

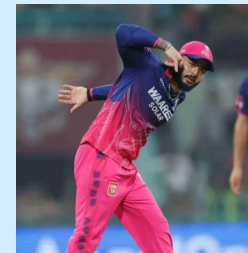


BUZZ POINTS



Rajnath Singh's "Dot, Dot, Dot"
Warning to Pakistan on Pahalgam Attack Anniversary

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Royals Outplay Super Giants

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CM Revanth Reddy Calls for Collective Action on Earth Day

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HC Relief to KCR, Harish in Kaleshwaram Case

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana High Court has granted relief to former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and former Irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao in connection with the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission report on the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. The High Court ruled that no action shall be taken against the petitioners based on the findings of the commission. While upholding the legality of the commission's constitution, the court observed that it was neither arbitrary nor illegal. The commission had been constituted under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, through a government order issued in March 2024. However, the division bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin made it clear that the observations made in the commission's report would remain



inoperative. The court noted that certain findings were prejudicial to the conduct and reputation of the petitioners and were issued in violation of the principles of natural justice, as well as statutory safeguards under Section 8B of the Act. The judgment came in response to a batch of writ petitions filed by K. Chandrashekar Rao, T. Harish Rao,



former Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi (Retd.), and senior IAS officer Smita Sabharwal. They had challenged both the constitution of the commission and its report, which examined alleged irregularities in the execution of the Kaleshwaram project. By declaring the commission's observations inoperative, the court effectively barred any immediate action

based on its findings. At the same time, it reaffirmed the validity of the commission itself, creating a nuanced legal position in the ongoing dispute surrounding the multi-crore irrigation project. The ruling is expected to have significant political and administrative implications, as the matter continues to remain under legal and public scrutiny.



HC Verdict Exposes 'Conspiracy', Says KTR

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Wednesday hailed the Telangana High Court's verdict on the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission report, stating that it has "slapped down" those who allegedly carried out a smear campaign against former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. Addressing the media at Telangana Bhavan, KTR said the court's ruling made it clear that it was not the Kaleshwaram project that had collapsed, but rather the "political conspiracy" of the Congress government. He claimed the verdict reaffirmed the credibility of the project and the efforts of engineers and officials involved in its execution. "The real victory today is of the people of Telangana, farmers, and all those who contributed to the project," he said, alleging that the Congress government had been indulging in misinformation over the past three years.

KTR credited K. Chandrashekar Rao for bringing Godavari waters to Telangana, stating that his contribution would remain etched in history. He emphasized that the Kaleshwaram project is not limited to a single barrage but comprises multiple key structures that play a vital role in irrigation. He also expressed anger over what he described as exaggerated cost projections, stating that while the project cost around Rs 94,000 crore, it was falsely portrayed as exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore. Further, KTR alleged that structural issues like the Medigadda barrage damage were a result of conspiracies, questioning the role of authorities in preventing such incidents. The High Court's verdict, he added, has brought clarity to the issue and strengthened the party's stance on the project's importance to Telangana.

Minister Urges RTC Staff to Withdraw Strike

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Ponnam Prabhakar, Minister for Transport and BC Welfare, has appealed to RTC employees to call off their ongoing strike, emphasizing the need to safeguard public interest and the future of the transport corporation. In a statement issued on Wednesday, the minister said that strikes are not a solution and assured workers that the government is committed to resolving their concerns. He informed that a four-member committee of senior officials has been constituted to examine the issues raised by employees and has been directed to submit its report within four weeks. Clarifying doubts, he



put forward by RTC workers, the government has already agreed to 29 issues, which can be resolved immediately. The remaining two key demands—RTC merger and recognition of unions—require examination of technical aspects. He added that these matters will also be discussed with the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister. Despite delays in the merger process, salaries are being credited regularly, he noted. Highlighting steps taken by the government, Prabhakar said pending dues such as the 2017 PRC, DA arrears, and 2013 bonds have been cleared. PF dues have been reduced from Rs 1,205 crore to Rs

600 crore, while CCS dues were brought down from Rs 690 crore to Rs 300 crore. The government is also paying Rs 75 crore monthly towards these liabilities. He further stated that recruitment for 4,538 posts is nearing completion and 1,134 compassionate appointments have been initiated. Around 250 previously removed employees have also been reinstated. Stressing that RTC is a lifeline for nearly 65 lakh daily passengers, including 45 lakh women, the minister urged workers to resume duties while continuing democratic protests without disrupting public services.

17.4 Cr Drugs Seized in Hyderabad Raid

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

In a major crackdown on illegal drug manufacturing, officials of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) conducted a surprise raid at a chemical unit in Moula Ali on Wednesday, uncovering a large cache of banned substances and raw materials used in drug production. During the operation, authorities seized 69.6 kilograms of controlled substances, including Alprazolam and Ephedrine, which were concealed in two plastic drums. The total value of the seized drugs is estimated at around 17.40 crore in the international market. Officials also confiscated a significant quantity of precursor chemicals and equipment believed to have been used in the illicit manufacturing process. The NCB arrested three individuals in connection with the case. According to investigators, the accused played different roles in the operation, including procurement of raw materials, technical expertise in drug synthesis, and distribution of the finished products to various locations. Officials suspect the involvement of a larger network and are probing further to identify other links in the supply chain. A key revelation during the investigation was the intended use of the drugs. Authorities found that the accused were al-

legedly producing Alprazolam in bulk to adulterate toddy, which witnesses high demand across Telangana during the summer season. Such adulteration poses a serious threat to public health, as consumption of contaminated toddy can lead to severe medical complications. Cases have been registered against the accused under the NDPS Act. Officials stated that strict legal action would be taken against those involved in the manufacture and distribution of narcotic and psychotropic substances. The NCB has intensified surveillance across industrial areas in Hyderabad, particularly focusing on units suspected of operating under the guise of legitimate businesses. Authorities emphasized that this operation marks a significant step in curbing the illegal drug trade and preventing the adulteration of consumables. Officials also urged citizens to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities related to drug manufacturing or distribution. They reiterated that illegal production and trafficking of narcotics are serious offenses and warned that stringent action would be taken against offenders. The investigation is ongoing, with efforts underway to trace the broader network and prevent further distribution of such hazardous substances in the state.

CM Revanth Reddy Calls for Collective Action on Earth Day

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday asserted the urgent need to protect nature and maintain ecological balance, stating that safeguarding the planet is essential for the survival of all living beings. In a message issued on the occasion of Earth Day, the Chief Minister called upon citizens to actively participate in building a pollution-free society. He urged people to take responsibility in reducing environmental damage and contribute towards sustainable development. Highlighting the government's commitment to environmental protection, Revanth Reddy said several measures are being implemented to control pollution. He reiterated the state's goal of transforming Hyderabad into a net-zero city by 2034. The Chief Minister outlined key initiatives undertaken by the government, including relocating polluting industries outside core urban areas, promoting electric vehicles, and encouraging the use of green energy to reduce car-

bon emissions. He also stressed efforts to expand green cover, protect water bodies, and restore the Musi River. In addition, steps are being taken to develop eco-friendly transportation systems and improve urban sustainability. The government is also planning to implement a comprehensive green strategy across three designated zones in Telangana to strengthen environmental conservation efforts. Revanth Reddy noted that maintaining environmental balance is not solely the responsibility of the government, but requires collective action from all sections of society. He said public awareness and participation are key to achieving long-term sustainability goals. Concluding his message, the Chief Minister urged citizens to "love the Earth, protect nature, and secure the future," stressing that today's actions will determine the well-being of future generations. The message reflects the state government's broader focus on integrating environmental priorities with development planning.

Rs 148 Cr Approved for Bridge Approach Roads

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu has directed officials to immediately take up the construction of long-pending approach roads to bridges, noting that several bridges built in recent years remain underutilized due to the absence of proper connectivity. The decision was taken during a meeting of the Infrastructure and Capital Works Cabinet Sub-Committee held at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat on Wednesday. Ministers Komatireddy Venkata Reddy and Duddilla Sridhar Babu were also present. The Deputy Chief Minister announced that the sub-committee has approved the release of Rs 148 crore for the construction of approach roads. He emphasized that proper planning and submission of proposals would help speed up approvals and execution of works.



Bhatti Vikramarka advised officials to submit proposals to the Finance Department in a 1:4 ratio to ensure quicker scrutiny and clearance by the sub-committee. He said this approach would streamline the process and facilitate timely completion of infrastructure projects. Highlighting the urgency, Minister Komatireddy Venkata Reddy instructed officials to complete the construction works before June 8, keeping the upcoming monsoon season in mind. He also stated that he

would conduct weekly reviews to monitor progress, including tendering, execution, and quality standards. Senior officials present at the meeting included Finance Department Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, and Special Secretary to the Deputy Chief Minister Krishna Bhaskar, among others. The initiative is expected to improve connectivity and ensure optimal utilization of existing bridge infrastructure across the state.

Former AP CM Nadendla Bhaskara Rao Passes Away at 90

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Nadendla Bhaskara Rao, former Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh, passed away on Wednesday morning at the age of 90. He breathed his last while undergoing treatment for age-related ailments at Continental Hospitals. Family members announced that his mortal remains will be kept at his residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, to allow relatives, friends, well-wishers, and admirers to pay their last respects. As per his wishes, the last rites will be performed on Thursday (April 23) at 4:00 PM at the Hindu crematorium in Punjagutta, Hyderabad. The arrangements are being made in accordance with his instructions to the family. Nadendla Bhaskara Rao was a veteran political leader who



had a long public life marked by his contributions to governance and public service. Leaders from across political parties are expected to visit and pay tribute to the departed leader. **Read full story inside**

CM Condoles Bhaskara Rao's Demise

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

A. Revanth Reddy expressed deep condolences over the demise of Nadendla Bhaskara Rao. In his message, the Chief Minister recalled Bhaskara Rao's long political career, highlighting his service as an MLA, minister, and Member

of Parliament. He noted that the veteran leader contributed significantly to several public welfare initiatives during his decades in public life. Revanth Reddy extended his heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed for strength for them during this difficult time, while wishing eternal peace for the departed soul.





8 New Weekly Trains to Boost Telangana Connectivity

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

The Central government is set to introduce eight new weekly train services to improve connectivity from Telangana to several key destinations across the country. The services will operate from major stations including Kacheguda Railway Station, Charlapalli Railway Station, and Hyderabad Deccan Railway Station. According to Union Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy, the new train services will connect Telangana to prominent cities such as Tirupati, Tiruchanur, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, and Sri Gangaganagar. In a post on social media platform X, the minister described the move as a significant and encouraging development, particularly benefiting devotees and passengers traveling to distant regions. The

new services are expected to ease travel demand and enhance accessibility for both pilgrimage and long-distance travels. Kishan Reddy expressed gratitude on behalf of the people of Telangana to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for their continued focus on railway expansion and infrastructure development. Officials believe that the addition of these trains will not only improve passenger convenience but also strengthen regional connectivity and economic activity. The initiative is part of broader efforts by the central government to modernize railway services and meet growing travel demands across states. Further details regarding schedules and routes are expected to be announced soon by railway authorities.



Kaleshwaram Corruption Still a Reality: TPCC Chief

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Following the Telangana High Court's verdict on the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission, TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud asserted that allegations of large-scale corruption in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project remain valid. Addressing the media, Goud clarified that the High Court did not find fault with the Commission itself, its findings, the investigation process, or the report submitted by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA). He emphasized that the court's intervention was limited strictly to a procedural aspect concerning the issuance of notices. The TPCC chief stated that

attempts to portray the verdict as a clean chit for those involved in the project are misleading. He reiterated that the core findings of the Commission, including concerns over alleged irregularities, remain intact and cannot be dismissed. Goud further alleged that the scale of corruption linked to the Kaleshwaram project continues to be a serious issue requiring accountability. He called for transparency and urged that necessary action be taken based on the findings already available. The remarks come amid ongoing political debate over the High Court's observations and the future course of action regarding one of Telangana's largest irrigation projects.

CM Reviews Industrial Investments, Pushes Fast-Track Implementation

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday held a high-level review meeting with senior officials of the Industries Department at Jubilee Hills, focusing on accelerating investment projects and ensuring swift implementation of agreements. The meeting was attended by Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao, and other top officials. Discussions centered on Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed with various companies during global events such as the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting and the Telangana Rising Global Summit. Officials briefed the Chief Minister on the progress of investments that have already been grounded, as well as those still pending. Detailed presentations were made on land allocation requirements for companies across key regions, including the proposed Future City. The Chief Minister directed officials to expedite pending land acquisition processes for firms that have signed MoUs,



stressing the need for timely execution. He also emphasized the importance of providing necessary infrastructure and planning for future industrial needs in a structured manner. In a key directive, Revanth Reddy asked officials to develop plans for supplying treated water from Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) to meet the needs of data centers, promoting sustainable resource utilization. He further instructed that companies with signed MoUs

be categorized into three groups, with priority given to reputed global brands. The Chief Minister urged officials to ensure that companies commence operations at the earliest by extending all required support and clearances. The review underscores the government's commitment to boosting industrial growth, attracting investments, and positioning Telangana as a leading destination for global business and innovation.

TGSRTC Urges Staff to Avoid Strike

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) management has appealed to its employees to refrain from participating in the proposed strike, warning of legal consequences and urging resolution through dialogue. In an official press release issued on Tuesday, the management emphasized that the organization's primary objective is to provide uninterrupted service to passengers. It stated that discussions are already underway with labour authorities and a committee comprising senior IAS officers to address the concerns raised by various unions. Highlighting legal provisions, the management pointed out that under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, particularly Section 22(1) (d), going on strike while conciliation proceedings are pending is considered illegal. Currently, talks are being held before the Joint Commissioner of Labour, and any strike action during this period would violate the law. The management also warned that employees participating in an unlawful strike may face strict

disciplinary action, including wage cuts and other penalties as per service rules. Such actions, it noted, could adversely impact employees' careers and their families. Appealing directly to workers, TGSRTC urged them not to be misled by unofficial calls for strike circulated through media or social platforms. It reiterated that the management remains open to resolving issues through discussions and constructive engagement. Stressing the collective responsibility of both employees and unions, the statement called for maintaining the organization's reputation and ensuring that public transport services are not disrupted. With lakhs of passengers depending on RTC services daily, the corporation highlighted the need to prioritize public convenience. Vice Chairman and Managing Director Y. Nagi Reddy stated that employees should resume duties and support ongoing negotiations, ensuring continuity of services and safeguarding the interests of both the organization and the public.

