



BUZZ POINTS

Rupee at Record Low, RBI Likely to 'Wait and Watch' Instead of Aggressive Intervention



BUZZ POINTS

AP Government Releases Job Calendar 2026 with 10,060 Vacancies



PAGE 02

Dr. B.C.M. Prasad Receives Prestigious Kala Ratna Ugadi Award for Excellence in Neurosurgery



PAGE 03

Heavy Rain and Hailstorm Alert Issued for South Coastal Andhra Pradesh



PAGE 04

Chandrababu Naidu to Fund Tirumala Annadanam on Grandson Devaansh's Birthday with ₹44 Lakh Donation

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is set to visit Tirumala along with his family to mark the birthday of his grandson Devaansh, continuing a long-standing family tradition of religious observance and charity.

According to reports, Chandrababu Naidu, along with his wife, son Nara Lokesh, and other family members, will travel to Tirumala and stay overnight before offering prayers at the temple of Lord Venkateswara. The visit coincides with Devaansh's birthday, which the family has been celebrating at Tirumala for several years.

A key highlight of the visit is the donation of ₹44 lakh to the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) towards the Sri Venkateswara Annaprasadam Trust. This contribution will fund a full day of free meal distribution (annadanam) for thousands of devotees visiting the temple.

The annadanam program is conducted at the Tarigonda Vengamamba Annaprasadam Complex, where devotees are served meals daily. On the occasion of Devaansh's birthday, the entire day's food distribution will be sponsored by the Naidu family, and the donation will be officially recorded under his name.

This practice is not new. The Naidu family has been consistently donating to the Annaprasadam Trust every year on Devaansh's birthday. Earlier, the donation amount used to be around ₹30 lakh, but in recent times, it has been increased to ₹44 lakh to cover the full cost of feeding devotees for a day.



In addition to making the donation, family members are also expected to personally participate in serving food to devotees, reflecting a blend of spiritual devotion and public service. This gesture aligns with the broader significance of annadanam in Hindu tradition, where offering food is considered one of the highest forms of charity.

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, which manages the temple and its associated services, plays a crucial role in organizing such large-scale food distribution programs. The trust serves meals to thousands of pilgrims daily, relying heavily on donations from devotees and philanthropists.

The visit also comes during the Ugadi festive period, adding religious and cultural importance to the occasion. Tirumala is witnessing increased footfall, and arrangements are being made to ensure smooth darshan and food distribution for pilgrims.

Overall, Chandrababu Naidu's Tirumala visit highlights a mix of personal devotion, family tradition, and charitable contribution. By sponsoring annadanam on his grandson's birthday, the Chief Minister continues a practice that not only holds religious value but also benefits thousands of devotees visiting one of India's most revered temples.

No Need to Panic Over LPG Supply, Says Nadendla Manohar

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Amid growing concerns over LPG availability in Andhra Pradesh, State Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar assured the public that there is no shortage of gas supply and urged citizens not to panic. Addressing a press conference held at the State Civil Supplies office in Kanuru on Friday evening, the minister clarified the ground situation and dismissed rumors circulating on social media.

Manohar stated that the government is conducting daily reviews with oil marketing companies to closely monitor supply and demand. He emphasized that misinformation and panic-driven bookings have contributed to the perception of shortage. "People need not worry. There is no disruption in the supply chain," he said, adding that awareness among citizens is gradually improving.

Providing data to support his statement, the minister revealed that as of Friday, there were 2,96,803 LPG bookings across the state, out of which 2,78,449 deliveries have already been completed. He noted that the high number of bookings earlier was largely driven by fear, but as clarity spreads, bookings are now stabilizing.

Addressing delays, Manohar explained that an LPG shipment expected to arrive in Visakhapatnam on March 21 has been postponed to March 26 due to unavoidable international circumstances. Once the shipment arrives, the situation is expected to improve significantly.

The minister also highlighted the impact of global develop-

ments, including tensions affecting oil hubs in Qatar, which could potentially influence future supply. However, he reassured that there is no immediate crisis in the state. On the directions of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the government is exploring alternative fuel options and encouraging public awareness regarding energy conservation.

In urban areas, the government is planning to expand the use of piped natural gas (PNG), with proposals to extend pipeline connectivity to approximately 2.5 lakh households. Guidelines for this initiative are currently under preparation.

Priority is being given to essential sectors such as hostels, educational institutions, hospitals, Anna canteens, and bus canteens to ensure uninterrupted supply. Strict monitoring is also in place to prevent misuse of domestic LPG for commercial purposes. The minister announced that nine agencies involved in such malpractice have already been suspended, and strict action will continue.

To further address the situation, the government is promoting alternative cooking methods. Out of 55,000 Anganwadi centers, 12,000 have already been equipped with induction stoves, ensuring that children's nutrition is not affected.

Additionally, the Centre has stepped in to support the state, with plans to supply 2,800 kilolitres of kerosene next week as a backup measure. Although Andhra Pradesh was declared a kerosene-free state a decade ago, the government is now preparing a distribution plan to tackle any unforeseen challenges.

Roja Accuses Chandrababu Naidu of "Spreading Lies Even on Ugadi"

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh politics witnessed fresh tensions as former minister and YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader R. K. Roja launched a strong verbal attack on Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of making false claims even on the occasion of Ugadi.

In a video statement released to the media, Roja criticized Chandrababu Naidu's recent remarks, alleging that the Chief Minister continues to mislead the public with exaggerated and inaccurate statements. She remarked that Ugadi, which symbolizes new beginnings and truth, should not be used as a platform for political propaganda or false promises.

Roja said that instead of presenting facts about governance and development, Chandrababu Naidu was "repeating lies" to create a positive image of his administration. She argued that



the people of Andhra Pradesh are aware of the ground realities and cannot be easily misled by political narratives. According to her, there is a growing gap between the government's claims and the actual situation faced by citizens.

The YSRCP leader further alleged that several promises made by the ruling party during elections have not been fulfilled. She pointed out issues such as unemployment, financial struggles among common people, and lack of effective welfare imple-

mentation. Roja claimed that despite tall claims by the government, many sections of society continue to face hardships.

Taking a sharper tone, Roja stated that Chandrababu Naidu has a long-standing habit of making self-promotional statements and blaming others for failures. She suggested that instead of focusing on criticism of opposition parties, the government should concentrate on solving real problems affecting the public. Past remarks by Roja have also reflected similar criticism, where she accused Chandrababu of prioritizing image-building over governance.

Roja also emphasized that festivals like Ugadi should be about positivity, accountability, and reconnecting with people. She argued that political leaders have a responsibility to speak truthfully and present transparent reports of their work, especially during culturally significant occasions.

Her comments have once

again intensified the political rivalry between the YSRCP and the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). Supporters of the ruling party have dismissed her allegations as politically motivated, while opposition voices have echoed concerns about governance and accountability.

Political observers note that such exchanges are becoming increasingly common in Andhra Pradesh, with both sides using public platforms and festivals to strengthen their narratives. The latest remarks by Roja highlight how even traditional celebrations are being drawn into the political battleground.

Overall, Roja's criticism underscores the ongoing political divide in the state, raising questions about leadership, credibility, and public trust. As the debate continues, the focus remains on whether these allegations will translate into broader discussions on governance and performance in Andhra Pradesh.

TDP and Janasena Leaders Hit Back at Roja, Escalate Political War in Andhra Pradesh

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The political atmosphere in Andhra Pradesh has turned increasingly heated as leaders from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Jana Sena Party launched a strong counterattack against YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) leader R. K. Roja over her recent remarks on Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

In Tirupati, several leaders from the ruling alliance strongly condemned Roja's criticism of the government and its leadership. TDP leader and Puthalapatu MLA Murali Mohan made sharp remarks, warning Roja against making what he described as baseless allegations. He went to the extent of saying that her political future looks bleak and accused her of targeting leaders due to a lack of public support. He also defended Pawan Kalyan, stating that he has been a strong voice for Sanatana Dharma and Hindu values.

Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani also joined the criticism, raising questions about the pre-



vious YSRCP government led by Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. He alleged that during YSRCP rule, the sanctity of Tirumala was compromised and accused the previous administration of irregularities, including controversies related to laddu preparation. He contrasted this with the current government, claiming that the TDP leadership upholds cultural and traditional values. Nani further warned Roja to maintain restraint in her language, stating that continued remarks could provoke a strong response from the public and political leaders alike.

Adding to the criticism, TDP

Tirupati Parliamentary President Panabaka Lakshmi accused Roja of making irresponsible statements to divert attention from key issues. She alleged that YSRCP leaders are unable to accept the developmental progress taking place in the state under Chandrababu Naidu's leadership. Lakshmi also claimed that attempts are being made to defame TTD Chairman B. R. Naidu, who, according to her, is exposing irregularities of the previous regime.

Jana Sena Party State Secretary Aakepati Subhashini also criticized Roja, questioning her

moral authority to comment on leaders like Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan. She stated that while her party maintains decorum in political discourse, Roja's remarks often cross the line of acceptable language. Subhashini further emphasized that Jana Sena respects political values and traditions, and does not endorse personal attacks.

The coordinated response from TDP and Jana Sena leaders highlights the growing intensity of political rivalry in Andhra Pradesh. What began as Roja's criticism of the ruling leadership has now turned into a full-scale war of words, with leaders from multiple parties stepping in to defend their positions.

Political observers note that such sharp exchanges reflect the highly charged atmosphere in the state, where even cultural and religious contexts are being drawn into political debates. As both sides continue to trade allegations, the focus is likely to remain on governance, credibility, and public perception in the run-up to future political developments.

Five Engineering Students Drown in Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh: A Tragic Incident



Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

A heartbreaking tragedy unfolded in Andhra Pradesh on March 20, 2026, when five engineering students lost their lives after drowning in the Godavari River. The incident occurred in Eluru district near Polavaram, sending shockwaves across the state and leaving families devastated.

According to police officials, the victims were part of a group of seven students who had gone to the river during an outing. The group reportedly entered the water for a bath, unaware of the depth and strong currents. Within moments, the situation turned tragic as five of them were swept away by the river.

Two students managed to survive the incident, as they were able to swim and reach safety. However, the remaining five students could not escape the powerful currents. Police officials confirmed that the victims were engineering students, and preliminary reports suggest that most of them did not know how to swim, which contributed to the fatal outcome.

In a similar account of the incident, authorities stated that the students had traveled together as part of a leisure trip. After spending time visiting nearby areas, they decided to enter the river for bathing. Unfortunately, they mis-

judged the depth and flow of the water, leading to the tragic drowning.

Rescue operations were immediately launched by local police and emergency teams. Divers were deployed to search for the missing students, and bodies were gradually recovered from the river. The incident triggered scenes of grief and anguish among the families and friends of the victims, many of whom rushed to the site after receiving the devastating news.

Officials have reiterated the dangers associated with entering rivers without proper knowledge of the terrain and currents. The Godavari River, one of the largest rivers in India, is known for its unpredictable depth and strong undercurrents, particularly in certain stretches. Incidents like this highlight the need for increased awareness and caution, especially among young people visiting such locations.

Police have registered a case and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident. Authorities are also expected to issue stricter guidelines and warnings to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

This incident serves as a grim reminder of how quickly recreational outings can turn fatal if safety precautions are ignored. The loss of five young lives, full of promise and dreams, has left an entire community in mourning.

Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu Extends Ramadan Wishes, Hails Job Calendar as Gift to Youth

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu extended heartfelt greetings to the Muslim community on the occasion of Ramadan, describing the festival as a symbol of patience, brotherhood, and charity. He stated that Ramadan is not merely a religious observance but a celebration of values that inspire unity and compassion across communities.

In his message, the minister highlighted that the practice of fasting during Ramadan reflects self-discipline, spiritual purification, and empathy towards the less fortunate. He noted that the festival promotes virtues such as tolerance, generosity, and mutual respect, which are essential for building a harmonious society. Atchannaidu expressed hope that the spirit of Ramadan would strengthen peace, unity, and goodwill among people of all backgrounds.

He further reiterated that the coalition government remains committed to the welfare and development of minority communities. The government, he said, is implementing various welfare initiatives aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of Muslims and ensuring their well-being. He wished that the holy festival brings happiness, prosperity, and peace to every household.

In a separate statement, the minister welcomed the release of the job calendar by the state



government as a significant Ugadi gift to the youth. He appreciated TDP leader Nara Lokesh for unveiling a job calendar comprising 10,060 posts, stating that it has instilled fresh hope among unemployed youth across the state. He described it as a meaningful step towards fulfilling the aspirations of job seekers.

Atchannaidu also lauded Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for his leadership in simultaneously attracting investments and generating employment opportunities. He said that within two years of coming to power, the govern-

ment has filled around 30,000 government jobs, reflecting its commitment to addressing unemployment.

Criticizing the previous administration led by Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, the minister alleged that unemployed youth were misled in the name of job calendars, which affected their future prospects. He claimed that industries were driven out due to policy failures, further limiting job opportunities.

The minister added that the newly released job calendar gives priority to key sectors such as education and police departments. He assured that no-

tifications for Group-1, Group-2, home, and education departments would be issued as per schedule and recruitment processes would be completed within the stipulated time. He also mentioned that thousands of teaching posts would be filled through the Mega DSC.

Concluding his remarks, Atchannaidu urged the youth to make the best use of this opportunity by starting their preparations early and working towards achieving their career goals. He reaffirmed that fulfilling the aspirations of youth remains a top priority for the government.

Ram Mohan Naidu Pushes for Direct Trains from Srikakulam to Hyderabad and Tirupati

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

In a significant development aimed at improving railway connectivity in North Andhra Pradesh, Union Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu has emphasized his goal of introducing direct train services from Srikakulam to major destinations like Hyderabad and Tirupati.

During a recent meeting with Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in New Delhi, Ram Mohan Naidu highlighted the long-standing demand of the people of Srikakulam district for better rail connectivity. He specifically proposed the introduction of new train services connecting Srikakulam to Secunderabad (Hyderabad) and Tirupati, which would greatly benefit daily commuters, students, pilgrims, and business travelers.

The minister stated that improving railway infrastructure in Srikakulam is one of his key priorities. He noted that the district, despite being an important part of North Andhra, still lacks adequate direct rail links to major cities. The proposed



train routes are expected to bridge this gap and reduce travel inconvenience for thousands of passengers who currently depend on connecting trains or long road journeys.

Apart from proposing new train services, Ram Mohan Naidu also requested additional halts at important stations such as Mandasa Road, Pathapatnam, and Harishchandrapuram. These stops are expected to improve accessibility for people living in rural and semi-urban areas of the

district.

Another key point discussed during the meeting was the need to accelerate the operationalisation of the South Coast Railway Zone headquartered in Visakhapatnam. The minister stressed that the new railway zone would play a crucial role in boosting connectivity and infrastructure development across North Andhra Pradesh.

Ram Mohan Naidu also underlined the importance of integrating rail and air connectivity to enhance overall transporta-

tion efficiency. As the Union Civil Aviation Minister, he emphasized that seamless connectivity between different modes of transport would support economic growth and improve travel convenience for citizens.

The proposed direct train services from Srikakulam to Hyderabad and Tirupati are expected to have a major impact, especially for pilgrims traveling to Tirupati and workers commuting to Hyderabad. If approved, these routes could significantly reduce travel time and eliminate the need for multiple train changes.

The announcement has generated optimism among the residents of Srikakulam district, who have long been demanding better rail connectivity. While the proposal is currently under consideration, the minister's strong push indicates a positive step toward addressing regional transportation challenges.

Overall, Ram Mohan Naidu's initiative reflects a focused effort to enhance infrastructure, improve public convenience, and bring North Andhra closer to key urban and religious hubs.

AP Government Releases Job Calendar 2026 with 10,060 Vacancies

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

The Andhra Pradesh government has unveiled its much-awaited Job Calendar for 2026, announcing a total of 10,060 government job vacancies across various departments. Released on the occasion of Ugadi, the calendar is being seen as a significant step toward addressing unemployment and providing structured recruitment opportunities for youth in the state.

According to official information, the job calendar outlines a comprehensive recruitment plan that will be implemented between May and October 2026 through a series of notifications. The government has stated that this initiative aims to bring transparency, predictability, and efficiency into the recruitment process, ensuring that aspirants are well-informed in advance about upcoming job opportunities.

The vacancies span multiple departments, including education, police, administration, engineering, and universities. Positions such as Group I and Group II services, police constables, assistant professors, and other technical and non-technical roles are expected to be filled



as part of this recruitment drive. This wide range of opportunities is likely to benefit candidates from diverse educational backgrounds.

Minister Nara Lokesh, who played a key role in announcing the calendar, described it as a "Ugadi gift" to the unemployed youth of Andhra Pradesh. He emphasized that the government is committed to fulfilling its promises related to job creation and youth empowerment. The minister also assured that such job calendars will be released every year on Ugadi, making it a regular and institutionalized process.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu reiterated that the government is focused on providing employment opportunities on a large scale. He stated that the current recruitment plan is part of a broader vision to generate lakhs of jobs over the coming years. By releasing a structured calendar, the government aims to eliminate uncertainty and delays that have historically affected recruitment processes.

