks that may outweigh its perceived fairness.

Under India's FPTP system, voters choose individual candidates, and the candidate with the most votes in a constituency wins. Losing candidates receive no representation, even if their vote counts are nearly equal to the winner's. This system can create disparities between vote share and seat share but ensures that governments have a clear mandate.

By contrast, PR systems, where parties are awarded seats based on overall vote share, can produce highly proportional outcomes but often result in fragmented, unstable coalitions. Israel's experience illustrates this: governments are frequently formed through alliances of 20-30 parties, giving small or extremist factions disproportionate influence. Only nine out of 25 Israeli governments have completed a full term, raising questions about PR's effectiveness in a large and diverse country like India.

PR also weakens the link be-

tween legislators and voters. Candidates are elected based on party lists rather than personal constituencies, turning representatives into "rubber stamps" for party leadership. In India, where political parties already wield substantial power through mechanisms like the anti-defection law, such a shift could further diminish voter influence.

Additionally, PR incentivizes parties to appeal to narrow sections of the electorate, allowing fringe groups to gain influence without broad-based support. In India's diverse polity, this could amplify the role of extremist or sectarian parties, undermining governance and social cohesion.

Experts argue that the focus should instead be on strengthening the legitimacy of elections under FPTP. Measures such as ensuring the independence of the Election Commission, curbing electoral corruption, and reconsidering the anti-defection law are seen as critical steps to improve voter confidence.

While mixed systems combining FPTP and proportional elements exist in countries like Germany, any electoral reform must consider India's unique political and social context.

The Bihar results highlight the tension between fairness and effectiveness in electoral systems, but analysts warn that adopting PR without addressing these structural issues could create more problems than it solves.

Humane Solutions for Stray Dogs



As urban areas across India grapple with the growing stray dog population, experts emphasize that the solution lies in humane management rather than fear or culling. In neighbourhoods across Delhi, programmes focused on kindness, trust, and cooperation have demonstrated that reducing stray dog numbers humanely is not only possible but sustainable.

Activists and veterinarians argue that community engagement is key. "The solution begins with building trust with animals, educating residents, and promoting responsible ownership," says animal welfare expert Sandeep Joshi. Neighbourhoods that implement structured sterilization, vaccination, and adoption programmes have seen tangible reductions in stray dog populations without resorting to inhumane methods.

Sterilization and vaccination, commonly referred to as the ABC (Animal Birth Control) programme, have been pivotal. Dogs are cap-

tured, neutered or spayed, vaccinated against rabies, and then returned to their familiar areas. Studies from Delhi and other cities show that over time, this approach leads to a gradual decline in stray populations and reduces incidences of dog bites and disease transmission.

Education also plays a crucial role. Communities that teach children and adults how to coexist with stray animals—feeding them safely, avoiding provocation, and reporting unwell animals—see fewer conflicts. "Fear and aggression stem from misunderstanding," says Navtej Johar, an animal rights advocate. "When people treat dogs with respect, dogs reciprocate with calm behaviour."

Adoption drives and fostering initiatives further complement these strategies. Shelters and NGOs facilitate adoption of dogs that can be integrated into homes, while community volunteers provide temporary care for injured or vulnerable strays.

UP Government's Bid to Withdraw Akhlaq Case Raises Eyebrows



The Uttar Pradesh government's recent attempt to withdraw from the prosecution in the 2015 Mohammed Akhlaq lynching case has sparked widespread concern about political interference in justice. The lynching, in which Akhlaq was brutally killed by a mob over a baseless rumour, remains etched in public memory as a symbol of communal violence and the fragility of social harmony.

Under Section 360 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), the state can recommend withdrawal from prosecution, but the law now requires that the court hear the victim's family before approving any such request. This safeguard ensures that the vic-

tim's voice remains central, preventing quiet administrative decisions that could undermine justice.

Legal experts stress that the Akhlaq case is far from a routine matter. "A man was lynched in his own home. This is not a case that can be treated as dispensable when political winds change," said senior advocate Sanjay Hegde. The prosecution must weigh the evidence carefully and resist any attempts to serve political convenience.

Past instances in UP, where withdrawal powers were allegedly used to shield senior political leaders, have raised doubts about the motivations behind such moves.

The law now places a dual responsibility: prosecutors

must act independently, and judges must scrutinize withdrawal applications thoroughly, demanding full disclosure of reasons and assessing broader public impact. Courts have rejected similar requests in the past when motives were questionable, and a lynching case warrants even stricter scrutiny.

For Akhlaq's family, the law offers a right to be heard, but the emotional and social burden is heavy. Opposing withdrawal forces them to reopen painful wounds, while accepting it would mean surrendering hope of a full trial, potentially sending a troubling message to victims of communal violence nationwide.

Experts note that India's for-

mal withdrawal mechanism contrasts with systems like the U.S., where political influence on prosecutions is limited by structural and public oversight. In India, the onus falls heavily on prosecutors, judges, and now victims to safeguard justice.

The Akhlaq case underscores the delicate balance between law and political power. Courts must ensure that any withdrawal is genuinely in public interest, not politically motivated, reaffirming that the justice system remains steadfast. Upholding prosecution in this case would signal that justice in India is not a seasonal exercise but a principle that stands firm, even under pressure.

Parliament is a place for delivery, not drama: PM Modi

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday emphasized that Parliament should be a forum for results and constructive debate, not political theatrics, ahead of the Winter Session. Speaking to reporters outside the Parliament, he highlighted concerns over the increasing use of legislative proceedings as a platform for political posturing.

"Parliament is not a place for drama; it is a place for delivery," Modi stated, criticizing the Opposition for turning the House into a "warm-up arena for elections" or an outlet for frustration following electoral setbacks. He urged lawmakers to prioritize responsibility and effective governance over political point-scoring.

Modi stressed that the Winter Session should serve as a stage for constructive discussions and policy-focused deliberations rather than repetitive arguments and theatrics. He offered to share insights with the Opposition on bringing positivity into politics, underscoring the need for a collaborative approach to legislative work that benefits the nation.



The Prime Minister's remarks come amid concerns over rising confrontations in Parliament in recent sessions, where disruptions have often delayed debates on key bills and policy matters. By calling for a focus on delivery, Modi reinforced the government's mes-

sage that legislative work should prioritize citizens' welfare and progress rather than partisan conflict.

Political analysts note that Modi's comments reflect an ongoing push by the ruling party to streamline parliamentary business and reduce procedural disruptions, especially

during sessions dealing with major policy reforms and budgetary discussions.

Lawmakers from both sides will now be under public scrutiny to ensure that the Winter Session remains focused on governance and legislative efficiency, addressing pressing issues rather than

engaging in theatrics.

Modi concluded by reminding all parties that responsibility, dialogue, and results should define parliamentary work, signaling a push for a more mature and constructive political discourse as the nation prepares for crucial legislative decisions in the coming weeks.

Shinde Urges Focus on Local Issues Ahead of Elections



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has urged political leaders and party workers to prioritize local issues in upcoming elections, downplaying recent allegations exchanged between him and Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's rival factions. Speaking from Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Shinde ac-

knowledged past disagreements, saying, "Yes, it's true that I made allegations against the CM, and he also made allegations against me. But you need to understand that these elections are local elections, which are fought on very local issues and are fought by the local party workers."

Shinde emphasized that while political differences

exist at the leadership level, local elections should focus on grassroots concerns rather than broader political disputes. "Big political issues do not need to be brought up in these local body elections," he added, highlighting the importance of addressing the immediate needs of citizens through municipal and local governance.

