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Fragmented Mandate Likely as Exit Polls Show BJP Strength in East, Mixed Signals in South

New Delhi, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Exit poll projections from multiple survey agencies indicate a fragmented political outcome across five key states including West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Assam, and Puducherry, reflecting diverse regional trends and the absence of a uniform electoral wave. While the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) appears poised to retain Assam and make significant inroads in West Bengal, southern states present a more complex and competitive picture.

In West Bengal, exit polls remain sharply divided, underlining a high-stakes contest between the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the BJP. Agencies such as Chanakya Strategies, Matriz, and Praja Poll have projected a BJP edge, with some estimates placing the party above the majority mark. However, surveys by People's Pulse and Janmat Polls suggest a strong comeback for the TMC, with projections cross-

ing 175 seats. The divergence ership.Tamil Nadu's exit polls



points to a closely fought election, where minor vote share variations could determine the outcome.

Assam, in contrast, presents a clear and consistent trend. Almost all major pollsters, including Axis My India, Chanakya Strategies, and Matriz, have projected a comfortable victory for the BJP-led NDA. The alliance is expected to cross the majority mark of 64 seats with ease, indicating strong voter backing for the incumbent government and lead-

suggest the DMK-led alliance is likely to retain power, with most agencies projecting it well past the halfway mark in the 234-member Assembly. However, the emergence of actor Vijay's TamilagaVetriKazhagam (TVK) has added a new dimension to the contest. While not projected to form the government, TVK is expected to secure a significant vote share and influence margins in several constituencies, potentially reshaping future electoral dynamics in the state.

Exit Poll Summary Table (Select Agencies)					
State	Axis My India	Chanakya Strategies	People's Pulse	Matriz	Praja Poll
West Bengal	Close contest	BJP 150-160	TMC 177-187	BJP 146-161	BJP 178-208
Assam	NDA 88-100	BJP 88-98	BJP 68-72	BJP 85-95	—
Tamil Nadu	DMK 92-110	DMK 145-160	DMK 125-145	DMK 122-132	DMK 148-168
Kerala	UDF lead	—	—	—	—
Puducherry	NDA 16-19	NDA 17-20	NDA 16-19	—	NDA 19-25

Rs 1,000 Crore Released for Employee Dues

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka has ensured the release of Rs 1,000 crore towards pending dues in a major relief for state government employees. Acting on his directions, Finance Department Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania issued orders for the fund release on Wednesday, fulfilling an assurance made in the Assembly.

Initially, the government had committed to clearing Rs 700 crore per month following discussions with employee unions, and payments were made accordingly until March 2026. However, considering the growing financial needs and concerns of employees, the Deputy CM decided to enhance



the monthly allocation to Rs 1,000 crore from the current financial year. As part of this revised plan, funds for April have been released promptly.

The move has brought significant relief to retired employees as well. Pending Gen-

eral Provident Fund (GPF) dues up to October 2025 have now been cleared, benefiting thousands of pensioners who had been awaiting their payments.

The government has also prioritized employee healthcare

by ensuring that medical reimbursement bills are processed without delay. Officials have been instructed to clear such claims on a priority basis, and payments are currently being expedited. Alongside this, scholarship disbursements are also being taken up for clearance.

Reaffirming its commitment, the government stated that employees are key partners in governance and their welfare remains a priority. The increase in monthly allocations and clearance of long-pending dues underline this approach.

Employee unions have welcomed the decision, expressing satisfaction over the proactive measures taken by the government to address long-standing financial issues and improve employee welfare.

RHP Alleges Irregularities in Temple Administration

Warangal, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Rashtriya Hindu Parishad (RHP) State President Chikati Raju on Wednesday accused officials of serious lapses and alleged corruption within the Endowments Department in Warangal district. Speaking at a press meet held at the Hanamkonda Press Club, he raised concerns over the functioning of the department and called for immediate action.

Raju alleged that temple lands across the district were not being adequately protected, leading to large-scale encroachments. He claimed that nearly 670 acres belonging to the Sanur VenkateswaraSwamy Temple and about 400 acres linked to the Battala Bazar VenkateswaraSwamy Temple had been encroached upon. He also cited the loss of around 400 acres associated with the KuntiBhadraiah Temple, which is connected to the Bhadrakali Temple. According to him, lands related to other temples, including Padmakshi, Mettugutta, and Erragattugutta temples, were also facing similar issues. On financial matters, Raju alleged irregularities amounting to 56 lakh at the Bhadrakali Temple, par-

ticularly in connection with VIP services and special protocols. He claimed that the issue had not been properly investigated. He further referred to alleged discrepancies in temple offerings, including misuse of funds related to prasadam distribution, and reported thefts of gold and silver ornaments, stating that no substantial action had been taken.

Additionally, he raised concerns over administrative practices, alleging that recruitment norms were not being followed and that certain appointments were made in violation of established rules. He also pointed to alleged inaction regarding illegal activities, including mining on temple lands in Hasanparthy.

Raju further claimed that while minor staff were penalized for small mistakes, those responsible for major irregularities were not being held accountable. He demanded a thorough and transparent inquiry into all the allegations and urged authorities to take steps to recover encroached temple lands. The RHP warned that it would intensify its agitation if prompt action is not taken to address the issues highlighted.

Future City Buzz Triggers Land Price Surge, Raises Questions

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The state government's ambitious Future City project has set off a major real estate surge on the outskirts of Hyderabad, particularly in areas like Meerakhanpet and Timmapur. Land prices in these regions have witnessed an unprecedented rise, sparking both excitement and controversy.

Within a short span, the value of land has reportedly jumped from around Rs 2 crore per acre to over Rs 5 crore, leaving many residents surprised. This sharp increase has been attributed to growing investor interest following announcements related to infrastructure development and improved connectivity, including proposed Metro expansion plans.

However, the rapid escalation in land transactions has also raised serious concerns. Questions are being asked about how certain individuals appeared to have prior knowledge of land acquisition plans even before official notifications on land pooling were issued. Reports suggest that large parcels of land were reg-

istered under proxy names ahead of the announcement, leading to suspicions of information leaks.

The surge in registrations has also resulted in a significant boost to government revenue. Over the past six months, sub-registrar offices in Shamshabad, Kandukur, and Maheshwaram reportedly generated around Rs 520 crore through stamp duty and registration fees, reflecting the scale of real estate activity in the region. Amid these developments, concerns are being voiced over whether ordinary farmers might be at a disadvantage if land is acquired at lower rates while private investors reap substantial profits. Critics are calling for greater transparency and accountability to ensure fairness in the process.

Despite the controversy, the Future City initiative has clearly transformed the surrounding regions into prime real estate hotspots. As demand continues to rise, these areas are fast emerging as key centers of growth in Telanganana's expanding urban landscape.

Govt Refutes Claims on Expired Medicines in Health Facilities

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The state government, through Telangana Medical Services and Infrastructure Development Corporation, has dismissed reports alleging large-scale presence of expired medicines in government health facilities, stating that such claims are inaccurate and misleading. According to officials, the procurement and distribution of medicines follow a structured and transparent system. Annual requirements are submitted by departments such as the Directorate of Medical Education (DME), Telangana Vaidya Vidhana Parishad (CTVVP), and the Directorate of Public Health (DoPH) through the e-Aushadhi portal. Based on these estimates, procurement is carried out via the Telangana e-Procurement platform through a multi-stage process including tendering, technical and financial evaluation, and contract allocation. To ensure uninterrupted supply, monthly top-up orders are



issued for essential medicines and consumables, while buffer stocks are maintained across facilities. Data from the past seven financial years (2017-18 to 2023-24) shows that the average value of expired medicines stands at just 2.37% of the total procurement. In recent years, this percentage has further declined due to improved inventory management practices. Notably, for the financial years 2025-26 and 2026-27, the value of expired medicines is reported as negligible so far, reflecting better demand forecasting and stock control.

Officials clarified that strict contractual safeguards are in place to prevent any financial

loss. Under tender conditions, the cost of expired medicines is recovered from suppliers, ensuring no burden on the public exchequer. Additionally, suppliers are required to deliver medicines with sufficient shelf life—at least two years for products with a three-year shelf life, and a minimum of 80% remaining shelf life for others.