The job calendar is also expected to help aspirants prepare more effectively for competitive exams. With clear timelines for notifications and

examinations, candidates can plan their preparation strategies accordingly. This is particularly important for exams conducted by the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC), which plays a major role in recruiting candidates for various government services.

However, the announcement has also sparked political reactions. Some opposition leaders have criticized the number of vacancies, arguing that it may not be sufficient to meet the expectations of the large number of unemployed youth in the state. Despite the criticism, the government maintains that the initiative is a step in the right direction and will be expanded in the future.

Overall, the release of the AP Job Calendar 2026 marks a crucial development in the state's employment landscape. By introducing a systematic recruitment framework, the government aims to build trust among job aspirants and ensure timely filling of vacancies. If implemented effectively, this initiative could play a key role in reducing unemployment and strengthening public administration in Andhra Pradesh.

Minister B.C. Janardhan Reddy Inaugurates RO Water Plant at Kambagiriswami Temple



Amaravathi, March 20, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a significant move to improve facilities for devotees, Minister B.C. Janardhan Reddy inaugurated a newly installed mineral RO water plant at the renowned Sri Kambagiriswami Temple, located in the Erramala hills of Banaganapalle constituency.

The minister began his visit by offering special prayers to the presiding deity, drawing attention from local devotees and temple authorities alike. Following the rituals, he formally launched the RO water plant, aimed at providing safe drinking water to pilgrims visiting the temple, particularly during peak seasons when footfall increases significantly.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Janardhan Reddy highlighted the long-standing need for clean and reliable drinking water at the temple. He emphasized that ensuring basic amenities such as purified water is essential to enhancing the overall experience of devotees. The RO plant, with a capacity of 1,000 liters, was established at a cost of 15 lakh, fully funded from the minister's personal resources, fulfilling a promise made during a previous visit. Locals and devotees widely appreciated this initiative, praising the minister for his commitment to improving temple infrastructure.

Temple authorities noted that the installation of the water plant would greatly benefit visitors, particularly during festivals and special events when the number of pilgrims surges. Access to puri-

fied water is expected to reduce inconvenience and promote better hygiene standards within the temple premises.

After the inauguration, Minister Janardhan Reddy reviewed arrangements for the upcoming Kalyanotsavam, the celestial wedding ceremony of the deity. He discussed crowd management, sanitation, and logistical measures with temple officials to ensure the event is conducted smoothly and safely. The minister instructed authorities to take all necessary steps to provide devotees with a comfortable and hassle-free experience.

He also reiterated his commitment to the development of religious and tourist destinations within his constituency. Highlighting the cultural and spiritual significance of temples like Sri Kambagiriswami, he said such sites not only preserve heritage but also attract tourism, contributing to local economic growth.

Local residents and devotees welcomed the minister's initiatives, expressing hope for more development projects in the future. The inauguration of the RO water plant represents a blend of devotion and public service, improving essential facilities while supporting the spiritual experience of the temple's visitors. The visit concluded with the minister interacting with devotees and temple staff, reaffirming his dedication to addressing their concerns and enhancing infrastructure in the region.

Job Calendar Gives New Wings to Youth Aspirations: Kollu Ravindra



Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Mines, Geology, and Excise, Kollu Ravindra, stated that the job calendar announced by the state government on the occasion of Ugadi has brought renewed hope to the youth. Speaking to the media at the TDP Machilipatnam constituency office, he said the government had fulfilled its promise by releasing the job calendar and was committed to providing large-scale employment opportunities.

The minister extended his gratitude to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and TDP leader Nara Lokesh for prioritizing youth welfare. He alleged that the previous government had failed to deliver on employment promises and misled job seekers, causing distress among unemployed youth.

Ravindra highlighted that the coalition government is working with a target of generating 20 lakh jobs within five years. He stated that in just two years, over 6.28 lakh employment opportunities have already been created. As part of the newly announced job calendar, notifications have been issued for 600 Group-1 and Group-2 posts, 1,000 constable posts, and 400 excise constable posts. Additionally, the MSME sector has contributed significantly by creating over 2.48

lakh jobs across the state.

Speaking on investments, the minister said that Andhra Pradesh is witnessing a positive shift in its industrial climate. He claimed that investors are now showing increased interest in the state due to transparent policies and stable governance. He added that a significant share of national investments in the 2024-25 financial year had come to Andhra Pradesh, reflecting administrative efficiency.

The minister also criticized opposition leaders for making baseless allegations and attempting to mislead the public. He asserted that the government would not be distracted from its development agenda and would continue to focus on growth and welfare.

Focusing on Machilipatnam, Ravindra said the town is being developed with a clear vision. Development works worth 73 crore have been initiated, including major drainage projects. Funds from the Finance Commission have also been secured, with additional allocations expected soon. He expressed confidence that Machilipatnam would soon emerge as a model town.

Concluding, the minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to transparency, employment generation, and inclusive development across the state.

Foundation Stone Laid for ₹1 Crore Setti Balija Community Hall in Chagallu.

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Reaffirming the government's commitment to the welfare and empowerment of Backward Classes (BCs), Daggubati Purandeswari, Member of Parliament from Rajahmundry, laid the foundation stone for a Setti Balija Community Hall in Chagallu mandal of Kovvur constituency on Friday. The project, estimated to cost around ₹1 crore, is expected to serve as an important social and cultural hub for the community.

The foundation ceremony was conducted in the presence of Kudupudi Sattibabu, Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Setti Balija Corporation, who emphasized that the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the coalition government are fully committed to the development and upliftment of backward classes in the state. He noted that initiatives like these reflect the government's inclusive approach toward marginalized communities.

Speaking on the occasion, Sattibabu appreciated MP Purandeswari for allocating ₹50 lakh from her MPLADS (Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme) funds as the first installment for the construction of the community hall. He described her con-



tribution as a significant step towards strengthening community infrastructure and providing a dedicated space for social gatherings, cultural events, and welfare activities.

Sattibabu further stated that the Telugu Desam Party has historically stood by the BC communities and continues to prioritize their welfare. He highlighted that the BC communities, in turn, have always extended strong support to the party, creating a mutually reinforcing relationship built on

trust and development.

In a significant announcement, Sattibabu revealed that the state government has decided to officially celebrate the birth anniversary of Dommleti Venkata Reddy, regarded as the founding figure of the Setti Balija community, on March 23 every year. He added that formal government orders regarding this decision are expected to be issued soon.

Additionally, he shared that plans are underway to install a bronze statue of Dommleti

Venkata Reddy at his birthplace in Bodasakurru. The proposal has reportedly received a positive response and approval from Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Nara Lokesh. This move is seen as a gesture to honor his contributions to social service and community development.

The event witnessed the participation of several prominent leaders and public representatives, including TDP Politburo member Reddy Subrahmanyam, district president Boddu Venkata Ramana Chowdary, MLA Muppidi Venkateswara Rao, former MPP Ketha Saheb, community hall coordinator Donga Srinivas, and other local leaders. A large number of BC community representatives and residents attended the program, expressing their support and appreciation for the initiative.

The construction of the Setti Balija Community Hall is expected to significantly benefit the local population by providing a centralized venue for meetings, celebrations, and welfare programs. It also symbolizes the government's broader vision of promoting social equity and empowering backward communities through infrastructure development and policy support.

Grand Welcome to Nara Lokesh in Tirumala by Aarani Madan Mohan



Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Tirumala witnessed a warm and grand reception on Friday night as Nara Lokesh, along with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, arrived for a family visit to the sacred hill shrine. The leaders were received with enthusiasm and respect by Aarani Madan Mohan, son of Tirupati MLA Aarani Srinivasulu.

The visit, which holds both spiritual and political significance, drew the attention of party cadres and coalition leaders who gathered in large numbers to extend their greetings. As the convoy reached Tirumala, the atmosphere turned vibrant with slogans, cheers, and traditional gestures of welcome. Aarani Madan Mohan personally greeted the leaders and ensured that arrangements were made smoothly for their visit.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by his family, including Nara Lokesh, is believed to have planned the visit to seek the blessings of Lord Venkateswara at the revered Tirumala Venkateswara Temple. Such visits are often seen as moments of spiritual reflection as well as opportunities to connect with local leaders and supporters.

Aarani Madan Mohan's gesture of extending a grand welcome highlights the strong coordination within the party ranks at the grassroots level. His presence at the reception, along with other coalition leaders, reflects

unity and support for the leadership. The event also served as a platform for informal interactions between senior leaders and local representatives.

Party workers, who had gathered in anticipation, expressed their happiness over the visit. Many supporters were seen raising slogans praising the leadership of N. Chandrababu Naidu and Nara Lokesh. The reception was organized in a disciplined manner, ensuring smooth movement despite the presence of a large crowd.

Political observers note that such visits help reinforce the party's connection with the public and strengthen organizational bonds. The presence of coalition leaders further indicates the collaborative spirit within the alliance, especially at a time when coordination at multiple levels is crucial.

Following the reception, the leaders proceeded towards their accommodation arrangements before the scheduled temple visit. Security arrangements were tightened in and around Tirumala to ensure a hassle-free and safe visit for the dignitaries.

Overall, the grand welcome extended by Aarani Madan Mohan added significance to the visit, reflecting both devotion and political camaraderie. The event stood as a symbol of unity, respect, and the enduring connection between leadership and grassroots representatives in Andhra Pradesh politics.

Dr. B.C.M. Prasad Receives Prestigious Kala Ratna Ugadi Award for Excellence in Neurosurgery

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

In a proud moment for the medical community of Andhra Pradesh, Dr. B.C.M. Prasad, Senior Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at the Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences, has been honored with the prestigious Kala Ratna Ugadi Award 2026. The award, presented by the Andhra Pradesh State Government, recognizes his exceptional contributions to the field of neurosurgery and his unwavering dedication to patient care over the years.

The award ceremony was held in Vijayawada as part of the Ugadi celebrations marking the Sri Parabhava Nama Samvatsaram. The grand event took place at the well-known Tummalapalli Kshetraraya Kalakshetram, where distinguished personalities from various fields were felicitated. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu presented the award to Dr. Prasad, acknowledging his invaluable services to the healthcare sector.

Following the ceremony, Dr. R.V. Kumar, Director and Vice-Chancellor of SVIMS, personally congratulated Dr. Prasad at a special felicitation held at his office in Tirupati. He praised Dr. Prasad for his remarkable achievements and stated that



his recognition at the state level brings immense pride and honor to the institution. He further highlighted that such awards inspire younger doctors to strive for excellence in their respective fields.

Dr. B.C.M. Prasad has been associated with SVIMS for more than two decades, during which he has made significant contributions to the advancement of neurosurgery. Known for his precision and expertise, he has successfully performed numerous complex and life-saving surgeries, often dealing with critical neurological conditions. His efforts have not only saved countless lives but also im-

proved the quality of life for many patients suffering from severe neurological disorders.

Apart from his clinical excellence, Dr. Prasad has played a key role in mentoring and training young medical professionals. Under his guidance, many aspiring doctors have specialized in neurosurgery and gone on to build successful careers in super-specialty healthcare. His commitment to teaching and research has helped strengthen the academic and clinical standards of the neurosurgery department at SVIMS.

The felicitation ceremony at SVIMS witnessed the presence

of several senior faculty members and staff, who extended their congratulations to Dr. Prasad. Among them were Dr. Alladi Mohan, Head of the Department of Medicine and Senior Grade Professor, and Dr. V.V. Ramesh Chandra, Head of the Department of Neurosurgery. They lauded his dedication, leadership, and immense contribution to the field of medicine.

The Kala Ratna Award is one of the most prestigious honors conferred by the state government, traditionally recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions in diverse fields such as art, culture, and public service. Dr. Prasad's recognition in the medical field underscores the importance of healthcare professionals in society and highlights their role in saving lives and advancing medical science.

Dr. B.C.M. Prasad's journey stands as an inspiration to many in the medical community. His dedication, compassion, and relentless pursuit of excellence continue to make a lasting impact on healthcare services in Andhra Pradesh. This honor not only celebrates his past achievements but also sets a benchmark for future contributions in the field of neurosurgery.

Arani Madan Mohan Donates ₹10 Lakh to TTD's Gosamrakshana Trust

Amaravathi 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

In a notable act of philanthropy and devotion, Arani Madan Mohan, son of Tirupati MLA Arani Srinivasulu, donated ₹10 lakh to the Sri Venkateswara Gosamrakshana Trust, which functions under the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD). The contribution was made on Friday on behalf of his company, JMC Constructions Private Limited, reflecting both corporate social responsibility and spiritual commitment.

The donation was formally handed over in the presence of family members at the sacred premises of the Tirumala temple. The event took place at the Ranganayakula Mandapam, a significant location within the temple complex, where devotees often participate in religious and charitable activities. Mudada Ravichandra, Executive Officer of TTD, received the donation in the form of a Demand Draft.

The Sri Venkateswara Gosamrakshana Trust plays a vital role in protecting and maintaining cows, which hold immense religious and cultural signifi-



cance in Hindu traditions. The trust ensures proper care, shelter, and medical attention for cows housed in TTD-managed goshalas. Contributions like this help sustain these efforts and improve facilities for animal welfare.

Speaking on the occasion, representatives from TTD appreciated the gesture and highlighted the importance of public participation in supporting religious and social service ini-

tiatives. Donations to such trusts not only uphold traditional values but also contribute to the welfare of living beings, aligning with the principles of compassion and dharma.

The presence of MLA Arani Srinivasulu and his family added significance to the occasion, emphasizing their continued association with Tirumala temple activities and charitable causes. The family offered prayers at the temple before completing

the donation formalities, seeking the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

This contribution also underscores the growing involvement of private organizations and individuals in supporting temple-run welfare programs. Corporate entities, in particular, are increasingly recognizing the importance of giving back to society through structured donations to trusts like those operated by TTD.

TTD officials reiterated that such donations are crucial for maintaining and expanding their various service-oriented programs, including annadanam (free meals), gosamrakshana (cow protection), and educational and healthcare initiatives.

Overall, the donation by Arani Madan Mohan and JMC Constructions reflects a blend of devotion, responsibility, and social awareness. It serves as an inspiring example for others to contribute towards noble causes and support institutions that work for the welfare of society and preservation of cultural heritage.

Coalition Government Fulfilling Promise with Annual Job Calendar: TNSF and Telugu Yuvatha Leaders

Vijayawada 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Leaders of the Telugu Nadu Students Federation (TNSF) and Telugu Yuvatha have lauded the Andhra Pradesh coalition government for its consistent efforts in creating employment opportunities for the youth through the release of the annual job calendar. TNSF District General Secretary P. Charan Sai Yadav and Telugu Yuvatha District President Sheikh Nagoor stated that this initiative reflects the government's commitment to fulfilling election promises made to unemployed youth.

The leaders highlighted that the Andhra Pradesh government is setting a unique precedent in the country by releasing a job calendar every year, a practice not followed by any other state. Celebrations were organized on Friday at the Vijayawada Parliamentary Office, NTR Bhavan in Gurunanak Colony, under the leadership of TNSF and Telugu Yuvatha. Sweets were distributed among attendees, and leaders expressed their happiness over the government's proactive approach to tackling unemployment.

Speaking on the occasion, Charan Sai Yadav appreciated the role of Nara Lokesh in guiding the government's employment initiatives. He stated that within just 20 months, the coalition government has successfully provided 2,83,375 jobs, showcasing its dedication to ad-



ressing youth unemployment. He further added that the government is moving decisively towards its larger goal of creating 20 lakh employment opportunities in the state, in line with its election promises.

Charan Sai Yadav also informed that notifications for Group 1 and Group 2 posts, along with remaining lecturer vacancies, will be released shortly. Criticizing the previous administration under Y. S. Jagannathan Reddy, he alleged that unemployment was neglected during that period, and cited the NCRB report that highlighted the distress of unemployed youth, including cases of suicides. He claimed that during the previous government's tenure, not even a single DSC recruitment drive was conducted, leaving thousands of youth

without job opportunities.

He further praised the current government led by N. Chandrababu Naidu for signing investment agreements worth ₹20 lakh crore, which are expected to provide employment to 25 lakh people. The leaders stated that the coalition government is committed to bridging the unemployment gap and creating sustainable job opportunities across the state.

Sheikh Nagoor, Telugu Yuvatha District President, echoed these sentiments and thanked Minister Nara Lokesh for his leadership in employment initiatives. He emphasized that the TDP-led coalition government remains the only administration in India to release an annual job calendar consistently, highlighting transparency and accountability in governance.

Other notable attendees at the celebrations included Pulipati Rajkumar, R. Madhav, Rajesh, and Allada Vijay, who expressed their full support for the government's initiatives. The event reflected a strong commitment from both the youth organizations and the government to ensure that unemployed youth have access to timely and reliable employment opportunities, reinforcing public confidence in the state's governance and developmental policies.