‘Reverse Tourism’ Initiative Launched to Empower Tribal Communities

Utnoor, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Jupally Krishna Rao, Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Excise, on Wednesday launched an innovative ‘Reverse Tourism’ initiative aimed at empowering tribal communities through exposure to urban development and heritage. The programme, titled Adivasi Tourism Exposure Programme, was flagged off at Gondu Guda in Utnoor Mandal of Adilabad district. In a departure from conventional tourism models, the initiative focuses on bringing tribal communities from forest regions to cities, offering them firsthand experience of modern infrastructure, education systems, and cultural landmarks. Explaining the vision, the minister said the programme is designed to broaden perspectives among Adivasi communities, build confidence, and encourage aspirations for higher education and improved livelihoods. “Exposure to the outside world will inspire youth to dream bigger and strive for progress,” he noted. In a symbolic gesture, the minister himself traveled along with the participants in the bus, interacting with tribal



youth and elders during the journey. He emphasized that meaningful change begins with awareness and exposure, particularly for younger generations. A total of 250 tribal participants, traveling in five air-conditioned buses, departed for Hyderabad as part of the first batch. Upon arrival, they are set to receive a grand welcome at Taramati Baradari. Over the next two days, the group will visit several prominent landmarks, including Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Charminar, Golconda Fort, Lumbini Park, and Shilparamam. The initiative seeks to create a meaningful bridge between traditional tribal culture and modern urban life, fostering mutual understanding and long-term socio-economic development. The launch event was attended by local representatives and officials, including Khanapur MLA Vedma Bojju, District Collector Rajarshi Shah, SP Akhil Mahajan, ITDA Project Officer Yuvraj Marmat, and Library Corporation Chairman Anil Kumar Kamde, along with several other public representatives and community leaders.



Human Touch Key to Governance: Bhatti Vikramarka

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu urged newly inducted Group-I officers to uphold empathy and integrity in public service, emphasizing that every file they sign represents a citizen's hope and future. Addressing the valedictory of the six-week Foundation Course (Batch-II) at Marri Chenna Reddy Human Resource Development Institute, he reminded 214 officers that governance is not merely administrative procedure but a responsibility that directly impacts people's lives. “A file is not just paper—it has the power to transform someone's life,” he said. Stressing the importance of ethical decision-making, the Deputy CM advised officers to balance adherence to rules with a humane approach. He noted that while systems remain constant, it is the compassion and discretion of offi-

cials that bring meaningful change on the ground. “Your decisions shape how citizens perceive the government,” he added. Bhatti Vikramarka also highlighted the need for faster administration, ensuring that benefits reach the poor without delay. He encouraged officers to leverage modern technologies like Artificial Intelligence and data analytics, but cautioned that technology can never replace human empathy. Reiterating the government's vision under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, he said the focus remains on inclusive growth through investments in education, healthcare, and infrastructure. He called upon officers to act with integrity, resist pressures, and remain committed to public welfare. Congratulating the officers, he expressed confidence that their service would strengthen governance and contribute to building a progressive Telangana.

Minister Ponguleti Lays Foundation for Road Works

Edulapuram, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information, on Wednesday laid the foundation stone for BT road works worth Rs 6.50 crore in Edulapuram municipality, stressing the need for quality infrastructure and timely completion. The project covers the stretch from Chintapalli to Muthagudem and aims to improve connectivity for local residents. The foundation ceremony was held in the presence of Additional Collector Dr. P. Sreeja and other officials. Addressing the gathering, the minister directed officials to ensure that the road construction is completed before the onset of the monsoon. He emphasized that there should be no compromise on quality and instructed local representatives to closely monitor the progress of the works. Highlighting ongoing development initiatives, the minister said that Rs 16.70 crore has already been sanctioned for



various infrastructure works in Edulapuram municipality. He added that additional projects, including construction of CC roads and drainage systems, will be taken up soon to further improve civic amenities. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy reiterated that the government is committed to balancing development with welfare. He pointed out that schemes such as free bus travel, Rythu Bhara, loan waivers, and bonuses for fine paddy are being implemented to support different sections of society. He also assured that housing for the poor will remain a priority, stating that all eligible beneficiaries will be provided houses under the Indiramma housing scheme. The minister announced that the second phase of house distribution will be launched shortly. The event was attended by Irrigation Development Corporation Chairman Muvva Vijay Babu, Municipal Chairperson Anita, Special Officer Ramesh, R&B SE Yakobu, and other public representatives and officials.

No ‘Clean Chit’ in Kaleshwaram Case: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Following the Telangana High Court's stay on the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission report on the Kaleshwaram project, Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy clarified that the verdict should not be misinterpreted as a “clean chit” for those involved. Reacting to the court's order, the minister stated that Telangana High Court had not found fault with the constitution of the Justice P.C. Ghose Commission. Instead, the court's intervention was limited to procedural aspects, particularly regarding the issuance of notices. He emphasized that the commission's findings regarding alleged irregularities in the project remain intact. Uttam Kumar Reddy pointed out that the commission had clearly identified structural and technical deficiencies in key barrages, including Medigadda. He said these findings reinforce concerns about irregularities in the Kaleshwaram project and cannot be dismissed. The minister also criticized leaders of the Bharat Rasht



Samithi for portraying the court's stay as a complete exoneration. “There is no change in the facts related to irregularities in the project,” he asserted. He further informed that the issue will be discussed in detail during the upcoming state Cabinet meeting. The government will consult legal experts before deciding its next course of action. The High Court has directed that no immediate action be taken against those named in the case, including senior political leaders and officials, until further proceedings.

War of Words Escalates Between BRS and Congress

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Political tensions in Telangana intensified as sharp criticism was directed at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over his recent remarks targeting former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao.

In a strongly worded statement shared on social media, BRS supporter and political commentator Sravan Dasoju lashed out at the Chief Minister, accusing him of using inappropriate and derogatory language unbecoming of his office. The post questioned whether the state was being led by a Chief Minister or, as it phrased, a “gravedigger,” criticizing the alleged tone and nature of the remarks.

The statement condemned what it described as a departure from the dignity expected of a constitutional position, alleging that the language used by the Chief Minister reflected poorly on governance standards. It further argued that leadership should be defined by development and construc-

tive discourse rather than personal attacks and provocative rhetoric.

The criticism also emphasized that Telangana deserves leadership rooted in statesmanship and responsible communication, particularly given the significance of the Chief Minister’s role in shaping public discourse. The remarks called for a more measured and respectful approach in political debates.

The exchange is the latest in an ongoing war of words between leaders and supporters of the ruling Congress and the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). Political observers note that such confrontations have become increasingly common in the state, reflecting heightened rivalry ahead of key political developments.

As the debate continues, there are growing calls from various quarters for political leaders to maintain decorum and focus on governance issues, rather than engaging in personal criticism.



Minister Challenges BRS to Seek CBI Probe on Kaleshwaram

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has challenged the BRS leadership to demand a CBI inquiry into the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project if they are confident that no corruption took place.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, the minister criticized what he termed as “misleading propaganda” claiming that the High Court had given a clean chit to the project. He clarified that such claims are false and alleged that attempts are being made to misinform the public.

Ponguleti questioned why BRS leaders are reluctant to face an independent probe if they have nothing to hide. He alleged that fear of exposure of large-scale financial irregularities, commissions, and flaws in contract execution is preventing them from seeking a transparent investigation.

The minister further

claimed that concerns over the project’s quality have already surfaced, citing incidents such as structural issues at Medigadda and damage to pump houses. He said these developments point to deeper irregularities in the execution of the project.

He also accused the previous TRS government of compromising quality due to alleged corruption and irregularities, adding that similar issues were seen in the construction of check dams.

Stating that the project was built with massive public funds, the minister emphasized that a comprehensive and transparent probe is essential. He asserted that accountability for every rupee spent will be ensured and urged BRS leaders, including K. Chandrashekar Rao and K. T. Rama Rao, to come forward for an inquiry if they stand by their claims.

HC Verdict on Kaleshwaram Panel Sparks Political Reactions

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader Harish Rao has welcomed the High Court’s verdict on the Kaleshwaram Commission, stating that it reaffirms the principle that truth and justice ultimately prevail.

Responding on social media platform X, Harish Rao said the judgment once again proved that “truth triumphs” despite alleged conspiracies. He noted that the court had found fault with the manner in which the inquiry was conducted, pointing out that it overlooked fundamental rights and principles of natural justice.

According to him, the High Court made it clear that remarks made by the commission which could harm individual reputation are not valid, and that no action should be taken based on such a report. He described the verdict as a setback to what he termed the “political agenda” of the Congress government.

Harish Rao alleged that the ruling exposes attempts by the state government to divert at-



tention from public issues through political narratives. He also criticized Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, claiming that the judgment had revealed the “true nature” of the government’s approach.

Calling for a shift in focus, he urged the authorities to put aside political differences and expedite the repair works of the two damaged pillars of the Kaleshwaram project. He stressed that the interests of Telangana farmers must be prioritized without further

delay. Reiterating the importance of the irrigation project, Harish Rao described Kaleshwaram as the lifeline of Telangana, essential for sustaining agriculture and supporting the livelihoods of farmers across the state.

He concluded his statement with a call to uphold the spirit of Telangana and expressed continued support for BRS leadership, emphasizing that the project remains vital to the state’s development.

BJP Alleges Fear, Seeks Kaleshwaram Probe

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

BJP state president N. Ramchander Rao on Wednesday alleged that a sense of “fear” was evident in the recent speeches of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao at public meetings in Jayashankar Bhupalpally and Jagtial.

Addressing the media, Rao claimed that both leaders were increasingly targeting the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as they believe it is emerging as a strong contender to form the next government in the state. He accused K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) of distorting facts by blaming the Centre for allegedly denying power supply to farmers over the issue of installing meters on agricultural pump sets. Rao maintained that such claims were misleading and intended to create confusion among farmers.

The BJP leader also questioned the financial claims made by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy regarding welfare measures and support to various sections of society. He challenged both leaders to participate in an open public debate, asserting that their policies and governance had weakened the state’s financial position.

Reiterating the party’s con-



cerns over the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), Rao pointed to alleged construction flaws in key barrages, including Medigadda, Sundilla, and Annaram. He demanded a comprehensive investigation into the entire project, covering all dams and associated works, to uncover the truth behind the alleged irregularities.

Rao further alleged that both KCR and Revanth Reddy were “shielding each other” on sensitive issues, citing the “vote-for-note” case and the Kaleshwaram project controversy. He said the people of Telangana deserved transparency and accountability in matters involving large-scale public expenditure. In a separate remark on

social media, Rao criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for his comments against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Defending Modi, he said the Prime Minister is a democratically elected leader serving his third term and has faced criticism from opposition leaders for over two decades.

“Despite repeated personal attacks and labels, including comparisons to historical figures, such remarks have only strengthened his leadership and public support,” Rao added.

The BJP leader reiterated that his party would continue to raise issues concerning governance, transparency, and development in Telangana.



HC Verdict on Kaleshwaram Panel Report Welcomed

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Former Agriculture Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy has welcomed the High Court’s verdict on the P.C. Ghose Commission report concerning the Kaleshwaram project, calling it a significant development that vindicates the stand of the BRS leadership.

In a press release issued on Tuesday, Niranjan Reddy stated that the High Court’s judgment should serve as a wake-up call for the Congress party to reconsider what he termed its “vindictive approach” towards the prestigious irrigation project. He alleged that both the Congress and BJP had attempted to tarnish the image of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and its chief K. Chandrashekar Rao by leveling baseless accusations over the Kaleshwaram project, which he described as the lifeline of Telangana.

He further claimed that for nearly two-and-a-half years, necessary repair works to the

project were deliberately obstructed due to political reasons. “Only after having no alternative left, the authorities have now taken up the repair works,” he said.

Niranjan Reddy also demanded that both Congress and BJP issue a public apology to the people of Telangana and the farming community for the allegations made against former Chief Minister KCR in connection with the project.

Reiterating the importance of Kaleshwaram in supporting irrigation and agriculture across the state, he emphasized that political differences should not come at the cost of public welfare and key infrastructure.

The former minister concluded by stating that the High Court’s ruling reinforces the need for responsible political discourse and factual assessment of major development projects, rather than what he described as attempts to gain political mileage through misinformation.



Veteran Leader Nadendla Bhaskara Rao Remembered for His Political and Legal Service Legacy

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Nadendla Bhaskara Rao, former Chief Minister of undivided Andhra Pradesh, passed away on Wednesday morning at the age of 90. He breathed his last while undergoing treatment for age-related ailments at Continental Hospitals.

Family members announced that his mortal remains will be kept at his residence in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, to enable relatives, friends, well-wishers, and admirers to pay their last respects. As per his wishes, the last rites will be performed on Thursday (April 23) at 4 PM at the Hindu crematorium in Punjagutta, Hyderabad.

Born on June 23, 1935, in Dosepudi village of Kolluru mandal in the Tenali region, Bhaskara Rao hailed from an agricultural family. He pursued his higher education in Hyderabad, completing a BA degree and later obtaining a law degree (B.A., LL.B, LSGD). He began his professional career as a lawyer and went on to earn recognition as a prominent advocate in the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Entering active politics, Bhaskara Rao joined the Congress party and served as the Andhra Pradesh General Secretary of Indira Congress. He was elected as an MLA from Vijayawada East constituency in 1978 and served in the state cabinet between 1978 and 1989 under leaders such as Marri Chenna Reddy and T. Anjaiah.

He briefly served as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh from August 16 to September 16, 1984. Later, he was elected to the 12th Lok Sabha from Khammam constituency in 1998.

During the tenure of N. T. Rama Rao, he also served as Finance Minister. His political journey witnessed several significant phases, reflecting both prominence and challenges.

Bhaskara Rao is survived by two sons, including Nadendla Manohar, who is currently serving as Minister for Civil Supplies, Food, and Consumer Affairs in Andhra Pradesh.

Leaders across parties are expected to pay tribute to the veteran leader, remembering his contributions to state politics and public life.

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Former minister V. Srinivas Goud on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on the Congress government, alleging that governance in Telangana has been marked by “destruction rather than development” since it assumed power. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, he claimed that the ruling dispensation has been focusing on criticizing former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and attempting to malign the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), instead of addressing public issues. He asserted that KCR continues to enjoy strong support among the people and that the party remains resilient despite political challenges. Srinivas Goud expressed strong support for RTC employees amid the ongoing unrest, stating that BRS would stand firmly with



workers. He highlighted the significant role played by RTC staff during the Telangana movement and alleged that the current government has failed to engage with them through dialogue. He urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to inter-

vene and resolve the workers’ issues through discussions. He further criticized the government over the Kaleshwaram project, calling the High Court’s observations on the commission report a setback for the ruling party. He also de-

mandated a thorough probe into the Medigadda barrage issue, alleging negligence in repairs. The BRS leader accused the government of failing to implement its election promises, including the “six guarantees,” and said public dissatisfaction

is growing. He warned that if commitments are not fulfilled, the Congress may face political setbacks in the near future.

Several leaders, including former MLAs Jaipal Yadav and Chittam Ram Mohan Reddy, attended the press meet.

EBG Foundation Launches ‘Sambhav Hai’ for Carbon-Neutral Villages

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

EBG Foundation has launched ‘Sambhav Hai’, a nationwide initiative aimed at building carbon-neutral villages and driving grass-roots climate action, coinciding with Earth Day. Spearheaded by Dr Irfan Khan, the programme begins with the adoption of Charla Thanda in Telangana’s Nalgonda district. It is designed as a scalable, community-driven model to promote sustainable rural development while reducing carbon emissions. In its first phase, the initiative will deploy Rs 30 crore

across 50 villages, targeting a 10–20 percent reduction in carbon emissions within the first year. The long-term goal is to achieve complete carbon neutrality within three years. The programme is set to expand to 150 villages in the second year and further scale up to 750 villages with support from government institutions. At Charla Thanda, ground-work has already begun with household-level data mapping to establish a climate and resource baseline. Key interventions include improving access to safe drinking water, strengthening groundwater recharge, implementing waste segregation

and composting systems, and promoting afforestation and regenerative land practices. The village will serve as a live model under the ‘Minus One Village’ framework. Speaking at the launch, Dr Irfan Khan emphasized that the initiative integrates environmental sustainability with economic progress and community ownership. He said the aim is to empower villages with tools and data systems to lead their own transformation while contributing to India’s climate goals. Suresh Goyal highlighted that the programme’s success will be measured through a structured framework cover-

ing water, energy, waste, food, and land systems, along with carbon footprint metrics. Ranjitha M described the initiative as a movement that bridges policy and grassroots implementation, enabling rural communities to take the lead in climate resilience. The launch event was attended by Prof. R. K. Kotnal, Sachin Sengar, Pattnaik Om-priya Mohanty, Sarada Nar-ella, and Ajai Arora, along with Hari Kiran, Co-founder of EBG Group. With its first implementa-tion underway, ‘Sambhav Hai’ reflects a long-term commit-ment to building sustainable, climate-resilient rural com-munities across India.