Despite downplaying

the conflicts, Shinde acknowledged the motivational role of senior leaders in election campaigns. He noted that party workers appreciate seeing their leadership actively participate in canvassing and supporting local candidates. "Party workers like to see their senior leadership come and join them in these election campaigns," Shinde said, un-

derlining the significance of visible leadership in mobilizing support at the local level.

Political analysts say Shinde's remarks appear aimed at calming intra-party tensions ahead of elections, signaling a pragmatic approach where local governance priorities are emphasized over leadership rivalries. By focusing on community-level issues, leaders hope to strengthen voter engagement and ensure that election campaigns remain constructive and issue-oriented.

Shinde's comments come amid ongoing speculation about internal dynamics within the Maharashtra government, but he stressed that effective local governance and election campaigning require cooperation between leaders and party workers. His message reinforces the idea that, despite differences, senior figures must present a united front to support the democratic process and the functioning of local bodies.

'Will Go If He Invites': Siddaramaiah On DK Shivakumar's Proposed Meeting

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said he has not yet received an invitation from Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar for the breakfast he had been promised, but added he would attend whenever invited. Speaking to reporters, Siddaramaiah said, "If I am invited to breakfast by Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar, I am ready to go. He had said I should come to his residence for breakfast on Tuesday, but until now, I have not received any call."

Shivakumar, who is also state Congress chief and a key contender for the Chief Minister's post, had earlier suggested that the two leaders are working closely together. After a breakfast meeting at the CM's residence on November 30, he had said, "The CM and I had a breakfast meeting. The CM will also visit my residence for dinner in the next two days," emphasizing their unity

and alignment with the party high command. However, when asked about inviting Siddaramaiah for breakfast, Shivakumar remarked that the matter concerns only the two of them. "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and I are working together like brothers. We participated in the breakfast meeting only because of media pressure," he said, downplaying reports of factions within the party.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao also addressed the matter, noting that breakfast, lunch, and dinner meetings would continue to allow leaders to discuss political and administrative matters. "Shivakumar had stated he was invited for break-

fast by CM Siddaramaiah, and in that context, he had also said he would invite the CM in return," Rao explained.

Rao stressed that there is no confusion within the party, and that all decisions will be guided by the high command. "The Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister are united and will move forward together. Discussions on leadership should not take place

in the interest of the party and the government," he added. He further dismissed media speculation about a crisis in November, asserting that the party is moving ahead in unity after clarifying any perceived confusion.

Supreme Court To Hear Tamil Nadu Voter Roll Plea On Dec 4

TPN Correspondent | Lucknow

Actor Vijay's TVK party, which had moved the Supreme Court challenging the Election Commission's Special Summary Revision (SSR) of the voter rolls in Tamil Nadu, submitted concerns regarding the pressures faced by officials responsible for the exercise. The party highlighted that Anganwadi workers and other personnel designated as Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are under immense work pressure from authorities during the voter roll update process.

Shinde's comments come amid ongoing speculation about internal dynamics within the Maharashtra government, but he stressed that effective local governance and election campaigning require cooperation between leaders and party workers. His message reinforces the idea that, despite differences, senior figures must present a united front to support the democratic process and the functioning of local bodies.

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Shinde's comments come amid ongoing speculation about internal dynamics within the Maharashtra government, but he stressed that effective local governance and election campaigning require cooperation between leaders and party workers. His message reinforces the idea that, despite differences, senior figures must present a united front to support the democratic process and the functioning of local bodies.

During the proceedings, TVK contended that in some areas, the police have registered First Information Reports (FIRs) against BLOs under the Representation of Peoples' Act, which carries a potential prison term of up to three months. The party argued that these legal actions are creating undue stress and may affect the fairness and accuracy of the voter roll revision process.

The submissions emphasized the burden placed on grassroots-level workers, who are often overworked and under-scrutinized while performing

their responsibilities such as verifying voter details, updating information, and ensuring compliance with electoral regulations.

The hearing has drawn attention due to the involvement of a high-profile political party, ongoing scrutiny of the Election Commission's processes, and concerns over the treatment of frontline election workers. Observers say the Supreme Court's decision could influence future voter roll exercises and clarify the legal responsibilities of BLOs and other personnel involved in election administration.

This case underscores the balance the court must maintain between efficient electoral processes and protection of workers' rights in India's democratic system.

PM Modi Extends Greetings on BSF Raising Day

TPN Correspondent | New Delhi

On the occasion of Border Security Force (BSF) Raising Day, Prime Minister extended his heartfelt greetings to all BSF personnel, commending their dedication, professionalism, and humanitarian service. In a statement released on Monday, the Prime Minister said, "BSF symbolises India's unwavering resolve and utmost professionalism. Their sense of duty is exemplary. They serve in some of the most challenging terrains."

The Prime Minister highlighted the dual role of the force in safeguarding the nation while upholding humanitarian values. "Alongside their valour, their humanitarian spirit is also exceptional," he added, noting the sacrifices and commitment of BSF personnel in maintaining national security across India's borders.



Celebrated annually to mark the establishment of the BSF in 1965, Raising Day serves as a reminder of the force's pivotal role in defending the

country against external threats, including border management, counter-insurgency operations, and anti-smuggling initiatives. The Prime Minister praised the personnel for their relentless vigilance, stating that the BSF's contribution goes beyond protection, extending to support for communities in border areas and disaster relief operations.

He also recognized the personal sacrifices made by BSF members and their families, emphasizing that their dedication ensures the safety and sovereignty of India. "My best wishes to the force in their pursuit of serving and protecting our nation," the Prime Minister said, urging citizens to acknowledge and honor the government's commitment and

bravery of these frontline defenders.

BSF Raising Day celebrations typically include parades, award ceremonies, and demonstrations of operational capabilities, reflecting the force's rich legacy and its evolving role in national security. The Prime Minister's message reinforces the government's commit-

ment to supporting the force and acknowledging the indispensable role of BSF personnel in safeguarding India's borders and upholding the nation's values.

The occasion also

Air Marshal Tejbir Singh Takes Charge as DG (Inspection & Safety)

Air Marshal Tejbir Singh assumed charge as Director General (Inspection & Safety) at Air Headquarters on Monday, marking a new chapter in the leadership of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

An alumnus of the Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS), UK, Air Marshal Singh brings over 37 years of distinguished service to the role, having logged more than 7,000 flying hours. He is widely recognized for his pioneering contributions to the C-130J Special Operations capability, underscoring his expertise in both operational and strategic aspects of the IAF.

He succeeds Air Marshal M B Ranade, who superannuated on 30 November 2025 after 39 years of exemplary service, leaving behind a

legacy of professionalism and leadership. IAF officials highlighted that his extensive experience, including operational missions and command appointments, positions him to further enhance the force's inspection and safety standards across its diverse fleet.

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Imran Khan's Sons Raise Alarm Over Father's Wellbeing



TPN correspondent - Colombo

The sons of Pakistan's jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan have voiced grave concerns over his condition, saying it has been over three weeks with no evidence that he is still alive. Speaking to Reuters, Kasim Khan described the uncertainty as a form of "psychological torture," highlighting the family's distress over blocked court-ordered prison visits and rumors of possible transfers.

"Not knowing whether your father is safe, injured or even alive is a form of psychological torture," Kasim said. He added that there has been no independently verified communication for months, and the family fears authorities may be hiding "something irreversible" about Khan's health. The family has repeatedly requested access for Khan's personal physician, who has been denied entry for over a year.

A jail official, speaking anonymously, assured that Khan, 72, was in good health and was not scheduled for transfer to a higher-security facility. Pakistan's Interior Ministry did not comment. Khan has been imprisoned since August 2023 following convictions in multiple cases he

describes as politically motivated, including the Toshakhana gift scandal, a diplomatic cable leak, and a graft case linked to the Al-Qadir Trust. His party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), claims the prosecutions aim to remove him from public and electoral life.

