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Telangana Cuts Debt Costs Through Loan Swap Strategy

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has initiated a major financial restructuring exercise aimed at easing its growing debt burden, with expected annual savings of nearly Rs 1,000 crore. The programme, launched in August 2025 under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, focuses on replacing high-interest loans taken during the previous regime with fresh borrowings at lower rates. Officials stated that loans earlier contracted at interest rates as high as 11 percent are now being refinanced at rates between 7 and 7.5 percent. This reduction is projected to significantly lower the state's debt servicing costs. The government has also sought approval to swap an additional Rs 25,000 crore worth of loans in the current financial year.

As part of the ongoing plan,



the state intends to mobilize another Rs 12,000 crore during May and June to continue the loan replacement process. Earlier, following repeated requests from the Chief Minister,

the Centre permitted the restructuring of loans worth Rs 26,000 crore through the Reserve Bank of India at more favorable interest rates. This move has already provided

some fiscal relief.

The Chief Minister has further appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to support phased restructuring of nearly Rs 2 lakh crore in loans. He highlighted that the state's total outstanding debt has reached approximately Rs 2.74 lakh crore, largely due to earlier borrowings. The government is targeting expensive liabilities, including loans linked to major projects and special purpose vehicles, replacing them with long-term, lower-cost bonds with repayment periods extending up to 28 years. This approach is expected to ease financial pressure in the coming years.

According to officials, the finance department has already restructured liabilities exceeding Rs 26,000 crore in the previous fiscal year, marking a significant step toward stabilizing the state's financial position.



'GiriDarshak' Initiative: Govt Offers New Life to Former Maoists

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday handed over appointment letters to 20 former Maoists from BhadrakriKothagudem and Mulugu districts, inducting them as "GiriDarshaks" (tourist guides). The programme was conducted in the presence of Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao and Malkajgiri Police Commissioner B. Sumathi. All the selected individuals had recently surrendered before the state government.

The initiative aims to create livelihood opportunities for tribal youth while simultaneously promoting tourism in regions that were once affected by Maoist activity. The recruits underwent a month-long training programme covering tourism awareness, communication skills, and visitor assistance. They will now serve at key tourist destinations across the two districts, including Parnashala, Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary, Laknavaram Lake, Karregutalu, and Thousand Pillar Temple.

As part of their responsibilities, GiriDarshaks will educate tourists about local traditions, history, and ecology, while also ensuring adherence to forest regulations and assisting visi-

tors with safety measures. The programme is being implemented through coordination between multiple government departments, including tourism, forest, and endowment wings.

Officials stated that the initiative would be expanded to other districts, particularly those bordering Maharashtra. Over time, these GiriDarshaks are expected to evolve into master trainers, helping train more candidates in similar roles. Each appointee will receive a monthly honorarium of Rs 10,000 along with uniforms.

The government has also extended rehabilitation support to surrendered Maoists. A majority have received financial assistance, while over half have been allotted houses under the Indiramma housing scheme.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister appealed to senior Maoist leader Muppala-Lakshman Rao, also known as Ganapati, to return to mainstream society. Assuring full support for health and security, he urged those still in the forests to surrender and embrace peaceful livelihoods. He emphasized that the initiative reflects the state's commitment to rehabilitation, inclusive growth, and sustainable development through tourism.

CMRevanth Reddy Unveils Vision for 'Future City' at Commissionerate Launch

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy laid the foundation stone for the "Future City Police Commissionerate," outlining an ambitious roadmap to transform the region into a global metropolis. He emphasized that the success of the Future City project depends on collective efforts from citizens, leaders, and officials.

Responding to requests from villagers seeking inclusion in the project area, the Chief Minister directed local representatives to hold Gram Sabhas and pass resolutions to bring such villages under the Commissionerate's jurisdiction, ensuring development aligns with public consent. He reiterated the government's vision to build Future City on par with international hubs like Singapore, Tokyo, and New York,



and announced that the Future City Development Corporation office would be inaugurated by June 2.

Highlighting past achievements, he recalled skepticism surrounding the Outer Ring Road, which has now become a

landmark infrastructure project. He assured that farmers affected by land-related issues would receive full government

support, stressing that no one would incur losses. He also urged officials to adopt a compassionate approach while addressing public concerns.

The Chief Minister revealed that the state has secured three major bullet train corridors, connecting Hyderabad with Bengaluru, Pune, and Chennai via key routes. He said these projects would significantly boost economic growth, particularly in Ranga Reddy district.

Revanth Reddy called for unity and cooperation to realize the vision of a world-class city that attracts global investments. He affirmed his commitment to resolving public issues and urged people not to be swayed by criticism. He also appealed to Maoists to surrender and join the mainstream, assuring them of the government's support and rehabilitation measures.



C.V. Anand Appointed as Telangana DGP

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

In a key development, the Telangana government has appointed C. V. Anand as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of the state. Official orders confirming his appointment were issued on Tuesday. The decision was made based on the recommendations of the U P S C e m p a n e l m e n t committee.

The appointment comes as the current DGP K. Sivadhar Reddy is set to retire on April 30, necessitating the selection of a successor. The Union Public Service Commission had

recently forwarded a panel of eligible senior IPS officers to the state government for consideration.

The list included C.V. Anand from the 1991 batch, along with VinayakPrabhakarApte and Soumya Mishra, both from the 1994 batch. After reviewing the panel, the government chose Anand, the senior-most officer among the candidates, for the top police post.

With extensive experience in law enforcement and administration, Anand is expected to take charge as the head of the Telangana Police following Sivadhar Reddy's retirement.

Harish Rao Alleges Surveillance on BRS Leaders, Targets State Government

Sangareddy, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Former minister T. Harish Rao on Tuesday made serious allegations against sections of the police department, claiming that leaders of the Bharat RashtraSamithi (BRS) were being subjected to illegal surveillance. He alleged that phones of party leaders were being tapped and CCTV cameras installed near their residences were being used to monitor their movements, reportedly under the direction of the ruling Congress government.

Addressing the media after meeting BRS leader Manne Krishnak and others lodged in Sangareddy Central Jail, Harish Rao claimed that the Command and Control Centre in Hyderabad had been misused as a hub for such surveillance activities. He further alleged that private hackers from Bengaluru had been hired at significant cost to assist in tracking opposition leaders. According to him, the party possesses substantial evidence to support these claims.

The BRS leader stated that his party has been closely observing the actions of police officials and maintaining records of their conduct. He warned that a detailed investigation would be initiated into these alleged activities if the BRS returns to power. He also cautioned that officials found guilty would face strict legal consequences, even after re-



irement, and would have to defend themselves in courts at their own expense.

Harish Rao further accused certain officials of acting in favor of the ruling party and targeting opposition leaders who raise public issues. He alleged that attempts were being made to suppress dissent through misuse of authority.

Criticizing Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Harish Rao alleged that the government was prioritizing luxury projects over governance. He referred to the proposed construction of a high-cost camp office and claimed that the Chief Minister was focusing more on personal comfort than addressing people's concerns.

He also stated that the government had failed to fulfill key promises made during the election campaign. Emphasizing that the public was observing these developments closely, he asserted that accountability would be ensured in the future.

Appeal for Road Expansion and Land Allocation at Charlapally&Secunderabad Stations

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy has urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to take immediate steps for improving infrastructure around key railway hubs in Hyderabad, particularly Charlapally Railway Station and Secunderabad Railway Station.

In his representation, he highlighted the growing pressure on Hyderabad's railway network due to increasing population and passenger traffic. To ease congestion at major stations like Kachiguda, Secunderabad, and Hyderabad, the Charlapally terminal was developed with modern facilities at a cost of 430 crore and

inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January 2025. Since then, train operations and passenger footfall at the station have increased significantly.

However, the existing road infrastructure around Charlapally is inadequate to handle the rising traffic. Kishan Reddy emphasized the urgent need to widen key approach roads on both sides of the station to ensure smooth movement of commuters and vehicles. He proposed expanding the FCI Godown Road stretch to 200 feet, as it is expected to become the primary access route. Similarly, the road from Bharat Nagar side, currently around 30 feet wide, should be expanded to at least 100 feet. Another cru-

sial stretch connecting EC Nagar to the MMTS platform requires widening to nearly 100 meters over a distance of 700 meters.

In addition to road expansion, he called for allocation of land for essential facilities. About three acres near the main station building and 2.70 acres near the MMTS platform are required for parking and other supporting infrastructure. He also pointed out that the Railways have already deposited 4 crore for water supply works, which need to be completed without delay.

The Union Minister also drew attention to the ongoing redevelopment of Secunderabad Railway Station,

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Bharat-Bhutan Rail Tour Announced by IRCTC

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad: Under the Bharat Gaurav initiative of Indian Railways, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation is launching a special Bharat-Bhutan Mystic Mountain Tour starting May 5. This 14-day, 13-night journey is designed to offer travelers a seamless travel experience across India and Bhutan.

The tour will commence from Delhi Safdarjung Railway

Station, with additional boarding options at Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Tundla, Kanpur, Lucknow, and Varanasi. Ticket prices have been set at 1,41,540 for AC First Class, Rs 1,33,210 for AC Two-Tier, and Rs1,16,545 for AC Three-Tier.

The itinerary features prominent destinations in India, including a visit to the revered Kamakhya Temple and a scenic evening cruise on the Brahmaputra River. In Meghalaya, tourists will explore pictur-

esque locations such as Umiam Lake, Seven Sisters Waterfalls, Nohkalikai Falls, and Mawsmat Caves.

In Bhutan, the journey will cover key attractions such as Motithang Takin Preserve, TashichhoDzong, and Punakha Dzong. Visitors will also enjoy cultural experiences, trekking, museum visits, and traditional archery activities, making the tour a blend of spirituality, nature, and heritage.

Telangana High Court Grants Conditional Bail to Rohit Reddy in Drug Case

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana High Court has granted conditional bail to former BRS MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy in connection with a drug-related case linked to a farmhouse in Moimabad, on the outskirts of Hyderabad. The court issued its order on Tuesday, providing interim relief while the investigation continues.

The case dates back to the night of March 14, when the anti-narcotics wing of the Telangana Police, known as EA-



GLE, conducted a raid along with local police based on specific intelligence inputs about an alleged drug party. The operation took place at a

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Appeal for Road Expansion and Land Allocation at Charlapally&Secunderabad Stations

being carried out at a cost of 715 crore. He stressed that the road leading to the northern terminal—from Alpha Hotel to Rathifile Bus Stand—must be widened to 120 feet to handle future traffic demands.He noted that joint inspections by Railway, GHMC, and Hyderabad Road Development Corporation officials have already been conducted and reports submitted. Despite repeated representa-

tions since 2022, including letters to the government, progress on these proposals remains pending.Kishan Reddy appealed to the Chief Minister to personally intervene and expedite land acquisition, road widening, and related infrastructure works. He stated that timely action would greatly enhance commuter convenience and strengthen Hyderabad’s urban transport network.

Telangana High Court Grants Conditional Bail to Rohit Reddy in Drug Case

farmhouse reportedly owned by Rohit Reddy. During the raid, officials recovered suspected narcotic substances and detained 11 individuals present at the location. Among those taken into custody was Putta Mahesh Kumar. Authorities also carried out preliminary drug tests at the site. According to initial reports, several attendees tested positive for drug consumption, including Rohit Reddy, his brother Ritesh Reddy, and another individual identified as Namit Sharma. Following the incident, police registered a case under relevant provisions and launched

a comprehensive probe. Investigators are currently working to identify the origin of the seized substances and to establish how the gathering was organized. Officials are also examining the involvement of those present at the event. With the High Court’s decision to grant conditional bail, Rohit Reddy has received temporary relief from custody. However, the specific terms and conditions attached to the bail order have not yet been disclosed.Meanwhile, authorities have indicated that the investigation remains ongoing and that further action will be taken based on evidence collected during the course of the probe.

Job Mela on BJP State President’s Birthday

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau On the occasion of BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao’s birthday, a job fair is being organized to provide employment opportunities for youth. The event will be held on April 29, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Dr. Hari Kishan Eye Care Hospital in Barkatpura, near the Narayanguda Flyover.Candidates with qualifications ranging from 10th standard to graduation are eligible to participate. Rao will attend as the chief guest at



11:00 AM. The programme is being coordinated under the supervision of BJP State spokesperson Dr. Samatha.



Srihari Reviews Animal Husbandry Initiatives in Jammu & Kashmir

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau Minister Vakiti Srihari, who handles Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries, Youth Services, and Sports, visited the Directorate of Animal Husbandry in Jammu and Kashmir. He was warmly received by officials of the department during his visit.During the interaction, the Minister reviewed various schemes being implemented in the region’s animal husbandry sector and sought details on policies aimed at strengthening

dairy development. He held discussions with officials to understand their strategies for improving livestock management and boosting dairy productivity. In turn, Srihari shared insights into Telangana’s initiatives in animal husbandry and dairy sectors, explaining how various welfare and development programmes are being executed. The visit facilitated an exchange of ideas and best practices between the two regions, aimed at enhancing growth in the livestock and dairy industries.

Summer Camp Launched for Police Families’ Children

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau Telangana DGP B. Shivadhar Reddy inaugurated a summer camp for children at the RBVRR Telangana Police Academy as part of welfare initiatives for police personnel and their families. Around 65 children have enrolled in the programme, which aims to provide a productive and engaging environment during the vacation period. The camp is designed to support overall development by combining physical activities, creative learning, and intellec-

tual engagement. Speaking on the occasion, the DGP reflected on his own childhood summers and emphasized the role of simple activities in building character and values. He also recommended including sessions on Telugu language, poetry, and classical literature to strengthen cultural awareness among participants. Academy Director Abhilasha Bisht stated that the initiative highlights the institution’s focus on employee welfare and community bonding by creating a nurturing learning space for children.

Hanamkonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

A meeting of key Congress leaders from Elkaturthi Mandal in Husnabad Constituency was held on Tuesday, with Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar attending as the chief guest. PCC observer Soujanya, Mandal President Indrasena Reddy, Market Committee Chairman Santaji, and other senior leaders were present.

Addressing party members, the minister stressed the need to reinforce the party at the booth level by appointing a Booth Level Agent (BLA) for every polling station. He directed leaders to prepare village-wise voter lists aligned with polling booths as part of the ongoing revision process. Highlighting local issues, he called for the formation of committees to monitor grain procurement, resolve drinking water shortages, and oversee plantation drives. He urged every citizen to plant at least one sapling during the monsoon, aiming to transform Husnabad into a green constituency.

The minister also empha-



sized organizing medical camps in villages and boosting school admissions through the ‘Badi Bata’ outreach initiative. He assured that the government would provide adequate infrastructure and staff for schools.Further, he instructed leaders to address pending Indiramma Housing Scheme works and conduct housewarming ceremonies for completed homes. Strengthening party structure at village and mandal levels, including form-

ing affiliated bodies, was also highlighted.Ponnamp Prabhakar announced plans to tour villages after the monsoon to review development activities and directed leaders to submit detailed reports on local issues. He urged cadres to actively promote welfare schemes under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, including free electricity, subsidized gas, housing, ration cards, free bus travel, and government job recruitment initiatives.

TGGENCO Secures ISO Certification for Quality Standards

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana State Power Generation Corporation has earned global recognition by securing the ISO 9001:2015 certification for its quality management systems, reflecting its focus on efficiency and continuous improvement. The certification was formally presented by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka to TGGENCO Chairman and Managing Director Harish during a programme held under the supervision of Energy Special Secretary Naveen Mittal. The recognition came after a detailed audit conducted by an independent ISO certification agency. During the assessment, auditors thoroughly reviewed all departments and operational units, examining compliance with ISO standards, documentation practices, efficiency levels, and the implementation of quality management proce-



dures. The certification was granted only after confirming that all divisions adhered to internationally accepted benchmarks. Speaking on the occasion, Bhatti Vikramarka praised TGGENCO’s achievement, stating that the certification highlights the organization’s commitment to delivering reliable and quality services. Offi-

cials said the recognition would further strengthen operational standards and motivate the organisation to enhance its performance. SPDCIL CMD Jitesh V. Patil and ISO representative Shivayya were also present at the event, expressing confidence that the certification would help improve service delivery and accountability.

Exam Results Are Not the End: Police Commissioner’s Appeal

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Ahead of the announcement of SSC (Class 10) results, Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar urged students, parents, and teachers to approach the situation with sensitivity and care. Referring to recent tragic incidents following Intermediate results, he stressed that taking extreme steps out of disappointment is never a solution and only causes lifelong suffering to families. He pointed out that academic scores are just one phase in life and do not define a student’s future. Citing findings from in-



quiries by the Women’s Safety Wing, he highlighted the intense pressure many students face regarding studies and results. Encouraging students, he said setbacks should be treated as opportunities to learn and grow rather than

reasons for despair. Addressing parents, Sajjanar appealed to them to avoid placing unrealistic expectations on children. He emphasized that a child’s happiness and well-being are far more valuable than marks, urging parents to support their children with understanding and affection. He also called upon teachers to guide students positively, reassuring them that temporary failures can lead to long-term success. In conclusion, he advised students to share their concerns with parents or mentors and face results with confidence, focusing on a brighter future ahead.