The government emphasized that expired medicines are never distributed to health centres. Such stock is digitally locked in the e-Aushadhi system and disposed of safely in accordance with Telangana State Pollution Control Board norms. The disposal process is carried out through authorized agencies like GJ Multiclave India Private Limited, following environmental and regulatory guidelines.

Reiterating its commitment to public health and transparency, TGMSIDC stated that the allegations in the reported article are baseless and do not reflect the ground reality.

HYDRA Issues 10-Day Notice to Clear Encroachments at Mushkin Lake

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Authorities have stepped up efforts to protect Mushkin Lake near Narsingi, with HYDRA officials issuing a 10-day deadline for residents occupying temporary structures within the Full Tank Level (FTL) zone to vacate. Officials clarified that these occupants are being used by encroachers to illegally claim lake land and obstruct restoration work.

During the ground visit, HYDRA representatives, along with officials from the Revenue and Irrigation departments, interacted with residents and warned against continued occupation. They explained that dumping of construction debris, soil, and waste has altered the lake's natural structure

and severely polluted the water body. Temporary sheds and shops, they said, are being used as shields to prevent removal of illegal encroachments.

Officials emphasized that clearing the area is essential for restoring and developing the lake. They urged residents to make alternative arrangements and cooperate with authorities to enable conservation efforts. Strict action was also warned against those exploiting vulnerable groups for illegal land occupation.

Mushkin Lake, with an FTL area of 52.20 acres, is a crucial water body surrounded by dense residential localities. Records indicate that a significant portion of the land falls under protected lake limits and

government-owned areas, including buffer zones. Authorities have already taken action in the past by demolishing illegal structures within these zones.

Concerns were also raised about attempts to block natural drainage channels and ongoing efforts to fill parts of the lake for construction purposes. Officials reiterated that such activities would not be tolerated.

Local residents welcomed the intervention, appreciating HYDRA's prompt response to complaints regarding encroachments. They expressed hope that restoration efforts would revive the lake and preserve it as a vital ecological resource for the surrounding communities.



State Takes Over Hyderabad Metro Operations

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana government has assumed control of the Hyderabad Metro Rail from Larsen & Toubro (L&T), marking a major shift in the city's urban transport management. The takeover was finalized through a Share Purchase Agreement executed at the State Secretariat, under which the government acquired 100% stake in L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Limited (LTMRHL) for Rs 1,461.47 crore. Senior officials, including Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao and HMRL Managing Director Sarfaraz Ahmed, were present during the signing. Representatives from L&T also participated in the agreement process. As part of the deal, the existing debt of

over Rs 13,500 crore will be re-

financed with state backing. The Metro's Phase-I network, operational since 2017, spans around 69 kilometers across three corridors and caters to nearly 4.5 lakh passengers daily. So far, it has recorded approximately 86 crore passenger journeys. Officials believe that bringing the Metro under government control will improve coordination in planning, expansion, and service delivery, especially for future phases. The move is expected to enhance efficiency and make the system more commuter-friendly. Prior to the agreement, L&T Chairman S.N. Subrahmanyam met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to discuss the transition and other infrastructure matters.



Development Works Will Outlast Politics Says Minister Srihari

Makthal, April 29, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, and Animal Husbandry Vakiti Srihari stated that while political positions are temporary, development initiatives leave a lasting impact on society. He made these remarks while laying the foundation stone for a bridge and check dam across the Pedavagu stream between Chityala and Gajaramdoddi villages in Makthaland. The project is estimated to cost around 20 crore. The Minister highlighted that the proposed bridge is crucial for residents of nearly 20 surrounding villages, improving connectivity and easing daily transportation challenges. He said he considers the project his personal responsibility and emphasized that the Tugo Barrage-cum-Bridge is aimed at enhancing irrigation facilities, thereby supporting agricultural growth and boosting farmers' livelihoods in the region. Srihari also revealed that discussions are underway with the Chief Ministers of Telangana and Karnataka to push

forward the proposed Mini Jurla Project at Kolhapur, which is expected to cost about 710 crore. He expressed confidence that such initiatives would significantly benefit farmers and contribute to regional development. Recalling his roots in the area, the Minister said he understands local issues firsthand and is committed to addressing them. He noted that nearly Rs 1,000 crore has already been secured for various development works in Makthal, including a 150-bed hospital, a degree college, a court complex, road expansion, and a stadium. He assured that welfare schemes are being implemented for all eligible beneficiaries irrespective of political affiliations. Stressing that politics should be limited to elections, he urged all parties to work together for development. At the same time, he criticized opposition leaders for making allegations instead of cooperating, asserting that he would not be deterred by criticism. Local leaders and public representatives also attended the program.

No Fuel Shortage in State, Says Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau
Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, has assured the public that there is no shortage of petrol or diesel in the state and that adequate stocks are available to meet demand. He appealed to citizens not to panic, stating that rumors about fuel scarcity are completely unfounded. According to the Minister, misinformation has led to unnecessary concern and a sudden spike in demand across the state. To ensure smooth monitoring, the government has set up a dedicated control room, and a toll-free helpline (1967) has been made available for complaints. He added that special vigilance measures have been

implemented along inter-state borders, with a focus on ensuring uninterrupted diesel supply for agricultural needs. Uttam Kumar Reddy said district-level monitoring committees, headed by respective Collectors, have been instructed to act swiftly if any supply disruptions occur. Highlighting the current situation, he noted that diesel supply has risen by 210% and petrol by 132% compared to regular levels. Overall, about 36,404 kiloliters of fuel is being supplied daily, marking a 175% increase over normal supply volumes. He reiterated that the state has sufficient reserves and urged the public to avoid panic buying.

Hyderabad Set to Become Global Business Services Hub

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau
IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu on Wednesday stated that Hyderabad is being strategically developed into a Global Business Services hub. He highlighted that the state government has prepared a clear roadmap to transform Global Capability Centres (GCCs) into Global Value Centres (GVCs), focusing on innovation and high-value productivity. The Minister was speaking after inaugurating HEINEKEN Business Services India, the company's Global Capability Centre, at Nanakramguda Financial District. He emphasized that the government is prioritizing the development of an industry-ready workforce and strengthening the innovation ecosystem to attract more global investments. Sridhar Babu noted that Hyderabad has rapidly grown into one of India's leading destinations for GCCs, with many such centres evolving into innovation-driven hubs. The newly launched HEINEKEN facility, spread

over 76,000 square feet, will handle global operations in finance, digital services, technology, and analytics. Currently employing over 300 professionals, the centre is expected to expand significantly and create around 1,600 jobs in the coming years. He said HEINEKEN's decision to set up operations in Hyderabad reflects the city's strong infrastructure, investor-friendly policies, and collaborative business environment. According to him, Hyderabad is no longer just an IT hub but is emerging as a key destination for global business solutions. The Minister further stated that several multinational corporations across sectors are choosing Hyderabad for their strategic operations. The addition of HEINEKEN, with its long global legacy, enhances Telangana's international standing. He reiterated that the state aims to become a major player in the global knowledge economy and inviting more companies to invest in innovation-led growth in Telangana.

Ponguleti Sets 3-Month Deadline for Grievances

Kusumanchi ,April 29 | TPN Bureau

Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy reiterated that the government's focus is to deliver governance directly to citizens and resolve their concerns efficiently. Speaking at a PrajaDarbar (public grievance meeting) held at the Jawahar-Navodaya Vidyalaya campus in Palair on Wednesday, he outlined several key initiatives aimed at faster redressal of public issues. The Minister announced that a structured action plan has been put in place to dispose of all genuine applications within three months. To streamline the process, each mandal in the Palair constituency has been divided into three clusters, ensuring accountability for every petition received and monitored. Addressing land-related disputes, he said the government is introducing a unique identification system called "Bhudhar," similar to Aadhaar for individuals, to bring clarity and permanence to land records. This initiative is currently being implemented on a pilot basis in Kusumanchimandal. On housing, he assured that all eligible beneficiaries would receive support under the Indiramma housing scheme. He added that funds are being credited directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts on a weekly basis, depending on the progress of construction. The Minister also announced a large-scale job fair scheduled to be held in Khammam on May 4, with participation ex-



pected from over 80 companies. He encouraged unemployed youth to take advantage of the opportunity. Highlighting support for farmers, he stated that crops like paddy and maize are being procured at Minimum Support Price, with payments being credited swiftly to farmers' accounts. He also directed officials to clear pending matters, including land acquisition issues, within a week, ensuring quicker resolution of public grievances.