This celebration underscores the coalition government's sustained efforts to address unemployment and demonstrates the proactive engagement of youth organizations in acknowledging and supporting government initiatives aimed at economic growth and employment generation.

Water Conservation Day Celebrated Grandly at P.B. Siddhartha College



Vijayawada 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Emphasizing the urgent need to prevent water wastage and adopt sustainable practices, M. Shivaprasad, Additional Commissioner of the Panchayati Raj Department, called for collective efforts at the grassroots level to conserve water resources. He was addressing a gathering on the occasion of World Water Day at P.B. Siddhartha Arts and Science College in Vijayawada on Friday.

The event was organized by the Department of Physics in association with the Energy Conservation Club at the college seminar hall. Speaking on the occasion, Shivaprasad highlighted the importance of protecting groundwater resources and implementing effective water management strategies. He noted that the state government has initiated several measures to ensure water conservation, including programs focused on the water cycle, watershed management, and groundwater preservation.

He further elaborated on key initiatives such as the Mahatma Gandhi Water Resources Scheme and water budgeting practices being implemented across the state. These initiatives aim to promote judicious use of water, ensure equitable distribution, and enhance long-term sustainability. Shivaprasad stressed that water conservation is not just the responsibility of the government but requires active participation from communities and individuals alike.

P. Srinivasa Rao, Environmental

Engineer from the State Pollution Control Board, also addressed the gathering and spoke about practical steps that can be taken to conserve water. He emphasized the importance of rainwater harvesting, efficient irrigation methods, reuse and recycling of water, afforestation, and soil conservation. According to him, these measures play a crucial role in safeguarding water resources for future generations.

The program also witnessed insightful speeches from the college faculty. Dr. M. Manoranjani, Vice Principal of the institution, underlined the role of educational institutions in spreading awareness about environmental issues. She encouraged students to become responsible citizens and actively participate in conservation efforts.

Dr. T.S. Krishna, Head of the Physics Department, spoke about the scientific aspects of water conservation and the need for innovation in managing water resources. Faculty members including Dr. M. Tasneem, Dr. N. Rajashekar, Dr. S. Vijayakrishna, Dr. S.K. Khaja Musavarin, J. Panduranga Rao, T. Poojitha, and Shravani were also present and contributed to the success of the event.

The program concluded with a call to action, urging students and participants to adopt water-saving habits in their daily lives. The celebration of World Water Day at P.B. Siddhartha College served as a reminder of the critical importance of water conservation and the need for sustained efforts to protect this invaluable resource.

NTR District Residents Can Now Apply for Piped Natural Gas Connections

Vijayawada 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

Residents of NTR district who wish to avail themselves of a piped natural gas (PNG) connection can now do so by contacting the District Collector's Command Control Center at 91549 70454, as announced by District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmeesh.

The Collector emphasized that complete information about PNG connections, including benefits, safety measures, and eligibility, will be provided by dedicated staff at the center. The initiative aims to ensure households, hotels, and industrial units in the district receive a secure and continuous supply of natural gas.

Dr. Lakshmeesh highlighted that the PNG system is a safe and sustainable energy alternative, offering several advantages over conventional fuels. "PNG connections not only provide uninterrupted supply but also contribute to environmental protection by reducing dependence on LPG cylinders and other fossil fuels," he said. The Collector also assured that staff at the command center will provide detailed guidance on the application process, cost structures, safety protocols, and installation procedures.



Earlier on Friday, the District Collector convened a meeting at the Collectorate, joined by Joint Collector S. Elakkiya and senior officials from the Public Supply Department, to review the current gas supply status and discuss future operational plans. The meeting focused on ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the supply chain, aiming to prevent any disruptions in LPG or PNG distribution across the district.

Dr. Lakshmeesh instructed officials to maintain the gas distribution system in line with the guidelines set by the Honorable

Chief Minister. He stressed that there should be no hindrance to the supply of LPG cylinders in any area. Moreover, he highlighted that PNG connections represent a forward-looking alternative, supporting energy security and sustainable development in the district.

With the increasing demand for clean energy solutions, PNG connections are being promoted as a practical and environmentally friendly option for both residential and commercial users. The system ensures that residents no longer need to depend solely on LPG cylinders,

which can be cumbersome, expensive, and occasionally prone to supply delays. By adopting PNG, households and businesses can benefit from uninterrupted gas flow, safer operations, and reduced carbon emissions.

The Command Control Center will provide personalized assistance, helping applicants understand the requirements and complete the registration process efficiently. Residents can call the provided number to inquire about connection eligibility, installation timelines, associated costs, and the full range of benefits.

This initiative is part of the district administration's broader commitment to promoting clean energy solutions and modern infrastructure, ensuring that citizens have access to reliable, safe, and sustainable energy options. With this step, NTR district is taking a proactive approach toward energy security, convenience, and environmental responsibility.

For further details, residents are encouraged to contact the Command Control Center at 91549 70454, where officials are available to provide comprehensive guidance on PNG connections.

Heavy Rain and Hailstorm Alert Issued for South Coastal Andhra Pradesh

Amaravathi, March 20 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Meteorological Department has issued a warning for widespread rainfall and potential hailstorms in south coastal Andhra Pradesh over the next three days. Residents are advised to remain cautious as unstable weather conditions are expected to affect several districts, disrupting daily activities and posing risks to property and crops.

The unusual weather is attributed to an upper-air cyclonic circulation over the Bay of Bengal, which has created conditions favorable for thunderstorms, lightning, and localized hail. Meteorologists predict that south coastal districts, including parts of Rayalaseema, are particularly at risk of heavy showers and gusty winds. Wind speeds may range between 40 kmph and 50 kmph, occasionally reaching up to 60 kmph in areas experiencing intense thunderstorms.

North coastal districts and Yanam may experience moderate rainfall along with scattered thunderstorms and lightning. While the showers provide temporary relief from dry conditions, the sudden intensity of storms could pose hazards to



commuters, outdoor workers, and farmers. Authorities have advised people to avoid venturing into open fields, standing near tall structures, or remaining near water bodies during periods of lightning or high winds.

Recent unseasonal rains have already been observed in coastal districts, bringing relief from high temperatures but also causing temporary disruption in transport and daily routines. The forecast suggests that rain-

fall will continue intermittently across the state, with isolated pockets likely to experience hailstorms, which could affect standing crops, orchards, and horticultural produce.

Officials have urged farmers to take precautions to protect their crops, while residents are advised to secure loose items around homes and avoid travel during severe weather. Commuters are cautioned to remain alert while driving on highways and rural roads, as heavy rain

and gusty winds may reduce visibility and increase the risk of accidents.

The meteorological department has emphasized that citizens should stay informed of ongoing weather updates and advisories issued by local authorities. Precautionary measures such as keeping emergency supplies ready, monitoring drainage systems, and avoiding risky outdoor activities are recommended to minimize potential damage and ensure safety.

This alert underscores the unpredictable nature of current weather patterns in Andhra Pradesh. Authorities continue to monitor conditions closely, and updates are expected as the cyclonic circulation progresses. Residents are encouraged to remain vigilant, follow official advisories, and take necessary precautions to protect life, property, and agricultural interests during the period of inclement weather.

By highlighting potential risks and emphasizing preparedness, the state administration aims to reduce the impact of heavy rains, hail, and thunderstorms while safeguarding communities across south coastal Andhra Pradesh.

Kesineni Sivanath (Chinni) Extends Ramzan Greetings

Vijayawada 20.03.2026 TPN Bureau:

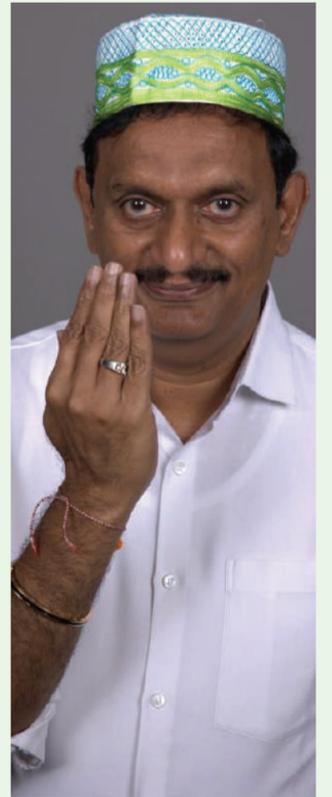
Kesineni Sivanath extended heartfelt Ramzan greetings to the Muslim community on the occasion of the holy festival. Conveying his wishes to Muslim brothers, sisters, and families across the Vijayawada Parliamentary constituency, he highlighted the spiritual and social significance of the sacred month of Ramzan.

In a statement released on Friday ahead of the festival, the Member of Parliament wished that the blessings of Allah be showered upon everyone. He greeted the community with "Ramzan Mubarak" and expressed hope that the festival would bring peace, happiness, and prosperity to all sections of society. He emphasized that Ramzan is not only a time for fasting but also a period for self-discipline, reflection, and strengthening one's faith.

Kesineni Sivanath appreciated the devotion and commitment of Muslims who observe fasting during the holy month. He noted that the strict observance of fasting, prayers, and charity reflects strong spiritual values and dedication. He also mentioned that such practices foster compassion towards the less fortunate and encourage a sense of responsibility within society.

The MP further stated that the prayers and fasting undertaken with sincerity would bring good health, success, and well-being to individuals and their families. He said that the essence of Ramzan lies in promoting unity, brotherhood, and harmony among people, irrespective of their backgrounds. Festivals like Ramzan, he added, play a vital role in strengthening communal harmony and mutual respect.

Highlighting the importance of togetherness, Kesineni Sivanath urged people to uphold the values of kindness, generosity, and peace. He expressed hope that the spirit of



Ramzan would inspire individuals to contribute positively to society and support one another in times of need.

Concluding his message, the MP once again extended his warm wishes to the Muslim community and prayed for peace, prosperity, and happiness for all. He hoped that the divine blessings of Allah would guide everyone towards a path of harmony and well-being.

CPM District Secretary Warns Govt: “Failure to Address Public Issues Will Lead to Downfall”

Palakoderu, March 20, 2026:

Issuing a strong warning to the state government, J.N.V. Gopalan, District Secretary of Communist Party of India (Marxist), stated that neglecting public grievances will inevitably lead to political downfall. He made these remarks during the 23rd day of the party’s ongoing Praja Chaitanya Padayatra in West Godavari district.

The padayatra, aimed at understanding and addressing people’s issues, witnessed a massive response from the public. On Friday, the yatra commenced from Pennada village and passed through Goraganamudi, Vissakoderu, and several areas of Bhimavaram town, including Bokkavaripalem, Chinaranganipalem, Narsayya Agraharam, Kumudavalli, and Gollalakoderu, before reaching Mahadevapatnam.

Interacting with villagers at every stop, Gopalan and his team listened to grievances ranging from land issues to labor concerns. In Pennada village, the CPM leaders inspected around 4.72 acres of land allegedly under encroachment and demanded that the government reclaim it and distribute house sites to the needy.

In Vissakoderu, ASHA workers submitted a memorandum highlighting that their salaries have not been increased for the



past seven years. They demanded implementation of minimum wages as per Supreme Court guidelines and sought regularization of their jobs. The leaders assured them of taking up the issue at higher levels.

The padayatra received a grand welcome from workers in Bhimavaram town. CPM leaders paid floral tributes to Puchalapalli Sundarayya, a legendary communist leader, at his statue in Maruti Nagar. Gopalan, along with town secretary B. Vasudeva Rao, garlanded the statue, remembering his contributions to social justice and workers’ rights.

During the march, CPM leaders also staged a protest at Gol-

lakoderu demanding the construction of the long-pending Garagaparru bridge. Gopalan criticized the authorities for ignoring the deteriorating condition of the bridge, which was built nearly a century ago and is now posing a serious risk to commuters. He questioned the government’s priorities, stating that merely putting up warning boards is not a solution.

Addressing the gathering, Gopalan said the padayatra, which began on February 26 at Tallakodu in Akiveedu mandal, has so far covered 20 mandals and five towns. He alleged that even after two years in power, the coalition government has

failed to effectively implement welfare schemes. Rising house taxes, steep electricity charges, and the installation of smart meters were among the key issues he criticized.

He further demanded immediate resolution of problems faced by Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, mid-day meal staff, and laborers. He warned that if the government continues to ignore these issues, CPM will intensify its agitation in a phased manner.

Gopalan also announced that a major protest will be held on March 23 in front of the Collector’s office in Bhimavaram. He called upon people across the district to participate in large numbers and present their grievances directly to the authorities, assuring that CPM will stand by them.

In a touching moment, Vatsavayi Satyavathi, a CPM activist and wife of late leader Vatsavayi Bharadwaj, greeted the padayatra team in Bhimavaram with a “Red Salute.” She praised the dedication of the comrades, who continue the march despite injuries and health issues, boosting their morale.

The padayatra continues to gain momentum, reflecting growing public discontent and the party’s efforts to channel it into a broader movement for accountability and justice.

Lord Kodandarama Blesses Devotees on Sarvabhoopala Vahanam at Tirupati Brahmotsavams



Tirupati, March 20, 2026:

Amid spiritual fervor and devotion, Lord Sri Kodandarama Swamy graced devotees on the sacred Sarvabhoopala Vahanam during the fourth day of the annual Brahmotsavams. The celestial procession took place on Friday evening at around 7 PM, drawing a large number of devotees who gathered to witness the divine spectacle and seek blessings.

The Sarvabhoopala Vahanam holds deep spiritual significance. The term “Sarvabhoopala” translates to “all kings,” symbolizing that while earthly rulers govern people, the supreme ruler of all is the Almighty. The procession reflects the concept that God is the Rajadhiraja—the king of kings—who protects and guides all beings. The saying “Raja Praja Ranjanath” emphasizes that a true king is one who pleases and cares for his people, and in this context, the Lord is revered as the ultimate benevolent ruler.

As the deity was taken in a grand procession along the temple streets, devotees offered karpooa harathi (camphor light offerings) at every step, creating a spiritually charged atmosphere filled with chants and devotion. The sight of the beautifully adorned deity on the vahanam captivated the devotees, who expressed their reverence with prayers and offerings.

The event was conducted under the supervision of temple authorities and spiritual leaders. Among those present were Pedda Jeeyar Swamy and Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, who played key roles in overseeing the rituals and ensuring

that the traditions were followed meticulously. Their presence added spiritual depth and significance to the occasion.

Also present at the event were Deputy Executive Officer Nagarathna, Temple Inspectors Suresh and Harikrishna, along with temple priests and officials. They coordinated the arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the procession and the safety of the devotees.

The Brahmotsavams of Sri Kodandarama Swamy are among the most important annual religious events in Tirupati, attracting devotees from across the region. Each day of the festival features different vahana sevas, each carrying unique spiritual symbolism and significance.

Friday’s Sarvabhoopala Vahanam stood out as a powerful reminder of divine sovereignty and protection. Devotees left the procession with a sense of peace and spiritual fulfillment, believing that the Lord’s blessings would guide them through life’s challenges.

The temple administration ensured proper arrangements for crowd management, lighting, and security, allowing devotees to participate in the event without inconvenience. The overwhelming turnout once again highlighted the deep-rooted faith and devotion of the people.

As the Brahmotsavams continue, more devotees are expected to throng Tirupati to witness the remaining vahana sevas and seek the divine blessings of Lord Kodandarama Swamy.

Government Fulfils Nara Lokesh’s Padayatra Promise with Job Calendar for 10,060 Posts..

Tirupati, March 20, 2026:

Reaffirming its commitment to youth empowerment and employment generation, the Andhra Pradesh government has released a job calendar to fill 10,060 government posts, fulfilling a key promise made during the padayatra of Education Minister Nara Lokesh. The announcement has been positioned as a special Ugadi gift to the youth of the state.

A press conference in this regard was held at the Tirupati Parliament office under the leadership of Panabaka Lakshmi, Tirupati Parliamentary President. Addressing the media, she highlighted that the coalition government has been consistently working towards delivering on its commitments made to the public, particularly focusing on employment opportunities for the younger generation.

Panabaka Lakshmi stated that since the alliance government assumed office, the state has remained peaceful and development-oriented. She emphasized that nearly 80 percent of the promises made under the “Super Six” agenda have already been fulfilled, showcasing the government’s dedication to



transparent and accountable governance.

The release of the job calendar is seen as a major step toward addressing unemployment concerns among youth. It outlines the recruitment process for various government departments, ensuring a structured and timely approach to filling vacancies. Officials believe that this initiative will not only create job opportunities but also strengthen administrative efficiency across sectors.

Speaking about the significance of the move, leaders present at the event noted that the

decision reflects the government’s understanding of the aspirations of young people. By providing a clear roadmap for recruitment, the administration aims to instill confidence among job seekers and encourage them to prepare for upcoming opportunities.

