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Revanth Reddy Gears Up for Major Cabinet Expansion

Hyderabad, April 19 | TPN Bureau

A major political development is unfolding in Telangana as Chief Minister Revanth Reddy prepares for a significant cabinet expansion, signaling a decisive shift towards a more aggressive and performance-driven governance model. The move is not merely an expansion but is being seen as the launch of "Team Revanth 2.0," aimed at accelerating administration and strengthening political control across the state.

Currently, the Telangana cabinet has 12 ministers, with six positions lying vacant. The Chief Minister is now set to fill these slots, with a clear focus on efficiency, loyalty, and political impact. Sources indicate that the expansion is part of a broader strategy to ensure that each district has a strong and influential leader overseeing governance and party affairs.

The developments, which initially stirred discussions within Gandhi Bhavan, have now reached the national capital, underlining the importance of high command approval. Reports suggest that Revanth Reddy has already held detailed consultations with senior leaders in Delhi and finalized a list of probable candidates in coordination with AICC strategists. The party leadership has reportedly issued clear guidelines on maintaining social balance, with a significant share of positions expected to go to BC, SC, and minority communities.



One of the major challenges before the Chief Minister is addressing regional imbalances, particularly the lack of representation from Greater Hyderabad and the erstwhile Rangareddy district. Senior leaders like Malreddy Rangareddy and Patnam Mahender Reddy, along with several young MLAs, are actively lobbying for cabinet berths.

However, Revanth Reddy has made it clear that only those with strong performance records and electoral viability will be considered. Beyond expansion, a significant cabinet reshuffle is also on the cards. The Chief Minister is believed to have reviewed intelligence reports assessing ministerial performance. Based on these inputs, some ministers may see their portfolios changed, while others could be dropped altogether. Those who have demonstrated efficiency may be entrusted with additional responsibilities. The reshuffle is also expected to take into account recent Lok Sabha election results and the party's strength in various constituencies. Leaders who fail to align with the Chief Minister's fast-paced and assertive political style may find themselves sidelined. The message is clear that positions will be reserved for performers, while underperformers may be shown the door.

Revanth Reddy's broader vision includes establishing strong leadership in every district, with ministers playing a key role in consolidating the party's base. The allocation of portfolios will therefore not only reflect individual merit but also the ability to deliver electoral success in the upcoming elections. With this expansion, the Telangana Congress aims to inject fresh energy into its ranks and mount a strong challenge to opposition parties. As political temperatures rise, all eyes are now on the final list that will shape the future course of governance in the state.

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Governor, CM Discuss Drug-Free Campus Drive

Hyderabad, April 19 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla held a courtesy meeting with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at Lok Bhavan on Sunday, where key issues related to the education sector were discussed. The meeting was attended by Minister Sridhara Babu and Member of Parliament Vem Narender Reddy.

During the interaction, the Governor emphasized the urgent need to create awareness among students about the dangers of drug abuse. He suggested that educational institutions should take proactive steps to ensure that students are sensitized on the issue from an early stage.

Highlighting the growing concern over substance abuse in campuses, the Governor proposed that students should be encouraged to take a pledge against drug usage. He recommended that institutions organize awareness drives and ensure student participation in such initiatives to build a drug-free academic environment.

A key point of discussion was a large-scale awareness program scheduled to be held on June 12 at LB Stadium in Hyderabad under the Governor's leadership. The event is expected to bring together students from various schools and colleges to spread awareness on the harmful effects of drug substances and reinforce the message of prevention.

The Governor also suggested that, during the admission process in schools and colleges, students should be required to submit a declaration stating their commitment to stay away from drugs. This, he said, would serve as a preventive measure and instill a sense of responsibility among the youth.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy responded positively to the suggestions and assured the Governor that the government would take necessary steps to implement them. He stated that all recommendations would be carefully considered and appropriate actions would be initiated in coordination with the education department and relevant officers.

The meeting reflects the state government's focus on safeguarding students and strengthening awareness mechanisms within educational institutions. With increasing attention on youth welfare, the proposed measures aim to create a healthier and safer academic environment across Telangana.

KCR Set to Roar Again at Jagtial Rally

Jagtial, April 19 | TPN Bureau

Telangana's political landscape is set for a dramatic turn as BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao prepares to address a massive public meeting in Jagtial on Monday. The party cadre has made elaborate arrangements for the meeting, which is expected to draw lakhs of supporters and mark KCR's aggressive return to the political field after the change in power in the state.

The meeting comes at a crucial time, with KCR reportedly gearing up to target the ruling government over what he describes as governance failures. His speech is expected to focus on key issues such as irrigation, agriculture, and the alleged slowdown in development works. According to party categories, He will mention the development that has taken place in Jagtiala constituency and the joint Karimnagar district in the last ten years and compare it with the current situation.



Farmers across the erstwhile Karimnagar district are closely watching the developments. Issues like the maintenance of irrigation projects, water availability, and delays in crop support are likely to dominate KCR's address. He is expected to highlight initiatives like the SRSP revival scheme and question the current administration's handling of water resources. He will also raise the issue of investment assistance to farmers and delays in grain procurement.

The rally is also seen as a key effort to energize the party cadre, which has remained relatively subdued in recent months. With pink flags and elaborate arrangements, the town of Jagtial is in a festive mood. The party leadership is hoping to turn the gathering into a show of strength, thereby setting the tone for the upcoming political battles.

KCR is also expected to strike an emotional chord, recalling the role of Karimnagar district in the Telangana movement and the development achieved post state formation. From medical colleges to new collectorates and infrastructure expansion, he is likely to underscore the BRS government's contributions while asserting that the party remains committed to protecting Telangana's self-respect and interests.

Adding further political heat to the meeting is the expected entry of senior congress leader Jeevan Reddy into the BRS fold. A long-time congress loyalist and former minister, Jeevan Reddy is likely to join the party in the presence of KCR, marking a significant political evolution. Having been a political opponent to KCR for decades, his switch is being viewed as a turning point in state politics.

Sources indicate that dissatisfaction within the congress and alleged neglect by the current leadership played a role in his decision. The development is likely to deal a blow to the congress while boosting BRS morale, particularly in North Telangana.

Political observers believe that the Jagtial rally could reshape the political equations in the region. With an experienced leader like Jeevan Reddy joining hands with KCR, the BRS aims to regain its stronghold in the districts. As anticipation builds, all eyes are on Jagtial, where Monday's meeting is expected to be more than just a public meeting—it could signal the beginning of a new political equation in Telangana.

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Hyderabad Police Bust Major Pan-India Cyber Fraud Network, 52 Arrested

Hyderabad, April 20 | TPN Bureau

In a significant breakthrough against cybercrime, Hyderabad Police have dismantled a large pan-India cyber fraud network and arrested 52 individuals, including 32 bank officials, in a coordinated nationwide operation.

The crackdown, carried out under "Operation Octopus 2.0", spanned nine states and exposed a sophisticated racket involved in creating and operating mule bank accounts used to siphon off money from victims across India. Police officials said the arrested persons include bank employees, mule account holders, and middlemen who played key roles in facilitating the illegal financial operations.

According to Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, the network was linked to a wide range of cyber scams, including investment frauds, trading scams, and "digital arrest" schemes in which victims were emotionally manipulated and coerced into transferring money. Investigators revealed that fraudsters used around 350 bank accounts to channel illicit funds, which were linked to nearly 850 cybercrime cases nationwide involving transactions worth approximately 150 crore.

The probe also found that certain bank officials were allegedly complicit in opening mule accounts without proper verification, enabling cybercriminals to exploit banking systems. Fifteen mule account holders and five middlemen responsible for recruiting and managing these accounts were also arrested.

Police said the operation was an extension of "Operation Octopus 1.0", which earlier led to the arrest of 117 accused across multiple states. The latest phase focused specifically on identifying and targeting banking personnel who were found to be actively assisting cyber fraud networks. Officials highlighted that the investigation revealed a highly organized structure with interstate linkages, making it one of the most extensive cybercrime networks busted in recent times. Multiple digital devices, documents, cheque books, and SIM cards were seized during the raids.

Authorities have warned banks to strengthen KYC norms and internal monitoring systems to prevent misuse of accounts. They also urged citizens to remain cautious about unsolicited financial offers and online investment schemes. The Hyderabad Police said further investigation is underway to trace the masterminds behind the network and recover the defrauded money.

Massive Explosion in Firecracker Factory in Tamil Nadu Claims 19 Lives

Virudhunagar, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A devastating explosion at a firecracker manufacturing unit near Sattur in Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu, has resulted in the death of 19 workers, while several others sustained severe injuries. The tragic incident occurred on Sunday afternoon, sending shockwaves across the region.

According to preliminary information, the blast took place when workers were engaged in the process of mixing chemicals used for manufacturing firecrackers. A sudden ignition is believed to have triggered a fire, which rapidly escalated into a series of powerful explosions inside the facility. The intensity of the blast caused extensive damage to multiple sections of the factory building, reducing parts of it to rubble.



Eyewitnesses reported hearing multiple explosions one after another, followed by thick smoke engulfing the area. Panic spread among nearby residents as emergency services rushed to the spot. Fire and rescue personnel battled the flames for several hours before bringing the situation under control. Officials confirmed that among the deceased are several women workers who were engaged in production activities at the unit. The injured were immediately shifted to the Virudhunagar Government Hospital, where medical teams are providing intensive care. Doctors have stated that the condition of several patients remains critical, raising concerns that the death toll may increase further.

The firecracker manufacturing unit is reportedly owned by a person named Muthu Manikyam from Govindanallur. Authorities have launched a detailed investigation into the incident to determine whether safety protocols and licensing norms were followed. Initial observations suggest possible lapses in handling highly explosive chemical materials, though official confirmation is awaited.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin expressed deep shock and sorrow over the incident. He conveyed heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased and assured them of full government support. The Chief Minister also spoke with the District Collector and instructed ministers Ramachandran and Thangam Thennarasu to immediately oversee rescue operations and ensure proper medical treatment for the injured. Officials have announced compensation for the families of the victims and promised strict action if any negligence or violation of safety regulations is established. The incident has once again raised serious concerns over workplace safety standards in firecracker manufacturing units across the state.

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Governor, CM Discuss Education and Anti-Drug Measures

Hyderabad, April 19 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla held a courtesy meeting with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at Raj Bhavan (Lok Bhavan) on Sunday, focusing on key issues related to the education sector and measures to curb drug abuse among students. The meeting was also attended by Minister D. Sridhar Babu and Member of Parliament Vem Narendar Reddy.

During the interaction, the Governor emphasized the urgent need to address the growing concern of drug usage in educational institutions. He suggested that

awareness programs be intensified across schools and colleges to educate students about the harmful effects of narcotics. Stressing preventive action, the Governor proposed that students should be encouraged to take a formal pledge against drug use as part of institutional initiatives.

He further recommended that, at the time of admissions, educational institutions should obtain a written undertaking from students affirming their commitment to stay away from drugs. According to the Governor, such measures would help instill discipline and responsibility among youth at an early stage and contribute to

building a drug-free academic environment.

A key highlight of the discussion was the proposed large-scale awareness programme scheduled to be held on June 12 at the LB Stadium in Hyderabad under the Governor's leadership. The event aims to bring together students from various institutions to promote awareness about drug abuse and encourage collective responsibility in tackling the issue.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy responded positively to the Governor's suggestions and assured full cooperation from the state government. He stated that all recommendations would be carefully considered and ap-

propriate steps would be taken to implement them effectively across educational institutions.

The Chief Minister reiterated the government's commitment to safeguarding the future of students and strengthening the education system. He also emphasized that coordinated efforts between the government, educational bodies, and civil society are essential to effectively combat the menace of drug abuse.

The meeting reflects the state government's proactive approach in addressing social challenges and ensuring a safe and healthy environment for students across Telangana.



Minister Vows Fast-Track Irrigation Project

Narayanpet, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister for Sports, Dairy Development and Animal Husbandry Vakiti Srihari on Saturday asserted that the Makthal-Narayanpet-Kodangal lift irrigation scheme will be completed on a war footing to benefit farmers in the region. He made these remarks after performing the bhoomi puja for the Kanukurthi Reservoir near Damaragidda in Narayanpet district.

Addressing the gathering, the minister criticized the previous government for failing to fulfill its promise of completing the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme. He alleged that the project was neglected midway, leaving farmers in the Palamuru region in distress. "Even the first phase of the project was not completed, which reflects the inefficiency of the earlier administration," he said.

Srihari praised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for his commitment to irrigation development, comparing his efforts to those of legendary engineer Sir Arthur Cotton. He stated that the government is determined to undertake large-scale irrigation projects that



would leave a lasting impact on the state's agricultural landscape.

The minister emphasized that the Makthal-Narayanpet-Kodangal project is being taken up with a budget of Rs 4,500 crore and is expected to be completed within 20 months. Once finished, the project will transform the region into a fertile agricultural zone, significantly improving the livelihoods of local farmers.

Highlighting his personal connection to the region, Srihari said he understands the struggles of farmers and is committed to addressing their

issues. He lauded the people of Kanukurthi village for their sacrifices, noting that around 95 percent of farmers voluntarily gave up their lands for the project. "This spirit of cooperation will be remembered by future generations," he added.

The minister assured that the government would stand by families who lost their lands, promising support through employment and livelihood opportunities. He also appreciated the collective effort of people across political lines in supporting the project, calling it a positive step towards regional development.

Ministers Stress Road Safety Awareness in Mulugu

Mulugu, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Ministers Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Danasari Anasuya Seethakka on Sunday emphasized the importance of self-discipline and adherence to traffic rules to prevent road accidents, stating that negligence and irresponsibility are the primary causes of rising fatalities.

