

Global Summit Aims To Make Telangana A \$3 Trillion Economy By 2047: Minister Tummala

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Agriculture, Marketing, Co-operation, Handlooms & Textiles Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao announced that the primary goal of the State Government’s prestigious “Telangana Rising Global Summit – 2025” is to transform Telangana into a \$3 trillion economy by 2047. The Minister noted that the state’s current economy stands at approximately \$200 billion, making the summit the central platform for achieving a 15-fold growth over the next two decades.

Chairing a review meeting on the summit preparations at the Secretariat on Friday, Minister Tummala provided direction to officials on the content of the Audio-Visual (AV) presentations to be showcased. He stressed that the AVs must clearly reflect the developmental capabilities, foreign investment opportunities, and the future vision of the Telangana agricultural sector.

He affirmed that the agricultural sector will play the most crucial role in achieving the state’s massive economic target.



Minister Tummala highlighted the sector’s current significance, noting that agriculture provides employment to 66% of the rural population and contributes about 17% to the State Gross Value Added (GSVA).

Therefore, agricultural development is central to Telangana’s overall economic growth. He explained to the officials that increasing farmer income, boosting productivity, expanding value-added agriculture, and increasing exports are critical components necessary to achieve the \$3 trillion economic target.

The Minister detailed several key initiatives that will elevate Telangana’s agriculture to global standards: IoT-based micro-irrigation, soil health management, AgriTech research (TARCC), global seed leadership, horticulture mega clusters, oil palm expansion, farm tourism, integrating FPOs with food delivery companies, and boosting the dairy, meat, and fisheries sectors along with modernizing Agri-Logistics.

He expressed confidence that these programs will significantly raise farmers’ incomes and pave the way for Agri-Exports worth thousands of crores of rupees. He also asserted that the Vision 2047 Document will provide a definitive direction for the state’s agricultural future.

Reiterating that farmer welfare is the government’s top priority, Minister Tummala mentioned schemes like Rythu Bharosa, loan waivers, crop loss compensation, and Rythu Bima as forming a strong foundation for future growth.

He stated the government’s resolve to empower farmers further through a technology-based, data-driven, and market-oriented agricultural model. He concluded: “The Telangana economy will strengthen only when the agricultural sector strengthens. The farmer’s hard work is the root of state development. In the grand goal of making Telangana a \$3 trillion economy by 2047, agriculture will be the most important driving force.”

CM Revanth Reddy Lays Foundation For 532.24 Cr Worth Development Works In Narsampet

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Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy laid foundation stones for various development works worth a total of 532.24 crores in Narsampet, Warangal district. The projects are focused primarily on strengthening education, healthcare, and road connectivity in the region.



Addressing the public meeting in Narsampet, CM Revanth Reddy emphasized that the region embodies the spirit of the Kakatiyas, Sammakka-Sarakka, Chakali Ailamma, Doddi Komurayya, and Professor Jayashankar. He criticized the previous BRS leaders for neglecting the Narsampet constituency and focusing only on accumulating personal wealth over the past decade.

He highlighted the stark contrast in agricultural policy: the previous CM threatened farmers by saying paddy cultivation was akin to hanging (Uri), whereas the current People’s Government is providing a 500 bonus along with the minimum support price for cultivating fine rice. He reiterated the provision of 24-hour free electricity to farmers and the disbursement of 9,000 crores in Rythu Bharosa benefits within nine days. He proudly claimed credit for the public government waiving 20,000 crores worth of farm loans for 25.35 lakh farmers and noted that Telangana is now the largest paddy-growing state in the country.

The CM also mentioned providing new ration cards to beneficiaries, contrasting it with the BRS government’s reluctance. He stated that the government is supplying fine rice to 3.10 crore citizens, bearing an annual financial burden of 13,000 crores to ensure the poor do not go hungry. Regarding housing, he credited the Congress government under YS Rajasekhara Reddy for constructing 25 lakh Indiramma houses between 2004 and 2014. He announced the new plan to build 3,500 Indiramma houses in every constituency at a cost of 22,500 crores and entrusted Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy with the responsibility of sanctioning 3,500 more houses for Narsampet.

He lauded Jawaharlal Nehru’s contribution to establishing great universities and irrigation projects in the country. He announced the Telangana Rising Global Summit will focus on Communication in Ports and Communication in Technology.

Making a major commitment to the region, the CM promised to develop Warangal on par with Hyderabad, including constructing an Outer Ring Road (ORR), Underground Drainage, and an Airport. He declared that work on the Warangal Airport, Underground Drainage, and ORR will commence before March 31st.

Finally, he spoke on women’s empowerment, detailing the government’s resolve to make one crore women millionaires through various economic upliftment programs, including free travel in RTC buses and making women owners of buses, and promoting their management of petrol pumps and solar power plants. He announced the distribution of one crore Indiramma sarees to one crore women above 18 years, tasking MLAs to ensure every eligible woman receives one. He concluded by appealing to the unemployed youth to study hard for the 40,000 jobs to be notified soon and urged villagers to elect Sarpanches who would work harmoniously with Ministers and MLAs for development, promising to fight with the Centre for state funds if the people stand by him.

Project	Cost (in Crores)
Young India Integrated School establishment	200.00
Construction of Govt. Medical College and Hostels	130.00
Hanamkonda-Narsampet-Mahabubabad Road expansion/repair	82.56
Narsampet-Pakhal Road expansion works	17.28
Narsampet to Nekonda Road expansion works	56.40
Construction of Govt. Nursing College building	26.00
Various Town Development Works in Narsampet	20.00
Total Value	532.24

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Invites Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren To Global Summit



TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu extended a special and personal invitation to Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren to attend the prestigious “Telangana Rising 2047 Global Summit”. The summit is a flagship event organized by the Telangana State Government, scheduled for December 8th and 9th at the Bharat Future City in Hyderabad.

The meeting took place at the Jharkhand and Chief Minister’s residence, where Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka presented CM Hemant Soren with the specially printed invitation card for the Global Summit.

The Deputy Chief Minister utilized the occasion to elaborate on Telangana’s ambitious economic vision. He informed the Jharkhand Chief Minister that the state is moving forward with a strong resolve to achieve a monumental \$3 trillion economic growth in the coming years.

In alignment with this ambitious goal, Deputy CM Bhatti

Vikramarka explained that the government has prepared the comprehensive Telangana Rising 2047 Vision Document. This key policy document is designed to meticulously analyze the sector-wise growth targets and the detailed future development roadmap that the state intends to follow to achieve its long-term objectives.

He further clarified to CM Hemant Soren that the Vision Document was formulated with great deliberation, incorporating valuable suggestions and advice from the NITI Aayog, as well as drawing upon the collective intellectual contribution and strategic planning of experts from all sectors. The Deputy Chief Minister confirmed that this pivotal Vision Document will be formally and officially unveiled during the Global Summit proceedings. This high-level outreach to another state leader underscores the national significance and the collaborative spirit of Telangana’s economic development agenda.

Telangana Global Summit Will Propel State Towards One Trillion Dollar Economy: Sonia Gandhi

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) leader Sonia Gandhi extended her congratulations to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for organizing the “Telangana Rising Global Summit,” expressing her strong hope that the event will play a crucial role in transforming Telangana into a \$1 trillion economy by 2034.

Sonia Gandhi conveyed her delight regarding the organization of the Telangana Rising Global Summit, scheduled to be held on December 8th and 9th. In her congratulatory message to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, she acknowledged and commended his efforts towards the state’s development and expressed her best wishes for the success of his endeavors.

She stated that the

Global Summit will serve as an important platform for all potential partners interested in participating in the key and significant projects and plans related to Telangana’s comprehensive development. Sonia Gandhi highlighted the state’s balanced, three-tiered strategy outlined in the Vision Document. She noted that Telangana is moving forward by providing equal priority to urban, semi-urban, and rural-agricultural development projects. This strategic approach aims for inclusive growth across all geographical and economic sectors of the state.

The CPP leader further noted that the summit will greatly contribute to maximizing the potential of Telangana’s vast assets. She specifically mentioned the state’s human resources.

Minister Ponguleti Announces 1 Lakh Indiramma Houses Inaugurations By March, New Urban Housing Policy Soon

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy announced that the government has sanctioned approximately four lakh Indiramma houses so far, with three lakh currently in various stages of construction. Addressing a press conference in his chambers at the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar State Secretariat on Friday, the Minister detailed the two-year progress of the Housing Department.

Minister Ponguleti made a significant announcement regarding the timelines for house completion. He stated that the government aims to complete the housewarming ceremonies for one lakh Indiramma houses by March of next year, followed by another two lakh housewarmings by June. He further announced that the second phase of Indiramma house sanctions will begin in April.

The Minister informed that a plan has been finalized to sanction the Indiramma housing scheme for the poor across all towns and cities, including the GHMC area. He announced that an Indiramma Urban Housing Policy for constructing houses in a G+3 format will be announced shortly.

For the middle-class population, the government is developing an Affordable Housing Policy to construct and provide homes at a reasonable price without aiming for profit or loss. For this purpose, four sites have been identified around the ORR, with proposals to build 8,000 to 10,000 houses at each location. He also mentioned that the Indiramma housing scheme will be discussed at the Global Summit.

Regarding old structures, the Minister revealed plans to consider removing dilapidated houses previously built under the Congress government in the Kukatapally Housing Board area and grant permission for the construction of High-Rise Apartments in their place. He also mentioned that the government has completed the construction of the 2BHK houses left unfinished by the previous government, spending 700 crores on construction and another 200 crores on providing necessary infrastructure to those colonies.

The Minister confirmed that the government is actively reclaiming lands that were either leased or encroached upon under the Housing Board jurisdiction. He mentioned that fencing has already been constructed on one thousand acres of land to secure it.



He stated that the Housing Department, which was dissolved by the previous BRS government, has been revived with the intention of providing sturdy homes to the poor. The department has brought back 394 DEEs, hired 800 AEs on a contract basis, and brought 152 personnel from various departments and 32 from the Revenue Department on deputation, establishing a fully functional Housing Department.

Minister Ponguleti emphasized the goal of an “corruption-free” Indiramma housing scheme. He announced strict action against corruption, stating that the government has suspended 9 Panchayat Raj Secretaries and removed two others from service for demanding bribes, with action being taken within 24 hours of receiving a complaint.

BRS To Hold Round Table Meeting On Central Government's New Labour Codes



TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025
Former MP B. Vinod Kumar and BRS Trade Union (BRTU) President Rambabu Yadav jointly addressed the media at Telangana Bhavan, expressing serious concerns regarding the Central Government's new four Labour Codes.

Vinod Kumar pointed out that the Central Government introduced these four codes by consolidating and substantially reducing 29 existing labor laws, and critically, did so without consulting the labor organizations or workers. He stated that the working class is deeply apprehensive and anxious about the potential impact of these new codes on their rights and welfare.

He criticized the Central Government's process, noting that while they failed to seek the opinions of the labor community before passing the laws, they are now asking for feedback during the process of formulating the rules for these codes.

To address these significant concerns and to formulate the BRS party's official position on the matter, Vinod Kumar announced that the party is organizing a Round Table Meeting at Telangana Bhavan tomorrow, starting from 11:00 AM.

The meeting is designed to gather comprehensive opinions from various stakeholders regarding the new Labour Codes. The party's Working President, K. T. Rama Rao (KTR), will attend the meeting as the Chief Guest.

- The Round Table Meeting is expected to see broad participation from key leaders and representatives of the labor sector, including:
- Leaders of Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) trade unions.
 - Leaders of various Industrial Trade Unions.
 - Leaders representing the Unorganized Sector workers' unions.

Leaders from the BRS party's labor wing. The objective of this consultation is to collect diverse viewpoints and then take a unified, informed decision on the BRS party's stance regarding the Central Government's new labor legislation. This move signals the BRS party's intent to champion the cause of workers and lead the political discussion on the new labor codes in Telangana.

All India Yadav Maha Sabha To Hold Round Table On BC Injustice On December 15

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025
Srinivas Yadav, President of the All India Yadav Maha Sabha and former Chairman of the Hyderabad City Library Institution, announced that a Round Table meeting will be organized on December 15th at the Basheerbagh Press Club. The objective of this meeting is to take the issue of injustice done to the Back-

ward Classes (BCs) to the general public and galvanize support for a movement. Addressing the media at the Basheerbagh Press Club alongside BRS Senior Leader Srinivas Yadav, the Maha Sabha President launched a scathing attack on the Revanth Reddy government, accusing it of deceiving the BC community. He expressed outrage that

the Congress government, which came to power promising 42% reservation for BCs, has instead left them stranded (Natteta Munchindi). He declared that the "true colors of Revanth Reddy" have now been exposed. He issued a strong call to action, urging all BCs to unite on a single platform and prepare to launch a sustained agitation.

Furthermore, Srinivas Yadav alleged that the Congress and BJP parties have entered into a "secret agreement" (Chikati Oppandam) regarding the BC reservation issue, suggesting a political conspiracy against the community's interests. He confirmed that the upcoming Round Table meeting on December 15th will see the participation of BC

associations and intellectuals, and the organizers plan to involve student unions to broaden the movement's base and scope. Srinivas Yadav concluded by firmly stating that the struggle will be fiercely continued until the 42% reservation for BCs is achieved, underscoring the determination to fight for the community's rights.



BC Reservation Suicides Are Congress Government's Murders: BC Leaders

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025
A group of BC leaders issued a strong and severe condemnation of the current Congress government, holding it directly responsible for the desperate acts being committed over the issue of Backward Classes (BC) reservations. They unequivocally declared that the suicides occurring due to the denial of BC reservations are equivalent to "murders committed by the Congress government."

This emotionally charged statement reflects the intense frustration and anger within the BC community regarding the government's handling of the reservation issue, particularly its failure to implement the promised quota. The leaders collectively issued a stern warning to the Congress government on behalf of the BC population across the state. They called for immediate and decisive action to address the injustice and fulfill the promises made to the community.

In an appeal to mobilize the BC community against what they perceive as betrayal, the leaders called upon all BC associations and intellectuals to unite and stand together. They urged the community to prepare to teach the Congress government a lesson for allegedly deceiving the Backward Classes. This declaration signals a determined intent to launch a statewide movement and organize the BC community politically to fight for their rights and reservations.

Minister Ponguleti Counters KTR's 'HILT Policy' Criticism; Alleges BRS Land Conversion Scams

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025
Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy vehemently countered the criticism leveled by BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) against the government's new Housing Initiative & Land Transfer (HILT) Policy, terming KTR's remarks as "poisonous thinking". Responding to reporters' questions about the BRS allegations at a press conference at the Secretariat on Friday, Minister Ponguleti strongly refuted KTR's claims, stating that the BRS's criticism is a political "drama" where the BJP and BRS share the same script.