Centre Assures Support to Telangana Fisheries, NFDB to Remain in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Minister Vakiti Srihari met Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh at the NFDB office in Rajendra Nagar on Tuesday to discuss key developments in animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries sectors. Senior officials, including Fisheries Director Nikhila and Animal Husbandry officer Lakshmi Narayana, were present.During the meeting, Vakiti Srihari briefed the Union Minister on various welfare

schemes being implemented in Telangana under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and highlighted their positive impact. He sought greater cooperation and financial support from the Centre, particularly for insurance coverage in aquaculture and life sciences, and equitable allocation of resources among states.The minister also stressed the state’s efforts to develop thousands of water bodies, including major and minor tanks and reservoirs between the Godavari and Krishna rivers. He pointed out that

pending funds from the Centre had affected earlier progress. Addressing concerns over the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Vakiti Srihari raised reports about its possible relocation. However, Rajiv Ranjan Singh assured that there are no plans to shift the institution and confirmed it will continue to operate from Hyderabad.On the occasion, the state minister felicitated the Union Minister with a traditional shawl, bouquet, and memento, marking the courtesy visit.



Telangana Plans Big Push to Boost Tourism Sector

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao has called for a dynamic roadmap to transform Telangana into a top tourism destination in India. Chairing the Tourism Advisory Committee meeting at Begumpet on Tuesday, he directed officials to prepare a time-bound action plan focusing on infrastructure, branding, and aggressive promotion. The minister emphasized improving visitor amenities at all tourist sites, including restrooms, accommodation units, tents, and rest areas, with no compromise on quality. He also proposed appointing nodal officers to monitor project execution and ensure timely completion.To enhance tourism appeal, he suggested organizing a large-scale carnival in Hyderabad during November or December and hold-

ing regular weekend cultural programs at key destinations. Coordination between civic bodies was also stressed to improve the city’s aesthetics through creative landscaping and urban design. Key destinations such as Ramappa Temple, Yadadri Temple, Golconda Fort, and NagarjunaSagar were identified for accelerated development. Special Chief Secretary Vani Prasad highlighted the need for stronger promotion and noted ongoing initiatives like caravan tourism and Haritha Hotel projects.Committee members suggested positioning Telangana as a hub for wedding, wellness, eco, and film tourism, while targeting international markets and encouraging private investment. The meeting concluded with a strong push for coordinated efforts to elevate Telangana’s tourism profile.

Minister Reviews Welfare Works, Stresses Transparency in Procurement

Hanamkonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Transport and BC Welfare Ponnamp Prabhakar directed officials to ensure complete transparency in grain procurement and improve essential services during a review meeting held at the MPDO office in Elkathurthi-mandal. The meeting was conducted as part of the “Praja-Palana – PragathiPranali” initiative to assess development and welfare programmes. The Minister reviewed the functioning of procurement centres, drinking water supply, and the progress of ‘Indiramma’ housing works. He instructed officials to ensure farmers face no inconvenience at procurement centres and called for awareness campaigns to educate them on procedures. Officials were asked to visit centres regularly, interact with farmers, and resolve issues promptly, with designated officers overseeing opera-

tions at each location. Emphasizing public welfare, he directed Mission Bhagiratha authorities to prevent water shortages during summer and ensure uninterrupted supply, even by arranging alternative sources where required. He also urged speeding up construction of ‘Indiramma’ houses and facilitating availability of sand and other materials. The Minister stressed improving school infrastructure, preventing dropouts, and completing pending works before the new academic year. He also called for plantation drives during the monsoon and encouraged awareness among farmers on oil palm cultivation and its economic benefits. Additional Collector N. Ravi stated that procurement is ongoing across multiple centres and assured smooth transportation of grain. Several officials and the public representatives participated in the meeting.

Global Medical Tourism Event

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha has announced that the city will organize an International Medical Tourism Summit in June, with the aim of establishing Hyderabad as a prominent global healthcare hub. Delegates from regions such as Africa, Asia, and West Asia are expected to participate in the event. During a review meeting with officials from the health and tourism departments, the minister emphasized the need for seamless coordination to ensure the success of the programme. As part of the event, visiting representatives will be taken on guided tours of leading healthcare institutions, including Nizam’s Institute of Medical Sciences, Telangana Institute of Medical Sciences, Osmania General Hospital, and Gandhi Hospital. These

visits are intended to showcase the city’s medical infrastructure and capabilities. The minister stated that such international events will be conducted annually, following the vision laid out by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. In addition, the government is planning to establish special international patient wards with around 50 beds in select hospitals to attract overseas patients and enhance healthcare revenues. On the staffing front, Rajanarsimha announced that appointment letters for 2,322 nursing officers will be distributed on May 12, coinciding with International Nurses Day. Officials also informed that the recruitment process for assistant professors in government medical colleges is likely to be completed by May 15, strengthening the state’s medical education system.

BJP Raises Alarm Over Alleged Irregularities in Healthcare Sector

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Kamareddy MLA Venkataramana Reddy expressed serious concerns over the condition of education and healthcare sectors in Telangana, alleging large-scale irregularities in medicine procurement. He addressed a press conference held at the BJP state office on Tuesday. He pointed to reports suggesting discrepancies worth nearly 150 crore in purchases made by the Telangana Medical Services and Infrastructure Development Corporation. He demanded that the state government provide a clear explanation, stating that if the allegations

are proven, a thorough inquiry must be conducted and those responsible should face strict action. If the claims are baseless, he said, the government must clarify the facts transparently. Calling for immediate response, he urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Health Minister Damodara Rajanarasimha to address the issue. He criticized the current state of government hospitals, stating that facilities meant for the poor lack even basic infrastructure. According to him, overcrowding has forced doctors to treat patients in corridors, with shortages of medicines, equipment, and technical

staff further worsening the situation. The MLA highlighted that despite established procurement guidelines, where purchases are based on hospital needs and handled through structured tender processes, there are allegations that large quantities of near-expiry medicines were procured and left unused. He said such claims, if true, indicate serious lapses and possible misuse of public funds. He also raised concerns about the handling of biomedical waste, noting that expired medicines and medical materials require careful disposal due to their hazard-

ous nature. Improper management, he warned, could lead to environmental and public health risks. Seeking transparency, he demanded details regarding tender processes, participating companies, and the timelines of procurement and expiry of medicines. He questioned why hospitals reportedly facing shortages earlier are now said to have unused expired stock. Concluding, he stated that the issue raises doubts about accountability at higher levels and urged the government to act decisively, warning that failure to respond could invite public backlash.



Goud Criticizes BJP and BRS, Highlights Seva Dal Legacy

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

TPCC chief and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that the Seva Dal movement, which originated during India's freedom struggle, has continued its service without interruption over the decades. He noted that the organization functions under a central governing body and remains committed to upholding democratic values. Goud alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Union government, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is promoting divisive policies and weakening democratic institutions across the country. He claimed that such actions pose a serious threat to the nation's democratic framework. Turning his criticism toward the Bharat RashtraSamithi (BRS), Goud said that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, after ruling for ten years, is now facing

mounting challenges. He added that both KCR and his daughter KavithaKalvakuntla are being compelled to respond to serious questions amid ongoing controversies. He further remarked that the BRS, which once enjoyed strong public backing, is steadily losing the trust of the people. According to him, the party leadership is more focused on retaining power than addressing public welfare concerns, which has led to growing dissatisfaction among citizens. He asserted that the BRS no longer holds a promising political future. Goud also emphasized that the formation of Telangana was achieved under the leadership of the Indian National Congress, crediting Sonia Gandhi for her pivotal role. He concluded by alleging that KCR's governance has significantly hindered the state's progress over the years.



KTR Alleges Congress Betrayed Farmers, BRS Plans Rally

Warangal, April 28 | TPN Bureau

K. T. Rama Rao on Tuesday accused the Congress government of failing the farming community, alleging that several assurances made under the "Farmers' Declaration" remain unfulfilled. Addressing leaders from the undivided Warangal district, he said the party would take the issue directly to the people through a large farmers' meeting scheduled for May 6. The event, to be organized by the Bharat RashtraSamithi (BRS), is planned in Warangal on the same date the declaration was originally announced by Rahul Gandhi. Local leaders have invited KTR to attend, and he confirmed his participation. The rally aims to highlight what the party describes as unkept promises made to farmers. KTR alleged that since the Congress assumed power, farmers have been facing multiple challenges, including shortages of fertilizers and seeds, irregular procurement of crops, and power supply issues. He claimed that distress

in the agricultural sector has increased, with delays in paddy and maize procurement causing financial strain. During the internal meeting, KTR also reviewed organizational matters and urged leaders to strengthen the party at the grassroots level. He emphasized expanding membership drives, forming committees, and preparing strategically for the upcoming Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation elections. He further directed party workers to actively participate in the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, ensuring accurate voter lists and preventing irregularities. Leaders were advised to coordinate at booth level and facilitate voter registration. BRS leaders from the region reiterated that the May 6 gathering would serve as a platform to question the government's performance and express solidarity with farmers, while intensifying pressure on the administration to address their concerns.

KomatireddyVenkat Reddy Pays Tribute to Journalist Madhusudan

Miryalaguda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

State Minister KomatireddyVenkat Reddy paid heartfelt tributes to senior journalist and Deputy Chief Minister's CPRO MaraboyinaMadhusudan, who passed away due to a heart attack in Hyderabad on Monday. The minister visited Madhusudan's residence in Miryalaguda, Nalgonda district, on Tuesday and offered floral respects to the departed soul. He expressed deep condolences to the bereaved family and extended emotional support during their time of grief. Recalling his long association with Madhusudan, the minister said he was a committed professional who served diligently both in journalism and in public relations. He noted that Madhusudan's sudden demise was a significant personal loss. As a gesture of support, KomatireddyVenkat Reddy provided immediate financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to the family and assured them of continued help in the future. Several leaders and dignitaries, including Government Whip VemulaVeeresham, MLA



BathulaLakshma Reddy, MLC Shankar Naik, T-SAT Chairman Venugopal Reddy, along with senior journalists and local representatives, attended the tribute ceremony and paid their respects.

Seminar Raises Alarm Over War and Global Instability

Nalgonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

At a seminar held in Nalgonda, senior leaders and activists voiced serious concerns over the growing threat of war and its far-reaching consequences on global peace and economic stability. The programme, titled "Israel-US War Against Iran: A Threat to World Peace," was organized by various progressive and trade union groups at a local venue in the city. The session was presided over by EdlaSaidulu, district president of the People's Progress Forum. Addressing the gathering, B. V. Raghavulu warned that ongoing conflicts pose both direct and indirect dangers to humanity. He alleged that the United States, under President Donald Trump, has adopted an aggressive global stance driven



by strategic and economic interests, particularly control over oil resources in countries like Iran and Venezuela. He claimed that the war narrative

spite expectations of a swift victory, Iran has resisted strongly, prolonging the conflict. He further claimed that even within the United States, sections of the public are opposing the war due to its economic burden and lack of tangible benefits. According to him, the continuation of such conflicts primarily serves corporate interests rather than ordinary citizens, and has drawn criticism worldwide. He also criticized India's foreign policy stance, alleging that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is aligning too closely with US directives. Referring to trade decisions involving Iran, he argued that India's independent policy framework is being compromised, impacting long-standing international relationships. Speaking at the event, Jula-

kantiRangareddy, farmers' leader and former MLA, stressed that wars destabilize global economies and disrupt essential supplies. He pointed out that rising prices and shortages of fuel and fertilizers are already affecting countries like India. Drawing lessons from historical tragedies such as the Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he emphasized the lasting consequences of war. Rangareddy urged people to reflect on the urgent need for peace, stating that conflicts only result in loss of life and destruction. Several leaders and representatives from trade unions, farmers' organizations, and social groups participated in the seminar, echoing similar concerns and calling for an end to war and the promotion of global harmony.

Harish Rao Alleges Political Vendetta, Raises Farmers' Concerns

Sangareddy, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Former minister and BRS leader T. Harish Rao visited party social media convener Manne Krishank, who is currently under judicial remand at the central jail in Sangareddy district. After the meeting, Harish Rao strongly criticized the Congress government, alleging that the arrest was politically motivated. He claimed that despite Krishank submitting evidence regarding fake social media content, authorities had taken action against the complainant instead of those responsible for posting such material. Accord-

ing to him, this reflects a broader attempt to silence voices questioning the government. He further alleged that cases and investigations are being used to suppress dissent. Harish Rao also raised serious concerns over alleged surveillance practices, accusing certain officials of engaging external technical experts to monitor communications. He warned that such actions, if proven, would face scrutiny in the future. Turning to governance issues, he accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy of neglecting farmers' problems. He pointed out delays

at procurement centers, deductions in paddy weight, and uncertainty over bonuses for fine varieties. He said farmers are facing hardships due to procurement delays and lack of proper arrangements. The BRS leader urged the government to withdraw cases against Krishank and focus on addressing public concerns, especially in the agricultural sector. He also called on authorities to ensure transparency in procurement and provide timely support to farmers, stating that governance should prioritize public welfare over political disputes.



St. Francis College Marks 25 Years of IQAC with National Seminar

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of St. Francis College for Women organized a national seminar titled “From Compliance to Excellence: Reimagining the Quality Journey” as part of its silver jubilee celebrations. Conducted in hybrid mode, the event brought together academicians, administrators, and industry experts to discuss evolving standards in higher education. The inaugural session was attended by chief guest V. Balakista Reddy and guest of honour Sr. Deepthi. College principal T. Uma Joseph highlighted the institution’s journey, noting its growth from a small student base to over 3,500 learners, while consistently focusing on quality enhancement through IQAC initiatives.

Prof. Balakista Reddy emphasized the need for curriculum reforms, skill-based education, and adaptability in a competitive global environment. He stressed aligning education with future demands through inclusivity, accessibility, and innovation. Deepthi underscored the transition toward AI-integrated and skill-oriented learning, stating that institutional excellence begins with transformation among educators.

The seminar also featured sessions on artificial intelligence in education, inclusive learning practices, and experiential teaching methods. Experts

highlighted the importance of integrating technology, addressing barriers such as gender and financial challenges, and fostering safe, inclusive classrooms.

As part of the celebrations, the college felicitated past and present IQAC coordinators and released a seminar souvenir showcasing best practices. The event reaffirmed the institution’s commitment to continuous improvement and academic excellence.



Minister Unveils New Facilities, Names Cubs at City Zoo

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Forest Minister Konda Surekha inaugurated several new facilities and named newborn animal cubs during a visit to Nehru Zoological Park. Two African lion cubs were named Avani and Ira, while Royal Bengal tiger cubs were named Ishaan and Vanya.

The Minister also opened modern, dome-shaped enclosures designed for primates, pheasants, and a sarus crane breeding kraal. Officials stated that these upgraded habitats, equipped with vegetation, ropes, shelters, and hiding spaces, are intended to enhance animal welfare and encourage natural activity. A pair of animals was also released into the newly developed

enclosures.

In addition, she inaugurated a new food court at the main entrance with seating capacity for over 200 visitors, along with a self-ticketing kiosk and luggage scanning system developed through CSR support. A WhatsApp-based ticket booking service was also introduced for visitor convenience.

The Minister further launched a two-day free health camp for zoo staff in collaboration with private hospitals, offering medical tests including ECG, blood sugar, eye, and dental check-ups.

While chairing the first State Wildlife Board meeting, she reviewed recent developments and appreciated officials for improving visitor amenities and animal care standards.

Hailstorm Damages Paddy Stocks in Nalgonda

Nalgonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Unseasonal weather disrupted normal life in parts of Nalgonda district as Nampally and Marrigudamandals were hit by a hailstorm on Tuesday evening. Paddy stored at procurement centres in several villages was damaged after rainwater seeped into the stocks.

Strong winds worsened the situation by blowing away tarpaulin sheets that had been placed to protect the grain. Farmers expressed concern over potential losses due to the sudden weather conditions.

Meanwhile, Nalgonda mandal also experienced moderate rainfall accompanied by gusty winds, adding to the impact across the district.

Telangana SSC Results Out Today

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The much-awaited Class 10 (SSC) examination results in Telangana will be declared on Wednesday, April 29, at 2:00 PM, officials from the Department of Government Examinations confirmed. All arrangements for the announcement have been completed, raising anticipation among students and parents across the state.

This year, the SSC public examinations began on March 14 and concluded on April 13, with around 5.15 lakh regular candidates appearing for the tests. Following the completion

of exams, authorities fast-tracked the evaluation process and successfully wrapped it up by April 23. Officials stated that necessary steps have been taken to ensure a smooth and timely release of results. Once announced, students will be able to access their scores through official websites without delay. With the declaration just hours away, excitement and anxiety are running high among students awaiting their performance. Schools and families are also preparing to review the outcomes as soon as they are made public.