The lack of information has intensified the family's anxiety. Television channels have reportedly been instructed not to use Khan's name or image, leaving only a grainy court photograph online. Kasim and his older brother Suleiman Isa Khan, who live in London with their mother Jemima Goldsmith, emphasized that their appeals for access have been ignored.

"This is not just a political dispute. It is a human rights emergency," Kasim said, urging international pressure to restore court-ordered access. The sons stress that while they draw strength from their father, they urgently need confirmation that he is safe.

The family continues to pursue internal and external channels, including appeals to human rights organizations, to ensure Khan's wellbeing is independently verified and his rights protected.

Deadly Floods Ravage Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand



TPN Correspondent | Washington

Severe flooding triggered by heavy rains has devastated parts of Southeast and South Asia, with recovery and relief operations underway as authorities continue to assess the full scale of casualties. The disaster has already claimed at least 469 lives in Indonesia, 162 in Thailand, and 33 in Sri Lanka, according to official figures.

In Indonesia, flash floods and landslides struck West Sumatra, particularly in the Agam regency, leaving communities buried under mud and debris. Indonesian soldiers and rescue teams are working tirelessly to locate survivors and clear rubble, providing emergency aid to affected families. Local authorities warn that the death toll could rise as more remote areas are reached and missing persons accounted for.

Thailand has also been severely affected, with floods inundating low-lying provinces and displacing thousands. Rescue teams are using boats and helicopters to evacuate residents from submerged villages, while relief agencies distribute food, clean water, and medical supplies to those stranded.

Sri Lanka faces one of its worst flood crises in recent

years, as overflowing rivers and landslides have left hundreds dead and thousands homeless. The government has mobilized military units and volunteers to assist in search and rescue operations, while international aid groups step in to support relief efforts.

Authorities across the three countries have warned residents to remain vigilant as heavy rainfall is expected to continue in some regions. Roads remain blocked, and power outages complicate relief work, creating urgent challenges for recovery teams.

The floods have prompted governments to urge citizens to follow safety advisories and to relocate to higher ground where possible. While the immediate priority is rescue and humanitarian assistance, officials stress the need for longer-term measures to mitigate future disasters, including improved flood management and early warning systems.

As communities grapple with the devastation, the focus remains on saving lives and providing essential aid to survivors, with officials cautioning that the human and economic toll may continue to grow in the coming days.

Trump Pardons Convicted Cocaine Trafficker Amid Venezuela Crackdown

TPN Bureau | Washington

US President Donald Trump has sparked controversy by granting a full pardon to former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez, a convicted cocaine trafficker, even as he announced a major "war on drugs" targeting Venezuela. Hernandez was extradited to the US in 2022 and sentenced to 45 years in prison for aiding the smuggling of hundreds of tons of cocaine from Venezuela into the United States, in a case involving guns and large-scale drug trafficking.

Trump's announcement came shortly after he outlined a broad military and diplomatic operation against alleged drug networks linked to Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. The administration classified the Venezuelan cartel, Cartel of the Suns, as a foreign terrorist organization, authorized strikes on suspected drug-trafficking vessels, and deployed Marines and warships to the Caribbean to prevent cocaine



flows into the US.

Despite these measures, Trump justified the pardon for Hernandez in a social media post, claiming the former president had been "treated very harshly and unfairly" and citing advice from "many people that I greatly respect." The timing of the pardon, just days before Honduras' presidential election, was widely

seen as politically motivated, benefiting the conservative party nominee Nasry Asfura.

The decision drew sharp criticism from both American and Honduran officials. Prosecutors highlighted Hernandez's misuse of power, ties to criminal traffickers, and the "unfathomable destruction" caused by his cocaine operations, ar-

guing he should remain in prison. Virginia Senator Tim Kaine called the pardon "unconscionable," saying it undermined Trump's proclaimed efforts to combat illegal narcotics.

Hernandez, 57, became one of the most high-profile figures to be pardoned despite a federal conviction for transnational drug trafficking. The move raises

questions about the coherence of US drug policy, as it combines aggressive rhetoric against Venezuela with the controversial release of a convicted trafficker with extensive ties to Venezuelan cocaine networks.

Critics argue the pardon could embolden traffickers and weaken the credibility of US anti-narcotics efforts in Latin America.

Sheikh Hasina's Family Hit With Fresh Sentences In Corruption Case

TPN Correspondent | Dhaka

In a landmark verdict, a Dhaka court on Monday sentenced deposed Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to five years in jail in a high-profile land scam case. Her niece, British MP Tulip Siddiq, received a two-year jail term, while Hasina's sister, Sheikh Rehana, was handed a seven-year sentence. The case involved a total of 17 convicts, all fined Tk 1 lakh each, with an additional six months in jail if fines are unpaid.

The Special Judge's Court-4, presided over by Judge Md Rabiul Alam, delivered the verdict in the absence of the accused. Siddiq, who is based in London, strongly denies the charges and is unlikely to serve her sentence, as the UK does not have an extradition treaty with Bangladesh. Her lawyers argued she is not a Bang-



ladeshi citizen, citing lack of ID and passport since childhood.

The case centers on allegations that Hasina, in collusion with senior Rajuk officials,

illegally acquired six plots in Dhaka's Purbachal New Town project for herself, her family, and relatives, including Siddiq's mother and siblings.

Siddiq was accused of influencing Hasina to secure plots for Rehana, Bobby, and Azmina. This marks the fourth graft verdict against Hasina, filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), which has been investigating irregularities in land allocation during her tenure.

Hasina has been living in India since fleeing Bangladesh on August 5 last year amid massive protests that toppled her Awami League government. She was earlier declared a fugitive and, last month, sentenced to death in absentia for "crimes against humanity" during the crackdown on student-led protests.

Bangladesh has formally requested India to extradite Hasina, with authorities stating that the judicial process has been completed. New Delhi has confirmed it is examining the request, emphasizing its commitment to the interests of the Bangladeshi people.

The convictions mark a significant turn in Bangladesh's political landscape, with most senior Awami League leaders either detained or having fled the country since Hasina's government fell.

Elon Musk Shares Shivan Zilis' Indian Roots, Son Named After Nobel Laureate



TPN Correspondent | Abuja

In a recent interview on his show People by WFTV, SpaceX and Tesla CEO Elon Musk revealed that his partner Shivan Zilis is "half-Indian" and that one of their children's middle names, Sekhar, honors

Nobel laureate Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar. Chandrasekhar, an Indian-American astrophysicist, won the 1983 Nobel Prize in Physics for his pioneering work on the structure and evolution of stars.

Musk shared that Zilis was adopted as a baby and grew up in Canada. "I think her father was like an exchange student at the university... she was given up for adoption," he explained, noting that she did not spend time in India. Despite

her upbringing outside India, Musk emphasized the family's connection to her Indian heritage through their children.

The couple has four children together: twins Strider and Azura, a daughter Arcadia, and a son Seldon

Lycurgus. Zilis serves as Director of Operations and Special Projects at Neuralink, one of Musk's ventures, where she plays a key role in the company's technological ecosystem.

their son, Musk highlighted his admiration for Chandrasekhar's scientific achievements. The Nobel laureate's contributions to astrophysics, particularly the theoretical understanding of star formation and evolution, are widely celebrated globally.

Musk's disclosure sheds light on Zilis' multicultural background and the family's appreciation for science and heritage. In addition to his public ventures in space, electric vehicles, and artificial intelligence, Musk's personal anecdotes provide a glimpse into his family life and the values he hopes to instill in his children.