CBIT Hosts FDP on Zero Trust Cloud Security

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

The Central Board of Information Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, conducted a six-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) on “Zscaler Zero Trust Cloud Security” to enhance faculty expertise in emerging cybersecurity areas.

Organised by the Department of Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning in association with AICTE ATAL Academy and EduSkills, the programme focused on cloud security frameworks and modern cyber defence strategies. Key topics included fundamentals of cybersecurity, evolving cyber threats, Zero Trust Architecture, and practical applications of Zscaler tools such as ZIA, ZPA, and ZDX. Sessions were delivered by Sai Venkat with real-time examples and hands-on insights.

On the valedictory day, CBIT Vice Principal Dr. P. Ravindra



Reddy attended as chief guest and appreciated the initiative, stressing the importance of cybersecurity awareness among faculty. The FDP was coordinated by Dr. Y. Rama Devi and Dr. D. Raman, with support from Dr. Prabhakar Kandukuri and Dr. Uma Maheswari V. Faculty

members and research scholars actively participated. An assessment test was conducted and certificates were awarded based on performance. The programme received positive feedback for strengthening knowledge of advanced cyber-security practices.

Auto Theft Gang Busted in Bachupally

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Police have made a significant breakthrough in a series of automobile theft cases reported in Bachupally and surrounding areas, arresting one person along with two juveniles in conflict with law. According to officials from Bachupally Police Station, the accused were involved in multiple night-time vehicle thefts not only in Bachupally but also in the limits of Jagadgirigutta and Boinpally police stations. The arrests were made following sustained surveillance and investigation into recent theft incidents. During the operation, police



recovered stolen vehicles, including a Honda Activa (TS 08 HX 0118) and an auto-rickshaw

(TS 34 TA 4070). Authorities stated that these recoveries are expected to provide crucial

leads in solving other pending cases. The arrested adult accused has been remanded to judicial custody, while the two juveniles have been sent to a juvenile home as per legal procedures. Police officials expressed confidence that the arrests would help curb the rising incidents of automobile thefts in the region. They also urged citizens to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities promptly. Further investigation is underway to determine if more individuals are involved in the theft network and to recover additional stolen property.

Ramchander Rao Mourns Demise of Senior BJP Leader Chittibabu

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

N. Ramchander Rao has expressed deep grief over the demise of noted film producer, director, actor, and senior BJP leader Chittibabu. In a statement issued on Wednesday, he said the passing of Chittibabu is an irreparable loss to both the film industry and the BJP. He conveyed condolences to the bereaved family and paid tribute to his contributions in politics and cinema. Ramchander Rao noted that Chittibabu was a committed BJP leader since the party’s early

days, known for his discipline, simplicity, and dedication to public service. In films, he began his career at 17 and worked as associate director for 47 films across Telugu, Tamil, and Kannada languages, besides directing 12 films. He was credited with introducing talents like Krishna Vamsi, Siva Nag-eswara Rao, Rasool Ellore, and Soundarya to the industry. Ramchander Rao said his contributions would remain memorable in both political and cinematic fields and prayed for peace to his soul and strength to his family.

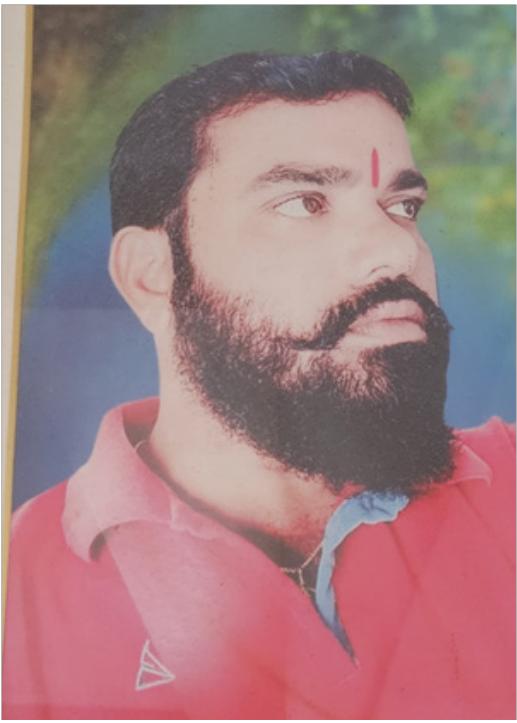


Colony President’s Suicide Sparks Allegations

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

A tragic incident in Hayathnagar has led to allegations of harassment and local disputes after the suicide of Madhu, president of Laxmi Priya Nagar colony. Madhu, a cab driver and colony president, is survived by his wife and two children. Family members and residents said ongoing disputes within the colony and alleged police harassment drove him to take the extreme step. The conflict reportedly began over a community hall constructed during former president Yada-giri Goud’s tenure. Residents objected to his name being dis-

played prominently. After taking charge, Madhu removed the board, which worsened tensions. The issue escalated into legal disputes, with allegations that Madhu altered a cheque from 1 lakh to 9 lakh and encashed it. A police complaint was filed, and a case registered. Though he later obtained bail, his family alleges continued harassment by police despite submission of documents. They further claimed that mental pressure and humiliation led to his death. Residents have demanded a detailed investigation and action against those responsible.



Talasani Demands Immediate Resolution of RTC Strike

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Talasani Srinivas Yadav has urged the state government to immediately address the demands of RTC employees and end the ongoing strike, warning that public inconvenience is mounting. Speaking to the media in Secunderabad on Wednesday, the former minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader criticized the government for failing to resolve workers’ issues in time. He alleged that the introduction of electric buses without safeguarding employees’ interests is putting their job security at risk. Talasani suggested that RTC employees should be trained to operate electric buses and be retained as drivers and conductors instead of outsourcing roles to private individuals. He questioned the move to involve private

agencies in managing RTC depots and assets, calling it inappropriate. He further accused the government of negligence and irresponsibility, stating that such an approach has forced employees to resort to a strike. The ongoing disruption, he noted, has severely affected students, employees, traders, and daily commuters, particularly those from economically weaker sections. Raising concerns over the government’s promise of free bus travel for women, Talasani asked how women are expected to commute amid the current situation, with limited bus services available. He reiterated that resolving employee grievances at the earliest is crucial not only for restoring normalcy in public transport but also for protecting the livelihoods of RTC workers.

Earth Day Celebrated with Environmental Awareness

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

National Earth Day was celebrated with enthusiasm in Quthbullapur, where an awareness programme was organized at the Senior Citizen Bhavan in the village. Local leaders and participants interacted with senior citizens on the importance of environmental protection and sustainable practices. They emphasized reducing the use of plastic covers and highlighted the need for water conservation. Residents were encouraged to construct rainwater harvesting pits in their homes and plant at least two saplings per family to improve green cover. Environmental activist Kola Ravinder Mudiraj stressed the role of elders in shaping future generations. He urged senior

citizens to educate their grandchildren about environmental responsibility, noting that early awareness can lead to long-term positive change. Speakers also advocated reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture and adopting organic farming practices to protect soil health and biodiversity. At the end of the programme, participants took a pledge to minimize plastic usage and actively contribute to environmental conservation. The event was attended by Jagriti organization president Shivapurvathi, Lok Satta leaders, environmental activists, and local residents, reflecting a collective commitment to safeguarding nature and promoting sustainable living.



GHMC Intensifies Beggars Rehabilitation Drive

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation on Wednesday carried out an extensive Beggars Rehabilitation Programme across all 30 circles under its jurisdiction as part of the ongoing 99 Days Action Plan. A special drive was conducted at major public locations, including railway stations, bus depots, busy junctions, and temple surroundings, to identify and rehabilitate homeless individuals. Officials from multiple departments—such as police, traffic, sanitation, and NGO representatives—actively participated in the coordinated effort. Key areas covered during the drive included Nampally and



Kachiguda railway stations, KBR Park, Amberpet and Ameerpet junctions, Balkampet Temple surroundings, Nan-alnagar, and Aramghar junctions. During the operation, a

total of 107 beggars were identified across the city. Of these, 37 individuals were shifted to Amma-Nanna Orphanage near Choutuppal, where they are being provided

with medical examinations and essential care. Another 40 individuals were accommodated in various shelter homes within GHMC limits with support from NGOs. The remaining individuals were counselled and assisted in returning to their native places. Officials stated that the initiative is a significant step toward addressing homelessness and reducing begging in urban areas. They emphasized that rehabilitation, rather than enforcement alone, remains the core objective of the programme. Authorities further noted that similar drives will be conducted regularly to ensure long-term impact and to support vulnerable sections of society through structured rehabilitation efforts.

Thanda to Emerge as Low-Carbon Model Village

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

A small tribal hamlet in Nalgonda district is set to become a model for sustainable development, with a focus on building pollution-free and environmentally responsible communities. Charla Thanda has been identified for a pioneering initiative that aims to promote low-carbon village development and eco-friendly living practices.

Launched on the occasion of Earth

Day, the initiative titled Sambhav Hai marks the beginning of a new movement dedicated to protecting the environment and reducing carbon emissions at the grassroots level. By adopting Charla Thanda, organizers plan to transform it into a benchmark village that integrates sustainability with rural development.

The details of this ambitious project were unveiled at an event held at the Trident Hotel in Hyderabad. The pro-

gram brought together key stakeholders, experts, and industry leaders who emphasized the importance of community-driven environmental initiatives.

Professor R.K. Kotal, Chairman of the New Science Creators Institute, highlighted the need for urgent action in rural sustainability. He stated that villages have immense potential to lead environmental conservation efforts through simple yet effective practices.

Industrialist Pat-

naik Om Priya Mohanty stressed the role of private participation in driving large-scale impact, while World Economic Forum representative Sachin Sengar pointed out that such localized initiatives contribute significantly to global climate goals. Ajay Arora also underlined the importance of combining modern technology with traditional knowledge to ensure long-term sustainability.

The event was conducted in the pres-

ence of Dr. Irfan Khan, founder of the EBG Group of Companies, who is supporting the initiative.

The Sambhav Hai project aims to introduce renewable energy, efficient waste management, and water conservation systems, while encouraging active community participation. If successful, Charla Thanda could serve as an inspiration for similar eco-friendly transformations across rural India.



Metro Boosts Services Amid RTC Strike

Hyderabad, April 22, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a move to ease commuter inconvenience during the ongoing TGRTC strike, Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) has decided to significantly increase the frequency of metro train services across the city. The decision was taken in coordination with L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad Limited (LTMRL).

According to officials, the metro will operate at maximum capacity throughout the day, ensuring smoother travel for thousands of daily passengers affected by the disruption in bus services. A total of 56 trains will be deployed during both peak and non-peak hours to cater to the increased demand.

Under normal conditions, peak hour services—between 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM, and 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM—run with 56 trains at an interval of 3 minutes and 40 seconds. During non-peak hours, 44 trains operate with intervals of 4 minutes 50 seconds on the Miyapur-LB Nagar (Corridor 1) and 5 minutes 20 seconds on the Nagole-Raidurg (Corridor 3).



However, in view of the RTC strike, authorities have decided to maintain 56 trains throughout the day. Train frequency will be tightened to every 4 minutes 20 seconds on the Miyapur-LB Nagar corridor and every 3 minutes 40 seconds on the Nagole-Raidurg corridor, ensuring minimal waiting time for commuters.

Additionally, to further reduce inconvenience, metro authorities are considering extending the last train services beyond 11:00 PM. This step is being evaluated following a request from HMRL to better ac-

commodate late-night passengers during the strike period.

Officials stated that the enhanced services aim to provide a reliable alternative mode of transport, particularly benefiting office-goers, students, and daily wage earners who rely heavily on public transit.

With lakhs of commuters affected by the RTC strike, the Hyderabad Metro's proactive measures are expected to play a crucial role in maintaining urban mobility and reducing travel disruptions across the city.

Minister Ponguleti Launches Maize Procurement Centre

Nelakondapalli, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Wednesday inaugurated a maize procurement centre at Nelakondapalli, reaffirming the government's commitment to farmer welfare.

The centre, set up under the Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) at Nacheapalli, was launched in the presence of Additional Collector P. Srinivas Reddy and Irrigation Development Corporation Chairman Muvva Vijay Babu.

Addressing farmers, the minister said the government



is ensuring fair prices and timely payments, which are being directly credited to farmers' bank accounts. He announced a bonus of 500 per

quintal for fine paddy varieties in addition to the Minimum Support Price.

He highlighted that farm loans worth 21,000 crore have

been waived within six months, benefiting around 25 lakh farmers with relief up to 2 lakh each. Under the Rythu Bharosa scheme, financial assistance has been increased to 12,000 per acre.

The minister also announced plans to expand warehouse capacity by 200 percent and develop modern cold storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses.

He reiterated the government's focus on welfare schemes and agricultural growth. Local representatives, officials, and farmers attended the programme.

Badibata Drive Held to Boost Enrolment

Adilabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

A "Badibata" awareness programme was conducted with enthusiasm at Zilla Parishad High School Bela in Bela village of Adilabad district, aiming to encourage enrolment in government schools.

As part of the initiative, students organized a rally across the village, spreading awareness among residents about the importance of education and the facilities available at the school. The rally witnessed active participation from students and teachers, drawing attention from villagers.

School authorities highlighted the infrastructure and learning resources available on campus, including a computer laboratory, Atal Tinkering Lab, smart teaching panels, safe drinking water facility, and the mid-day meal scheme. They also pointed out the presence of experienced teaching staff and well-equipped classrooms that support quality education. Headmaster Krishna Kumar appealed to parents to enroll their children in government schools, assuring them of high academic standards and



holistic development. He emphasized that the institution is committed to providing quality education to every student.

Teachers conducted door-to-door visits in the village, interacting with parents of children currently studying in private schools. They explained the benefits of government school-

ing and encouraged them to consider shifting their wards to ZPHS Bela. The programme received a positive response from villagers, with many expressing interest in enrolling their children. Officials stated that such outreach efforts are crucial in strengthening public education and increasing stu-

dent admissions. The event was attended by Amma Adarsha Committee President Baby Tai, along with teachers Sanjay, Elia, Bhaskar, Nithin Kumar, Sanjeev Reddy, Sugunakar, Vandana, Saraswati, and Vajramala, who actively contributed to the success of the campaign.

No Truth in Opposition Criticism: Minister Ponguleti

Khammam, April 22 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Revenue, Housing and Information Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Wednesday dismissed opposition criticism of government welfare schemes, calling the allegations baseless.