Vacation Bible School Draws 200 Children in Nacharam

Nacharam, April 28 | TPN Bureau

A Vacation Bible School (VBS) was organized in the Upal constituency under the leadership of Pastor Shyam Krupa of Grace Gospel Ministries. Around 200 children participated in the programme, which has been conducted annually for the past 12 years.

Addressing the gathering, Pastor Shyam Krupa said the initiative aims to teach children the values and principles of Jesus Christ while guiding them toward positive personal and social development. Sessions focused on moral education, character building, and encouraging responsible behavior in society.

The event also featured cultural activities, including dance performances and skits presented by the children.



Church members actively took part in organizing and supporting the programme, making it an engaging and meaningful summer learning experience for young participants.

Call for Bahujan Unity at OU Event

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

A large gathering at Osmania University highlighted the need for unity among marginalized communities to achieve political empowerment. The programme, held to mark the birth anniversaries of social reformers Jyotirao Phule and B. R. Ambedkar, also saw the launch of a movement focused on Bahujan solidarity.

The meeting was chaired by

N. Chenna Ramulu, State President of the Backward Classes Federation, while Dr. Avvaru Venukumar welcomed participants. Speakers, including T. Chiranjeevulu and former High Court judge Justice Chandra Kumar, stressed that SC, ST, BC, and minority communities—forming a majority of the population—must unite to secure political strength.

Leaders underscored key demands such as 42% reservation for Backward Classes, protection of constitutional rights, and nurturing youth leadership. They emphasized that meaningful social transformation can only be achieved through awareness and application of Phule and Ambedkar’s ideals.

Several academics, activists, and student leaders participated, reiterating the importance of collective action to build an inclusive and equitable political framework.



Congress Gears Up for Municipal Polls

Quthbullapur, April 28 | TPN Bureau

A strategy meeting of Congress leaders from Chintal Circle was convened on Tuesday at Adarsh Nagar Community Hall. Senior leader and former MLA Kuna Srisailam Goud attended along with representatives from Chintal, Rangareddy Nagar, Roda Mestri Nagar, Jagadgirigutta, and Giri Nagar divisions.

Addressing the gathering, Srisailam Goud urged party workers to actively promote the welfare and development initiatives introduced under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy’s leadership. He emphasized the importance of spreading awareness about the “Six Guarantees,” including subsidized rice, free bus travel for women, electricity benefits,

marriage assistance schemes, pensions, and housing programs. He also called on cadres to strengthen the leadership of PCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud and stay connected with the public. With Greater Municipal elections approaching, he stressed unity among leaders and encouraged collective efforts to ensure the party’s success, irrespective of candidate selection.

Shankar Naik Extends Aid to Journalist’s Family

Quthbullapur, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Former Dundigal Councillor Shankar Naik displayed compassion by supporting a journalist’s family in Dundigal Circle’s Gagillapur area. Tejomurthy, a journalist associated with the Sakshi newspaper, has been facing hardship due to his mother’s illness. Upon learning about the situation through union representatives, Shankar Naik personally visited the family to express solidarity. On Tuesday, under the banner of the Telangana Union of Working Journalists (TUWJ), he provided financial assistance of 21,000 to help cover medical expenses. His timely gesture drew appreciation from members of the journalists’ union.

Union leaders, including



President Golipalli Dayakar Reddy, Working President Sai Baba, and General Secretary Reddebayina Mallesh Yadav, thanked Shankar Naik for his

generous support during a difficult time. They noted that his action reflected a strong sense of responsibility and empathy towards the community.

Bike Theft Case Solved, Accused Arrested

Quthbullapur, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Police in Jagadgirigutta have successfully solved a bike theft case and arrested a young man accused of stealing two-wheelers from the area. The accused, identified as Sarolu Venkatesh (22), was taken into custody based on reliable information, and three stolen bikes were recovered from him. During questioning, police found that he targeted vehicles parked outside houses and near wine shops, mainly during afternoon and late-night hours. A resident of

Deenbandhu Colony and a welder by profession, Venkatesh was identified as a repeat offender involved in similar thefts in areas like Madhapur, Gachibowli, Jeedimetla, and Kukatpally. After completing legal procedures, he was produced before the court and sent to judicial remand. Quthbullapur DCP Koti Reddy and ACP Balangangi Reddy appreciated Detective Inspector Narendra Reddy and the crime team for their swift action in cracking the case and recovering the stolen vehicles.

BKR Foundation Supports Accident Victim in Quthbullapur

Quthbullapur, April 28 | TPN Bureau

The BKR Foundation has come forward to assist U. Shivararam Prasad, a daily-wage mason from the Amalapuram region, who was injured in a recent road accident. Currently undergoing treatment at CMR Hospital, he is receiving medical care with the support of the foundation.

Members of the BKR Foundation, along with Congress leader A.R. Sadhu Yadav and

his associates visited Shivararam Prasad to check on his condition and extend their encouragement. They expressed concern over his health and reassured him during this challenging phase. The team urged him to remain strong and positive, promising continued assistance for his treatment and recovery. Their gesture highlighted a commitment to helping those in need and providing timely support during emergencies.



Basti Dawakhana Staff Felicitate Kodandaram

Hyderabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Employees of Telangana Basti Dawakhana extended congratulations to M. Kodandaram following his nomination as an MLC under the Governor’s quota and his swearing-in. The staff visited his residence in Tarnaka and felicitated him with a traditional shawl, conveying their best wishes on the occasion. Sweets were also distributed to celebrate his elevation. Members of the Telangana

Basti Dawakhana Contract and Outsourcing Employees Association participated in the programme. Association president Mangalapati Suman, general secretary Amjad Ali Khan, and convener Methuku Uppalaiah were present, along with several staff members.

The gathering expressed hope that Kodandaram would continue to work for public welfare and address issues concerning healthcare workers and the broader community.

BRSV Students Launch Postal Card Protest for Fee Dues

Quthbullapur, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Students affiliated with Bharat Rashtra Samithi Vid-yarthi Vibhagam (BRSV) staged a unique protest at a degree college in Chintal, raising concerns over delayed fee reimbursement. Acting on the call of State President Ghellu Seenanna, students adopted a “postal card campaign” to highlight their grievances.

As part of the initiative, students wrote and sent postcards addressed to a Justice of the Telangana High Court, seeking intervention in resolving the

issue. They expressed frustration over prolonged delays, stating that it was affecting their education and financial stability. Student leaders demanded that the government take immediate steps to clear pending dues and ensure timely reimbursement in the future. The protest witnessed participation from several leaders, including Constituency President Akhil, State General Secretary Yashwanth, Vice Presidents Praveen Naik, Ravi Kiran, Raju Yadav, and Dayakar, along with a large number of students.



RTI Act Key to Transparency, Says Chief Commissioner

Nalgonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Dr. G. Chandrashekhara Reddy emphasized that the Right to Information (RTI) Act is a vital tool for citizens to ensure transparency and accountability in governance. He was speaking as the chief guest at an awareness seminar for Public Information Officers (PIOs) and officials held at the District Collector's Office in Nalgonda. He noted that information in a democracy becomes meaningful only when it is accessible to the public, and it is the responsibility of authorities to provide it. Highlighting the importance of proactive disclosure, he urged departments to regularly update details under Section 4(1)(b) and make them available online for public access. He also reminded officials that they are accountable to the people and must act in public interest at all times. Dr. Reddy explained various

provisions of the RTI Act, including citizens' rights to seek information, inspect records, and verify works. He revealed that out of 1.2 lakh applications received statewide, information has been provided in about one lakh cases. The Commission handles around 15,000 to 20,000 appeals annually and has cleared 15,000 cases in the past ten months, initiating action against officials who withheld information. Information Commissioners Desala Bhupal, Bhoreddy Ayodhya Reddy, P. V. Srinivasa Rao, and Mohsin Parveen also addressed the session, stressing effective implementation of RTI provisions and proper record maintenance. District Collector B. Chandrasekhara said RTI applications and appeals are being reviewed regularly to ensure timely disposal. Senior officials, including SP Sharath Chandra Pawar and others, attended the programme.

Seethakka Launches Cycling & Literacy Drive

Kamareddy, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Minister Seethakka inaugurated a bicycle training programme for teenage girls under the "Sneha Summer Program" in Kamareddy. Conducted in villages by Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty, the initiative focuses on

life skills, including cycling as a step toward learning motorbike riding. She also took part in the "Amma Ku Aksharamala" campaign, guiding women in basic literacy. The programme aims to teach reading and writing skills to nearly 1.2 million women across the state.

Congress Seeks More Sorghum Procurement Centers

Adilabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Leaders from the Indian National Congress submitted a memorandum to District Collector Rajarshi Shah, urging an increase in sorghum procurement centers in the Boath Assembly constituency. They said farmers are facing hardships in selling their produce

due to limited facilities and requested at least two centers in each mandal. The delegation also called for better transport arrangements to avoid logistical delays. Several local leaders, including Boddugangareddy, Pasula Chanti, and others, were present during the representation.

Funeral Ritual Centers for Public Support

Karimnagar, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar has advised the Karimnagar Municipal Corporation to establish dedicated funeral ritual centers across the city aimed at easing the hardships faced by bereaved families. These facilities are being planned to ensure that no family is left without shelter during the period between a death and the completion of final rites. Currently, many families, especially those living in rented houses—face difficulties as landlords often restrict entry into homes until funeral rituals are completed. This forces some to depend on relatives, while others are compelled to stay near cremation grounds under distressing conditions. To address this issue, the proposal includes constructing four "Karma Kanda Nilayams" in different parts of the city, preferably close to existing cremation grounds. Following this suggestion, Mayor Kolagani Srinivas and

Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao inspected multiple locations, including areas near cremation grounds along Sircilla, Jagtial, Mancherla, Hyderabad, and Warangal roads. Suitable sites near Markandeya Nagar, Old City Cable Bridge, Alkapuri, Rekurthi, and Mancherla Road were examined for feasibility. The proposed centers will be developed as G+1 structures with essential amenities such as electricity, water supply, and basic accommodation. Each facility is expected to be built at an estimated cost of ₹60 lakhs. Families will be allowed to stay in these centers for up to 13 days to complete funeral rites with dignity. Authorities are also considering a nominal user fee to cover maintenance costs without burdening economically weaker sections. Mayor Srinivas stated that site selection will be finalized soon, after which construction will begin, providing much-needed relief and dignity to affected families.

Set to Unveil State's First Glass Bridge

Husnabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Husnabad town in Siddipet district is preparing to introduce a major tourist attraction with the construction of Telangana's first glass bridge at Yellamma Cheruvu. Built using modern technology, the project is nearing completion and is expected to open to visitors soon. The initiative is part of a larger lake beautification programme being carried out at an estimated cost of Rs 18 crore. A key highlight is the uniquely designed glass bridge shaped like a heart, intended to attract tourists and create a memorable visual experience. Stretching around 150 meters in length and 1.5 meters in width, the transparent walkway will allow visitors to look down at the water while enjoying scenic surroundings, offering a thrilling experience. Authorities are also enhancing the lake premises with improved infrastructure. In-



spired by the development model of Komati Cheruvu, the project includes landscaped gardens, walking tracks, dedicated photo spots, and decorative lighting to illuminate the area at night. The bridge itself, built at an estimated Rs 5 crore, uses high-quality, durable glass panels to ensure safety and longevity. Municipal Commissioner

Malikarjuna Goud stated that construction is in its final phase and is progressing rapidly. He expressed confidence that the remaining works will be completed within the next few weeks. Once inaugurated, the attraction is expected to significantly boost tourism in the region and place Husnabad prominently on the state's tourism map.

Minister Reviews Procurement, Housing and Water Supply

Karimnagar, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Minister Ponnampalabharathi conducted a comprehensive review meeting with district officials on key issues in Saidapur mandal of Husnabad constituency, focusing on paddy procurement, housing progress, and drinking water management ahead of summer. The meeting was attended by District Collector Chitra Mishra, Additional Collectors Ashwini Tanaji Wakade and Srinivas Reddy, along with senior officials including DRDO Sridhar and RDO Ramesh

Babu. During the review, the Minister instructed officials to ensure smooth operations at procurement centers so that farmers do not face inconvenience. He emphasized the need for adequate transportation arrangements, timely supply of gunny bags, and prompt payments to farmers immediately after procurement is completed. Ponnampalabharathi also reviewed the progress of 'Indiramma' housing works. He directed officials to speed up construction under the first phase and ensure that benefi-

ciaries of completed houses are able to perform housewarming ceremonies without delay. Addressing the issue of water supply, the Minister called for proactive measures to prevent shortages in rural areas during the peak summer months. He asked officials to prepare contingency plans and ensure uninterrupted access to safe drinking water for all villages. The review meeting focused on improving coordination among departments to ensure efficient implementation of welfare and infrastructure programmes in the district.

Collector Urges Youth to Shun Drugs, Focus on Education

Adilabad, April 28 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Rajarshi Shah stressed that safeguarding children and ensuring a bright future for them is a shared responsibility of society. He inaugurated an awareness seminar at a Social Welfare Gurukulam School, organized by the District Department of Women, Child, Differently-abled and Senior Citizens' Welfare under the "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranali" 99-day action plan. The programme focused on preventing teenage pregnancies, child marriages, elopements, and drug abuse. Addressing students, the Collector advised them to stay away from harams and concentrate on education to achieve success. He instructed officials to take strict action against those involved in drug supply. He also highlighted the risks associated with teenage preg-



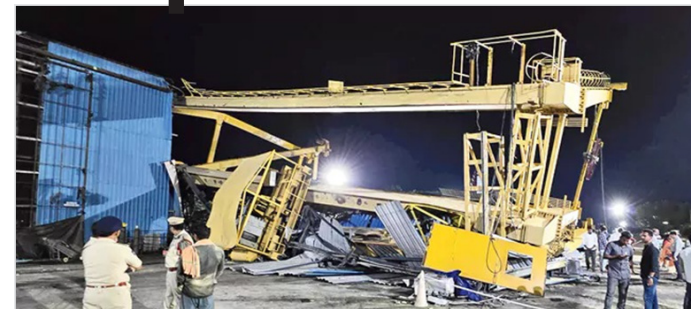
nancies and early marriages, urging officials to create awareness at the grassroots level. He suggested setting up counseling facilities in schools to guide students and prevent them from falling into risky situations. The Collector en-

couraged the public to make use of the 1098 Child Helpline to support children in need. Later, he felicitated meritorious intermediate students. Officials including Milka, Jaisingh Rathod, and Principal Lalitha attended the event.

₹25L Aid Announced for Crane Collapse Victims

Shankarpally, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Five workers lost their lives in a tragic accident after two cranes collapsed at an industrial site in Shankarpally mandal on the outskirts of Hyderabad. Following the incident, Nagarjuna Construction Company (NCC) announced compensation of ₹25 lakh each to the families of the deceased and Rs 2 lakh for those injured. MLA Kale Yadaiah held discussions with company representatives to ensure adequate support for the victims. The mishap occurred at a unit in Mahalingapuram vil-



lage where iron structures for flyovers and railway works are manufactured. During loading operations on Monday, sudden strong winds and rain forced 17 workers to take shelter inside a shed. The gusts caused nearby cranes to collide and topple onto the structure, trapping those inside.

Police teams rushed to the spot, rescued the workers, and shifted them to hospitals in Shankarpally and Chevella. Three victims died on the way, while two more succumbed during treatment. Twelve injured workers are currently undergoing medical care.

Strict POCSO Verdicts Act as Deterrent

Nalgonda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

Firm judgments delivered by the POCSO Special Court in Nalgonda district are emerging as a strong deterrent against crimes involving minor girls. The court has not only kept pace with incoming cases but has also reduced the overall backlog, signaling a proactive approach to justice. In 2025, the court disposed of 171 cases, exceeding the 134 new cases registered during the year and bringing down pendency to 479. Authorities have been widely publicizing convictions and punishments to discourage potential offenders. Awareness initiatives are also being conducted to educate girls about personal safety, including "good touch and bad touch."

Among notable cases, the court awarded a double death sentence to an accused in a

widely discussed rape and murder case of a minor girl in August 2025. In another instance, an accused was sentenced to 51 years in prison for assaulting a tribal minor, while a separate case resulted in a 23-year imprisonment term.

Officials attribute the high conviction rate to strong evidence presented by police, including scientific and technical proof. Prosecutors emphasized a strict stance, rejecting any attempts at compromise in such cases.

Child protection authorities are intensifying awareness campaigns in schools, using posters and educational materials. Experts have suggested incorporating child safety lessons into primary education and encouraging parents to remain vigilant to behavioral changes in children, ensuring early intervention and protection.