This interview adds a personal dimension to Musk's public persona, connecting his family's identity with scientific legacy and cultural heritage, while also highlighting Zilis' important professional role within Musk's business ecosystem.

By choosing the middle name Sekhar for

Nifty December Seasonality: 60% Success Rate Over Last Decade

The Nifty 50 has started the December series on a strong note, climbing to a fresh lifetime high of 26,310.45 on Thursday, ending a 14-month rally drought. Market participants are optimistic that the rally could continue throughout the month, supported by December's historically favourable seasonality.

Over the past 10 years, the Nifty has delivered positive returns in six out of ten Decembers, translating to a 60% success rate. On average, December returns have been around 1.6%, despite typically lower global market activity ahead of Christmas and New Year holidays.

Institutional flows have also historically bolstered December rallies. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in six of the past ten Decembers, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) maintained a stronger buying streak, injecting funds in seven Decembers over the same period.



Examining the decade-long trend, the Nifty ended December higher in 2015, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023, while closing in the red in 2016, 2018, 2022, and 2024, with declines ranging from 0.13% to 3.48%. The sharpest December

rally occurred in 2023, when the index surged 7.94%, closely followed by a 7.81% jump in 2020. Other notable gains include 2.97% in 2017 and 2.18% in 2021, while 2015 and 2019 delivered modest increases of 0.15% and 0.93%, respectively.

Analysts suggest that December's performance is influenced by a combination of domestic investor sentiment, institutional inflows, and end-of-year portfolio adjustments. The early signs of strength in 2025, along with positive

global cues, could help sustain momentum.

As investors position themselves for the last month of the calendar year, market watchers will closely track earnings announcements, foreign fund flows, and

macroeconomic indicators to gauge whether the seasonal trend continues. If historical trends hold, December could again provide a boost to the benchmark index, reinforcing optimism among market participants.

RBI Issues 244 Consolidated Master Directions to Ease Compliance

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday issued 244 consolidated Master Directions (MDs), aiming to streamline regulatory compliance for banks and other financial institutions. The move comes after a comprehensive review of nearly 3,500 existing directions, circulars, and guidelines issued over the decades.

Speaking at a press conference, RBI Deputy Governor Shirish Chandra Murmu said, "These 244 MDs consolidate all the regulatory instructions issued to the Regulated Entities (REs) over several decades which are currently administered by the Department of Regulation." The consolidation is expected to simplify adherence to RBI norms and reduce the compliance burden on financial institutions.

The MDs cover a wide range of regulatory aspects, including banking operations, risk management, corporate governance, prudential norms, customer protection, and digital banking regulations. By repealing outdated or redundant directives, the RBI aims to enhance



operational efficiency and ensure that regulated entities can focus on core banking activities without navigating overlapping instructions.

The move also aligns with the RBI's broader objective of regulatory simplification and transparency.

Analysts believe that consolidating decades of instructions into a single, structured framework

will help improve compliance monitoring and make regulatory expectations clearer for banks, non-banking financial companies, and other financial institutions.

Murmu emphasized that the review and consolidation exercise reflects the RBI's commitment to modernizing its regulatory framework, keeping pace with evolving

financial markets, technological advancements, and the growing complexity of the banking sector.

Financial sector experts have welcomed the move, noting that it will reduce ambiguity and enable REs to allocate resources more efficiently toward business growth while ensuring adherence to prudential norms.

The consolidated Master Directions are now accessible on the RBI's official website and will serve as the primary reference point for regulated entities going forward.

This step is expected to mark a significant milestone in easing regulatory compliance while maintaining strong oversight over the financial system.

Govt Reforms, Manufacturing Boost Q2 GDP to 8.2%: Goyal



India's economy recorded a strong 8.2% growth in the second quarter (Q2) of 2025-26, driven by government reforms, a manufacturing push, and robust

performance in the services sector, said Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday.

Addressing the me-

dia, Goyal highlighted

that the government's initiatives to enhance ease of doing business, streamline regulatory processes, and support domestic manufacturing have contributed

significantly to the strong economic performance. He added that the reforms have provided a conducive environment for growth across sectors.

Goyal also noted that India's merchandise and services exports have recorded high growth during April-October of the current fiscal year, despite global uncertainties in trade. Merchandise exports rose marginally by 0.63% to \$254.25 billion, while imports increased by 6.37% to \$451.08 billion in the same period.

"We will continue to see relentless growth," the minister said, stressing that India's focus on strengthening industrial output, boosting domestic manufacturing, and promoting exports will help sustain momentum in the coming quarters.

The manufacturing sector showed a marked improvement, benefiting from government schemes and policy interventions aimed at enhancing competitiveness and technological adoption. The services

sector also contributed to the overall growth, reflecting strong domestic demand and recovery in trade, IT, and financial services.

Economic analysts said the Q2 growth is a six-quarter high, underlining India's resilience amid global economic challenges. They attributed the performance to a combination of policy reforms, export growth, and domestic consumption.

With continued emphasis on reforms, innovation, and export promotion, the government expects sustained growth and stability in India's economic trajectory for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The strong Q2 numbers reaffirm India's position as one of the fastest-growing major economies globally, highlighting the impact of pro-growth policies and structural reforms.

India Posts Six-Quarter High GDP Growth of 8.2% in Q2 FY26



India's economy grew by 8.2% in Q2 of 2025-26, marking a six-quarter high, driven by a robust manufacturing surge and strong services sector performance, according to data from the National Statistics Office (NSO).

The manufacturing sector expanded 9.1%, up from 2.2% in the year-ago period, as factories ramped up production ahead of the festive season following the GST rate cut on September 22.

The services sector recorded 10.2% growth, supported by banking, real estate, and other service industries. However, the agriculture sector slowed, with growth declining to 3.5% from 4.1% in the same period last year.

The first half of FY26 saw a GDP growth of 8%, up from 6.1% in H1 FY25, positioning India to potentially exceed the annual growth target of 6.3-6.8% projected in the Economic Survey. The Real Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) rose 7.9%, indicating healthy domestic demand.

Analysts noted that while government final consumption moderated due to weak

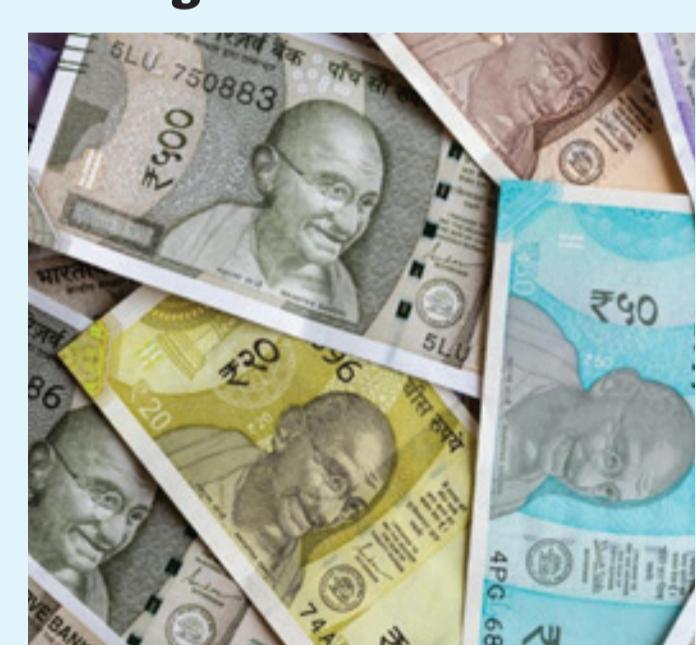
revenue spending, strong gross capital formation and the GST-driven manufacturing push helped boost GDP. Deloitte India economist Rumki Majumdar said, "With festive spending and GST 2.0 momentum likely to continue into Q3, full-year growth estimates may be revised upward."