Minister Reviews Grain Procurement, Water Supply

Hanamkonda, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampalabhar directed officials to give top priority to smooth grain procurement and adequate drinking water supply during the summer. He issued these instructions while conducting a review meeting at the Bheemadevarapalli MPDO office as part of the 99-day "PragajapalanaPragathi Plan." During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the implementation of key development and welfare programmes in the mandal. Discussions covered paddy procurement, summer water management, progress of the 'Indiramma' housing scheme, student enrollment drives under the "Badi Bata"

initiative, and plantation plans under the "VanaMahotsavam." Ponnampalabhar emphasized that farmers should not face any inconvenience at procurement centres and instructed officials to ensure timely lifting of grain to nearby mills in Mulukanur and Elkathurthi instead of distant locations. He also called for organizing medical camps in villages with support from the Health Department and Jangam Medical College. Highlighting civic concerns, the Minister directed immediate action to clear stagnant sewage near the Telangana Model School. He urged faster completion of Indiramma housing and asked officials to facilitate early house-warming ceremonies for beneficiaries. Further, he instructed departments to complete road works, paint government offices, and promote oil palm cultivation by creating awareness among farmers. Stressing the importance of irrigation, he ordered desilting of canals and preparation of a plan to ensure adequate water supply to farmlands. The Minister also directed timely payments under employment guarantee works and called for coordinated efforts between education and engineering departments to improve infrastructure in government schools. He stressed preventing student dropouts and boosting admissions through the Badi Bata programme. District officials, public representatives, and department heads participated in the review meeting.

Minister Reaffirms Commitment to Pranahita-Chevella Project

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy reaffirmed that the Congress government is fully committed to executing the Pranahita-Chevella project, in line with its election manifesto promises. He stated that detailed proposals have already been prepared to take the project forward. At a high-level review meeting held at his camp office in KundanBagh on Wednesday, the Minister discussed alternative plans for conveying water from Tummadihatti to Yellampalli, aiming to provide irrigation to vast stretches of agricultural land. He said expert agencies, including IIT Hyderabad and RV Associates, have submitted four different proposals for this stretch. The Minister noted that the government is carefully evaluating each proposal by examining costs, technical feasibility, and long-term benefits. A



final decision is expected after further deliberations with Chief Minister Revanth Reddy in a scheduled review meeting. Focusing on infrastructure restoration, Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to complete all required tests for the Medigadda, Sundilla, and Annaram barrages before the onset of the monsoon. He emphasized strict adherence to technical standards, including conducting Standard Penetration Tests at every 1.5 meters and permeability tests at intervals of three meters. He also instructed that boreholes must extend at least five meters into rock layers where encountered. The Minister asked the Coordination Committee overseeing restoration works to conduct site inspections and set clear timelines. He further directed the Director of CWPRS to remain present at project sites to ensure timely execution. Officials have also been instructed to submit regular progress reports on restoration works to the National Dam Safety Authority, ensuring transparency and accountability throughout the process.

Seethakka Honoured with Outstanding Service Award at ShilpakalaVedika

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Tribal Welfare Minister Seethakka was presented with the "Outstanding Service Award" under the aegis of the SrinivasaRamanujan Foundation at ShilpakalaVedika, Madhapur. The award was conferred by former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu in the presence of a large gathering of students. Expressing gratitude, Seethakka said it was a privilege to receive the honour from a leader of Venkaiah Naidu's stature, noting that his long public service and experience continue to inspire many. She described his journey as a powerful example of perseverance and urged students to draw motivation from his life and achievements. Addressing the students, the Minister emphasized the importance of dedication and discipline in education. She encouraged them to focus on their studies, practice consistently, and work hard to achieve their ambitions. According to her, sincere effort during stu-

dent life lays the foundation for a future filled with dignity and self-respect. Sharing her personal journey, Seethakka revealed that although she had discontinued her education after Class 10, she later resumed her studies and went on to complete her LL.B., LL.M., and Ph.D., despite her demanding public life. She stressed that education is a lasting asset that no one can take away and plays a crucial role in shaping an individual's identity and confidence. Highlighting academic achievements, she praised Mulugu district for securing the top position in the state in the recent SSC results. She credited teachers, district officials, and the administration for their coordinated efforts in achieving this milestone. On the occasion, Venkaiah Naidu and Seethakka also felicitated students of the foundation who excelled in various fields, encouraging them to continue striving for excellence.

Kishan Reddy Asserts No Fuel Shortage in State

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy clarified that there is no shortage of petrol, diesel, or LPG gas in the state, dismissing recent rumors that have caused concern among the public. Speaking at DilKusha Guest House, he assured that fuel supplies are stable and, in fact, are being maintained at levels higher than usual to meet the increased demand. He noted that over the past few days, misinformation regarding fuel shortages has spread widely, leading to unnecessary panic. However, he emphasized that the Central Government is closely monitoring the situation and taking all necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted supply across the state. Kishan Reddy acknowledged that demand has surged significantly, almost doubling in some areas, but said that supply chains are functioning effectively. He added that certain temporary challenges related to credit lines, particularly involving private banks, have caused minor disruptions. However, issues linked to government-owned banks have not affected fuel availability, and steps are being taken to resolve these concerns swiftly. The Minister also



pointed out that despite global factors, including tensions involving major oil-producing regions, India continues to import fuel and maintain adequate reserves. He credited strong diplomatic relations for helping avoid supply disruptions. He warned against false propaganda being spread by some political leaders, including claims of an impending price hike. Urging citizens not to panic, he advised against hoarding fuel, stating that it could lead to safety risks and unnecessary inconvenience. Reassuring the public, Kishan Reddy said there is no need to purchase fuel beyond immediate requirements. He also suggested that bulk consumers inform suppliers in advance to ensure smooth distribution.

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BJP Unveils ‘Jana Agraha Sabha’ Poster Ahead of PM Modi Visit

Hyderabad, April 29, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Telangana on May 10, BJP State President N. Ramchander Rao unveiled the poster for the proposed “Jana Agraha Sabha,” a major public meeting scheduled to be held at the Secunderabad Parade Grounds. The poster launch took place at the BJP State Office in the presence of party leaders, including MLA Payal Shankar, MLC Anji Reddy, and other senior functionaries.

Addressing the media, Ramchander Rao stated that elaborate preparations are underway for the Prime Minister’s visit. He said discussions have been held with MPs, MLAs, and MLCs to ensure smooth coordination and large-scale public participation in the assembly. He added that during the visit, the Prime Minister is expected to inaugurate and lay foundation stones for development projects in Hyderabad worth nearly Rs 7,700 to Rs 8,000 crore.

According to party leaders,

the Prime Minister will attend official engagements upon arrival and later address the gathering at the public meeting in the afternoon. Rao noted that this would be Modi’s first visit to Telangana after assuming office for a third term and also his first visit since Rao took charge as the state BJP chief.

Highlighting the party’s growth, he claimed that the BJP is gaining support across various sections, including youth, women, and intellectuals. He asserted that the party is emerging as a strong alternative in Telangana, with increasing public inclination towards a “double-engine government.”

Rao also criticized rival parties, alleging that they have failed to address public issues effectively. He claimed there is growing dissatisfaction among people and said the “Jana Agraha Sabha” reflects the public’s frustration. He called upon citizens to participate in large numbers and extend a grand welcome to the Prime Minister during his visit.

Srihari Vows to Develop a Business Hub

Makthal, April 29, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, and Animal Husbandry, Vakiti Srihari, announced plans to transform Makthal into a thriving commercial center. He made these remarks while attending a program at the Minority Gurukulam School, where he distributed 200 free sewing machines to Muslim minority women under the “RevanthannaBhaharosa” initiative, part of the Indiramma Minority Mahila Shakti scheme.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister emphasized the government’s commitment to minority welfare and women’s empowerment. He stated that the distribution of sewing machines aims to promote self-employment and financial independence among women. He encouraged beneficiaries to utilize these resources effectively and build sustainable livelihoods.

Srihari highlighted Telangana’s unique model of minor-

ity residential schools and directed officials to expand support systems so that more families benefit from such initiatives. He also mentioned welfare schemes like “Shaadi Mubarak” and the “Mahalakshmi” free bus travel program for women, which aim to ease financial burdens.