Minister Felicitates BiPC Topper Dharani with Cash Award

Miryalaguda, April 28 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Tuesday congratulated Shivarani Dharani for securing the third rank in the state in the Intermediate Second Year BiPC stream for the 2025-26 academic year. She achieved an outstanding score of 994 marks, earning recognition for her academic excellence.

The Minister met the student and felicitated her, appreciating her dedication and hard work. He also extended financial assistance of Rs 50,000 as a token of encouragement and assured full support for her higher education. Dha-

rani, daughter of Yadagiri and Jyothi from Miryalagudamandal, is currently studying at a Gurukula Minority College.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister praised her achievement, stating that determination, discipline, and clarity of goals can help students reach great heights. He said her success serves as an inspiration to many aspiring students across the state.

Learning about her ambition to pursue a career in medicine, he expressed confidence that she would accomplish greater milestones in the future and bring pride to her family and society.

Children Left at Police Station Amid Marital Dispute

Karimnagar, April 28 | TPN Bureau

A disturbing incident in Karimnagar district has drawn attention after parents abandoned their children following a family dispute. In Allanur village of Thimmapurmandal, a woman named Lalitha reportedly walked away from her family, stating she no longer wished to continue her marital life. Soon after, her husband Ravi also refused to take responsibility for the children and left them at the L.M.D. Police Station. The couple, who had earlier entered into a love marriage against family wishes, were said to be facing ongoing conflicts

in their relationship. Left without support, the children remained at the police station in a distressed and frightened state. Police officials intervened promptly, ensuring their safety and care. They later contacted the children's grandmother and handed over custody to her to provide a stable environment. The incident has raised concerns over parental responsibility and the emotional well-being of children caught in domestic disputes. Authorities emphasized the importance of resolving family issues without compromising the welfare of minors.

Amaravati Quantum Valley: A New Economic Horizon for Andhra Pradesh



Dr. Yuvaraju Chinnam,
Pro Vice-Chancellor
(Professor of Computer
Science and Engineering)
Malla Reddy (MR) Deemed
to be University, Hyderabad,

India The proposed Amara-
vati Quantum Valley de-
serves to be viewed not
simply as a technology project,
but as a transformative eco-
nomic initiative with the po-
tential to reshape the future
of Andhra Pradesh. In an era
where prosperity increasing-
ly depends on innovation, re-
search, and high-value indus-
tries, the state's decision to
invest in quantum technolo-
gies may prove to be one of its
most consequential policy
choices. Across the world, re-
gions that embraced emerg-
ing technologies early, wheth-
er in information technology,
biotechnology, or renewable
energy have enjoyed sus-
tained growth, global invest-
ment, and superior employ-
ment opportunities. Quantum
technology now stands at the
threshold of becoming the

next great industrial revolu-
tion. If Andhra Pradesh posi-
tions itself wisely, Amaravati
could become one of India's
foremost centres of this new
economy. Quantum comput-
ing and related technologies
are expected to influence mul-
tiple sectors in the coming
decades. These include
healthcare, finance, agricul-
ture, cybersecurity, logistics,
defence, telecommunications,
and advanced manufactur-
ing. Unlike traditional indus-
tries, such sectors create
high-value output with lower
dependence on land and raw
materials. Their true capital
lies in knowledge, talent, pa-
tents, and research capability.
This is where Amaravati
Quantum Valley gains signif-
icance. The initiative can
help Andhra Pradesh transi-
tion from a largely resource-



based and service-driven
economy into a knowledge-
driven economy. For decades,
the state has been known for
agriculture, aquaculture,
ports, pharmaceuticals, and
infrastructure. While these
remain vital sectors, long-
term prosperity increasingly
requires participation in
frontier industries that com-
mand global demand and pre-

mium investment. The eco-
nomic benefits of such a
project can be substantial.
First, it can attract domestic
and foreign investment into
the state. Global technology
companies, research institu-
tions, venture capital firms,
and startups often cluster
around specialised innova-
tion zones. Once credibility is
established, capital follows

talent, and talent follows op-
portunity. Second, the project
can generate employment
across multiple levels. While
highly skilled jobs for engi-
neers, scientists, program-
mers, and researchers will
emerge directly, the indirect
benefits are equally impor-
tant. Construction, transport,
hospitality, education, legal
services, urban retail, real es-

tate, and professional consult-
ing sectors all stand to benefit
from the growth of an innova-
tion ecosystem. Third, Ama-
ravati Quantum Valley can
accelerate urban develop-
ment in the capital region.
Cities prosper when they be-
come centres of ideas and en-
terprise. The growth of Ama-
ravati can positively
influence surrounding areas
such as Vijayawada, Guntur,
Tenali, and Mangalagiri
through improved infrastruc-
ture, higher incomes, strong-
er demand, and better con-
nectivity. However,
technology parks alone do not
guarantee success. Buildings
and announcements cannot
substitute for ecosystem plan-
ning. If Amaravati Quantum
Valley is to succeed, Andhra
Pradesh must invest equally
in human capital. Universi-
ties must be strengthened.
Engineering colleges must
modernise curricula. Stu-
dents need exposure to math-
ematics, coding, artificial in-
telligence, and advanced
sciences. Faculty develop-
ment, research grants, start-
up incubation, and industry
partnerships must become
policy priorities. The state
must also learn from the IT
revolution. Cities such as
Bengaluru and Hyderabad

did not grow through isolated
projects, but through continu-
ity of policy, infrastructure
readiness, entrepreneurial
culture, and institutional
confidence. Investors value
stability as much as incen-
tives. Therefore, Amaravati
Quantum Valley should be
approached as a twenty-year
economic mission rather
than a short-term political
announcement. It requires bi-
partisan commitment, ad-
ministrative efficiency, and a
long-term roadmap that sur-
vives electoral cycles. If man-
aged wisely, the rewards
could be historic. Andhra
Pradesh has often demon-
strated resilience, adaptabil-
ity, and ambition. It now has
an opportunity to become a
national leader in one of the
world's most strategic tech-
nologies. Amaravati Quan-
tum Valley can become more
than a research park; it can
become the symbol of a new
economic identity for the
state. The future wealth of
nations will be built not only
on land, labour, and capital,
but on intelligence, innova-
tion, and scientific leader-
ship. By investing in quan-
tum technologies today,
Andhra Pradesh may well be
investing in the prosperity of
generations to come.



Will Women Voters Decide Bengal's Political Future in Phase 2?

The second phase of the
West Bengal Assembly elec-
tions has turned one of the
most important political ques-
tions of this season into a se-
rious national debate: are
women voters now the most
decisive force in Bengal poli-
tics? With record-breaking
turnout, rising female partici-
pation, and shifting political
loyts, the answer appears to be
increasingly yes.
West Bengal has witnessed
an extraordinary voter turn-
out of nearly 92 percent, a fig-
ure rarely seen in Indian elec-
tions. Even after accounting for
the Special Intensive Revi-
sion (SIR) of electoral rolls—
which removed nearly 90 lakh
names due to duplication,
death, or migration—the scale
of participation remains re-
markable. Such massive turn-
out usually signals deep po-
litical churn, but in Bengal
this time, the real story may
lie not just in how many vot-
ed, but who voted more.
Women voters have out-
numbered men at polling
booths by nearly 2 percent in
both West Bengal and Tamil
Nadu, according to election
observers. This may appear
like a small difference, but po-
litically, it is highly signifi-
cant. For decades, women
were often seen as voters who
simply mirrored the political
preferences of male family
members. That assumption
no longer holds true. In recent
elections across India, women
have emerged as an independ-
ent and highly influential vot-
ing bloc, often shaping out-
comes in unexpected ways.
The Bihar Assembly elec-
tion offered a strong example
of this shift. Despite wide-
spread predictions of anti-in-
cumbency against the Nitish
Kumar-led NDA government,
women voters strongly backed
the ruling alliance, helping se-
cure its return to power. Wel-
fare schemes targeted at wom-
en, direct financial support,
and concerns over safety and
stability played a major role
in that outcome. Bengal may
now be witnessing a similar
moment. Traditionally, wom-
en voters in West Bengal have
been one of Chief Minister
Mamata Banerjee's strongest

support bases. Her image as
“Didi” and welfare initiatives
such as Lakshmir Bhandar,
Kanyashree, and other wom-
en-focused schemes have built
deep emotional and political
trust among female voters.
This support was crucial in
her historic 2011 victory that
ended the Left Front's 34-year
rule and has remained central
to Trinamool Congress's dom-
inance since then.
However, the situation in
2026 is more complex.
While Mamata Banerjee
personally remains popular
among many women, dissatis-
faction with her government
has grown due to corruption
allegations, unemployment,
weak infrastructure, and con-
cerns about law and order.
This creates a political contra-
diction: voters may still trust
Mamata, but they may be un-
happy with the system around
her. Analysts describe this as
a battle between “Mamata's
popularity and her govern-
ment's unpopularity.”
This distinction matters
greatly in Phase 2, especially
in southern Bengal and the
Presidency region—areas
considered Mamata Baner-
jee's political fortress. These
constituencies include Kolk-
ata, Howrah, Hooghly, and
parts of North and South 24
Parganas. Historically, wom-
en in these regions have stood
firmly with her, even during
the years of Left dominance
and political violence. If that
loyalty weakens, the conse-
quences could be dramatic.
The BJP understands this
clearly and has built much of
its strategy around breaking
into this female voter base.
The party is focusing heavily
on booth management, wel-
fare messaging, and local dis-
satisfaction. Improved secu-
rity due to stronger central
and paramilitary presence
has also increased female
turnout in sensitive areas
where fear previously dis-
couraged participation. This
could work to the BJP's ad-
vantage by making the con-
test more competitive.
Another unpredictable fac-
tor is the issue of women's
safety, especially when linked
with communal or political

tensions. Female voters across
India have often shown a ten-
dency to rise above caste and
religion-based polarization
and vote based on practical
concerns like welfare, educa-
tion, healthcare, and house-
hold economics. But when
personal security becomes a
dominant concern, voting be-
havior can change sharply.
Bengal's political atmosphere
this year includes precisely
such uncertainty.
Interestingly, the usual as-
sumption that high turnout
automatically means anti-in-
cumbency may not apply here.
Recent political studies sug-
gest that when women vote in
larger numbers than men, the
advantage can actually shift
toward the incumbent—espe-
cially if welfare delivery has
been strong and consistent.
This pattern has been ob-
served in Kerala, Tamil Nadu,
and several other states. In
Bengal too, female turnout
may either reinforce Mama-
ta's support or reveal a silent
revolt.
That is why Phase 2 is so
critical. It is not simply about
urban versus rural voting, or
BJP versus TMC. It is about
whether Bengal's women still
believe that “Paribartan”
(change) delivered real trans-
formation in their lives. If
they do, Mamata Banerjee re-
mains secure. If they feel dis-
appointed, Bengal could wit-
ness one of its biggest political
shocks in years.
In many ways, women vot-
ers are no longer just another
demographic category—they
are the electoral centre of
gravity. Their participation is
reshaping Indian democracy,
forcing parties to rethink
campaign strategies, govern-
ance priorities, and political
messaging. For the BJP, the
path to victory runs through
Bengal's women. For Mamata
Banerjee, political survival
depends on retaining their
trust. As counting day ap-
proaches, the final verdict
may not be written by rallies,
speeches, or television de-
bates—but by the quiet, deter-
mined choices made by mil-
lions of women inside polling
booths. Bengal's future may
very well rest in their hands.

The Five Districts That Once Ended Left Rule — Can They Now Challenge Mamata Banerjee?

In West Bengal politics, his-
tory often repeats itself
through geography. For dec-
ades, five districts surround-
ing the Presidency region have
played the role of kingmakers,
deciding which party ultimate-
ly governs the state. In 2011,
these districts were central to
ending the 34-year Left Front
rule and bringing Mamata Ba-
nerjee to power. Now, as the
2026 Assembly elections un-
fold, the same question domi-
nates political discussions: can
these very districts become the
reason for Mamata's political
decline?
The five crucial districts are
Kolkata, Howrah, North 24
Parganas, South 24 Parganas,
and Nadia. Together, they ac-
count for 108 of the 294 seats in
the West Bengal Assembly—
more than one-third of the to-
tal strength. This makes them
not just electorally important,
but politically decisive. In
Phase 2 of the current elec-
tions, these districts are once
again at the centre of atten-
tion, with 108 seats becoming
the key battleground of Ben-
gal's future. These districts
have a long-standing pattern of
voting overwhelmingly for one
dominant political force rather
than splitting support across
parties. This tendency has
shaped Bengal's political des-
tiny since the Left Front first
came to power in 1977. Who-
ever dominates this belt usually
finds the road to the Chief Min-
ister's office much easier.
The region is also symboli-
cally powerful. It includes Kolk-
ata, the cultural and intellec-
tual heart of Bengal, as well as
areas historically known for
political violence, organiza-
tional muscle, and ideological
battles. It has produced Chief
Ministers across generations—
from Jyoti Basu's Satgachia
base in South 24 Parganas to
Buddhadab Bhattacharya's Ja-
davpur and Mamata Banerjee's
Bhabanipur stronghold in
Kolkata.
The electoral numbers ex-
plain why this region matters
so much.
In 2006, when the Left Front
won its final full-term victory
under Buddhadab Bhattachar-
ya, it secured 72 out of these
108 seats. That dominance
helped preserve the Left's
statewide hold despite Mamata
Banerjee's growing popularity
elsewhere. The Presidency belt
remained the Left's fortress,
ensuring continuity of power.



**But by 2011, the fortress
collapsed dramatically.**
The Singur and Nandigram
movements had transformed
Bengal's political mood. Land
acquisition protests, farmer
anger, and anti-incumbency
against the Left created the mo-
mentum Mamata Banerjee
needed. Contesting in alliance
with the Congress, the Trina-
mool Congress swept 82 of the
108 seats in these five districts.
That victory signaled the end
of the Left Front's 34-year rule
and brought Mamata Banerjee
to power. The AITC itself went
on to win 184 seats statewide,
ending one of the longest-serv-
ing elected communist govern-
ments in the world.
At the time, many analysts
believed the result was tempo-
rary—a “fluke” created by unu-
sual circumstances. They ar-
gued that the Left's deep
organization in these districts
would eventually bring it back.
That prediction proved wrong.
In 2016, Trinamool Congress,
contesting alone, improved fur-
ther and won 91 of these 108
seats. In 2021, despite a major
BJP challenge across Bengal,
Mamata's party increased that
number again to 97 seats. This
showed that the Presidency re-
gion had not just voted for
change—it had become Mama-
ta's political fortress.
**This is why 2026 is so
significant.**
If a party wins 97 out of 108
seats in one region, reaching
the majority mark of 148 be-
comes relatively easy. It only
needs 51 more seats from the

remaining 186 constituencies.
This mathematical advantage
explains why both the BJP and
TMC are treating these dis-
tricts as the true battlefield of
the election.
For the BJP, success in North
Bengal alone is not enough.
The party understands that un-
less it breaks through Mama-
ta's dominance in the Presi-
dency region, forming a
government remains nearly
impossible. That is why Prime
Minister Narendra Modi, Un-
ion Home Minister Amit Shah,
and top BJP campaigners have
concentrated their efforts here.
Their mission is clear: breach
Mamata's citadel.
**However, this is
far from easy.**
The social composition, local
networks, and enduring per-
sonal popularity of Mamata
Banerjee still strongly favour
the Trinamool Congress. Wel-
fare schemes, women-centric
policies, and her image as
“Didi” continue to resonate
deeply, especially among fe-
male voters. Add to this the lo-
cal organizational strength
and booth-level control of
TMC, and the advantage still
appears to lie with the ruling
party. Yet, controversy and vot-
er intimidation remain major
concerns in these districts.
Recent developments have
once again brought attention
to the region's political ten-
sions. Election observer Ajay
Sharma reportedly warned
against voter intimidation in
South 24 Parganas after receiv-
ing complaints linked to pow-

erful local leaders. The issue
became more controversial
when TMC candidate Jahangir
Khan publicly responded with
aggressive rhetoric, reflecting
the atmosphere of fear and
confrontation that often shad-
ows elections in this belt.
This is not new. Violence and
intimidation have historically
shaped elections here, often in-
fluencing turnout and public
confidence. The region's repu-
tation for combining cultural
sophistication with political
brutality remains one of Ben-
gal's most complex
contradictions.
That is why the outcome of
these five districts will likely
define the 2026 verdict.
If Mamata Banerjee retains
her dominance here, the Trina-
mool Congress remains polit-
ically secure. But if the BJP
manages even a serious
breach—especially in urban
and semi-urban seats—it could
trigger a chain reaction across
Bengal. Just as the Left's col-
lapse in 2011 began here, a
weakening of Mamata's hold
could begin in the same place.
In politics, some regions do
not just elect governments—
they create history.
Kolkata, Howrah, North 24
Parganas, South 24 Parganas,
and Nadia have done it before.
The question now is whether
they are preparing to do it
again. On counting day, Bengal
may discover that its future
was decided not across the en-
tire state, but in these five dis-
tricts that have always held the
real power.