He pointed out the hypocrisy in KTR's stance, asking if KTR had forgotten that two key elements of the HILT Policy were initiated during the BRS rule and that KTR himself had signed the file as a Minister. He reminded KTR of the BRS government's actions, such as the auction of Kokapet and Neopolis plots and the auction of ORR maintenance, questioning if KTR had forgotten these actions while labeling HILT a "policy of loot (Dopidi Policy)".

Minister Ponguleti launched a serious counter-charge, alleging that when the father (KCR) was the Chief Minister and the son (KTR) was the Minister for Industries, they took bribes (Muduplu) from favored parties to convert lands and auctioned off government lands. He claimed they directly and indirectly auctioned thousands of acres of land. He then presented a specific case: The previous Congress government had leased nearly 40 acres of land in L.B. Nagar to P.V. Raju Pharma Company. Locals agitated due to groundwater contamination caused by the chemical factory. Minister Ponguleti then questioned the BRS, asking: "Was it not the BRS that converted this chemical industry land into a Residential Zone? Did the father and son not sign this file? Under what policy was this conversion done?" He alleged a similar action took place concerning IDPL land.

Minister Ponguleti concluded his sharp rebuttal by stating that KTR is "full of poison" and that his thoughts are "poisonous", fueled by "stomach ache (Kadupumanta)" over losing power, advising him that there should be limits and decency even when spewing venom.



Huge Hawala Cash Seized In Secunderabad

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

The Boinpally Crime Police and the West Zone Task Force Police successfully seized a massive amount of Hawala cash totaling 4 crore near the Shameerpet Outer Ring Road (ORR). The cash was found hidden in a car in a “cinematic style”—concealed under car seats, tyres, and banners. The police revealed that the operation was the result of a year-long surveillance on the gang involved in hawala transactions. The cash was reportedly being transported from Nizamabad. The investigation also uncovered de-



tails about a past hawala deal where an individual promised 60 lakh for 50 lakh and absconded in 2024, who was later caught during the search for this new gang. Two indi-

viduals were taken into custody at the police station for questioning regarding the illegal transfer of funds. The simultaneous operation by both the Boinpally Crime Po-

lice and the West Zone Task Force proved effective in intercepting the Hawala gang. The method of concealment—using tires and car seats—suggests a high degree of organization and sophistication by the perpetrators, aiming to bypass routine checks. Hawala transactions are illegal as they bypass regulated financial channels, facilitating tax evasion, money laundering, and, potentially, funding illegal activities or terrorism. The seizure of 4 crore highlights the scale of the illegal money transfer networks operating within the state. The joint operation involved

months of painstaking intelligence gathering, tracking specific vehicles, and monitoring suspicious financial activity linking Hyderabad to cities like Nizamabad. The police investigation is now focusing on the ultimate beneficiaries of this cash—who sent it and who was meant to receive it—to dismantle the entire network rather than just the couriers. This successful bust sends a strong message that law enforcement agencies are committed to cracking down on parallel economies that undermine the formal financial system and national security.

Hyderabad Division Holds 73rd Drucc Meeting



TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

The 73rd Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee (DRUCC) Meeting of the Hyderabad Division, South Central Railway, was held on December 5, 2025, at the DRM's Conference Hall in Secunderabad. The meeting was chaired by Shri Santosh Kumar Verma, Divisional Railway Manager, Hyderabad Division. The Chairman highlighted

the division's achievements for the 2025-2026 period (up to November 2025) and provided an update on various development activities, including the status of works at stations selected under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS). Members expressed satisfaction with the progress and appreciated the ongoing development efforts. They submitted representations requesting the introduc-

tion of new trains, the addition of stoppage points for existing trains, the running of Special Trains, and the provision of enhanced passenger amenities like Lifts and Escalators. The Chairman assured the committee members that all their suggestions and representations would be thoroughly examined according to the prevailing guidelines and norms, and appropriate action would be taken.

The meeting was successfully concluded with a vote of thanks by the Assistant Commercial Manager. This meeting marked the third session of the current DRUCC committee, which serves as a vital link between the railway administration and the users it serves, primarily focusing on improving passenger experience. The Chairman's comprehensive presentation detailed key achievements, such as enhanced punctuality, safety records, and financial performance metrics recorded till November 2025. A significant portion of the discussion was dedicated to the progress under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS), a

major national initiative to modernize railway stations by upgrading amenities and infrastructure. The members, representing various passenger groups and stakeholders, provided practical feedback on ground-level issues. Their requests for new services, particularly special trains for festive seasons or specific routes, reflect the increasing demand for rail connectivity in the region. The assurance from the Chairman to meticulously examine all suggestions within regulatory guidelines signifies the railway's commitment to responsive service delivery and continuous improvement based on user consultation.

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gestions and representations would be thoroughly examined according to the prevailing guidelines and norms, and appropriate action would be taken. The meeting was successfully concluded with a vote of thanks by the Assistant Commercial Manager. This meeting, featuring Dr Anirudh Pamar, Secretary & Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, and other Branch Officers, played a crucial role in passenger feedback integration. The Chairman's report on the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) works, including

modern waiting halls, improved lighting, and enhanced accessibility features at selected stations, was a key highlight. Members appreciated the efforts to improve infrastructure, acknowledging the visible changes at major junctions. The committee discussed specific issues like the need for better integration of rail services with local transport networks and the implementation of higher cleanliness standards across platforms and coaches. The requests for new train services often focus on connecting key

regional business and pilgrimage centers, illustrating the committee's function in economic and social mobility planning. The assurance of due diligence for every proposal is a standard protocol to ensure that railway operations remain efficient and legally compliant while catering to evolving public needs. The consistent holding of these consultative meetings reflects the commitment of the Hyderabad Division to transparent governance and collaborative decision-making with its stakeholders.

Huge Hawala Cash Seized In Secunderabad

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the search for this new gang. Two individuals were taken into custody at the police station for questioning regarding the illegal transfer of funds. The simultaneous operation by both the Boinpally Crime Police and the West Zone Task Force proved effective in intercepting the Hawala gang. Hawala, an illicit and unregulated money transfer system, poses a significant challenge to economic stability and security forces, often serving as a conduit for black money and illegal transactions, including narcotics and illegal arms trade. The meticulous planning involved in concealing the funds—going to the extent of hiding notes beneath tire and banner linings—highlights the



desperate measures taken by these syndicates to evade detection by multiple law enforcement checkpoints along major transport routes like the ORR. The successful interception near Shameerpet, a key entry point into Hyderabad, was the culmination of targeted

intelligence gathering over twelve months, focusing on patterns of suspicious vehicle movement and communication intercepts related to the 2024 absconder. The police are investigating the linkages between the individuals caught and any larger organized crime

elements or political financing networks operating in the region. This combined effort by the Boinpally Crime Police and the West Zone Task Force demonstrates heightened coordination and resource deployment against sophisticated financial crimes in the city.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy Invites Tamil Nadu Cm M.K. Stalin To Global Summit

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Water and Civil Supplies Minister, Sri N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, extended a special invitation to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Sri M. K. Stalin to attend the "Telangana Rising 2047 Global Summit". The summit is being organized by the Telangana State Government in Hyderabad on the 8th and 9th of this month (December) as part of the 18th Bharat Future City initiative. The Minister personally met the Chief Minister to convey the state government's invitation, underscoring the importance of inter-state collaboration for future development, which is the central theme of the summit. The event is set to be a key platform for discussing the

roadmap for Telangana's progress in the coming decades, aiming to showcase the state's potential as a global hub for investment and innovation by the year 2047. The state government views this summit as a crucial exercise in vision setting, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, and academic experts from across the nation to share insights and strategies for achieving ambitious growth targets.

Inviting the head of a neighboring, economically significant state like Tamil Nadu is a strategic move to foster regional synergy and discuss challenges common to rapidly urbanizing states in Southern India, such as water security, infrastru-

cture development, and sustainable urbanization. CM Stalin's participation is expected to elevate the event's profile and facilitate discussions on reciprocal investments and policy transfers, particularly in areas like renewable energy and social welfare programs, where Tamil Nadu has shown notable success. This outreach is part of a broader push by the Telangana government to position Hyderabad as a center for future-focused governance and planning. The two-day event will feature panel discussions on technological disruption, climate action, and equitable resource distribution, aligning the state's long-term goals with national and global development agendas.

Kavitha Slams Government Negligence In Quthbullapur And Highlights Lake Encroachment

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Telangana Jagruthi President K. Kavitha highlighted several public issues during her 'Janam Bata' visit to Quthbullapur. She inspected an Urban Primary Health Center and strongly criticized local MLAs from all parties for failing to deliver on the 25-year-old promise of a 100-bed hospital. Kavitha also pointed to the government's negligence towards ASHA workers and ANMs, noting delayed salaries, pending exam results, the failure to provide promised tablets, and demanding reports late at night. The major focus of her critique was the severe encroachment of the Pariki Cheruvu, Medchal-Malkajgiri's second largest lake, which has shrunk drastically from 62 acres to just 16 acres. She accused a political and real estate mafia of fa-

cilitating the encroachment, demanding that the Hydra Commissioner immediately take action to demolish all constructions, including apartments, built on the Full Tank Level (FTL) area, stating, "If the houses of the poor are demolished, the houses of the rich should be demolished too." Furthermore, she addressed the long-stalled Bachupally Flyover construction, criticizing the rulers' neglect and calling for swift completion and compensation for Mallampet road widening victims. Kavitha's sharpest remarks were reserved for the nexus between politicians and land grabbers, noting that FTL markings were brazenly removed. She challenged the authorities to explain how constructions were permitted in clearly demarcated FTL zones, suggesting that political patronage

enabled the environmental destruction. Regarding healthcare, the failure to upgrade the UPHC into a 100-bed facility, despite repeated promises during elections for over two decades, illustrates a severe failure in civic infrastructure planning and commitment to public health. The issues raised concerning ASHA and ANM workers—who form the backbone of grassroots healthcare—highlight the poor working conditions and administrative delays, such as withholding tabs crucial for digital data entry and enforcing unrealistic reporting hours. Kavitha's visit concluded with a strong call for immediate action from the municipal authorities to protect public assets and fulfill longstanding promises to the Quthbullapur community.

Cm Revanth Reddy Prioritizes Student Input For Osmania University Development

TPN Bureau | Dec 05 2025

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy held a review meeting on the development works planned for Osmania University (OU), announcing that he would personally visit the campus on December 10 to inspect academic blocks and hostels. Emphasizing the need to transform OU into a world-class institution, the CM instructed officials to prioritize the opinions of students and teaching staff in the development process. Officials are to present development models, and special measures like drop boxes and a dedicated website must be set up to gather feedback. A final decision on the development plan, prioritizing student suggestions, is to be finalized by the end of December. CM Reddy stressed the importance of preserving historical and heritage buildings, giv-

ing priority to new construction over renovating non-historical ancient structures. He also mandated that all new hostels and academic buildings must include accommodation capacity for an additional ten percent of students and staff to prevent future inconvenience. Other key instructions included utilizing urban forestry funds for works in the forest area, conserving existing water resources, creating new water sources, and constructing dedicated cycle tracks and pedestrian roads. The CM also called for the installation of symbols reflecting the struggle of Osmania students. The CM's decision to personally inspect the facilities on December 10 underscores the seriousness with which the new government views the revitalization of the prestigious 107-year-old university. The directive to incor-

porate feedback from students and faculty is a crucial step towards ensuring that the multi-crore project truly addresses the practical needs of the academic community, moving away from a top-down planning approach. Specific attention was given to the hostel structures, with the 10% additional capacity aimed at alleviating overcrowding issues that have plagued the campus for years. Furthermore, the CM's focus on urban forestry funds for campus greenery and water resource conservation reflects a commitment to sustainable development within the extensive OU campus area. The plan to erect symbols of student struggle acknowledges the university's significant role in historical movements, including the statehood agitation, cementing its legacy as a center of intellectual and political activism.



Nirmala Jagga Reddy Campaigns Door-To-Door For Congress Candidates, Links Victory To State Funds

TPN Bureau | Dec 05, 2025

Nirmala Jagga Reddy, the Chairperson of the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIIC) and President of the District Congress Committee (DCC), embarked on a rigorous door-to-door campaign in the Nandikandi and Konapur villages of Sadashivpet Mandal on Friday. Her primary objective was to drum up support for the Congress party's Sarpanch candidates in the ongoing local Panchayat elections, leveraging her position to promise direct development benefits from the state government.

The campaign began in Nandikandi village, where Congress party members and local supporters welcomed Nirmala Jagga Reddy with a massive rally, indicating strong enthusiasm for the party's outreach. She dedicated her efforts to campaigning for the Nandikandi Sarpanch candidate, Recherla Sravanthi Vijay



Bhaskar Reddy. Engaging directly with the village residents, she went from house to house, appealing to them to secure a victory for the Congress nominee. This personal touch was designed to establish a direct connection between the state leadership and the local electorate.

Subsequently, she moved her campaign to Konapur village, where she canvassed door-to-door for the Sarpanch candidate, Chiranjeevi Dasharath. Addressing the gatherings in both villages, Nirmala Jagga Reddy underscored a crucial political point:

since the Congress party is currently in power at the state level, electing a Congress candidate as Sarpanch would be the most effective way to ensure government funds are channeled quickly and efficiently to the village for comprehensive development projects. This promise of immediate financial backing from the state capital was a powerful incentive for the local voters.

She urged the constituents to consider the tangible benefits of the state government's welfare agenda before casting their votes. She specifically highlighted the popular schemes already in place or announced by the Congress administration, including free bus travel for women across the state, the provision of fine rice (Sanna Biyyam) for welfare programs, the forthcoming implementation of the farm loan waiver scheme, and the promise of 200 units of free electricity for eligible households. She positioned these schemes as a reflection of the party's commitment to public welfare and urged Congress candidates to ensure these benefits reached the village level seamlessly. The campaign saw the active participation of various senior party functionaries, including CDSC Chairman and Block Congress President Gadeela Ram Reddy, Mandal Party President Siddanna, former Sadashivpet Municipal Chairman Satyanarayana, and other local leaders such as Chiranjeevi, Pillodi Vishwanath, Amarnath Reddy, and Shivakumar, collectively showcasing the united front of the Congress party in the local body elections.

Cm Revanth Reddy Donates 1 Lakh And Unveils Book On Armed Forces Flag Day

TPN Bureau | Dec 05, 2025

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy marked the occasion of Armed Forces Flag Day today by meeting with a delegation of representatives from the Sainik Welfare Department at his official residence in Jubilee Hills. This annual observance is a significant day for the nation, dedicated to honoring the bravery and sacrifice of the armed forces personnel and generating funds for the welfare of veterans, war widows, and their families.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister demonstrated the state's deep commitment to the cause by making a personal contribution of 1 lakh to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. This donation is aimed at supporting the various welfare and rehabilitation programs that the

fund operates across Telangana, ensuring financial assistance reaches those who have served and their dependents. His action sent a clear message that the state government views the welfare of the soldier community as a top priority.