The ministers participated in the "Arrive Alive" road safety awareness programme organized by the district police department at MR Function Hall near Incharla village in Mulugu district. The event was conducted as part of the state government's prestigious 99-day Praja Palana progress initiative aimed at promoting welfare schemes and public awareness.

The programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the ministers, followed by a bike rally to spread awareness about road safety. As part of the rally, helmets were distributed to two-wheeler riders, and the ministers flagged off the programme. Later, officials and participants took a pledge to strictly follow road safety norms.

Addressing the gathering, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy highlighted that road safety is a collective respon-



sibility and urged citizens to strictly follow traffic rules to ensure safe travel. He warned that careless driving, including overspeeding and negligence, can lead to fatal consequences. "Seat belts are mandatory for drivers, and traffic inspections by police are conducted solely for public safety," he said, urging citizens to cooperate with law enforcement agencies.

He further reminded drivers that their families are waiting for them at home, stressing the need to prioritize safety while traveling. The minister noted that aware-

ness programmes like "Arrive Alive" are crucial in educating people about the importance of responsible driving.

Minister Seethakka echoed similar sentiments, cautioning motorists against overspeeding and drunk driving. She said that accidents not only claim lives but also devastate entire families, especially when the sole breadwinner is lost. "Do not push your families into despair due to reckless driving. Safe travel should always be the priority," she said.

District Collector Divakar T.S. advised motorists to adopt defen-

sive driving techniques and follow proper overtaking rules to avoid accidents. Superintendent of Police Sudheer Ramnath Kekani revealed alarming statistics, stating that around 20 people die everyday in road accidents in the state, with approximately 7,500 fatalities annually, while the nationwide toll reaches nearly 1.5 lakh deaths.

Officials reiterated that wearing helmets is mandatory for both riders and pillion passengers and urged strict compliance with traffic regulations to ensure safer roads for all.

Konda Defends Women's Bill, Targets Congress

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

BJP MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy on Sunday defended the Women's Reservation Bill and criticized the Congress party for its stance on the legislation, stating that the bill has not been scrapped but is only facing delays in implementation.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state office, he alleged that Congress had historically opposed the Women's Reservation Bill, while both BJP and Congress had introduced versions of the legislation at different times. He further claimed that certain parties with "vote bank politics" had resisted the bill, slowing its progress.

Reddy credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for building consensus among political parties in 2023 to pass the bill, noting that only a few leaders had expressed opposition. He said the intention behind introducing a revised version of the bill was to ensure smoother and faster implementation.

He clarified that the delay in execution is linked to the pending population census, which is required for delimitation and reser-

vation allocation. However, he cautioned that postponing implementation until after the census could adversely affect southern states. "There is a need to ensure the bill remains in force and is implemented in a timely manner, possibly by 2034," he remarked.

The BJP MP also dismissed allegations made by Congress leaders, calling them "baseless and politically motivated." He accused the Congress of attempting to shift blame onto the BJP for its own past failures and said the party was raising objections purely for political gain.

Reddy further argued that major legislative reforms are often introduced before elections to ensure public debate and consensus. He emphasized that the Women's Reservation Bill is a significant step toward empowering women in politics and reiterated that it remains intact despite delays.

He concluded by stating that political parties in power tend to shape policies to their advantage, but insisted that the BJP is committed to ensuring fair representation and strengthening democratic participation for women across the country.

Speed Up Medaram Temple Works: Minister

Mulugu, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Sunday directed officials and contractors to expedite the final phase of development works at the revered Medaram Sammakka Saralamma Temple and ensure that the temple premises is transformed into a grand and devotee-friendly space.

The minister, along with Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka and local legislators, visited Medaram in S.S. Tadvai mandal of Mulugu district and offered special prayers to the tribal deities Sammakka and Saralamma. Following the darshan, a review meeting was held with district officials at Haritha Hotel to assess the progress of ongoing development works.



District Collector Divakar T.S. briefed the ministers on the status of works in the final stage. Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy instructed officials to complete all pending works swiftly while maintaining high-quality standards. He emphasized that even minor gaps in stone structures should be avoided and directed that flooring in the temple premises be leveled

properly to ensure convenience for devotees.

The minister also reviewed the implementation of the master plan, directing that construction of all major arches be completed at the earliest. He suggested preparing proposals for a dedicated main arch near the queue line for Saralamma devotees, based on requests from temple priests.

Additionally, he stressed the need for a robust drainage system to prevent water stagnation and called for linking internal drainage to the main road network.

To enhance the surroundings, officials were asked to undertake a special cleanliness drive and plantation along both sides of the main road. Ponguleti further instructed

authorities to prepare proposals for adequate staffing to ensure better services and maintenance at the temple.

Highlighting future plans, the minister called for speeding up land acquisition for Phase-II development works and also directed officials to prepare plans for the comprehensive development of the Hemachala Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Malluru.

Speaking to the media, the minister said that all remaining works at the Sammakka-Saralamma site would be completed with utmost quality. He also expressed concern over a recent accident involving a priest's family member and assured full government support, including advanced medical treatment and assistance.

Later, the ministers inaugurated an Indiramma house in Narlapur village, reiterating the government's commitment to welfare and development.

Centre Criticised Over Crop Procurement Policy

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummalala Nageswara Rao on Sunday criticized the Central government for limiting its role to announcing Minimum Support Prices (MSP) without ensuring effective procurement, alleging that farmers are being left in distress.

In a press statement, the minister said the Centre had promised to double farmers' income by 2024 but has failed to

deliver on that commitment. He stated that merely announcing MSP and increasing it annually is not sufficient if farmers are unable to sell their produce at those prices. "When there is a wide gap between market price and MSP, the Centre's lack of intervention raises serious concerns," he remarked.

Tummalala further alleged that restrictions imposed by the Centre on procurement of certain crops reflect a lack of commitment toward farmers' welfare. He

pointed out that limits such as purchasing only 25 percent of crops like Bengal gram, sunflower, soybean, and pulses have forced state governments to bear the burden of procuring the remaining produce at MSP.

He also expressed concern over the declining procurement of paddy and changing policies regarding rice collection, which he said have adversely impacted farmers. The minister noted that despite large-scale maize cultivation

in Telangana, the Centre has not stepped forward to procure the crop, leaving farmers uncertain about where to sell their produce.

Highlighting the state government's actions, Tummalala said Telangana has been procuring crops beyond the Centre's limits through agencies like Markfed and has also taken responsibility for maize procurement. He added that the state is spending thousands of crores annually to protect farmers from financial losses.

The minister revealed that over 200 maize procurement centers have been set up and around 1.2 lakh metric tonnes have already been purchased at MSP. With market prices reportedly Rs 700 lower than MSP, the state intervened to prevent farmer losses.

He urged the Centre to allow procurement through agencies like NAFED and to remove the 25 percent cap on crops like Bengal gram and sunflower, ensuring full procurement to support farmers effectively.

Dr Ch Srinivasa Rao Honoured with 9th Prof M.S. Swaminathan Award

Location, April 20 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad-based eminent agricultural scientist Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao has been conferred with the prestigious 9th Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award for his outstanding contributions to climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable farming systems in India.

The award recognises Dr Rao's pioneering research and leadership in strengthening climate-adaptive agricultural practices, improving natural resource management, and promoting farmer-centric innovations that enhance productivity while safeguarding environmental sustainability. The honour is regarded as one of the significant national recognitions in the field of agricultural sciences.

Dr Rao currently serves as the Director and Vice-Chancellor of the ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi. Under his leadership, several initiatives have been implemented focusing on climate-smart agriculture, soil health improvement, and the integration of advanced scientific technologies into traditional farming systems. His work has



also contributed to scaling up sustainable farming models across diverse agro-climatic regions of India.

The Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award, instituted in memory

of India's legendary agricultural scientist Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, is presented to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to agricultural research, food se-

curity, and rural development. The award aims to encourage innovation in agriculture, particularly in the context of climate change challenges.

Dr Rao's selection reflects

his decades-long commitment to bridging science and field-level farming practices. Experts note that his work has significantly contributed to enhancing crop resilience against droughts, temperature fluctuations, and resource scarcity—issues that are becoming increasingly critical in Indian agriculture.

The award committee highlighted his role in advancing sustainable agricultural systems and promoting strategies that align productivity with ecological balance. His research outcomes are widely applied in policy formulation and extension programs across various states.

Agricultural scientists and policy experts have welcomed the recognition, stating that it underscores the importance of climate-resilient agriculture in ensuring long-term food security for the country.

The award will be formally presented at a national-level ceremony in the presence of distinguished scientists, policymakers, and agricultural leaders.

Dr Srinivasa Rao's recognition adds to India's growing focus on innovative and sustainable farming practices aimed at addressing the challenges



Kavitha Meets Adivasi Leaders, Backs Demand for Separate Census Column

Hyderabad, April 20 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Jagruthi president and MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha held a key meeting with leaders of the All India Adivasi Constitutional Rights and Cultural Protection JAC at the Telangana Jagruthi office in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, highlighting tribal rights and constitutional protections.

During the meeting, former Khammam Zilla Parishad chairman and ex-MLA Chanda Lingaiah Dora, along with JAC leaders including Padoori Srinivas, Payam Satyanarayana, Madavi Narsing Rao, Vattam Narayana Dora, Ramanala Laxmaiah, Vajja Narasimha Rao, Kabbaka Sravan Kumar, Kursang Venu, Variya Srinivas, Shad-amaki Sanjeev, Atram Paikaji, and Podem Bhargava, participated in detailed discussions with Kavitha.

The delegation explained the challenges faced by Adivasi communities under what they described as restrictive central government policies. They raised concerns over constitutional safeguards, including alleged weakening of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) and dilution of protections under the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution.

A key demand placed before Kavitha was the inclusion of a separate "Adivasi" column under the religion category in the upcoming national census, allowing tribal communities to officially identify their faith and cultural identity. Leaders argued that the absence of such a column prevents Adivasis from asserting their distinct identity in official records.

The delegation also sought inclusion of the "Koyathur" language in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, stating that linguistic recognition is essential for preserving tribal heritage and culture.

Concerns were also raised over rehabilitation issues linked to the Polavaram project, with leaders claiming that nearly three lakh Adivasis have been displaced from forest areas without adequate resettlement or basic facilities.

Responding to the issues, Kavitha expressed strong support for the movement and assured full solidarity from Telangana Jagruthi. She alleged that the central government is undermining tribal rights and weakening constitutional protections meant for Scheduled Tribes. Kavitha criticised the exclusion of an "Adivasi" category in the census religion column, stating that it deprives indigenous communities of the dignity to officially declare their identity. She described it as an insult to India's original inhabitants and their cultural heritage. She further emphasised that Adivasis, who represent a significant part of India's cultural diversity, must be protected through stronger constitutional and policy measures. Kavitha also assured that Telangana Jagruthi would continue to support their struggles at the national level. The meeting is seen as politically significant amid growing debates on tribal identity, census classification, and constitutional protections for indigenous communities across the country.

BJP Leaders Defend Women's Reservation Bill, Criticise Congress Stance

Hyderabad, April 20 | TPN Bureau

Speaking at the BJP state office in Hyderabad, BJP MP Kondaa Vishweshwar Reddy made strong remarks on the ongoing political debate surrounding the Women's Reservation Bill, asserting that the legislation remains intact and has not been diluted, but its implementation is expected to take time due to procedural and demographic factors.

Addressing the media, the MP said that both the Congress and BJP have, at different points, supported the introduction of the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament. He alleged that opposition to the bill has often come from parties influenced by vote-bank considerations, particularly those relying on minority consolidation politics.

He emphasised that in 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi successfully brought several political parties on board regarding the Women's Reservation Bill, with only a couple of parties expressing dissent at that time. According to him, there was broad consensus among national leaders on the need for women's representation in legislatures. Reddy questioned the criticism directed at the new version of the bill, asking why a revised framework was being opposed when the objective remains unchanged. He stated that all parties had earlier agreed on the urgency of implementing women's reservation, though the process is linked with administrative requirements such as the national census and delimitation exercise.

He further explained that the bill's implementation timeline may extend up to 2034, depending on the completion of population enumeration and subsequent electoral boundary restructuring. However, he clarified that the Women's Reservation Bill has not been withdrawn or cancelled, but only delayed in execution.

The BJP MP argued that if implementation is postponed until after the census, southern states may face political disadvantages, a concern that has been raised in several discussions. He also criticised Congress leaders, alleging inconsistencies in their stand on reservation policies, including caste-based reservations. Reddy expressed his personal opinion that major legislative bills, especially those related to social justice and representation, should ideally be introduced before elections to ensure clarity and accountability. He also claimed that ruling parties often attempt to shape policies to their advantage.

He accused Congress of making "meaningless allegations" and attempting to shift responsibility for delays onto the BJP. He further stated that such political narratives are misleading and aimed at electoral gains rather than genuine reform. Concluding his remarks, the MP reiterated that the Women's Reservation Bill remains a historic step toward empowering women in Indian politics, but its rollout is naturally subject to constitutional and procedural processes, leading to unavoidable delays rather than rejection.

Congress Failed Telangana, Says Talasani Srinivas Yadav at Karimnagar Meet

Karimnagar, April 20 | TPN Bureau

Former minister and BRS MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav addressed a media conference at the MLA Gangula Camp Office in Karimnagar district headquarters, launching a sharp attack on the Congress government while praising the achievements of the previous BRS regime under K. Chandrashekar Rao.

Speaking to the media, Talasani said that Telangana was achieved under the leadership of great personalities whose contribution to the statehood movement can never be erased. He asserted that former Chief Minister KCR played a historic role not only in fulfilling election promises but also in introducing several welfare schemes that significantly benefited the people of Telangana. He alleged that the present Congress government has failed to deliver meaningful development and is instead fo-

cused only on dismantling the initiatives taken earlier. "The Congress has done nothing substantial for the people except reverse the existing systems," he said.