Speaking at his camp office in Khammam after distributing Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak cheques to 27 beneficiaries, he challenged opposition parties to name any scheme discontinued by the present government. He said that despite financial constraints, all schemes are being continued while implementing the six guarantees.

Highlighting key initiatives, the minister said benefits are being delivered directly to people under Chief Minister Re-



vanth Reddy's leadership. He cited schemes such as free bus travel for women, 500 gas cylinders, 200 units of free electricity, and farm loan waivers up to 2 lakh. He accused the previous government of neglecting ration card distribution and said the current administration is ensuring all eligible families receive them.

On housing, he noted that 4.5 lakh houses have been sanctioned under the Indiramma scheme, with the second phase to begin soon. He also stressed focus on education and healthcare, including plans for "Young India Integrated Schools." The programme was attended by public representatives and officials.

HYDRAA Secures Govt Land Worth Rs 90 Cr

Hyderabad, April 22 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Wednesday secured 9.05 acres of prime government land valued at over Rs 90 crore in Shamshabad mandal of Ranga Reddy district by removing encroachments and fencing the property.

According to revenue officials, the land falls under Survey No. 626/2, where a total extent of 176.05 acres is recorded as government land. Of this, 166 acres had already been allotted to the Forest Development Corporation, leaving 9.05 acres as unallocated

land.

The land has been under dispute, with some individuals claiming it as "CS 14" (Nizam-era land). However, authorities have maintained that the parcel is government property. The matter is currently pending before the Telangana High Court, which has issued a status quo order directing that no changes be made to the land and prohibiting construction activity. Despite the court's directive, complaints were received through the Prajavani grievance system alleging illegal leveling and layout formation by a private individual identified as Tajammul Moynuddin Khan. Field inspections confirmed that the land

had been encroached upon using precast boundary walls, and some plots were reportedly sold.

After issuing notices under the Land Encroachment Act, 1905, and receiving no response, revenue and municipal authorities sought HYDRAA's intervention. Acting swiftly, the agency cleared the encroachments, erected fencing, and installed boards declaring the land as government property in the presence of officials.

Authorities stated that the action reinforces the government's commitment to protecting public assets and preventing illegal land grabbing in the region.

Adilabad, April 20 | TPN Bureau

Police in Adilabad district have busted an attempt to sell counterfeit cigarettes, arresting three persons while one accused remains absconding. The operation was conducted under Neradigonda Police Station limits based on credible inputs.

Ichoda Rural Circle Inspector C.H. Ramesh said police intercepted a suspicious motorcycle during a vehicle check on the national highway around 2:30 PM. Two individuals were initially detained, leading to the arrest of Mohammed Samdani (53), Mandula Pawan Kumar (39), and Imran from Nizamabad. Another accused, Vase from Kinwat, is

absconding.

Police seized counterfeit cigarette stock worth 60,400, including Gold Flake Premium, Gold Flake Light, Gold Flake Kings, and Marlboro Advance Compact. A motorcycle and a Realme mobile phone were also confiscated. A company representative confirmed the products as fake after identifying identical UID numbers on the packets. During interrogation, the accused confessed to sourcing the cigarettes from Nizamabad. A case has been registered and investigation is ongoing to trace the absconding accused and dismantle the network. Police urged the public to remain alert and report suspicious activities, warning that counterfeit products pose serious health risks.



India’s Ongoing Railway Modernisation Delivers Major Gains in Safety and Speed

More than 25,000 trains run across India every day.They carry more than 20 million passengers daily and move large quantities of coal, iron ore, grains, steel, cement and other commodities across a network of over 1,37,000 kilometres tracks.

The track is the foundation on which this entire system works. When it is in good shape, trains run safely at higher speeds. When it is not, the results range from speed restrictions and delays to safety risks. A cracked rail, a loose fitting or a clogged ballast bed can all affect how a train moves.

Keeping in view the importance of track, Indian Railways started a wide-ranging modernisation programme over a decade ago. The work covered track renewal using modern machines, testing and inspection through advanced methods, mechanized maintenance, safety fencing etc. Together, these efforts have changed the condition of the network in a visible way.

Since 2014, about 55,000 km of tracks have been renewed thus improving safety, ride quality and reducing the need for frequent repairs. Around 44,000 track km of long rail panels (260 m each) have been laid. Longer panels mean fewer joints, which leads to smoother and safer train movement. Over 80,000 track km of stronger 60-kg rails are now in use, supporting heavier loads and higher speeds.

Laying stronger rail is important, but so is finding problems early. Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) testing has been carried out across about 36.2 lakh track kilometres and 2.25 crore

One of the clearest results of track modernisation is the increase in speed potential:

Speed (kmph)	2014		2026	
	Running Track Km	%	Running Track Km	%
130 & above	5,036	6.3	24,173	22.5
110 – 130	26,409	33.3	62,482	58.2
Below 110	47,897	60.4	20,679	19.3
Total	79,342	100	1,07,334	100

welds, checking for hidden cracks inside the rail that cannot be seen from the outside. As a result, rail and weld failures have come down by about 90%, a shift from fixing problems after the event to preventing them beforehand.

Other methods now in use include phased-array testing for flash-butt welds, magnetic-particle inspection for new welds, and GPS-enabled Oscillation Monitoring Systems (OMS) that measure ride quality and pinpoint the exact location of rough spots on the track.

The track machine fleet has doubled from 748 in 2014 to 1,785 in 2026. These machines carry out tamping, ballast cleaning and rail grinding better, faster and more evenly than manual work.

Machines have made a notable difference in deep screening of ballast — the layer of crushed stone beneath the track that provides drainage, absorbs vibration, and keeps the track stable. Over time, ballast stones get powdered under the constant weight and vibration of passing trains, clogging the bed and reducing its ability to

function. Screening restores the track bed to proper condition. This work has been carried out across more than 1 lakh track kilometres, mostly by machine.

To remove surface defects and hence to improve riding quality and safety, grinding of rail has been done for more than one lakh km.

With train traffic growing each year, maintenance windows between trains are shrinking. Machines help get more done in less time without disrupting services. But safety also depends on how trains pass through points and crossings. Indian Railways has taken up several supporting measures alongside track renewal.

About 17,500 km of safety fencing has been installed, especially where trains run above 110 kmph, helping prevent trespassing by people and cattle. At points and crossings, 36,000 thick-web switches and 7,500 weldable CMS crossings have been provided — these last longer and allow smoother train movement. Wider, heavier sleepers adopted in 2019 improve stability, particularly during

summer heat. H-beam sleepers on girder bridges and long welded rails through yards have further strengthened the network.

Track supporting 130 kmph and above has grown from 6% to nearly 23%. Track fit for 110 kmph and above has risen from about 40% to 80%. This has reduced journey times, improved punctuality, and made it possible to run semi-high-speed services like the Vande Bharat Express.

The combined effect of these modernisation measures is reflected in the safety numbers. Consequential train accidents fell from 135 in 2014–15 to 16 in 2025–26 — a drop of about 89%. The accident rate per million train kilometres improved from 0.11 to 0.01 — a 90% improvement. This has come during a period when traffic has grown: more trains, more passengers, but fewer incidents.A web-enabled Track Management System (TMS) now brings together data from ultrasonic testing, ride quality readings and track geometry into one platform, making it easier to set



priorities and act in time. Twelve years ago, 60% of India’s railway track was limited to below 110 kmph, rail fractures were common and most maintenance was manual. Today, nearly 80% of the network handles 110 kmph or above, rail and weld failures have fallen by 90% and close to 1,800 track machines are at

work. For millions of passengers and the businesses that depend on rail freight, these changes are making a real difference — smoother journeys, shorter travel times, and a more dependable network. The work is not finished, but progress shows what steady effort and continued investment can achieve.



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw
Union Minister for Railways

Iran’s Internal Rift Over War and Diplomacy

A War Beyond the Battlefield

The Iran–Israel–US conflict is not only being fought through missiles, sanctions, and diplomacy—it is also unfolding inside Iran’s political system. Beneath official statements about negotiations and ceasefires lies a deeper struggle shaping the country’s choices: whether to pursue a negotiated settlement or continue resisting confrontation.

One of the most important fault lines inside Iran today is between those who support limited engagement with the United States and a powerful section of hardliners, particularly within the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), who believe no meaningful deal with Washington should succeed.

Diplomats vs Hardliners

On the surface, Iran appears to be sending mixed signals. President Masoud Pezeshkian has suggested that diplomacy should remain an option, stressing that war benefits no one and that communication channels should remain open. At the same time, Iran’s foreign ministry has expressed doubts about whether negotiations with the United States can actually work.

These contradictions reflect deep internal divisions rather than confusion. IRGC-linked media outlets have openly rejected the idea of continued talks in certain diplomatic forums, while some political leaders cautiously support engagement. This has created an unstable negotiating position, where Iran’s external messaging is constantly influenced by internal disagreements.

The IRGC’s Resistance to Negotiation

A major force opposing di-

plomacy is a faction within the IRGC. This group is not just skeptical—it is strongly opposed to negotiations with the United States.

Their core beliefs include the idea that negotiations are traps designed to weaken Iran, that compromise equals surrender, and that long-term resistance will ultimately bring strategic advantage. For these hardliners, the conflict is not only political but ideological. Any agreement with the West is seen as a threat to Iran’s revolutionary identity and sovereignty.

Internal Power Struggles and Rivalries

Iran’s internal politics further complicate the situation. Key figures such as Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf have been involved in diplomatic discussions, but even they are not free from suspicion among hardliners.

Some IRGC-aligned factions consider pragmatic leaders too flexible or unreliable. Meanwhile, reformist voices argue that diplomacy is necessary to ease economic pressure and prevent deeper international isolation. This has created three competing blocs: hardliners who prefer resistance, pragmatists who support limited negotiations, and reformists who advocate broader engagement.

The absence of a fully unified position has weakened Iran’s ability to present a consistent foreign policy stance.

Leadership Challenges and Fragmentation

Traditionally, Iran’s Supreme Leader has acted as the final authority balancing internal factions. However, growing institutional fragmentation has reduced the effectiveness of this role in managing day-to-day policy disputes.



With multiple power centers influencing decisions—including the IRGC and civilian government institutions—foreign policy often becomes inconsistent. Even when negotiators engage with external powers, their authority is sometimes questioned internally, reducing their credibility.

Why Some Reject Any Deal

Opposition to diplomacy is

not only tactical but ideological. Hardliners argue that past agreements with the West have failed or been violated, reinforcing distrust. They believe the United States cannot be relied upon to honor commitments and that Iran gains more leverage through resistance than compromise.

From this perspective, military strength and regional in-

fluence are more effective tools than negotiation. Agreements like the JCPOA are often cited as examples of how diplomacy can be reversed or undermined under external pressure.

The Role of External Pressure

External pressure has not unified Iran’s political system—it has intensified internal divisions. Military threats

and sanctions strengthen hardline arguments that diplomacy is ineffective, while pragmatists argue the same pressure proves the need for negotiation.

Instead of pushing Iran toward consensus, external conflict often strengthens resistance-oriented factions that oppose compromise.

The IRGC’s Influence on

Policy

The IRGC is not just a military body but a major political and economic force within Iran. Its influence extends into foreign policy, domestic politics, media narratives, and regional strategy.

This makes it a key actor in shaping Iran’s stance toward negotiations. Even when civilian leaders attempt diplomacy, IRGC-linked networks can influence public opinion and political decision-making in the opposite direction.

The Core Strategic Dilemma

Iran faces a fundamental contradiction. Diplomacy could ease economic pressure and reduce isolation, but resistance preserves ideological independence and regional influence. Neither path has unanimous internal support.

This duality leads to inconsistent policy signals, where Iran alternates between openness to negotiation and firm rejection depending on which faction is more influential at a given time.Conclusion: A Nation Divided Over Its Future

Iran’s foreign policy is deeply shaped by internal political struggle. A powerful section of hardliners within the IRGC does not merely disagree over negotiation terms—they question whether any agreement with the United States should exist at all.At the same time, pragmatic and reformist voices argue that engagement is essential to prevent further escalation and economic decline. Until this internal conflict is resolved or effectively managed, Iran’s diplomatic posture will remain unstable.Ultimately, the struggle over war and peace is not only between Iran and external powers but within Iran itself, where competing visions of the country’s future continue to collide.

Rajnath Singh’s “Dot, Dot, Dot” Warning to Pakistan on Pahalgam Attack Anniversary

On the first anniversary of the Pahalgam terror attack, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh issued a sharp, veiled warning to Pakistan, saying that while India has never initiated aggression against any country, any attempt to create trouble will be met with a response he described as “dot, dot, dot,” leaving the consequences unsaid.

Speaking at an event, Singh said that India has always followed a non-aggressive foreign policy, but warned that this approach should not be mistaken for weakness. He remarked that most neighbours are cooperative, but “only one neighbour is troublesome,” an indirect reference to Pakistan.



His comments come exactly one year after the April 22, 2025 terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir’s Pahalgam area, where 26 civilians were killed by Pakistan-based terrorists. The attack had triggered strong military and diplomatic

responses from India, including counter-terror operations targeting infrastructure across the border.

Singh also referred to India’s military preparedness and said the armed forces have become significantly stronger in

recent years. Without going into operational details, he indicated that India’s response mechanisms have already been demonstrated through previous actions, including Operation Sindoor, which was launched in response to the 2025 attack.

The Defence Minister’s remarks were widely seen as a warning against any future cross-border misadventure. His “dot, dot, dot” phrase was interpreted as an intentional pause implying an undisclosed but strong retaliation if provoked again.

The statement adds to the continuing war of words between India and Pakistan, which has intensified around the anniversary of the Pahalgam attack. Both countries

have exchanged strong messages in recent weeks, with Pakistan also responding to earlier warnings from Indian leadership by claiming it would respond decisively to any aggression.

The 2025 Pahalgam attack remains a major flashpoint in bilateral tensions, with India maintaining that the perpetrators were linked to Pakistan-based terror groups. Investigations and counter-operations following the attack have further strained relations between the two nuclear-armed neighbours. Singh’s latest comments reinforce India’s position of deterrence while keeping diplomatic language deliberately ambiguous, signalling strength without directly escalating rhetoric.



BJP Seeks Campaign Ban Against Mallikarjun Kharge Over ‘Terrorist’ Remark on PM Modi

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has moved the Election Commission of India seeking strict action against Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over his controversial remarks referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a “terrorist,” escalating political tensions between the two parties during the ongoing election season.

According to reports, a BJP delegation met the Election Commission and submitted a formal complaint, demanding immediate action against Kharge for what it described as a serious violation of the Model Code of Conduct. The party has also sought a campaign ban against the Congress chief and urged the poll body to consider disciplinary measures, including a public apology.

The controversy stems from remarks made by Kharge at a political event in Tamil Nadu, where he allegedly used the term “terrorist” while criticising the Prime Minister. The statement triggered a strong backlash from the BJP, which accused the Congress leader of lowering the standards of political discourse and using inflammatory language during an election period.

Following the complaint, BJP leaders said such remarks go beyond political criticism and undermine democratic norms. They argued that invoking terms associated with terrorism in reference to a sitting Prime Minister could mis-

lead voters and disturb the electoral environment.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and other senior BJP leaders also joined the criticism, calling the comment inappropriate and urging the Election Commission to take strict action. The party’s complaint reportedly includes references to previous statements made by opposition leaders that it claims violate election conduct rules.