PM Modi Celebrates 50 Years of Sikkim’s Statehood, Hails Development and Natural Beauty



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday celebrated Sikkim’s 50th anniversary of statehood, describing the Himalayan state as the “Heaven of the East” and praising its natural beauty, cultural harmony, and development journey during his visit to Gangtok. The Prime Minister’s two-day visit to Sikkim marked a major ceremonial occasion, as the state completed 50 years since its integration into the Indian Union. He attended the golden jubilee celebrations and participated in several events highlighting Sikkim’s growth over the decades. Addressing the event, PM Modi expressed admiration for Sikkim’s ecological richness, especially its orchids, scenic landscapes, and biodiversity. He said the state stands as a model of peace, cleanliness, and sustainable development, and continues to play an important role in India’s Northeast growth story. He also highlighted Sikkim’s cultural unity and peaceful society, noting that the state reflects the spirit of “Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat” — a vision of national integration through diversity. During the celebrations, the Prime Minister also underlined the central government’s commitment to strengthening infrastructure in Sikkim. He referred to key connectivity projects, including rail and road development, aimed at improving access to the landlocked Himalayan state. Officials said the visit also included inauguration and foundation-laying of multiple development projects worth thousands of crores, covering sectors such as healthcare, tourism, education, and infrastructure. These initiatives are expected to boost economic activity, improve connectivity with the rest of the country, and promote tourism in the region. PM Modi also engaged with local communities during his visit, including

interacting with young people in Gangtok. His informal participation in a football game with children drew attention and reflected his emphasis on youth engagement and sports promotion. The Prime Minister shared pictures and messages on social media, calling it an “energising experience” and highlighting the importance of fitness and sports culture among India’s youth. The golden jubilee celebrations mark a significant milestone for Sikkim, which became the 22nd state of India in 1975. Over the past five decades, the state has been widely recognised for its environmental conservation efforts, organic farming initiatives, and tourism-driven economy. The celebrations in Gangtok featured cultural performances, public events, and participation from senior leaders and citizens, making it a historic occasion for the state. PM Modi’s visit and his “Heaven of the East” remark reflect both symbolic appreciation and policy focus on Sikkim’s development. As the state enters its next phase of growth, the emphasis remains on connectivity, sustainability, and youth empowerment, with the Centre promising continued support for its progress.

ED Freezes 3,034 Crore Assets of Anil Ambani Group in Money Laundering Probe



The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth 3,034 crore linked to the Anil Ambani-led Reliance Group as part of an ongoing money laundering investigation, marking another major development in the long-running probe against the business conglomerate. According to official reports, the action has been taken under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and is connected to alleged financial irregularities involving group companies, including Reliance Communications and Reliance Infrastructure. The latest attachment reportedly includes a mix of high-value properties and financial holdings. These include residential properties, land parcels, and equity shares linked to Reliance Infrastructure and associated entities. Among the identified assets are properties in Mumbai, a farmhouse in Khandala, land in Gujarat’s Sanand region, and a significant number of shares held by group-linked firms. Authorities say these assets are believed to be connected to alleged diversion and misuse of borrowed funds. With this latest action, the total value of assets attached in cases linked to the Anil Ambani group has reportedly risen to over 19,000 crore, reflecting the scale of the ongoing investigation. Officials claim the broader probe focuses on alleged bank fraud, fund diversion, and financial mismanagement involving loans taken from multiple financial institutions over several years. The investigation into the Anil Ambani-led group has been ongoing for several years and involves multiple agencies, including the CBI and ED. The case is primarily based on allegations that loans obtained by group companies were not properly utilised and were allegedly routed through complex financial structures. Earlier investigations have already resulted in multiple asset freezes and seizures, with authorities stating that the total amount under scrutiny runs into tens of thousands of crores. The latest action adds to increasing regulatory pressure on the group’s legacy businesses, particularly in telecom and infrastructure sectors, many of which have already faced financial stress or insolvency proceedings. Authorities say the objective of the ongoing probe is to trace alleged proceeds of crime and prevent further movement or liquidation of disputed assets during investigation. The freezing of 3,034 crore worth of assets marks a significant escalation in the ED’s action against the Anil Ambani group. With total attachments now crossing 19,000 crore, the case remains one of the largest financial crime investigations in India’s corporate sector, and further developments are expected as the probe continues.

Siddaramaiah Likely to Visit Delhi as Karnataka Cabinet Expansion Nears

The long-awaited cabinet expansion in Karnataka is expected to gain momentum soon, with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah likely to travel to New Delhi in the first week of May to seek approval from the Congress high command, according to reports. The visit, which is expected around May 6, comes amid increasing internal discussions within the Karnataka Congress over a possible reshuffle of the state cabinet. The move is being closely watched as it could reshape the balance of power within the ruling party in the state. The issue of cabinet expansion has been pending for several months, with repeated demands from party legislators seeking ministerial positions. Senior Congress leaders have recently intensified their visits to Delhi, signalling that a final decision may be approaching. Party sources suggest that the leadership is now actively working on finalising a list of ministers, while also trying to manage competing claims from different factions within the state unit. During his proposed visit, Siddaramaiah is expected to hold discussions with senior Congress leaders in the national capital. The meetings are likely to focus on finalising names for the cabinet expansion and securing the party high command’s approval before any formal announcement is made. The decision is seen as crucial, as the Congress leadership aims to ensure internal consensus and avoid factional disputes within the Karnataka unit. The cabinet reshuffle is also linked to internal balancing within the state Congress, where multiple leaders are vying for ministerial roles. The party is reportedly trying to accommodate regional and caste-based representation while maintaining stability in governance. Coordination between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar is also expected to play an important role in finalising the new cabinet structure. Why the expansion matters The proposed reshuffle is significant for several reasons: It aims to address long-standing demands from MLAs for cabinet positions. It is expected to strengthen administrative efficiency in the state government. It will help manage internal party equations ahead of future political challenges. It could reshape the power structure within Karnataka Congress. With Siddaramaiah’s expected Delhi visit approaching, Karnataka appears to be moving closer to a key political decision. If the Congress high command gives its approval, the cabinet expansion could be announced soon, marking an important step in the state’s political and administrative roadmap.



“More Defections to Hit AAP in Punjab?” Akali Dal Claims Two MPs May Switch Sides

Political tensions continue to rise in Punjab as the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has claimed that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) may face further defections, with two Lok Sabha MPs allegedly planning to leave the party. The claim comes at a time when AAP is already dealing with multiple high-profile exits and growing internal instability. According to SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia, based on what he described as “sources,” two AAP MPs are likely to quit the party soon. He hinted that more political realignments could be on the way following recent exits that have already shaken the party’s structure in Parliament. Majithia also suggested that AAP’s internal situation is worsening after a series of defections, particularly in its parliamentary ranks. However, the Aam Aadmi Party has not officially responded to these fresh claims yet. The development comes shortly after AAP suffered a major setback in the Rajya Sabha, where several MPs reportedly left the party and aligned with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This reduced AAP’s representation significantly in the Upper House and triggered strong political reactions across parties. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had earlier condemned the defectors, calling them “traitors” and accusing them of abandoning the party for personal gain. Opposition leaders, on the other hand, have described the situation as a sign of deeper instability within AAP’s Punjab unit. Some political observers believe that the recent wave of defections reflects internal disagreements and concerns over ticket distribution ahead of future elections. AAP currently holds power in Punjab, and any large-scale defection could have serious political consequences. Analysts warn that even a small shift in numbers could weaken the party’s organisational strength in the state and affect its standing ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections. Recent political commentary has also suggested that continued internal rifts or defections could create a major challenge for AAP’s governance in Punjab, especially if public confidence begins to decline. Opposition parties like SAD and Congress are closely watching the situation. Leaders from these parties have repeatedly claimed that more AAP MLAs and MPs may switch sides, although no official confirmation has emerged so far. Some opposition figures argue that the current political churn could eventually reshape Punjab’s political landscape, potentially strengthening rival parties if defections continue. While the Akali Dal’s claim of two more AAP MPs switching sides remains unverified, it adds to the growing narrative of political instability within the ruling party in Punjab. With AAP already facing multiple exits in recent weeks, the coming days will be crucial in determining whether the party can stabilise its ranks or face further fragmentation.

CCTV Staff Arrested for Watching Pirated Version of Vijay’s ‘Jana Nayagan’ at Chennai Poll Hub

In a shocking incident during the Tamil Nadu Assembly election process, a CCTV operator deployed at the Anna University counting centre in Chennai was arrested for allegedly watching a pirated version of actor Vijay’s upcoming film Jana Nayagan inside the control room meant for election surveillance. The incident came to light after officials discovered that the staff member was viewing the unreleased film in the CCTV monitoring room, where Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) were being kept under strict security after polling. The centre was one of the designated strong rooms where EVMs were stored under round-the-clock surveillance. Following the completion of polling for the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, EVMs were secured in three strong rooms across Chennai, including one at Anna University. These centres were under high security and monitored continuously through CCTV systems to ensure transparency and prevent tampering. However, instead of monitoring the surveillance feeds, the accused allegedly used the control room to watch a pirated version of Vijay’s much-awaited film Jana Nayagan, which has not yet received certification and is still awaiting official theatrical release. Authorities treated the matter seriously due to both the election security implications and the film piracy angle. Jana Nayagan has already been at the centre of a major piracy controversy after clips and even the full movie reportedly leaked online earlier this month. Several arrests have already been made by the Tamil Nadu Cyber Crime Wing in connection with the illegal circulation of the film. The latest arrest adds another layer to the growing scandal, especially because the pirated content was being accessed inside a sensitive election monitoring facility. Police officials said the accused was taken into custody and further investigation is underway to determine whether he had any role in sharing or distributing the pirated content beyond personal viewing. The leak of Jana Nayagan has triggered strong reactions from the Tamil film industry. Several leading actors and filmmakers have condemned piracy and urged audiences not to support illegal circulation of unreleased content. The film, starring Vijay and directed by H. Vinoth, is one of the most anticipated releases of the year and has already faced multiple delays due to certification issues and legal complications. The incident has also raised concerns over discipline and monitoring at election-related facilities. Officials are now reviewing whether there were any lapses in supervision at the counting centre and whether stricter protocols are needed for staff assigned to sensitive polling duties. The arrest of a CCTV operator for watching a pirated version of Jana Nayagan inside a poll surveillance room has sparked both political and cinematic controversy. With election security and film piracy intersecting in an unusual way, the case has drawn widespread attention across Tamil Nadu.



Trump Faces Iran Crisis as War Powers Deadline, Escalation Risks and Diplomacy Collide

A fast-developing geopolitical situation involving former U.S. President Donald Trump and Iran has created a high-stakes standoff, with legal deadlines, military pressures, and diplomatic uncertainty converging into what analysts describe as a “critical reckoning moment.”

According to reports, Trump is operating under strict constraints tied to the U.S. War Powers framework, which requires either Congressional approval or withdrawal of military action within a limited timeframe. He is believed to have until around May 1 to secure authorisation from the U.S. Congress or end ongoing military operations linked to the Iran conflict. Failure to meet this requirement could trigger legal and constitutional challenges within the United

States.

The situation has created what experts describe as a “three-path scenario” crisis, where the conflict could move in one of three directions depending on political and military decisions in the coming days.

The first and most optimistic scenario involves a negotiated diplomatic settlement between the United States and Iran. In this case, both sides would agree to de-escalate tensions, potentially through a temporary ceasefire or broader strategic agreement. However, deep mistrust between the two nations makes this outcome uncertain.

The second option involves Trump seeking formal Congressional approval through an Authorisation for Use of Military Force (AUMF). If

granted, this would legally extend U.S. military operations and provide political cover for continued engagement. However, given the divided nature of U.S. politics, securing approval may be difficult and time-consuming.

The third and most dangerous scenario is continued military action without formal Congressional backing past the legal deadline. Such a move could intensify constitutional debate within the United States while simultaneously escalating tensions with Iran, increasing the risk of wider regional conflict.

The crisis is being shaped by two overlapping deadlines. The first is the legal War Powers deadline, which restricts prolonged military engagement without legislative approval. The second is an informal diplomatic timeline

tied to ongoing negotiations and battlefield developments in the region.

Together, these deadlines are significantly limiting strategic flexibility and forcing rapid decision-making at a time when tensions are already high.

The Iran conflict has already begun affecting global markets and energy stability. Any escalation in the region risks disrupting oil supply routes, particularly through strategic chokepoints like the Strait of Hormuz. This has contributed to volatility in global crude oil prices and added inflationary pressure worldwide.

Analysts warn that the outcome of this crisis could have far-reaching consequences, not only for U.S.–Iran relations but also for global security architecture, energy mar-



kets, and regional stability across the Middle East.

With legal deadlines approaching and diplomatic options narrowing, the Trump–Iran situation has entered a decisive phase. The coming days are expected to determine whether the crisis moves toward de-escalation through diplomacy or intensifies into a broader geopolitical confrontation with global implications.

Iran Offers Conditional Reopening of Strait of Hormuz

Iran has reportedly indicated willingness to reopen the Strait of Hormuz for global shipping, but only under a set of conditions that are unlikely to be accepted by the United States, raising fresh concerns over continued tensions in one of the world’s most critical maritime routes.

The Strait of Hormuz, through which a significant portion of global oil shipments pass, has been a major flash-point amid the ongoing Iran–U.S. conflict. Any disruption in this waterway has immediate implications for global energy supplies and oil prices.

According to reports, Iran has proposed allowing free movement of commercial vessels through the strait if the United States agrees to ease military pressure in the region. Tehran is also seeking a reduction in naval operations near its coastline and a delay in negotiations related to its nuclear programme.

Iran’s Key Conditions

Iran’s proposal reportedly includes three core demands:

- Lifting or easing of the U.S. naval blockade and military pressure around Iranian ports
- Reduction in American military presence in sensitive maritime zones
- Postponement of nuclear-related negotiations to a later stage of diplomatic talks

Iran argues that reopening the Strait of Hormuz should be treated as a separate humanitarian and economic issue,



rather than being directly tied to nuclear discussions or sanctions-related negotiations.

The United States, however, is expected to reject these conditions. Officials close to the Trump administration believe that separating maritime access from nuclear compliance would weaken long-term strategic leverage over Iran.

Washington has repeatedly maintained that any easing of pressure must be linked to strict guarantees regarding Iran’s nuclear activities. This position makes acceptance of Iran’s phased proposal highly unlikely.

Former President Donald Trump and his team are reportedly reviewing the proposal, but early signals suggest skepticism over Tehran’s intentions and concerns that it could use maritime concessions as a tactical advantage without making substantive security commitments.

The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the most strategically important chokepoints in global trade. Nearly one-fifth of the world’s oil supply passes through this narrow waterway, making it extremely sensitive to geopolitical tensions.

Any closure or restriction of the strait tends to trigger immediate spikes in crude oil prices, disrupt shipping routes, and increase global inflationary pressure. Markets have already reacted to earlier tensions with volatility in energy prices.

Despite Iran’s conditional offer, analysts say the gap between the two sides remains wide. While Iran is seeking relief from military pressure before entering deeper negotiations, the United States insists that security and nuclear concerns must be addressed simultaneously.

This fundamental disagreement has created a diplomatic deadlock, with limited signs of compromise in the short term.

The proposal highlights both the possibility of de-escalation and the difficulty of achieving it. While reopening the Strait of Hormuz could ease global market tensions, political disagreements continue to block progress. For now, the situation remains fragile, with the world closely watching whether diplomacy can prevent further escalation in one of the most critical energy corridors on the planet.

Oil Giants Earn \$3,000 Per Second as Energy Crisis Deepens Amid Iran Conflict

Global oil and gas companies are earning record-breaking profits while millions of households struggle with rising fuel and electricity costs, according to a new Oxfam report highlighted by NDTV. The report links the surge in corporate earnings to elevated global oil prices driven by ongoing geopolitical tensions, particularly the Iran conflict and disruptions in key shipping routes.

The analysis estimates that six of the world’s largest oil and gas companies are collectively earning around \$3,000 every second in profits in 2026. These firms include global energy majors such as ExxonMobil, Shell, BP, Chevron, TotalEnergies, and ConocoPhillips. Together, they are projected to generate nearly \$94 billion in fossil fuel profits this year alone.

This sharp rise in earnings is being driven primarily by sustained high crude oil prices. Brent crude has remained elevated due to supply concerns linked to geopolitical instability, particularly tensions affecting the Middle East and key maritime routes like the Strait of Hormuz. Any disruption in these routes has a direct impact on global oil availability, pushing prices higher almost immediately.

While oil companies benefit from these price surges, consumers are facing the opposite reality. The report highlights



that households across several countries, including the United States and parts of Europe and Asia, are struggling with rising energy bills. Increased fuel costs have also led to higher transportation expenses, food inflation, and overall cost-of-living pressures.