Responding to criticism that KCR has been staying away from public appearances, Talasani countered that the Congress leadership itself is now reacting out of fear as KCR is set to re-enter public engagement through the upcoming meeting in Jagtial. He sarcastically remarked that announcements regarding farmer schemes like Rythu Bandhu are being made hastily due to political pressure. Listing out welfare measures implemented during the BRS regime, he mentioned KCR Kits, Dalit Bandhu, pensions for the elderly, Rythu Bima, Rythu Bharosa, and Kalyana Lakshmi among others. He alleged that the Congress, during elections, made exaggerated promises but has since failed to continue or ex-

pand existing welfare schemes.

Talasani further criticised the Congress government for what he described as reckless financial management, claiming that nearly 3.5 lakh crore in debt has been accumulated in just two and a half years without initiating any major development projects.

He called upon people to participate in large numbers at the upcoming public meeting in Jagtial. He also announced that former minister Jeevan Reddy is expected to join the BRS in the presence of KCR during the event, which he described as a significant political development.

The media briefing was attended by several BRS leaders, including former MLC Nardasu Laxman Rao, ex-library corporation chairman Ponam Anil Kumar Goud, former corporators, minority leaders, and party workers who expressed solidarity with the leadership.



INDIA Bloc Has Not Opposed Women's Quota, Says Bhongir MP

Hyderabad, April 19 | TPN Bureau

Bhongir Lok Sabha MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy has clarified that the INDIA bloc has never opposed the Women's Reservation Bill, stressing that the alliance fully supports the principle of greater representation for women in legislative bodies.

Addressing ongoing political debates, the MP said that misinformation is being spread regarding the opposition's stand on the bill. He reiterated that the INDIA bloc is in favour of women's empowerment and supports reservation for women in Parliament and state assemblies.

However, he pointed out that the alliance has raised concerns over the implementation process, particularly the linkage of the Women's Reservation Bill with delimitation and the upcoming census. According to him, the opposition's objection is not to the idea of reservation itself, but to procedural aspects that may have implications on federal balance and fair representation of states. He explained that several discussions within the opposition grouping have highlighted the need to ensure that women's reservation is implemented in a way that does not disrupt the existing parliamentary structure or create regional imbalances. Leaders within the bloc have suggested that the bill should be implemented in a time-bound manner while maintaining the current framework of constituencies.



The MP emphasised that women's participation in politics is a shared goal across parties, and differences lie only in the method and timing of implementation. He said the issue should not be politicised, as it concerns strengthening democracy and improving representation.

Reddy further urged all political parties to engage in constructive dialogue to resolve differences and arrive at a consensus that benefits women across the country. He added that delaying the process or creating confusion over the bill would only weaken public trust in political commitments.

The Women's Reservation Bill continues to remain a major subject of national political discussion, with leaders from various parties expressing differing views on its structure, timeline, and constitutional process. Despite political differences, the Bhongir MP reiterated that the INDIA bloc stands committed to women's empowerment and will support any genuine effort that ensures meaningful representation for women in law-making bodies.

Harish Rao Slams Congress Over Crop Procurement Failures

Hyderabad, April 20 | TPN Bureau

BRS senior leader and former minister T. Harish Rao has strongly criticised the Congress government, alleging serious failures in the procurement of agricultural crops across Telangana, which he said has left farmers struggling to sell their produce at Minimum Support Price (MSP). Addressing party leaders and farmers during a public interaction, Harish Rao said that the Congress government has failed to ensure timely procurement of crops such as maize, sunflower, jowar, and cotton. He alleged that due to the delay in opening procurement centres, farmers are being forced to sell their produce to middlemen at lower prices,



resulting in heavy financial losses. He claimed that despite repeated assurances, procurement centres were either not opened on time or were inadequately managed, causing distress in agricultural markets. Harish Rao said that under the

previous BRS government, procurement was systematic and farmers received timely payments along with full support through welfare schemes like Rythu Bandhu and crop insurance assistance.

He accused the Congress

government of making election-time promises but failing to implement them after coming to power. According to him, welfare schemes meant for farmers have either been delayed or poorly executed, further worsening the agricultural crisis in the state.

The BRS leader also alleged that the government's negligence has forced farmers into distress sales, undermining the MSP mechanism. He demanded that all pending procurement operations be completed immediately and that additional procurement centres be opened in all affected districts. Harish Rao further said that the government's inconsistent policies have created uncertainty among farmers, especially those who shifted to

alternative crops based on official advisories. He argued that without proper procurement support, crop diversification efforts will fail.

He also criticised the Congress administration for what he described as a lack of coordination and accountability in agricultural departments, stating that farmers are bearing the brunt of administrative inefficiency. Calling the situation alarming, Harish Rao urged the government to act swiftly and ensure that no farmer is forced to sell produce below MSP. He reiterated that the BRS party will continue to raise its voice on farmer issues and hold the government accountable for its "failures in crop procurement and agricultural support systems."



Mega Used Car Mela

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A mega second-hand car mela was organized in Nacharam on Sunday by Trust Cars, attracting a large number of customers from across Telangana.

Speaking on the occasion, Trust Cars owner Roshan said the initiative aims to make car ownership accessible to every household, especially among economically weaker sections. "Our vision is that every family should own a car and travel comfortably. We have been working towards this goal for the past five years," he stated.

The event featured a wide range of pre-owned vehicles, with nearly 150 to 200 cars on display. Roshan explained that the platform facilitates direct customer-to-customer deals, ensuring affordable prices and transparent transactions. He encouraged people looking for budget-friendly and reliable vehicles to visit Trust Cars in Nacharam.

According to the organizers,

customers from various districts participated in the mela, reflecting growing demand for affordable personal transport. The initiative is designed to offer quality second-hand cars at lower prices, making them accessible to middle- and lower-income families.

Roshan highlighted that owning a car provides greater safety and convenience, particularly for families with children. "Instead of traveling on bikes during harsh weather conditions, families can opt for a car and travel safely," he added. The mela received a positive response, with many visitors exploring options and finalizing deals. Organizers expressed satisfaction over the turnout and reiterated their commitment to expanding the concept of affordable car ownership across the state.

The event underscores the increasing popularity of the used car market and the rising aspiration among families to own personal vehicles for safer and more comfortable travel.



Uppal MLA Assures Support for Journalists

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Uppal MLA Bandari Lakshma Reddy on Sunday assured that he would strive for the welfare and development of journalists and raise their issues in the State Assembly.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the unveiling of the 2026 New Year diary of the Uppal Press Club (Print and Electronic Media), held at Sri-rasthu Convention Hall in Bhagayat. The event was organized under the leadership of Press Club president Vaddepalli Kishore and chief advisor Kanchukatla Srinivas, with participation from several journalists and local leaders.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA emphasized that unity among journalists is essential to safeguard their rights

and achieve collective progress. He acknowledged the challenges faced by media professionals and assured continued support from his end.

Bandari Lakshma Reddy stated that he would take up key issues concerning journalists during the upcoming Assembly sessions. He specifically mentioned the long-pending issue of land allotments promised to journalists in the Uppal area and said efforts would be made to resolve it at the earliest.

He also assured that eligible journalists would be provided housing under the Indiramma housing scheme. "We will make every effort to ensure that deserving media professionals receive the benefits they are entitled to," he said.

The MLA further reiterated his commitment to addressing

the concerns of journalists who play a crucial role in society by highlighting public issues and ensuring accountability. Several leaders, including former Uppal municipal chairman Mekala Shiva Reddy and other representatives from different political parties, attended the programme and extended their support to the Press Club initiatives.

Press Club representatives, including general secretaries Ananda Narasimha Reddy and Pambilla Kumar, along with working presidents Omkar Santosh and Payyavula Santosh, were also present.

The programme concluded with a call for stronger cooperation among journalists and public representatives to address issues affecting the media fraternity and ensure their welfare.

Prameela Creates Record with PhD on Banjara Grammar

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a remarkable academic achievement, Meghavath Prameela has created history by becoming the first from the Banjara community to complete a doctoral research study on Banjara language grammar. Her research titled "Descriptive Grammar of Banjara Language in Telugu" was completed under the guidance of Professor P. Varjia Rani at Osmania University.

The university's examination branch officially awarded her a PhD on Saturday, marking a significant milestone in linguistic and tribal studies. While several studies have previously explored Banjara culture and literature, Prameela's work is the first comprehensive doctoral research focusing specifically on the grammar of the Banjara language, making it a historic contribution.

Hailing from a poor Banjara family in Netapuram Dhansingh Thanda of Tirumalagiri mandal in Nalgonda district, Prameela is the daughter of Meghavath Soni and Pulya. Despite financial hardships and social challenges, she pursued her education with determination. She completed her schooling while working as a daily laborer in her village.

Prameela excelled academically, securing top marks during her intermediate studies at a Tribal Welfare institution in



Damaracherla, where she emerged as a college topper. She later pursued her degree from Koti Women's College and completed her postgraduate studies at the Arts College of Osmania University.

In 2017, she made history by becoming the first Banjara woman to qualify for the UGC NET with the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF). Her doctoral achievement further cements her place as a trailblazer in the community.

Prameela credited her success to the support of her family members, particularly her uncle Dr. Nagara Motilal and her brother Meghavath Bhaskar. Faculty members, friends, and well-wishers at Osmania University have congratulated her for her outstanding accomplishment, calling it an inspiration for tribal students and young across the country.

Former Corporator Inspects Civic Issues in Basti

Secunderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former corporator Dr. Samala Hema on Sunday visited a slum area in Secunderabad following multiple complaints from residents regarding poor sanitation and drainage problems.

During her visit to the Beda Basti locality, residents highlighted severe issues such as overflowing drainage lines, accumulation of garbage, and lack of proper sanitation. They expressed concern over the worsening living conditions and urged immediate action from authorities.

Responding promptly, Dr. Hema inspected the area firsthand, touring the basti and examining clogged drainage canals and waste disposal points. She noted that stagnant water and foul smell could pose serious health risks, especially during the ongoing seasonal changes.

She immediately contacted concerned municipal officials over the phone and directed them to take urgent measures

to resolve the issues. She emphasized the need for immediate cleaning of drainage lines, regular clearance of garbage, and improved monitoring of sanitation staff performance.

Dr. Hema also stressed the importance of long-term solutions to prevent recurrence of such problems. She suggested that authorities deploy additional manpower and machinery if required and ensure proper maintenance of drainage systems in the future.

Interacting with local residents, she assured them that she would continue to follow up with concerned departments until their problems are resolved. "Providing a clean and healthy environment is a fundamental responsibility of the government," she said.

Residents welcomed her visit and expressed hope that the intervention would lead to swift action. The inspection highlights growing concerns over urban sanitation issues and the need for proactive civic management in densely populated areas.



BJP Protests Against Congress Over Women's Bill

Secunderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Tensions flared in Secunderabad as BJP leaders staged a protest against the Congress party over its alleged stance on the Women's Reservation Bill. The demonstration, held under the leadership of local BJP leaders in Bansilalpet division, saw effigies of Rahul Gandhi and Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy being burned as a mark of protest. The programme was attended by BJP Secunderabad Parliament convener Tadisina Rajasekhara Reddy as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, he strongly criticized the Congress party, alleging that it deliberately stalled the Women's Reservation Bill despite publicly claiming support. He accused the party of misleading women

across the country and termed its position as contradictory.

Rajasekhara Reddy further stated that the argument that the bill would harm southern states was baseless and misleading. He claimed that the Congress party's actions had exposed its "anti-women stance" and predicted political setbacks for the party in the near future. BJP Mahankali district spokesperson Y. Suresh Kumar also addressed the protest, questioning how many assembly seats in Telangana were allocated to women under the current government. He challenged the Congress leadership to clarify its commitment to women's representation and accused it of betraying women voters.

Another speaker, BJP women leader M. Vidya Mohan, al-

leged that the Congress party had historically failed to support women's empowerment. She expressed confidence that the BJP would ensure full implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill in the future.

The protest rally began at Ramaswamy Compound and proceeded to CGO Towers at Kalpana X Road, where demonstrators raised slogans against the Congress party. The programme concluded with the burning of effigies, symbolizing strong opposition to what BJP leaders described as policies of the Congress party. Several BJP leaders and women representatives participated in the protest, calling for greater accountability and reiterating their support for women's reservation in legislative bodies.



Jalaram Mandir Marks 13th Patotsavam

Secunderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The 13th Patotsavam celebrations of Shri Jalaram Mandir were conducted with great devotion and enthusiasm on Sunday under the aegis of the Lohana Mahajan community in the Jeera area of Rangapalpet division.

The annual festival, known for its spiritual significance, drew a large number of devotees from across the city. Organizers stated that the Patotsavam has become a prominent religious event over the years, offering spiritual solace and fostering unity among devotees. As part of the celebrations, special prayer rituals, bhajans, and kirtans were performed throughout the day. The temple premises were elaborately decorated, creating a serene and devotional atmosphere. Devotees participated actively, immersing themselves in prayers and chanting from the early hours.

BRS senior leader Namala

Prem Kumar attended the program as the chief guest and took part in the special prayer and harati. Speaking on the occasion, he expressed hope that the blessings of Jalaram Bapa would always be with the community in Telangana. He also assured continued support to members of the Lohana Mahajan. The programme began in the morning with devotional singing, followed by a grand maha aarti in the afternoon. A large-scale temple food was organized, where prasadam was served to more than 600 devotees. Organizers highlighted that the primary objective of the event is to promote devotion, unity, and a spirit of service. They encouraged devotees to attend with their families and seek divine blessings. The celebrations concluded on a spiritual note, with participation from local residents and devotees in large numbers, reinforcing the cultural and religious harmony of the community.