A ceremonial highlight of the event was the Chief Minister's act of unveiling a book titled "Bold and Brave." The book serves as a powerful tribute, documenting the courageous acts, inspiring stories, and immense sacrifices made by the men and women of the Indian Armed Forces. The unveiling of such literature is key to preserving the history of their valor and ensuring that their contributions are remembered and respected by the civilian population.

The Sainik Welfare Department that called upon the Chief Minister



included several distinguished members of the defense community: Colonel Ramesh Kumar (Director, Sainik Welfare), Captain Srinesh Kumar, Captain Narottam Reddy, and Captain Srinivasulu. The delegation took the opportunity to update the Chief Minister on the current

status of welfare schemes, the challenges faced by ex-servicemen in the region, and the ongoing efforts to support their families. The Chief Minister's engagement with the representatives and his financial contribution underscored the government's active role and moral responsibility

in ensuring that the sacrifices made for national security are never forgotten. The event successfully amplified the importance of public contribution to the Flag Day Fund and reaffirmed the commitment to providing ongoing support to the veterans and their families.

GhpcDrivesMulti-DepartmentalPlanToImprove Air Quality In Hyderabad Hotspots

TPN Bureau | Dec 05, 2025

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) convened a critical meeting of the City Level Monitoring and Implementation Committee (CLMIC) today to strategically address air quality improvements under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). Chaired by Additional Commissioner C.N. Raghu Prasad at the GHMC headquarters, the meeting stressed the urgent need for a cohesive, inter-departmental approach to combat pollution across the city.

The high-level attendance included representatives from the Traffic Police across three Commissionerates (Rachakonda, Cyberabad, Hyderabad), Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB), TGSRTC, HMRL, Civil Supplies, Transport Department,

TGIIIC, EPTRI, and NCAP technical experts. The central focus of the review was the data on pollution hotspots, the City Action Plan's current status, and the micro-strategies targeting key pollutants, including road dust reduction, vehicle emission control, industrial pollution monitoring, efficient management of Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste, and green cover expansion. Real-time monitoring systems at major construction sites were also scrutinized.

Additional Commissioner Raghu Prasad emphasized that sustained air quality improvement hinges on strong coordination among all government departments and the strict enforcement of environmental laws. This collective effort is deemed essential for making measurable progress under the

NCAP mandate. TSPCB scientists, including Dr. Prasad Dasari and Smt. N. Jayashree, presented specific findings, highlighting the urgent need for both immediate and long-term actions in the most critical air pollution corridors. These identified hotspots include the Punjagutta-Patancheruvu corridor, the Charminar-Nampally Heritage Zone, the highly trafficked Hitech City Transit Corridor, and the major intermodal areas of MGBS-Secunderabad Railway Station.

To mitigate air pollution, the committee approved several proactive measures. These include the deployment of more electric buses (e-buses) by TGSRTC in high-traffic, high-pollution areas, and a push to replace conventional auto-rickshaws with electric three-wheelers. Furthermore, strict enforcement was mandated



for mandatory PUC (Pollution Under Control) certificates for all vehicles, alongside rigorous inspection and checks on older vehicles. To improve safety and reduce congestion-related idling, the installation of Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) and Pelican signals was planned for critical traffic points like Telecom Nagar and Indiramma Nagar. Regarding C&D waste, the committee urged citizens to utilize GHMC-authorized agencies—Ramky and Soma Srinivas Reddy—for

low-cost disposal and encouraged the use of recycled construction materials. Crucially, the committee decided to impose strict penalties for the open burning of plastic and municipal waste. The meeting concluded with a resolution to accelerate NCAP program implementation and adopt modern clean air technologies. The public was urged to use the toll-free numbers for C&D waste disposal: 1800 120 1159 and 1800 203 0033, and to consult the GHMC website for proper waste handling guidance.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Visits Dattatreya Temple, Urges Permanent Boat Facility At Mid Manair

TPN Bureau | Dec 05, 2025

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, along with Government Whip Adi Srinivas and other key political leaders, made an auspicious visit to the Dattatreya Swamy Temple located in Varadavalli, Boinally Mandal, Rajanna Sircilla District, today. The visit was significant as it coincided with Dattatreya Swamy Jayanti, and the leaders performed special prayers seeking divine blessings for the state and its residents.

The journey to the temple itself was noteworthy; due to the surrounding waters of the Mid Manair Reservoir, the delegation, including Minister Prabhakar, had to travel by a speed boat to reach the temple premises. This scenic but necessary travel mode highlighted the transformation of the area following the commissioning of the Mid Manair Project, which has resulted in the temple being encircled by water.

Following the darshan and special prayers, Minister Prabhakar addressed

the media, stating that his primary offering to Dattatreya Swamy was a fervent prayer for good rainfall throughout the state, ensuring that the people of Telangana remain in good health, prosperity, and happiness. He underscored the spiritual significance of the Mid Manair Project, noting that the reservoir's presence has given the Dattatreya Swamy Temple a unique, water-locked setting.

The Minister then focused on the logistical needs of the devotees. He acknowledged that while temporary boat arrangements were made to facilitate pilgrims visiting the temple specifically for the Dattatreya Jayanti celebrations, there is a clear and persistent need for a more enduring solution. He revealed that the government has taken proactive steps to improve accessibility, confirming that a formal file has been submitted to the Irrigation Department and is currently pending for approval to establish a permanent boat service for devotees. This permanent arrangement would ensure that visitors can access the revered temple consistently, not just on special occasions.

On the governance front, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar highlighted the commitment of the current administration. He stated that under the decisive leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the two-year-old "Praja Palana" government has been diligently implementing numerous welfare schemes and development programs. He sought the deity's continued blessings for the government to successfully undertake many more public welfare initiatives in the future. He reaffirmed the Chief Minister's guiding principle of prioritizing the welfare of the people (Praja Hitham) in all governance efforts. The Minister concluded with an assurance that the government is focused on ensuring that the development progress witnessed at the state level is effectively cascaded and implemented at the village level, translating state-wide growth into local prosperity.

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Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha Celebrates Birthday With Service And Fanfare

TPN Bureau | Dec 05, 2025

The State Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Damodar Rajanarasimha, celebrated his birthday today with a blend of grand festivities and significant public service initiatives. His day was dedicated to interacting with his constituents, performing charitable acts, and receiving blessings from spiritual leaders.

The celebration commenced early, with Minister Rajanarasimha's residence becoming a focal point for thousands of his admirers and political enthusiasts, who thronged the location to extend their birthday wishes. The Minister patiently met with the waves of supporters, acknowledging their affection, participating in numerous cake-cutting ceremonies, and sharing his joy with everyone present. The day also had a strong spiritual component, as Vedic scholars from the Sri-saalam Temple and students practicing Vedic chanting from the Vaikunthapuram

Ashram in Sangareddy visited him to offer their blessings (Aashirvachanam), symbolizing well wishes for his long and successful tenure.

Later in the day, the Minister traveled to the Andole-Jogipet town for a public engagement. A notable highlight was his visit to the Kasturiba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) school. Here, he celebrated his birthday by cutting a cake alongside the KGBV students and nursing trainees. In a deeply personal gesture, Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha engaged in community dining (Sahapankthi Bhojanam) with the female students and was seen personally serving food to them, emphasizing his connect with the youth and the educational sector.

The celebration continued at Sri Rama Garden in Jogipet, where party workers and followers organized a large-scale event. Here, the Minister launched several welfare programs. He inaugurated Medical Camps

and Blood Donation Camps organized under the aegis of Balaji Hospital, providing vital healthcare services to the local community. Demonstrating his commitment to assisting the vulnerable, he distributed tricycles to numerous physically challenged individuals (Divyaangulu), offering a practical solution for mobility and self-reliance. The sheer scale of the Minister's popularity was evident when he was honored with a massive garland (Gajamala) by the thousands of attendees. The celebration concluded with the cutting of a massive birthday cake in the presence of his devoted supporters. The event was attended by a host of political dignitaries, including Narayanakhet MLA Dr. Sanjeeva Reddy, State Chairman Giridhar Reddy, Medak DCC President Anjaneyulu Goud, Library Presidents from Medak and Sangareddy districts Smt. Subhasini Reddy, and numerous Congress party office bearers and senior leaders from across the constituency.



Telangana's Temples Marching Forward



Telangana's temples are seeing major improvements, thanks to the government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Endowments Minister Smt. Konda Surekha. The government is working hard to make temples beautiful and grand, but most importantly, they're making sure ordinary people have basic facilities when they visit. They are fixing many things that were ignored before and are giving special importance to the people's religious beliefs. This commitment was clear during the big festivals. The recent Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara, the state's largest gathering, was held successfully, with the government spending

₹110 crores to ensure a smooth experience. Now, they are planning an even bigger festival next time, including permanent construction at the site. The Bonalu festival in Hyderabad was also celebrated on a grander scale, with ₹20 crores sanctioned—more money than before—due to the Minister's special interest. In a first, the Endowments Department started Mass Karthika Month Lamp Festivals (Deepotsavams), bringing spiritual light to all temples every evening during the holy Karthika month. They're also using technology: people who can't attend the Sammakka-Saralamma festival can now offer 'gold' and receive

prasadam online through services like Mee Seva and the Postal Department. This online service was also available for prasadam during Maha Shivaratri. On the administrative side, the government gave promotions to 33 long-serving employees and moved temple staff around in transfers after 16 years. New events like the River Lamp Offering (Nadi Aarathi) have begun at sacred places like Bhadrachalam. Big Plans for Big Temples The government is spending about ₹400 crores to improve temples across the state. Yadagirigutta is getting a new gold plating on its main dome (about 63 kg of gold). They've also planned

a Vedic School and acquired a large area of land for building guest houses. Vemulawada received ₹76 crores for improvements, including building a new free meal (Annadanam) center. Bhadrachalam received ₹60.20 crores to buy land for future development. The government is also protecting temple property. They started a special effort to secure over 632 acres of temple land. They plan to use some of this land for solar plants, involving women's self-help groups (Indira Mahila Shakti Groups). They are also using modern mapping technology (GIS digitalization) to keep track of temple lands, which is a commendable step. Over-

all, Telangana's religious sites are not just being preserved; they are being actively developed using modern methods, greater funding, and a deep respect for the public's faith, ensuring a bright future for these cultural landmarks.



Sagar Vanaparthi, Policy Analyst.

The rupee's real problem: A rising import bill and stagnant exports



The Indian rupee's latest slide has sparked concern, especially since domestic fundamentals appear stable. Inflation remains within the RBI's tolerance band, economic growth hit 8.2% in Q2 FY26, and weakening US manufacturing data should typically soften the dollar. Yet the rupee continues to depreciate, and attributing this solely to tariff threats from the Donald Trump administration oversimplifies the issue. India's currency pressures stem from long-standing structural vulnerabilities in the external sector—not short-term geopolitical shocks. At the core of the problem is a persistent mismatch: India's heavy import dependence alongside modest export performance. India relies on a narrow set of imports—crude oil, gold, electronics, edible oils, and key intermediate goods. As incomes rise and manufacturing expands, the import bill grows faster than export earnings, widening the current account deficit. HSBC estimates FY26's deficit may nearly double from 0.6% to 1.4% of GDP, signalling mounting pressure on the rupee.

Meanwhile, India's export performance has remained largely stagnant for decades. The country accounts for just 1.8% of global merchandise exports and 4.3% in services. By contrast, China's share jumped from 4% in 2001 to over 15% by 2022 due to its deep integration with global value chains and massive investments in logistics and manufacturing. India continues to grapple with high logistics costs, unpredictable regulations, quality-control issues, and limited participation in global supply chains.

This combination—high imports and stagnant exports—keeps the rupee vulnerable. Depreciation is often seen as a tool to boost exports, but in India's case the benefits are muted. The rupee has weakened more than 35% since 2015, yet export shares have barely moved. Many export industries depend heavily on imported inputs, meaning a weaker rupee simply raises production costs. In high-value sectors, competitiveness depends on reliability, innovation, and supply-chain integration—not currency movements. The RBI's ability to influence this structural imbalance is limited. The central bank can smooth volatility but cannot sustainably support an artificially strong rupee without risking reserve depletion or capital flight. Durable currency strength must come from the real economy. Policy priorities must therefore shift toward expanding export capacity. This includes strengthening R&D, improving university-industry collaboration, modernising logistics through programmes like Gati Shakti, and ensuring a stable, predictable trade regime. India also needs deeper participation in global supply chains through free-trade agreements and partnerships. Finally, a shift from volatile portfolio flows to long-term FDI would provide greater currency stability. The rupee's recent depreciation is a reminder that currencies reflect economic strength. Without bold reforms to raise competitiveness and diversify exports, the rupee will continue to mirror India's unrealised potential.

India Needs More Bureaucrats, Not DOGE-Style Cuts, to Improve Efficiency



As the US disbands its controversial Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), once championed by Elon Musk and former President Donald Trump, the episode offers a cautionary tale for countries like India that often romanticise drastic bureaucratic downsizing. DOGE's 10-month run, marked by the firing of 2,60,000 federal workers, ultimately collapsed under its own chaos. Rather than improving governance, it promoted a techno-dystopia that sidelined human expertise in favour of hyper-automation. Yet in India, where frustrations over red tape are common, many saw DOGE as a model for streamlining governance. This reflects a broader belief that bureaucracies are bloated and inefficient. However, global research—and India's own experience—suggest the opposite: the Indian state is severely understaffed, not overstaffed. Much of India's administrative reform discourse relies

on curbing bureaucratic discretion through digital surveillance tools—MIS dashboards, biometric attendance, GPS tracking and command-and-control centres. These systems aim to “discipline” civil servants but often undermine their ability to deliver public services. Frontline workers, from teachers to anganwadi staff, say they are reduced to “clerks” uploading data rather than solving real implementation challenges. Restricting discretion also removes critical feedback loops from frontline officers who best understand on-ground realities. When their voices are ignored, bureaucratic culture shifts toward rigid adherence to process rather than outcomes. Many officers describe themselves as powerless “post officers,” reflecting a system that over-values data compliance instead of service delivery. International comparisons highlight India's staffing crisis. In 2011, government em-

ployment accounted for only 4.6% of total employment—far below the US, where public employment stands at 15.9%. India has 1,623 government servants per 1 lakh residents, compared to 7,681 in the US. At senior levels, the gaps are stark: a 23% shortfall in IAS posts in 2018, only 940 diplomats compared to nearly 14,000 in the US State Department, and nearly 48% vacancies among Block Development Officers, according to research by Devesh Kapur and Aditya Dasgupta. As outlined in State Capability in India, co-authored by current Cabinet Secretary T.V. Somanathan, India's state machinery performs remarkably well given its size and burdens. The real path to efficiency lies not in axing staff or replacing them with algorithms, but in empowering frontline workers, restoring autonomy, and expanding the workforce to match the country's administrative needs.