Kharge, however, later clarified his position, stating that his remarks were intended as a criticism of the Prime Minister’s political style and not a literal accusation. He said his comments were being misinterpreted and insisted that his intent was to highlight what he described as “political intimidation,” not terrorism.

The incident has further intensified the already heated political atmosphere between the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress. Both parties have increasingly exchanged sharp remarks in recent weeks, with election campaigning becoming more aggressive as voting phases approach.

The Election Commission is expected to review the complaint and determine whether any violation of the Model Code of Conduct has occurred. For now, the issue has added another flashpoint to an already charged political landscape, with both sides standing firm on their interpretations of the controversy.

Supreme Court Slams Bengal CM in I-PAC Case

The Supreme Court on Wednesday strongly criticised West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in connection with the Enforcement Directorate’s (ED) investigation into the I-PAC case, observing that her actions had “put democracy in jeopardy” after she allegedly intervened during official searches. The remarks came during a hearing linked to ED raids on the offices and premises of the Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC), a political consultancy firm working with the Trinamool Congress. The agency has been investigating the case as part of a money laundering probe. According to the ED, Mamata Banerjee, along with state officials, entered premises where searches were underway, including the office and residence linked to the consultancy’s leadership. The agency also alleged that electronic devices and documents were taken during the visit, which it described as interference in an ongoing investigation. The Supreme Court took a strong view of the incident, stating that a Chief Minister cannot enter the middle of an ongoing probe conducted by a central agency and then argue that it should not be treated as a Centre-State dispute. The court observed that such actions by a constitutional authority raise serious concerns about the independence of investigations and institutional functioning. The bench further remarked that the conduct attributed to the Chief Minister amounted to an act that placed democratic processes at risk, emphasizing that no individual, regardless of position, can interfere with lawful investigative procedures.



The ED has maintained that the January searches were part of a broader inquiry related to alleged financial irregularities involving I-PAC, and it has approached higher courts claiming obstruction of its investigation. The matter has since evolved into a legal and political controversy between the central agency and the West Bengal government.

Mamata Banerjee and the Trinamool Congress have denied allegations of wrongdoing, stating that her presence at the location was intended to protect party-related documents and challenge what they describe as politically motivated investigative actions. They have also accused central agencies of targeting opposition-ruled states. The case has added to ongoing tensions between the West Bengal government and central agencies, with multiple legal proceedings still underway. The Supreme Court’s remarks have further intensified the political debate, placing the issue of institutional boundaries and federal authority at the centre of discussion.

The matter remains sub judice, and further hearings are expected as both sides continue to present their arguments before the court.

RaGa’s Bengal Campaign Trip Cancelled Amid Permission Row

The Congress party has cancelled Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi’s scheduled election visit to West Bengal, alleging that the Trinamool Congress (TMC)-led state administration and police denied necessary permissions for the planned rallies.

According to the party, the local authorities acted at the “behest of the Mamata Banerjee-led government” and blocked approvals required for Rahul Gandhi’s campaign events in the state. The Congress claimed this amounted to deliberate obstruction of its election outreach efforts.

The party also alleged that repeated attempts to secure permissions for public meetings were unsuccessful, forcing the cancellation of the visit. It further accused both the ruling TMC and the BJP of be-

ing uncomfortable with Rahul Gandhi’s recent campaign presence in key districts of West Bengal.

State Congress leaders said the decision was not voluntary but a result of administrative restrictions imposed on the ground. They argued that such actions weaken democratic processes during an active election campaign.

The cancellation comes at a time when political tensions in West Bengal are already high, with multiple parties intensifying their campaigns ahead of upcoming polls. The state has seen sharp exchanges between the ruling TMC, the BJP, and the Congress as electoral competition increases.

Congress leaders have maintained that Rahul Gandhi’s campaign rallies in other parts of the state had received strong

public response, which they believe may have contributed to resistance from rival political forces.

Meanwhile, the Trinamool Congress has not issued a detailed response specifically on the cancellation claim but has previously rejected similar accusations, stating that permissions for public meetings are governed by standard administrative procedures and election guidelines.

The Election Commission and local authorities are yet to issue a formal clarification on the specific permissions in question. With the cancellation of Rahul Gandhi’s Bengal visit, Congress is expected to revise its campaign strategy in the state as it continues its efforts to strengthen its presence in a politically competitive environment.



Young Dancer Defies Fear with Patriotic Tribute at Pahalgam

ARN Mahesh

In a powerful display of courage and patriotism, 15-year-old Kuchipudi dancer Akshara Devalla, a native of Vijayawada and currently living in Hyderabad, performed a moving tribute to the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack, sending a strong message of resilience and national pride.



Exactly a year after the tragic incident in Baisaran Valley, often called “Mini Switzerland”, where terrorists brutally killed innocent tourists, Akshara chose to stand on the same soil and send a message of strength. At a time when fear still lingers and tourist footfall remains low, her presence in Pahalgam itself was a bold statement.

Sharing about her experience with True Point, Akshara said she initially felt apprehensive but drew courage from the sight of Indian Army personnel guarding the region. She performed her tribute at the memorial dedicated to the martyrs, determined to honour their sacrifice and reassure fellow citizens that Pahalgam remains an inseparable part of India.

Her mother, Bhavana, described the decision as a conscious effort to raise a fearless and patriotic daughter. She explained the importance of instilling courage in young minds, saying such experiences shape responsible and confident citizens. Her father, Satish Devalla, who accompanied Akshara and handled every aspect of the performance, called it a deeply emotional and unforgettable journey. He said their purpose was not only to support their daughter but also

to stand in solidarity with the nation.

At just 15, Akshara Devalla has shown that patriotism is not defined by age, but by spirit. Her tribute stands as a message to the world- fear may visit, but it will never stay where courage lives.

However, the impact of the past attack still weighs heavily on Pahalgam, with tourism significantly affected and local livelihoods suffering. Yet, Akshara’s act has emerged as a beacon of hope. Her performance reminds the country that courage can be expressed in many forms, even through dance.



Mojtaba Khamenei Factor Behind Delay in US–Iran Peace Talks

Peace negotiations between the United States and Iran are reportedly facing delays due to internal uncertainty within Tehran's leadership, with attention now turning to Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei's role and absence from active decision-making, according to a new report.

The White House assessment suggests that Iran's leadership structure is currently fragmented, with key decision-making processes slowed due to lack of clear direction from the top. This has reportedly created confusion among Iranian negotiators involved in Pakistan-mediated ceasefire discussions with the United States.

According to US officials cited in the report, Mojtaba Khamenei has not been visibly active or publicly accessible since taking over leadership, leading to questions

about how effectively he is directing internal policy decisions.

American intelligence assessments believe this absence has resulted in competing factions within Iran's political and military establishment, each interpreting policy directions differently. This internal divide is seen as one of the key reasons for delays in the next round of peace talks.

Another major complication in the negotiations is Iran's enriched uranium stockpile, which remains at a level that Western officials consider dangerously close to weapons-grade capability. This issue continues to be a central barrier in discussions, with neither side reaching consensus on limits or verification mechanisms.

The US reportedly views the leadership uncertainty in

Tehran as directly affecting Iran's willingness or ability to take consistent positions on nuclear commitments during talks.

The peace process, which is being facilitated through Pakistani mediation, was expected to move into a second round of discussions. However, scheduling has been repeatedly delayed amid rising tensions and inconsistent messaging from both Washington and Tehran.

Iran has also expressed concerns over what it calls contradictory actions by the United States, including continued military pressure and strategic restrictions, which it claims undermine the trust needed for negotiations.

Reports indicate that the lack of visible coordination from Mojtaba Khamenei has led to speculation about how decisions are being made in-

side Iran's leadership circle. Some analysts suggest that key military and political factions may be operating with limited central guidance, further complicating diplomatic engagement.

This situation has reportedly made it difficult for US negotiators to identify a stable counterpart capable of committing to long-term agreements.

Despite the delays, both sides have not formally abandoned the negotiation process. Diplomatic channels remain open through intermediaries, and there is continued international pressure to prevent further escalation. However, with internal divisions in Iran and strategic distrust on both sides, the path toward a stable ceasefire agreement remains uncertain.

The report highlights how



internal leadership ambiguity in Iran—particularly surrounding Mojtaba Khamenei's role—is emerging as a significant factor slowing down US-Iran peace talks. Combined with unresolved nuclear disputes and mutual distrust, the negotiations remain fragile, with no clear timeline for breakthrough progress.

US–Iran Ceasefire Extended Amid Pakistan Mediation

Iran Fires on Ship in Strait of Hormuz Hours After Trump Announces Ceasefire Extension

Trump Credits Asim Munir and Shehbaz Sharif

The United States has extended its ceasefire arrangement with Iran following diplomatic efforts involving Pakistan, with former US President Donald Trump crediting Pakistan's top leadership for playing a key role in the breakthrough.

According to reports, Pakistan's Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif were instrumental in urging both Washington and Tehran to continue talks and avoid escalation. The extension is aimed at keeping diplomatic channels open while broader negotiations on long-term issues continue.

Trump reportedly agreed to extend the ceasefire after a request from Pakistan, which has been actively mediating between the two sides. The extension provides additional time for Iran to develop a more unified position and present a structured proposal for a longer-term agreement.

Pakistan's involvement in the process has been described as part of its broader effort to position itself as a regional mediator capable of engaging with both Western powers and Middle Eastern nations. Officials from Islamabad have reportedly maintained communication with both US and Iranian stakeholders during the ongoing diplomatic effort.



Asim Munir is said to have been in contact with key international actors during the backchannel discussions, while the Pakistani government under Shehbaz Sharif has supported the initiative diplomatically. Trump publicly acknowledged their contribution, describing Pakistan's leadership as playing a constructive role in facilitating dialogue.

The ceasefire extension reflects continued efforts to prevent direct escalation between the US and Iran, even as core issues remain unresolved. These include long-standing disputes over Iran's nuclear program, regional security concerns, and broader geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. Analysts say Pakistan's role in the process could enhance its diplomatic standing internationally. By acting as a mediator, Islamabad gains visibility in high-level negotiations involving global powers, which may translate into increased strategic influence in future discussions.

At the same time, the situation remains fragile. Despite the extension, there is no final agreement in place, and both sides continue to hold differing positions on key issues. Internal challenges within Iran and broader regional instability also continue to affect the pace of negotiations.

The development highlights the complex nature of current US–Iran relations, where indirect diplomacy and third-party mediation are becoming increasingly important. Pakistan's involvement marks a notable moment in its foreign policy engagement on the global stage.

For now, the ceasefire extension keeps diplomatic efforts alive, but the path toward a permanent resolution remains uncertain.

Tensions in the Middle East escalated sharply after Iran reportedly opened fire on a commercial vessel in the Strait of Hormuz just hours after former US President Donald Trump announced an extension of the US–Iran ceasefire.

According to reports, at least one container ship was damaged in the incident, which took place in one of the world's most strategically important shipping lanes. The Strait of Hormuz is a critical route for global oil transport, and any disruption in the area immediately raises international concern over energy security and maritime stability.

The attack comes at a sensitive moment, as diplomatic efforts to formalize a broader peace framework between the United States and Iran have stalled. The ceasefire extension had been announced as a temporary measure to allow Iran time to present a unified proposal for long-term negotiations.

The incident highlights the fragile nature of the current ceasefire arrangement. While the US had extended the pause in hostilities, both sides have continued to accuse each other of violations and provocative actions in the region.

Iran has not issued an immediate official response to the latest report, but previous statements have strongly rejected US military presence and naval operations near Iranian waters. The country has also previously warned that vessels entering the Strait without permission could face action.



The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the most sensitive geopolitical chokepoints in the world. Nearly one-fifth of global oil shipments pass through this narrow waterway, making it vital to international trade and energy supply chains.

Even minor disruptions in the region have historically led to fluctuations in global oil prices and increased concerns among shipping companies and insurance providers operating in the Gulf.

The ceasefire extension had been seen as a diplomatic opening, reportedly supported by mediation efforts from regional players, including Pakistan. However, continued maritime incidents are now putting pressure on the fragile agreement.

Earlier reports indicated that Washington extended the ceasefire while awaiting a more structured peace proposal from Tehran, but mutual distrust and ongoing strategic tensions have slowed progress. Security analysts warn that repeated incidents in the Strait of Hormuz could quickly escalate into broader conflict if diplomatic channels fail to stabilize the situation. The combination of naval activity, unresolved political disputes, and strategic pressure points continues to make the region highly volatile.

For now, the situation remains uncertain, with both sides maintaining firm positions while international observers urge restraint to prevent further escalation in one of the world's most critical maritime corridors.

Top US Nuclear Scientist Andrew Hugg Under Investigation After Alleged Leak to Undercover Journalist

A senior US nuclear scientist, Andrew Hugg, is reportedly under investigation after allegedly sharing sensitive national security information with an undercover journalist, according to media reports that have triggered a major controversy in Washington.

The incident came to light after a hidden-camera video surfaced showing Hugg discussing sensitive matters related to US military operations and the ongoing Iran conflict. The footage has raised concerns over possible breaches of national security protocols.

In the video, Hugg allegedly makes controversial remarks about US military actions and strategic considerations involving Iran. Reports suggest he discussed sensitive scenarios involving high-level political and military targets in a speculative context, which has alarmed security officials.

He is also alleged to have referred to civilian casualties from US airstrikes, describing them as “collateral damage,” further intensifying scrutiny over his statements. Following the emergence of the video, reports indicate that Hugg was removed from his position and placed on administrative leave.



while a formal investigation is launched to determine whether any classified information was improperly disclosed. Security officials are now examining the extent of the alleged leak and whether it violated internal protocols governing access to sensitive nuclear and defence-related information.

Depending on the findings, disciplinary or legal action may follow. The incident has raised serious concerns within US defence and intelligence circles about information security and internal discipline, particularly regarding how sensi-

tive geopolitical discussions are handled by senior officials. The controversy comes at a time of heightened tensions between the United States and Iran, with ongoing diplomatic efforts and ceasefire discussions already under strain.

Any potential leak of strategic information is seen as especially sensitive in this context.

The investigation is ongoing, and officials have not yet released a final statement regarding the scope of the alleged disclosures or the future status of the scientist involved.

Iran Rejects Trump Ceasefire Terms, Says “Losing Side Cannot Dictate Conditions”

Iran has strongly pushed back against US President Donald Trump's announcement of an extended ceasefire, stating that the “losing side cannot dictate terms” in ongoing negotiations. The response reflects Tehran's rejection of what it sees as one-sided diplomatic pressure from Washington.

The reaction came after Trump said the US–Iran ceasefire had been extended following requests from Pakistan's leadership and to allow Iran more time to present a unified proposal for long-term talks. Iran, however, has questioned the legitimacy of setting such conditions while tensions remain unresolved.

Senior Iranian figures, including parliamentary speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf and adviser Mahdi Mohammedi, criticized the US stance, arguing that ceasefire arrangements should not be used as a tool for political leverage. They stated that any agreement must be based on mutual respect rather than coercion or military pressure. Iran also ac-



cused the US of attempting to gain diplomatic advantage while maintaining sanctions and regional military presence. The ceasefire extension was intended to prevent further escalation and keep diplomatic channels open. However, the truce remains fragile, with both sides continuing to accuse each other of violations and aggressive actions. Maritime tensions in the Strait of Hormuz and long-standing disputes over Iran's nuclear programme continue to fuel instability in the region.