The event was attended by several key leaders and officials, including Sugunamma, Chairperson of State Greenery and Beautification, Ravi Naidu, SHOP Chairman, Divakar Reddy, TUDA Chairman, and leader Varma, among others. They collectively appreci-

ated the government’s initiative and reiterated their support for policies aimed at youth welfare and employment generation.

Leaders also pointed out that fulfilling promises made during public outreach programs like padayatras builds trust between the government and citizens. The successful implementation of such assurances demonstrates political accountability and strengthens democratic values.

The job calendar announcement comes at a crucial time when many young aspirants are preparing for competitive exams. With this structured plan, the government aims to provide clarity and direction, ensuring that eligible candidates can plan their preparation effectively.

Overall, the initiative marks a significant milestone in the government’s efforts to deliver on its electoral promises. By prioritizing employment and maintaining a steady focus on development, the administration continues to reinforce its commitment to the welfare of the people, particularly the youth, who play a vital role in shaping the future of the state.

‘Reverse Rule’ in Kadiyam Panchayat: Tenant Pays House Tax While Owner Left in the Dark

Tirupati, March 20, 2026: Kadiyam, East Godavari, March 20, 2026:

A shocking case of administrative negligence has come to light in Kadiyam village of East Godavari district, where officials allegedly collected house tax from a tenant instead of the rightful property owner. The incident has raised serious concerns about lapses in the village secretariat and panchayat system, questioning accountability and transparency at the grassroots level.

According to reports, the property in question, bearing Door No. 18-8 in Kadiyam village under Rajahmundry Rural constituency, was legally purchased by Dodda Tataji in October 2020 from Dulla Venkata Rao. Following the purchase, Tataji duly transferred the house tax records into his name under Assessment No. 2508 and has been consistently paying property tax since then. All legal documents, including registration and Encumbrance Certificate (EC), are reportedly in order.

However, in an unusual turn of events, the former owner, Dulla Venkata Rao, continues to reside in the same house as a tenant. The issue surfaced when Tataji did not receive the house tax demand notice for



the current year, prompting him to approach the local secretariat for clarification.

To his shock, Tataji discovered that the demand notice meant for him had been issued in the name of Dulla Venkata Rao. Not only that, but officials had also accepted the tax payment from the tenant, completely bypassing the actual owner. This glaring error has triggered outrage, with Tataji questioning how authorities could ignore official ownership records and collect tax from an unrelated individual.

When confronted, Panchayat

Secretary Srinivas Reddy reportedly admitted that the tax amount was indeed collected from the tenant. However, he attributed the mistake to recent staff transfers and attempted to downplay the issue by assuring that corrections would be made soon.

The explanation has failed to convince the property owner, who alleges gross negligence and irresponsibility on the part of the officials. Tataji expressed concern that such actions could lead to serious legal complications in the future, including potential property dis-

putes, as tax payments often serve as supporting evidence of possession or claim.

“This is not just a clerical error—it questions the entire system’s credibility,” Tataji stated, adding that despite possessing all original ownership documents, his rights were overlooked. He has warned that he will escalate the matter to higher authorities and approach the media to seek justice.

The incident has sparked debate among locals, who are now questioning the functioning of the village secretariat system. While the system was introduced to enhance transparency and bring governance closer to the people, cases like this highlight significant gaps in implementation and verification processes.

Residents have urged higher officials to take immediate action, rectify the mistake, and ensure accountability. They stress that such lapses not only inconvenience citizens but also erode trust in government institutions.

As the issue gains attention, it remains to be seen whether authorities will take corrective measures and implement stricter checks to prevent similar incidents in the future.

50% Interest Rebate on Property Tax: Collector DK Balaji Urges Machilipatnam Residents to Clear Dues by March 31

Machilipatnam, March 20 | TPN Bureau

In a bid to encourage taxpayers to settle pending liabilities, D.K. Balaji, District Collector and Special Officer of Machilipatnam Municipal Corporation, has urged residents to take advantage of the 50% interest rebate on property tax arrears announced by the Andhra Pradesh government. Citizens are advised to clear outstanding dues on or before March 31 to benefit from this concession.

Issuing an official statement, the Collector said the relief measure aims to ease the financial burden on property owners while improving revenue collection for urban local bodies. Individuals who pay their pending property taxes within the deadline will receive a 50% waiver on accumulated interest, providing a valuable opportunity to regularize payments without heavy penalties.

D.K. Balaji, who recently assumed charge as Special Officer of Machilipatnam Municipal Corporation, emphasized that many citizens have outstanding dues, and the rebate is designed to motivate timely settlement. “The government has taken a proactive step to support taxpayers by offering a significant concession on interest. I request all citizens to make use of this opportunity and clear their dues before March 31,” he said.

The Collector also highlighted that timely property tax payments are critical for the financial health of the municipal corporation. Revenue from taxes funds essential civic services, including sanitation, street lighting, drainage maintenance, drinking water supply, and infrastructure development. Strengthening the corporation’s finances will allow it to deliver better services and undertake developmental works across the city. “When citizens pay their taxes on time, it directly contributes to improving the quality of life in the city,” he added.

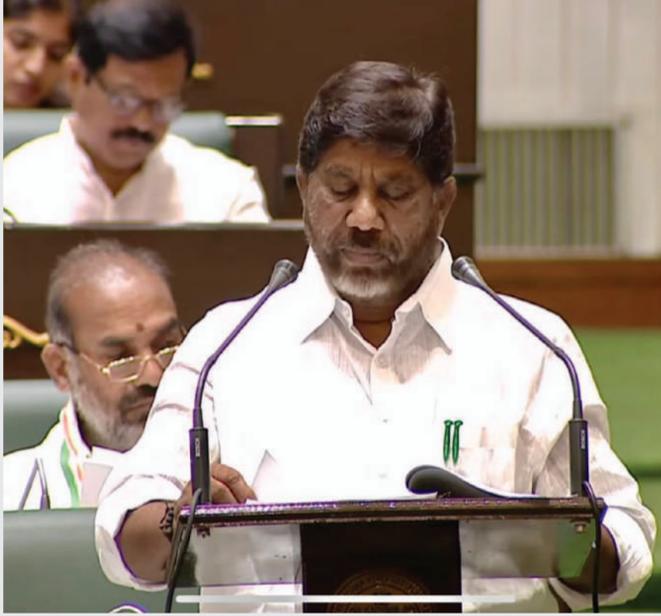
To facilitate smooth payments, officials have arranged options for online payment and extended counters where necessary. Residents are encouraged to avoid last-minute rush and complete payments well ahead of the deadline. The administration believes that such initiatives not only improve tax compliance but also foster a sense of civic responsibility among residents. The response to the scheme so far has been encouraging, with authorities hopeful of recovering a significant portion of pending dues before the end of the month.

The announcement has been officially issued by the District Information and Public Relations Office, Krishna district, Machilipatnam.

TG Budget 2026–27: Welfare With Vision, Dev With Purpose

Telangana Budget 2026–27 is more than just a financial statement. It is a strong political message, a welfare promise, and a development roadmap for the State. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy & Dy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, this Budget clearly shows that the government wants to balance public welfare, social justice, infrastructure growth, youth empowerment, and financial discipline. In simple terms, this is a people-first Budget. The biggest strength of this Budget is that it places welfare at the centre of governance. It is not just about big announcements. It is about reaching ordinary families, women, farmers, students, youth, employees, and the poor. The government wants people to feel that governance is not limited to offices, but is visible in their daily lives. One of the strongest examples is the Mahalakshmi free bus travel scheme. Lakhs of women are using it every day. This is not just a free travel scheme. It is about relief, dignity, and empowerment for women. It has become a symbol of welfare with visible impact.

Another emotional and bold initiative is the Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme. The government has announced ₹5 lakh life insurance cover for 1.15 crore families. This sends a powerful social message. It tells people that the State will stand with them even in their hardest times. That is not just welfare - it is compassionate governance. The Indiramma Illu housing scheme is another major pillar of the Budget. Poor families with land will receive ₹5 lakh assistance to build a house. This is not merely a housing programme. It is about self-respect, security, and dignity. For a poor family, a home is not just a building - it is a lifetime dream. If one sector stands out strongly, it is education. The government has given clear importance to the future of children and youth. The plan to establish Young India Integrated Residential Schools in Assembly constituencies is a socially meaningful



idea. It aims to bring together students from SC, ST, BC, Minority, and OC communities under one roof. This is not just a school plan - it is a message of equality and inclusion. The Breakfast Scheme is perhaps one of the most humane decisions in this Budget. From pre-primary to Intermediate, students will receive breakfast. No child should begin the school day hungry. This reflects both compassion and practical governance. Similarly, extending the Midday Meal Scheme to Intermediate students is a progressive step that can reduce dropouts and improve educational continuity.

The Budget also tries to address one of Telangana's most sensitive issues - employment. The government says it has already provided jobs to 67,763 un-

employed youth. Politically, this is a strong message. Administratively, it shows that employment is being treated as a priority. The Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme also signals strong support for self-employment and entrepreneurship. The proposal for Young India Skill University is one of the smartest long-term ideas in the Budget. It shows that the government is thinking not just about government jobs, but also about skills, industry needs, and global opportunities. The health sector also receives meaningful attention. The introduction of a cashless health scheme for government employees and pensioners is a long-awaited reform. This is not just a policy decision; it is a trust-building measure. The expansion of hospitals, additional beds, and digital

health initiatives also suggest that the government is serious about strengthening public healthcare. For farmers, the Budget continues to send a supportive message. Rythu Bharosa remains important, and the incentive for fine variety paddy is a welcome step. But in agriculture, announcements alone are not enough. The real test will be in timely payments, procurement, and delivery at the field level. Farmers trust results, not speeches. Large allocations for irrigation and rural development show that the government understands village priorities. Roads, water, and rural infrastructure are not just development works - they directly affect people's lives. The Budget also strongly reflects social justice, with major allocations for SC, ST, BC, and Minority welfare. These are not side issues; they are central to the government's political and administrative vision. At the same time, the Budget tries to assure the middle class and investors that Telangana remains focused on growth and fiscal responsibility. The government's claim that it has restructured high-interest loans is significant. Welfare is easy to announce, but difficult to sustain without financial discipline. In the end, the Telangana Budget 2026–27 is a welfare-driven, politically sharp, and socially layered Budget. It carries the clear stamp of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's governance style - visible welfare, strong messaging, and long-term ambition. The intention is strong. The direction is clear. The design is impressive. But in the end, delivery will decide its true success.

Sagar Vanaparthi, Policy Analyst. 9100004402.



Cinema, Conflict and Memory: The Haunting Politics of "Dhurandhar" and Kashmir



The world of popular cinema often borrows from history, reshaping real events into stories of heroism, revenge, and national identity. Dhurandhar: The Revenge does precisely that—but beneath its high-octane action and dramatic storytelling lies something far more complex: a reflection of the unresolved trauma and political tensions surrounding Kashmir.

At its core, the film can be read as more than just a fictional spy thriller. It carries the emotional weight of a deeply personal story—one that mirrors the experiences of many displaced Kashmiri Pandits. The protagonist's journey, from loss to transformation, echoes the pain of a community uprooted from its homeland.

The narrative traces the life of a young man whose world collapses due to violence and injustice. His family suffers unimaginable tragedy, and the systems meant to deliver justice fail him. This breakdown of faith—in institutions, in society, and even in the idea of home—becomes the turning point. What follows is not just a quest for revenge but a complete transformation of identity. The protagonist evolves into a weapon, driven by anger and shaped by circumstances beyond his control.

In many ways, this transformation is symbolic. It represents how prolonged conflict can radicalize individuals, turning victims into agents of violence. The personal becomes political, and grief morphs into a larger narrative of nationalism and retribution.

The Kashmir Valley itself emerges as a silent but powerful presence in this story. It is not merely a backdrop but a metaphor—one that stands for loss, longing, and displacement. For those who were forced to leave, Kashmir becomes an idea rather than a place: something remembered, imagined, and mourned, but never fully reclaimed.

The film suggests that even decades later, the wounds remain unhealed. The "ghosts" of Kashmir are not literal, but emotional and psychological—memories of a home that no longer exists in the same way. These ghosts haunt both individuals and the national consciousness, shaping how stories are told and understood.

At the same time, Dhurandhar operates within a broader political framework. It presents a clear narrative of conflict between India and Pakistan, framing the latter as a source of ongoing aggression. However, the film simplifies a deeply complex geopolitical issue into a more straightforward battle between good and evil.

This simplification is both the film's strength and its limitation. On one hand, it makes the story accessible and emotionally compelling. On the other, it risks reducing a multifaceted conflict into a single perspective, leaving little room for nuance.

The portrayal of national security and intelligence agencies further reinforces this viewpoint. Figures modeled on real-life strategists are depicted as decisive and visionary, guiding the nation through turbulent times. Their actions are framed as necessary responses to persistent threats, offering a sense of order in an otherwise chaotic world.

Yet, beneath this narrative of strength lies a deeper unease. The film repeatedly returns to the idea that justice, when delayed or denied, can push individuals toward extreme measures. It raises uncomfortable questions about the cost of such transformation—both for the individual and for society.

Another significant aspect of the film is its engagement with real-world events. References to major incidents of violence and terrorism blur the line between fiction and reality. This blending creates a sense of immediacy, making the story feel grounded and relevant. However, it also complicates the viewer's understanding, as the boundaries between historical fact and cinematic interpretation become increasingly unclear.

This ambiguity is central to the film's impact. By weaving together personal trauma and national history, Dhurandhar invites viewers to reflect on how stories are constructed—and whose stories are being told.

The emotional core of the film lies in its exploration of displacement. For the protagonist, losing his home is not just a physical loss but an existential one. It strips away his sense of identity and belonging, leaving behind a void that can only be filled through action—however destructive that action may be.

This theme resonates strongly with the experiences of Kashmiri Pandits, many of whom continue to live in exile decades after their displacement. The film captures this sense of irreversible change: the idea that even if one returns, the place itself has transformed so profoundly that it no longer feels like home.

At the same time, the film reflects a broader cultural moment in Indian cinema, where stories of nationalism and security have gained prominence. These narratives often emphasize resilience, strength, and the ability to overcome adversity. Dhurandhar fits squarely within this trend, offering a vision of empowerment through action.

However, it also reveals the tension inherent in such storytelling. While it celebrates strength, it is also haunted by loss. While it seeks closure, it acknowledges that some wounds may never fully heal.

Ultimately, Dhurandhar: The Revenge is as much about memory as it is about conflict. It shows how the past continues to shape the present, influencing not just individual lives but collective narratives. The "ghosts" of Kashmir are a reminder that history is never truly behind us—it lingers, resurfacing in stories, emotions, and identities.

The film's power lies in its ability to evoke this lingering presence. It forces viewers to confront uncomfortable truths about violence, displacement, and the narratives we construct to make sense of them. At the same time, it offers a form of catharsis—a way to process complex emotions through the lens of cinema.

In the end, Dhurandhar is not just a story of revenge or patriotism. It is a story of loss, transformation, and the enduring impact of history. It reminds us that while nations may move forward, the echoes of the past continue to shape their journey—often in ways that are difficult to ignore.

Caught Between Wars: How Long Can India Stay Neutral in the Iran–Israel Conflict?



The escalating conflict between Iran and Israel is not a distant war for India—it is a crisis unfolding dangerously close to its strategic, economic, and human interests. As tensions intensify across West Asia, the question is no longer whether India will be affected, but how long it can realistically avoid being drawn into the consequences of "other people's wars."

At the heart of India's foreign policy lies the idea of strategic autonomy—the ability to maintain independent positions without formally aligning with any major power bloc. So far, India has followed a careful and measured approach. It has called for restraint, emphasized diplomacy, and avoided explicitly taking sides. This balancing act allows New Delhi to maintain relationships with both Israel and Iran, two countries that are crucial to its geopolitical and economic interests.

However, this neutrality is increasingly being tested by the scale and proximity of the conflict. The war has already spread beyond a localized confrontation, affecting the wider Gulf region—an area vital to India's energy security and trade routes. The Strait of Hormuz, through which a significant portion of the world's oil supply passes, has become a zone of uncertainty. Any disruption here directly impacts India's access to energy, pushing up prices and threatening economic stability.

Energy is only one part of the equation. India is deeply connected to West Asia through its large diaspora—millions of Indians live and work in Gulf countries. Their safety, livelihoods, and remittances are all at risk if the conflict escalates further. A wider war could lead to evacuations, job losses, and disruptions in the flow of money back to India, which plays a critical role in supporting households and the broader economy.

There is also the question of trade and maritime security. As the conflict edges closer to key shipping lanes, insurance costs rise, routes become riskier, and supply chains face disruptions. India, as a major trading nation, cannot remain insulated from these effects. What may begin as a geopolitical conflict quickly translates into domestic economic stress.