Putin in Delhi: India-Russia Ties Enter a More Transactional Phase

Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to New Delhi has renewed attention on a relationship long steeped in nostalgia and strategic habit. While expectations from his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi remain high, the India-Russia partnership is undergoing visible transformation, shaped by shifting global geopolitics, sanctions pressure, defence diversification, and India's broader multi-alignment strategy. For decades, defence ties served as the backbone of bilateral relations. Since the 2000 Strategic Partnership declaration and the 2010 upgrade to a “Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership,” India has relied on Moscow for trusted defence supplies, advanced technologies, and diplomatic support. Legacy platforms—from MiG and Sukhoi aircraft to T-90 tanks and the INS Vikramaditya—cemented Russia's role as India's key armaments partner. Flagship ventures like BrahMos and the S-400 exemplified deep collaboration. But the landscape is changing. Russia remains India's largest single defence supplier, yet its share of imports has declined sharply as New Delhi diversifies towards the US, France, Israel, and domestic production under Make in India. Sanctions and the Ukraine conflict have disrupted deliveries and payments, exposing the risks of overdependence and accelerating India's push for selective, high-end cooperation rather than broad reliance.



Energy and trade ties have expanded, particularly after India increased purchases of discounted Russian crude. Trade has surged to over \$65 billion, but remains starkly imbalanced: India's exports are still below \$5 billion. Western sanctions on Rosneft and Lukoil have complicated payments, creating rupee surpluses and pushing experiments with local-currency settlement. Ambitious connectivity initiatives—INSTC, Chennai Vladivostok, and the Northern Sea Route—have political backing but face infrastruc-

tural and sanctions-related hurdles. Geopolitically, both countries champion multipolarity and coordination in BRICS, SCO, and the G20. But Russia's tightening embrace of China limits Moscow's ability to balance Beijing on issues central to India's security. Meanwhile, India's deepening partnerships with the US, QUAD, and Europe constrain overt alignment with a heavily sanctioned Russia. This dynamic has led to a more pragmatic Indian approach—maintaining ties with Moscow while di-

versifying across multiple partners. Looking ahead, the relationship will remain relevant but more constrained and transactional. Cooperation will endure in nuclear energy, hydrocarbons, select defence technologies, and Eurasian connectivity. Yet Russia will no longer occupy the central position it once did in India's foreign policy. Instead, New Delhi will pursue a calibrated partnership—resilient in priority sectors but shaped by the realities of a rapidly evolving global order.

MODI AND PUTIN REAFFIRM STRONG ANTI-TERROR ALLIANCE

TPN Bureau, New Delhi

India and Russia on Friday reaffirmed their long-standing strategic partnership and vowed to intensify cooperation in the global fight against terrorism. In a strong and symbolic joint statement delivered at Hyderabad House, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that the two nations “stand shoulder-to-shoulder and walk together in the fight against terrorism”, while Russian President Vladimir Putin hailed New Delhi’s efforts to promote global peace amid ongoing geopolitical turbulence.

The meeting marked Putin’s first state visit to India in four years, a trip loaded with diplomatic significance given the shifting global alignments, continued Western pressure on Moscow, and India’s own challenge of balancing relations between Russia and the United States.

A Shared Stand Against Terrorism

Prime Minister Modi opened his remarks by highlighting the shared security concerns of both nations and condemned recent terrorist attacks that have shaken India and Russia.

“Whether it is the terrorist attack in Pahal-gam, where 26 innocent people were killed by the Jaish-e-Mohammed, or the cowardly assault on the Crocus City Hall in Moscow... the root of all these incidents is the same,” the Prime Minister said, referring to the March 2024 Islamic State-Khorasan (ISIS-K) attack in Russia that left 149 people dead.

Reiterating India’s long-standing position, Modi stated, “Any terrorist attack is a direct assault on the values of humanity, and global unity against terrorism is our greatest strength.” The



remarks come at a time when both countries have intensified intelligence and security cooperation, particularly after Moscow strongly backed India following the Pahal-gam attack. Russia had publicly condemned the Pakistan-based Jaish group and stated it “stands in solidarity with India for elimination of terrorism in all its forms”.

The Kremlin had also supported India during Operation Sindoor, the military response targeting terror bases across Pakistan and regions illegally occupied by it. Friday’s joint statement further cements this alignment, signaling that counter-terrorism continues to be a core pillar of the India-Russia strategic partnership.

A Partnership That Has ‘Stood the Test of Time’

Reflecting on the durability of bilateral ties, PM Modi said the India-Russia friendship remained a stabilizing force despite global upheavals.

“Over the past eight decades, the world has witnessed ups and downs. Humanity has had to pass through many challenges and crises. Amidst all this, the India-Russia friendship has remained steady,

fast,” he said. He emphasized that the relationship is “rooted in mutual respect and trust,” and has consistently “stood the test of time.”

Putin’s presence in Delhi — his first state visit since the pandemic and the escalation of the Ukraine war — underscored Moscow’s continued prioritization of New Delhi even amid its growing dependence on China.

Energy and Trade: The Driving Forces of Cooperation

One of the most closely watched segments of the joint statement related to energy cooperation, especially at a time when Western nations, led by the United States, are pressuring India to scale down its purchases of Russian crude.

Putin reaffirmed Russia’s commitment to ensure “uninterrupted shipments” of fuel to India, a message of reassurance as global markets brace for another turbulent year. However, PM Modi chose his words carefully, making no specific reference to Russian oil. Instead, he highlighted cleaner and long-standing areas of joint work.

“Energy security has been a strong and important pillar of the India-

Russia partnership. Our decades-old cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy has been crucial in giving meaning to our shared priorities for clean energy. We will continue this win-win cooperation,” the Prime Minister said.

Despite Modi’s diplomatic balancing act, both leaders signaled a push for deeper economic engagement. Russia announced plans to elevate annual bilateral trade to USD 100 billion, a major leap from the current levels. Officials exchanged agreements covering employment, healthcare, shipping, chemicals, and maritime cooperation, including a new MoU for the shipping sector.

In what will be closely scrutinized by Western capitals, particularly the United States, Putin said India and Russia are “moving towards use of national currencies for bilateral payments,” a step that could further dilute dependence on the US dollar in global trade, especially within the BRICS framework.

Ukraine War: Peace Efforts and Diplomacy

The ongoing war in Ukraine — now in its fourth year with no visible resolution — was also a key point of discussion. Putin said he had a “very

informative and useful conversation” with Prime Minister Modi on the matter and thanked him for his consistent efforts to promote peace.

He revealed he had shared new details of a potential plan for peaceful resolution of the conflict and reiterated Moscow’s appreciation for India’s role as a “champion of peace”. India has maintained a balanced diplomatic stance throughout the conflict, calling for dialogue and cessation of hostilities without aligning fully with either bloc.

Expanding Horizons: Minerals, Technology, and Future Growth

Modi also emphasized expanding cooperation beyond traditional sectors. The PM highlighted new opportunities in critical minerals — an emerging global priority, especially for clean energy technologies — and reaffirmed the intent to strengthen the partnership across energy, trade, innovation, and defense.

“We will continue this trend while expanding to areas like critical minerals,” he said, signaling India’s interest in leveraging Russia’s resource-rich geography.

A Renewed Commitment

The Modi-Putin summit concluded on a note of warmth, strategic clarity, and shared global vision. While geopolitical tensions remain high internationally, the India-Russia partnership appears set for renewed momentum.

For New Delhi, the challenge will be to maintain this deep-rooted friendship with Moscow while navigating its increasingly complex relations with the West — a diplomatic balancing act that Prime Minister Modi seems determined to continue.

INDIA’S BIGGEST AIRLINE HIT BY UNPRECEDENTED MELTDOWN



TPN Bureau, New Delhi:

India’s largest airline, IndiGo, faced its worst operational crisis to date on Friday, cancelling more than a thousand flights and leaving passengers stranded across major airports. Calling it the “most severely impacted day” in the airline’s history, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers issued a public apology this evening, acknowledging widespread disruption and assuring that efforts are underway to stabilise operations.

IndiGo, which operates around 2,300 domestic and international flights every day, cancelled “more than half” of its daily schedule. Passengers at airports across Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and other metros reported long queues, confusion, and last-minute announcements, prompting aviation authorities to intervene.

In a video statement, CEO Pieter Elbers apologised for the “major inconvenience” caused and attributed the unprecedented cancellations to a mix of regulatory changes and internal planning gaps. The crisis stems primarily from new pilot duty norms that increase weekly rest requirements from 36 to 48 hours and limit nighttime landings to two per week instead of six. These rules, aimed at improving pilot welfare, have strained IndiGo’s crew availability, leading to cascading disruptions across its extensive network.

Elbers admitted the airline had misjudged the impact of the new regulations. “Yesterday and today have been the most severely impacted days so far. The situation is a result of various causes, including misjudgment and planning gaps on our part,” he said. He added that while disruptions will continue into Saturday, the airline expects fewer than 1,000 cancellations. Normal operations are projected to return only between December 10 and 15.

To manage the crisis, the CEO outlined three key steps the airline is taking. First, he said IndiGo is prioritising customer communication, deploying additional support teams, and issuing detailed updates on refunds, cancellations, and rescheduling options. “Messages have been sent on social media, and a more detailed communication with information, refunds, cancellations and other customer support measures was sent,” he noted.

Second, Elbers said IndiGo has expanded call centre capacity to handle the surge in queries. The airline also urged passengers whose flights were cancelled to avoid coming to the airport, stressing that unnecessary crowding adds to delays and confusion.

Third, the CEO said the airline deliberately cancelled flights today to “reset” crew rotations and aircraft positioning for the coming days. “Earlier measures of the last few days, regret-

table, have proven not to be enough,” he said. “We have decided today to reboot all our systems and schedules, resulting in the highest numbers of cancellations so far, but imperative for progressive improvements starting tomorrow.”

As scenes of overcrowding and frustration spread across social media, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) stepped in to provide temporary regulatory relief. The aviation regulator granted IndiGo a short-term exemption from strict night-duty limitations for pilots and allowed the airline to substitute weekly rest periods with approved leave in certain cases. These measures are expected to ease crew shortages and help IndiGo accelerate its recovery plan.

Meanwhile, Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu said the government will order a high-level inquiry into the disruptions and ensure accountability is fixed. The minister said passenger safety and service reliability remain the government’s top priority.

Despite the immediate uncertainty, IndiGo said it expects gradual improvements over the weekend and full normalisation by mid-December. However, with the airline handling nearly 60 percent of India’s domestic aviation traffic, the ripple effects of this crisis are likely to continue impacting travellers in the coming days.

KUDANKULAM EXPANSION ACCELERATES AS RUSSIA SENDS FUEL FOR THIRD REACTOR

TPN Bureau, New Delhi

Russia reaffirmed its commitment to India’s civil nuclear energy ambitions on Friday, with President Vladimir Putin emphasizing the strategic importance of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) during a joint press briefing with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. Calling Kudankulam a “flagship project” of India-Russia cooperation, Putin said Moscow remains fully committed to ensuring that the plant reaches its full six-reactor capacity, strengthening India’s long-term energy security.

Putin noted that two of the plant’s six VVER-1000 reactors are already operational and supplying power to the national grid, while four more reactors are at various stages of construction. “We’re conducting a flagship project to build the largest Indian nuclear power plant, Kudankulam. Two out of six reactor units have already been connected to the energy network, and four are still under construction. Getting this nuclear power plant to full power output will make an impressive contribution to the energy requirements of India,” he said.

His comments came shortly after Rosatom, Russia’s state-run nuclear corporation, confirmed the delivery of its first consignment of nuclear fuel for the initial loading of Kudankulam’s third reactor. The fuel assemblies were manufactured at the Novosibirsk Chemical Concentrates Plant and arrived in India earlier today on a special cargo flight. According to Rosatom, the



complete fuel delivery for Unit 3 will require seven flights from Russia, all part of a long-term supply contract signed in 2024 that covers the full operational lifespan of both the third and fourth reactors. The fuel delivery marks a major advancement for the expansion phase of the Kudankulam project, which has been central to India’s civil nuclear programme for over two decades. Russia has consistently supplied uranium fuel to the plant and provided the reactors’ design, engineering expertise, and operational support. With all six reactors expected to have a combined capacity of 6,000 MW, Kudankulam remains the largest and most significant nuclear facility under construction in the country.

Putin also signaled Russia’s willingness to expand nuclear cooperation into emerging and next-generation technologies. He said Moscow is ready to discuss projects involving small modular reactors and floating nuclear power plants—both of which represent the newest wave of global nuclear innovation. Such technologies can be deployed more quickly, require smaller footprints,

and could serve remote regions, islands, or coastal areas. He also highlighted the potential of nuclear technologies in non-energy applications such as medicine, cancer treatment, and agriculture, areas where both countries already collaborate through existing scientific partnerships.

The Russian President described Moscow as a stable and reliable supplier of energy to India, emphasizing that Russia continues to provide oil, gas, coal, and nuclear fuel despite global market pressures and geopolitical tensions. “Russia is a reliable supplier of oil, gas, coal, and everything required for the development of India’s energy,” he said, adding that uninterrupted supplies would continue for the fast-growing Indian economy.

For India, the Kudankulam project remains a cornerstone of its long-term clean energy strategy. The first two reactors have been operating successfully since 2013 and 2016, and the upcoming units are expected to significantly enhance the country’s non-fossil power capacity. As India expands its energy infrastructure to meet rising demand, nuclear power is poised to play an increasingly important role.

Putin’s two-day visit and the progress at Kudankulam reaffirm the durability of India-Russia strategic cooperation, especially in high-technology sectors. With fresh fuel deliveries underway and the next phase of construction advancing, the partnership is set to deepen further in the years ahead.

SPECIAL CESS ON PAN MASALA: LOKSABHA APPROVED

TPN Bureau, New Delhi:

The Lok Sabha on Friday approved the Health Security Cess Bill, 2025, paving the way for the imposition of a special cess on pan masala manufacturing units. The revenue generated from this cess will be directed toward national security initiatives and public health programmes. The bill, introduced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, was passed by a voice vote after a short but pointed discussion.

Explaining the purpose of the new levy, Sitharaman said that pan masala and similar products have long-term adverse effects on public health, and therefore industries manufacturing them should contribute financially to measures that improve national well-being. She emphasised that the funds collected would not remain solely with the Centre; instead, they would be shared with the states to support joint efforts in strengthening health infrastructure and security preparedness.

Currently, pan masala falls under the highest GST slab of 40 per cent. The Finance Minister clarified that the new cess would not impact GST revenue since it is being structured as a separate charge. The cess will be imposed based on the production capacity of each unit, ensuring an objective and measurable method of assessing liability.