Jagtial Youth Wins National Sports Honour

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a proud moment for Telangana, young sportsperson Ashok Ameta from Thandriyala village in Kathlapur mandal of Jagtial district has been conferred with the prestigious Khel Ratna National Award at a grand celebration held in Hyderabad. Coming from a modest background, Ashok's journey from a small village to national recognition stands as an inspiring story of determination and perseverance. Despite limited resources and numerous challenges, he remained committed to his sporting ambitions and worked tirelessly to achieve success. Ashok faced several setbacks along the way, but his unwavering focus and dedication helped him overcome hardships. His rise to prominence reflects not only his personal effort but also the potential hidden in rural India when given the right encouragement and opportunities. Family members, village peo-

ple, and well-wishers expressed immense pride and joy over his achievement. They described his success as a moment of celebration not just for the village but for the entire state. The award ceremony was conducted in a grand manner in Hyderabad, with dignitaries and sports enthusiasts in attendance. Ashok's accomplishment has been widely appreciated, with many calling it a source of motivation for aspiring athletes, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds.

His story reinforces the belief that hard work and perseverance can break barriers and bring recognition at the highest levels. Ashok Ameta's achievement is expected to inspire a new generation of young athletes to pursue their dreams with confidence and determination. With this recognition, Ashok has not only brought laurels to his village but also highlighted the importance of nurturing talent from rural areas across the country.

Secunderabad Cantonment, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former Secunderabad Cantonment Board member Janyavula Ramakrishna has called upon members of the Hindu community to unite and participate in the upcoming "Ekta Yatra" scheduled to be held on May 12 on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti.

A programme of Ekta Yatra committee members was held on Sunday at Mahendrahills in the cantonment area, where discussions were held regard-



ing arrangements for the successful management of the procession. Responsibilities were assigned to various members to ensure smooth coordination and large-scale

participation.

Following the meeting, the committee unveiled posters for the Ekta Yatra at the Kakaguda Hanuman Temple under the guidance of temple priest He-

mant Sharma. The event marked the formal beginning of preparations for the religious procession.

Speaking on the occasion, Ramakrishna emphasized the need for unity among Hindus to protect and promote Sanatana Dharma, culture, and traditions. He urged people to come together beyond political differences and actively participate in the yatra.

Priest Hemant Sharma noted that while Hanuman Vijayotsavam is widely celebrated, Hanuman Jayanti often does not receive the same attention.

He said the Ekta Yatra aims to highlight the significance of Hanuman Jayanti and will be conducted on a grand scale this year. Organizers appealed to devotees to join the yatra in large numbers, setting aside differences and contributing to its success. They also stated that further details regarding the programme, including route and timings, will be announced soon. The proposed Ekta Yatra is expected to draw participation from various sections of society, reinforcing a message of unity, devotion, and cultural pride.



Talasani Reviews KCR Rally Arrangements

Jagtial, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau
BRS Deputy Floor Leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav on Sunday inspected the arrangements for the upcoming public meeting of party chief K. Chandrashekar Rao scheduled to be held on April 20 in Jagtial. Accompanied by MLC Ramana, Talasani visited the Swami Vivekananda Stadium, the venue for the meeting, and reviewed preparations being made for the huge gathering. He inquired about logistical arrangements, crowd mobilization, and facilities being set up for party leaders, workers, and attendees. Officials and party leaders briefed him on stage construction, seating arrangements, security measures, and other key arrangements. Talasani

emphasized that all arrangements should be completed meticulously to ensure the meeting proceeds smoothly without any inconvenience to participants. The upcoming rally has gained significance as former minister Jeevan Reddy is expected to join the BRS party in the presence of KCR. In this context, Talasani and MLC Ramana also visited Jeevan Reddy's residence and met him courteously ahead of the programme. The leaders expressed confidence that the meeting would witness huge public response, reflecting continued support for KCR's leadership. Party cadres are actively engaged in mobilizing people from across the district to make the event a success.

Veeresham Reviews Irrigation Projects Progress

Nakrekal, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Government Whip and Nakrekal MLA Vemula Veeresham conducted a review meeting on irrigation projects at his camp office in Nakrekal town on Sunday, emphasizing timely completion of works to ensure water supply to farmers. During the meeting, officials briefed the MLA on the progress of key irrigation projects, including the Brahmanavellam project, Aitipamula Lift Irrigation Scheme, and the Pillayipalli and Dharmareddy canals. Veeresham reviewed the status in detail and issued directions to expedite the works within the stipulated timelines. He stressed that all ongoing projects must be completed with high-quality standards so that farmers receive adequate irrigation water without delay. "Providing timely water for agriculture is crucial, and officers must ensure that no lapses occur in execution," he said. The MLA also instructed officials to accelerate pending irrigation works across the constituency and adopt a proactive approach to avoid inconvenience to farmers. He underlined the need for proper planning and coordination among departments to achieve effective results on the ground. Highlighting the importance of irrigation infrastructure in boosting agricultural productivity, Veeresham said that the government is committed to strengthening water resources in rural areas. He urged officials to closely monitor the progress of works and resolve any bottlenecks immediately. Officials from the irrigation department and related staff attended the meeting and assured the MLA that all projects would be completed as per schedule while maintaining quality standards. The review meeting reflects the government's focus on improving irrigation facilities and supporting farmers by ensuring reliable water supply across the Nakrekal constituency.

Congress Slams BJP Over Women's Bill Row

Sangareddy, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Telangana Government Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIIC) Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy has strongly refuted allegations that the Congress party is opposing the Women's Reservation Bill, accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of spreading misinformation for political gain. Addressing a press conference in Sangareddy on Sunday, she stated that the Congress has always been committed to women's empowerment and has historically supported legislation aimed at ensuring greater representation for women in governance. She alleged that the BJP is deliberately linking the Women's Reservation Bill with delimitation to delay its implementation and create confusion among the people. Jaggareddy emphasized that the congress party had played a key role in pushing for the passage of the bill in the past and continues to support it unequivocally. "The BJP is attempting to use the Women's Bill as a political tool rather than addressing it with sincerity," she said. She further criticized the central government for combining delimitation with the bill, calling it a conspiracy that could potentially impact the political balance between northern and southern states. According to her, such a move may reduce the political priority of southern states while benefiting others. Highlighting Congress' legacy, she pointed out that leaders like Indira Gandhi had already demonstrated the party's commitment to empowering women by holding the highest office in the country. Jaggareddy challenged the BJP to introduce the Women's Reservation Bill as a standalone legislation in Parliament. "If the bill is presented separately, Congress will fully support it," she asserted, adding that failure to do so would expose the BJP's political motives. She also praised the governance under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stating that the state government is working towards improving the economic status of women through welfare and development initiatives. The Congress leader warned that her party would launch a movement to safeguard women's rights if the bill is not introduced independently in the upcoming parliamentary sessions. Several local leaders, including municipal representatives and senior Congress members, were present at the press meet.



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Meets Tribal Leaders, Backs Rights Demand

Hyderabad, April 19 | TPN Bureau
In a significant development, Telangana Jagruthi president Kalvakuntla Kavitha held a meeting with senior tribal leaders, including former Khammam Zilla Parishad chairman and ex-MLA Chanda Lingaiah Dora, at the Jagruthi office in Banjara Hills on Sunday. The meeting was attended by key representatives of the All India Adivasi Constitutional Rights and Cultural Protection Joint Action Committee (JAC). Prominent leaders such as Paduri Srinivas, Payam Satyanarayana, Madavi Narsing Rao, Vattam Narayana Dora, and others participated in the discussion, focusing on pressing issues faced by tribal communities across the country. During the interaction, Lingaiah Dora briefed Kavitha about the challenges Adivasis are facing due to what he described as "restrictive and anti-tribal policies" of the Central government. He highlighted concerns over displacement, lack of proper rehabilitation, and dilution of constitutional safeguards meant for tribal welfare. Responding to the concerns, Kavitha extended full support to the JAC's ongoing struggle to protect tribal rights. She alleged that the Centre is undermining protections guaranteed under the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution and weakening the provisions of the PESA Act. Referring to the Polavaram project, she said nearly 300,000 Adivasis are being displaced without adequate rehabilitation or basic facilities. Kavitha also raised objections to the absence of a dedicated "Adivasi religion" column in the national census. She stated that this omission denies tribal communities the dignity of identifying their distinct cultural and religious identity. She demanded the inclusion of a separate column for Adivasi religion in the census and called for the recognition of the "Koyatur" language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Emphasizing the cultural significance of Adivasis, Kavitha said efforts would continue to safeguard their rights and dignity.



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Crop Losses Blamed on Power Shortage

Rangareddy, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Former minister V. Srinivas Goud on Sunday visited drought-hit agricultural fields in Chandradana village of Talakondapally mandal in Rangareddy district, where maize and paddy crops have withered due to inadequate electricity supply. He was accompanied by former MLA Jaipal Yadav, former Mission Bhagiratha vice chairman Uppala Venkatesh, local leaders, and farmers. During the visit, the leaders inspected the damaged fields and interacted with farmers, who expressed deep concern over the lack of reliable power supply. Farmers stated that despite having borewells with sufficient groundwater, crops dried up as electricity was not available to operate pumps regularly. They alleged that even six hours of uninterrupted power supply was not being provided daily, leading to severe crop losses. Farmers also raised concerns about the absence of a fair minimum support price for maize. They demanded that the government procure the entire produce without restrictions and fix a support price of Rs 2,400 per quintal. Additionally, they called for an increase in procurement centers to ensure farmers do not suffer losses. Several farmers criticized the Congress government for failing to implement its election promise of providing Rythu Bandhu assistance. They claimed that not even a single installment had been credited for some farmers and that dues for multiple phases remain pending. According to them, such promises are only revisited during election periods and later ignored. Srinivas Goud alleged that the current situation in Telangana resembles past challenges faced in undivided Andhra Pradesh, where inadequate power supply and lack of agricultural inputs led to reduced yields. He blamed the government's policies for worsening the plight of farmers and warned that such issues could have political consequences. Local farmers echoed similar sentiments, stating that government policies have become a burden on them and demanded immediate corrective measures to prevent further losses.



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Talasani Slams Congress, Praises KCR Welfare

Karimnagar, April 19 | TPN Bureau
Former minister and MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav addressed a press conference on Sunday at the camp office of Karimnagar MLA Gangula, sharply criticizing the Congress government while praising the achievements of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. Speaking to the media, Talasani described KCR as a historic leader who achieved the formation of Telangana, asserting that his legacy cannot be erased. He highlighted that during his tenure, KCR not only fulfilled electoral promises but also introduced several welfare schemes that significantly benefited the people of the state. Launching a scathing attack on the Congress, Talasani alleged that the current government has failed to deliver any meaningful development for Telangana. He accused it of focusing solely on dismantling the previous administration's initiatives rather than creating new opportunities for the public. Referring to recent political criticism, he said Congress leaders who claim KCR is politically inactive are now "fearful" following the announcement of his upcoming public meeting in Jagtial. He termed the Congress government's recent promises, including the proposed rollout of Rythu Bandhu, as "laughable" and politically motivated. Talasani further alleged that Congress came to power by making false promises, including doubling welfare benefits, but has instead discontinued key schemes introduced by the previous government. These include KCR Kit, Dalit Bandhu, pensions for the elderly, Rythu Bima, and Kalyana Lakshmi. The MLA also criticized the government's financial management, claiming that it has accumulated debts of nearly Rs 3.5 lakh crore in just two-and-a-half years without initiating any major development projects. Talasani called upon people to attend the upcoming public meeting in Jagtial in large numbers. He also announced that former minister Jeevan Reddy is expected to join the BRS party in the presence of KCR during the event.

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RDO Sentenced in Contempt Case

Hyderabad, April 19, 2026 | TPN Bureau
In a significant development, the Telangana High Court has sentenced Rajendranagar Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) Koppula Venkata Reddy to one month of imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 2,000 in a contempt of court case. The court found the officer guilty of willfully disobeying its earlier orders in connection with an ongoing land dispute. The case pertains to 74.97 acres of land located in Peddashapur village under Shamshabad mandal in the erstwhile Rangareddy district. According to court records, the RDO failed to implement directives issued earlier within the stipulated timeframe. Aggrieved by this inaction, the landowner, Nawab Mohammed Yusufuddin Khan, filed a contempt petition seeking action against the officer. While delivering the judgment, the court awarded one month's simple imprisonment along with a monetary penalty. It also clarified that if the fine is not paid, the RDO will have to undergo an additional two weeks of imprisonment. However, granting relief for legal recourse, the High Court suspended the implementation of the sentence for two weeks, allowing the officer to file an appeal against the verdict. The ruling underscores the importance of strict adherence to judicial orders by government officers and reinforces accountability in administrative functioning.

After hearing the case, Justice C V Bhaskar Reddy concluded that the RDO had deliberately ignored the court's orders. The judge observed that such actions undermine the authority of the judiciary and cannot be tolerated. While delivering the judgment, the court awarded one month's simple imprisonment along with a monetary penalty. It also clarified that if the fine is not paid, the RDO will have to undergo an additional two weeks of imprisonment. However, granting relief for legal recourse, the High Court suspended the implementation of the sentence for two weeks, allowing the officer to file an appeal against the verdict. The ruling underscores the importance of strict adherence to judicial orders by government officers and reinforces accountability in administrative functioning.

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Seats in South and West That Could Decide Tamil Nadu’s Political Future

Tamil Nadu’s upcoming election is shaping up to be a closely contested battle where regional dynamics may ultimately determine the outcome. Unlike elections driven by a sweeping wave, this contest appears to be evolving into a seat-by-seat fight. In particular, constituencies in western and southern Tamil Nadu are emerging as decisive battlegrounds.