The Minister announced the establishment of a SETWIN training center in Makthal and proposed setting up a dedicated tailoring unit to support women entrepreneurs. He also noted the government’s recognition of achievers, citing incentives given to cricketer Mohammed Siraj.

Reaffirming his vision for Makthal’s all-round development, Srihari said a job fair would soon be organized to create employment opportunities for local youth. He urged people to acquire skills, stressing that self-reliance leads to dignity and long-term progress.

Several public representatives and local leaders attended the event.

Rajagopal Reddy Criticizes Kavitha’s Political Move

Choutuppal | TPN Bureau

Munugode Congress MLA KomatireddyRajagopal Reddy strongly criticized KalvakuntlaKavitha over her recent political stance, stating that her remarks against her father, K. Chandrashekar Rao, were inappropriate. Speaking to the media on Wednesday, he expressed concern over what he described as a lack of respect toward a senior leader associated with the Telangana movement.

He questioned Kavitha’s decision to float a new political party, calling it unrealistic and ill-timed. He also remarked

that personal disagreements within a family should not be taken into the public domain.

Rajagopal Reddy further pointed out that investigations related to the liquor case involving Kavitha are still ongoing and have not reached a conclusion. He criticized the trend of launching political parties based solely on financial strength.

He added that, irrespective of her plans, electoral success would depend on public support. He also mentioned that he would fulfill any responsibility assigned to him by the party leadership.

Seva Dal Upholds Values in Changing Politics: Jupally

Nampally, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Excise and Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao described the Seva Dal as the backbone of the Congress party, highlighting its role as a symbol of discipline and commitment. Speaking as the chief guest at the “Samarth” training camp held by the Telangana Pradesh Congress Seva Dal at Exhibition Grounds in Hyderabad, he commended volunteers for their consistent dedication to public service.

The Minister noted that from the days of India’s freedom movement to the present, Seva Dal members have remained actively engaged in serving society without seeking personal gain. He emphasized that they

play a crucial role in connecting the party’s principles with the grassroots. According to him, such training programmes help participants develop leadership qualities and confidence, ultimately strengthening the party’s organizational structure.

Addressing the broader political scenario, Jupally expressed concern over the shifting nature of politics. He observed that public life has increasingly become centered on personal interests rather than collective welfare. The growing focus on individual gain, he said, has weakened the spirit of service that once defined political engagement. In contrast, he credited organizations like the Seva Dal for preserving ethical values and a

sense of responsibility toward society.

He further urged party workers to stay vigilant and proactive in countering misinformation spread through social media by political opponents. Strengthening communication and maintaining ideological clarity, he added, are essential in the current environment.

On the occasion, the Minister assured that the efforts of dedicated Seva Dal workers would not go unnoticed. He stated that he would bring their contributions to the attention of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, with the aim of ensuring deserving members receive opportunities in nominated positions.

Harish Rao Slams Congress Over Crop Procurement Failures

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao has strongly criticized the Congress government, alleging that its much-publicized “Farmers’ Declaration” has failed to translate into action. In an open letter addressed to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, he accused the administration of neglecting farmers and going back on its election promises.

Harish Rao stated that while the Congress had assured robust support for farmers before coming to power, the current situation at procurement centers tells a different story. Despite large quantities of paddy reaching these centers, procurement operations have reportedly not begun in many areas, leaving farmers stranded. He also alleged that at rice mills, farmers are being subjected to unfair weight deductions under the pretext of impurities, adding to their losses.

The BRS leader demanded the immediate release of the promised 500 bonus per quin-



tal for fine-variety paddy, along with pending payments. He further raised concerns over sunflower farmers, claiming they have been waiting for procurement for nearly 20 days, with only a portion of the produce purchased so far. He urged the state government to step in and procure the remaining stock without conditions.

Highlighting the distress of Bengal gram farmers, Harish Rao said that procurement delays and procedural hurdles have forced many to sell their produce to private traders at

significantly lower prices than the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He also pointed out similar issues faced by sorghum and maize farmers, alleging that restrictive policies and delayed procurement are causing heavy financial losses.

Calling for immediate intervention, he demanded that the government procure all crops at MSP and ease restrictions affecting farmers. He warned that failure to address these concerns would lead to intensified protests by the BRS in support of the farming community.

Four Proposals Under Review for Pranahita-Chevella :Uttam

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced that the state government is examining four alternative proposals to link Tummidihatti with Yellampalli as part of efforts to optimize water utilization from the Godavari river. The proposals, prepared jointly by IIT Hyderabad and RV Associates, are currently being evaluated for feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and overall efficiency.

The Minister made these remarks during a preparatory meeting with officials ahead of a detailed review by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He reiterated that the Congress government remains firmly committed to executing the Pranahita-Chevella project, as promised in its election manifesto. According to him, com-

prehensive plans have already been drawn up to ensure that water is diverted from Tummidihatti to Yellampalli, ultimately benefiting lakhs of acres of farmland across the state.

Uttam Kumar Reddy emphasized that each proposal is being carefully scrutinized, weighing its advantages, limitations, and financial implications before a final decision is taken. He indicated that the matter would be reviewed at the highest level, following which the government would move forward with the most viable option.

In addition to project planning, the Minister directed officials to expedite restoration works at the Medigadda, Sundilla, and Annaram barrages. He stressed that all technical assessments must be completed before the onset of the monsoon. Clear instructions were issued to conduct Standard



Sampath Kumar Files Defamation Case Against BRS Leaders

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau

AICC Secretary Sampath Kumar has initiated a defamation case against BRS leaders K. T. Rama Rao and T. Harish Rao, accusing them of spreading false allegations that harmed his reputation. The case was filed in the special court for public representatives in Nampally.

Apart from the two senior leaders, the complaint also names Manne Krishank, the management of Namasthe Telangana newspaper, and a social media platform titled Telugu Scribe, thereby extending the case to multiple individuals and media outlets.

Sampath Kumar stated that the case stems from allegations claiming he demanded Rs 8 crore from a contractor. He strongly denied the charge, describing it as baseless and deliberately fabricated to tarnish his image. He emphasized that such claims were intended to

mislead the public and damage his credibility.

Seeking legal recourse, he said the move was necessary to counter misinformation and protect his reputation through lawful means. He further alleged that T. Harish Rao had once offered him Rs 30 crore to switch political allegiance, which he claimed to have rejected, reaffirming his loyalty to the Congress party.

According to Sampath Kumar, the case aims to hold accountable those responsible for spreading false narratives. He stressed that legal action is essential to discourage the circulation of unverified allegations in public discourse.

The matter is expected to be taken up for hearing soon, with the court set to examine submissions from all parties involved. Given the political figures named, the case is likely to attract significant attention.



KTR Slams CM Over Remarks, Alleges Governance Failures

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Bharat RashtraSamithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao strongly criticized Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over reported remarks suggesting he derives satisfaction when the opposition questions the government. Calling the comments inappropriate, KTR said it was unacceptable for a Chief Minister to speak in such a manner when people are facing multiple hardships.

Addressing a gathering at Telangana Bhavan, KTR alleged that several sections of society—including students and farmers—are struggling under the current administration. He accused the government of delaying fee reimbursement payments, which, he claimed, has created difficulties for students, with some colleges allegedly withholding certificates and restricting attendance due to unpaid fees.

KTR further stated that farmers are facing serious challenges, including delays in procurement and financial support schemes. He alleged

that crops such as paddy, maize, and pulses are not being procured efficiently, leaving farmers in distress. He also claimed that key welfare initiatives have slowed down, affecting rural livelihoods.

Highlighting development concerns, KTR pointed to delays in irrigation and infrastructure projects, alleging that incomplete works are being neglected. He contrasted this with the previous administration, asserting that earlier governments had prioritized welfare and development initiatives across sectors.

During the event, leaders from different parties in the Kalwakurthy constituency joined the BRS in the presence of KTR. He reiterated that the party would continue to raise public issues and stand with people, both in power and in opposition.

KTR urged the government to focus on resolving pressing concerns and fulfilling its promises, stating that public expectations must be met through effective governance rather than rhetoric.