At the same time, internal divisions within Iran's political structure are also influencing its response. Reports suggest differing views among Iranian factions, with some supporting continued resist-

ance to external pressure and others favouring conditional engagement if sanctions relief and security guarantees are provided.

Despite the strong rhetoric, diplomatic efforts have not completely stalled. Backchannel discussions involving regional intermediaries are still ongoing, with hopes of narrowing differences between the two sides. However, there is currently no clear breakthrough in negotiations.

The situation highlights the deep mistrust between Washington and Tehran, where even temporary ceasefire arrangements are seen through a lens of strategic competition rather than long-term cooperation. While the US seeks to maintain stability and extend negotiations, Iran insists that any future agreement must be negotiated on equal terms without external pressure. For now, the ceasefire continues to hold, but the political and military tensions underlying it remain unresolved, keeping the region in a highly sensitive and uncertain phase.

Sensex Falls 756 Points Nifty Slips Below 24,400

Markets end lower amid profit booking and weak global cues

Indian equity markets ended sharply lower on April 22, 2026, snapping a three-day winning streak as investors booked profits at higher levels. The Sensex plunged around 756 points while the Nifty slipped below the crucial 24,400 mark, reflecting a cautious and volatile trading session on Dalal Street.

The decline came after recent gains had pushed benchmarks close to record territory, prompting traders to lock in profits. The Nifty had briefly touched higher levels in previous sessions, but failed to sustain momentum near key resistance zones, leading to a broad-based pullback across sectors.

Market participants said the overall sentiment turned negative due to a combination of global and domestic factors. Weak cues from international markets, concerns over crude oil price fluctuations, and continued geopolitical uncertainty weighed on investor confidence. Additionally, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were seen trimming positions after recent buying, adding pressure on indices.

One of the key triggers for the decline was heavy profit booking in sectors that had recently rallied, particularly

banking, IT, and select large-

sentiment was technical resist-

er market structure still re-

role in dampening sentiment. Uncertainty around geopolitical developments, particularly related to the Iran-US situation, and fluctuations in crude oil prices kept investors on edge. Higher oil prices tend to raise concerns about inflation and input costs, especially for emerging markets like India.

In sectoral performance, IT stocks were among the biggest drags on the indices, following weak earnings guidance from key companies. Banking stocks also witnessed selling pressure after recent gains. On the other hand, a few defensive sectors saw limited buying interest, but it was not enough to offset broader weakness.

Market experts suggest that investors should watch upcoming economic data, corporate earnings, and global cues for further direction. Volatility is expected to remain elevated in the near term as markets digest recent gains and reassess valuations. In conclusion, the sharp fall in Indian equities marks a pause in the recent rally rather than a trend reversal. While short-term pressure persists due to profit booking and global uncertainty, the broader market outlook remains dependent on sustained earnings growth and macroeconomic stability.



cap stocks. These segments had led the earlier uptrend, and traders used the recent highs as an opportunity to exit positions. Mid-cap and small-cap stocks also came under mild selling pressure, though they showed relatively better resilience compared to front-line indices.

Another factor influencing

ance near the 24,400-24,500 range on the Nifty. Analysts noted that this zone had repeatedly acted as a ceiling in recent sessions, triggering selling whenever the index approached it. The inability to decisively break above this level contributed to cautious trading behavior.

Despite the sharp fall, broad-

flects selective strength. Several analysts believe the correction is largely a short-term consolidation phase rather than a reversal of the broad uptrend. They point out that markets had rallied significantly in the previous sessions, and a pullback was expected after such rapid gains.

Global factors also played a



Havells Q4 Profit Jumps 41 Percent to 734 Crore

Havells India has reported a strong set of financial results for the fourth quarter, with its consolidated net profit rising 41% year-on-year to 734 crore. The performance reflects steady demand across key product categories even as revenue growth remained relatively modest.

The company's revenue from operations showed only a marginal increase, indicating that while profitability improved significantly, top-line expansion was subdued compared to profit growth. This suggests that operational efficiency, better margins, and product mix improvements played a key role in boosting earnings.

Strong Profit Growth Despite Slow Revenue Expansion

Havells' sharp rise in net profit highlights improved cost management and better realization across its segments, including cables, switchgear, and consumer durables. The company has been focusing on strengthening its high-margin businesses, which has helped offset slower demand growth in certain categories.

While revenue did not see a major surge, the company maintained stability in its core segments. Demand for electrical goods, appliances, and infrastructure-linked products continued to support overall business performance.

Segment Performance and Demand Trends

Key business divisions such as cables and electrical consumer durables remained important growth drivers. These segments typically benefit from infrastructure activity and seasonal demand for cooling products like fans and air conditioners.

However, consumer sentiment remained mixed in parts of the market due to inflationary pressures and uneven demand across regions. Despite this, Havells managed to maintain profitability through operational discipline and product diversification.

Margin Strength Supports Earnings

A major factor behind the strong profit growth was likely margin improvement. Compa-

ies to benefit from a strong

tor often benefit from better

pricing power, lower input cost

pressures in certain quarters,

and efficiency in distribution

networks.

Havells has also been focusing on its Lloyd brand and premium product categories, which contribute higher margins compared to mass-market offerings. This shift in product mix may have supported the improved earnings performance.

Broader Industry Context

The consumer electrical and appliance industry has been experiencing uneven demand patterns. While infrastructure spending and housing activity support long-term growth, short-term consumption trends are influenced by inflation, weather conditions, and rural demand cycles.

Despite these fluctuations, established players like Havells continue to benefit from brand strength and distribution reach, allowing them to maintain profitability even when revenue growth slows.

Investor Outlook

Strong profit growth combined with stable revenue performance is generally seen as a positive signal by investors, as it indicates resilience in business operations. However, the marginal rise in revenue suggests that demand conditions remain mixed and may require closer monitoring in upcoming quarters.

Market participants are likely to watch future earnings for signs of sustained demand recovery, particularly in consumer durables and infrastructure-linked segments.

Conclusion

Havells India's latest quarterly results show a company balancing moderate revenue growth with strong profitability gains. The 41% jump in net profit highlights efficient operations and a favorable product mix, even as overall revenue expansion remains limited.

The results underline a key theme in the sector: profitability can still improve even in a slow-growth environment, provided companies manage costs effectively and focus on high-margin segments.

Stock Hits Upper Circuit on VAT Relief

Hopes IndiGo Ends Volatile Session Higher

SpiceJet shares continued their strong upward momentum in the stock market, hitting the 5% upper circuit for the second consecutive trading session. The sharp move came amid growing investor optimism over possible government relief measures for the aviation sector, particularly related to taxation on aviation fuel.

The rally reflects sustained buying interest in the stock despite the airline's long-standing financial stress. Market sentiment improved after reports suggested that authorities may consider reducing Value Added Tax (VAT) on aviation turbine fuel (ATF), a key cost component for airlines. Such a move is seen as potentially easing operational pressure across the industry.

Strong Momentum Continues for SpiceJet

SpiceJet's stock has been among the most volatile counters in the aviation space, but recent sessions have seen consistent upward movement. The stock hitting back-to-back upper circuits indicates strong speculative and momentum-driven buying.

The optimism is largely linked to expectations that policy support could improve cash flows for struggling airlines. Lower fuel taxes would directly reduce operating costs, which form a significant portion of



airline expenditure.

Despite the rally, SpiceJet continues to face structural challenges, including financial liabilities and operational constraints. However, short-term sentiment has clearly shifted in favour of the stock due to external policy hopes.

IndiGo Sees Profit Booking After Initial Pressure

In contrast, IndiGo (Inter-Globe Aviation) experienced

mixed movement during the session. The stock initially came under pressure but later pared losses, indicating selective buying support at lower levels.

While IndiGo remains the dominant player in the Indian aviation market, it tends to react less sharply to speculative news compared to smaller peers like SpiceJet. The recovery in its stock price during the

session suggests investor confidence in its long-term stability despite short-term volatility.

Sector-Wide Sentiment Driven by Policy Expectations

The overall aviation sector sentiment was influenced by expectations around government intervention. Fuel costs remain one of the biggest challenges for airlines, and any tax relief is viewed as a major pos-

itive catalyst.

Market participants believe that even temporary reductions in VAT on aviation fuel could provide meaningful relief to airlines, especially those under financial stress. This has triggered renewed interest in airline stocks, particularly those with higher sensitivity to cost changes.

Volatility Remains High in Airline Stocks

Aviation stocks in India have historically been highly sensitive to fuel price movements, regulatory decisions, and global crude oil trends. The latest rally in SpiceJet highlights how quickly sentiment can shift based on policy speculation.

However, analysts often caution that such rallies may not always be sustained unless backed by concrete policy announcements or improvements in financial fundamentals.

Conclusion

SpiceJet's continued upper circuit reflects strong short-term optimism driven by hopes of VAT relief on aviation fuel, while IndiGo's relatively stable movement shows resilience in a larger, more established carrier. Overall, the aviation sector remains highly reactive to policy signals, and investor sentiment is currently being shaped more by expectations of government support than by underlying fundamentals.

TCS HCLTech and Wipro Report Weak Visibility Despite Stable Deal Pipelines

India's IT sector continues to face a difficult outlook, with weak near-term visibility persisting even though deal pipelines remain steady across major companies like TCS, HCLTech, and Wipro. The latest earnings commentary suggests that while contracts are being signed, converting them into predictable revenue growth remains a challenge.

The broader message from Q4 results is that demand has not collapsed, but execution has become uncertain. Delays in project ramp-ups, cautious client spending, and macroeconomic instability are all affecting revenue realization, leading to subdued growth expectations for the coming quarters.

Deal Wins Exist, But Conversion is Weak

IT companies have reported that deal pipelines remain healthy, indicating that clients are still engaging in outsourcing and digital transformation projects. However, the issue lies in timing and execution.

According to recent management commentary, even after

deals are signed, revenue recognition is being delayed due to client-specific issues and postponed project starts. This has reduced short-term visibility and made quarterly forecasting more difficult.

Wipro, for instance, has guided for flat to slightly sequential growth in the near term, citing delayed ramp-ups and execution timing issues. This reflects a broader industry trend where signed contracts are not immediately translating into revenue.

HCLTech and Weak Growth Guidance Signal Pressure

HCLTech has also highlighted muted growth expectations, with FY27 guidance coming in below market estimates. The company pointed to weak discretionary spending and client-specific headwinds as key reasons behind its cautious outlook.

In addition, analysts note that traditional IT services are facing structural pressure due to AI-driven efficiency gains. Some estimates suggest a gradual reduction in revenue from non-AI services as clients adopt automation and produc-



tivity tools.

This adds another layer of uncertainty, as AI is simultaneously creating new opportuni-

ties while also putting pressure on legacy revenue streams.

TCS Remains Relatively Stable, But Growth Is Slow

TCS continues to stand out as the most stable among the large IT players, supported by strong deal wins and diversi-

fied global exposure. However, even TCS is not immune to broader sector challenges.

Its growth remains modest, with expectations of only incremental improvement rather than a sharp recovery. This indicates that while demand is steady, it is not strong enough to accelerate industry-wide expansion.

Key Sector Challenge: Execution, Not Demand

A major takeaway from Q4 results is that the problem is no longer purely demand-driven. Instead, execution uncertainty has become the dominant issue.

Even though companies continue to win contracts, factors such as:

- delayed project ramp-ups
 - cautious client budgets
 - geopolitical uncertainty
 - shifting technology priorities (especially AI)
- are reducing visibility into future revenue streams. Macro Headwinds Add to Pressure
- The IT sector is also facing

external challenges, including global economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, and slower discretionary technology spending by clients in the US and Europe.

These factors are causing companies to adopt conservative guidance for FY27, reflecting

Conclusion: Steady Deals, Weak Visibility

The overall picture for India's IT sector is mixed. While deal pipelines remain intact and large clients continue to invest in technology transformation, the industry is struggling with weak short-term visibility.

TCS, HCLTech, and Wipro collectively highlight a key theme: demand is stable, but conversion into revenue is slow and uncertain. Combined with AI-driven disruption and cautious client spending, this is keeping growth expectations subdued.

Until execution improves and global demand strengthens, the sector is likely to remain in a phase of low visibility and cautious outlook despite steady deal activity.

Conductor Accidentally Damages 12 Crore Violin During Performance

A high-profile classical music performance recently took an unexpected turn when conductor Matthew Halls accidentally knocked a rare and extremely valuable violin—reportedly worth around £1 million (approximately 12 crore)—out of a musician’s hands during a live concert.

The incident took place during a symphonic performance where precision and coordination between the conductor and musicians are critical. According to reports, Halls was leading the orchestra with his usual energetic style when a sudden movement of his baton or hand unintentionally struck the violinist’s instrument mid-performance.

The violin, a rare and historically significant piece,

slipped from the musician’s grip and was momentarily in danger of being severely damaged. Audience members initially appeared unsure about what had happened, as the moment unfolded quickly on stage. The performance briefly faltered as the musician and nearby orchestra members reacted to the incident. Fortunately, despite the shock and the instrument’s immense value, the violin did not suffer catastrophic damage. Early accounts suggest that while the instrument may have been impacted, it remained largely intact, allowing the performance to continue after a brief disruption. The conductor reportedly expressed immediate concern after realizing what had happened. In live orchestral settings, conductors and mu-

sicians operate in extremely close physical and visual coordination, often with limited space on stage. This proximity, combined with expressive conducting gestures, sometimes increases the risk of accidental contact—though incidents involving instruments of such high value are extremely rare.

The violin involved is believed to be a rare antique instrument, likely crafted by a master luthier and maintained under strict conditions. Instruments of this caliber are not only musical tools but also historical artifacts, often insured for substantial amounts due to their rarity and cultural significance. Despite the dramatic moment, the orchestra resumed the performance, demonstrating professionalism

from both the conductor and musicians. Such incidents, while unusual, highlight the intense physicality and precision required in live orchestral music, where dozens of performers must remain perfectly synchronized under high-pressure conditions.

Audience reactions reportedly ranged from shock to curiosity, with many initially unsure whether the moment was part of the performance or an accident. In live classical concerts, unexpected disruptions are rare but not unheard of, and performers are trained to recover quickly to maintain continuity. While no formal statement has indicated long-term damage or financial claims at this stage, the incident has drawn attention in music circles due to the rarity and value of the instrument involved.

Ultimately, the performance stands as a reminder



of both the beauty and unpredictability of live music, where even the most carefully rehearsed events can be altered in a split second by human movement on stage.

Japanese Entrepreneur Falls in Love with Pani Puri, Plans to Open a Shop

Indian street food pani puri has once again crossed borders—this time winning the heart of a Japanese entrepreneur who is now seriously considering opening her own pani puri shop in Japan after becoming completely hooked on the snack.

The woman, identified on social media as Hermes, shared her growing obsession with pani puri on X (formerly Twitter), where her posts quickly went viral. What began as a casual experience of trying the popular Indian street food has now turned into a deep fascination that she describes as almost addictive.

According to her posts, she eats pani puri about twice a week and has even bought a DIY kit to make it at home. She also revealed that her husband, who usually avoids unfamiliar or “exotic” foods, has also started enjoying it and often finds himself craving it unexpectedly.