These regions have historically influenced electoral outcomes, and this time too, political parties are focusing heavily on them. Shifting alliances, new entrants, and internal party conflicts have created uncertainty, making these constituencies critical in shaping the state’s political future.

Why Western Tamil Nadu Is Crucial

Western Tamil Nadu has long been considered politically significant due to its diverse voter base and strong party loyalties. The region includes districts such as Coimbatore, Salem, Tiruppur, Erode, and Dharmapuri, all of which have played key roles in previous elections.

In earlier contests, this region largely favored one alliance, helping it gain an advantage across the state. However, changing political equations, local leadership battles, and emerging voter concerns have made the western belt more competitive. Parties are now working aggressively to consolidate their support in this region, knowing that even a few seats could tilt the balance of power.

The western region also reflects the impact of caste-based politics, industrial development, and urbanization. These factors create a complex electoral environment where local issues often matter more than statewide narratives.

Coimbatore South: A High-Profile Contest

Coimbatore South is one of the most closely watched constituencies in western Tamil Nadu. The seat gained prominence in the last election due to a narrow victory and a high-profile contest involving prominent personalities.

This time, the contest has become even more intense



with strong candidates from multiple alliances. The entry of influential leaders into this constituency signals the importance parties attach to strengthening their presence in the western region.

The outcome in Coimbatore South is expected to indicate whether voters are willing to shift allegiances or continue supporting established players. The seat may also reflect broader trends across urban constituencies in western Tamil Nadu.

Salem West: Impact of Party Divisions

Salem West has emerged as another crucial constituency, particularly because of internal divisions within influential regional parties. Leadership disagreements and factionalism have weakened traditional vote banks, creating opportunities for rival alliances.

This constituency is important not only for local reasons but also for its broader influence across neighboring districts. The results here may show whether internal party conflicts affect voter behavior and whether alliances can effectively capitalize on these divisions.

Salem West is also significant due to its diverse demographic composition, making

it a testing ground for campaign strategies and coalition politics.

Dharmapuri: A Prestige Battle

Dharmapuri is shaping up as a prestige contest involving influential political families and regional leaders. The constituency has traditionally been a stronghold for certain parties, but recent developments have made it more competitive.

The presence of prominent candidates has raised the stakes, turning Dharmapuri into a key battleground. The outcome here could influence the morale of political parties and affect their performance in nearby constituencies.

The seat also reflects the role of local leadership in Tamil Nadu politics. Strong personalities often influence voter decisions, and Dharmapuri may demonstrate the importance of candidate appeal over party affiliation.

Southern Tamil Nadu: A Changing Political Landscape

Southern Tamil Nadu has traditionally leaned toward certain alliances, but the political landscape is changing. Districts such as Madurai, Theni, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, and Kanyakumari are witnessing intense

competition. The southern region is known for its complex caste equations, strong local leaders, and emerging political forces. This election is expected to test whether traditional loyalties still hold or whether voters are open to change.

Parties are focusing heavily on the south, organizing rallies and deploying senior leaders to strengthen their presence. The region’s outcome could significantly impact the overall electoral result.

Bodinayakkanur: A Leadership Test

Bodinayakkanur in Theni district has become a major battleground due to shifting alliances and leadership changes. The constituency is known for its strong political personalities and loyal voter base.

The contest here will test whether leaders can transfer their support base after changing alliances. It will also reveal how voters respond to political realignments and whether personal influence remains strong.

Bodinayakkanur’s result may also affect nearby constituencies, making it one of the most closely watched seats in southern Tamil Nadu.

Alangulam: Party Loyalty vs Candidate Popularity

Alangulam is another constituency drawing attention due to party switching by prominent leaders. The contest here highlights a recurring question in Tamil Nadu politics: do voters prioritize party symbols or individual candidates?

The seat is expected to witness a tight contest, with both alliances trying to consolidate support among traditional voter groups. The result in Alangulam may offer insights into evolving voter behavior.

Virudhunagar: Testing New Alliances

Virudhunagar has gained importance due to the presence of candidates from emerging alliances and political families. The constituency represents a test case for coalition politics.

Multiple parties competing here could lead to vote splitting, making the contest unpredictable. The seat will indicate whether new alliances can effectively challenge established players.

Virudhunagar also reflects the growing role of regional parties in Tamil Nadu’s political landscape.

Karaikudi: A Multi-Colored Battle

Karaikudi is shaping up as a multi-cornered contest involving several major and smaller parties. Such contests often produce unexpected results, making this constituency particularly important.

The seat will test the strength of traditional parties as well as the appeal of new entrants. Voters in Karaikudi are known to consider local issues, which may influence the outcome.

This constituency could become a deciding factor in southern Tamil Nadu.

Thiruparankundram: A Traditional Stronghold Under Challenge

Thiruparankundram has historically favored certain parties, but this time the contest appears more competitive. The presence of strong candidates from multiple alliances has intensified the battle.

The seat will reveal whether traditional strongholds remain intact or whether voters are willing to shift preferences. The outcome here could signal broader changes in the southern region.

Madurai Central: Urban Voter Dynamics

Madurai Central represents an important urban constituency where multiple

factors influence voter behavior. Issues such as development, employment, and infrastructure play a major role.

The contest here is expected to reflect urban voting patterns and the impact of high-profile candidates. The result may also indicate trends across other urban constituencies in Tamil Nadu.

Key Themes Emerging Across Regions

Several themes are emerging from these constituencies. Alliance politics continues to play a crucial role, with parties relying on coalition partners to strengthen their chances. Caste equations remain influential, particularly in rural areas.

Another important factor is the rise of new parties and candidates. These entrants may not win many seats but could influence outcomes by splitting votes. Leadership changes and party switching are also shaping the electoral landscape.

Urban and rural voting patterns may differ, adding another layer of complexity to the election.

A Seat-by-Seat Election

Tamil Nadu appears headed toward a seat-by-seat contest rather than a sweeping victory for any single alliance. Western Tamil Nadu will determine whether parties can expand their influence, while southern Tamil Nadu will test their ability to retain traditional strongholds. Each constituency carries significant weight, and even small shifts could affect the final outcome.

Conclusion

The battle for Tamil Nadu is becoming increasingly competitive, with western and southern constituencies emerging as decisive battlegrounds. Political parties are focusing their strategies on these regions, aware that the results here could determine the next government. As alliances evolve and new players enter the fray, the election promises to be unpredictable. Ultimately, the outcome may depend not on statewide trends but on carefully contested seats across the south and west.

Rethinking Lok Sabha Expansion: Representation Beyond Population Growth

India is debating whether to expand the Lok Sabha and redraw parliamentary constituencies. The argument appears straightforward: the population has grown significantly, and therefore representation in Parliament should increase. However, this issue is far more complex than simple population arithmetic. Expanding the Lok Sabha raises important questions about governance, representation, and the long-term impact of such a decision.

India currently has 543 elected members in the Lok Sabha. Some proposals suggest increasing this number to as many as 800 or more. While this may seem like a logical response to population growth, it is worth considering whether increasing the number of MPs will truly improve democratic representation or governance.

Population Growth and Representation

The demand for expanding the Lok Sabha is largely based on population growth. Since independence, India’s population has increased dramatically, resulting in larger constituencies. Each MP today represents far more citizens than in the early decades after independence.

In earlier times, smaller constituencies were necessary because communication was limited and travel was difficult. Citizens depended heavily on their representatives to address local issues. However, the situation has changed significantly. Advances in technology, better transportation, and improved connectivity have made communication between citizens and representatives easier.

Today, people can contact

their MPs through digital platforms, social media, and other communication channels. This transformation raises the question of whether increasing the number of MPs is still necessary to ensure effective representation.

Representation Beyond Parliament

Another important factor often overlooked in this debate is India’s extensive network of elected representatives at different levels of governance. The country has thousands of local bodies, including Panchayats and urban municipal institutions, with millions of elected representatives.

These local leaders are often more accessible to citizens and handle many day-to-day governance issues. Strengthening these institutions could improve representation more effectively than expanding Parliament.

If the goal is to improve responsiveness and accountability, empowering local governance may offer a more practical solution. Increasing the number of MPs may not necessarily address grassroots issues that are better handled at local levels.

Women’s Representation Debate

Another argument for expanding the Lok Sabha relates to improving women’s representation. With proposals for reserving one-third of seats for women, some believe that increasing the total number of seats will help accommodate these reservations.

However, the issue of women’s representation is more closely linked to political will than to the number of seats. Many countries with smaller legislatures have higher pro-



portions of women representatives. This suggests that parties must prioritize nominating women candidates rather than relying on seat expansion.

India already has strong representation of women at the local level. Reservation policies in Panchayats have brought a large number of women into leadership roles. The challenge now is to create pathways for these leaders to move into state and national politics.

India’s Demographic Turning Point

Another key factor in this debate is India’s demographic

transition. Population growth is slowing, and projections suggest that India’s population will peak in the coming decades before gradually declining.

If Parliament is expanded permanently, India may end up with an oversized legislature even after population growth stabilizes. This raises concerns about making long-term institutional changes based on temporary demographic trends.

A more cautious approach may involve assessing demographic changes over time rather than making immediate

and permanent expansions.

Risks of Expanding the Lok Sabha

Expanding the Lok Sabha is not a temporary decision. Once seats are added, it becomes difficult to reduce them in the future. Political realities make it unlikely that any government would remove constituencies later. Such expansion could also affect the balance of power between states. Changes in seat distribution may influence national politics and federal relations for decades.

Therefore, decisions regarding expansion must consider

long-term consequences. Increasing representation should not come at the cost of efficiency and governance.

Strengthening Governance Instead

Rather than expanding Parliament, policymakers could focus on improving governance mechanisms. Strengthening local bodies, enhancing accountability, and using technology to connect citizens with representatives may be more effective.

Digital grievance systems, public engagement platforms, and transparent governance

processes can improve representation without increasing the number of MPs.

Such reforms could make governance more responsive while avoiding the challenges associated with expanding Parliament.

A Broader Democratic Question

The debate over Lok Sabha expansion raises a broader question about democracy. Representation is not just about numbers; it is also about accessibility, accountability, and effectiveness.

India already has one of the largest democratic systems in the world. Increasing its size may not automatically improve governance. Instead, strengthening existing institutions and improving decision-making processes may deliver better results.

Conclusion The discussion on expanding the Lok Sabha is important and necessary. Population growth and representation concerns deserve attention. However, increasing the number of MPs may not be the most effective solution.

India is approaching a demographic transition, and permanent expansion could create long-term challenges. Strengthening local governance, improving communication, and enhancing accountability may offer better alternatives.

Ultimately, the focus should shift from simply increasing numbers to improving the quality of representation. A larger Parliament does not automatically guarantee better democracy. The real goal should be to build a system that is more responsive, efficient, and inclusive for all citizens.

Strait of Hormuz Chaos, Lebanon Clashes Hit Trump’s Peace Push

Fresh tensions in the Middle East have cast uncertainty over US President Donald Trump’s efforts to broker peace, as chaos in the Strait of Hormuz and renewed clashes between Israel and Lebanon threaten fragile negotiations.

Strait of Hormuz Tensions Escalate

Chaos erupted in the Strait of Hormuz just a day after Iran announced the key waterway would reopen to commercial shipping. The strait is strategically crucial, as nearly one-fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas shipments pass through it. The disruption immediately raised concerns about global energy supplies and economic stability.

Iran accused the United States of continuing a naval blockade despite the reopening



announcement, calling the move “maritime banditry.” The duelling positions between Washington and Tehran complicated diplomatic efforts and raised doubts about the durability of the fragile ceasefire.

The standoff also unsettled markets and shipping routes, as uncertainty over safe passage increased risks for vessels operating in the region. The

to Instability

At the same time, tensions between Israel and Lebanon added another layer of uncertainty. Despite recent ceasefire announcements, clashes continued along the border, raising fears that violence could escalate again.

Trump had earlier announced a temporary ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, presenting it as a major diplomatic breakthrough. However, continued hostilities undermined those efforts and highlighted the fragile nature of the agreement.

The renewed tensions made it harder to sustain momentum for broader peace negotiations involving the US and Iran.

Peace Talks Face Growing Challenges

Trump has repeatedly ex-

pressed optimism about reaching a deal with Iran, even suggesting that negotiations were close to success. However, major disagreements remain, particularly over nuclear issues and control of the Strait of Hormuz.

Iranian officials have also signalled that significant gaps persist, indicating that a final agreement remains distant. These unresolved issues have slowed progress and increased uncertainty around future negotiations.

The situation is further complicated by overlapping conflicts in the region, including tensions involving Israel, Lebanon, and Iran.

Global Implications

The ongoing crisis carries significant global implications. Disruptions in the Strait of

Hormuz can affect oil prices, trade routes, and economic stability worldwide. Continued violence in Lebanon and Israel also risks expanding regional instability.

Diplomatic efforts continue, but the combination of maritime tensions and border clashes has dented hopes for a quick breakthrough.

Uncertain Road Ahead

Trump’s peace push now faces mounting obstacles. While negotiations remain ongoing, the latest developments underscore how fragile the situation remains.

With tensions rising across multiple fronts, the path to peace appears increasingly uncertain, and any breakthrough may depend on calming conflicts both at sea and along regional borders.



Trump Calls Israel “Bold, Loyal” Amid Fragile Lebanon Ceasefire

US President Donald Trump has strongly praised Israel, calling it a “great ally” of the United States, even as a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon holds amid wider Middle East tensions involving Iran.

Trump’s Strong Praise For Israel

In a social media post, Donald Trump described Israel as “courageous, bold, loyal and smart,” adding that the country had consistently supported the United States during times of conflict. He also said Israel “fights hard and knows how to win,” highlighting Washington’s continued backing of its long-time ally.