Despite these pressures, India's current stance has been described as pragmatic. By avoiding strong public alignments, it preserves diplomatic flexibility. In a volatile situation, even a single statement can close doors to dialogue or limit future options. India's silence, or measured language, is not necessarily indecision—it is a strategic choice to keep communication channels open with all sides.

Yet, there is a deeper challenge beneath this approach. Strategic autonomy is not just about refusing to take sides; it is about having the capacity to act independently when circumstances demand

it. The current crisis exposes the limits of that autonomy. India's energy dependence on the Middle East and its reliance on global supply chains mean that external events can significantly constrain its choices.

Moreover, global power dynamics complicate the situation further. The United States remains a key partner for India, particularly in areas such as defense and technology. At the same time, India has maintained ties with Iran for energy and regional connectivity projects. Navigating these relationships becomes increasingly difficult in a polarized environment where major powers expect clearer alignments.

The war also raises questions about India's role on the global stage. Can it position itself as a mediator or a voice of balance, or will it remain a cautious observer focused primarily on protecting its own interests? While India has traditionally advocated for dialogue and peaceful resolution, its ability to influence outcomes in such a complex conflict remains limited.

Another dimension to consider is the domestic impact. Rising oil prices, market volatility, and supply disruptions can quickly translate into inflation and economic pressure at home. Global conflicts today have a direct and immediate effect on Indian markets and industries. The longer the war continues, the harder it

becomes for India to shield itself from these ripple effects.

Ultimately, the idea that India can completely avoid the consequences of distant wars is increasingly unrealistic. In a deeply interconnected world, geography offers little protection from global crises. The Iran–Israel conflict demonstrates how quickly regional tensions can evolve into challenges with worldwide implications.

India's strategy, therefore, is not about staying untouched—it is about managing exposure. This involves diversifying energy sources, strengthening diplomatic engagement, safeguarding its diaspora, and preparing for economic shocks. It also requires a clear understanding that neutrality is not a passive stance but an active, constantly negotiated position.

The real test for India lies ahead. As the conflict continues to unfold, maintaining balance will become more difficult. External pressures may grow, choices may narrow, and the costs of staying neutral may rise.

In the end, the question is not whether India can avoid "other people's wars," but whether it can navigate them without compromising its own interests. Strategic autonomy, in this context, is not a fixed principle—it is a challenge that must be continually proven in the face of shifting global realities.

Broken Alliance Revived: Gaurav Gogoi and Akhil Gogoi Reunite Ahead of Assam Polls



In a significant political turnaround ahead of the Assam Assembly elections, the alliance between Congress and the regional party Rajiv Dal has been revived, with leaders Gaurav Gogoi and Akhil Gogoi joining hands once again after earlier disagreements.

The two leaders jointly announced that their parties will contest the upcoming elections together, marking the end of weeks of uncertainty and failed negotiations. The development is being seen as a major boost to opposition unity in the state.

From Breakdown to Breakthrough

The alliance had previously collapsed over seat-sharing disputes, particularly disagreements over key constituencies like Dhing. However, both sides returned to the negotiating table and managed to reach a compro-

mise, signaling a pragmatic approach in the face of a larger political battle.

The renewed partnership was formalised with a seat-sharing agreement. Under this arrangement, Rajiv Dal will contest 11 seats, while two additional constituencies—Gauripur and Goalpara East—will see friendly contests between the two parties.

Symbolic Unity Against BJP

The announcement carried symbolic weight, with both leaders appearing together publicly, exchanging traditional garlands and expressing mutual support. Akhil Gogoi even stated that his party would work towards making Gaurav Gogoi the next Chief Minister, highlighting the seriousness of the alliance.

This unity is aimed at presenting a consolidated opposition front against the ruling BJP-led alliance in Assam. With multiple opposi-

tion parties trying to coordinate strategies, such partnerships are crucial to avoid vote division.

Political Context and Strategy

The alliance is part of a broader opposition grouping in Assam that has been attempting to challenge the BJP's dominance. The Congress-led front had earlier faced setbacks due to internal disagreements and partners walking out over seat-sharing issues.

Rajiv Dal's exit from the alliance earlier this month had weakened the opposition bloc. Its return, therefore, strengthens the coalition's prospects and signals a renewed effort to unify anti-BJP forces ahead of the polls.

The agreement also resolves disputes over key seats like Margherita, where political developments—including a candidate withdrawal—helped clear the

path for consensus.

What It Means Going Forward

The coming elections in Assam are expected to be highly competitive, with both the ruling alliance and opposition blocs fine-tuning their strategies. For the Congress and Rajiv Dal, the revived alliance provides a chance to consolidate votes and present a stronger challenge.

However, the durability of this partnership will depend on how effectively both sides coordinate on the ground and manage remaining differences.

The Bottom Line

The reunion of the two Gogois marks a crucial shift in Assam's political landscape. After a fractured start, the opposition appears to be regrouping—hoping that unity, even if delayed, can translate into electoral gains in the upcoming battle.

“Who Calls the Shots?” MK Stalin Targets EPS Over Delhi Visits for Alliance Talks

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has launched a sharp attack on AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami, questioning his repeated visits to Delhi for alliance negotiations ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections.

Stalin's criticism comes amid reports that Palaniswami has travelled to the national capital multiple times to meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah for seat-sharing discussions with the BJP.

Stalin's Sharp Question: Who Is in Control?

Taking a dig at these visits, Stalin questioned whether decisions about Tamil Nadu politics are being made within the state or dictated from Delhi. His remarks suggest that the AIADMK is relying heavily on the BJP leadership for electoral strategy.

He contrasted this with the legacy of former AIADMK leader J. Jayalalithaa, who was known for maintaining autonomy and making allies come to Chennai rather than travelling for negotiations.



AIADMK-BJP Alliance Talks Intensify

Palaniswami's Delhi visits are part of ongoing efforts to finalise a seat-sharing arrangement within the BJP-led NDA for the upcoming elections. Other allies, including leaders like T.T.V. Dhinakaran, have also been involved in discussions, indicating that negotiations are in an advanced stage.

The repeated high-level meetings highlight the importance of alliance arithmetic in Tamil Nadu, where multi-party coalitions often determine electoral outcomes.

Political Messaging Ahead of Polls

Stalin's remarks are seen as part of a broader campaign strategy by the ruling DMK to portray the AIADMK as dependent on the BJP. By raising questions about “who calls the shots,” the DMK aims to appeal to regional pride and reinforce its image as a party rooted in Tamil Nadu's autonomy.

On the other hand, the AIAD-

MK is focusing on consolidating opposition forces against the DMK, with its alliance with the BJP expected to play a crucial role in the upcoming contest.

High-Stakes Election Battle

With the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections approaching, political activity has intensified on all fronts. Alliances are being finalised, seat-sharing negotiations are underway, and leaders are sharpening their rhetoric.

The exchange between Stalin and Palaniswami reflects the larger narrative shaping the election—regional autonomy versus national alignment, and the role of central leadership in state politics.

The Bottom Line

Stalin's attack underscores a key political question ahead of the poll: whether Tamil Nadu's political decisions should be made locally or influenced by national alliances. As campaigning heats up, such narratives are likely to play a central role in shaping voter perception and the eventual outcome.

Premium Petrol Price Hiked by ₹2; Regular Fuel Rates Stay Unchanged

State-run oil company Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has increased the price of its premium-grade petrol by ₹2 per litre, while keeping the cost of regular petrol unchanged across the country.

The revised prices came into effect immediately, impacting consumers who use high-octane or “power” petrol variants. These premium fuels are typically preferred by high-performance vehicles and are priced above regular petrol due to their enhanced engine efficiency and additives.

Despite the hike in premium petrol, there has been no change in the price of normal petrol or diesel, offering some relief to the majority of everyday consumers. This selective increase suggests that oil companies are trying to balance rising costs without passing on the full burden to all users.

While the company has not officially specified the exact reason behind the price hike, it is widely believed to be linked to



fluctuations in global crude oil prices and increased logistics costs. Ongoing geopolitical tensions, particularly in West Asia, have led to volatility in global oil markets, pushing crude prices higher and affecting fuel pricing strategies.

Interestingly, officials have clarified that there is no disrup-

tion in crude oil supply to India. Authorities have assured that additional cargo shipments are already on the way, and the country's fuel supply position remains stable. Consumers have also been advised not to panic or believe in rumours regarding shortages.

The move highlights how global developments continue to influence domestic fuel pricing, even when supply chains remain intact. Premium fuel prices are often adjusted more flexibly compared to regular petrol, allowing companies to manage costs without triggering widespread public impact.

India remains relatively insulated compared to many other countries, where fuel prices have seen sharper increases due to the same geopolitical tensions. By limiting the hike to premium variants, oil companies appear to be adopting a cautious approach to avoid broader inflationary pressure.

For now, the burden of rising costs is being selectively passed on to a smaller segment of consumers, while the general public continues to benefit from stable petrol and diesel prices.

Overall, the decision reflects a balancing act—managing global cost pressures while maintaining price stability for the majority of users.

LPG Panic Eases, Govt Boosts Production Amid Supply Fears Linked to Iran Crisis



India recently witnessed a surge in panic booking of LPG cylinders due to fears of supply disruption caused by the ongoing conflict in West Asia. However, the government has now reassured citizens that the situation is under control, with increased domestic production and strict action against hoarding.

According to officials from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, panic buying has begun to decline, indicating that public confidence is gradually returning. The initial spike in bookings was driven by concerns over disruptions in LPG imports, especially as tensions escalated around the strategically crucial Strait of Hormuz.

India is heavily dependent on imports for its LPG needs. Around 60% of the country's LPG demand is met through imports, and nearly 90% of these imports pass through the Strait of Hormuz—a key global shipping route now affected by geopolitical tensions.

Due to disruptions in maritime traffic in this region, a significant portion of India's LPG supply chain was impacted, triggering fears of shortages and leading to panic bookings across several cities.

To counter the situation, the government has ramped up domestic production. Officials stated that local LPG output has increased by about 40%, helping stabilise supply and ensuring there is no “dry-out” at retail outlets.

Authorities also took strict measures

against hoarding and black marketing. Over 4,500 raids were conducted to curb illegal storage and ensure fair distribution of cylinders. These steps were aimed at preventing artificial shortages and maintaining steady supply for genuine consumers.

In addition, the government has prioritised LPG supply for households and essential services such as hospitals and educational institutions. Commercial users have been encouraged to switch to alternative fuels where possible, easing pressure on limited supplies.

Officials also clarified that shipping operations are being closely monitored, and Indian vessels and seafarers remain safe despite the evolving situation in West Asia. Efforts are ongoing to ensure smooth movement of fuel shipments and avoid further disruptions.

The government has repeatedly urged citizens to avoid panic booking and only order LPG when needed, emphasizing that unnecessary demand spikes can strain the system and create avoidable shortages.

Overall, while global tensions have temporarily affected supply chains, India's response—boosting domestic production, cracking down on hoarding, and managing demand—appears to be stabilising the situation.

The message from authorities is clear: there is no immediate shortage, and with corrective measures in place, LPG supplies are being managed effectively despite external challenges.

Centre Reviews Crop Damage as Unseasonal Rains Threaten Wheat Output



Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has reviewed the crop situation across the country amid concerns that unseasonal rains and hailstorms could impact wheat production during the crucial harvest period.

The review comes at a time when rabi crops, especially wheat, are nearing harvest in several states, making them highly vulnerable to sudden weather changes. Unseasonal rainfall and hailstorms have already been reported from multiple regions, raising fears of crop damage and potential losses for farmers.

Focus on Crop Loss Assessment
During the meeting, the minister directed officials to carry out a thorough and scientific assessment of crop damage. The aim is to ensure that affected farmers receive timely compensation under crop insurance schemes.

He emphasized that if farmers have suffered losses, the extent of damage must be accurately evaluated so that insurance claims can be processed efficiently and relief can be provided without delays.

Officials have also been instructed to coordinate closely with state governments to identify affected areas, particularly where crops may have been flattened due to heavy rain or hail.

Wheat Output Under Watch
The concern is significant because the government has set a wheat production target of 119 million tonnes for the current rabi season—slightly higher than last year's output.

Any large-scale damage at this stage could affect overall production, especially since wheat is one of India's most important food crops, second only to paddy in terms of area coverage.

Weather Concerns Persist
The situation remains uncertain, with the India Meteorological Department warning of two more western disturbances likely to bring additional rainfall in the coming days. This has prompted the government to remain on alert and issue advisories to farmers to minimise potential losses.

Unseasonal rains at harvest time are particularly damaging, as they can lead to lodging (flattening of crops), grain spoilage, and reduced quality, directly impacting farmers' income.

Government Response
The Centre has assured that it is closely monitoring the situation and will take necessary steps to support farmers. Apart from insurance payouts, state governments can also provide relief through disaster response funds.

The focus, officials say, is on quick assessment, timely compensation, and preventive advisories to reduce further damage.

The Bottom Line
With wheat harvest season underway, the timing of unseasonal rains poses a serious risk. While the government remains confident about overall production, the coming days will be crucial in determining the actual impact on crops—and on farmers' livelihoods.

F-35 Hit by Iranian Fire? What the Incident Reveals About the Limits of Stealth Technology



Reports of a US F-35 stealth fighter jet being hit by suspected Iranian fire during a combat mission have sparked intense debate about one of modern warfare's most advanced technologies—stealth aviation. The incident, though still under investigation, challenges long-held assumptions about the near-invincibility of stealth aircraft.

According to available details, the F-35 was flying over Iranian territory when it was struck, forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing at a US base in the Middle East. The pilot survived, and the aircraft was recovered, but the event is significant because it may represent one of the first times such a highly advanced stealth jet has been successfully targeted in an active conflict.

To understand why this matters, it is important to clarify what "stealth" actually means. Contrary to popular belief, stealth aircraft are not invisible. Instead, they are designed to reduce their visibility to radar, infrared sensors, and other detection systems. This is achieved through a combination of shape, materials, and electronic countermeasures that scatter or absorb radar signals, making the aircraft harder to detect and track.

The F-35, one of the most sophisticated fifth-generation fighters in the world, relies heavily on these technologies. Its design minimizes radar reflections, while its onboard systems allow it to detect threats long before being detected itself. In theory, this gives it a decisive advantage in contested airspace.

However, stealth is not absolute—it is relative. Detection becomes possible under certain conditions, especially when advanced air defense systems are used effectively. Modern surface-to-air missile systems, especially when integrated with multiple radar types and tracking methods, can sometimes pick up even low-observable aircraft. This is particularly true if the aircraft is operating in heavily defended airspace or if its flight path becomes predictable.

Another factor is the evolution of "low-tech" counters to "high-tech" systems. Military history has shown that simpler methods—such as coordinated radar networks, infrared tracking, or even visual spotting under the right conditions—can occasionally undermine sophisticated technology. If Iran's air defenses managed to detect and engage the F-35, it could suggest improved integration of such systems.

There is also the possibility that the aircraft was not directly "seen" in the traditional sense but tracked through indirect means. For example, radar operators may identify disturbances in the environment, communication signals, or patterns of movement that hint at the presence of a stealth aircraft. Once a general location is established, missiles can be fired into that area, increasing the chance of a hit.

The incident also highlights the risks involved in operating deep inside enemy territory. Even the most advanced aircraft are vulnerable when flying within range of dense and layered air defense networks. Missions over hostile regions often involve calculated risks, and stealth reduces—but does not eliminate—those risks.

Historically, stealth aircraft have faced similar challenges. During past conflicts, even earlier stealth platforms were occasionally detected or damaged, proving that no technology offers complete protection. The current situation reinforces that lesson in a modern context, involving far more advanced systems on both sides.

For militaries around the world, this event may serve as a reminder that technological superiority must be constantly

updated and complemented with strategy, training, and adaptability. Stealth aircraft remain incredibly powerful tools, but they are not immune to evolving threats.

At the same time, it is important to approach such reports with caution. In wartime, claims from both sides can be exaggerated or used for psychological impact. Iran's assertion that it successfully hit a stealth jet may serve as a morale boost and a signal of strength, while the US has maintained that the incident is still under investigation.

Regardless of the final conclusion, the episode has already sparked a broader discussion about the future of aerial warfare. As detection technologies improve and defenses become more sophisticated, the balance between stealth and counter-stealth continues to evolve.

In the end, the F-35 incident underscores a key reality of modern combat: no system is unbeatable. Even the most advanced machines operate within a dynamic environment where innovation on one side is quickly met with adaptation on the other. Stealth may tilt the odds—but it does not guarantee invisibility or invulnerability.

Iran Officer's Final Warning Before Death: "Missile Surprise Coming for Israel"

In a dramatic development amid the ongoing Iran-Israel conflict, a senior Iranian military spokesperson was killed just hours after issuing a bold warning about an impending missile "surprise" for Israel.