Sitharaman also pointed out a decline in the contribution of cesses to



the government’s total revenue. Between 2010 and 2014, cesses accounted for nearly 7 per cent of revenue, while in the current financial year the figure has dropped to 6.1 per cent. She argued that the new cess is necessary to boost funds for crucial sectors linked to national health and security.

Government sources said the measure is also intended to send a strong public health message, given that pan masala consumption remains a major cause of oral and other health issues in India. By imposing an additional financial burden on manufacturers, the government aims both to raise essential revenue and to discourage the proliferation of harmful products.

With the bill’s passage in the Lok Sabha, the government is confident it will strengthen targeted revenue mobilisation for high-priority national needs. Opposition members, however, may raise implementation-related questions when the bill is introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

DON’T USE TEMPLE’S FUND: SUPREME COURT

TPN Bureau, New Delhi:

The Supreme Court on Friday delivered significant observations, ruling that funds belonging to temples cannot be diverted to rescue financially distressed cooperative banks. A Bench comprising Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi made it clear that temple money is “entirely the property of the deity” and must be used strictly for temple-related purposes.

The court emphasised that temple funds cannot be treated as revenue sources for cooperative banks or used as a means to sustain their operations. The strong remarks came while hearing petitions filed by several cooperative banks, including the Mananthavady Co-operative Urban Society Ltd and the Thirunelli Service Co-operative Bank Ltd from Kerala. These banks had challenged an earlier Kerala High Court order directing them to return fixed deposits belonging to the Thirunelli Devaswom.

During the hearing, Chief Justice Surya Kant questioned the conduct of the banks. “You want to save a bank by using temple



money? What is wrong with directing that such funds be transferred to a nationalised bank offering higher interest instead of leaving them with a cooperative bank struggling to survive?” he asked.

The banks argued that the High Court’s order had created difficulties for them. However, the Bench rejected their submissions. “You must build credibility among the public. If you are unable to attract customers or deposits, that is your problem,” the court remarked sharply.

The Supreme Court allowed the cooperative banks to approach the High Court only to seek an extension of time to repay the temple’s deposits. It, however, refused to entertain their petitions challenging the High Court’s main order.

The dispute began after five cooperative banks, in which the Thirunelli Devaswom had placed fixed deposits, failed to return the funds even after the maturity period ended. Despite repeated requests from the temple authorities, the banks declined repayment, forcing the Devaswom to approach the Kerala High Court. The High Court subsequently directed the banks to refund the deposit amounts within two months.

Friday’s Supreme Court observations reaffirm the legal position that temple funds are sacred, dedicated to the deity, and cannot be diverted for any financial rescue operations. The ruling is expected to influence future cases involving the misuse or misallocation of temple properties by financial institutions.

Trump Administration Warns of “Civilisational Erasure” in Europe in New National Security Strategy

TPN Desk
The Trump administration has issued a stark warning about the future of Europe, cautioning that the continent could face “civilisational erasure” if current political, economic, and demographic trends persist. The warning comes in the 33-page National Security Strategy released by the White House, which outlines President Donald Trump’s vision for US military, economic, and diplomatic priorities.

The document, described by Trump as a “roadmap” to ensure that America remains “the greatest and most successful nation in human history,” places particular emphasis on Europe, assessing its security, economic, and political challenges in stark terms. It warns that certain European countries may not have militaries and economies strong enough to remain reliable allies in the decades to come.

The report highlights what it perceives as threats to European stability, including declining birthrates, mass migration, suppression of political opposition, censorship, and the erosion of national identity. It criticises the European Union and other transnational bodies for activities it claims undermine political liberty and sovereignty. According to the document, if these trends continue, Europe could become “unrecognisable in 20 years or less,” with economic challenges overshadowed by the “real and more stark prospect of civilizational erasure.”

In a controversial stance, the strategy encourages the growth of “patriotic European parties,” framing them as part of a broader revival of Western spirit. The document notes that the Trump administration has fostered ties with far-right parties in Europe, such as Germany’s AfD, classified as extreme right by German intelligence. The strategy suggests that America supports political allies in Europe who promote national sovereignty and a resurgence of traditional values.

European leaders have already reacted to the document. German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepuhl stressed that Germany does not require “outside advice” on domestic matters, while reaffirming that the



United States remains Germany’s most important NATO ally. He added that issues such as freedom of expression and the organisation of democratic societies should not be included in US strategic assessments of Germany.

The strategy also addresses the ongoing war in Ukraine, noting that Europe lacks confidence in managing relations with Russia. The Trump administration emphasises that resolving hostilities in Ukraine remains a core US interest. Earlier proposals from the administration reportedly included plans for Ukraine to cede some territory to Russia, though subsequent modifications were presented in Moscow. Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that Russian forces may seize additional territory in eastern Ukraine if Ukrainian troops do not withdraw from the Donbas region.

In addition to its European focus, the National Security Strategy underscores the importance of protecting the Western Hemisphere from external threats and ensuring America’s primacy in global affairs. The document doubles down on Trump’s previous rhetoric on migration, national identity, and Western values, echoing his earlier speech at the United Nations, while signalling that the administration intends to prioritise US economic and security interests in policy and budget decisions.

Analysts say the report represents a continuation of Trump’s worldview, highlighting skepticism toward multilateral institutions, a focus on nationalism, and a willingness to critique traditional allies while maintaining strategic and military commitments.

Taiwan and Japan Express Concern Over China’s Largest Naval Deployment in East Asia

Taiwan and Japan have voiced concern over recent Chinese military activities in East Asian waters, following reports that Beijing deployed its largest maritime show of force to date. On Thursday, Reuters reported that China had mobilized more than 100 naval and coast guard vessels across the region, citing intelligence sources.

Speaking in Taipei on Friday, Taiwan presidential spokesperson Karen Kuo said the Chinese operations were not confined to the Taiwan Strait but extended from the Yellow Sea to waters near the disputed Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, and further into the South China Sea and western Pacific. “This indeed poses a threat and impact to the Indo-Pacific and the whole region,” Kuo said.

Kuo urged China to exercise restraint, calling on Beijing to “live up to its responsibilities as a major power.” She added that Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te had instructed security forces to maintain full situational awareness and provide timely updates. Taiwan, she said, would continue to coordinate closely with friendly partners to safeguard peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

In Tokyo, Japanese Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi acknowledged the reports and said Japan was monitoring Chinese military movements “with great attention.” Koizumi noted that China had been expanding its presence and operations in areas surrounding Japan. “We make a constant effort to gather and analyse information on Chinese military movements with great attention,” he said, without providing specific details or a timeline of the Chinese deployment.



He emphasised that Japan would continue to monitor developments with deep concern and ensure thorough surveillance and intelligence gathering.

China has not commented directly on the recent maritime deployment. However, foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian stated that navy and coast guard operations in “relevant maritime areas” were fully compliant with both domestic and international law. China has urged other countries not to overreact to its activities.

The deployment comes amid rising regional tensions and ongoing disputes over territorial claims in the East and South China Seas. Analysts suggest that China’s enhanced maritime presence may be intended as both a demonstration of power and a signal to regional actors, including Taiwan, Japan, and the United States, of its expanding naval capabilities.

Observers note that such large-scale maneuvers increase the risk of miscalculations or incidents at sea, highlighting the importance of communication and restraint in the region. Both Taiwan and Japan appear determined to strengthen cooperation with international partners to manage potential tensions and maintain stability in the Indo-Pacific.

Putin’s India Visit Sends Message of Strategic Resilience Amid Western Pressure, US Trade Talks Continue



TPN Bureau, New Delhi

Russian President Vladimir Putin’s two-day visit to India has been widely interpreted as a powerful geopolitical signal, demonstrating that both Russia and India remain resilient to Western pressure. Chinese state media, in particular, has framed the visit as a “clear message” to the world that neither country is isolated, even as the United States and its allies encourage New Delhi to reduce economic engagement with Moscow.

The Global Times, quoting Li Haidong, a professor at China Foreign Affairs University, reported that the India-Russia coordination reflects a determination to strengthen “independent and autonomous capabilities” in international relations. According to Li, the partnership between the two nations is “highly strategic in nature” and has historically shown resilience against external interference.

Through Putin’s visit, India and Russia have jointly sent a clear message to the outside world: neither country is isolated,” Li said. He added that both sides enjoy extensive mutual support and strong complementarity, implying that sanctions and political pressure from the United States and the West are unlikely to significantly disrupt their bilateral ties.

The visit takes place at a critical juncture for India, which has traditionally maintained deep ties with Russia, particularly in defence and energy sectors. Critics argue that Putin’s high-profile presence in New Delhi could complicate India’s ongoing negotiations with the US and European Union over trade, which are vital for boosting exports and ensuring access to key markets. The timing is especially

significant as Washington works to advance its Indo-Pacific strategy and strengthen its alliances in the region. A recent report by the US National Security Strategy highlighted the importance of improving commercial and strategic relations with India. The report emphasises that continued cooperation with New Delhi is crucial for regional security, including its role in the Quad alliance with the US, Japan, and Australia.

“We must continue to improve commercial and other relations with India to encourage New Delhi to contribute to Indo-Pacific security,” the report stated. It also noted that the US aims to align its allies and partners to prevent domination by any single competitor nation, a likely reference to China. The report’s release coincided with Putin’s visit, underlining the complex geopolitical dynamics India must navigate.

Despite the geopolitical sensitivities, India has sought to maintain a careful balance, continuing its long-standing partnership with Russia while keeping diplomatic channels open with the United States. Analysts suggest that this balancing act is part of New Delhi’s broader strategy of pursuing independent foreign policy decisions, ensuring that it remains engaged with multiple global powers without being forced into one-sided alignments.

In a parallel development, the US is moving forward with trade engagement. A delegation led by Deputy US Trade Representative Rick Switzer is scheduled to visit India next week to continue negotiations on a trade agreement. This step reflects Washington’s willingness to maintain economic cooperation despite geopolitical tensions with Russia.

Putin’s visit also reinforces the strategic and economic dimensions of India-Russia relations. Beyond diplomatic symbolism, the visit is expected to further cooperation in areas such as energy, defence, and technology. Officials from both countries have highlighted mutual commitments to advancing trade, expanding energy supplies, and exploring new avenues for industrial collaboration, underlining the multidimensional nature of the partnership.

As global attention remains focused on India, the visit underscores New Delhi’s growing role as a key player in international diplomacy. The events in Delhi demonstrate that India, while sensitive to Western concerns, is asserting its autonomy in foreign policy, strengthening strategic partnerships that serve its long-term national interests while balancing global pressures.

Netflix to Acquire Warner Bros Discovery for \$72 Billion in Major Hollywood Shake-Up

TPN Desk

Netflix has agreed to acquire the film and streaming assets of Warner Bros Discovery for \$72 billion (£54 billion), marking one of the most significant deals in the entertainment industry in recent years. The acquisition positions Netflix as an even larger force in Hollywood, combining its streaming platform with Warner Bros’ iconic library of films and series, including Harry Potter, Game of Thrones, and HBO Max.

The deal, valued at \$27.75 per Warner Bros share, carries an enterprise value of approximately \$82.7 billion, which includes the company’s debt. Both Netflix and Warner Bros boards approved the transaction unanimously, though it remains subject to regulatory approval. Netflix co-CEO Ted Sarandos expressed confidence that the necessary approvals would be granted, stating that the company is running “full speed” toward regulatory clearance.

“This is a rare opportunity to set Netflix up for success for decades to come,” Sarandos said, adding that combining Warner Bros’ content with Netflix originals such as Stranger Things will allow the company to deliver “more of what audiences love” and help “define the next century of storytelling.” Co-CEO Greg Peters noted that



while the HBO brand remains important for consumers, the company has not yet decided how to integrate the service into its broader offerings.

Netflix expects to achieve \$2–3 billion in savings from the merger, primarily by eliminating overlaps in support and technology functions. Films produced by Warner Bros will continue to release in cinemas, while the Warner Bros television studio will maintain the ability to produce for third parties. Netflix will also continue producing original content exclusively for its platform.

David Zaslav, president and CEO of Warner Bros, described the agreement as a combination of “two of the greatest storytelling companies in the world.” He said the merger ensures that audiences will continue to enjoy “the world’s most resonant stories for generations to come.”

The acquisition is anticipated to expand Netflix’s studio production capacity and bolster its investment in original content. The deal follows Warner

Bros’ plan to separate its streaming and studio divisions from its global networks division, which will become Discovery Global, encompassing cable channels such as CNN, TNT Sports in the US, and Discovery channels in Europe. TNT Sports International, however, will remain with the Netflix-acquired division.

Industry analysts have described the deal as a bold statement of Netflix’s intent to dominate the global streaming market. Paolo Pescatore, founder of PP Foresight, said the

move “underlines Netflix’s aspirations to be a global leader in the new world order of streaming,” though he warned that the size of the merger could present integration challenges.

Experts have also highlighted potential implications for consumers and Hollywood. Tom Harrington of Enders Analysis suggested that the merger could lead to reductions in television and film output, higher subscription prices, and resistance from unions. Danni Hewson of AJ Bell noted that Net-

flix’s promise to continue theatrical releases might mitigate some industry concerns but added that cost savings could raise scrutiny over pricing power.

Ahead of the deal, the Directors Guild of America expressed “significant concerns” about the merger, reflecting broader industry apprehension about the consolidation of creative power under one dominant streaming service. If approved, the acquisition is set to reshape Hollywood and the streaming landscape for years to come.



SENSEX SURGES 447 POINTS, NIFTY GAINS 153 ON RBI RATE CUT

TPN Desk

Indian equity markets rallied on Friday following the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) decision to cut the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.25%, providing a boost to investor sentiment. The Sensex climbed 447 points to close above 68,200, while the Nifty rose 153 points to finish near 20,300. The rally was led by financial and automobile stocks, which are among the most sensitive to changes in interest rates.

Among the top gainers were State Bank of India (SBI), Bajaj Finance, Bajaj Finserv, Maruti Suzuki, and HCL Technologies. Analysts noted that the RBI's move to lower borrowing costs is expected to benefit consumers and businesses alike, boosting demand for home loans, vehicle financing, and other credit products. "The rate cut is positive for large-cap financials and auto companies, as lower interest rates typically lead to higher loan growth and increased consumer spending," said a market strategist.



Despite Friday's gains, weekly performance remained muted. The Sensex and Nifty were largely flat for the week, reflecting a mix of positive and negative sectoral movements. Mid-cap and small-cap indices underperformed, with the Nifty Midcap 150 down 0.7% and the Nifty Smallcap 250 declining 1.8%. This

indicates that investors favored large-cap stocks amid selective buying, while broader market segments faced selling pressure.