Trump’s remarks came despite his earlier warning to Israel to halt bombing in Lebanon, where a US-backed ceasefire had recently taken effect. He had previously said Israel was “prohibited” from further strikes and stressed that the fighting must stop.

Ceasefire Remains Fragile

The ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon was announced following weeks of cross-border violence involving Hezbollah and Israeli forces. The temporary truce aims to halt hostilities and create space for negotiations toward a more permanent settlement.

However, tensions remain high. Reports indicate continued military presence and sporadic incidents along the border, raising concerns that the ceasefire may not hold. The situation remains volatile, with both sides wary of

violations.

Wider Middle East Tensions

Trump’s praise for Israel also comes amid broader regional instability. The conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel has intensified in recent weeks, particularly around the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has repeatedly threatened to control or close the key shipping route, while the US continues to maintain pressure through military and diplomatic measures. These developments have complicated peace efforts across the region.

The closure and reopening of the Strait of Hormuz have already affected global energy markets and shipping routes, adding to uncertainty surrounding the ceasefire and broader diplomatic efforts.

Diplomatic Push Continues

Despite the tensions, Trump has maintained optimism about achieving broader peace in the Middle East. The US continues to engage in talks aimed at stabilizing the region and preventing further escalation.

However, with multiple conflicts unfolding simultaneously — including Iran-US tensions and the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire — the path toward lasting peace remains uncertain.

Trump’s strong endorsement of Israel underscores Washington’s continued alignment with the country, even as diplomatic efforts attempt to calm one of the region’s most volatile periods in recent years.

Iran Flags “Major Gaps” As Ceasefire Nears End, Shuts Strait Of Hormuz Again

Tensions in the Middle East have escalated again after Iran warned that significant differences remain in peace talks with the United States, even as a temporary ceasefire nears its end. The development comes alongside Iran’s decision to re-close the strategic Strait of Hormuz, raising fears of renewed conflict and global economic disruption.

“Many Gaps Remain” In Peace Talks

Iran acknowledged that progress has been made in negotiations with the United States but stressed that a final agreement remains far away. Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said that while discussions had moved forward, “many gaps and some fundamental points remain.” He also stated that the sides were still far from reaching a final understanding.

The remarks came as a two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran approaches its deadline. The temporary truce had paused hostilities and opened the door for negotiations, but the latest statements suggest that major

disagreements persist.

Iran also signalled confidence in its military position, saying it had agreed to the ceasefire only after its demands were addressed. Iranian officials claimed that the United States had not achieved its objectives during weeks of fighting.

Strait Of Hormuz Closed Again

Amid the diplomatic uncertainty, Iran moved to reassert control over the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world’s most critical oil shipping routes. Tehran placed the waterway under tighter restrictions and warned that transit would remain limited until its demands were met.

The move came after earlier announcements that the strait would remain open during the ceasefire period. However, continuing tensions and disagreements led Iran to reverse course, creating fresh uncertainty for global shipping and energy markets. The Strait of Hormuz carries a significant portion of the world’s oil and gas supplies, making any disruption a major concern for

global markets and economies.

No Date For Next Talks

Iranian officials also indicated that no date had been set for the next round of negotiations. This has raised doubts about whether a new agreement can be reached before the ceasefire expires. The talks, mediated by regional partners, were aimed at resolving disputes over sanctions, maritime security, and broader regional tensions. However, the lack of progress suggests that negotiations could extend beyond the ceasefire period.

Rising Global Concerns

The renewed closure of the Strait of Hormuz and stalled peace talks have heightened fears of escalating conflict in the Middle East. Energy markets, shipping companies, and governments are closely monitoring the situation.

With the ceasefire deadline approaching and negotiations still unresolved, the situation remains uncertain. The coming days are expected to be critical in determining whether diplomacy prevails or tensions escalate once again.



“You Gave Me Clearance”: Distress Call From Indian Tanker Amid Strait of Hormuz Firing

Fresh tensions in the Strait of Hormuz escalated after two Indian-flagged tankers were fired upon by Iranian gunboats, forcing them to turn back and triggering diplomatic concern from India. The incident, which occurred amid the ongoing Iran-US-Israel conflict, highlighted growing risks to global shipping and energy supplies.

Distress Call Reveals Chaos At Sea

A distress audio from one of the vessels, Sanmar Herald, captured the confusion during the incident. In the recording, a crew member is heard urgently communicating with Iranian naval forces after gunfire began despite earlier clearance.

The crew member reportedly said: “You gave me clearance to go... You are firing now... Let me turn back.” The brief communication underscored the panic on board as the tanker attempted to retreat from the danger zone.

The second Indian-flagged vessel involved in the incident was identified as Jag Arnav. Both ships turned back after the firing, and officials confirmed that there were no injuries or damage to the vessels.

closed added to the uncertainty, with several ships either turning back or waiting for clearance.

India Raises Concern

Following the incident, India expressed concern over the safety of its vessels and crew. Diplomatic channels were activated, and the situation was closely monitored by Indian authorities.

The incident also raised fears about the safety of Indian shipping, as the country depends heavily on energy imports passing through the Strait of Hormuz. Disruptions in this route could impact fuel supplies and shipping costs.

Growing Risks For Global Shipping

The firing underscores how fragile the situation remains in the Middle East. Shipping companies are becoming increasingly cautious, with some vessels avoiding the region altogether.

The incident also reflects the broader geopolitical tensions in the region, where military actions and diplomatic negotiations continue simultaneously.

Uncertain Situation Ahead

While no injuries were reported, the distress call from the Sanmar Herald highlighted the dangers faced by commercial vessels in conflict zones. With tensions still high, the Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world’s most volatile maritime corridors.

As diplomatic efforts continue, the safety of international shipping — particularly Indian-flagged vessels — remains a key concern in the unfolding crisis.

Two Indian Men Shot Dead Outside Gurdwara In Italy

Two Indian nationals were shot dead outside a gurdwara in northern Italy’s Bergamo province, in an incident that authorities suspect may have been a planned execution, sending shockwaves through the Indian community in the region.

Attack After Vaisakhi Gathering

The shooting took place late Friday night in Covo, a town in Bergamo province, shortly after the victims attended a gathering for the Vaisakhi festival at a warehouse used as a place of worship. The attack occurred in the square outside Gurdwara Mata Sahib Kaur Ji, just minutes before midnight.

According to reports, the attacker approached the two men as they were leaving the gurdwara, opened fire at close range, and fled the scene in a



car. The sudden nature of the attack ruled out the possibility of a spontaneous altercation, strengthening suspicions that the killings were premeditated.



Victims Identified

The victims were identified as Raginder Singh, 48, a resident of Covo, and Gurmit Singh, 48, from nearby Agnadello. Both men were part of the lo-

cal Indian community.

Investigators recovered around ten shell casings from the scene, indicating a targeted attack. Authorities also reported that a third person may have been grazed by bullets, though this has not been officially confirmed.

Suspect Believed To Be Known Locally

A witness told local media that the shooter was believed to be of Indian origin and may have frequented the same gurdwara. However, police have not officially confirmed this detail and are continuing to investigate the motive behind the attack. Authorities are examining surveillance footage and gathering evidence to identify the suspect and determine the circumstances leading to the killings.

Community Shocked

The shooting has deeply unsettled the local Indian community, particularly as it occurred just ahead of an official Vaisakhi celebration scheduled the following day. The festival event was expected to include participation from local authorities and community members.

Investigation Underway

Italian police have launched a full investigation and are exploring multiple angles, including personal disputes and community-related issues. No arrests have been reported so far.

The incident has raised concerns about the safety of Indian diaspora communities in Europe, while authorities continue efforts to track down the attacker and determine the motive behind the deadly shooting.

Inside Big Tech Hiring: Recruiter Reveals Why Even Strong Candidates Get Rejected

Getting hired by big technology companies is often seen as a major career milestone. However, many talented candidates are rejected despite performing well in interviews. A recruiter who conducted more than 200 interviews at a large tech company has shed light on why this happens, revealing that hiring decisions are not always based solely on technical skills.

According to the recruiter, one of the most important yet overlooked stages in the hiring process is the post-interview discussion, commonly known as the “debrief.” After all interviews are completed, panel members gather to share their opinions about candidates. While applicants may believe their performance alone determines the outcome, these dis-

cussions can significantly influence the final decision.

The recruiter explained that even strong candidates sometimes get rejected if one interviewer raises concerns. For instance, a candidate might perform well in most rounds but still fail to receive an offer because one interviewer felt they lacked communication skills, cultural fit, or problem-solving approach. In some cases, subjective factors such as personality, confidence, or even minor misunderstandings can impact decisions.

Another key issue highlighted was the lack of transparency in feedback. Most candidates receive standard rejection emails without any detailed explanation. As a result, applicants often assume they lacked tech-

nical ability, even though the real reason could be unrelated to their skills. The recruiter noted that they had seen many capable candidates turned down for reasons that were not directly connected to job performance.

The recruiter also mentioned the influence of referrals in the hiring process. Candidates referred by employees often receive more attention and may have higher chances of progressing through interview stages. Meanwhile, equally qualified candidates without referrals may struggle to stand out in a competitive pool of applicants.

Additionally, business needs and internal changes can also affect hiring outcomes. Sometimes companies pause hiring, change priorities, or reduce headcount after in-

terviews are completed. In such situations, candidates may be rejected despite performing well, simply because the role is no longer available.

The recruiter emphasized that rejection in big tech hiring does not always reflect a candidate's ability. Many factors beyond performance can influence decisions, making the process unpredictable. They encouraged job seekers not to take rejections personally and to continue improving their skills and applying for new opportunities.

The insights sparked discussion among professionals, with many sharing similar experiences. The overall message was clear: in big tech hiring, success depends not only on talent but also on timing, perception, and internal decision-making.



Security Guard In Hyderabad Performs Duties Under Mosquito Net, Sparks Debate

A video from Hyderabad has gone viral after showing a security guard performing his night-shift duties while sitting under a mosquito net. The unusual scene quickly caught attention online and sparked a wider discussion about the working conditions of security personnel in residential societies.

In the video, the guard is seen seated on a chair during his night duty, completely covered by a mosquito net to protect himself from insect bites. Despite the unconventional setup, he continues to stay alert and carry out his responsibilities. The clip was shared on social media by a user who highlighted the difficult conditions under which the guard was working.

While sharing the video, the user questioned why basic facilities were not provided to security guards, especially when residents live comfortably indoors. The post also raised concerns about the lack of attention given to workers who perform essential duties, particularly during late-night hours and in challenging conditions.

The video quickly gained traction online, with many users expressing concern over the guard's situation. Several people described the scene as troubling and said it reflected the hardships faced by security personnel. Some users suggest-



ed that residential societies should provide better facilities such as proper cabins, fans, and mosquito control measures to improve working conditions.

However, not everyone viewed the situation negatively. A few users pointed out that using a mosquito net could simply be a practical solution, especially in areas with heavy mosquito presence. They argued that the guard may have chosen this method himself to

stay comfortable while working.

The discussion soon expanded into a broader conversation about the dignity of labour and the treatment of workers who ensure safety in residential areas. Many users emphasised that security guards often work long hours, usually outdoors or in small spaces, making them vulnerable to weather conditions and insects.

The viral clip highlighted how small, everyday moments

can bring attention to larger issues. It prompted people to reflect on the working conditions of security personnel and whether more can be done to support them.

While the video captured a simple situation, it sparked meaningful debate about empathy, workplace comfort, and the importance of ensuring better facilities for essential workers who play a crucial role in maintaining safety and security.

Mumbai Woman Claims She Manages Monthly Expenses Under 18,000. Sparks Debate Online

Living in Mumbai is often considered expensive, especially for those living independently. However, a Mumbai-based woman has surprised many after claiming that she manages all her monthly expenses within 18,000. Her budget breakdown, shared in a social media video, quickly went viral and sparked debate online.

The woman, identified as Shreya Gan, said she lives alone in a 1RK apartment and pays 11,500 as monthly rent. Given Mumbai's high housing costs, many viewers were surprised by the relatively affordable rent. She explained that keeping her accommodation costs low helps her manage other expenses more effectively. She also shared details about her utility expenses. According to her, the electricity bill ranges between 300 and 400 per month, while her mobile recharge costs around 300. These minimal utility expenses further contribute to keeping her overall budget under control. For transportation, she said she primarily uses Mumbai's local trains for her daily commute. She occasionally takes auto or taxi rides, bringing her monthly travel expenses to around 500. Her grocery



spending, she added, usually falls between 1,500 and 1,800 per month. In addition to essential expenses, she revealed that she spends about 2,000 on online shopping and approximately 1,000 on miscellaneous costs. When combined, her total monthly expenditure comes to around 17,500 to 18,000, allowing her to live independently within a limited budget.

Her claims quickly drew mixed reactions online. Many users expressed surprise, especially about the low rent and

transportation costs. Some questioned how it was possible to find such affordable housing in Mumbai, while others shared that their rent alone exceeded her total monthly budget. Several users also pointed out that living costs can vary significantly depending on location, lifestyle, and personal habits. Some people appreciated her disciplined budgeting and minimalist lifestyle, noting that careful spending can help reduce expenses even in expensive cities. The discus-

sion soon turned into a broader conversation about affordability in metro cities. Many users shared their own budgeting strategies and experiences of managing finances in Mumbai. While some remained skeptical about the practicality of her budget, others viewed it as an example of smart financial planning. Her viral video ultimately highlighted how different lifestyle choices and spending habits can shape living expenses, even in one of India's most expensive cities.

“No Placements Like India”: Indian Man In Paris Explains Why Job Hunting In Europe Is Tough

An Indian man living in Paris has sparked a conversation online after explaining why finding a job in Europe can be more challenging compared to India. In a video shared on social media, he highlighted the key differences in hiring practices and how job seekers must adapt to a different system.