Kodandaram Rules Out Ministerial Ambitions, Eyes Nominated Posts

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau

Professor M. Kodandaram clarified that he was neither promised a ministerial position by the Congress party nor had he sought one. Speaking informally to the media on Wednesday, he stated that his focus remains on securing appropriate government and nominated posts for his party members. He expressed confidence that deserving leaders would receive such opportunities.

Criticizing the previous administration led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, Kodandaram remarked that an atmosphere of fear prevailed during that period, where even routine interactions were approached with caution. He also recalled

that permission was denied for events like the “AmarulaSpurthiYatra.”

He emphasized that political parties cannot survive without staying connected to the public, adding that recent outreach efforts by KCR reflect this reality. Commenting on recent developments, he suggested that KalvakuntlaKavitha’s actions are indirectly highlighting internal issues within her party.

Kodandaram affirmed that his party is committed to contesting upcoming elections, with plans to identify key constituencies and prepare in advance. He reiterated that their objective is to bring meaningful change while also seeking a role in governance.

Girls once again outperformed boys in SSC Results, 95.15% Pass Rate Recorded

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Class 10 (SSC) examination results were declared on Wednesday by Government Advisor K. Keshava Rao, in the presence of senior education officials. The state recorded an overall pass percentage of 95.15%, reflecting strong academic performance across districts.

Girls once again outperformed boys, achieving a pass percentage of 96.26%, while boys secured 94.07%. A total of 5,731 schools registered a perfect 100% pass rate, whereas six schools recorded zero results. District-wise, Mulugu emerged as the top performer with an impressive 99.30% pass rate, while Hyderabad stood last at 89.23%.

In terms of school categories, Social Welfare Residential Schools achieved 99.10%, while Model Schools and KGBVs also reported high success rates. Private schools recorded a 95.81% pass percentage, while government and ZillaParishad



schools posted steady results. Among mediums of instruction, English-medium students led with 95.86%, followed by Telugu-medium at 89.14% and Urdu-medium at 86.71%.

This year, over 5.28 lakh students appeared for the examinations conducted between March 14 and April 16.

Education authorities announced that fees for Advanced Supplementary Examinations

can be paid from April 30 to May 14, while the exams will be conducted from June 5 to June 12. Students can also apply for recounting and re-verification of answer scripts between April 30 and May 15.

Meanwhile, Minister Seethakka congratulated students and appreciated the efforts of teachers and officials, especially in Mulugu district for securing the top position.



Medha High School Excels in SSC Results

Quthbullapur, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Medha High School, located in Krushi Colony, Suraram, has once again achieved remarkable success in the SSC examinations, with students securing impressive scores. The results highlight the

school's consistent academic excellence and dedication to quality education.

Among the top performers were Ganesh Karthikeya, who scored 564 marks, followed by Bhavani Shankar with 552. Vaishnavi and Rajini secured 536. Siddharth and Sanjana also performed

well, scoring 525 marks each. School Principal Goverdhan Reddy attributed the success to the students' hard work and the constant support and guidance of the teaching staff. The meritorious students were felicitated at the school, with teachers and staff congratulating them for their dedication.

Saraswati Antya Pushkarams from May 21

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The SaraswatiAntyaPushkarams will be held at Kaleshwaram from May 21 to June 1, with elaborate arrangements underway for the event. Ministers Konda Surekha and D. Sridhar Babu officially unveiled the poster and teaser, marking the start of preparations.

Konda Surekha announced that 162 development works,

with an estimated cost of Rs 30 crore, are being executed to ensure smooth conduct of the Pushkarams. These works include infrastructure improvements and facilities for pilgrims expected to visit in large numbers.

Officials stated that all necessary arrangements are being made to provide a safe and comfortable experience for devotees attending the sacred festival.

Free IVF Success at Gandhi Hospital Brings Joy to Couple

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Gandhi Hospital helped a couple welcome twins after a decade-long wait, with treatment and delivery provided entirely free of cost. GaddamTriveni and Mastan Rao, residents of Booyaguda, had struggled to conceive for ten years despite multiple attempts at private hospitals.

After undergoing IVF treatment at the hospital's fertility center, the couple was blessed with a baby boy and girl on Wednesday. Notably, procedures that typically cost Rs 10-12 lakh in private institutions were offered free, including medicines and post-treatment care. The couple, who

work as agricultural laborers, had previously undergone 13 ovulation induction cycles and one IUI attempt without success. Doctors at Gandhi Hospital identified the issue and successfully guided them through IVF treatment, ensuring care from conception to delivery.

Medical staff confirmed that both the mother and babies are healthy. Health Minister DamodarRajanarasimha congratulated the hospital team, praising their dedication. He highlighted that advanced fertility services in government hospitals are benefiting economically weaker sections and reaffirmed the government's commitment to accessible, quality healthcare.

MRJEE-2026 Announced with RS 10 Crore Scholarships

Quthbullapur, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The MRJEE-2026 has been announced by the Malla Reddy University along with Malla Reddy Deemed-to-be University and Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeetham, aiming to support meritorious students with substantial financial aid. The entrance exam will be conducted on May 14, 2026, in an online proctored format, allowing candidates to appear using mobile phones, laptops, or desktops. Applications are open until May 12, while results will be announced on May 18. The test will include 90 questions covering Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and English, with a duration of 90 minutes and no negative marking. A total



of RS 10 crore in scholarships will be awarded to successful candidates. To assist aspiring engineering students, career guidance programmes are scheduled on May 24 across multiple districts, including Khammam,

Nalgonda, Karimnagar, and Warangal. University representatives emphasized their commitment to combining quality education with financial support and encouraged students to take advantage of this opportunity.

BRSV Leaders Detained During Fee Protest

Quthbullapur, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed in Quthbullapur after members of the BRSV staged a protest demanding the clearance of pending fee reimbursement dues. The agitation, held under the banner of 'Fee Poru Bata,' also included a call for a shutdown of colleges in the constituency.

Student leaders gathered and raised slogans, urging the government to immediately release the outstanding fee amounts. As the protest intensified and concerns over public order grew, police intervened and detained several activists



to prevent escalation.

The impact of the protest was also seen in other parts of the state, where BRSV's call for a statewide shutdown led to disruptions. In a related development, Jagadgirigutta police reportedly took BRSV leader Ravi Kiran into custody while he was attempting to enforce

the bandh.

Reacting strongly to the arrests, BRSV leaders condemned the police action, calling it unjust. Former vice president Korra Praveen Naik stated that raising demands for student welfare should not be treated as an offense. He assured that the organization would continue its agitation until the pending dues are cleared and the detained leaders are released. The student wing also warned that protests would be intensified if their demands are not addressed promptly, reiterating their commitment to safeguarding student interests.

BC Gurukulams Shine with Outstanding SSC Results

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Students of the Mahatma JyotibaPhule BC Gurukulam Institutions delivered exceptional performance in this year's 10th-grade examinations, achieving an impressive 98.99% pass rate and securing second position at the state level.

Among the top performers, Nitisha and Srinidhi

emerged as joint toppers with 588 marks, while Sai Manoj Reddy and Lasya followed closely with 587 marks each. The results highlighted consistent academic excellence, with 60 students scoring above 580 marks, 364 crossing 570, and 1,061 students achieving over 560 marks. Notably, 3,598 students secured above 90%, reflecting the strong academic standards maintained by the

institutions.

Out of 294 schools, 204 recorded a perfect 100% pass rate. A total of 19,245 students appeared for the exams, of whom 19,047 passed, including 9,093 boys and 9,954 girls.

In BC welfare hostels, students also performed commendably, registering a pass percentage of 96.05%. Of the 4,941 students who appeared from 365 hostels, 4,746 cleared

the exams. As many as 285 hostels achieved 100% results, with districts like Adilabad, Hyderabad, and Mulugu reporting flawless performance.

State Minister Ponnamb Prabhakar, along with Principal Secretary BalaMayadevi and Secretary BaduguSaidulu, congratulated the students and teaching staff for their remarkable achievement

OU Hosts Grand Event Honouring Social Reformers

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

A large gathering was held at Osmania University to mark the birth anniversaries of eminent social reformers, with leaders and intellectuals emphasizing unity and social justice. The event was presided over by N. ChennaRamulu, while Dr. AvvaruVenukumar welcomed the attendees. JangliDarshan highlighted the purpose and key resolutions of the meeting.