She expressed how strongly she feels about the snack, even saying she is seriously thinking about opening a small pani puri shop where people can enjoy it casually as a quick street-style bite. The idea, she suggested, comes from how much she enjoys its taste and how popular it could be as a fast, accessible snack in Japan.

Her experience also includes solo visits to local eateries where she enjoys pani puri quietly, often being the only Japanese customer in the shop. Despite the cultural differences, she has embraced the snack fully and describes it as something she cannot stop thinking about.

Her posts struck a chord online, especially among Indian



users who were delighted to see pani puri gaining global appreciation. Many responded by recommending other Indian street food variations such as phuchka from Bengal, sev puri from Mumbai, and dahi puri, highlighting the diversity of flavours within the category.

Social media reactions celebrated how Indian cuisine continues to gain international attention through such personal stories. Users pointed out that pani puri’s combination of crisp shells, tangy water, spicy fillings, and sweet chutneys makes it uniquely addictive and unlike many global snacks.

Food experts and online commentators also noted that this is part of a larger trend where Indian street foods are becoming globally recognized. From viral tasting videos

abroad to entrepreneurs exploring business ideas around them, dishes like pani puri are increasingly being seen as exportable cultural experiences rather than just local snacks.

The entrepreneur’s idea has sparked conversations about how traditional foods can travel across cultures and potentially become successful global food ventures. While it remains to be seen whether she will officially launch a shop, her enthusiasm has already turned pani puri into a cross-cultural talking point. Ultimately, her story highlights something simple but powerful: food often transcends geography. What starts as a street-side snack in India can end up inspiring business ideas and emotional connections thousands of kilometers away in Japan.

Why the World’s Biggest Environmental Movement Matters More Than Ever

Earth Day, observed every year on April 22, has grown into one of the largest global movements dedicated to protecting the environment. What began in 1970 as a small grassroots protest in the United States has now become a worldwide campaign involving over a billion people across more than 190 countries. In 2026, the message of Earth Day carries even greater urgency as the planet faces rising climate threats, pollution, and biodiversity loss. The central idea of Earth Day is simple: the Earth is a shared home, and protecting it is a shared responsibility.

Over the years, it has evolved into a day of awareness, education, activism, and reflection. It is not only about celebration but also about encouraging real action—both at the individual level and through government policies aimed at environmental protection.

The Origins of Earth Day

Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970, inspired by growing concerns over industrial pollution and environmental damage. The movement was strongly influenced by environmental disasters such as oil spills and rising awareness of harmful industrial practices. Senator Gaylord Nelson played a key role in organizing the first nationwide environmental protest in the United States.

On April 22, 1970, around 20 million people participated in demonstrations, rallies, and educational events across the U.S. This massive public response marked the beginning of the modern environmental movement. It also led to the creation of major environmental laws and institutions, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and key legislation on clean air and clean water protection.



Over time, Earth Day expanded beyond the United States and became a global event. Today, it is coordinated internationally and observed in nearly every country, making it one of the most widely recognized civic observances in the world.

Earth Day 2026 Theme and Focus

The theme for Earth Day 2026 is “Our Power, Our Planet.” This theme highlights the idea that environmental change is not only dependent on governments or large organizations but also on individuals and communities. Every action—whether reducing waste, conserving energy, or supporting renewable solutions—contributes to a larger global impact.

This year’s Earth Day emphasizes participation over passive awareness. It encourages people to move from concern to action, focusing on solutions such as clean energy adoption, sustainable consumption, and local environmental initiatives.

Why Earth Day Matters More in 2026

Earth Day 2026 is considered especially significant because

environmental challenges have intensified. Climate change is leading to more frequent extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and disruptions in ecosystems. Deforestation continues to reduce forest cover, while plastic pollution and industrial waste are harming oceans and wildlife.

These issues are no longer distant warnings—they are present realities affecting food security, health, and livelihoods across the world. Earth Day serves as a reminder that these challenges require urgent and collective action rather than delayed responses.

Global Participation and Impact

Today, Earth Day involves people from all walks of life—students, activists, scientists, businesses, and governments. Activities include tree planting drives, cleanliness campaigns, climate awareness programs, and educational workshops. Digital campaigns have also expanded participation, allowing millions to join discussions and pledges online. One of the strongest aspects of Earth Day is its ability to unite people globally under a shared cause. It transforms environmental

concerns into visible action, encouraging both policy-level reforms and personal lifestyle changes.

Inspiring Messages and Quotes

Earth Day is also known for powerful messages that encourage reflection and responsibility. Popular environmental quotes often highlight humanity’s connection with nature, such as the idea that the Earth is not something we own, but something we depend on for survival. These messages reinforce the importance of living in balance with nature.

Conclusion

Earth Day 2026 is more than just a symbolic observance—it is a global reminder of the urgent need to protect the planet. As environmental pressures increase, the importance of collective responsibility becomes even clearer. The day encourages people not only to reflect on the state of the Earth but also to actively participate in preserving it for future generations. Ultimately, Earth Day’s message is simple yet powerful: protecting the planet is not an occasional duty, but a continuous responsibility shared by everyone.

Despite 1 Crore+ Job Offer, NRI Plans Return to India

An Indian-origin professional living in the United States has gone viral after expressing a surprising decision—planning to return to India despite securing a job offer worth around \$120,000 (approximately 1 crore or more). The reason, according to the individual, is not financial instability but emotional distress and depression caused by life abroad.

The case was shared in an online post that quickly gained attention, highlighting the emotional struggles many international students and professionals face while living away from home. The NRI, who recently completed a master’s degree in the US, reportedly received a high-paying job offer in Austin, Texas. However, instead of celebrating the opportunity, they expressed a strong desire to return to India as soon as possible.

Emotional Struggles Behind the Decision

In the post, the individual explained that despite the attractive salary package and ca-

reer growth opportunities, they were struggling with loneliness and mental health issues. They described feeling “too depressed” while living in the US, saying the emotional burden outweighed the professional benefits of staying abroad.

The NRI also mentioned having an education loan of around \$40,000, which added financial pressure to their situation. However, even with the prospect of earning a high salary, they stated that their priority was mental well-being and returning home rather than continuing abroad for long-term financial gain.

A Common Struggle Among International Students

The post struck a chord with many online users, as it reflects a broader issue faced by students and young professionals who move abroad for higher studies or better job opportunities. While financial prospects are often strong, the emotional challenges—such as



isolation, cultural adjustment, and lack of social support—can become overwhelming.

In this case, the individual specifically pointed to loneliness as a major factor affecting

their mental health. Social media users responding to the post shared mixed opinions.

Some advised staying longer in the US to repay loans and build savings, while others supported the idea of prioritizing mental health and returning to India sooner.

Financial Advice and Mixed Reactions

Many commenters suggested a more practical approach, recommending that the NRI stay for a few years to clear debt and build financial security before making a permanent move back. Others pointed out that emotional well-being should not be sacrificed for income, even if the salary is high. The debate reflects a common dilemma faced by many Indians abroad: whether to continue pursuing high-paying international careers or return home for better emotional stability and family support.

The Bigger Picture: Beyond Money and Jobs

Experts and observers note that such situations are becoming more visible in recent years, especially among students who move abroad during

or after their studies. While global opportunities are attractive, the transition often comes with psychological stress that is underestimated.

The increasing number of similar stories highlights that success abroad is not defined solely by salary packages or job titles. Mental health, social connection, and personal comfort play an equally important role in long-term happiness.

Conclusion

This case is another reminder that financial success does not always guarantee emotional well-being. Despite a lucrative job offer and strong career prospects, the NRI’s decision to prioritize mental health over income reflects a growing awareness among young professionals about the importance of emotional stability.

As global mobility increases, more individuals are openly discussing the hidden challenges of life abroad, showing that career decisions are often shaped by far more than just money.

Royals Outplay Super Giants

Rajasthan Royals delivered a commanding performance to defeat Lucknow Super Giants in a high-intensity Indian Premier League clash, showcasing strength in both batting and bowling departments.

Opting to bat first, Rajasthan Royals got off to a steady start with their top-order laying a solid foundation. The openers played cautiously in the initial overs before accelerating, ensuring a good run rate without losing early wickets. The middle order capitalised on this platform, playing aggressive strokes and rotating the strike effectively. Timely boundaries and calculated risks helped the Royals post a competitive total, putting pressure on the opposition.

Chasing the target, Lucknow Super Giants began their innings with intent but soon lost momentum as Rajasthan's bowlers tightened their grip on the game. Early breakthroughs dented Lucknow's confidence, and the required run rate kept climbing. Despite brief resistance from the middle order, the team failed to build substantial partnerships, which proved costly in the chase.

Rajasthan's bowling unit stood out with a disciplined and well-executed perfor-



mance. The pacers made effective use of conditions, striking at crucial moments, while the spinners maintained control in the middle overs, restricting the flow of runs. Consistent wicket-taking ensured that Lucknow never found a way back into the contest.

Fielding also played a key role in Rajasthan's victory, with players displaying excellent coordination, sharp catching, and athletic ground fielding. These efforts further mounted pressure on Lucknow, leading to errors and missed opportunities.

With this comprehensive win, Rajasthan Royals strengthened their position in the tournament standings and boosted their net run rate. The victory will give them confidence as they aim to maintain consistency in the competition. On the other hand, Lucknow Super Giants will need to reassess their strategies, particularly in handling pressure situations and building partnerships during chases. As the tournament progresses, they will look to bounce back stronger and keep their playoff hopes alive.

SRH Coach Hails Abhishek Sharma After Explosive IPL 2026 Knock

Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) coaching staff has lavished praise on young opener Abhishek Sharma after his standout performance in IPL 2026, highlighting his maturity and match awareness despite his aggressive playing style.

Abhishek has been in exceptional form this season, recently delivering a stunning unbeaten century against Delhi Capitals that powered SRH to a massive total. His innings has once again reinforced his reputation as one of the most destructive young batters in T20 cricket.

SRH's coaching unit, including bowling coach Varun Aaron, praised Abhishek Sharma for the composure he has shown at the top of the order. Aaron noted that the youngster has always carried a sense of maturity in his game, even when playing high-risk, attack-ing cricket.

According to the coach, what stands out most about Abhishek is not just his stroke play, but his ability to assess match situations and adapt accordingly. This balance be-



tween aggression and awareness has made him a key pillar in SRH's batting lineup this season. SRH management has also played a major role in shaping Abhishek's confidence. The franchise has consistently backed him to play freely at the top, allowing him to express himself without excessive pressure or restriction.

This environment of trust has helped him convert potential into match-winning performances. In recent interviews, Abhishek himself credited the

team culture and leadership group for giving him the freedom to perform naturally.

Abhishek's recent innings against Delhi Capitals was one of the highlights of the tournament, where he scored a powerful unbeaten 135. He batted through the innings, anchoring SRH's record total and showcasing both power-hitting and endurance.

His performance not only helped SRH secure a dominant victory but also strengthened their position in the points table, making them one of the

strongest teams in the competition this season.

Over the past few seasons, Abhishek Sharma has evolved from a promising talent into a dependable top-order batter for SRH. His ability to start aggressively in the powerplay and maintain momentum throughout the innings has made him a key asset.

Experts also note that his improved shot selection and situational awareness reflect significant growth in his game, aligning with the coaching staff's observations about his maturity.

The praise from SRH's coaching staff underlines Abhishek Sharma's transformation into a more complete and confident T20 batter. With strong backing from the franchise and consistent match-winning performances, he continues to emerge as one of the most exciting young players in IPL 2026. As the tournament progresses, SRH will be counting heavily on his form, while fans and experts alike watch closely to see how far his "ma-ture aggression" can take him this season.

Vaibhav Suryavanshi Sparks Selection Debate as Ajit Agarkar Receives Sachin Tendulkar Plea

Young batting sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi has once again become the centre of Indian cricket discussion, with strong calls emerging for his fast-tracking into higher levels of the game. The teenager's rapid rise has reportedly reached the attention of chief selector Ajit Agarkar, with a passionate selection plea drawing comparisons to Sachin Tendulkar's early breakthrough.

According to reports, the youngster's extraordinary performances in domestic cricket have triggered renewed debate about whether India should promote him faster than usual through the selection pathway. Supporters of the idea believe his talent is rare enough to justify early exposure at the highest level, similar to how Sachin Tendulkar was introduced to international cricket as a teenager.

The plea sent to Ajit Agarkar reportedly referenced Tendulkar's early debut and historic success as an example of why exceptional young talents should not be held back purely due to age. The argument suggests that players who display advanced skill, temperament, and consistency at a young age should be nurtured in elite environments sooner rather than later.

Suryavanshi has been widely described as one of the most exciting young prospects in Indian cricket, thanks to his aggressive batting style and maturity beyond his years. His performances in domestic competitions have already created significant buzz, with several former players and analysts acknowledging his



potential.

The discussion around him has also reignited a broader conversation in Indian cricket: how early is too early for international exposure? While some experts advocate caution, stressing the importance of gradual development, others believe generational talents should not be restricted by conventional timelines.

Ajit Agarkar and the selection committee now find themselves at the centre of this debate, balancing long-term player development with immediate performance demands. The comparison to Sachin Tendulkar adds further weight to the discussion, given Tendulkar's legendary career after debuting as a teenager and eventually becoming one of the greatest batters in cricket history. However, selectors are expected to take a measured approach, ensuring that

any young player is not rushed into the international spotlight before being fully prepared for its pressures. India's cricket system has historically been careful in managing teenage talent, though exceptions have been made for extraordinary cases. Meanwhile, Suryavanshi continues to focus on his performances, with cricket circles closely monitoring his progress. His rapid rise has already made him one of the most talked-about young names in the sport, and expectations continue to build around his future trajectory.

As the debate continues, one thing is clear: Vaibhav Suryavanshi has already forced Indian cricket to re-think how it identifies and promotes emerging talent, with comparisons to legends like Sachin Tendulkar only intensifying the spotlight on his journey.

Kagiso Rabada Viral Video Sparks Debate Over Alleged Smoking Clip at GT Camp

A video allegedly showing Gujarat Titans fast bowler Kagiso Rabada smoking has gone viral on social media, drawing widespread attention and sparking heated debate among cricket fans during IPL 2026.

The clip, which is being widely circulated online, reportedly shows the South African pacer smoking in a hotel premises where members of the Gujarat Titans camp are believed to have been present. The video quickly gained traction across platforms, with fans and commentators reacting strongly to the unexpected off-field moment involving one of the league's most high-profile overseas stars.

According to reports, the footage has not been independently verified, but it has still triggered intense discussion about player conduct, professionalism, and public image expectations from elite athletes participating in the Indian Premier League.

As the video spread rapidly, social media users were split in their reactions. A section of fans expressed disappointment, arguing that professional cricketers—especially those playing in a high-visibility tournament like the IPL—are expected to maintain strict discipline both on and off the field. Others, however, defended Rabada, stating that personal habits off the field should not be overly scrutinized as long as they do not affect per-



formance or team commitments. The debate reflects a recurring theme in modern sports, where athletes' private moments often become public controversies due to constant smartphone recording and social media amplification.

Despite the controversy, Rabada has been performing steadily for Gujarat Titans in IPL 2026. He has picked up wickets regularly and remains an important part of the team's pace attack. His experience and ability to strike in crucial moments have been valuable for GT in a tightly contested season.