According to him, one of the biggest differences is the absence of structured campus placements in Europe. In India, many colleges and universities organise placement drives where companies visit campuses, conduct interviews, and hire students directly. This system makes it easier for fresh graduates to secure jobs soon after completing their education. However, he pointed out that such organised placement opportunities are largely unavailable in many European countries.

Instead, job seekers in Europe must rely heavily on independent applications and networking. Candidates are expected to actively search for opportunities, apply through company websites, and connect with professionals in their field. While job fairs and university career events do exist, they usually do not guarantee employment. As a result, the process can take longer and require more effort.

He also emphasised the im-



portance of networking in Europe's job market. Building professional connections, reaching out to recruiters, and maintaining an active presence on platforms like LinkedIn can significantly improve chances of getting noticed. In many cases, referrals and personal connections play an important role in helping candidates move forward in the hiring process. Another difference he highlighted was the interview process itself. European companies often focus on communication skills, personality, and cultural fit in addition to technical knowledge. Candidates are expected to clearly explain their ideas, demonstrate teamwork abilities, and show confidence during interviews. This means academic qualifications alone may not be enough to secure a

job.

The video quickly gained attention online, with many users agreeing with his observations. Several people shared their own experiences of struggling to find jobs abroad despite strong academic backgrounds. Others mentioned that adjusting to a new hiring culture takes time and patience.

His insights highlight that while Europe offers many opportunities, job hunting there requires a different approach. Success often depends on networking, persistence, and communication skills rather than structured campus recruitment. The discussion also served as a reminder for students planning to move abroad to prepare for a more independent and competitive job search process.

PBKS Continue Winning Streak, Crush LSG by 54 Runs in IPL 2026

Punjab Kings (PBKS) continued their dominant run in IPL 2026 with a commanding 54-run victory over Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), extending their unbeaten streak and strengthening their position at the top of the table.

Batting first, Punjab Kings delivered a breath-taking batting display, posting a massive 254/7 in 20 overs — the highest total of the season so far. The foundation was laid by Priyansh Arya, who smashed a brilliant 93 off just 37 balls, including 4 fours and 9 sixes. He was well supported by Cooper Connolly, who played a sensational

knock of 87 off 46 deliveries with 8 boundaries and 7 sixes.

The duo stitched together a record-breaking 182-run partnership for the second wicket in just 80 balls, completely dismantling the LSG bowling attack. Late cameos from Marcus Stoinis (29 off 16 balls) and Shashank Singh (17 off 6 balls) pushed the total beyond reach, while Nehal Wadhwa added 13 runs. Skipper Shreyas Iyer had a rare failure, scoring just 5, and Prabhsimran Singh was dismissed for a duck. In response, Lucknow Super Giants fought hard but were restricted to

200/5 in their chase. Rishabh Pant led the effort with a quickfire 43 off 23 balls, while Aiden Markram remained unbeaten on 42 off 22 deliveries. Mitchell Marsh (40 off 28) and Ayush Badoni (35 off 21) also contributed, but the required run rate kept climbing steadily.

Punjab's bowling unit held its nerves under pressure, with Marco Jansen picking up 2 crucial wickets. Arshdeep Singh, Vijaykumar Vyshak, and Yuzvendra Chahal chipped in with one wicket each, ensuring LSG never got close to the target.

Despite the defeat, LSG

showed fighting spirit in the middle overs but lacked the firepower needed to challenge the massive total.

With this win, Punjab Kings now have five wins from six matches, with one game washed out due to rain. Notably, they have become the first team in IPL history to remain unbeaten in their first six matches of a season.

Their explosive batting form and disciplined bowling have made PBKS one of the strongest contenders for the IPL 2026 title, while LSG will need to address their bowling concerns moving forward.



Rinku Singh's Heroics Power KKR to First Win of IPL 2026

Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) finally opened their account in IPL 2026 with a thrilling 4-wicket victory over Rajasthan Royals at their home ground, thanks to a match-winning half-century by Rinku Singh.

Chasing a target of 156, KKR endured a shaky start and found themselves in deep trouble at 86/6, putting Rajasthan in a commanding position. However, Rinku Singh produced a composed and aggressive unbeaten knock of 53 off 34 balls, featuring 5 boundaries and 2 sixes, to rescue his side from the brink of defeat.

He was well supported by Anukul Roy, who played a crucial unbeaten cameo of 29 runs off just 16 deliveries, including 2 sixes and a four. The duo stitched together a vital

76-run partnership off 37 balls, turning the match decisively in KKR's favour. Kolkata eventually reached the target in 19.4 overs, sealing their first win after a difficult start to the season.

Earlier, Rajasthan Royals posted 155/9 in their 20 overs after opting to bat first. Young opener Vaibhav Suryavanshi top-scored with a fluent 46 off 28 balls, hitting 6 fours and 2 sixes. Yashasvi Jaiswal added 39 runs, providing a steady start for RR.

However, the middle order collapsed under pressure, with Hetmyer scoring 15, Rryan Parag 12, and other batters failing to convert starts into big scores. Dhruv Jurel (5), Donovan Ferreira (7), and Ravindra Jadeja (9) all fell cheaply, halting Rajasthan's

momentum in the final overs.

KKR's bowlers delivered a disciplined performance, with Varun Chakravarthy picking up 3 wickets and Sunil Narine claiming 2 crucial breakthroughs. Kartik Tyagi also impressed in the death overs, taking 3 wickets in the 19th over and restricting Rajasthan's total.

This victory marks KKR's first win in seven matches this season, breaking a string of five losses and one abandoned game due to rain. The win is expected to boost team morale significantly as they look to revive their IPL 2026 campaign.

For Rajasthan Royals, the loss highlights batting inconsistency, especially in the middle order, which cost them a strong position in the match.

Kevin Pietersen's Blunt Reply To Lalit Modi's 'The Hundred' Prediction

Former England captain Kevin Pietersen delivered a blunt response after IPL founder Lalit Modi predicted that England's The Hundred tournament would not survive for long.

Lalit Modi Predicts Short Future

Lalit Modi recently made a bold claim about the future of The Hundred, the 100-ball cricket competition launched in England. He predicted that the tournament would "die in three years", raising concerns about its long-term sustainability.

Modi argued that the tournament relies heavily on an advertisement-driven revenue model, which he believes may not work effectively in the UK market. He also questioned the competition's ability to build a strong fan base and maintain financial viability.

According to him, the tournament benefits primarily from the August window, and beyond that, it may struggle to maintain interest and growth.

Kevin Pietersen Disagrees

Kevin Pietersen strongly disagreed with Modi's prediction. Reacting on social media, the former England star dismissed the claim and said:

"The Hundred won't die in 3yrs, it'll be a T20 comp within 3yrs."



Pietersen suggested that instead of ending, the tournament could evolve into a T20 competition in the near future. His response quickly drew attention and sparked debate within the cricketing community.

Debate Over The Format

The Hundred introduced a 100-ball format, which differs from traditional T20 cricket. While the format was designed to attract new audiences and simplify the game, it has received mixed reactions.

Some critics believe the format unnecessarily complicates cricket, while supporters argue that it adds innovation and entertainment. Pietersen's suggestion of shifting to a T20

format reflects the growing view that established formats may offer better long-term stability.

Uncertain Future

Since its launch, The Hundred has gained popularity and attracted international players. However, discussions about its structure, format, and sustainability continue.

With Lalit Modi predicting its downfall and Kevin Pietersen backing its evolution, the debate over The Hundred's future remains open. The contrasting opinions from two influential cricket figures highlight the uncertainty surrounding the tournament and how it may develop in the coming years.

BCCI Set To Extend Ajit Agarkar's Tenure With 2027 ODI World Cup In Focus

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is set to extend Ajit Agarkar's tenure as chief selector, keeping the 2027 ODI World Cup firmly in mind. The move reflects the board's confidence in Agarkar's leadership and the stability he has brought to India's selection process.

One-Year Extension Likely

According to reports, Ajit Agarkar's current contract is scheduled to expire in June 2026, but the BCCI is planning to extend his tenure by one year until June 2027. This would allow him to continue overseeing team planning and player selection for the upcoming ODI World Cup. The decision is reportedly driven by the board's desire to maintain continuity in team management as India prepares for another major ICC tournament.

Strong Results Under Agarkar

Agarkar's tenure as chief selector has been marked by notable success. During his time in charge, India secured three



ICC titles — the T20 World Cup 2024, Champions Trophy 2025, and T20 World Cup 2026. These achievements strengthened his position and increased the likelihood of an extension.

Apart from tournament wins, India has also undergone a smooth transition phase, with selectors making bold decisions regarding team composition and leadership.

A BCCI official reportedly noted that the team witnessed

a "seamless transition" under Agarkar's leadership, which influenced the board's thinking about continuing with the same selection panel.

Focus On 2027 ODI World Cup

With the next ODI World Cup scheduled for 2027, the BCCI is keen to avoid disruption in long-term planning. Extending Agarkar's tenure would allow the selection committee to continue identifying players,

grooming youngsters, and finalizing combinations.

Continuity in selection is seen as crucial for building a stable squad, especially with several senior players nearing the later stages of their careers and younger players pushing for opportunities.

Discussions Expected Soon

Reports suggest that BCCI officials are expected to hold discussions with Agarkar during IPL matches, where key decisions regarding the extension may be finalized.

The board's move indicates its trust in Agarkar's strategy and his role in shaping India's future across formats.

Stability Ahead Of Major Tournament

If confirmed, the extension will ensure stability in India's cricket structure leading up to the 2027 ODI World Cup. With consistent performances and major tournament victories under his belt, Ajit Agarkar appears set to continue guiding India's selection decisions for the foreseeable future.

Kavya Maran's Celebration Goes Viral After SRH Beat CSK In IPL 2026 Thriller

Sunrisers Hyderabad owner Kavya Maran drew widespread attention after her emotional reaction went viral following SRH's thrilling victory over Chennai Super Kings in IPL 2026. The dramatic finish triggered celebrations in the stands, with cameras capturing her animated response.

SRH Snatch Dramatic Win

Sunrisers Hyderabad pulled off a narrow win against Chennai Super Kings in a high-intensity contest. Chasing 195 runs, CSK appeared to be in control at one stage, but SRH bowlers made a strong comeback in the final overs.

Nitish Kumar Reddy and Esan Malinga played crucial roles by picking up key wickets during the death overs. Their efforts helped restrict Chennai Super Kings to 184 for 8, sealing a thrilling victory for Sunrisers Hyderabad.



The win proved important for SRH as they gained valuable momentum in the tournament.

Kavya Maran's Reaction Steals Spotlight

As SRH sealed the win, cameras focused on Kavya Maran in the stands. She was seen celebrating enthusiastically, clapping and cheering as her team completed the dramatic victory. Her reaction quickly went viral across social media, with fans praising her passion and involvement. The celebration reflected the importance of the win and the intensity of the match.

Bowlers Deliver Under

ping and cheering as her team completed the dramatic victory. Her reaction quickly went viral across social media, with fans praising her passion and involvement. The celebration reflected the importance of the win and the intensity of the match.

Pressure

Sunrisers Hyderabad's bowling unit played a key role in the victory. The bowlers executed their plans effectively in the final overs, turning the match in SRH's favour despite CSK being well placed earlier in the chase. The disciplined performance highlighted the team's ability to handle pressure in crucial moments.

Big Boost For Sunrisers Hyderabad

The thrilling victory over Chennai Super Kings gave Sunrisers Hyderabad a significant boost in IPL 2026. The match became one of the most talked-about contests of the season, not only for the dramatic finish but also for Kavya Maran's viral celebration.

With confidence on their side, Sunrisers Hyderabad will look to build momentum in the upcoming matches.

MS Dhoni's Heartwarming Gesture Wins Fans After Cameraman's Request

Chennai Super Kings legend MS Dhoni once again showed why he is admired both on and off the field. A simple yet powerful gesture involving a CSK support staff member has gone viral, earning widespread praise from fans.

Cameraman's Request Sparks Moment

In a video circulating on social media, MS Dhoni was seen walking alongside a member of the Chennai Super Kings support staff. A cameraman reportedly asked the staff member to move aside so that only Dhoni remained in the frame.

The staff member began to step away as instructed. However, Dhoni quickly noticed the situation and intervened. Instead of allowing the staff member to move away, he asked him to stay and pulled him back beside him.

Dhoni then placed his hand around the staff member's shoulder and continued walking, making sure both re-



mained together in the frame. The gesture instantly won hearts online.

Fans Praise Dhoni's Humility

The clip quickly gained traction on social media, with fans praising Dhoni for his humility and respect toward team members. Many described the moment as another example of

the former India captain's grounded personality.

Dhoni has long been known for treating everyone equally, whether teammates, staff members, or fans. His calm demeanor and respectful behaviour have earned him admiration throughout his career.

Why He Is Called 'Thala'

The moment also reinforced

why Dhoni is fondly called "Thala" by Chennai Super Kings supporters. The nickname reflects not just his leadership skills but also his character and humility.

Even off the field, Dhoni continues to create memorable moments that resonate with fans. His simple gesture toward the support staff once again highlighted the values that have made him one of cricket's most respected figures.

Another Viral Dhoni Moment

Although Dhoni has been in the spotlight mainly for his cricketing achievements, such off-field gestures often go viral and strengthen his bond with fans.

This latest incident adds to the long list of moments that showcase Dhoni's humility and leadership beyond cricket, reminding fans why he remains one of the most beloved figures in the sport.

Alia Bhatt Opens Up On Career, Motherhood And Action Role In Alpha

Bollywood star Alia Bhatt has opened up about how motherhood, career choices, and her upcoming action film Alpha have shaped her personal and professional life. The actress reflected on her growth over the years and how her priorities have evolved after becoming a mother.