The nominal GDP for Q2 FY26 stood at ₹85.25 lakh crore, up 8.7% from ₹78.40 lakh crore a year ago, while gross fixed capital formation grew 7.3%, compared to 6.7% in Q2 FY25.

Experts caution that while the GDP growth is impressive, the low GDP deflator and nominal growth may pose challenges for fiscal deficit and debt ratios. ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said, "Despite the strong Q2 growth, factors such as US tariffs and limited government capital spending could temper momentum, but FY26 growth is set to comfortably exceed 7%."

India's Q2 performance reaffirms its position as the world's fastest-growing major economy, surpassing China's 4.8% growth during the same period.

Rupee Slips 7 Paise to 89.43 Against U.S. Dollar



The Indian rupee fell 7 paise to settle at 89.43 against the U.S. dollar on Friday, pressured by a stronger greenback and rising crude oil prices in global markets.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 89.41 and touched an intra-day low of 89.49 before closing at 89.43 (provisional). Forex traders noted that subdued domestic equity markets and foreign fund outflows further weighed on the currency.

Market participants were also cautious ahead of the release of key domestic macroeconomic data, which could influence near-term currency movements.

"The rupee was under pressure from external factors, including trade and inflation figures, which could determine the rupee's trajectory in the final weeks of 2025."

with domestic equity weakness," said a forex trader.

The depreciation comes amid a strengthening U.S. dollar globally, which has impacted several emerging market currencies in recent weeks. Analysts said that continued volatility in crude oil prices and foreign capital flows could keep the rupee under pressure in the near term.

Despite the slip, the rupee remains within its recent trading range against the greenback, reflecting investor caution ahead of key economic indicators and global market developments.

Investors will closely watch upcoming economic data, including trade and inflation figures, which could determine the rupee's trajectory in the final weeks of 2025.

Modern Problems Require Modern Solutions



Bengaluru's crumbling roads have long been a sore spot for its residents, but a recent incident near KR Road has pushed the frustration to new heights — or depths. A pothole nearly half a foot deep was spotted covered by an old couch, reportedly placed there by local shopkeepers as a warning for drivers and two-wheelers.

The unusual workaround gained attention after a photo of the scene was shared on Reddit. The uploader explained that despite the pothole being a hazard large enough to trap a scooter wheel, civic authorities had done little beyond placing traffic cones and barricades.

"The shopkeepers didn't complain or attempt to fix it, they just placed a couch there," the user wrote, noting how pedestrians and drivers merely avoid the pothole instead of addressing the larger issue. The Redditor also mentioned filing a complaint through the Namma Bengaluru (Sahaya) app, but said no response was re-

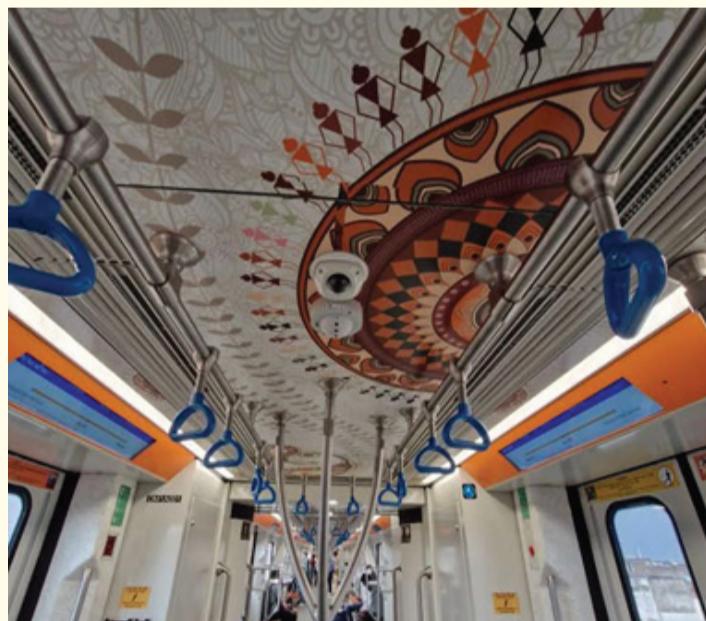
ceived from civic authorities.

The image has since gone viral and reignited public anger over BBMP's (now GBA's) inaction. "I honestly don't expect anything from the authorities," the Redditor user added. "Unless people force change, things will remain the same for another decade."

This pothole protest comes amid increasing scrutiny of Bengaluru's urban infrastructure. Recent comments from top entrepreneurs like Rajan Anandan and Aadit Palicha highlight growing concern about the city's traffic congestion and road conditions, while civic issues have sparked political debates between BJP and Congress leaders.

While the couch-covered pothole may have served as a creative — albeit desperate — safety measure, it also symbolizes the city's deeper problem: citizens losing faith in civic accountability and choosing to improvise rather than wait for official action.

Viral Metro Art Mistaken for Madhubani Is Actually Warli, Confirms AI



A viral image showing a metro coach covered in stunning traditional artwork had the internet buzzing, with many believing it was part of Patna Metro's initiative to celebrate Madhubani art. The vibrant patterns and cultural designs led social media users to praise the effort — but it turns out, the art isn't Madhubani at all.

As appreciation poured in, eagle-eyed users began questioning the authenticity of the claim. "This doesn't look like Madhubani," one user wrote. Another chimed in, "Looks more like Warli art to me." The confusion prompted a fact-check from an unusual but modern source — Grok, the AI chatbot from X (formerly Twitter).

When asked to identify the art form, Grok responded clearly: "That's Warli art. Those geometric stick figures and tribal motifs are classic Warli style

from Maharashtra — fits the Pune Metro hint perfectly."

The revelation shifted the narrative. Not only was the artwork not Madhubani, it also wasn't from Patna Metro. It was actually a Pune Metro coach, decorated in Warli art, a tribal style native to Maharashtra known for its simple stick figures and depictions of rural life.

Despite the confusion, the viral post highlighted public appreciation for India's diverse folk art traditions. While one user joked, "At least it's not the floor — or it would be covered in pan masala stains," others celebrated the creative fusion of culture and urban transit.

The mix-up sparked debate but also showcased how India's artistic heritage continues to thrive, even on modern platforms like metro coaches — whether it's Madhubani in Bihar or Warli in Maharashtra.

What Should Disappear From Earth?

Internet Replies with UV Rays, Tobacco Stains & More

In a thread that quickly turned hilarious and insightful, a Reddit user recently asked: "Delete one thing from Earth that you think would make it better?" What followed was a mix of clever, quirky, and unexpectedly deep responses that reflected the internet's creativity and collective frustrations.

Among the most viral responses was one user suggesting "UV rays because sunscreens are oily," blending humour with a common skincare complaint. Another top comment simply read: "My browsing history", drawing laughs and thousands of upvotes.

Others were slightly more practical but still amusing, such as "tobacco stains", "occasional cold that brings immense throat pain", and even "alarm clocks". One user mused, "Mosquitoes. No one would miss

them."

However, the conversation also took a more philosophical turn. One Redditor stated: "Greed—the root of all problems." Another added: "Remove the concept of politics,"

though that sparked a debate, with one reply noting, "Politics isn't inherently bad. It's how people use it."

The post spurred hundreds of responses within hours, ranging from light-hearted irritants like pop-up ads and spam emails to global issues such as poverty, corruption, and pollution.

life, while some believed only deeper systemic changes could bring true transformation.

Many agreed that removing even one small annoyance could drastically improve daily

rare internet moment where entertainment met empathy.

One thing is clear: from UV rays to rude drivers, the world might be a little better with a "delete" button — if only it existed.