A notable underperformer this week was IndiGo, whose shares dropped 9% following the airline's cancellation of more than 1,000 flights. The disruptions, described as the "most

severely impacted day" in the airline's history, were attributed to new pilot regulations and internal planning gaps. Regulators intervened, granting temporary relief to help IndiGo manage its operations and reduce further cancellations. Analysts highlighted that investor concerns over operational setbacks and po-

tential financial impact weighed on the stock.

Sectoral analysis shows that banking and financial services stocks were among the main beneficiaries of the rate cut, as lower borrowing costs are expected to spur credit growth. Automobile companies also gained on expectations of increased consumer demand for vehi-

cles. Meanwhile, technology stocks, led by HCL Technologies, contributed to the broader market gains, reflecting ongoing investor interest in the IT sector.

Looking ahead, market experts said domestic monetary policy and global cues will remain key drivers for equity markets. The RBI's accommodative stance to support growth is likely to provide continued momentum for rate-sensitive sectors, though caution remains around companies facing operational or regulatory challenges.

Overall, Friday's surge in Sensex and Nifty highlights renewed investor optimism following the RBI rate cut, with financials and auto stocks leading the rally. However, the underperformance of mid- and small-cap stocks, along with sector-specific concerns such as IndiGo's flight cancellations, underscores that markets remain cautiously optimistic, balancing macroeconomic support with company-level risks.

RBI CUTS REPO RATE BY 25 BASIS POINTS, HOME LOAN BORROWERS TO BENEFIT



TPN Desk

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has once again brought good news for home loan borrowers by reducing the repo rate by 25 basis points, bringing it down to 5.25%. This marks the fourth rate cut by the central bank this year, resulting in a total reduction of 125 basis points in 2025. The move is expected to provide substantial savings for borrowers across the country.

Several banks have already passed on the benefits of earlier rate cuts to borrowers, although the impact may vary depending on the reset cycle of the loan. With the latest 25-basis-point reduction, home loans linked to the External Benchmark Lending Rate (EBLR) are expected to see a further decrease in EMI burdens. Interest rates that were around 9% last year have now fallen to below 7.5%, offering long-term financial relief for borrowers. Financial experts estimate that a reduction of 125 basis points on a ₹50 lakh home loan could save nearly ₹9 lakh over the tenure of the loan.

For example, if an individual takes a ₹50 lakh loan for 20 years at an interest rate of 8.50%, the monthly EMI would be ₹43,391. Following the repo rate cut, with interest rates dropping to 7.25%, the EMI would reduce to

₹39,518, resulting in a monthly saving of nearly ₹4,000. Over the long term, this could save approximately ₹9.29 lakh. If borrowers continue paying the same EMI amount, the loan tenure could reduce by about 42 months, saving nearly ₹18 lakh in interest payments, experts say. They also suggest that when banks pass on the benefits, borrowers may consider reducing the loan tenure instead of lowering the EMI to maximize savings.

While home loan borrowers stand to gain, the repo rate cut has a downside for depositors. Fixed deposit (FD) rates are likely to decline as banks adjust to the lower policy rate. Although existing FDs will not be affected, new deposits may earn lower interest. Currently, long-term FDs offer interest rates between 7% and 7.25%, but these are expected to decrease further following the RBI's decision.

The central bank's rate cut is part of its ongoing effort to support economic growth and reduce the cost of borrowing. With home loan EMIs becoming more affordable, borrowers can expect relief in their monthly budgets, while banks and financial institutions will adjust deposit offerings in response to the monetary easing.

SEBI BANS FINANCIAL INFLUENCER AVADHUT SATHE: FREEZES ₹546 Cr

TPN Desk:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken a major step to regulate the booming "finfluencer" ecosystem by banning financial influencer and market trainer Avadhut Sathe from participating in the securities market. The regulator found that Sathe, through his organization Avadhut Sathe Trading Academy Private Limited, was offering investment advice without proper registration, prompting SEBI to prohibit him from entering the securities market and to order the attachment of assets worth ₹546 crore.

Sathe, a prominent figure in investor education, has gained massive popularity for his trading sessions and on-line advice related to the stock market. SEBI observed that he was advising investors on stock purchases and sales without holding any regulatory licenses, raising concerns about potential risks for retail investors. In August, the regulator conducted inspections at his residence and the academy to assess his activities.

Originally from Dadar,



Mumbai, Sathe studied engineering and worked in the IT sector across Singapore, Australia, and the United States before focusing full-time on trading after returning to India in 2007. In 2008, he founded Avadhut Sathe Trading Academy, which combines technical analysis, market psychology, yoga, and motivational sessions into its training programs. His approach

has drawn widespread attention both in India and abroad, with hundreds of thousands of followers on platforms like YouTube. Reports indicate that his courses range from ₹21,000 to ₹1.7 lakh for three-month programs. A video of Sathe dancing during a trading session in 2023 went viral, further boosting his popularity.

According to SEBI, the

academy collected ₹601 crore from approximately 3.37 lakh investors. Beyond providing training, the academy actively advised participants on which stocks to buy or sell during live market sessions. Such practices, SEBI noted, could mislead retail investors into following questionable trading strategies. Other financial influencers have criticized Sathe for sharing stock

tips in private groups, potentially influencing inexperienced traders.

The rapid growth of Sathe's business also drew SEBI's attention. While he earned ₹17 crore in fees in 2021, the income reportedly rose to ₹86 crore in 2023, with projections suggesting it could reach ₹200 crore by 2025. This exponential expansion, coupled with unregistered advisory activities, was a key factor behind SEBI's regulatory intervention.

SEBI's directive includes freezing Sathe's assets until further notice, ensuring that the ₹546 crore raised from investors cannot be moved or utilized without regulatory oversight. The move highlights the regulator's commitment to safeguarding investors from unregistered financial advisors and maintaining the integrity of India's securities market.

As India witnesses a surge in fintech-based financial education and influencer-driven trading advice, SEBI's decisive action against Sathe sets a strong precedent for regulating the rapidly growing segment of unlicensed financial influencers.

SANCHAR SAATHI APP CLIMBS TO No.1 ON APP STORE AMID CONTROVERSY



TPN Desk:

The government-backed Sanchar Saathi app has achieved a remarkable milestone, climbing to the number one position on the App Store after rising sharply from its previous rank of 127. The sudden surge comes amid heightened public attention and

controversy surrounding the platform, reflecting both widespread curiosity and public debate over its use and privacy concerns.

Launched to help mobile users access information related to their telecom connections, Sanchar Saathi enables individuals to verify all

mobile numbers registered under their name, manage subscriptions, and check for unauthorized connections. The app is part of the government's initiative to improve transparency and consumer awareness in the telecom sector, ensuring that users have easy access to criti-

cal data related to their mobile connections.

The recent controversy has revolved around concerns over user privacy and the collection of personal data. Critics have questioned whether the app, which requires access to sensitive information such as phone numbers and

identity details, could compromise user security. Despite these criticisms, or perhaps because of the widespread debate, the app has witnessed an unprecedented surge in downloads.

Industry analysts note that such a rapid climb on the App Store—from 127th to the top position—is unusual in India's competitive app market, dominated by social media, streaming, and gaming platforms. The spike indicates strong public engagement and the influence of media coverage in driving app adoption, particularly when controversies or disputes attract nationwide attention.

Government officials

defending the app have emphasized that Sanchar Saathi is a secure and reliable tool aimed at protecting consumers' telecom connections. They have assured users that the app complies with data protection guidelines and is designed to strengthen user control over their mobile services. Officials also highlighted that the platform provides valuable services, including identifying unauthorized mobile connections, reporting complaints to telecom operators, and managing multiple numbers efficiently.

The Sanchar Saathi

SPICEJET CAPITALIZES ON INDIGO CRISIS

TPN Desk:

The ongoing operational crisis at IndiGo has provided a strategic opportunity for rival airline SpiceJet, which moved quickly to expand its services amid widespread flight cancellations and delays. While IndiGo continues to grapple with stranded passengers and operational bottlenecks, SpiceJet has added multiple new flights from Delhi and Mumbai to meet the surge in demand, positively impacting its business and stock performance. Conversely, IndiGo's shares have been negatively affected due to the disruption.

SpiceJet announced the additional flights on social media platform X, stating, "Quick update: We have added additional departures from Delhi and Mumbai today for your convenience." The airline also provided detailed information on flight numbers, destinations, and timings for the new services.

The expanded schedule includes flights from Delhi to Mumbai, Ayodhya, Pune, Bangkok, Bengaluru, and Kolkata. Meanwhile, Mumbai-based departures now cover Jaipur, Patna, Goa, Bengaluru, Gorakhpur, Chennai, and New Delhi. The airline's prompt response highlights its strategy to capture demand generated by IndiGo's operational setbacks, turning a competitor's crisis into a commercial advantage.

However, the spike in fares has drawn attention. According to SpiceJet's website, one-way tickets from Mumbai to Delhi for late-night flights were priced at ₹40,599 and ₹34,299—dramatically higher than the regular ₹4,000-₹7,000 range. This surge reflects the pressure of limited seat availability amid high demand, as travelers urgently seek alternatives to canceled IndiGo flights.

Despite the announcement of additional flights, most of the new services were already sold out at the time of reporting, suggesting that



the airline is operating at full capacity to accommodate displaced passengers. Industry experts note that while the high fares may attract criticism from travelers, the move is a significant revenue booster for SpiceJet during a period when competitors are struggling operationally.

Financial analysts have pointed out that SpiceJet's quick operational response demonstrates the flexibility and opportunistic strategies of smaller carriers in the Indian aviation market. By swiftly reallocating aircraft and increasing flight frequencies, the airline has not only addressed urgent passenger needs but also strengthened its position in the domestic sector, particularly in key hubs like Delhi and Mumbai.

For IndiGo, the crisis continues to weigh heavily, affecting customer trust and investor confidence. Regulatory intervention and temporary relief measures have been implemented, but recovery is expected to take time. Meanwhile, SpiceJet's decisive approach has underscored the importance of agile planning in a competitive industry where one airline's misfortune can become another's opportunity.

Overall, the IndiGo disruption has reshaped short-term dynamics in India's aviation sector, with SpiceJet emerging as the primary beneficiary through expanded flight offerings, record fares, and increased market visibility.

Fabergé ‘Winter Egg’ Expected to Fetch Rs 200 Crore at Auction



A rare Fabergé masterpiece—famously known as the Winter Egg—is once again headed to auction, and experts believe it could command an extraordinary price of Rs 200 crore. Just four inches tall, the jewel-like creation is considered one of the most exquisite and valuable decorative eggs ever made.

Crafted in 1913 for Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, the Winter Egg was designed by Alma Pihl, one of the very few female artists at the House of Fabergé. The Tsar commissioned it as an Easter gift for his mother, Empress Maria Feodorovna. Today, only two eggs created by Pihl survive—one held by the British royal family, and this newly surfaced piece now set for sale.

What sets the Winter Egg apart is its extraordinary craftsmanship. Made from rock crystal, the exterior shimmers like frozen glass and is embellished with nearly 4,500 dia-

monds, giving it a glistening, frost-like appearance. Inside the egg lies its signature surprise: a miniature basket of flowers, crafted from precious stones and quartz. The delicate design symbolises the transition from winter to spring, capturing the elegance and imagination for which Fabergé is renowned.

The egg’s journey through history is just as striking as its design. After the fall of the Romanov dynasty in 1917, many royal treasures were sold off by the new communist regime. Despite its immense value, the Winter Egg was reportedly sold to a London dealer for only £450 due to Russia’s financial crisis at the time.

More than a century later, the piece is poised to break auction records. With its rich imperial history, intricate artistry, and extreme rarity, the Fabergé Winter Egg stands as one of the world’s most extraordinary—and expensive—art objects.

Over 1,000 Amazon Workers Warn Against ‘Warp-Speed’ AI Rollout



More than 1,000 Amazon employees have signed an open letter urging the company to slow down its rapid expansion of artificial intelligence systems, warning that the current “all-costs-justified, warp-speed” approach could harm workers, democracy and the environment. The letter, published on November 26, comes amid Amazon’s ongoing plan to cut up to 14,000 corporate jobs globally this year.

The signatories include engineers, product managers and warehouse associates, reflecting concerns across the company’s workforce. Their message has also drawn support from over 2,400 employees at other major tech firms, including Microsoft, Apple, Google and Meta—showing a broader industry unease about unchecked AI growth.

Employees argue that Amazon’s leadership is pushing ahead with AI adoption without adequate guardrails, risking mass job displacement and expanding workplace surveillance. They also highlight the environmental cost of large-scale AI infrastructure, which demands vast energy resources at a time when climate concerns are mounting.

The letter warns that deploying powerful AI tools without proper oversight could contribute to democratic backsliding, especially when combined with rising global authoritarianism. Workers fear that AI-driven decision-making in logistics, hiring, productivity tracking and customer-facing services could concentrate power and reduce transparency.

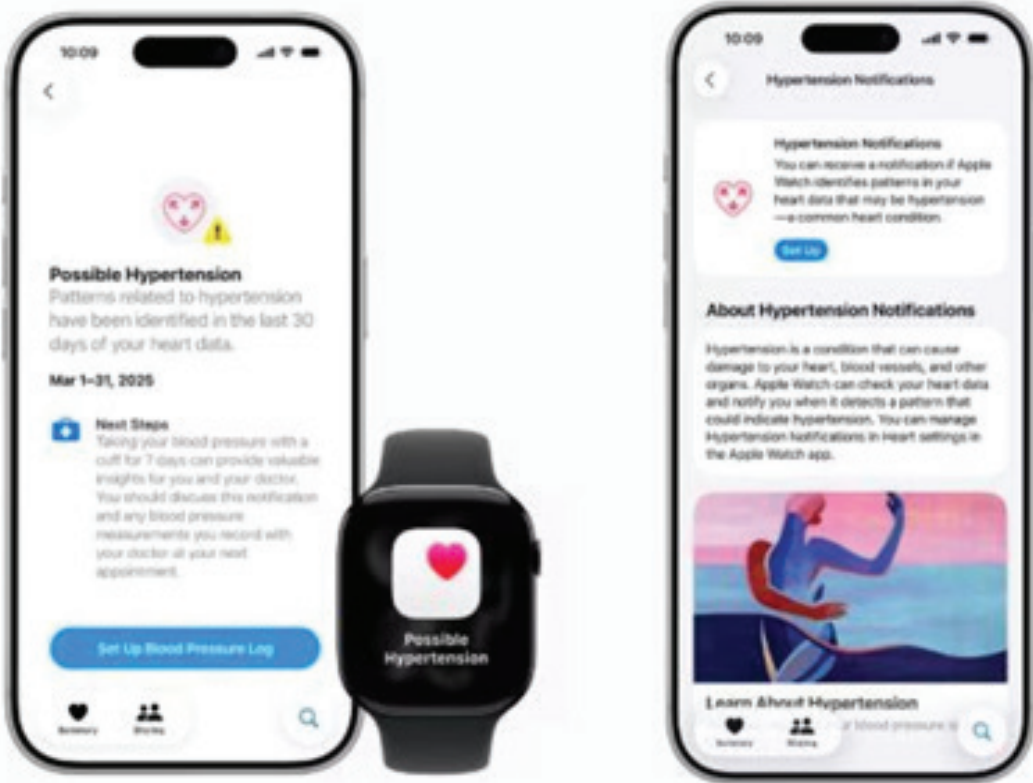
“We believe that the warp-speed approach to AI development will do staggering damage,” the letter states, urging Amazon to invest in stronger safety, privacy and ethical standards before scaling further. Employees want clearer policies on how AI may affect job roles, along with commitments to retraining and protecting workers’ rights.