The programme was attended by prominent figures, including T. Chiranjeevulu as the chief guest, along with Justice Chandra Kumar, Prof. Ram Shepherd, Konda Nageshwar



Rao, DasojuLalitha, and Dr. NaligantiSharathChamar. Speakers stressed that politi-

cal empowerment can be achieved only through the collective unity of SC, ST, BC, and minority communities, which together form a majority of the population. They called for intensifying efforts to secure 42% reservation for Backward Classes, protect constitutional rights, and encourage leadership among youth.

The leaders noted that understanding the philosophies of JyotiraoPhule and B. R. Ambedkar is essential for achieving meaningful social transformation and political progress.

Several activists, student leaders, and participants attended the programme, making it a significant platform for discussing issues of social equality and representation.

Promotions Approved for Gram Panchayat Staff

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

The state government has approved promotions for Gram Panchayat employees, providing long-awaited career advancement opportunities. Under the new policy, promotions will be distributed between Junior Assistants and Gram Panchayat Officers (GPOs) in a 60:40 ratio. In a significant move, GPOs will now be eligible for elevation

to Senior Assistant positions, expanding their career progression path. To ensure transparency and equal opportunity, the government has decided to implement a district-level rotation system while carrying out these promotions. Officials stated that the decision aims to streamline administrative functioning at the grassroots level while also addressing the aspirations of employees.

BJP Leaders Review Arrangements for PM Modi's Visit

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Senior BJP leader Ramchander Rao held a meeting with party MPs, MLAs, and MLCs to review preparations for the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy along with state general secretaries and other key leaders. Discussions focused on logisti-

cal arrangements, public mobilization, and strategies to ensure the success of the Prime Minister's program in the city.

Leaders were instructed to coordinate efforts across districts and constituencies to ensure large-scale participation in the public meeting. The Prime Minister is scheduled to arrive in Hyderabad from Bengaluru on May 10 at around 4:00 PM, and his visit is expect-



Mahesh Kumar Goud Stresses Unity at Goud Association Meet

Nizamabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud attended the general body meeting of the Nizamabad Town Goud Association, where he highlighted the importance of unity and collective progress within the community.

Addressing the gathering, he emphasized that education, employment opportunities, and adequate political representation are key drivers for community development.

Forest Officer Inspects Snake Park for Walking Track Proposal

Quthbullapur, April 29 | TPN Bureau

District Forest Range Officer VenuMadhava Rao visited the Bourampet Snake Park in Dundigal Circle on Wednesday to assess the feasibility of establishing a walking track.

Forest Officer conducted a detailed on-site review. After examining the location, VenuMadhava Rao assured that steps would be taken to develop the proposed walking track at the earliest.

Congress Leaders Review Development and Party Strength

Nizamabad | TPN Bureau

A Political Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting was held in Nizamabad with the participation of key Congress leaders, including TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud.

need to ensure that benefits of government programs reach every section of society. The leaders reiterated that the Congress government is functioning in line with the expectations and aspirations of the people.

CM Pushes for Swift Progress on Tummidihatti Barrage

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to fast-track the construction of the Tummidihatti barrage, stressing its importance for irrigation and drinking water needs.



The Chief Minister highlighted that the project would benefit upland regions, including Adilabad, and allow cost-effective water transfer to the SripadaYellampalli reservoir through gravity.

Minister Reviews Development Works, Focus on Farmers and Welfare

Siddipet District, April 29 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Ponnambhakkar conducted a detailed review meeting with officials at the RythuVedika in Akkannapeta Mandal as part of the 99-day "PrajaPalanaPragathi" action plan. The meeting focused on improving implementation of welfare schemes and addressing key public issues.



lines for completion and cautioned that approvals for houses not yet started may be cancelled. Ponnambhakkar called for intensified efforts under the 'Badi Bata' programme to boost enrollment in government schools through door-to-door campaigns.

Seethakka Applauds Mulugu's Top Rank in SSC Results

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau

Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Women & Child Welfare, Dr. DanasariAnasuyaSeethakka, expressed happiness over Mulugu district securing the top position in the state's 10th-grade examination results.

Seethakka also appreciated the overall state performance, where the pass percentage stood at 95.15%. She pointed out that girls outperformed boys, with 96.26% of girls passing compared to 94.07% of boys.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Congratulates SSC Achievers

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud congratulated students who successfully cleared the Class 10 (SSC) examinations, praising their dedication and determination.

wards society. He noted with satisfaction that many talented students from rural areas have excelled, proving that determination and access to opportunities can overcome geographical barriers.

EatalaRajender Inaugurates District Press Club

Medchal-Malkajgiri | TPN Bureau

Malkajgiri MP EatalaRajender inaugurated the newly established District Press Club located opposite the Medchal-MalkajgiriCollectorate. Attending as the chief guest, he formally opened the facility and extended his congratulations to the Press Club committee.



District Press Club President KallepalliRavichandra, General Secretary PakaRavinder, and several committee members, including Pannala Bal Reddy, Panduga Ramakrishna, Ravikiran Reddy, Ramarao, and others.

Three Police Personnel Suspended

Warangal, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Three police personnel, including two Head Constables and one Constable, have been suspended in the Warangal Commissionerate limits following disciplinary violations.

al over a dispute related to unpaid interest. Hasanparthy Head Constable Ramulu faced action for reporting to duty under the influence of alcohol.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Drug Awareness Drive

Medchal, April 29 | TPN Bureau

A large-scale awareness programme focusing on cyber security, drug abuse prevention, and women's safety was conducted at the Medicity Institute of Medical Sciences in Ghanapur under the initiative of the Telangana State Eagle Police Wing.



During the programme, police officials highlighted the harmful effects of drug consumption and warned students about the long-term consequences of addiction.



Assistive Aids Distributed to Differently-Abled

Nizamabad | TPN Bureau

A large-scale distribution program for assistive devices was organized in Nizamabad under the Telangana Cooperation Corporation for the Differently-abled, Senior Citizens, and Transgender Persons.

commitment to supporting vulnerable sections of society and improving their quality of life. During the event, various assistive aids were provided to eligible beneficiaries.

Fatal Crash Sparks Highway Blockade

Nalgonda, April 29 | TPN Bureau

A serious road accident on the Narketpally-Addanki Highway near Nandipadu Bypass in Miryalaguda around 4:00 PM claimed two lives. According to reports, a car rammed into two motorcycles, leading to the deaths of the riders.

Fake Cop Held for Impersonating CM Security

Hyderabad, April 29 | TPN Bureau

Saifabad police on Wednesday arrested a 31-year-old man for impersonating a police constable and falsely claiming to be part of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's security team.

with a name badge, offering to help people secure meetings with the Chief Minister. On April 26, he reportedly entered the Telangana Secretariat dressed as a police official and continued the deception.

Problems of Single Women in Family Care



M.S. REDDY
Retired Professor and
Renowned Social Analyst

In today's nuclear family system, amid the influence of modern technology and fast-changing lifestyles, raising children with proper discipline and responsibility has become extremely challenging. In schools, children no longer show respect or fear towards teachers. Similarly, their behavior towards parents at home has also deteriorated significantly. Depending on the family's financial situation, when there are many children and parents lack the economic capacity to educate all of them, they often pull children out of school and send them to work. In such situations, girl children especially face a serious lack of safety and security. For single women, protecting and raising their children has become a particularly diffi-

cult and complex problem. When a single woman's income is insufficient to run the household and support the children's education, children are often forced to work as daily wage laborers. In this process, even children who are good at studies lose interest in education and end up remaining poor and stuck at the lower levels of society. Some drop out midway and take up odd jobs or menial work. The root causes include lack of harmony between parents, separation or living apart, and lack of interest in maintaining marital relationships. When parents live like strangers under the same roof, the burden of raising, nurturing, and disciplining children becomes overwhelming. As a result, single women



are subjected to immense mental and emotional stress. In such circumstances, many families marry off girls immediately after they reach adolescence — sometimes even before they attain majority, just to reduce the family burden and relieve themselves of responsibility. In this process, girls are forced into early marriage and childbirth at a very young age. Youngsters who have no understanding of moral values have become addicted to betting, drugs, and other vices, leading to theft and other criminal activities that are causing widespread concern.