Smart Bed Worth ₹1.75 Lakh Malfunctions, Users Face Sleepless Night



Owners of the high-end Eight Sleep "Pod" smart beds, priced around ₹1.75 lakh (\$2,000), were left frustrated after a global Amazon Web Services (AWS) outage caused widespread malfunctions late Monday night.

The Pod beds, known for their automated temperature control and adjustable settings, suddenly overheated and froze in fixed positions, leaving users stuck and sleep-deprived. The issue was traced to a disruption in AWS's US-EAST-1 region, which began around 3 a.m. ET. The beds rely on AWS servers to function via app-based controls.

By morning, Downdetector had recorded over eight million outage reports globally, affecting not just smart home devices but also apps, gaming platforms, and banking services.

Several users took to Reddit and X (formerly Twitter) to share their ordeal. Some reported intense heating issues, while others were unable to adjust their beds, leading to discomfort and panic during sleep.

Eight Sleep's CEO Matteo

Franceschetti issued a public apology on X:

"The AWS outage has impacted some of our users since last night, disrupting their sleep. That is not the experience we want to provide, and I want to apologize

for it."

Franceschetti added that the company would work round-the-clock to ensure such issues don't happen again. He revealed that developers were building an "outage-proof mode" that

would allow the bed to operate independently of AWS during similar incidents.

While some services have been restored, Franceschetti noted that data processing delays may persist, and full functionality would re-

turn as AWS stabilizes.

For now, frustrated users are demanding a "real solution" — with many questioning the reliability of smart home devices that rely entirely on cloud services for basic operations.

How Do Engineers Keep The Water Out While Building Bridges On Rivers?



Ever wondered how massive bridge foundations are laid in deep, fast-flowing rivers? Unlike land construction, building in water poses serious challenges, including

strong currents, limited visibility, and high risk for workers. To overcome this, engineers use a remarkable technique called a cofferdam — a temporary watertight structure that makes underwater construction possible

in dry conditions.

A cofferdam is essentially an enclosed area built within the river using interlocking steel sheet piles, typically 10 to 20 metres long. These sheets are hammered deep

into the riverbed using hydraulic or vibratory hammers, forming a sealed circle or rectangle that blocks water from entering. Once sealed, powerful pumps remove the water from the in-

side, creating a dry workspace.

This method was used in major Indian infrastructure projects like the Thane Creek Bridge, where engineers noted that vibrations from the pile-driving process even scared off nearby fish. Before construction begins, a thorough survey of the riverbed is conducted to measure depth, soil stability, and current speed. These details determine how deep the foundation needs to be and how many support pillars are required.

Once water is pumped out and the space is dry, workers can safely descend into the cofferdam — often via ladders or crane platforms — to begin laying the bridge foundation. Strict safety measures are in place, with helmets and life jackets mandatory on site.

Despite its temporary nature, a cofferdam plays a critical role in ensuring bridge stability and safety. Once the foundation work is complete, the structure is dismantled, and water is gradually reintroduced to the area.

This ingenious engineering solution allows for massive construction projects to succeed — even in the middle of a river.

Treesa-Gayatri Retain Title, Srikanth Falls Short at Syed Modi International

India witnessed mixed fortunes at the Syed Modi International Super 300 in Lucknow on Sunday, as Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand successfully defended their women's doubles crown, while Kidambi Srikanth suffered a heart-breaking loss in the men's singles final, extending his title drought.

Treesa and Gayatri produced a spirited comeback to defeat Japan's Kaho Osawa and Mai Tanabe 17-21, 21-13, 21-15 in a gripping 76-minute battle. Despite dropping the opening game, the Indian duo shifted gears with aggressive play, sharp interceptions, and superior rotation. Gayatri, returning from a five-month shoulder injury break, said the win was a major confidence boost ahead of their upcoming World Tour events. Treesa credited their improved coordination, noting how both now operate confidently across all areas of the court.

While the women's pair celebrated, the day ended in disappointment for former champion Kidambi



Srikanth, who missed out on ending his eight-year title wait. The 2021 World Championships silver medallist lost a tense three-game final to Hong Kong's Jason Gunawan, ranked 59th in the world. Srikanth fought hard before going

down 16-21, 21-8, 20-22 in a 67-minute thriller. Srikanth surged back strongly in the second game and led 5-1 and later 14-11 in the decider. However, Gunawan's consistency and timely aggression helped him claw back to 19-

19 before sealing the match with a jump smash. Reflecting on the narrow defeat, Srikanth said the contest hinged on "just a few points," acknowledging Gunawan's strong finish while expressing optimism about his own progress after injuries.

With Treesa and Gayatri's successful title defence and Srikanth's gritty run to the final, India wrapped up a memorable yet emotional campaign at the Syed Modi International.

Merino Saves Arsenal As Chelsea Hold Leaders To Fiery Draw



Mikel Merino salvaged a crucial point for Premier League leaders Arsenal in a tense 1-1 draw against 10-man Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Sunday. The London derby, packed with aggression and controversy, saw Chelsea's Moises Caicedo sent off late in the first

half for a reckless foul on Merino, a decision upgraded to red after VAR review. Despite being reduced to 10 men, Chelsea struck first. Just three minutes into the second half, Trevoh Chalobah rose highest to head home from a well-taken near-post corner, giving

the hosts a surprise lead. Arsenal, known for their set-piece strength this season, were left stunned by a own tactical playbook.

Arsenal regained control through sustained pressure, and the breakthrough arrived in the 59th minute.

Bukayo Saka, brilliant throughout, beat Marc Cucurella before delivering a precise cross that Merino powered past Robert Sanchez. It marked Merino's fourth goal of the campaign, once again showcasing his effectiveness as a makeshift striker under

Mikel Arteta.

Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca praised his side's resilience, saying they "were the better team 11 v 11," while acknowledging the difficulty of playing a man down. Arteta, meanwhile, highlighted the intensity of the contest, calling Arsenal's performance emotionally and physically demanding.

Both sides pushed for a winner in the frantic closing stages. Sanchez denied Saka and Merino with superb saves, while Arsenal's defensive gaps without the injured William Saliba tested their composure. However, neither team could find the decisive goal.

The draw trims Arsenal's lead at the top to five points over Manchester City and keeps Chelsea six points behind in third. Arsenal remain unbeaten in 17 matches across competitions, while Chelsea extend their undefeated streak to seven games, signalling their growing threat in the title race.

India Crush Canada 14–3 To Reach Sultan Azlan Shah Final



The Indian men's hockey team sealed their place in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2025 final with a commanding 14-3 victory over Canada in Ipoh on Saturday. The win not only secured India's top position in the pool standings but also sent a strong message ahead of their title clash against Belgium on November 30.

Star defender Jugraj Singh was the standout performer, netting four goals in a dominant outing that saw India overwhelm the Canadian defence from start to finish. India's relentless attacking play, swift transitions, and clinical finishing ensured that Canada had little room to recover once the scoring began.