The franchise has not issued any official statement regarding the viral video at the time of reporting, and there is no indication that any disciplinary action has been taken.

The discussion around

Rabada has also been intensified due to his previous off-field controversies. The pacer had served a suspension in the past related to recreational substance use regulations, after which he returned to professional cricket and resumed playing at the highest level.

While that incident was in a different context, some fans have linked it to the current viral clip, further fueling online debate. However, others caution against drawing conclusions without verified information or official confirmation. The incident has once again highlighted the growing tension between athlete privacy and public scrutiny. With constant camera presence in team hotels, training environments, and public spaces, professional cricketers are often under intense observation

even during non-match moments. Experts note that while athletes are role models, they are also individuals, and not every private action should automatically become a public controversy unless it directly impacts team rules or performance standards.

Kagiso Rabada's alleged viral video has become one of the talking points of IPL 2026 off the field, even as Gujarat Titans continue their campaign. While the authenticity of the clip remains unverified, the incident has already sparked widespread debate about professionalism, privacy, and expectations from modern-day cricketers. For now, all eyes remain on how the situation develops—and whether the focus shifts back to Rabada's on-field performances in the coming matches.

Pakistan Cricketer Loses County Contract After Positive Test for Recreational Drugs

A Pakistan cricketer has reportedly lost his county cricket contract after testing positive for recreational drugs, according to media reports that have sparked fresh discussion around player conduct and anti-doping regulations in professional cricket.

While the player's identity has not been officially confirmed in the initial reports, the development is being widely discussed in cricketing circles due to the seriousness of the allegation and its potential impact on his professional career. The incident is said to have led to immediate action from the concerned county club, resulting in the termination or suspension of his contract.

County cricket in England operates under strict anti-doping and conduct policies, aligned with global cricket regulations. Players are subject to random testing, and any violation involving recreational or performance-enhancing substances can lead to disciplinary action, including bans, contract cancellations, or long-term suspensions.

In this case, reports suggest that the positive test was linked to recreational drug use rather than performance-enhancing substances. However, governing bodies treat both categories seriously, especially when it comes to maintaining professional standards and protecting the sport's integrity.

The incident comes at a time when professional cricket is under increasing scrutiny re-



garding player behavior off the field. With greater media coverage, social media exposure, and stricter league regulations, even off-field actions can

quickly become public controversies.

Cricket boards and franchise teams are also placing greater emphasis on discipline and

professionalism, particularly in international leagues like county cricket, the IPL, and other franchise tournaments where players represent global

audiences.

For the player involved, the consequences could extend beyond the immediate loss of a contract. Drug-related violations often carry long-term reputational damage, affecting future opportunities in domestic leagues, international selection, and franchise-based tournaments.

Depending on the governing body's investigation and anti-doping rules, further sanctions such as bans or mandatory rehabilitation programs could also follow.

Cricket has seen several disciplinary cases in the past involving both recreational and performance-enhancing substances. While each case is handled individually, most cricket boards follow a zero-tolerance policy when it comes

to anti-doping violations.

Such incidents often trigger broader conversations about player welfare, mental health, and the pressures of professional sport, especially for athletes playing across multiple leagues around the world.

The reported loss of a county contract by a Pakistan cricketer following a positive drug test highlights the strict standards enforced in modern professional cricket. While details are still emerging, the incident reinforces how seriously cricket authorities treat anti-doping violations and how quickly such issues can impact a player's career.

As investigations continue, further clarity is expected on the player's identity, the substance involved, and potential disciplinary actions.

Mumbai Model Jyoti Sharma Steps Into Acting World

Mumbai-based model Jyoti Sharma is reportedly making steady progress in the entertainment industry as she transitions from modelling into acting opportunities in films, OTT projects, and music videos. The 21-year-old artist, who has been active in the fashion circuit for the past three years, is now being noticed by casting circles for her versatility and screen presence.

According to industry buzz, Jyoti Sharma has built a strong portfolio through print shoots, designer campaigns, ramp shows, and fashion collaborations. Her work spans both Indian ethnic wear and contemporary western fashion assignments, making her a flexible choice for diverse creative projects.

Born and based in Mumbai, Jyoti is 5'6" tall and has worked across multiple fashion formats, including calendar shoots and promotional campaigns. Her growing experience in front of the camera has helped her gain confidence in acting-oriented assignments, which is now opening doors in the film and digital entertainment space.

Sources suggest that Jyoti Sharma is actively exploring opportunities in acting, including film roles, web series, and music videos. With the rise of OTT platforms and demand for fresh faces, several newcomers from modelling backgrounds have been transitioning into acting, and Jyoti appears to be part of this growing trend.

Her fluency in Hindi, English, and Haryanvi is also seen as an advantage for regional as well as national-level projects. Industry insiders note that multilingual ability often plays a key role in casting decisions for diverse roles.

Jyoti is reportedly open to a wide range of professional assignments including fashion shoots, advertising campaigns, ramp shows, and on-screen performance roles. She is also comfortable with both studio-based and outdoor shooting environments, which adds to her adaptability as a performer.

With growing exposure in the modelling industry, she is said to be focusing on building a stronger presence in mainstream entertainment, particularly in visual storytelling formats such as music videos and digital content.

While still early in her acting journey, Jyoti Sharma is gradually gaining attention among casting professionals looking for new talent. Her combination of modelling experience and on-camera confidence positions her as a potential newcomer in the competitive entertainment industry.

Industry observers believe that many models with similar backgrounds are successfully transitioning into acting roles, especially in OTT-driven content where demand for fresh talent continues to grow.

Jyoti Sharma represents a new wave of Mumbai-based talent moving from fashion modelling into acting opportunities across films and digital platforms. With consistent experience in shoots and a growing interest in performance-based roles, she is expected to explore more visible projects in the coming years as she expands her career in the entertainment industry.



Shruti Haasan Locked for Special Song in Ram Charan's 'Peddi' After Casting Buzz

Ram Charan's upcoming big-budget film Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, is once again in the spotlight—this time over its much-talked-about special song sequence. After weeks of speculation around multiple leading actresses, reports now suggest that Shruti Haasan has been finalized for the high-energy number.

The special song has been one of the most discussed aspects of Peddi, with filmmakers initially considering several popular names from across the industry. Actresses such as Mrunal Thakur, Samyuktha Menon, and others were reportedly in contention at different stages, reflecting the makers' intent to pick a strong screen presence for the song.

However, according to latest updates from film circles, the production team has now settled on Shruti Haasan for the performance. The decision is said to have been taken after multiple rounds of internal discussions, with the team ultimately feeling that her combination of glamour, energy, and dance ability best fits the requirements of the track.

Interestingly, this is not the first time Shruti Haasan and

Ram Charan will share screen space. The duo previously appeared together in Yevadu, where their on-screen chemistry was well received. This familiarity is also expected to add extra appeal to the upcoming special number in Peddi.

Industry sources also suggest that Samyuktha Menon was a strong contender until the final stages, especially given her recent popularity. However, Shruti Haasan eventually emerged as the preferred choice of the makers.

The song itself is expected to be a major highlight in the film, which already carries high expectations due to its cast and technical team. Peddi stars Janhvi Kapoor as the female lead and features music by AR Rahman, further increasing anticipation around its soundtrack and visual presentation.

With the special song now reportedly locked, attention has shifted to its shooting schedule and how it will be presented on screen. Given Ram Charan's strong mass appeal and Shruti Haasan's established popularity, expectations are high that the track will be-

come one of the film's key promotional assets.

While the makers are yet to issue an official confirmation, the buzz around the casting decision has already created significant excitement among fans, adding another layer of hype to Peddi as it



moves closer to completion.

Chiranjeevi - Bobby Film Mega 158 Faces Uncertainty Amid Industry Buzz

The upcoming film featuring megastar Chiranjeevi and director Bobby Kolli—widely referred to as “Mega 158”—is reportedly facing uncertainty, with fresh discussions in the Telugu film industry suggesting delays and production-related complications.

According to recent entertainment reports, the project has entered a “troubled phase” due to multiple overlapping issues involving production schedules, financing concerns, and delays linked to other big-budget films associated with the same production banner. These developments have sparked speculation about whether the film will proceed as originally planned or undergo restructuring before shooting begins.

The Chiranjeevi-Bobby collaboration has been one of the most anticipated projects in Tollywood, especially after their successful outing with Waltair Veerayya, which was a major commercial hit. Expectations for their reunion were high, with fans expecting another mass entertainer combining action, emotion, and strong commercial appeal.



However, the current uncertainty appears to stem less from creative differences and more from external production challenges. Reports suggest that the production house involved is currently managing multiple large-scale projects simultaneously, which has created scheduling bottlenecks. Some of these films have re-

portedly faced delays, indirectly affecting the timeline of “Mega 158.”

Industry buzz also indicates that the script and pre-production work are ready, but the official launch and shooting schedule have not been firmly locked. This lack of a clear timeline has fueled speculation on social media, with fans expressing concern over repeated postponements and lack of updates. Adding to the confusion are rumours circulating in film circles about possible changes in production strategy. While no official confirmation has been made, such speculation has contributed to the perception that the project is in a “holding pattern” for now.

Despite the uncertainty, there is no indication that the film has been cancelled. On the contrary, insiders continue to maintain that the project remains active and will move forward once scheduling and production issues are resolved. Chiranjeevi is also reportedly

committed to the film, and director Bobby is said to be refining aspects of the script to suit the star's mass image and audience expectations.

The situation reflects a broader trend in the Indian film industry, where multiple high-budget productions often face delays due to overlapping commitments, VFX-heavy schedules, and financial planning challenges. Such delays are not uncommon, especially for large-scale star-driven projects.

Fans, however, remain hopeful that an official announcement will clarify the status of the film soon. Given the strong combination of Chiranjeevi and Bobby, expectations are still high that the project will eventually take off and deliver another commercial success.

For now, “Mega 158” remains in a phase of uncertainty, with its future dependent on production coordination and timely resolution of ongoing logistical issues.

Karna vs Yaskin Face Off and Interval Block Leak Fuel Buzz Around Hyderabad Set

The sequel to the blockbuster Kalki 2898 AD is once again making headlines, with fresh reports about a massive production setup and a key interval sequence that is expected to be one of the biggest highlights of the film. The Prabhas-starrer, directed by Nag Ashwin, is already among the most anticipated Indian films, and new updates have only added to the hype.

According to industry buzz, a huge set has been constructed in Hyderabad for Kalki 2, specifically for shooting an important interval block. This sequence is reportedly designed on a grand scale, with high-end visual effects planning and large production design elements aimed at creating a cinematic spectacle. The makers are said to be treating this portion of the film as a major turning point in the storyline.

Reports suggest that the interval sequence will be one of the most crucial moments in the sequel, continuing the cliffhanger energy from the first film. The production team has built an elaborate set in Hyderabad to execute this segment, which is expected to feature large-scale action and heavy visual storytelling.

The interval block is being planned as a high-impact sequence designed to elevate audience anticipation for the second half of the film. Sources indicate that the makers are investing significant time and resources into ensuring the scene meets the expectations set by the first installment's global success.

One of the biggest highlights being discussed is the possible confrontation between Karna (Prabhas's character arc connection) and Supreme Yaskin (played by Kamal Haasan). This face-off is being described



in industry circles as a “key cinematic moment” that could define the emotional and narrative direction of the sequel.

Along with Amitabh Bachchan's Ashwatthama, this multi-character dynamic is expected to form the backbone of the interval sequence. The combination of these powerful characters has already sparked massive speculation among fans, with many calling it a “mythological-meets-futuristic showdown.”

After the success of Kalki 2898 AD, expectations from the sequel are extremely high. The first film ended on a major cliffhanger, introducing deeper mythological layers and teasing larger conflicts to come. The sequel is expected to expand on these themes, especially focusing on Karna's deeper backstory and the evolving power struggle involving Yaskin.

Some reports also suggest that the sequel may explore a more intense mythological angle, blending ancient lore with futuristic storytelling on a

larger scale than the first part.

The Kalki franchise is known for its ambitious world-building, and Kalki 2 is expected to push those boundaries even further. The Hyderabad set reportedly reflects this ambition, with filmmakers aiming for a grand visual experience that matches global cinematic standards.

Industry insiders believe that the interval block alone could become one of the most talked-about sequences in Indian cinema if executed as planned.

With a massive set in Hyderabad, a highly anticipated interval sequence, and the buildup of Karna vs Yaskin confrontation, Kalki 2 is shaping up to be one of the most ambitious Indian film projects in development. While official confirmations are still awaited, the growing buzz has already placed the sequel at the center of pan-India cinematic discussions. For now, expectations continue to rise as fans wait for the next big official update from the makers.

Citadel Season 2 Telugu Trailer Drops Fans Excited for Next Chapter

The much-awaited Telugu trailer of Citadel Season 2, starring Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Richard Madden and backed by the Russo Brothers, has officially been released, creating strong buzz among OTT audiences and fans of global spy thrillers.

The series, which continues the high-stakes espionage universe introduced in Season 1, sees Priyanka Chopra returning as elite agent Nadia Sinh, alongside Richard Madden as Mason Kane and Stanley Tucci in a key supporting role. The new season is expected to raise the scale of action, drama, and global storytelling significantly.

The trailer showcases a fresh global mission involving a more dangerous threat than before. The Citadel agents, who were previously part of a powerful but destroyed spy agency, are pulled back into action to confront a new international conspiracy that could reshape global power structures.

According to early trailer reactions, the tone of Season 2 appears darker and more intense, with high-octane action sequences and expanded world-building. The storyline continues the narrative of elite



operatives fighting against the shadowy organization Manticores, which remains a central antagonist in the franchise.

Priyanka Chopra once again takes center stage as Nadia Sinh, portraying a highly skilled and emotionally complex spy. The trailer highlights her action sequences, global missions, and leadership in high-pressure situations.

Her character continues to evolve from the first season, where she was introduced as a top-tier operative with a mysterious past. In Season 2, she is shown taking on even more dangerous assignments while dealing with larger threats to humanity.

The series is produced by the Russo Brothers under AGBO, and Season 2 continues their attempt to build a connected global spy universe. The new season reportedly introduces new operatives and expands the Citadel network beyond the original team.

The trailer also hints at a new assembled team of agents recruited for a mission that spans multiple countries, increasing the scale of the franchise significantly.

Amazon Prime Video has confirmed that Citadel Season 2 will premiere on May 6, 2026, with all episodes releasing together globally across more than 240 countries.

This release strategy suggests a binge-style rollout, allowing viewers to experience the full season at once rather than weekly episodes.

Following the Telugu trailer release, social media reactions have been mixed but largely excited, with fans praising the action visuals and production scale. Many are particularly interested in seeing how the story expands after the long gap since Season 1.

Some viewers also note that the franchise carries high expectations due to its ambitious global scope and high production cost, making Season 2 a crucial installment for the series' future.

The Telugu trailer for Citadel Season 2 signals a bigger, more action-packed continuation of the spy saga. With Priyanka Chopra returning in a powerful lead role and the Russo Brothers expanding the narrative universe, the series is positioned as one of the major global OTT releases of 2026.

As the May 6 premiere approaches, anticipation is building for what promises to be a high-stakes international thriller with upgraded scale, action, and storytelling ambition.