As Amazon accelerates integration of generative AI across e-commerce, cloud services and warehouse operations, the internal pushback underscores a growing divide between corporate strategy and employee anxieties. Workers say AI innovation is inevitable—but warn that without meaningful safeguards, its consequences could be far-reaching and irreversible.

Apple Watch Rolls Out Hypertension Alerts for Users in India

Apple has introduced a new hypertension notifications feature for Apple Watch users in India, aiming to help identify signs of chronic high blood pressure in people who may not know they have the condition. The feature analyzes 30 days of PPG (photoplethysmography) sensor data using machine learning and is designed specifically for users without a prior hypertension diagnosis.

Unlike a traditional blood pressure monitor, the Apple Watch does not measure blood pressure directly or show BP readings. Instead, it looks for long-term patterns linked to chronic hypertension and alerts eligible users—those over 22, not pregnant, and undiagnosed—if concerning trends emerge. Once enabled through the Watch or Health app, the feature runs automatically in the background.



Dr. Adam Phillips, a cardiologist at Apple involved in developing

the feature, said it is built on three principles: scientific valida-

tion, actionable insights, and privacy. Apple used data from

over 100,000 participants to design the feature and clinically vali-

dated it on 2,229 adults. In testing, it achieved 41.2% sensitivity in detecting hypertension and 92.3% specificity in identifying users without it—performance comparable to clinical BP cuffs.

The feature works on Apple Watch Series 9, 10, 11, Ultra 2, and Ultra 3. If a user receives a notification, Apple recommends logging blood pressure for seven days using a certified external BP cuff. Reports generated through the Health app can be shared with doctors via email, messaging apps, or WhatsApp.

Hypertension affects 1.3 billion people worldwide, with nearly half going undiagnosed. Apple says its goal is to help this large population get early alerts that can encourage timely medical evaluation and prevent complications such as heart attacks, stroke, and kidney disease.

Russian Firm Claims Neurochip Can Turn Pigeons Into Human-Controlled Drones

A Russian neurotechnology company, Neiry, has announced that it is developing a system that can turn real birds—starting with pigeons—into remotely operated “biodrones.” According to a translated post from the company, its implanted neurochip allows an operator to control the bird’s flight by uploading tasks, similar to programming conventional unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Unlike trained messenger birds, Neiry claims its biodrones require no training at all. After surgery, the bird can reportedly be guided through brain stimulation. By activating specific neural regions, researchers say they can create an impulse that makes the bird “want” to fly in the commanded direction.

The company argues that using live birds offers significant advantages. Pigeons can naturally navigate complex urban environments and have better endurance than many mechanical drones. Neiry also asserts that the risk of operational failure is equivalent to the normal chances of a bird falling mid-flight.



The biodrone system involves implanted electrodes, a back-mounted stimulator, and a remote controller that sends directional cues. A GPS receiver tracks the bird’s location in real time. Neiry claims that operators can manage entire flocks, up-

dating flight paths through the neural interface. A pigeon equipped as a PJN-1 biodrone can reportedly fly up to 310 miles in a day, and with adequate sunlight for the on-board power system, nearly 1,850 miles in a week. Founder Alexander Panov

says the company plans to expand the technology to other species: ravens for heavier payloads, gulls for coastal monitoring, and albatrosses for long-range ocean surveillance. Neiry states that the project is in its final testing

phase and will soon be used for remote monitoring. However, the company has not disclosed how many birds have been harmed during development or provided data on surgical success rates, raising ethical and welfare concerns.

AI Firms Fall Short of Global Safety Standards: Study



A new report from the Future of Life Institute (FLI) has found that the safety practices of leading artificial intelligence companies—including Anthropic, OpenAI, xAI and Meta—remain far below emerging global standards. The findings were released in the latest edition of FLI’s AI Safety

Index on Wednesday. The independent expert panel that evaluated these companies concluded that, despite rapid efforts to build increasingly powerful and potentially superintelligent AI systems, none of the firms has developed a robust, reliable framework to control or align such ad-

vanced technologies. The report warns that safety measures are not keeping pace with the accelerating AI race. The study comes at a time of growing public anxiety over the societal impacts of smarter-than-human systems. Recent incidents linking AI chatbots to self-harm

and suicide cases have intensified scrutiny. Concerns have also risen around AI-powered hacking, manipulation, and psychological harm. Max Tegmark, MIT professor and president of FLI, criticized the regulatory vacuum surrounding AI development. “Despite recent up-

roar over AI-powered hacking and AI driving people to psychosis and self-harm, US AI companies remain less regulated than restaurants and continue lobbying against binding safety standards,” he said. While governments worldwide are exploring guardrails for advanced AI, the tech industry continues its rapid expansion. Major companies are investing hundreds of billions of dollars to scale up machine learning infrastructure, signaling no slowdown in the competitive push toward superintelligence. FLI—founded in 2014 and initially supported by Elon Musk—has long warned about the existential risks posed by uncontrolled AI. Just this October, a group of prominent scientists including Geoffrey Hinton and Yoshua Bengio called for a moratorium on developing superintelligent AI until stronger public oversight and scientific understanding are in place. The institute argues that without stringent safety standards, the gap between AI capabilities and governance will continue to widen, increasing the risk of real-world harm.

Visakhapatnam ODI Decider: India and South Africa Clash for Series Victory



Cricket fans are eagerly anticipating the third One Day International (ODI) match between India and South Africa at Visakhapatnam, as the series hangs in the balance. With the series currently tied 1-1, this final ODI has become the decisive encounter, promising intense competition and high stakes for both teams. After India's victory in the first match and South Africa's comeback in the second, all eyes are on this clash to determine the series winner.

In the opening ODI, India delivered a commanding performance, showcasing their batting depth and bowling strength. The top order laid a solid foundation, while middle-order contributions ensured a competitive total. India's bowlers then executed a disciplined plan, restricting South Africa's batting line-up and clinching a

comprehensive win. The match highlighted India's balanced team composition and the experience of its key players in handling pressure situations.

However, South Africa demonstrated their resilience in the second ODI, leveling the series with an impressive performance. Their bowlers applied consistent pressure on the Indian batsmen, exploiting gaps and maintaining tight lines and lengths. The South African batsmen responded effectively in their chase, building crucial partnerships and overcoming early setbacks. This victory not only showcased South Africa's adaptability but also set up a thrilling decider at Visakhapatnam.

The third ODI carries immense significance as it will determine the outcome of the series. Both teams are expected to field their strongest line-ups, with

strategic adjustments based on the performances in the first two matches. India will rely heavily on its experienced batsmen, who have consistently provided stability in previous games. Contributions from the middle order will be crucial, particularly in navigating tricky phases of the innings. On the bowling front, India's pace attack and spin duo will be tasked with breaking partnerships and containing the South African batsmen.

South Africa, on the other hand, will aim to carry forward the momentum from their second-match victory. Their all-rounders and middle-order batsmen will play pivotal roles in setting or chasing totals, while the bowlers will focus on exploiting weaknesses in India's batting order. With the series on the line, both sides are likely to play aggressively, bal-

ancing risk and caution to gain an edge over their opponents.

Visakhapatnam's pitch and weather conditions will play a crucial role in the match. Analysts predict a balanced wicket that offers opportunities for both batsmen and bowlers, potentially leading to an exciting contest with twists and turns throughout the game. The coastal conditions might aid swing bowling in the early overs, while spinners could come into play during the middle overs, adding another layer of strategy for the captains.

Fans can expect an electrifying atmosphere in the stadium, with supporters from both nations turning out in large numbers. The decider ODI is not only about claiming the series but also about building momentum for upcoming international fixtures. A win

here would boost confidence and morale for the victorious team, while a loss could trigger a period of introspection and analysis.

Both teams have shown remarkable skill, determination, and adaptability in the first two matches, setting the stage for a memorable showdown. The third ODI at Visakhapatnam promises to deliver intense cricketing action, strategic battles, and high drama, providing fans with a perfect finale to this closely contested series.

As the players take to the field, all eyes will be on the performances of star players and emerging talents alike. The decider ODI is set to be a showcase of competitive spirit, technical prowess, and tactical acumen, making it a must-watch for cricket enthusiasts across India, South Africa, and the world.

Cricket World Awaits as Virat Kohli Eyes Third Consecutive ODI Century



TPN Desk:

The cricketing world is abuzz as India gears up for the third and decisive ODI against South Africa at Visakhapatnam. All eyes are on Virat Kohli, who has been in sublime form, scoring centuries in the first two matches of the series. Fans, analysts, and former players alike are eagerly anticipating whether Kohli can achieve a remarkable hat-trick of centuries in the series, a feat that would further cement his reputation as one of the modern greats of the game.

Kohli's performance in the first two ODIs has been extraordinary. In the opening match, he anchored India's innings with his trademark calm and precision, compiling a century that set up a dominant total. His ability to rotate strike, punish loose deliveries, and maintain a steady pace helped India secure a comfortable victory. In the second ODI, despite South Africa's spirited comeback, Kohli once again showcased his class, crafting another century under pressure and keeping India competitive in a closely fought match.

The third ODI now holds even greater significance. With the series tied 1-1, Kohli's form could be the decisive factor in determining the winner. Fans are not only hoping for a series victory but also eagerly looking forward to witnessing Kohli achieve the rare milestone of three consecutive centuries in a bilateral ODI series — a feat achieved by only a select few in international cricket.

Cricket enthusiasts around the world are already speculating on Kohli's approach for the

decider. Analysts suggest that his success lies in combining patience with aggression, adapting to pitch conditions, and capitalizing on any early breakthroughs. Kohli's exceptional hand-eye coordination, footwork, and ability to read the game have been on full display in this series, giving Indian fans every reason to believe he can repeat his heroics.

The stakes are high not just for Kohli but for the Indian team as a whole. A strong performance from their star batsman can inspire the rest of the line-up and create momentum in crucial phases of the match. Moreover, a century from Kohli in the third ODI would provide India with a solid platform to chase or defend totals, significantly increasing their chances of clinching the series against a formidable South African side.

Across social media, fans have already started planning celebrations, with hashtags and posts expressing excitement and hope. Former players and commentators have lauded Kohli's consistency and mental fortitude, noting that such performances often define the outcome of closely contested series.

As the match approaches, cricket fans everywhere are holding their breath, hoping to witness history in the making. Whether Virat Kohli achieves the much-anticipated hat-trick of centuries or not, his dazzling form and dedication continue to inspire millions and underscore why he remains one of the most celebrated cricketers in the world today.

Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli's Future in World Cup 2027 Looks Bright After Stellar Performances

The debate over the future of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli in Indian cricket seems to be nearing a resolution, much to the delight of fans and cricketing pundits. The ongoing tussle between Gautam Gambhir and the senior Indian stars — popularly referred to as ROKO — may finally be coming to an end as per sports circles. The discussion around whether these stalwarts should be included in the 2027 World Cup squad has been a hot topic in recent months, but their recent performances against South Africa have shifted perceptions within the BCCI.

Earlier, Gautam Gambhir had expressed strong reservations about including Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli in the upcoming World Cup, citing concerns over age and workload management. He had reportedly advised the BCCI to consider the longer-term future of Indian cricket, suggesting that newer, younger players should gradually replace the senior duo. This stance, however, did not sit well with fans or some former players, who have long recognized the unmatched talent and match-winning capabilities of the two veterans.

The South Africa series became a turning point for Rohit and Kohli. Both players displayed world-class performances, proving that age has not dulled their skills or temperament. Kohli, in particular, impressed cricket enthusiasts with his consecutive centuries in the



ODIs, showing remarkable consistency, focus, and resilience under pressure. Rohit Sharma, too, played crucial innings that stabilized India's batting line-up and guided younger teammates through challenging situations.

According to sources within cricketing circles, the BCCI has reportedly reconsidered its earlier stance, which was influenced by Gambhir's opinion. The board is now leaning towards retaining both Kohli and Rohit in the squad for the 2027 World Cup, recognizing the immense value of their experience, leadership, and ability to perform in high-stakes matches. Cricket fans across India have welcomed this move, flooding social media with messages of support and ap-

preciation for the two stars.

Prominent former players have also spoken in favor of ROKO. Madan Lal praised their performances, stating that both veterans are "playing like 28-year-olds" and continue to be instrumental in India's successes. Senior cricketing figure Ravi Shastri, who has previously coached the Indian team, cautioned the BCCI against making any hasty decisions regarding their careers, emphasizing that the experience and composure of Rohit and Kohli in critical situations are irreplaceable.

The possible reconciliation between Gambhir's camp and ROKO could herald a new phase of harmony within Indian cricket. It is believed that the board is keen to maintain a balance

between youth and experience, ensuring that emerging players get opportunities while the senior players continue to mentor and lead the team in crucial tournaments like the World Cup.

With the World Cup 2027 still a few years away, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli now appear poised to play a pivotal role in India's campaign. Fans, analysts, and cricketing legends alike are optimistic that these stalwarts will continue to entertain, inspire, and deliver match-winning performances on the biggest stage. Their recent displays against South Africa have not only silenced critics but have also reignited hopes that the Indian cricket team will field its strongest possible squad in pursuit of global glory.

Indian Bowling Woes Against South Africa Put Pressure on BCCI Ahead of Third ODI

As the India-South Africa ODI series reaches its climax, the focus has shifted sharply to the Indian bowling attack, which has struggled to make a significant impact despite home conditions and strong batting performances. While India has managed big scores with the bat, it has been the bowlers' inability to capitalize on these totals that has caused concern among fans, analysts, and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

The second ODI, played in [city], highlighted India's vulnerability with the ball. South Africa, chasing a formidable total, capitalized on inconsistent line and length from Indian pacers and spinners alike. Despite the team posting a competitive score, India succumbed to a defeat that was largely attributed to a lack of penetration in the bowling department. This has sparked widespread debate over the effectiveness of the current pace attack and the strategy being employed by the team management.

One particular focus has been on Mohammed Shami, India's senior pacer. While Shami has been a match-winner in the past, his recent performances against South Africa have come under scrutiny. Critics argue that the team may need to rethink its pace options, considering fresh faces or giving more responsibility to other bowlers who have shown promise in domestic and franchise cricket. The BCCI, in consultation with the team management, is reportedly evaluating the bowling combinations for the upcoming Third ODI, which could prove pivotal in deciding the series.