India entered the match with confidence, having suffered only one defeat in the tournament—a narrow loss to Belgium—and coming off an impressive 3-2 victory over New Zealand in their previous fixture. That momentum was visible right from the opening minutes, as India maintained high press-

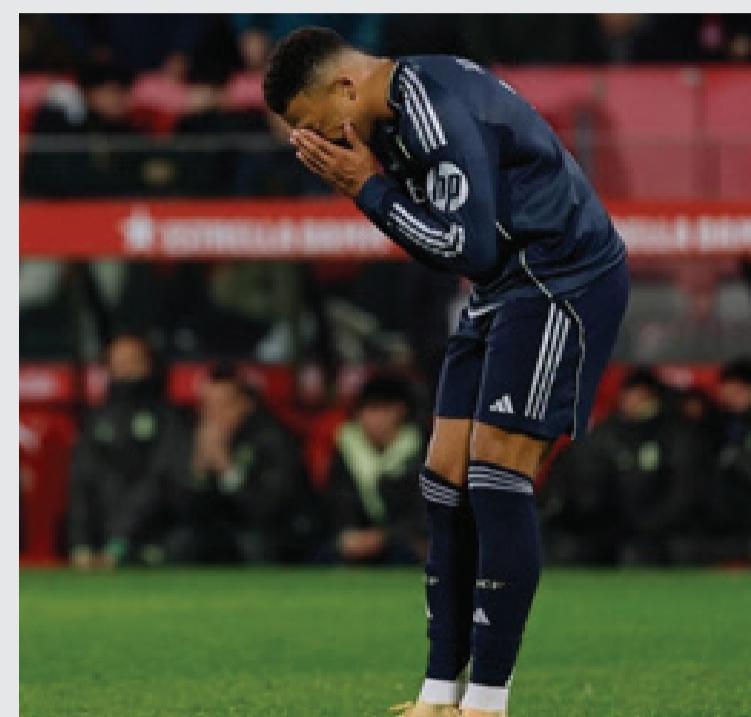
ing intensity and sharp passing combinations.

The scoring spree featured contributions from multiple players, as India rotated efficiently and capitalized on penalty corners and field opportunities with equal ease. Jugraj's drag-flicks proved unstoppable, while the forward line consistently stretched Canada's defence, creating openings throughout the 60 minutes.

Canada managed to pull three goals back, but the Indian defence held firm and ensured the scoreboard remained lopsided. The huge margin of victory not only reflected India's superiority on the day but also boosted their confidence heading into the final.

As India prepare to take on Belgium—the only side to beat them in this edition—the team will look to build on their attacking rhythm while tightening defensive gaps. With spirits high and rhythm strong, India now stand just one win away from lifting the prestigious Sultan Azlan Shah Cup once again.

Mbappé Scores But Real Madrid Held 1-1 By Girona



Real Madrid missed the chance to reclaim the top spot in La Liga after being held to a frustrating 1-1 draw by relegation-threatened Girona at Montilivi Stadium on Sunday. Despite dominating possession for long stretches, Madrid struggled to break down a resolute Girona side that fought with urgency and discipline.

The hosts shocked the visitors just before halftime when Azzedine Ounahi struck in the 45th minute. Capitalizing on a defensive lapse, Ounahi found space inside the box and fired past the goalkeeper, sending the home crowd into delirium and putting pressure on Madrid to respond.

Madrid, who have been battling consistency issues in recent weeks, pressed aggressively after the break. Their breakthrough finally arrived in the 67th minute when Kylian Mbappé converted from the penalty spot. The French star sent the Girona keeper the wrong way to level the score, marking yet another key contribution in his debut season with the club.

However, Madrid's push for a winner was repeatedly thwarted. Girona defended compactly, blocked clear shooting lanes, and made crucial interceptions as the visitors poured forward. Real's forwards—despite sustained pressure and several half-chances—could not find the decisive goal.

The draw proved costly as Madrid failed to return to the top of the table, leaving them trailing league leaders Barcelona by two points. For Girona, the result was vital, offering a morale boost in their fight against relegation.

Madrid will now look to regroup quickly with a demanding schedule ahead, while Girona hope this spirited performance can inspire a turnaround in their season. Despite Mbappé's equaliser, the night belonged to Girona's defensive grit and Madrid's lingering frustration.

Subplots Shine in India's Commanding Ranchi ODI Win



India's convincing victory over South Africa in the Ranchi ODI offered more than statistics or scorecard highlights. It revealed the emotional undertow within a team emerging from a difficult phase, turning the match into a study of body language, unspoken assertions, and subtle responses under pressure.

The win itself was emphatic, but two quiet moments on the field spoke louder than the final margin.

The first came when Rohit Sharma reached his half-century. Standing at the non-striker's end, Virat Kohli glanced toward the dressing room with a sharpness that seemed to carry months of speculation, criticism, and boardroom chatter. In that split-second look, observers sensed a message—one shaped by recent debates over leadership and selection. It felt like a silent rebuttal to those who doubted the experienced core of the side.

The second moment unfolded when Kohli completed his 52nd ODI century, a milestone

achieved with grit as India rebuilt their rhythm after recent setbacks. Rohit's applause was soft, almost tender—far from the fiery celebrations often associated with international cricket. It carried the warmth of camaraderie and the reassurance of two senior players who have weathered storms together. His gesture seemed to recognise not just the hundred, but the emotional weight behind it.

These reactions reflected a team still healing from a bruising Test-series defeat and navigating decisions that sidelined senior figures at critical junctures. Such choices, made in closed meeting rooms, face their real test under stadium lights—where pressure strips emotions down to their rawest form.

In Ranchi, India's victory restored confidence, but the silent exchanges between its leaders revealed deeper truths. They highlighted a group determined to reclaim control of its narrative through performance, unity, and unwavering resolve—both expressed and unspoken.

It's Official! Samantha, Raj Nidimoru Tie the Knot



Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu and filmmaker Raj Nidimoru have officially put an end to the swirling speculation of the past 24 hours. The duo tied the knot early this morning (December 1, 2025) in an intimate ceremony held at the Linga Bhairavi Temple inside the Isha Yoga Center, Coimbatore.

The wedding was extremely private, attended only by a close circle of family and friends. Samantha later shared a few serene moments from the ceremony, and the photos quickly went viral across social media platforms. Industry colleagues, including Upasana Konidela, Parvathy Thiruvitham, Paayal Rajput, and Ruhani Sharma, extended heartfelt wishes to the newlyweds.

The rumours that heated up social media began with a cryptic Instagram post by Raj's ex-wife Shhyamali De, who wrote, "Desperate people do desperate things." The post, released just a day before the wedding, sparked intense speculation and fueled conversations online. While many wondered whether her comment hinted at underlying tensions, today's confirmation has given those discussions new direction.

Raj Nidimoru and Shhyamali De ended their marriage in 2022. Samantha, who married actor Akkineni Naga Chaitanya in 2017, legally separated from him in 2021. Since then, both Samantha and Raj have remained discreet about their personal lives, making today's revelation even more unexpected for fans and the industry.

On the professional front, Samantha and Raj are currently collaborating on Rakt Bramhand, a Netflix original series that continues production alongside their personal milestones. Samantha is also simultaneously working on Maa Inti Bangaram, her second production venture with director Nandini Reddy.

With both celebrities maintaining busy schedules and gaining momentum in their respective fields, their union has naturally become the talk of the town. More updates are expected as the couple steps into this new chapter of their lives.

Euphoria Teaser Sparks Buzz, New Release Date Announced



Gunasekhar's much-talked-about upcoming film Euphoria has intensified curiosity among audiences with the release of its thought-provoking official teaser. Originally planned for a Christmas 2025 release, the makers opted to shift the date to avoid competition during the crowded festive season. The film will now arrive in theatres on February 6, 2026.

The newly released teaser offers an intriguing look into the world of Euphoria, setting a vivid and intense tone. Showcasing vibrant visuals and a trippy atmosphere, it highlights the emotional and psychological landscape of today's youth. The teaser hints at the film's exploration of drug culture, peer pressure and the complexities of modern life. These thematic elements, paired with Gunasekhar's signature storytelling style, have added to the growing expectation surrounding the project.

A key highlight of the teaser is the powerful presence of filmmaker-actor Gautham

Menon, who appears in a strong, commanding role. The video also introduces the film's other major characters, giving viewers a broader sense of the ensemble cast and the dynamics that will shape the narrative. Each frame adds layers of intrigue, suggesting a bold and contemporary approach to youth-centric cinema.