According to reports, Brigadier General Ali Mohammad Naini, a spokesperson for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), made a defiant statement challenging both the United States and Israel. He dismissed claims that Iran's military capabilities had been weakened and insisted that the country's missile program was stronger than ever.

In his final remarks, Naini openly mocked assertions that Iran could no longer produce ballistic missiles or enrich uranium. He claimed that despite sustained attacks, Iran's defense and missile capabilities had reached their "highest levels," signaling confidence in the country's ability to continue striking its adversaries.

He also hinted at a forthcoming escalation, warning of a "surprise" missile action against Israel. The statement appeared to be part of a broader psychological and strategic messaging effort aimed at projecting strength during an intense phase of the conflict.

However, within hours of making these remarks, Naini was killed in an airstrike attributed to US-Israeli forces. Iran's Revolutionary Guards later confirmed his death, describing it as a "martyrdom" resulting from what they called a "criminal" and "cowardly" attack carried out at dawn.

The timing of his death—so soon after his warning—has added to the already



heightened tensions in the region. It underscores the rapidly evolving and unpredictable nature of the conflict, where senior officials are being directly targeted in precision strikes.

Naini's killing is part of a broader pattern in the ongoing war, where several high-ranking Iranian military and political figures have been eliminated in recent weeks. These targeted strikes are seen as attempts to weaken Iran's command structure and disrupt its strategic operations.

Despite these losses, Iran has continued to project resilience. Officials have repeatedly stated that military production, especially missile development, remains unaffected. The messaging suggests that Tehran is determined to maintain both its operational capabilities and its image of strength, even under sustained

attack. The conflict itself has seen a sharp escalation, with missile strikes, drone attacks, and air raids becoming increasingly frequent. Key infrastructure and strategic sites on both sides have been targeted, raising fears of a wider regional war.

Naini's final statement and subsequent death highlight the high-stakes nature of this confrontation. His warning of a "missile surprise" reflects the ongoing threat of further escalation, while his killing demonstrates the vulnerability of even senior figures in this conflict.

As tensions continue to rise, such incidents are likely to fuel further retaliation, deepening the cycle of violence. The situation remains volatile, with each development bringing the region closer to a broader and more dangerous confrontation.

Iran Strikes Disrupt Qatar's LNG Lifeline: Which Countries Are Hit the Hardest?



Iran's recent attacks on Qatar's key gas infrastructure have sent shockwaves through global energy markets, disrupting one of the world's most critical sources of liquefied natural gas (LNG). The strikes targeted facilities at Ras Laffan—home to the world's largest LNG export hub—causing significant damage and forcing a major reduction in output.

According to emerging details, the attacks have wiped out nearly 17% of Qatar's LNG export capacity, with repairs expected to take years in some cases. This is a major blow, considering Qatar is one of the top LNG exporters globally and supplies a large share of gas to both Asia and Europe.

The disruption is not just local—it has global consequences. Qatar accounts for roughly 20% of the world's LNG supply, meaning any prolonged outage can quickly ripple across international markets. In fact, earlier strikes had already forced the country to halt production temporarily and declare force majeure on shipments, signaling its inability to meet contractual obligations.

Countries Most Affected The impact is being felt most strongly in Asia, which depends heavily on Qatari gas. Nations such as India,

China, Japan, and South Korea are among the biggest importers and are likely to face supply shortages and rising costs.

- India has already seen disruptions, with some sectors facing reduced gas supply due to halted shipments.
- Japan and South Korea, major LNG consumers, may need to turn to alternative sources or tap reserves.
- China, another large buyer, could face increased competition for spot cargoes.

Beyond Asia, several European countries—including Italy and Belgium—are also exposed, especially as they rely on LNG imports to replace reduced Russian gas supplies.

Why This Matters Globally

The strikes highlight how vulnerable global energy systems are to geopolitical conflicts. LNG supply chains are tightly interconnected, and disruptions in one region can quickly lead to:

- Price spikes in gas and electricity
 - Increased inflation in importing countries
 - Industrial slowdowns due to fuel shortages
- Energy markets have al-

ready reacted sharply, with oil and gas prices surging amid fears of prolonged instability.

A Broader Energy Crisis Brewing

The situation is further complicated by tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, a key shipping route for both oil and LNG. Any continued disruption here could choke supply routes entirely, worsening the crisis.

Additionally, the attacks signal a dangerous escalation where energy infrastructure itself has become a direct target in conflict. This raises concerns about the security of similar facilities across the Gulf.

The Bottom Line

Iran's strikes on Qatar's LNG infrastructure are not just another episode in a regional conflict—they represent a major threat to global energy stability. With key exporters hit and major economies dependent on Qatari gas, the effects are already spreading across continents.

If the conflict continues or escalates further, the world could be heading toward a full-scale energy shock—one that affects everything from electricity bills to industrial production and economic growth.

Why Pakistan's Rumoured Ballistic Missile Is Raising Alarm in the US

Recent warnings from US intelligence about Pakistan's missile programme have triggered global attention, especially around reports that Islamabad may be developing long-range ballistic missiles capable of reaching far beyond South Asia. While much of this remains in the realm of assessment and speculation, several key theories explain why this possibility is causing concern in Washington.

1. The ICBM Possibility

The biggest reason for concern is the suggestion that Pakistan could be working toward an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM)—a class of weapons capable of striking targets thousands of kilometres away, including the United States.

US intelligence officials have indicated that Pakistan's evolving missile programme "could include" systems with ranges sufficient to reach the American homeland.

If true, this would mark a major shift. Historically, Pakistan's missile capabilities have been designed primarily to counter India. Developing an ICBM would elevate Pakistan into a small group of nations with global strike capability.

2. A Shift Beyond Regional Deterrence

Analysts suggest that Pakistan's missile programme has long been focused on regional deterrence, particularly against India. However, a longer-range system could indicate broader strategic ambitions.

One theory is that such capability might serve as a deterrent against potential US intervention in South Asia, especially during a future India-Pakistan crisis. This would fundamentally change



how Pakistan is viewed in global strategic calculations.

3. Advancing Technology and Missile Evolution

Pakistan has steadily upgraded its missile arsenal over the years—from short-range systems to more sophisticated platforms, including missiles capable of carrying multiple warheads or evading missile defenses.

For example, newer systems are designed with advanced features such as improved accuracy, maneuverability, and the ability to bypass interception systems. These developments suggest a trajectory toward more complex and longer-range capabilities.

The concern is not just about range, but about quality and survivability—how effective these missiles would be against modern defence systems.

4. Possible External Assistance

Another theory often discussed in strategic circles is the possibility of technological collaboration, particularly

with countries like China. While not officially confirmed in this context, past reports and patterns of cooperation have raised questions about whether external support could accelerate Pakistan's missile development.

If such assistance exists, it could shorten the timeline needed to develop long-range systems, making the threat more immediate.

5. Changing Global Threat Perception

The US intelligence community is increasingly viewing missile threats in a broader context. Countries like China, Russia, North Korea, Iran—and now potentially Pakistan—are all seen as part of a growing pool of states advancing long-range strike capabilities.

This cumulative expansion of missile technology worldwide is what worries Washington the most. Even if Pakistan's programme is still in development, it contributes to a larger trend of increasing global missile reach.

6. Pakistan's Response: Defensive Intent

Pakistan, however, has consistently rejected such concerns, maintaining that its missile programme is purely defensive and aimed at ensuring regional stability.

Officials argue that their capabilities are designed to maintain deterrence and are not intended to threaten distant countries like the United States.

The Bottom Line

At present, there is no confirmed evidence that Pakistan possesses an operational missile capable of striking the US. The concern is based on intelligence assessments about what it could develop in the future.

The real issue, therefore, is not an immediate threat—but a potential shift in strategic capability. If Pakistan moves from a regional missile power to one with intercontinental reach, it would significantly alter global security dynamics and force a rethink of deterrence strategies worldwide.

Markets Trim Gains Amid Profit Booking; Nifty Holds Above 23,100, Sensex Ends Higher

Indian stock markets ended the session on a cautious note, with benchmark indices giving up a large part of their early gains due to profit booking. Despite the late pullback, both the Sensex and Nifty managed to close in positive territory, reflecting underlying resilience in the market.

The BSE Sensex closed higher by over 300 points, while the NSE Nifty held firmly above the crucial 23,100 mark. The markets had started the day on a strong footing, supported by value buying after recent declines and improving global cues. However, as the session progressed, investors chose to book profits at higher levels, trimming much of the intraday rally.

The day's movement highlights a cautious sentiment among investors. While there is optimism driven by selective buying, especially after recent corrections, concerns around global factors continue to limit sharp upside momentum.

Sector-wise, gains were seen in IT, metal, and select banking stocks, which helped the indi-



ces stay in the green. Public sector banks and technology stocks attracted buying interest, while some heavyweight stocks saw selling pressure during the latter half of the session.

Market participants are closely watching global developments, particularly geopolitical tensions and their impact

on crude oil prices. Rising oil prices and uncertainty linked to international conflicts have been key factors affecting investor sentiment in recent sessions.

Another important factor influencing the market is the continued outflow of foreign institutional investors (FIIs). Sustained selling by overseas

investors has added volatility and capped gains, even as domestic investors step in to provide support.

The broader market showed mixed trends. While large-cap stocks managed to hold ground, mid-cap and small-cap stocks witnessed some pressure, indicating selective participation rather than a broad-based rally.

Experts believe that the current phase reflects a consolidation period, where markets are trying to find direction after recent sharp swings. Profit booking at higher levels is being seen as a natural reaction, especially after intermittent rallies.

Going forward, investors are expected to remain cautious, tracking global cues, inflation trends, and central bank signals. Any stability in global conditions could support further upside, but near-term volatility is likely to persist.

Overall, the session reflects a balancing act—optimism from bargain buying on one side, and caution due to external risks on the other.

Zomato Raises Platform Fee to ₹14.9 Per Order, Adding to Delivery Costs



Food delivery giant Zomato has increased its platform fee per order to ₹14.9, up from the earlier ₹12.5, according to recent reports. The move is expected to slightly raise the overall cost of ordering food through the app for users across several cities.

The platform fee is a fixed charge applied to every order, separate from delivery charges, restaurant pricing, and taxes. While the increase may appear modest at first glance, it adds to the cumulative cost that customers pay per order—especially for frequent users.

This is not the first time Zomato has revised its fee structure. The company has been gradually increasing charges over time as part of efforts to improve profitability and offset rising operational costs. Factors such as fuel prices, delivery logistics, and investments in technology and customer experience have all contributed to the need for higher revenue per order.

The latest hike comes at a time when food delivery platforms are under pressure to balance growth with profitability. After years of offering discounts and absorbing costs to attract users, companies are now focusing on sustainable business models. Increasing platform fees is one way to achieve that without drastically altering menu prices or delivery charges.

For customers, however, the change means higher final bills. Even small increments in platform fees can make a noticeable difference over multiple orders. This has led to mixed reactions, with some users expressing concern over the steadily rising cost of convenience.

Industry experts believe such fee adjustments are part of a broader trend in the food delivery sector. As competition stabilizes and companies move away from aggressive discounting, users are likely to bear a larger share of the actual service cost.

At the same time, platforms like Zomato continue to expand their services and improve delivery efficiency, which they argue justifies the additional charges. Faster deliveries, better app features, and wider restaurant options are often cited as value additions for customers.

The fee hike also reflects changing consumer behavior. With food delivery becoming a regular habit for many urban users, platforms have more room to adjust pricing without significantly impacting demand.

In the long run, such changes could redefine how customers perceive food delivery—shifting it from a heavily subsidized service to a premium convenience.

While the increase may not drastically alter ordering habits immediately, it signals a clear direction: the era of ultra-cheap food delivery is gradually giving way to a more sustainable, cost-driven model.

Rupee at Record Low, RBI Likely to 'Wait and Watch' Instead of Aggressive Intervention

The Indian rupee's sharp fall to a lifetime low has put the spotlight on the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) strategy, with experts suggesting the central bank may now shift to a more cautious "wait-and-watch" approach rather than aggressively defending the currency.

The rupee recently slipped to around ₹93.49 per US dollar, marking its weakest level ever and one of the steepest single-day declines in recent months. This fall comes amid intense global pressures, particularly rising crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions in West Asia.

Why the Rupee Is Falling
Several factors are driving the currency's weakness:

- Surging crude oil prices: Brent crude has jumped sharply since the Iran-related conflict escalated, significantly increasing India's import bill.
- Global uncertainty: Ongoing geopolitical tensions have increased risk aversion among investors.
- Foreign investor outflows: Large-scale selling by foreign investors has added pressure on the rupee.

India, being a major oil importer, is particularly vulnerable to such shocks. Rising oil prices not only weaken the currency but



also increase inflation and widen the current account deficit.

RBI's Changing Strategy
Traditionally, the RBI intervenes in the foreign exchange market—selling dollars to support the rupee and prevent excessive volatility. In fact, reports suggest the central bank may have already sold \$3-4 billion in a single day recently to curb the fall.

However, experts believe the RBI may now allow a gradual depreciation rather than aggressively defending a specific level. The reason is simple: sustained intervention can drain foreign ex-

change reserves and may not be effective if underlying global factors remain adverse.

Instead, the RBI is likely to step in only to smooth volatility, not to stop the rupee's overall downward trend.

Why "Wait and Watch" Makes Sense

Economists argue that the RBI's approach reflects a balancing act:

- Defending the rupee vs controlling inflation: High oil prices push inflation up, limiting policy flexibility.

- Preserving forex reserves: Continuous intervention is costly and unsustainable.
- Letting fundamentals play out: Currency levels often adjust based on global economic conditions.

With crude prices staying elevated and geopolitical tensions ongoing, defending the rupee aggressively could prove ineffective.

What Lies Ahead
Market experts warn that if current conditions persist, the rupee could weaken further—possibly nearing ₹95 per dollar in the near term.

For investors and the broader economy, a weaker rupee means:

- Costlier imports, especially fuel
- Higher inflation
- Pressure on corporate earnings and markets

The Bottom Line

The RBI is not stepping back entirely—but it is becoming more selective. Instead of fighting the trend, the central bank appears ready to manage volatility while allowing the rupee to adjust gradually.

In a volatile global environment, this "wait-and-watch" stance may be less dramatic—but it could prove more sustainable.

IFSCA Tightens Oversight on Intermediaries in GIFT City Over Compliance Gaps

India's financial regulator for international markets, the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), has stepped up its scrutiny of capital market intermediaries operating in Gujarat's GIFT City, following instances of non-compliance.

The move comes as GIFT City continues to expand rapidly as a global financial hub, hosting over 200 fund management entities and hundreds of capital market intermediaries. With increasing participation from domestic and international players, the regulator is now focusing on ensuring that growth is matched by strong compliance standards.

Why IFSCA Is Increasing Oversight

IFSCA recently conducted inspections of several intermediaries operating within the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). These inspections reportedly uncovered lapses in regulatory compliance among certain entities. While the regulator did not disclose specific names, the findings were serious enough to prompt stricter monitoring.

The authority has reiterated its commitment to maintaining high regulatory standards "in letter and spirit" and ensuring a transparent and robust financial ecosystem.

This signals a clear message: as GIFT City scales up, compliance expectations will become more



stringent, not relaxed.

What This Means for Market Participants

Capital market intermediaries—including brokers, custodians, and other financial service providers—are now likely to face:

- Closer inspections and audits
- Stricter adherence to reporting and governance norms
- Greater accountability for operational lapses

Entities that fail to meet regulatory requirements could face penalties or restrictions, making compliance a top priority.

Balancing Growth With Regulation

Interestingly, the tighter oversight comes alongside efforts by IFSCA to make GIFT City more attractive for global investors. Recent reforms have aimed at simplifying processes, easing registration, and improving ease of doing business.

However, the latest action highlights that ease of doing business does not mean dilution of rules. Instead, the regulator is trying to strike a balance—encouraging growth while ensuring that the ecosystem remains credible and globally competitive.

A Maturing Financial Hub

GIFT City has positioned itself as India's gateway for offshore financial services, attracting banks, asset managers, and global

institutions. As the ecosystem matures, regulatory vigilance becomes critical to maintaining investor confidence.

The increased oversight reflects this transition—from a growing financial centre to a more mature and tightly regulated one.

The Bottom Line

IFSCA's move is a clear signal that compliance will be non-negotiable in GIFT City. While the financial hub continues to expand and attract global players, the regulator is ensuring that governance standards keep pace with growth.

For intermediaries, the message is simple: scale brings opportunity—but also stricter scrutiny.

Metal Stocks Shine: JSW Steel Leads Rally, Tata Steel Gains on HSBC Upgrade



Metal stocks staged a strong comeback in the market, with the Nifty Metal index rising around 2% and snapping a two-day losing streak. The rally was largely driven by buying interest in steel companies, with JSW Steel emerging as the top gainer on the Nifty.