Oxfam describes this growing gap as a “windfall profit crisis,” where corporations benefit disproportionately from global instability while ordinary citizens absorb the economic shock. The report argues that war-driven price spikes have significantly widened inequality between energy producers and consumers.

The Iran conflict has played

a major role in worsening the situation. Ongoing tensions have raised fears of supply disruptions, especially in critical oil shipping corridors. Even the possibility of instability in these regions is enough to push crude prices higher, reflecting how sensitive global markets are to geopolitical risks.

In response to rising costs, several governments have introduced temporary relief measures such as fuel subsidies or tax reductions. However, these measures have also strained public finances, limiting resources available for other development needs.

The report has renewed global discussions around windfall

taxes on energy companies. Advocates argue that excess profits made during crisis periods should be taxed more heavily and redirected toward public welfare programs and clean energy investments. Critics, however, warn that such measures could discourage investment in the energy sector.

Overall, the Oxfam findings highlight a stark global contrast: record-breaking profits for oil giants on one side, and increasing financial pressure on households on the other. As geopolitical tensions continue to influence global energy markets, this imbalance is expected to remain a major economic and political issue worldwide.

Dawood Ibrahim Aide Salim Dola Extradited to India in Major Drug Case

In a significant breakthrough for Indian security agencies, Salim Dola, a close associate of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, has been extradited to India from Istanbul in a major drug trafficking case. The development marks a key success in India’s ongoing crackdown on international narcotics networks linked to organised crime syndicates.

According to reports, Dola was detained in Istanbul in a coordinated operation involving Turkey’s National Intelligence Organisation and local police. He was later brought to India under tight security arrangements and is currently being handled by Indian investigative agencies for further questioning and legal proceedings. Investigators describe Salim Dola as a major player in a transnational drug trafficking syndicate that operated across India, the UAE, and Turkey. He is alleged to have run a multi-state narcotics network after fleeing India nearly a decade ago, continuing operations from abroad. Authorities believe Dola played a crucial role in supplying synthetic drugs, including mephedrone, as part of a wider cartel linked to Dawood Ibrahim’s organised crime network. His operations are estimated to be part of a multi-thousand-crore illegal drug trade spanning multiple



countries.

Dola has been on the radar of Indian law enforcement agencies for years. Mumbai Police and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) had previously investigated his involvement in drug manufacturing and distribution networks. He had also been linked to multiple cases involving synthetic narcotics production and smuggling operations. Officials say he was earlier arrested in India as well but managed to secure bail and later fled the country, after which he continued operating from overseas locations.

His extradition is being seen as a major success for Indian intelligence and enforcement agencies, especially in efforts to dismantle drug syndicates with international reach. Agencies are now expected to question him in detail to unwind financial trails, supply chains, and other key members of the network.

Dola is also expected to be handed over to Mumbai Police



and the NCB for further investigation into pending drug trafficking cases and alleged links to organised crime groups.

The case comes amid a broader crackdown on international drug trafficking networks linked to underworld organisations. Authorities have intensified operations targeting supply chains, financial transactions, and key operatives working across borders. Officials say the extradition could provide crucial intelligence on how synthetic drugs are manufactured and distributed across multiple countries, and may lead to further arrests in the coming months. Salim Dola’s extradition marks a major step forward in India’s fight against organised drug trafficking networks. With investigations now underway, agencies are expected to dig deeper into his international links and the broader criminal ecosystem connected to Dawood Ibrahim’s network.

Kash Patel Excluded From Kill List “Because He Is Hindu,” Report Claims

Investigators probing the White House Correspondents’ Dinner shooting have revealed new details from the suspect’s manifesto, including a striking claim that FBI Director Kash Patel was deliberately excluded from the target list due to his religion, according to reports cited by NDTV.

The suspect, identified as Cole Allen, allegedly authored a 1,052-word manifesto before the attack in which he laid out his intent to target senior U.S. administration officials present at the event. However, FBI Director Kash Patel was explicitly left off the list of intended targets, a detail that has drawn widespread attention.

The document reportedly stated that “administration officials (not including Patel) are targets,” without providing a detailed explanation for the exclusion. Investigators noted that the manifesto clearly outlined a ranking of political figures, with Patel uniquely separated from other high-ranking officials.

While no direct reasoning was initially given in the text, sources suggest that Allen’s writings indicated he was focused specifically on targeting Trump administration figures rather than law enforcement-linked individuals.

According to reports, one of the theories being examined by



investigators is that Patel was excluded because of his Hindu background. The claim has not been independently verified, but it is being considered among several possible explanations for the selective targeting mentioned in the manifesto. Officials have also pointed out that Allen appeared to distinguish between categories of potential targets, suggesting he may have intentionally avoided certain individuals associated with law enforcement agencies while focusing on political leadership.

The manifesto also reportedly included detailed “rules of engagement,” outlining how different groups would be



treated during the attack. Secret Service personnel were considered conditional targets, while hotel staff and other non-official individuals were not part of the primary list, according to investigators.

Despite this structure, authorities say the document acknowledged the possibility of broader violence if circumstances escalated, underscoring the severity of the planned attack. Federal agencies continue to examine Allen’s communications, ideological motivations, and online activity to understand the full scope of the attack plan. The FBI is also reviewing how the suspect managed to bypass initial secu-

rity layers before being apprehended at the scene.

The shooting, which targeted a high-profile political and media gathering, has triggered renewed debate over event security in Washington and prompted calls for tighter protection protocols. The revelation that Kash Patel may have been excluded from the alleged kill list due to his religion has added a new layer of complexity to an already high-profile investigation. However, officials caution that the motive remains under active review, and multiple theories are still being assessed as authorities reconstruct the suspect’s intent and planning.

Sensex, Nifty Slip on April 28 as Rising Crude and Banking Pressure Weigh on Markets

Indian stock markets turned volatile on April 28, 2026, with both Sensex and Nifty slipping into the red after a cautious start. Rising crude oil prices, foreign fund outflows, and weakness in banking stocks created pressure on investor sentiment, leading to a weak close in the market. By the afternoon session, the BSE Sensex was down around 417 points at 76,887, while the NSE Nifty 50 slipped 97 points to 23,996. Market breadth remained slightly negative, with about 1,802 shares advancing and 2,058 declining, showing mixed sentiment across sectors. Later in the session, the weakness deepened slightly, and the Nifty closed around the crucial 24,000 mark while Sensex ended nearly 330 points lower. The decline

came after the strong rally seen in the previous trading session, where both indices had gained sharply. One of the biggest reasons behind the market pressure was the sharp rise in crude oil prices. Brent crude remained above \$107–109 per barrel as geopolitical tensions involving the US and Iran increased concerns over global supply disruptions. Higher oil prices are usually negative for India because the country imports most of its crude requirements, which can increase inflation and pressure the rupee. Banking stocks also dragged the market lower. PSU banks and private banks saw selling pressure after the Reserve Bank of India introduced new asset classification and provisioning norms that will come into effect from

April 2027. Investors fear these rules may increase provisioning requirements for lenders. Nifty Bank dropped nearly 1%, with stocks like Union Bank, Canara Bank, Axis Bank, and SBI among the major losers. However, not all sectors were weak. Oil and gas stocks performed strongly due to rising crude prices. ONGC touched a 52-week high and gained nearly 4%, while Coal India emerged as one of the top gainers after strong quarterly earnings. Metal stocks also showed strength and helped limit the broader market fall. Among individual stocks, Coal India rose sharply after its Q4 results, while UltraTech Cement, Varun Beverages, and Piramal Finance also remained in focus because of earnings updates

and brokerage upgrades. On the other hand, airline stocks like IndiGo and SpiceJet faced pressure as higher crude prices raised concerns over aviation fuel costs. Analysts believe the 24,200–24,300 zone remains an important resistance area for Nifty, while the 24,000 level is a key short-term support. If Nifty falls below this zone, further profit booking may be seen. Overall, April 28 was a reminder that global events continue to strongly influence Indian markets. With oil prices rising and banking concerns increasing, investors are likely to remain cautious in the coming sessions. The next few trading days will be important in deciding whether this is just temporary profit booking or the beginning of a deeper correction.



Brent Crude Crosses \$111, ONGC Gains While Oil Marketing Stocks Slip

Brent crude prices continued their strong rally on April 28, 2026, rising for the sixth straight session and crossing the \$111 per barrel mark for the first time since April 7. This sharp rise in global oil prices created a mixed reaction in Indian energy stocks—upstream companies like ONGC and Oil India gained strongly, while oil marketing companies (OMCs) such as BPCL, HPCL, and IOC came under pressure.

The biggest gainer was Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), whose shares jumped more than 4%, touching a fresh 52-week high of around 298.6 on the NSE. Oil India also saw strong buying interest. These companies benefit directly from higher crude prices because they are involved in exploration and production of oil. When global crude prices rise, their realizations and earnings improve significantly, which boosts investor confidence.

Brent crude futures for July 2026 delivery on London's ICE crossed the \$111 level mainly due to growing geopolitical tensions involving the US and Iran, which raised fears of supply disruptions in the Middle East. Since India imports a large share of its crude oil needs, such price spikes immediately affect domestic markets and investor sentiment. Reuters also reported Brent moving above \$110 as a key reason behind weakness in broader Indian equities.

While upstream companies



gained, OMC stocks moved in the opposite direction. Shares of Bharat Petroleum (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL), and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) fell by up to 2%. These companies refine crude and sell petrol, diesel, and LPG. Rising crude prices increase their input costs, and if they are unable to fully pass on the higher prices to consumers due to pricing controls or competitive pressure, their profit margins shrink. Airline stocks also faced pressure for the same reason. Higher crude prices lead to more expensive aviation turbine fuel (ATF), which increases operating costs for airlines like IndiGo and SpiceJet. This is why crude price movements often affect not just energy stocks, but also transportation and broader market sentiment. The broader stock market

also reflected this caution. Sensex and Nifty ended lower, with investors worried about inflation risks and the impact of expensive oil on India's economy. Since higher crude prices can weaken the rupee and increase import bills, markets tend to react negatively when Brent rises sharply.

For investors, the current trend shows a clear divide: upstream oil producers like ONGC and Oil India may continue to benefit if crude stays elevated, while refiners and fuel retailers could remain under pressure.

As long as geopolitical tensions remain high and supply concerns continue, crude oil prices are likely to stay volatile. That means energy stocks could remain among the most closely watched counters in the market over the next few weeks.

Eternal Q4 Profit Jumps 71% QoQ to `174 Crore, Beats Estimates

Eternal Ltd, the parent company of Zomato and Blinkit, reported a strong set of fourth-quarter results for FY26, with net profit rising sharply and revenue showing massive growth. The company's better-than-expected performance helped its shares recover partially after early losses in the market.

For the January–March 2026 quarter, Eternal posted a consolidated net profit of 174 crore, marking a 71% rise quarter-on-quarter from 102 crore in the previous quarter. On a year-on-year basis, profit surged by an impressive 346% compared to 39 crore in the same period last year. This strong growth came ahead of analyst expectations, making it one of the company's best quarterly performances in recent times.

The company's revenue from operations also showed remarkable expansion. Revenue jumped 196% year-on-year to 17,292 crore in Q4, compared to 5,833 crore a year ago. Sequentially, revenue increased from 16,315 crore in the December quarter, showing steady business momentum across all major segments. Blinkit's strong



quick-commerce growth played a major role in this revenue surge, along with stable performance from Zomato's food delivery business.

Eternal currently operates four major businesses—Zomato (food delivery), Blinkit (quick commerce), District, and Hyperpure. Among these, Blinkit has emerged as one of the strongest growth drivers. The quick-commerce business continues to expand rapidly as more customers shift toward instant delivery for groceries and daily essentials. Analysts had expected Blinkit to be the

key factor behind strong Q4 results, and the final numbers confirmed that trend.

Before the results were announced, Eternal shares were under pressure and had fallen more than 3% during the trading session. The stock was trading around 247–248 on the NSE after touching intraday lows near 245. However, once the strong earnings numbers were released, the stock recovered part of its losses as investor confidence improved. Despite short-term weakness, the company still commands a massive market capitalization

of over 2.3 lakh crore.

Brokerages had estimated net profit in the range of 125 crore to 140 crore for the quarter, so the reported 174 crore clearly exceeded market expectations. This positive surprise strengthened sentiment around the stock, especially after recent concerns about competition in quick commerce and profitability pressures.

Founder Deepinder Goyal also highlighted the company's scale in his shareholder communication, stating that over 109 million Indians completed transactions worth more than \$10 billion last year through Blinkit, District, and Zomato. This reflects the company's growing influence across food delivery, shopping, and lifestyle services.

Overall, Eternal's Q4 results show strong execution and improving profitability. With Blinkit driving growth and Zomato maintaining stability, the company appears well-positioned for further expansion. Investors will now closely watch whether this momentum continues in FY27, especially as competition in the quick-commerce space becomes even more intense.

IndiGo and SpiceJet Stocks Fall as Crude Surge Pushes Aviation Fuel Costs Higher

Indian aviation stocks came under strong selling pressure on April 28, 2026, as rising global crude oil prices pushed up jet fuel costs and triggered concerns over airline margins. IndiGo emerged as one of the top losers on the Nifty, while SpiceJet also fell sharply amid broader weakness in the sector.

IndiGo shares dropped nearly 2%, making it one of the biggest drags on the Nifty index during the trading session. SpiceJet, which is already under financial stress, fell nearly 4%, extending its recent volatility. The decline came as investors reacted to a sustained rally in crude oil prices, which have now crossed the \$110–111 per barrel mark in global markets.

The main concern for airlines is the rise in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) costs. ATF is one of the largest operating expenses for airlines, and its price is closely linked to crude oil. When crude rises sharply, airlines face immediate pressure on profitability, especially in a competitive fare environment where passing on costs to customers is not always possible.

The recent spike in Brent crude has been driven by global supply worries and geopolitical tensions, particularly involving the US and Iran,



which have raised fears of disruptions in key oil shipping routes. Brent has extended its gains for several sessions, further worsening sentiment for fuel-sensitive sectors like aviation.

While crude oil producers such as ONGC benefit from higher prices, the aviation sector is on the opposite side of the trade. Rising fuel costs directly impact airline margins, cash flows, and ticket pricing strategies. This is why oil price rallies often create a “split reaction” in the market—upstream energy companies gain while airlines and refiners struggle.

IndiGo, which dominates the Indian aviation market with strong domestic traffic, is generally considered more resilient compared to peers. However, even IndiGo is not immune to fuel cost inflation. SpiceJet, already dealing with financial and operational challenges, tends to react more sharply to such cost pressures,

which explains its steeper decline.

Broader market sentiment was also weak on the day, with Sensex and Nifty trading lower amid rising crude prices and sectoral pressure. Investors are increasingly cautious as higher oil prices raise concerns about inflation, currency weakness, and overall corporate profitability in India's import-dependent economy.

Market analysts believe that if Brent crude remains above the \$110 level for a sustained period, airlines could face further earnings pressure in the coming quarters. Fuel costs may rise faster than demand recovery, putting additional strain on margins.

For now, the aviation sector remains highly sensitive to global oil trends. Any further spike in crude could continue to weigh on IndiGo, SpiceJet, and other airline stocks, while a cooling of oil prices would likely bring relief to the sector.

Maruti Suzuki India, the country's largest passenger carmaker, reported a mixed set of Q4 FY26 results, with profit declining even as revenue posted strong growth. The company also announced a final dividend for shareholders, helping partially offset weak earnings sentiment.

For the January–March 2026 quarter, Maruti Suzuki's consolidated net profit fell 6.5% year-on-year to 3,659 crore, compared to the same period last year. On a standalone basis, profit dropped around 7% to 3,591 crore. The decline came despite strong operational performance, indicating pressure from non-operating factors such as taxes and lower other income.

Interestingly, the company's revenue performance remained robust. Revenue from operations rose sharply by about 28% year-on-year to around 52,400 crore, driven by higher sales volumes, improved realisations, and steady demand across key models. This shows that core business momentum in India's auto sector continues to remain healthy despite profit pressure. However, the bottom line was impacted by multiple factors. A significant decline in other income, higher tax expenses, and cost pressures weighed on profitability. Other income dropped sharply compared to the previous year, while tax outgo increased, further affecting net earnings.

Despite the profit dip, Maruti Suzuki maintained its share-



holder-friendly approach and declared a final dividend of 140 per share for FY26. The announcement helped support investor sentiment, even as the stock reflected broader market caution following the results.

The results highlight an important trend in the automobile sector—strong demand is continuing, but profitability is becoming more sensitive to cost structures, input prices, and financial income fluctuations. Analysts also noted that while revenue growth is en-

couraging, margin pressures may persist in the near term due to rising costs and competitive pricing. Overall, Maruti Suzuki's Q4 performance presents a mixed picture:

- Strong revenue growth signals healthy demand in the Indian car market
- Profit decline reflects cost and non-operating pressures
- Dividend declaration provides some relief to investors

Going ahead, investors will closely watch how the company manages margins, pricing strategy, and export performance, especially as competition in the SUV segment intensifies and input costs remain volatile.