Alia Bhatt said she has undergone significant changes in recent years. From being an actor to becoming a producer, entrepreneur, wife, and mother, she has taken on multiple responsibilities while continuing her film career. She noted that with time and experience, she has gained clarity about her life and the roles she chooses.

The actress revealed that earlier in her career she was often influenced by external opinions. However, with experience, she has become more confident and now selects projects based on her own instincts and clarity. She added that she now focuses on roles that feel fresh and meaningful to her.

Alia explained that she agrees to a film mainly for two reasons. First, the project should offer something new that hasn't been explored before, at least in Indian cinema. Second, the story must genuinely excite her and offer a unique character.

Speaking about her upcoming film Alpha, she described it as a popcorn entertainer packed with action and entertainment. She expressed confidence that audiences will enjoy seeing her in a different avatar in the film.

Alpha marks Alia Bhatt's entry into a full-fledged action role. The actress admitted that stepping into this genre is both exciting and challenging. She said performing action sequences requires preparation and discipline, especially after becoming a mother.

Despite the challenges, she shared that working on action scenes has been empowering. She added that the experience helped her understand her physical strength and increased her re-

spect for her own capabilities.

Alia also spoke about motherhood and how it continues to shape her life. She said parenting is a constant learning process and the challenges evolve as children grow. Her daughter Raha is now over three years old, and she continues to learn new things about balancing work and family.

The actress noted that maintaining work-life balance is not governed by fixed rules. Instead, she believes it is something that changes with time and circumstances, and individuals must find their own rhythm.

Alia credited her mother, SoniRazdan, for being a major influence in her life. She said her mother successfully balanced her acting career while raising children, which taught her valuable lessons.

She also spoke about her husband Ranbir Kapoor, describing him as a hands-on father who enjoys spending time with their daughter. According to Alia, despite being a major star, Ranbir becomes completely immersed in family life at home.

Reflecting on her journey, Alia said she has become more mature and confident over time. She recalled celebrating her 19th birthday during the filming of Highway, when she still lacked clarity about her future. Now, she feels more grounded and certain about her decisions.

With Alpha and other upcoming projects, Alia Bhatt is entering a new phase in her career. Balancing motherhood and am-

bitious roles, she continues to evolve while embracing fresh challenges in the film industry.

Peddi Buzz Peaks: Samyuktha To Join Ram Charan For Special Song?

The buzz surrounding Ram Charan's upcoming pan-India film Peddi continues to grow, with fresh reports suggesting that actress Samyuktha may join the project for a special song. The development has sparked excitement among fans, as the film is already one of the most anticipated releases.

Special Song Creates Excitement

According to the latest industry buzz, the makers of Peddi are planning a special dance number featuring Ram Charan. Reports indicate that actress Samyuktha is being considered to perform alongside the star in this high-energy song.

While there is no official confirmation yet, the news has generated considerable interest. The special number is expected to be shot soon, and the team is reportedly working to finalize the details.

Earlier, there were also reports that other actresses might be considered for the song, which has only added to the speculation. The makers appear keen on creating a memorable mass number to enhance the film's appeal.

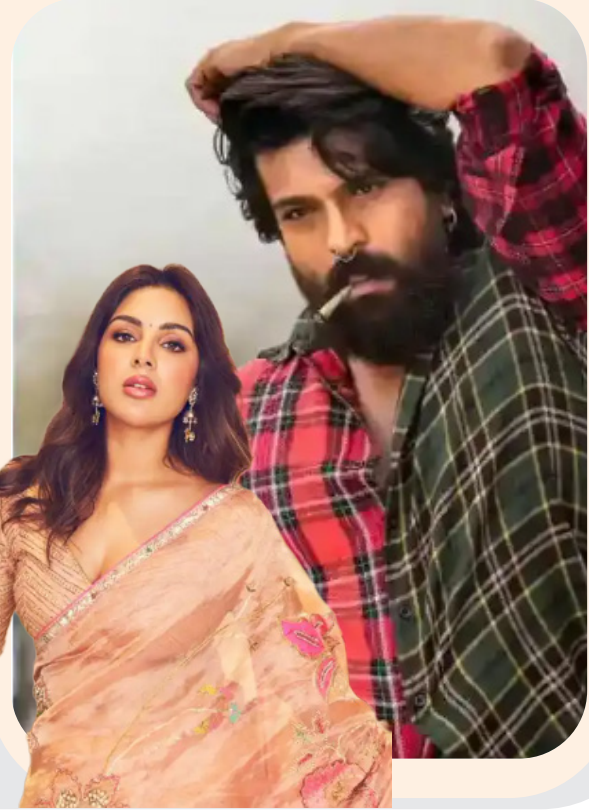
Peddi features Ram Charan in the lead role, with Janhvi Kapoor playing the female lead. The film is directed by BuchiBabu Sana and backed by a strong supporting cast including Shiva Rajkumar, JagapathiBabu and Divyennudu. Music for the film is composed by A.R. Rahman, further raising expectations.

The film has already created significant buzz due to Ram Charan's intense look and the rural sports drama backdrop. Fans are particularly eager to see the actor return in a mass-oriented role. The movie was initially planned for an earlier re-

lease but has now been pushed to June 2026. The delay is reportedly to allow more time for post-production and ensure a polished final product.

With only a few portions left to be completed, including the special song, the film is nearing completion. The addition of Samyuktha to the dance number, if confirmed, could further increase excitement among fans. As the makers continue to build hype, every new update about Peddi is attracting attention. The possibility of Samyuktha joining Ram Charan for a special song has only added to the growing anticipation.

If the reports turn out to be true, the special number could become one of the major highlights of the film, further strengthening the buzz around this big-budget entertainer.



Mythri Movie Makers Announces Horror Film '418' With Prashanth Neel

Leading production house Mythri Movie Makers has officially announced a new horror film titled 418, marking its first venture into the horror genre. The project has generated strong buzz, especially with sensational filmmaker Prashanth Neel presenting the film.

Known for producing large-scale commercial entertainers, Mythri Movie Makers is now stepping into a completely new space with 418. The makers unveiled a chilling poster along with the title announcement, indicating that the film will focus on pure horror rather than the popular horror-comedy format. The production house also made it clear that the film aims to deliver genuine scares, moving away from the recent trend of blending comedy with horror. The tagline suggests that audiences should expect an intense and frightening cinematic experience.

The involvement of Prashanth Neel, known for blockbuster films like KGF and Salaar, has significantly increased expectations. Although he is not directing the project, Neel will present



the film, adding his brand value to the venture.

His association is expected to bring a strong visual style and high production standards to the horror film.

The movie will be directed by KirtanNadagouda, while Surya Raj, CharanLakkaraju, and PreethiPagadala will play the lead roles. The project introduces a relatively fresh cast, which aligns with the film's experimental nature.

The makers are reportedly planning a dark and intense narrative designed to deliver a spine-chilling experience.

The announcement has created excitement among movie lovers, especially since Mythri Movie Makers is known for delivering successful films across industries. Their decision to explore horror for the first time has sparked curiosity.

With Prashanth Neel's backing and a unique concept, 418 is already shaping up to be one of the most intriguing upcoming horror films. More details about the project, including release plans and additional cast members, are expected to be revealed soon.

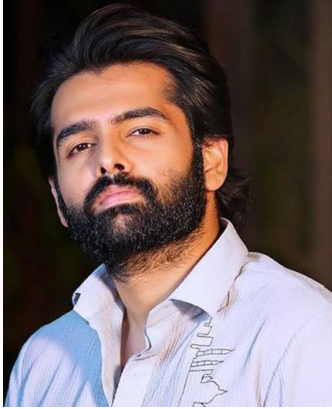
Ram Pothineni Turns Writer, Begins Hunt For Director For Next Film

Tollywood actor Ram Pothineni appears to be taking a new creative direction in his career. The energetic star has reportedly written a story himself and is now searching for the right director to bring his vision to life. The move comes as Ram looks to carefully plan his next project following recent box-office challenges.

According to industry buzz, Ram Pothineni has penned a script tailored for himself. Instead of waiting for filmmakers to approach him with scripts, the actor is said to be taking a proactive approach by shaping his own comeback project. Reports suggest that Ram strongly believes in the subject he has written and wants to ensure it is executed in the best possible way. He is currently in discussions with a few filmmakers to find someone who aligns with his vision and can elevate the story on screen.

The actor is said to be carefully evaluating directors before making a final decision. The focus is reportedly on finding a filmmaker who can handle the subject effectively and deliver a strong cinematic experience.

This cautious approach indicates that Ram is taking extra care in selecting his next project, aiming to deliver a solid hit and regain momentum at the box office.



Interestingly, earlier reports suggested that Ram Pothineni might collaborate with a debut director associated with filmmaker LokeshKanagaraj. However, the latest buzz indicates that those plans may not have moved forward, prompting Ram to proceed with his own story instead.

While the news has generated excitement among fans, there has been no official confirmation regarding the project yet. Details about the director, cast, and production are expected to be announced once the actor finalizes the team.

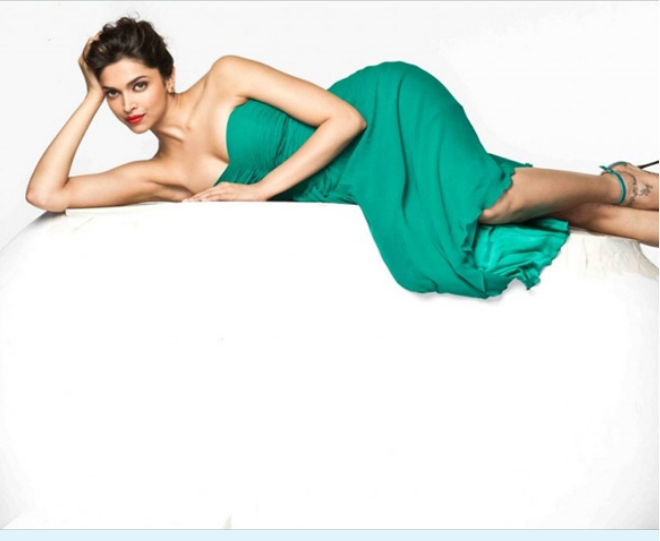
With Ram Pothineni stepping into the writer's role and taking creative control, expectations are rising. Fans are now eagerly waiting to see which director joins hands with him for this ambitious new venture.

Deepika Announces Pregnancy; Fans Fear Delay For Allu Arjun's Raaka

Bollywood star DeepikaPadukone has reportedly announced her second pregnancy, and the news has quickly gone viral across social media. While fans and celebrities have been sending their wishes, the announcement has also sparked discussions about the possible impact on her upcoming film Raaka, starring Allu Arjun.

Deepika's pregnancy announcement has delighted fans across the country. The actress, who already welcomed her first child in 2024, is now expecting her second baby with actor Ranveer Singh. The news has generated widespread excitement within the film industry and among her followers.

However, alongside the celebrations, discussions have also begun about how this development could affect her professional commitments, particularly her high-profile pan-India



project with Allu Arjun.

According to reports, fans of Allu Arjun are concerned that Raaka could face delays due to Deepika's pregnancy. Speculation suggests that the makers may either wait for the actress to resume shooting or proceed with filming portions that do not require her presence.

So far, there has been no official confirmation from the film's team regarding any schedule changes. Still, the possibility of delays has become a major talking point online.

Raaka is one of the most awaited Indian films, directed by Atlee and starring Allu Arjun and DeepikaPadukone in lead roles. The movie, earlier referred to as AA22xA6, recently created massive buzz

after its title and first look were revealed.

The film is expected to be mounted on a grand scale with extensive visual effects and a pan-India release. Reports also suggest that Allu Arjun may appear in multiple roles, further increasing excitement among fans.

At present, the pregnancy news has only fueled speculation about the film's timeline. The makers are yet to announce any changes in shooting schedules or release plans.

Until an official statement is made, fans will continue to watch closely for updates on both Deepika's personal milestone and the progress of Raaka, one of the most anticipated collaborations in Indian cinema.

KanganaRanaut Slams Rumours Linking Her With Chirag Paswan

Bollywood actress and politician KanganaRanaut has strongly reacted to rumours linking her romantically with Union Minister Chirag Paswan. The actress dismissed the speculation with a sharp and witty response, putting an end to the ongoing gossip. For the past few days, social media was abuzz with speculation about a possible relationship between KanganaRanaut and Chirag Paswan. The rumours gained momentum as both leaders were frequently seen together at public events and share a past connection in films.

Reacting to these rumours, Kangana clarified that Chirag Paswan is only a close friend and there is no romantic angle between them. She also made a striking remark, saying that if there had been any romance, they would have had children by now, firmly dismissing the speculation. KanganaRanaut and Chirag Paswan had worked together in the 2011 film Mile Na Mile Hum, which marked Paswan's debut in Bollywood. Their friendship developed during that time and has continued over the years, even after both entered politics.

Their recent appearances together at events and in Parliament sparked fresh rumours, which Kangana has now addressed directly.

During the same interaction, Kangana also voiced support for actress DeepikaPadukone,

who recently demanded an eight-hour work schedule. Kangana backed Deepika's stance, saying that top actresses who have achieved success through hard work deserve better working conditions.

She also highlighted that many male actors follow shorter work schedules but are rarely questioned, while women often face criticism for demanding similar conditions.

Kangana also spoke about her early career struggles, recalling how she worked long hours during the initial phase of her journey. She said priorities change over time, especially when actors take on family responsibilities, and the industry should respect such decisions. On the professional front, Kangana was last seen in Emergency. She is currently working on new projects, including Bharat BhagyaVidhata, and there are also reports about a possible sequel to her hit film Queen. With her candid remarks, KanganaRanaut has once again made headlines, shutting down rumours and reinforcing her reputation for speaking her mind openly.