Shares of JSW Steel climbed over 4%, leading the sectoral surge and reflecting renewed investor confidence in the metals space. Other steel majors also joined the rally, signaling a broader recovery after recent declines.

Among them, Tata Steel posted notable gains, rising around 4-5% during the session. The stock received a boost after global brokerage HSBC raised its price target and reiterated a "buy" rating. The revised target of ₹250 indicates optimism about the company's growth prospects and improving sector fundamentals.

What Drove the Rally?

Several factors contributed to the strong perfor-

mance of metal stocks:

- Brokerage optimism: HSBC's upgrade on Tata Steel reinforced confidence in the sector.
- Rising steel prices: Domestic steel prices have surged in recent months, supported by policy measures like safeguard duties on imports.
- Improving margins: Falling input costs, such as coking coal, are expected to boost profitability for steel producers.

These factors together have created a favorable environment for metal companies, attracting fresh buying interest from investors.

Broader Market Support

The rally in metal stocks also aligned with a positive trend in the broader market. Alongside IT and pharma, the metal sector was among the key contributors to the day's gains, helping

benchmark indices close higher.

Stocks like JSW Steel and Tata Steel were among the top performers on the Nifty, indicating strong sectoral participation in the day's uptrend.

Outlook for the Sector

Market experts believe the outlook for metal stocks remains positive in the near term, supported by rising demand, favorable pricing trends, and policy support. However, they also caution that gains may be gradual, as global uncertainties and valuation concerns could limit sharp upside moves.

The Bottom Line

The latest rally highlights renewed momentum in the metal space, with JSW Steel leading the charge and Tata Steel benefiting from strong brokerage backing. As steel prices remain firm and margins improve, the sector could continue to attract investor interest—making it one to watch in the coming sessions.

Viral Lookalike Clears the Air: "I'm Not Epstein, I'm Just Palm Beach Pete"



A Florida man who recently became an internet sensation due to his uncanny resemblance to disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein has finally spoken out, putting an end to widespread online speculation. Known on social media as "Palm Beach Pete," the man found himself at the center of a viral storm after a short video of him driving went viral, with many users claiming Epstein was still alive.

The clip, reportedly filmed on a highway, showed Pete casually driving a convertible while wearing a backward baseball cap. The person recording the video repeatedly suggested that Epstein had been spotted alive, fueling conspiracy theories and sparking millions of views across platforms. The resemblance was striking enough that many viewers were convinced the controversial figure had somehow resurfaced.

However, Pete has firmly denied these claims. In a response video shared online, he introduced himself and addressed the rumors directly, stating clearly that he is not Epstein. He explained that he had no idea he was being filmed at the time and only realized what had happened hours later when his phone was flooded with notifications.

According to him, the sudden at-

tention was overwhelming. What started as a random moment on the road quickly turned into a viral phenomenon, drastically changing his daily life. He revealed that strangers now recognize him in public, often approaching him for photos or questioning his identity.

Pete described the experience as surreal, noting how quickly misinformation can spread online. He expressed surprise at how easily people believed the claims, despite there being no factual basis behind them. The incident highlights the power of social media in amplifying rumors and the speed at which false narratives can gain traction.

The confusion largely stems from Epstein's notoriety and the lingering public fascination surrounding his life and death. Epstein, who died in 2019 while awaiting trial on serious criminal charges, continues to be the subject of numerous conspiracy theories.

In the end, Pete's message is simple: he is just an ordinary individual who happens to resemble a well-known figure. While the internet may have briefly turned him into a viral mystery, he hopes his clarification will finally put the rumors to rest.

"One Month, Endless Chaos": Why March 2026 Feels Like an Entire Year Online



March 2026 has taken over social media conversations, with many users joking that the single month feels as long and eventful as an entire year. From global tensions to academic stress and cultural moments, the sheer volume and pace of events have left people both overwhelmed and amused.

Across platforms, users have been sharing memes and posts highlighting how packed the month has been. Many point out that major developments—ranging from geopolitical conflicts to exam season pressures—have all collided within a short span of time. The combination has created a sense that time is moving unusually fast, while also feeling stretched due to the intensity of daily updates.

One of the biggest contributors to this feeling is the ongoing global uncertainty. News related to international conflicts has dominated headlines, keeping people constantly engaged with serious developments. At the same time, students in many regions are dealing with crucial exams, adding personal stress to an already heavy news cycle.

Social media has amplified this perception. With constant notifications, trending topics, and viral discussions, users are exposed to a nonstop stream

of information. What might have once felt like events spread over several months are now being consumed within days or even hours. This rapid flow of content has made March feel unusually dense and emotionally exhausting for many.

Memes have played a major role in shaping the narrative. Users are humorously comparing March 2026 to a "full year," sharing posts that list everything that has happened so far in the month. Others joke about feeling mentally drained, as if they've already lived through several phases of a year in just a few weeks.

The phenomenon also reflects a broader trend of how people experience time in the digital age. With information constantly at their fingertips, individuals are more aware of global and local events than ever before. This heightened awareness can make periods of intense activity feel longer and more significant.

Ultimately, the online reaction to March 2026 highlights how perception of time is influenced not just by the calendar, but by the volume and impact of events. While the month may only have 31 days, for many on the internet, it already feels like they've lived through much more.

Lost at Birth, Found After 28 Years: Woman Reunites With Biological Family

In a deeply emotional story of separation and reunion, a Chinese woman raised in the Netherlands has finally met her biological parents after nearly three decades. Her journey, marked by loss, uncertainty, and hope, highlights the power of persistence and modern technology in reconnecting families.

The woman, identified as Hong Yangli, was abandoned shortly after birth under tragic circumstances. According to reports, her grandfather, influenced by a preference for a male heir, took the newborn away from her mother under the pretense of caring for her. Instead, he left the infant in a public place in a nearby village, an act that would separate mother and daughter for 28 long years.

Just two days old, the baby was discovered crying by a passerby and taken to a welfare home. She was left with a small amount of money, milk powder, and a note containing her date of birth—clues that would later become crucial in uncovering her identity. Soon after, she was adopted by a Dutch couple and



grew up in the Netherlands, far removed from her origins in China.

Despite having a stable upbringing, questions about her roots remained. As she grew older, the desire to understand her past and find her biological family became stronger. In December 2024, she took a significant step by submitting her DNA to a Chinese database designed to help locate mis-

ing children and reconnect families.

The decision proved life-changing. The DNA match eventually led authorities to her biological parents, who had spent years wondering about the fate of their daughter. Her mother revealed that the day her child was taken away was the last time she saw her, carrying the pain of that loss for decades.

The reunion, when it

finally happened, was filled with overwhelming emotions. After 28 years of separation, mother and daughter were able to meet face-to-face, bridging a gap created by circumstances beyond their control. The moment symbolized closure, healing, and a second chance at building a relationship.

This story sheds light on the lasting impact of cultural pressures and

the consequences of gender bias, while also offering a message of hope. Advances in DNA technology are increasingly helping people uncover long-lost connections, turning what once seemed impossible into reality.

For Hong, the reunion marks not just the end of a long search, but the beginning of a new chapter—one that reconnects her with her past while shaping her future.

"Find Me a Flat, Get Paid": Frustrated Bengaluru Tenant's Unique Offer Goes Viral

A frustrated house-hunter in Bengaluru has caught the internet's attention after making an unusual offer—promising to pay half a month's rent to anyone who helps them find a suitable home. The post, shared on social media, reflects the growing challenges of finding affordable housing in the city's competitive rental market.

The tenant, struggling to secure a 3BHK apartment, took to Reddit with a straightforward yet striking proposal. They offered a financial reward to literally anyone who could connect them with a suitable property, saying they were "super frustrated" after an exhausting search. The requirement was specific: a good 2.5 or 3BHK flat in prime areas such as Koramangala or HSR Layout.

The budget mentioned in the post ranged between ₹45,000 and ₹48,000 per month. However, even with this relatively high budget, the user found it



extremely difficult to find a suitable option in preferred locations. The post quickly gained traction, with many users reacting to both the desperation and creativity behind the offer.

Social media users responded with a mix of sympathy and realism. While some shared potential leads and tried to

help, many pointed out that finding a 3BHK within that budget in these areas is increasingly rare. The discussion highlighted how rising rents and high demand have made house-hunting in Bengaluru a stressful experience for many residents.

The viral post also sparked a broader conversation about the city's

rental crisis. Over the past few years, Bengaluru has seen a sharp rise in housing costs, especially in tech-centric neighborhoods. Many tenants have complained about inflated rents, unusual conditions set by landlords, and limited availability of spacious homes.

This is not an isolated case. Similar viral posts

in the past have shown how renters are often forced to stretch their budgets or compromise on location and amenities. The increasing demand for larger homes, particularly 3BHK apartments, has further pushed prices upward, making them inaccessible for many middle-income tenants.

The tenant's offer, though unconventional, reflects a deeper issue—how difficult it has become to secure a decent home even with a substantial budget. It also shows how social media is increasingly being used as a tool for problem-solving, where users turn to the internet for help beyond traditional brokers and listings.

In the end, the post is both a humorous and telling snapshot of urban life in Bengaluru—where finding the right home can feel like winning a jackpot, and sometimes, even that requires a reward.

"You're Underselling Your City": Mumbaikar Praises Delhi After 14 Years

A lifelong resident of Mumbai has gone viral online after sharing an unexpectedly positive experience of visiting Delhi, saying the capital is far better than people often claim. His remarks have sparked fresh debate in the long-standing rivalry between the two cities.

In a widely shared Reddit post, the traveller revealed that he had visited Delhi after a gap of 14 years and was "humbled" by how much the city had improved. What stood out most to him was the overall infrastructure, which he described as more advanced and well-planned than he had anticipated.

One of the biggest highlights of his visit was the city's metro system. He praised its scale, efficiency, and connectivity, noting that it made commuting significantly easier compared to what he was used to. The metro, in particular, left a strong impression, contributing to his changed perception of the capital.

The visitor also pointed out that Delhi felt cleaner



than expected. While the city often faces criticism for pollution and congestion, he said his personal experience was quite different. He noticed better-maintained public spaces and an overall sense of order that challenged his

earlier assumptions.

Another aspect that surprised him was the weather. Compared to Mumbai's humid climate, Delhi's conditions felt more pleasant during his visit. This added to his overall positive impression and made

his stay more enjoyable.

He also observed differences in how the two cities are structured. According to him, Delhi has a clearer separation between different types of neighborhoods, whereas Mumbai tends to have a more

mixed urban layout. This distinction gave Delhi a more organized feel in his view.

His post quickly gained traction, with many social media users agreeing that Delhi is often unfairly criticized. Others, however, pointed out that experiences can vary depending on the area and time of visit, and that both cities have their own strengths and challenges.

The viral reaction reflects how deeply people identify with their cities, especially when it comes to Mumbai and Delhi—two of India's most iconic urban centers. While Mumbai is known for its fast-paced life and financial importance, Delhi is often associated with its history, political significance, and expanding infrastructure.

In the end, the traveller's message was simple but impactful: sometimes, cities are judged more by reputation than reality. And in his experience, Delhi turned out to be far more impressive than he had imagined.

BCCI Shortlists Core Group for 2027 ODI World Cup: Big Names in Early Plans

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has reportedly already begun serious groundwork for the 2027 ODI World Cup, with selectors identifying a preliminary pool of players well in advance. According to reports, around 20 probable players have been shortlisted, marking an early step toward building a strong and balanced squad for the marquee tournament.

This move highlights how determined Indian cricket authorities are to avoid past mistakes and ensure thorough preparation. After falling short in the 2023 ODI World Cup final, the focus has clearly shifted toward long-term planning, with the next edition seen as a major opportunity to reclaim the title.

The shortlisted group is expected to include a mix of experienced stars and emerging talents. Senior players like Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are still part of discussions, especially given their continued involvement in the ODI format. However, with both players nearing the latter stages of their careers, the selectors are also closely monitoring younger options who could take on bigger roles in the future.

Reports suggest that performances in upcoming tournaments, especially the IPL 2026 season, will play a crucial role in shaping the final squad. The BCCI and selection committee are expected to track players' form, fitness, and adaptability to



different conditions before narrowing down the list further.

Team management is also believed to be working in alignment with this long-term vision. With the 2027 World Cup set to be held in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Namibia, conditions are expected to be challenging, particularly for subcontinent teams. This makes it essential to identify players who can perform well on bouncy pitches and in unfamiliar environments.

Another key aspect of the plan is increasing India's exposure to ODI cricket. With fewer 50-over

matches being played in recent years due to the rise of T20 leagues, the BCCI is reportedly looking to schedule more ODIs. This will help players gain match practice and build consistency in the format ahead of the global event.

The early identification of probables also allows for better role clarity within the squad. Players can be groomed for specific responsibilities, whether as top-order anchors, middle-order finishers, all-rounders, or specialist bowlers. Such clarity is expected to help the team build

a more cohesive unit by the time the tournament arrives.

Overall, the reported move reflects a proactive and structured approach by the BCCI. Instead of last-minute selections, the board appears focused on creating a well-prepared squad with depth, flexibility, and experience.

While the final team is still far from being decided, the message is clear—India has already begun its mission for the 2027 ODI World Cup, with a roadmap aimed at turning potential into success on the biggest stage.

“Shaadi Ke Agle Din?” Arjun Tendulkar’s Dedication Leaves Rishabh Pant Stunned Ahead of IPL 2026



Young all-rounder Arjun Tendulkar has grabbed attention ahead of IPL 2026—not just for his skills, but for his remarkable commitment to the game, even immediately after his wedding.

During a training session with the Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), captain Rishabh Pant was left surprised when he learned about Arjun's dedication. The youngster revealed that he had resumed cricket-related preparations just a day after his wedding, leaving Pant

amused and impressed.

Pant's reaction—“Shaadi ke agle din hi?”—quickly went viral, capturing the light-hearted yet inspiring moment. His response reflected disbelief at Arjun's enthusiasm, as most players would typically take time off after such a major personal event. Instead, Arjun chose to jump straight back into training and preparation for the upcoming season.

This incident has come at a crucial stage in Arjun's career. After limited opportunities

with Mumbai Indians over several seasons, he has now joined LSG, looking for a fresh start and more consistent game time. The move is seen as a significant opportunity for him to prove himself at the highest level of franchise cricket.

What stood out during the training camp was not just his work ethic but also his eagerness to improve. Reports suggest that Arjun has been actively working on his game, including training sessions and guidance from experienced

players and mentors. His willingness to stay focused despite personal commitments highlights his determination to succeed.

Pant, who leads LSG, has already shown support for the youngster. Their interaction during the camp reflected a positive team environment, where senior players are encouraging and guiding emerging talents. Such backing could play a key role in helping Arjun settle into the team and perform under pressure.

Arjun, the son of legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, has often been under the spotlight due to expectations surrounding his surname. However, moments like these show that he is keen on building his own identity through hard work and discipline.

As IPL 2026 approaches, this episode serves as a reminder that success in professional cricket often comes down to commitment and mindset. For Arjun, showing up to train just a day after his wedding sends a strong message about his priorities and ambition.

With a new team, renewed focus, and visible dedication, Arjun Tendulkar will be aiming to make a meaningful impact this season—and if his early efforts are anything to go by, he is determined to make the most of the opportunity.

“He Doesn’t Need to Be Dhoni”: Gautam Gambhir’s Strong Message on Sanju Samson



A resurfaced conversation involving Gautam Gambhir, Shashi Tharoor, and Sanju Samson has once again sparked debate in the cricketing world—this time about comparisons with legends like MS Dhoni.

The discussion dates back to a remark by Tharoor, who recalled meeting a young Sanju Samson when he was just 14 years old. Impressed by his talent even at that early stage, Tharoor had predicted that Samson could one day become the “next MS Dhoni.” It was a statement rooted in admiration, reflecting the expectations placed on promising young cricketers in India.

However, Gambhir had a very different perspective. Responding to Tharoor's comment, he made it clear that Samson did not need to follow in anyone's footsteps. Instead, Gambhir emphasized that Samson should carve out his own identity, famously stating that he would be the “one and only Sanju Samson.”

This viewpoint has gained renewed relevance following Samson's remarkable performances in recent international tournaments. His standout showing in the 2026 T20 World Cup, where he emerged as one of India's key players, has reinforced the idea that he is no longer a prospect living under comparisons, but a star in his own right.

Gambhir's stance also highlights a broader issue in Indian cricket—the tendency to compare every talented wicketkeeper-batter with Dhoni. While

Dhoni's legacy as one of India's greatest captains and finishers remains unmatched, such comparisons can sometimes place unnecessary pressure on emerging players.

For Samson, the journey has not been straightforward. Despite his evident talent, he has faced inconsistent opportunities at the international level. Yet, his recent performances have showcased maturity, composure, and the ability to deliver in high-pressure situations—qualities often associated with Dhoni, but now increasingly recognized as Samson's own strengths.