For now, Maruti Suzuki remains fundamentally strong in terms of scale and demand leadership—but profitability trends suggest that the auto sector is entering a more challenging margin environment even amid rising sales.

DEFORESTATION BLAMED AS BENGALURU BATTLES RECORD SUMMER HEAT

As Bengaluru records unusually high temperatures this summer, a senior Indian Forest Service officer has raised serious concerns over the city's disappearing green cover, blaming large-scale deforestation and unchecked urbanisation for the rising heat. DipikaGoyalBajpai, a senior forest officer, recently shared her concerns on social media, stating that Bengaluru is experiencing heat "like never before." She pointed to the large-scale cutting of trees, widening of concrete roads, and the permanent loss of roadside greenery as major reasons behind the city's worsening climate conditions. Once famous for its cool weather and lush tree-lined avenues, Bengaluru has long been known as India's "Garden City." However, in recent years, the city has seen a sharp rise in temperatures,

with summer heat becoming increasingly unbearable for residents. This year, temperatures have crossed 39 degrees Celsius in several parts of the city, a level considered unusual for Bengaluru's traditionally moderate climate. According to Bajpai, the transformation of the city's landscape is directly linked to this change. She noted that rapid urban development has replaced open spaces and shaded roads with concrete structures, reducing the natural cooling effect once provided by trees and green spaces. She warned that the city could face even more severe consequences in the coming years if immediate corrective steps are not taken. Rising temperatures not only affect daily life but also increase energy consumption, worsen air quality, and put pressure on water resources and public health.

To address the issue, the officer suggested aggressive roadside tree plantation, the creation of urban forest parks, and making tree planting mandatory in every residential site. She stressed that only large-scale green restoration efforts can provide long-term relief from the heat and help restore ecological balance. Her post quickly gained attention online, receiving thousands of views and sparking widespread discussion among citizens. Many social media users agreed with her concerns and blamed poor urban planning, illegal construction, and the destruction of lakes and forest areas for the city's environmental decline. Several users pointed out that development itself is not the problem, but the lack of scientific planning during expansion. They argued that

roads, tech parks, and high-rise buildings could have been developed without sacrificing so many trees. Others blamed builders and politicians for prioritising financial gains over environmental sustainability. Residents also highlighted how older roads lined with trees provided natural shade and cooler temperatures, while newer widened roads without greenery feel significantly hotter. Many said the difference is noticeable even during short travel within the city.Environmental experts have repeatedly warned that Bengaluru's rapid expansion has come at the cost of its lakes, wetlands, and tree cover. As the city continues to grow, balancing development with environmental protection has become one of its biggest challenges. The concerns raised by the forest officer reflect a larger



national issue—urban centres across India are facing rising temperatures due to shrinking green spaces and climate stress. Bengaluru, once considered a model of pleasant urban living, is now becoming an example of how poor planning can reshape a city's climate. The message is clear: without urgent action to restore green cover, Bengaluru may continue to lose not only its famous weather but also the environmental balance that once made it one of India's most liveable cities.

RAJASTHAN MAN'S 'DESI JUGAAD' TO BEAT HEAT GOES VIRAL AFTER MILK CAN GETS STUCK

In a bizarre incident from Rajasthan, a man's attempt to protect himself from the scorching summer heat turned into an unexpected roadside spectacle after a large metal milk can got stuck over his head. The viral video, now widely shared on social media, shows the man standing helplessly by the roadside with a large milk container jammed around his head. According to reports, he had slipped the narrow opening of the can over his head while riding under the blazing sun, hoping it would shield him from the intense heat. However, once he stopped, he found himself unable to remove it. Rajasthan has been witnessing extreme temperatures, with several areas recording above 44 degrees Celsius. In rural regions, where people often rely on quick improvisations to cope with harsh weather, such unusual "desi jugaad" methods are not uncommon. But in this case, the man's creative solution quickly turned into a stressful situation. The metal can, commonly used for carrying milk, appeared easy to slip on because of its shape, but removing it proved much more difficult. The narrow neck of the container trapped his head firmly, leaving him visibly uncomfortable though reportedly unharmed. As the video shows, locals soon gathered around him,



some laughing at the unusual sight while others tried to help pull the can off. Several people attempted to free him by carefully tugging at the container, but the process was not easy. The man remained calm despite the awkward situation, standing patiently as bystanders worked to help him. The clip quickly attracted attention online, with social media users reacting with a mix of amusement and concern. Many joked about the risks of extreme "jugaad," while others pointed out how severe summer conditions are forcing people to come up with desperate solutions. Some users said the incident reflected the growing challenge of coping with rising temperatures in many parts of India. Others stressed the importance of safer ways to protect oneself from heatwaves, such as using proper head coverings, staying hydrated, and avoiding unnecessary travel

during peak afternoon hours. Experts have repeatedly warned that heatwaves are becoming more frequent and intense across northern and western India. Rajasthan, known for its harsh summers, often faces some of the country's highest temperatures during April and May. While the man's unusual attempt may have provided a moment of internet humour, it also highlighted the real discomfort people face during extreme summer conditions. What began as a simple effort to escape the sun ended up becoming a viral lesson in why not every quick fix is a safe one. Thankfully, the man was not injured, and the incident ended with relief rather than harm. Still, his milk-can mishap has become one of the internet's most talked-about examples of how summer heat can inspire both creativity—and chaos.

INDIAN MAN'S LONDON VS INDIA HOME COMPARISON POST IGNITES ONLINE DEBATE

A social media post by an Indian user comparing housing in London with properties in India has sparked a heated online debate, once again highlighting the growing frustration among many over real estate prices and living conditions in major Indian cities. The post, shared on X, featured a comparison between a spacious house in London's Wembley area and similarly priced homes in India. The user pointed out that the London property, reportedly costing around 5-6 crore, offers significantly more space, greenery and overall living comfort compared to what buyers get in Indian metros at similar prices. The comparison quickly went viral, triggering a wave of reactions across social media platforms. Many users expressed shock at the stark difference in value, arguing that Indian real estate in cities like Mumbai, Delhi and Bengaluru has become unaffordable and offers limited space in return for high prices. Supporters of the post said it reflects a harsh reality faced by India's middle class, where lifetime savings often go into purchasing small apartments in overcrowded urban areas. They argued that the contrast highlights issues like urban planning, population pressure and unchecked property



speculation. However, not everyone agreed with the comparison. Several users pointed out that living costs, taxation systems, salaries and infrastructure quality differ significantly between India and the UK. They argued that direct comparisons between the two markets do not account for broader economic and social factors. Some critics also said that such posts often oversimplify complex housing issues and ignore regional differences within India itself, where property prices and living conditions vary widely.Despite the mixed reactions, the discussion once again brought attention to India's ongoing real estate challenges. Rapid urbanisation, rising demand for housing, and limited land availability in major cities have all contributed to steep price increases over the years. At the same time, supply constraints and regulatory issues continue to impact affordability for average buyers. Experts note that while global comparisons can be striking, India's housing market operates under very different conditions compared to countries like the UK. Factors such as population density, income distribution, and infrastructure

development all play a major role in shaping property prices. Still, the viral post has struck a chord with many young professionals and middle-class families who feel increasingly priced out of home ownership in major Indian cities. For them, the comparison is less about geography and more about aspiration versus reality.As the debate continues online, the post has become another example of how everyday social media observations can quickly turn into larger conversations about inequality, urban living, and the future of housing in India.

MAN SELLS AD SPACE ON HIS TOILET, BRANDS LINE UP FOR VIRAL MARKETING STUNT

In a bizarre but highly effective marketing experiment, a man from the United States has turned his toilet into an advertising platform, attracting well-known global brands and millions of online viewers in the process. Nick Greenawalt, a Philadelphia-based content creator, initially began the idea as a joke after describing himself as "unemployed" on social media. What started as a humorous attempt to make money quickly evolved into a full-fledged viral marketing venture with a bold target—to earn \$1 million by monetising his bathroom space. The concept is simple but unusual: brands pay to have their advertisements displayed on or around his toilet setup, effectively turning an everyday household object into premium ad real estate. Surprisingly, the idea has caught on, with multiple companies eager to participate.Major consumer brands, including cleaning products and wellness companies, have already taken up space in the campaign. Even niche and grooming brands have joined in, treating the unusual platform as a creative way to reach audiences in a crowded digital advertising landscape.The marketing stunt has also drawn participation from a crypto payments firm, which claimed its toilet-based



advertisement generated massive engagement within just 24 hours. According to reports shared by the company, the campaign resulted in over a million video views, a surge in app downloads, and thousands of new followers—all at a fraction of traditional advertising costs.Greenawalt's videos showcasing these ads have gone viral multiple times, with some clips reportedly crossing tens of millions of views. His approach has turned what seemed like a personal joke into a widely discussed case study in unconventional marketing.The "toilet advertising" idea is also structured like a competition. Brands reportedly bid against each other for premium placement, with the highest-paying advertiser earning the informal title of "King of the Throne." This gamified system has added an extra layer of engagement, making the concept even more appealing to companies looking for viral attention.Social

media users have reacted with a mix of amusement and disbelief. While many are entertained by the creativity and humour behind the idea, others see it as a reflection of how far digital marketing has evolved—where even the most unexpected spaces can become advertising platforms. Marketing observers note that the success of the experiment lies in its shock value and shareability. In an age where brands struggle to stand out online, unconventional ideas like this generate organic attention that traditional ads often fail to achieve.Critics, however, question whether such stunts represent sustainable marketing or just fleeting internet hype. They argue that while virality can bring short-term visibility, it may not always translate into long-term brand value. Despite the debate, the experiment has undeniably succeeded in capturing global attention. What began as a personal challenge has now turned into a viral business model, blurring the line between content creation, advertising, and entertainment.

CHINA'S "MOST PAMPERED CHILD" TOMB REVEALS LAVISH BURIAL

Archaeologists and historians have long been fascinated by the extraordinary burial of a young aristocratic girl from ancient China, whose tomb has come to symbolise both royal affection and extreme luxury in death. The child, Li Jingxun, lived during the Sui dynasty nearly 1,400 years ago and died at the age of just nine. Despite her short life, she belonged to one of the most powerful families of her era, closely connected to imperial bloodlines. Raised inside the palace under the care of her influential grandmother, she was deeply cherished and treated with exceptional privilege. Her death during a summer retreat in 608 AD marked a moment of intense grief within the royal household. Historical accounts suggest that even the emperor ordered special mourning rituals, reflecting her high status despite her young age. What makes her story remarkable is the scale of her burial. Li Jingxun was laid to rest in a palace-like stone coffin, surrounded by hundreds of objects meant to accompany her into the afterlife. Archaeologists discovered more than



240 burial items inside her tomb, including gold and silver jewellery, silk garments, glassware, toys, cups and finely crafted animal figurines. One of the most striking finds was a delicate gold crown decorated with pearls and gemstone-like ornaments, designed in floral patterns that symbolised beauty and prosperity. The richness of the objects suggests not only immense wealth but also the emotional depth of her family's attachment. The tomb itself, discovered

in the mid-20th century, is considered one of the most complete and well-preserved burial sites from the Sui dynasty. Its structure resembles a miniature palace, reinforcing the idea that her family wanted to recreate a royal environment for her in the afterlife. Experts believe the burial reflects both cultural beliefs and family devotion. In ancient Chinese tradition, death was not seen as an end but as a continuation of life in another realm. Wealthy families often

placed valuable objects in tombs to ensure comfort and status for the deceased. Li Jingxun's story has gained renewed attention in recent years as images and reconstructions of her tomb circulate online, sparking fascination with ancient burial customs. While some view the lavishness as excessive, others see it as a powerful expression of love and loss. Historians note that her tomb stands out even among elite burials of the period, not just for its treasures but for its emotional significance. The warning inscriptions, ceremonial arrangements and carefully chosen objects all point to a deeply personal farewell by a grieving family. Today, many of the artefacts recovered from her tomb are preserved in museums, offering a rare glimpse into royal life during one of China's most transformative historical periods.The discovery continues to remind researchers how ancient societies combined power, belief and emotion in ways that still resonate centuries later—turning one child's resting place into a lasting symbol of devotion and imperial grandeur.

Mumbai Indians Under Pressure as In-Form Sunrisers Hyderabad Arrive

Mumbai Indians are heading into a crucial IPL 2026 clash against Sunrisers Hyderabad with their campaign hanging in the balance. After a disappointing start to the season, MI are desperate for a strong comeback, while SRH arrive with confidence and winning momentum.

Tilak Varma's brilliant maiden IPL century against Gujarat Titans helped Mumbai Indians break a four-match losing streak, giving fans hope of a turnaround. However, that confidence was quickly shaken by a massive defeat against Chennai Super Kings, which once again exposed MI's inconsistency and pushed them deeper into trouble. The team is currently struggling in the lower half of the points table,

making every remaining game a must-win situation.

One of MI's biggest concerns this season has been the poor form of their senior stars. Captain Hardik Pandya has managed only 97 runs and three wickets so far, far below expectations from an all-round leader. Suryakumar Yadav, another major match-winner, has also not delivered consistently, scoring only 110 runs. When experienced players fail to lead from the front, pressure naturally shifts to younger players like Tilak Varma.

Adding to MI's worries, Mitchell Santner has been ruled out of the tournament with a shoulder injury, forcing the franchise to bring in South African spinner KeshavMaharaj as a replacement.

Injuries and poor form together have made MI's campaign even more difficult.

There is some positive news, though. Reports suggest Rohit Sharma is likely to return to the playing XI after recovering from a hamstring injury. His comeback could strengthen the batting lineup and provide much-needed stability at the top order. Rohit had scored 137 runs in four matches before getting injured, and his return could be a major boost for the five-time champions.

On the other side, Sunrisers Hyderabad are looking strong and balanced. They have climbed to the top half of the table after winning three consecutive matches. Abhishek Sharma's explosive form has been one of the biggest reasons behind SRH's revival, including a stunning unbeaten century against Delhi Capitals. Their bowling unit has also improved significantly, with players like EshanMalinga and Sakib stepping up in key moments. For Mumbai Indians, this match is not just about two points—it is about survival. Another defeat could seriously damage their play-off hopes. For Sunrisers Hyderabad, a win would further strengthen their position as one of the most dangerous teams in the tournament. At Wankhede, under lights, with both teams carrying very different momentum, this clash promises to be one of the most important matches of the IPL week.



“What Have You Done?” HemangBadani's Old Stephen Fleming Remark Comes Back to Haunt Him

Delhi Capitals coach HemangBadani is facing heavy criticism in IPL 2026 after his team's poor performances, and an old remark he made about Chennai Super Kings head coach Stephen Fleming has now returned to haunt him.

Delhi Capitals are currently struggling in seventh place on the points table, and their crushing collapse against Royal Challengers Bengaluru made matters worse. DC were bowled out for just 75 runs, one of their worst batting performances this season, which triggered strong reactions from fans and former cricketers alike.

The controversy started because of Badani's earlier comments on Stephen Fleming's role at Chennai Super Kings. In the past, Badani had reportedly questioned how much credit Fleming deserved for CSK's long-term success and suggested that MS Dhoni's leadership was the bigger reason behind the franchise's dominance.

At that time, the comments created debate because Fleming is widely respected as one of the most successful coaches in IPL history. Under his guidance, CSK won multiple IPL titles and built one of the strongest team cultures in the league. Many cricket experts believed Badani's remarks were unfair and unnecessary.

Now, with Delhi Capitals underperforming badly under Badani's coaching, former India cricketer KrishnamachariSrikanth has openly criticized him.



Reacting strongly after DC's humiliating defeat, Srikanth questioned Badani's credibility and reminded him of those earlier comments.

Srikanth reportedly said, “What have you done?” and asked why Badani had targeted someone like Stephen Fleming without first proving himself as a coach. He also advised Badani to be more careful with his public statements in the future, especially when speaking about highly accomplished figures in cricket.

The criticism became even sharper because Chennai Super Kings, despite facing their own struggles this season, still continue to trust Fleming's leadership and experience. Fleming himself had recently said that criticism is fair when a team is not performing well, showing a calm and balanced response to pressure.

For Delhi Capitals, the big-

gest issue remains performance on the field. The team has looked inconsistent, with batting collapses and missed opportunities hurting their play-off chances. As head coach, Badani is naturally under the spotlight, and old statements are now being judged against present results.

In cricket, words often return louder when results do not support them. That is exactly what HemangBadani is experiencing now. His earlier criticism of Stephen Fleming, once seen as bold analysis, is now being used against him as Delhi Capitals continue to struggle.