The stakes are high as both teams are tied in the series, making the third ODI a decider. Cricket analysts suggest that India



cannot rely solely on its batting prowess; a balanced team with a strong, disciplined bowling attack is essential to secure a series victory. Experts have highlighted the importance of quick bowlers who can exploit early movement, as well as spinners capable of controlling the middle overs and taking crucial wickets.

Team captain [name] and the bowling coach have reportedly been working closely with the pacers and spinners to fine-tune their strategies, emphasizing variations, field placements, and better execution under pressure. Sources indicate that the bowlers are being trained to adapt quickly to South Africa's batting strengths, particularly their ability to chase down high totals with calculated aggression.

The Third ODI, set to take place in Visakhapatnam, is expected to witness a more aggressive and cohesive bowling unit from India. Fans are hoping that the bowlers will rise to the occasion, delivering consistent breakthroughs and containing the opposition's run rate. Ana-

lysts believe that a strong bowling performance could not only secure the series but also boost the confidence of the Indian bowling department, which has struggled at crucial moments in recent international fixtures.

While questions linger over individual players like Shami, the broader challenge for the team remains clear: the bowlers must step up to complement India's batting firepower. The series outcome could hinge on whether the Indian pacers and spinners can deliver disciplined, strategic, and pressure-driven performances to outsmart the formidable South African lineup.

With the third ODI serving as the decider, all eyes will be on India's bowlers to see if they can address their shortcomings and help the team clinch a hard-fought series victory on home soil. Fans, selectors, and cricket experts alike will be watching closely to gauge whether India can finally find the perfect balance between batting and bowling to dominate the series.

Andhra King Taluka Movie: Ram Pothineni’s Crazy Video Song Released



Ram Pothineni’s latest outing as a lead actor, Andhra King Taluka, directed by Mahesh Babu P, has recently hit theaters. Produced under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers, the film brought together an ensemble cast with Ram Pothineni in the lead role and Kannada actor in a pivotal supporting character. However, despite high expectations, the film failed to make the desired impact at the box office and could not fully satisfy the fans.

The film also featured the talented actress Bhagyashree Bose as the female lead, portraying the role of the Kingdom’s beauty. Her performance was widely appreciated and emerged as one of the highlights of the movie. The production team had invested significant effort in ensuring grandeur in both storytelling and visual presentation, making it a much-anticipated release among Telugu cinema enthusiasts.

Adding to the film’s buzz, the makers have now released a full video song titled Pappy Shame, which has already garnered attention across social media platforms. The song stands out not only for its catchy tune but also because it features Ram Pothineni himself lending his voice to the track, adding a personal touch and connecting with fans in a unique way. The lyrics of the song were penned by Bhaskarbatla Ravikumar, while the music composition was provided by the duo Vivek-Mervin, combining energetic beats with engaging visuals to create a memorable song sequence.

The song’s release has sparked excitement among fans, who are sharing clips and reactions online, highlighting the hero’s performance and the vibrant choreography. Despite the

movie’s lukewarm response, the video song offers a chance for audiences to relive the energy and charm of the film, bringing renewed attention to the project.

The movie’s storyline revolves around political intrigue and kingdom-related drama, incorporating action, romance, and entertainment elements that are typical of Ram Pothineni’s films. The inclusion of a Kannada actor in a key role adds cross-industry appeal and introduces a fresh dynamic to the narrative. While the film’s reception has been mixed, the makers’ promotional strategies, including song releases and social media engagement, aim to sustain audience interest and boost overall viewership.

Mythri Movie Makers, known for producing high-budget, visually grand Telugu films, have put considerable effort into the production values of Andhra King Taluka. From elaborate sets to stylized action sequences, the film was designed to offer a cinematic experience that resonates with fans of commercial Telugu cinema. However, it appears that while some aspects like performances and music have been appreciated, the overall storyline did not meet audience expectations entirely.

In conclusion, Andhra King Taluka may not have achieved blockbuster status, but with engaging performances, a talented cast, and recently released energetic songs like Pappy Shame, the film continues to capture attention. Ram Pothineni’s singing debut in the track and the overall promotional activities ensure that fans remain invested in the movie and its music, keeping the excitement alive despite the initial response.

Vision Cinema House Unveils Heart-Warming First Look of ‘Haiku’ on Producer Dr. Arulanandhu’s Birthday

Vision Cinema House, the rapidly rising production banner helmed by producers Dr. Arulanandhu and Mathewo Arulanandhu, has unveiled the first look of its upcoming bilingual film Haiku on the special occasion of Dr. Arulanandhu’s birthday, December 5, 2025. Known for backing authentic and emotionally resonant cinema, the production house has already made a mark with acclaimed films like Joe and Kozhi Pannai Chella Durai, and Haiku promises to continue that legacy.

Haiku is a heartfelt romantic drama set against the tender backdrop of youth and student life. The first look poster captures the lead pair seated amid an empty gallery of colorful chairs, radiating a gentle spark of chemistry. A heart-shaped sky trail adds a poetic touch, reflecting the film’s soft, emotional narrative. The line “Falling Soon” at the center of the poster teases audiences with a feel-good journey that celebrates first love, friendship, and self-discovery.

The film stars Aegan in the lead role alongside Sridevi Apalla, widely recognized for her work in Court: State vs A Nobody, and Femina George of Minnal Murali fame. The cast is further strengthened by Adhirchi Arun and several other pivotal characters, promising a layered and engaging cinematic experience.

Haiku is written and directed by Yuvaraj Chinnasamy, who co-wrote the screenplay with Hariharan Ram. Known for his rooted storytelling and youthful vibrancy, Yuvaraj brings a fresh narrative voice to the project, blending simplicity with emotional depth. The film’s music, composed by Baby Vijai Bulganin of Court fame, promises a breezy and melodic soundscape that complements the romantic and emotive tone of the story.

With this new venture, Vision Cinema House continues to uphold its commitment to nurturing emerging talents and supporting meaningful



storytelling. The production house has been lauded for giving a platform to fresh voices, and Haiku embodies this vision by combining a strong narrative with young, energetic talent both in front of and behind the camera.

The unveiling of Haiku coinciding with Dr. Arulanandhu’s birthday added a celebratory touch, as the team expressed heartfelt wishes to the producer for his enduring dedication to the growth of new filmmakers and storytellers. Executive producer Aegan Arulanandhu, co-producer Srinivas Niranjan, and producers Dr. D. Arulanandhu and Mathewo Arulanandhu have all played pivotal roles in bringing the project to life under the Vision Cinema House banner.

Fans can expect more updates in the coming weeks, including teaser releases, glimpses of the cast, and official announcements regarding the film’s theatrical release. With its fresh take on young love, self-discovery, and the vibrancy of student life, Haiku is poised to be a charming, heartwarming addition to contemporary South Indian cinema.

Akhanda 2 Release Postponed: Fans Frustrated as Legal Issues Stall NBK’s First Pan-Indian Film

Tollywood superstar Nandamuri Balakrishna’s eagerly awaited pan-Indian project, Akhanda 2, has hit an unexpected roadblock, leaving fans disappointed and frustrated. The film, which promised to be a milestone in NBK’s illustrious career, has been postponed indefinitely without any official release date. This marks the first time in Balakrishna’s career that a major project of his stature has faced such a delay.

Akhanda 2 had been touted as a grand cinematic venture, with Nandamuri Balakrishna actively participating in promotional events across multiple cities, including Chennai, Bangalore, and Mumbai. Fans were eagerly anticipating the release, expecting a blockbuster that would cement NBK’s position in the pan-Indian film market. However, despite the extensive promotions and high expectations, the film has yet to see the light of day due to legal complications involving the producers.

The production house, 14 Reels, is reportedly facing negligence allegations and unresolved financial obligations, particularly concerning payments to ERO’s International. The issue has escalated to the courts, further complicating the film’s release. While 14 Reels has vowed to settle the dues, the de-



lay has already generated significant unrest among NBK’s fan base. Many fans have taken to social media to express their anger and frustration, some even questioning if there is a conspiracy to sabotage the film at this critical juncture.

Fans are particularly puzzled over the decision of director Boyapati Srinu to collaborate with 14 Reels despite the ongoing disputes. Questions are being raised across social media platforms about the producer’s credibility and the reasons behind choosing them for such a significant project. Industry insiders reveal that discussions are underway among key figures in Tollywood to resolve the legal and financial hurdles and ensure the film’s eventual release, but no concrete solutions have emerged yet.

The postponement of Akhanda 2 has cast a shadow over what was supposed to be a landmark event in Balakrishna’s career. For NBK, this pan-Indian film was not just another release but a strategic step to expand his

reach beyond Telugu cinema into other regional and national markets. The delay has created a sense of uncertainty not only for the actor and the production team but also for distributors and theater owners who had invested heavily in the film’s promotions and anticipated earnings.

While fans continue to voice their concerns and push for clarity, the industry remains hopeful that the legal issues can be resolved swiftly. Sources indicate that prominent Tollywood personalities and stakeholders are actively engaged in mediation efforts to bring all parties to a consensus, aiming to finally give Akhanda 2 the release it deserves.

As of now, neither the producer nor the filmmakers have provided a new timeline for the film’s release. Until the legal complications are resolved, fans of Nandamuri Balakrishna remain in suspense, eagerly awaiting updates on a film that could potentially be one of the biggest highlights of Tollywood in recent years.

‘Tere Ishq Mein’: Dhanush and Kriti Sanon’s Romantic Drama Wins Hearts, Trailer Goes Viral



The much-awaited romantic drama Tere Ishq Mein, starring Dhanush and Kriti Sanon, directed by Anand L. Rai and produced by Bhushan Kumar, has received phenomenal response from audiences since its release. The movie is steadily making its mark at the box office, with viewers lauding the performances of the lead pair. Fans are particularly impressed by the on-screen chemistry between Dhanush and Kriti, praising the way the characters and their emotions have been portrayed. Adding to the appeal, A.R. Rahman’s soulful music has struck a chord with the audience, elevating the cinematic experience.

Recently, the Telugu trailer of the film created a significant buzz online, further raising excitement for the movie. The trailer beautifully showcases the emotional journey of the protagonists, including themes of love, heartbreak, and the struggle to overcome emotional pain. Audiences have appreciated the depth of the story, highlighting how the film portrays not only the joy of romance but also the unspoken pain and vulnerabilities that accompany

it. Anand L. Rai’s signature storytelling style is evident in the way the narrative unfolds, making the film an engaging cinematic experience. The director’s nuanced depiction of emotional depth adds a layer of realism, making the characters’ experiences relatable to viewers.

The movie has been produced under the banners of Gulshan Kumar, T-Series, and Color Yellow Productions, with Anand L. Rai, Himanshu Sharma, Bhushan Kumar, and Krishna Kumar serving as producers. Anand L. Rai has also directed the film, while Himanshu Sharma and Neeraj Yadav have contributed to the writing. The music, composed by Oscar-winning maestro A.R. Rahman, combined with lyrical contributions by Irshad Kamil, has enhanced the emotional and romantic appeal of the movie. The film’s production values, combined with a strong narrative and a memorable soundtrack, make it a standout release in contemporary Indian cinema.

The story follows the journey of love between the lead characters, exploring both the highs and

lows of romantic relationships. Themes such as heartbreak, emotional recovery, and personal growth are interwoven seamlessly, allowing viewers to connect deeply with the characters’ experiences. Dhanush’s compelling performance, coupled with Kriti Sanon’s expressive portrayal, has struck a chord with audiences, who have praised both actors for their natural and heartfelt performances. The film also balances humor and lighthearted moments with intense emotional sequences, creating a well-rounded cinematic experience.

Tere Ishq Mein was released worldwide on November 28 in multiple languages, including Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu, reaching audiences across the globe. The combination of Anand L. Rai’s direction, a talented cast, a captivating script, and A.R. Rahman’s music has ensured that the film resonates with viewers of all ages. With the trailer generating tremendous excitement online and the positive audience response at the box office, Tere Ishq Mein is poised to be remembered as a memorable romantic drama in Indian cinema.

Mythri Movie Makers Secure Nizam Rights for Aadi Saikumar’s ‘Shambhala’ Ahead of Christmas Release

Aadi Saikumar’s upcoming mystical thriller Shambhala: A Mystical World, is all set for a grand worldwide theatrical release this Christmas, on December 25th. The film, directed by Ugandhar Muni and produced by Rajasekhar Annabhimoju and Mahidhar Reddy under the Shining Pictures banner, has already generated substantial anticipation among audiences with its intriguing promotional material and captivating teasers.

Adding to the excitement, Tollywood’s prominent production and distribution house, Mythri Movie Distributors LLP, has acquired the Nizam distribution rights for the film at a notable price. Known for handling several successful Pan-India releases, Mythri Movie Makers’ involvement is expected to significantly enhance Shambhala’s visibility in the crucial Nizam region. Their strong distribution network and experience are anticipated to create a wider reach for the film, potentially boosting its box office prospects.

The film’s theatrical rights across other regions have already been finalized, ensuring a well-organized release across the country. On the non-theatrical front, the producers have also completed strategic deals. OTT giant Aha has secured the streaming rights for Shambhala, allowing viewers to access the film online shortly after its theatrical run. Meanwhile, Zee Network has acquired the satellite broadcasting rights, guaranteeing a wide television audience once the film completes its theatrical journey.

For overseas releases, Moonshine Cinemas has been entrusted with the distribution, ensuring that the film reaches audiences around the globe. This coordinated approach to theatrical and digital distribution underscores the producers’ aim to maximize the film’s reach and establish a pan-India and international presence.



The promotional campaign for Shambhala is already in full swing, with teasers, posters, and other marketing initiatives generating buzz on social media platforms. The team is now preparing to intensify their marketing efforts as the release date approaches, promising a high-octane promotional rollout that includes interactive fan engagement activities, interviews, and media appearances. With such strategic marketing and distribution in place, the anticipation surrounding the film is reaching its peak.

Shambhala: A Mystical World blends elements of fantasy, adventure, and thriller genres, offering audiences a unique cinematic experience. With Aadi Saikumar in the lead, the film promises a gripping narrative, visual spectacle, and an immersive storyline that has intrigued fans and moviegoers alike. The combination of a compelling plot, strong production values, and a strategic release plan positions Shambhala as one of the most awaited Telugu films of the year.

As the film gears up for its Christmas release, expectations are high for both its box office performance and reception among audiences worldwide. With Mythri Movie Makers handling the Nizam region, the team’s distribution strategy across India and internationally, and a robust promotional campaign, Shambhala is poised to make a significant impact this holiday season. Fans of Aadi Saikumar and Tollywood enthusiasts alike are eagerly awaiting the film’s premiere, ready to step into the mystical world promised by the film’s intriguing title.