For some other youth, visiting clubs, pubs, and getting habituated to intoxicants has become a fashion. In this environment, many young men deceive innocent girls, engage in sexual harassment, perverse acts, rape, and even murder, eventually ending up in jail. As a result, entire families are being destroyed financially and socially. In the present era, where human relationships have largely turned into monetary transactions, even blood relatives and those who once nurtured you show no compassion or care unless there is money involved. When disputes arise over money or property distribution, family bonds are broken. Differences of opinion lead to ego clashes, and regular communication and relationships among family members get severely affected. These changes, seen across all sections of society, have left poor women especially vulnerable and insecure. In particular, poor and marginalized single women face severe difficulties in old age. Apart from financial problems, they also suffer from age-related diseases. When there is no support from chil-

dren or relatives during this phase, they endure extreme hardship. Although government welfare schemes and social pensions provide some financial relief to single women, they are often insufficient. In old age, when children get married and prioritize their own families, or when family disputes keep them away, single women who have no one to care for them are forced to experience hellish suffering. In the backdrop of declining social security and the gradual disappearance of the joint family system, governments are failing to take effective steps to create employment opportunities for the youth. On one hand, there is negligence in addressing unemployment. On the other, the rise of robot technology and automation is severely affecting existing job opportunities. While governments have failed to promote self-employment and skill development, they are expressing concern only about declining population growth from one angle, without properly analyzing the ground-level social realities.

Stress Awareness Month – April: Caring for the Mind is Our Responsibility



VAASTU IS HUMANITY'S MOST SPIRITUAL EMBODIMENT OF CULTURE

Since the times unknown, India had a particular recognition in the world. Our culture, traditions and customs, regulations and various dealings are somehow different to others. At the same time, they are approachable as well as convenient to carry on. That had been the reason why most of the nations are being attracted towards our culture. Our sages had envisioned the wisdom of science through penance and meditation even before the word had its origin. In fact, it was the time when no science was into the track as that of the experimentation. The wisdom obtained by the sages had been preserved in books which had been beneficial not only to our countries but also to the other countries. These scriptures contained Ayurveda, Yoga, Astrology, along with space sciences astronomy and astrology. VAASTU had also in practice since then, that had been a root maker for Indian culture and heritage. It had not been limited for our country but spread to all other nations. VAASTU is a science, it is a part of education and a result of the vigorous penance and meditation. It has its particularity though a part of science. It would not be an exaggeration to say that we can hardly find the people who had no idea about the term these days. Much literature has been published on the study and even the yearly calendar consists lot of knowledge over the matter. Simply saying, Vaastu has become an integral part of human life.

Vaastu does not confine only to the directions, corners and a linear way of construction. We are mistaken if we think so! If we think little deeper into the subject! Humans have life, so did our houses!! This is an indication of building biology. A positive life energy would bring prosperity

whereas the negative would result in infertility. Here Vaastu is to see that the infertile should turn into fertile. Observation proves it. We cannot imagine life in the absence of the five elements air, water, fire, earth and sky. It is not only on the integrity of these elements that we should concentrate on, but we should be interested in them. If we show indifference, it leads to the doom whereas the interest could direct us to the boom. So, if we follow Vaastu, in construction of a house or any building, it will be the provider of joy and ease. When the five elements are in balanced state, the nature shall be in regulation and peaceful, calamities are the result of imbalance among these elements! For instance, all these cyclones, storms, earth quakes, tsunamis, and depressions are nothing but the non-care that we had been taking up for the nature. It is to say that if these elements are brought into coordination, with one another in construction, where the energies are appropriately utilized, the Vaastu of the area shall be more convenient. These vaastu regulated houses shall keep the energies in balance and would be fruitful for the dwellers. VAASTU NOT ONLY DIRECTIONS AND DIMENSIONS AND SHAPES. VAASTU MEANS BUILDING BIOLOGY. TO JUSTIFY TERM VASTU, NEED TO CONSIDER ALL ELEMENTS.



Mudunuri Ramakrishna Raju
Vaastu Consultant

April is globally recognized as Stress Awareness Month, a time dedicated to highlighting the growing importance of mental well-being in today's fast-paced and demanding world. With rapid advancements in technology, increasing competition, and evolving social expectations, stress has become an almost unavoidable part of modern life. While a certain level of stress can be beneficial—helping individuals stay alert, focused, and motivated—unmanaged or prolonged stress can have serious consequences on both mental and physical health. Stress, when experienced occasionally, can enhance productivity and performance. For instance, it may encourage a student to prepare better for exams or help professionals meet deadlines efficiently. However, chronic stress tells a different story. When stress persists over time without proper coping mechanisms, it can lead to issues such as anxiety, depression, sleep disturbances, irritability, reduced concentration, and emotional instability. In severe cases, it may even contribute to the development of clinical mental health disorders, affecting one's overall quality of life. In today's society, stress does not discriminate. Students face academic pres-

sure and fear of failure, employees deal with work-related demands and job insecurity, and homemakers often carry the burden of managing households and relationships. Financial challenges, family responsibilities, and the constant need to meet societal expectations further add to the strain. Additionally, the rise of digital lifestyles—especially excessive use of social media—has intensified feelings of comparison, inadequacy, and anxiety, particularly among younger generations. The encouraging aspect is that stress is manageable. With consistent effort and mindful practices, individuals can significantly reduce its impact. Regular physical exercise and yoga help in releasing tension and improving overall mood. Meditation and mindfulness practices promote mental calmness and emotional balance. Ensuring adequate and quality sleep is essential for restoring both mind and body. Open communication—sharing thoughts and feelings with trusted family members or friends—provides emotional relief and support. Equally important is seeking professional help when needed. Consulting a psychologist should be seen as a proactive and courageous step, not a sign of weakness. Early



intervention can prevent stress from escalating into more serious conditions. Ignoring mental health concerns often leads to worsening symptoms and complications over time. On the occasion of Stress Awareness Month, let us extend our focus beyond ourselves and show empathy towards others. A simple act of kindness, a patient ear, or a supportive word can create a

meaningful impact in someone's life. Mental health awareness should not be limited to a single month—it must become a continuous effort in our daily lives. To live a truly healthy and fulfilling life, nurturing a healthy mind is essential. Let this April serve as a reminder to recognize stress, address it effectively, and prioritize mental well-being—for ourselves and for those around us.



Lion Dr. Ramesh Bhavisetty
Founder & Psychologist
Spark Psychological Counselling Centre, Vijayawada

Technology Should Help Children Think, Not Replace Their Thinking



As artificial intelligence becomes more common in classrooms, the focus often remains on how fast and efficient these systems are. People talk about how accurately AI can generate answers, save teachers' time, and improve learning outcomes. While these benefits are important, a deeper question needs attention: Is technology helping children think better, or is it beginning to think for them? Learning is not simply about receiving correct answers. Children develop understanding by making mistakes, asking questions, struggling with problems, and trying again. This process may be slow and imperfect, but it is the foundation of real learning. If technology removes too much of that effort, it may create convenience while weakening the

very skills education is supposed to build—critical thinking, patience, and problem-solving. In many schools, especially in low-resource settings, technology can be extremely helpful. A single teacher may be responsible for dozens of students, making it difficult to

provide individual attention. Digital tools can reduce administrative work, track student progress, and help teachers identify where students need support. In this way, technology becomes a useful partner rather than a replacement. One of the most sensitive areas is feedback. Feedback is

not just about correcting mistakes; it carries emotion, tone, and context. A poorly timed correction can discourage a child, while thoughtful guidance can build confidence. Machines may deliver quick responses, but they often lack the human understanding needed to judge how and when something should be said. Teachers can notice emotions, curiosity, and hesitation—things that technology still struggles to understand. Another major concern is access. Many parts of the world still face weak internet connectivity and limited digital infrastructure. Educational systems that depend on constant internet access or expensive devices can leave behind the very students who need support the most. That is why lightweight, offline-capable, and locally

adaptable tools are essential. These are not just technical solutions; they are steps toward educational equality. The true purpose of AI in education should be clear: it should support thinking, not replace it. Technology should help children ask better questions, not simply provide faster answers. It should reduce repetitive tasks for teachers so they can focus on what humans do best—guiding, encouraging, and adapting to each child's needs. The future of education will not be decided by technology alone. It will depend on how adults choose to use it. The goal of education has never been just about getting the right answer. It has always been about building capable minds that can think independently and responsibly.