Euphoria is produced by Neelima Guna and Yuktha Guna under the banner of Guna Handmade Films, with Ragini Guna presenting the film. Backed by a talented team including music composer Kaala Bhairava and a dynamic cast featuring Bhumiika Chawla and Vignesh, the project promises a gripping cinematic experience.

With its edgy visuals, relevant themes and an evocative teaser that leaves viewers wanting more, Euphoria has already set high expectations. As the film gears up for its February release, excitement continues to build around what could be one of early 2026's most impactful dramas.

Mohan Babu's Grand Industry Gala Celebrating 50 Years, Hosted by Vishnu Manchu

Many Celebrities From Cinema & Politics Grace The Night



Collection King Dr. M. Mohan Babu hosted one of the most talked-about gatherings of the year, MB50, bringing together leading figures from Indian cinema and politics under one roof. The star-studded celebration, held at Park Hyatt in Hyderabad, turned into a memorable reunion of icons, statesmen, and close friends from across the entertainment fraternity.

The evening saw the arrival of Superstar Rajinikanth, who shared a warm and affectionate camaraderie with Mohan Babu, symbolizing a friendship that has endured for decades. Adding to the gravitas of the event were Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, former Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu, and several notable personalities from the political spectrum, all of whom extended their wishes to the senior actor. Dynamic Star Vishnu Manchu, Mohan Babu's son, hosted this grand industry gala, elevating the celebration into a truly unforgettable

tribute to the legendary actor's 50-year cinematic journey.

The film fraternity also made its presence felt, with Bollywood star Jackie Shroff, Sarath Kumar, Bhagya Raj, Nani, Gopichand, Brahmanandam, Ali, Harish Shankar, People Media Factory's Vishwa Prasad, Allu Aravind, Dil

Raju, Mythri Shashi, Jayasudha, Sumalatha, Nasser, Aadi Saikumar, Sundeep Kishan, Sr Naresh, Srikanth, Sreenu Vaitla, Srikanth Odela, and many other prominent film personalities from all languages, as well as several politicians and business leaders, joining the celebrations.

Known for his towering persona both on and off screen, Mohan Babu played the perfect host, ensuring every guest experienced his trademark warmth and hospitality. The lavish arrangements, exquisite décor, and thoughtfully curated dinner reflected the respect and affection the veteran

holds for those who have been part of his professional and personal life.

The gathering has stirred excitement across the industry, with many viewing it as a prelude to an even grander celebration of Mohan Babu's enduring legacy. With five decades of contribution to cinema, his influence continues to command admiration and reverence from peers, fans, and future generations alike.

The spectacular evening not only highlighted Mohan Babu's stature but also showcased the strong bonds he shares across film and political circles, making it a night to remember.

IMAX Gears Up for the biggest film of the year Avatar

Fire and Ash as Advance Bookings Open 5th December



Grab the chance to experience global's biggest event film in the best seats in IMAX and releasing first time ever in Dolby vision cinema. Don't Miss it!

With massive global buzz around the biggest cinematic event of the year, the month of Avatar begins on an electrifying note. Advance bookings for James Cameron's Avatar: Fire and Ash will open on 5th December, with a special push across IMAX and Dolby vision cinemas on 5th nationwide.

As audiences eagerly await the next chapter in the epic Avatar saga, IMAX invites fans to be the first to experience the film in the most immersive way possible — with the best seats, unmatched visuals, and unparalleled sound.

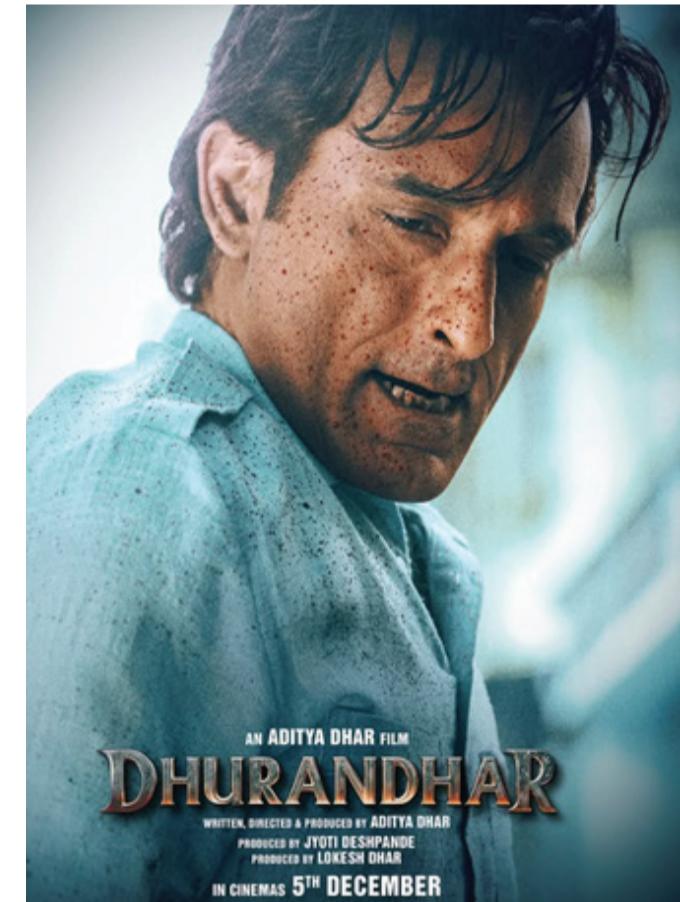
In the lead-up to the opening day, the campaign will highlight special Avatar-themed box office counters at all IMAX theatres, giving fans a dedicated, high-energy space to book tickets and build excitement for the film's

release. With demand expected to surge, IMAX encourages moviegoers to gear up for first-day, first-show bookings to ensure they don't miss the chance to witness Avatar: Fire and Ash in its full, awe-inspiring scale.

Advance bookings open 5th December across all IMAX locations.

20th Century Studios will release Avatar: Fire and Ash in theatres on 19th December in 6 languages English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

Dhurandhar Trailer Highlights Lyari's Dark Legacy



The recently released trailer of Dhurandhar, starring Ranveer Singh, has revealed that a significant portion of the action is set in Lyari, a town in Karachi, Pakistan. The film, based on "incredible true events," has not shared a full plot yet, but the trailer offers a glimpse into the gritty world of the town, known for its history of violence and gang wars.

Lyari, spread across six square kilometers in Karachi's Sindh province, is one of the city's oldest and most densely populated neighborhoods. The town stretches along the Lyari River and has long been considered impoverished, with a reputation for high crime rates. Its historical and socio-political complexities make it a compelling backdrop for an intense action narrative.

In the trailer, Ranveer Singh's character, reportedly named Humza, is seen arriving in Pakistan by helicopter, eventually making his way into Lyari. While his exact mission remains a mystery, the visuals set a tense, action-packed tone, indicating that the film will explore the darker corners of the town and the challenges within.

Lyari has gained notoriety as one of Karachi's most dangerous areas due to rampant gang activity. The town was once under the influence of Rehman Dakait, a notorious criminal who maintained control over local businesses, smuggling, and arms trade, often with political backing from the Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) in the 2000s. This intersection of crime and politics has shaped Lyari's turbulent reputation, making it a fitting setting for Dhurandhar's intense storyline.

With its high-octane sequences, realistic depiction of urban crime, and Ranveer Singh's compelling performance, Dhurandhar is shaping up as one of the most anticipated action films of the year. The film's official release is scheduled for this Friday, and audiences are eager to see how it portrays Lyari's complex, violent, and vibrant culture.