Tharoor himself later acknowledged Gambhir's point, noting how Samson's growth has validated the belief that he did not need to be “the next Dhoni” to succeed. Instead, he has built his reputation through his unique style of batting and match-winning contributions.

The conversation ultimately reflects a shift in how Indian cricket views its next generation. Rather than searching for replacements for iconic figures, there is a growing recognition of individuality. Players like Samson are now being appreciated for their own skills and impact, rather than being measured against past legends.

In the end, Gambhir's message stands out as both simple and significant: greatness in cricket is not about imitation, but about identity. And for Sanju Samson, that identity is finally taking center stage.

“Doesn’t Even Deserve a Place”: Pakistan Great Slams Shaheen Afridi After Poor Form



Pakistan's premier fast bowler Shaheen Afridi has come under intense criticism after a former captain delivered a blunt and controversial verdict on his recent performances. The remarks have sparked debate over Afridi's place in the national team.

Former Pakistan skipper Rashid Latif did not hold back in his assessment, stating that Afridi “shouldn't even be in the T20I playing XI” given his current form. The strong statement comes after a series of disappointing outings for the left-arm pacer, particularly in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026.

Afridi, once considered the backbone of Pakistan's bowling attack, struggled to make an impact during the tournament. His performances lacked consistency, and his economy rate came under scrutiny as Pakistan failed to reach the semi-finals. The team's early exit added to the pressure on senior players, with Afridi becoming one of the main targets of criticism.

Latif also questioned the growing discussions around Afridi's leadership role. After the World Cup setback, there were suggestions that Afridi could be considered for the T20I captaincy. However, Latif dismissed the idea outright, arguing that a player struggling for form should not even be in the starting XI, let alone lead the side.

His remarks reflect a broader concern about Pakistan cricket's recent performances. The team has faced set-

backs not only in global tournaments but also in bilateral series, including a disappointing ODI series loss to Bangladesh. These results have intensified scrutiny on both players and team management.

Afridi's decline has been a talking point for some time. After peaking as one of the most feared fast bowlers in world cricket, injuries and inconsistent performances appear to have affected his rhythm. Experts have pointed out issues such as reduced pace, lack of accuracy, and ineffective death bowling.

Despite the criticism, Afridi remains one of Pakistan's most experienced and high-profile players. His past performances, especially in major tournaments, have established him as a match-winner. However, the current phase of his career has raised questions about whether he can regain his top form.

The debate also highlights a larger issue in Pakistan cricket—the balance between backing experienced players and giving opportunities to younger talent. With increasing competition for places, underperforming players are facing greater pressure than ever before.

Latif's “bombshell” statement may be harsh, but it underscores the urgency for Afridi to rediscover his form. For now, the spotlight remains firmly on him, with fans and experts closely watching how he responds to one of the toughest phases of his career.

“We Have a Schedule”: FIFA Chief Sends Firm Message to Iran Amid World Cup Uncertainty

Amid growing uncertainty over Iran's participation in the 2026 FIFA World Cup, FIFA President Gianni Infantino has delivered a clear and firm message—the tournament will go ahead as planned, with no changes to the schedule.

Speaking after a FIFA Council meeting, Infantino emphasized that the global football body is committed to sticking to the original fixtures. His statement came at a time when Iran had raised concerns about playing matches in the United States due to escalating geopolitical tensions.

“We have a schedule... we want the World Cup to go ahead as scheduled,” Infantino said, underlining FIFA's stance on maintaining stability despite the surrounding controversy.

Iran had reportedly sought to move its group-stage matches from the United States to Mexico, citing security concerns following military tensions involving the US and Israel. However, FIFA rejected the request, making it clear that no adjustments would be made to the already announced match venues.



The Iranian team is currently scheduled to play its group matches in cities like Los Angeles and Seattle as part of the tournament, which will be co-hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Despite political pressure and uncertainty, FIFA has reiterated that all teams are expected to participate under the agreed framework.

Infantino also addressed the

broader context, acknowledging the ongoing conflicts but stressing that football cannot resolve geopolitical disputes. He highlighted FIFA's role as a unifying force, stating that the sport should help “build bridges and promote peace” rather than become entangled in political disagreements.

The situation has become increasingly complex, with mixed signals emerging from Iran.

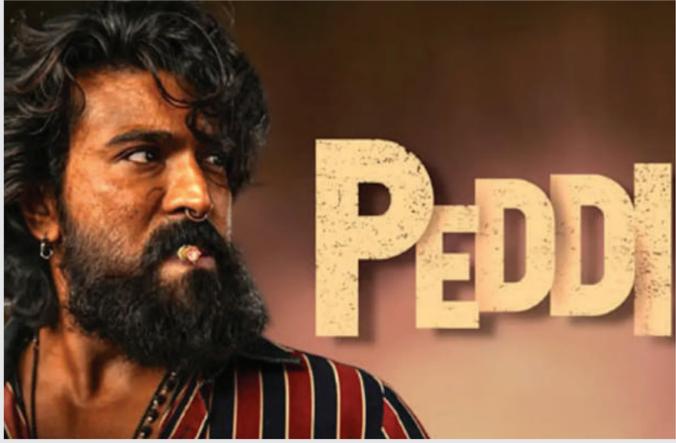
While some officials have questioned participation due to safety concerns, others have indicated a willingness to compete, provided certain conditions are met. This has added to the uncertainty surrounding the team's involvement in the tournament.

Despite these challenges, FIFA has maintained a consistent position—ensuring that the World Cup proceeds without disruption. Infantino's remarks make it clear that the organization is prioritizing continuity and global unity over political complications.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup, set to be the first edition featuring 48 teams, is one of the most anticipated sporting events in history. With preparations already underway across host nations, any major changes would have significant logistical and financial implications.

In the end, Infantino's message sends a strong signal not just to Iran, but to all participating nations: the World Cup will move forward as planned, and football must remain a platform for unity—even in times of global conflict.

Ram Charan's 'Peddi' Faces Fresh Delay Buzz, Fans Await Official Clarity



Speculation is once again swirling around the release of Ram Charan's much-awaited film Peddi, with reports suggesting that the movie may face another postponement. However, there is still no official confirmation from the makers, leaving fans in a state of uncertainty.

Originally planned for release on March 27, 2026, the film was earlier pushed to April 30, 2026 due to pending shooting work and production delays. This initial postponement had already disappointed fans who were expecting the film to coincide with Ram Charan's birthday.

Now, fresh rumours indicate that Peddi might not make the April 30 release date either. Industry buzz suggests that some portions of the shoot and post-production work are still incomplete, prompting discussions about a possible further delay.

Some reports even hint that the film could be pushed to June 2026, although this has not been officially announced yet. The makers are reportedly prioritising quality and are unwilling to rush the film to meet a deadline.

At the same time, there are conflicting reports that the film is still on track. Sources close to the production claim that most of the shooting has already been completed, with only a few

portions—such as a special song and select sequences—remaining. This has created mixed signals, adding to the confusion among fans.

The uncertainty has led to growing curiosity on social media, with fans demanding clarity from the team. Given the high expectations surrounding the film, any delay is being closely watched.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi is a rural sports drama featuring Ram Charan in a rugged new avatar. The film also stars Janhvi Kapoor as the female lead, along with a strong supporting cast that includes Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and Boman Irani. Music for the film is composed by A. R. Rahman, further adding to the anticipation.

Despite the delay rumours, the buzz around the film remains strong, with songs and promotional content already receiving positive responses.

For now, the situation remains unclear. While speculation about another postponement continues to grow, fans are eagerly waiting for an official announcement from the makers to confirm the final release date.

Until then, Peddi remains one of the most talked-about upcoming films, with its release plans still hanging in the balance.

Abbas Returns to Films After 11 Years with 'Happieraj'



Telugu actor Aadi Sai Kumar is set to expand his career by making his debut in Tamil cinema with his upcoming film Ego Raja. This project marks a significant milestone for the actor, as it will be his first straight Tamil film. Interestingly, the movie is being made as a bilingual in both Telugu and Tamil, allowing it to reach a broader audience across the South Indian film industry.

The film is being produced by G. Suresh under the SGS Productions banner and directed by Guru Saravanan. The director, who has previously worked with well-known filmmakers, is aiming to deliver a strong commercial entertainer with this project. Ego Raja is expected to showcase a mix of action, drama, and mass appeal elements that cater to fans of mainstream cinema.

The makers officially announced the film on the occasion of Ugadi by unveiling its title and releasing the first-look poster. The poster has already generated considerable buzz among fans and movie enthusiasts. In the first look, Aadi Sai Kumar appears in a rugged and intense avatar. He is seen surrounded by rowdies, with injuries and blood marks visible on his body, while holding a cigar.

rette. His fierce expression and aggressive body language hint at a powerful, action-packed storyline.

Tamil actor Sathish plays a key role in the film alongside Aadi Sai Kumar, adding further interest to the project. The film also features a strong technical team. Cinematographer Manoj Paramahansa is handling the visuals, promising high-quality cinematography, while music composer Ghibran is in charge of the soundtrack, which is expected to enhance the film's overall impact.

Following the success of his recent film Shambhala, Aadi Sai Kumar appears to be on a positive trajectory in his career. With Ego Raja, he is not only experimenting with a new style of storytelling but also entering a new industry, which could significantly expand his reach and popularity.

The film is currently under production, and shooting is progressing steadily. The makers are expected to announce more details, including the release date, in the near future. With its strong cast, experienced crew, and action-driven narrative, Ego Raja is shaping up to be an exciting and important project in Aadi Sai Kumar's career.

Chiranjeevi Plans Nationwide Free Education Drive Inspired by Suriya

Megastar Chiranjeevi has announced an ambitious new social initiative aimed at providing free education to underprivileged students, drawing inspiration from Suriya. The move has received widespread appreciation, highlighting his continued commitment to social welfare beyond cinema.

The initiative was revealed during a special Ugadi event, where Chiranjeevi spoke about expanding his philanthropic efforts into the education sector. Having spent over two decades focusing on healthcare initiatives through his charitable trust—including blood and eye banks—he now plans to address the challenges faced by economically weaker students in accessing quality education.

Chiranjeevi acknowledged that his decision was influenced by Suriya's educational initiatives, which have helped thousands of students pursue studies and build better futures. Interestingly, he noted that while Suriya was once inspired by his own social service efforts, he is now drawing inspiration in return to launch this educational mission.

The actor emphasized that his goal extends beyond the Telugu states. He aims to take this



initiative nationwide, ensuring that deserving students across India are not deprived of opportunities due to financial constraints.

While detailed plans regarding the structure and execution are yet to be officially announced, Chiranjeevi assured that a comprehensive roadmap is currently being prepared. The program is expected to focus on enabling access to education, possibly through finan-

cial support, institutional partnerships, or direct assistance to students in need.

This initiative adds another chapter to Chiranjeevi's long-standing legacy of humanitarian work. Over the years, his charitable efforts have played a significant role during medical emergencies and crises, earning him immense respect among fans and the public.

The announcement has been widely welcomed, with many

viewing it as a meaningful step toward reducing educational inequality. By leveraging his influence and resources, Chiranjeevi's initiative has the potential to positively impact thousands of lives across the country.

With this move, Chiranjeevi once again reinforces his image not just as a superstar, but as a socially responsible figure dedicated to bringing about real change.

Aadi Sai Kumar Makes Tamil Debut with Action Entertainer Ego Raja

Telugu actor Aadi Sai Kumar is set to expand his career by making his debut in Tamil cinema with his upcoming film Ego Raja. This project marks a significant milestone for the actor, as it will be his first straight Tamil film. Interestingly, the movie is being made as a bilingual in both Telugu and Tamil, allowing it to reach a broader audience across the South Indian film industry.

The film is being produced by G. Suresh under the SGS Productions banner and directed by Guru Saravanan. The director, who has previously worked with well-known filmmakers, is aiming to deliver a strong commercial entertainer with this project. Ego Raja is expected to showcase a mix of action, drama, and mass appeal elements that cater to fans of mainstream cinema.

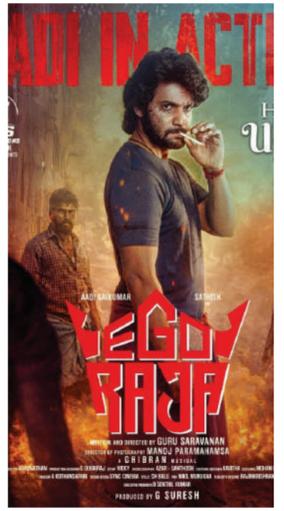
The makers officially announced the film on the occasion of Ugadi by unveiling its title and releasing the first-look poster. The poster has already generated considerable buzz among fans and movie enthusiasts. In the first look, Aadi Sai Kumar appears in a rugged and intense avatar. He is seen surrounded by rowdies, with injuries and blood marks visible on his body, while holding a cigarette. His fierce expression and aggressive body language hint at a powerful, action-packed storyline.

Tamil actor Sathish plays a key role in the film alongside Aadi Sai Kumar, adding further interest to the project. The film also features a strong technical team. Cinematographer Manoj Paramahansa is handling the visuals, promising high-quality cinematography,

while music composer Ghibran is in charge of the soundtrack, which is expected to enhance the film's overall impact.

Following the success of his recent film Shambhala, Aadi Sai Kumar appears to be on a positive trajectory in his career. With Ego Raja, he is not only experimenting with a new style of storytelling but also entering a new industry, which could significantly expand his reach and popularity.

The film is currently under production, and shooting is progressing steadily. The makers are expected to announce more details, including the release date, in the near future. With its strong cast, experienced crew, and action-driven narrative, Ego Raja is shaping up to be an exciting and important project in Aadi Sai Kumar's career.



"Dhurandhar: The Revenge" Wins Big Applause from Film Fraternity



Dhurandhar: The Revenge has emerged as one of the most talked-about releases of the year, receiving massive appreciation from both audiences and celebrities soon after its debut. The spy action thriller, directed by Aditya Dhar, began with paid previews on March 18 and hit theatres on March 19, quickly creating a strong buzz across the industry.

Several prominent stars from Bollywood and the South film industries watched the film early and took to social media to express their admiration. Among them, Jr NTR described the film as a "storm" that has arrived for Indian audiences. He particularly praised R. Madhavan, noting that the actor dominated every frame with his powerful screen presence. NTR also appreciated the performances of Sanjay Dutt, Arjun Rampal, and Akshaye Khanna, highlighting their impactful contributions to the film.

Joining the chorus of praise, Mahesh Babu called the film an "explosive cinematic experience executed with precision." He lauded Ranveer Singh for

delivering one of his finest performances and commended Aditya Dhar's vision in crafting a film of such scale and intensity. Mahesh Babu also singled out R. Madhavan's role as a standout and appreciated the background score by Shashwat Sachdev, stating that the film is best experienced on the big screen.

Filmmaker Ram Gopal Varma offered his own unique take, describing the film as a "horror for filmmakers." His remark suggested that the film sets such a high benchmark in storytelling and execution that it could intimidate others in the industry.

With strong word-of-mouth and glowing endorsements from top names, Dhurandhar: The Revenge has not only made a mark at the box office but also earned the respect of the film fraternity. The overwhelming response indicates that the film has struck the right chord, combining scale, performances, and storytelling into a cinematic experience that continues to resonate with audiences and critics alike.

Vijay Sethupathi, Sai Pallavi to Share Screen for First Time in Mani Ratnam's 'Onava'



In an exciting development for South Indian cinema, Vijay Sethupathi and Sai Pallavi are set to team up for the first time in an upcoming film directed by legendary filmmaker Mani Ratnam. The project, tentatively titled Onava, has already created significant buzz among fans and industry circles.

This collaboration is particularly special as it marks Sai Pallavi's first-ever association with Mani Ratnam. At the same time, it will also be the first on-screen pairing of Vijay Sethupathi and Sai Pallavi, making the film a fresh and highly anticipated combination.

For Vijay Sethupathi, the film will be a reunion with Mani Ratnam after their earlier collaboration in Chekka Chivantha Vaanam. However, this new project is expected to be very different in tone and storytelling, raising curiosity about what the filmmaker has planned this time.

The film is expected to be produced jointly by Mani Ratnam's Madras Talkies and Lyca Productions, continuing their association after previous successful

ventures. Adding to the excitement, Oscar-winning composer A. R. Rahman is likely to be part of the project, which further elevates expectations.

While the makers have not officially revealed the storyline, industry buzz suggests that the film could be a romantic or emotional drama, a genre Mani Ratnam is well known for. The combination of Vijay Sethupathi's versatility and Sai Pallavi's natural screen presence is expected to bring strong emotional depth to the narrative.

The announcement has already generated excitement among fans, as both actors are known for their powerful performances and unique script choices. Their pairing, under the direction of Mani Ratnam, is being seen as one of the most promising collaborations in recent times.

With shooting expected to begin soon, Onava is shaping up to be a major project to watch out for. If the early buzz holds true, this fresh pairing and experienced direction could deliver a memorable cinematic experience.