For Badani, the only real answer will be results. If Delhi can recover and make a strong comeback, the criticism may fade. But until then, his past comments on Fleming will remain a talking point throughout the season.

ShreyasIyer Reveals the Taunt That Changed His Game

Punjab Kings captain ShreyasIyer has been one of the standout performers of IPL 2026, leading from the front with both his bat and captaincy. With PBKS sitting at the top of the points table, Iyer has been scoring runs at an impressive average of 70 and a strike rate of 186, showing a remarkable transformation in his T20 game. But behind this success lies a personal battle against criticism and constant doubts.

For years, one of the biggest criticisms against Iyer was his perceived weakness against short-pitched bowling. Opponents often targeted him with bouncers, and many experts and fans believed he would never fully overcome that flaw. It became one of the most talked-about limitations in his batting.

However, instead of letting the criticism break him, Iyer used it as motivation.

Speaking on JioStar's show Believe, Iyer openly admitted that such comments deeply affected him. He said he does not like hearing people say something is impossible for him to achieve. According to him, those words triggered a strong internal response and pushed him to work even harder.

“I have people around me who say that in this situation, you can't do it. It's impossible. I don't like hearing that,” Iyer said. “Then in my mind, I decide that I have to prove them wrong.”

He explained that this mindset became even stronger during difficult phases like injuries. When he suffered a serious back injury, some people reportedly told him he would never be the same player again. But Iyer refused to accept that idea.

Instead, he focused on rebuilding both mentally and physically. He said recovery after injury is not just about the body—it is about choosing the right mindset and deciding what to focus on.



The “short-ball weakness” taunt remained with him for a long time. Iyer said that criticism especially “triggered” him and became the reason he changed his approach completely.

Earlier, when facing short balls, he would often try to take a single or keep the ball down safely. Now, his thinking is different.

“If I see a short ball in my zone, I am going to hit it for a six,” he said. That aggressive change is clearly visible this season. One of the strongest examples came when he smashed a six off JaspritBumrah's short ball—something that symbolized how far he has come against fast bowling.

Iyer also credited his longtime coach PravinAmre and mentor Abhishek Nayar for helping him improve. He said constant discussions, technical adjustments, and trust in the process helped him turn weakness into strength.

Today, ShreyasIyer is not just proving critics wrong—he is becoming one of the most reliable T20 batters in the country. His story shows that sometimes the strongest motivation comes from doubt. For Iyer, the taunts did not become a burden—they became fuel for success.

PM Modi Joins Children for Football Match in Gangtok

Prime Minister Narendra Modi created a cheerful and memorable moment during his visit to Sikkim by joining local children for a friendly game of football in Gangtok. The light-hearted interaction quickly went viral on social media, with many praising the Prime Minister's energetic participation and his connection with young people. During his two-day visit to Sikkim for the state's 50th year of statehood celebrations, PM Modi spent part of his morning playing football with youngsters on a ground in Gangtok. Sharing pictures and videos on social media, he wrote, “Nothing like playing some football with my young friends in Sikkim on a lovely Gangtok morning!” He also described it as an “energising football session” with the children. According to reports, while joining the children on the field, PM Modi jokingly asked them, “Mujhehara do ge?” (“Will you defeat me?”), creating smiles and laughter among the young players. The friendly challenge made the moment even more special and showed a relaxed side of the Prime Minister during an otherwise busy official visit.

Videos from the ground showed PM Modi dribbling the ball, taking part in the game with enthusiasm, scoring a goal, and even exchanging high-fives with the children. The visuals quickly spread online, with many users appreciating the simplicity and warmth of the moment.



Apart from the football session, PM Modi's visit included several major official events. He attended the closing ceremony of Sikkim's 50th Statehood celebrations and was scheduled to inaugurate, launch, and lay the foundation stone for projects worth over 4,000 crore across sectors such as healthcare, education, tourism, infrastructure, and connectivity. These projects are aimed at supporting inclusive development in the state.

Earlier, he also interacted with Padma awardees, artists, social workers, sportspersons, and achievers from different fields. The visit reflected both governance and public outreach, combining official responsibilities with meaningful personal engagement.

The football match in Gangtok may have lasted only a short time, but it left a strong impression. For the children, it became a memorable morning with the Prime Minister. For the public, it showed how sport can create simple yet powerful human connections.

Sometimes, one friendly football game says more than a long political speech.

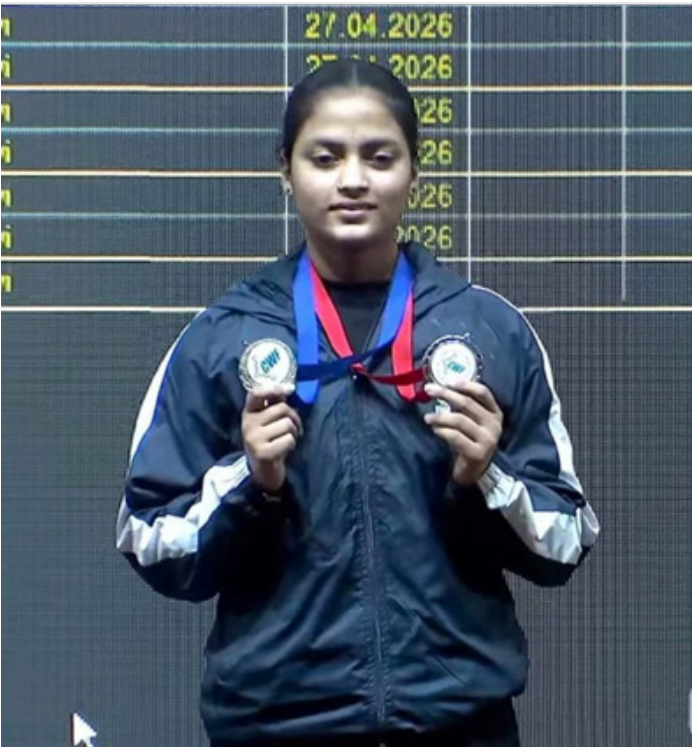
Telugu Talent Bhargavi Shines at Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship with Gold and Silver Medals

Indian weightlifter BellanBhargavi from Andhra Pradesh has made the country proud with an outstanding performance at the ongoing Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship held in Samoa. The young athlete delivered a remarkable display of strength and consistency, winning two medals in different categories at the international event.

Hailing from Kondavelagada village in Vizianagaram district, Bhargavi clinched the gold medal in the Youth category and the silver medal in the Junior category, achieving a rare double podium finish in the same championship. Her performance has been widely appreciated as a significant achievement for Indian weightlifting on the global stage.

Bhargavi lifted a total of 180 kg, showcasing both power and technical precision. She successfully completed 78 kg in the snatch and 102 kg in the clean and jerk, securing her position among the top performers in the competition. Her consistency across both lifts played a key role in her medal-winning performance.

Behind this success is years of hard work, discipline, and focused training. Her coach, VulluriSrinivasa Rao, has been instrumental in shaping her technique and guiding her through competitive challenges. Bhargavi's journey from a small village in Andhra Pradesh to an international podium is being seen as an inspiring story of determination and dedication. Sports experts believe her achievement highlights the growing strength of Indian women in weightlifting and reflects the country's improving grassroots sports ecosystem. Performances like these are expected to motivate more young athletes, especially



ly from rural backgrounds, to take up competitive sports seriously. Bhargavi's double medal win is not just a personal milestone but also a proud moment for Andhra Pradesh and Indian sports. Her success at the Commonwealth Championship adds to India's growing reputation in weightlifting and sets a strong example for upcoming athletes aiming for international success.



Ashu Reddy Moves Telangana High Court to Quash 9.35 Crore Cheating Case

Tollywood actress and Bigg Boss Telugu fame Ashu Reddy has approached the Telangana High Court seeking to quash the criminal case filed against her in the alleged 9.35 crore cheating case. The actress, who recently found herself in major legal trouble, is now taking legal steps to clear her name and challenge the FIR registered against her and her family.

The controversy began after a complaint was filed by Yenumula-Satyanarayana Murthy, a Hyderabad-origin man, on behalf of his son Y.V. Dharmendra, a London-based software engineer. According to the complaint, Dharmendra met Ashu Reddy, whose real name is VenkataAswini Reddy Koyya, in 2018 through mutual friends. It is alleged that Ashu promised to marry him despite his ongoing divorce process and gradually received huge financial support from him over the years. The complainant claims that nearly 9.35 crore was spent on her for personal expenses, luxury cars, gold, and even real estate purchases made in her name.

The complaint further states that when Dharmendra tried to formalize the marriage in 2020, Ashu allegedly refused. Later, a settlement discussion reportedly took place in the presence of actress Hema, where Ashu is said to have agreed to repay 70 lakh and even issued blank cheques. However, it is alleged that those cheques were later taken back and destroyed. Despite this, the relationship reportedly resumed after her mother and sister allegedly assured Dharmendra again that the marriage would happen. Financial transactions are said to have continued until 2025, including the purchase of a flat in Manikonda and gold worth nearly five kilograms.

Based on these allegations, Hyderabad's Central Crime Station (CCS) registered a cheating case not only against Ashu Reddy but also against her father Venkata Krishna Koyya, mother Yashoda Reddy, and sister Divya Reddy. The family is accused of using the promise of marriage to obtain money and assets from Dharmendra over several years.

As the news spread rapidly on social media and television, Ashu Reddy strongly denied all allegations. She stated that the accusations were false, misleading, and made without her consent being considered. Through her Instagram story, she warned that strict legal action would be taken against those spreading baseless scandal reports and false information about her.

Now, by moving the Telangana High Court, Ashu is trying to get the FIR quashed before the investigation progresses further. Her legal team reportedly argues that the case is based on false accusations and personal misunderstandings rather than criminal intent.

This case has become one of the most talked-about controversies in Tollywood, especially because of the large amount involved and the serious nature of the allegations. Fans and industry observers are now waiting to see how the High Court responds and whether Ashu Reddy will get legal relief in the coming days.



Chiranjeevi's 'Mega 158' Ready for Shoot

Megastar Chiranjeevi is moving ahead at full speed after delivering a blockbuster hit with Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu during Sankranti this year. While his fantasy film Vishwambhara is currently in post-production, fans have been eagerly waiting for updates on his next major project with director Bobby Kolli, tentatively titled Mega 158. Now, the makers have finally shared exciting news that has brought relief and excitement to mega fans.

Chiranjeevi currently has three films in hand. Along with Vishwambhara, he is preparing for Mega 158, directed by K.S. Ravindra (Bobby Kolli), and another project with director Srikanth Odela. Among these, Bobby's film has generated huge buzz because it marks the second collaboration between Chiranjeevi and Bobby after the massive success of Waltair Veerayya. Their previous film turned out to be a commercial blockbuster, which has naturally raised expectations for this upcoming entertainer.

The film is being produced by KVN Productions on a grand scale. Although the project was announced long ago, there were delays in starting the regular shoot. Reports suggested that the production house faced issues with another film, Jana Nayan, which led to postponements in the launch and shooting schedules of Mega 158. This also triggered rumors that the Chiranjeevi project had been shelved. However, the production house strongly denied such speculation and assured fans that the film was very much on track.

Now, the latest update confirms that preparations are progressing smoothly. On Tuesday, the makers released a special photo and revealed that the look test for Mega 158 has been successfully completed. They shared the update on social media with the striking caption, "Silence before violence," hinting that the film may carry a powerful mass-action backdrop with intense emotions. The makers also stated that the muhurtham ceremony and regular shooting details will be announced very soon.

Earlier reports suggested that the film's launch ceremony was planned for April, with regular shooting expected to begin shortly after. The project is said to feature a strong father-daughter emotional storyline, which adds a fresh layer to Chiranjeevi's character. This emotional angle is expected to be one of the major highlights of the film, alongside Bobby's signature mass presentation.

There has also been plenty of curiosity regarding the cast. While official confirmations are still awaited, names like Priyamani, Preity Mukhundan, and even Bollywood veteran Anil Kapoor were discussed in reports, though it was later clarified that Anil Kapoor is not part of the project.

With the successful combination of Chiranjeevi and Bobby returning once again, expectations are naturally sky-high. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the official shooting schedule and the grand launch of Mega 158, hoping it will recreate the magic of Waltair Veerayya at the box office.

Ram Charan-Shruti Haasan Special Song in Peddi Creates Buzz After Visuals Leak

Ram Charan's upcoming film Peddi is already one of the most awaited Telugu releases of 2026, and now a leaked glimpse from its special song shoot has taken social media by storm. The latest buzz is around actress Shruti Haasan, who has reportedly joined the film for a high-voltage special dance number alongside Ram Charan, making fans even more excited about the project. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi is a rural sports-action drama that stars Ram Charan in a powerful mass role. Janhvi Kapoor plays the female lead, while the film also features strong supporting actors like Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and Divyenndu Sharma. With music composed by A.R. Rahman, expectations are already sky-high for the film's songs and background score. The film is now scheduled for a grand theatrical release on June 25, 2026, after being postponed from its earlier release date. For the past few weeks, there were many rumors about which actress would perform the special song with Ram Charan. Names like Mrunal Thakur, Samyuktha Menon, and Manasa Varanasi were widely discussed in media reports. However, the latest reports confirm that Shruti Haasan has been finalized for

the glamorous dance number, ending all speculation. Filmfare also reported that Shruti has officially joined the project for this special performance.

According to reports, this special song is being designed as a high-energy mass number with a strong Uttarandhra flavor. A specially constructed grand set has been prepared in Janwada near Hyderabad for the shoot. Shruti Haasan reportedly completed rehearsals and joined the filming schedule recently. The song is expected to be shot over a short but visually rich schedule with elaborate choreography and large-scale production design.

What made the situation even more interesting was the leak of visuals from the shoot. Some behind-the-scenes glimpses reportedly surfaced online, showing the grand scale of the set and the energetic vibe of the song. These visuals quickly

went viral among fans, creating huge excitement around the special number. Though the makers have not officially released the song visuals, the leaked content has only increased anticipation.

This song also marks a reunion between Ram Charan and Shruti Haasan after their earlier successful collaboration in Yevadu, which makes the pairing even more special for fans. Their chemistry on screen was appreciated before, and audiences are now eager to see them together again in a mass dance number.

Meanwhile, the makers recently confirmed that only a few days of shooting are left for Peddi, and the film is nearing completion. Director Buchi Babu Sana even shared a fun selfie with Ram Charan from the set, increasing fan excitement.

With Ram Charan's powerful screen presence, Shruti Haasan's glamour, and A.R. Rahman's music, this special song is expected to be one of the major highlights of Peddi. Fans are now eagerly waiting for the official release of the song and hoping it becomes a chartbuster even before the film hits theatres.



Samantha Working Hard to Create Strong Buzz for Maa Inti Bangaram

Star heroine Samantha Ruth Prabhu is putting all her efforts into making her upcoming film Maa Inti Bangaram a major success. After facing a few career setbacks and taking a break due to personal and health challenges, this film has become extremely important for her—not only as an actress but also as a producer.

Samantha has always been known as one of Tollywood's strongest female stars. She has delivered hits with top heroes and has also proved herself in solo lead films. However, after films like Shakuntalam and Yashoda failed to create the expected box office impact, Samantha's comeback became a big talking point. She then launched her own production house, Tralala Moving Pictures, and scored a positive result with Subham. Now, she is taking a bigger step with Maa Inti Bangaram, where she is both acting and producing.

The film is being directed by Nandini Reddy, who earlier worked successfully with Samantha in films like Oh! Baby and Jabardasth. Because of their strong past collaboration, expectations are naturally high. Industry insiders believe this project is equally important for both Samantha and Nandini Reddy, as both are looking for a strong commercial hit. Interestingly, despite the soft and family-friendly title Maa Inti Bangaram, the film is said to have a surprising action-packed storyline. Samantha will reportedly appear in two different shades—on one side as a simple middle-class woman in a family setting, and on the other side in a powerful action mode with a revenge-driven character arc. The teaser released earlier impressed audiences by showing Samantha in a completely new avatar, creating strong curiosity around the film. The makers are planning to release the film in May 2026, and reports



suggest that there is not much major competition around that release window. This gives the film a strong opportunity to perform well if the content connects with audiences. However, Samantha reportedly understands that in today's film market, regular promotions alone are not enough. To make a film successful, strong buzz, viral content, and smart publicity strategies are necessary to attract audiences to theatres. That is why Samantha is said to be focusing heavily on promotions and public attention for the film. Since this is her own production venture, she is expected to take extra care in marketing and presentation. Fans believe that if the trailer also creates the same impact as the teaser, the film could become one of the biggest female-led hits of the year.

For Samantha, Maa Inti Bangaram is more than just another release—it is a career-defining project. After years of waiting for a major solo success and after facing both personal and professional challenges, she is hoping this film will bring her back to the top.

If the film succeeds, it could mark not just a comeback, but the beginning of a powerful new phase in Samantha's career.

AELISHA YADAV



RISING STAR