PM Inaugurates 594-Km UP’s Biggest Connectivity ProjectGanga Expressway

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway, one of Uttar Pradesh’s biggest infrastructure projects, marking a major milestone in the state’s road and industrial development. The massive expressway connects Meerut in western Uttar Pradesh to Prayagraj in the east, significantly improving travel, trade, and regional connectivity across the state.

The six-lane access-controlled expressway, which can be expanded to eight lanes in the future, passes through 12 districts including Meerut,

Hapur, Bulandshahr, Amroha, Sambhal, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareilly, Pratapgarh, and Prayagraj. It has been designed for speeds of up to 120 kmph, reducing travel time between Meerut and Prayagraj from nearly 10–12 hours to around 6–7 hours.

The expressway has been built at an estimated cost of around Rs 36,230 crore and is being seen as a major economic corridor for Uttar Pradesh. It is expected to improve logistics, reduce transportation costs, and support industrial development across the route.

Officials believe the project could generate nearly 3 lakh jobs and create strong investment opportunities in surrounding regions.

One of the standout features of the Ganga Expressway is its 3.2-km emergency airstrip near Shahjahanpur, designed to allow Indian Air Force fighter jets to make emergency landings if needed. The project also includes modern facilities such as CCTV surveillance, Intelligent Traffic Management Systems (ITMS), emergency call boxes, ambulances, patrolling units, EV charging stations, trauma centres,

and passenger rest areas.

The inauguration ceremony took place in Hardoi district in the presence of Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. CM Yogi described the expressway as a major step toward transforming Uttar Pradesh into a stronger economic hub and praised farmers for their support in land acquisition for the project.

The Ganga Expressway is also expected to connect with several other major corridors, including the Agra-Lucknow Expressway, Jewar

Link Expressway, and other planned routes, strengthening Uttar Pradesh’s overall expressway network and improving access to airports, industrial hubs, and freight corridors.

For the Modi government, the project is being presented as both an infrastructure achievement and a long-term growth engine for the state. With faster movement of goods, smoother passenger travel, and stronger industrial planning, the Ganga Expressway is expected to play a major role in reshaping Uttar Pradesh’s economic future.



Modi Says Bengal Voters Casting Ballots Fearlessly After 6-7 Decades

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that people in West Bengal are voting “fearlessly” for the first time in six to seven decades, describing it as a major political and democratic shift in the state. His remarks came during a public address in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh, where he praised Bengal voters for turning out in large numbers during the ongoing Assembly elections.

Modi said the high voter participation reflected a growing sense of confidence among the people and showed that citizens were no longer afraid to exercise their democratic rights. He described the atmosphere as a sign of change and suggested that people were voting freely without pressure or fear, something he claimed had not happened in Bengal for decades.

The Prime Minister especially highlighted the participation of women and young voters, saying their strong turnout was a positive sign for democracy. He thanked the “great people of Bengal” for treating elections like a “festival of democracy” and urged them to continue voting in large numbers until the final phase was completed.

His statement came during the second and final phase of the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections, one of the most closely watched political contests in the country. The BJP is trying to challenge the ruling Trinamool Congress led by Chief Minister Mamata Baner-



jee, making the election a high-stakes battle for both sides.

Modi’s remarks were also seen as a political attack on the state’s long-standing governance history, suggesting that fear and political pressure had dominated Bengal’s electoral process for decades. Without directly naming opponents, he implied that voters were now feeling more secure and empowered compared to previous generations.

The BJP has made law and order, political violence, and democratic freedom major campaign issues in West Bengal, accusing the ruling party of creating an atmosphere of intimidation. The Trinamool Congress, however, has strongly rejected such allegations and accused the BJP of using exaggerated claims for political gain. The Prime Minister also referred to what he called a “historic hat-trick of victo-

ries,” indicating confidence in the BJP’s growing support base in the state. His comments were aimed at energising party workers and voters as polling entered its final stage.

West Bengal elections have often been marked by intense political rivalry and heavy campaigning, making voter turnout and security key talking points. This year, the Election Commission deployed large-scale security arrangements to ensure peaceful voting across constituencies.

Modi’s statement has added fresh political heat to an already intense election season, with both BJP and TMC trying to shape the narrative around democracy, governance, and public trust. As Bengal moves closer to results day, the Prime Minister’s “fearless voting” remark is likely to remain one of the major political talking points of the election battle.

UNGA President Meets Jaishankar, Questions Trump’s Board of Peace Proposal

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) President Annalena Baerbock met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi and strongly defended the role of the United Nations, while also taking a sharp dig at US President Donald Trump’s proposed “Board of Peace.” Her comments came at a time when global tensions, conflicts, and concerns over the future of multilateral institutions are rapidly increasing.

During the meeting, Jaishankar and Baerbock discussed several major global issues, including the West Asia conflict, the future of the United Nations as it marks 80 years, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the growing impact of artificial intelligence. Both leaders also stressed the importance of strengthening international cooperation and reforming global institutions to reflect present-day realities.

Baerbock raised concerns about what she described as direct attacks on the UN system, multilateralism, and international law. She said the world is facing increasing geopolitical tensions, deeper fragmenta-



tion, and growing pressure on the three pillars of the United Nations—peace and security, development, and human rights.

Speaking about Trump’s “Board of Peace,” Baerbock questioned how a peace framework could function if countries had to pay a joining fee to participate. Trump had introduced the idea earlier this year as a new mechanism to oversee global peace efforts, especially in conflict zones like Gaza. Under the proposal, permanent members were expected to contribute a fee of one billion dollars, which led to criticism that the body could act as an alternative to the United Nations.

Baerbock made it clear that peace cannot be based on financial entry barriers. She said the strength of the UN lies in the fact that every country, whether big or small, rich or poor, has a seat at the table and equal rights. According to her, true and lasting peace

cannot be achieved through exclusive systems where participation depends on payment.

She also emphasized that no country can handle today’s interconnected global challenges alone. Issues like climate change, pandemics, war, and economic instability require cooperation, not isolation. She said the UN may be facing serious challenges, but it remains the only platform where all 193 member nations are represented equally.

Jaishankar echoed the need for reform and said India strongly supports “reformed multilateralism,” especially one that reflects the voices and interests of the Global South. He highlighted India’s long-standing role in the UN and the importance of adapting international institutions to modern global realities.

Baerbock also praised India’s contribution to the United Nations, calling it a key partner in advancing multilateral solutions. Her remarks have added fresh debate around Trump’s “Board of Peace” idea, while reinforcing the UN’s importance as the central institution for global peace and diplomacy.

Court Rejects Yasin Malik’s Plea for Advance Notice on Witnesses in 1990 IAF Killings Case

A special TADA court in Jammu has rejected separatist leader Yasin Malik’s request for prior information about prosecution witnesses in the 1990 Indian Air Force personnel killings case, saying such advance notice could put witnesses at risk and go against the purpose of witness protection under the law.

Malik had filed an application seeking at least five days’ prior intimation before any prosecution witness was produced in court. His defence argued that without advance notice, he would be denied a fair chance to prepare for effective cross-examination and defend himself properly.

However, the designated special judge dismissed the plea, stating that the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act (TADA) contains specific provisions to protect witnesses, especially in serious terrorism-related cases. The court observed that while witness names are generally shared in ordinary criminal trials, cases under TADA require stronger safeguards because of the sensitive nature of the offences.

The judge clearly stated that directing the prosecution to reveal witness details in advance would not be free from risk and would directly contradict the spirit of Section 16 of the TADA Act, which is meant to ensure witness safety. The court emphasized that the case involves a grave terrorist act in which four Indian Air Force officers were killed and several others were injured.

The court also pointed out that the case is now 36 years



old and that both the accused and defence lawyers are already well aware of the nature of the case and the role of the witnesses involved. Because of this, the argument that the defence would be unfairly surprised by witness appearances was not considered strong enough.

The application was dismissed as being without merit. The judge also directed Malik’s counsel to proceed with cross-examination of witnesses already present in court, warning that failure to do so would

result in the defence losing its right to cross-examine them.

The case relates to the January 25, 1990 attack in Srinagar’s Sannat Nagar area, where Indian Air Force personnel waiting for their transport bus were attacked. Four IAF officers, including Squadron Leader Ravi Khanna, were killed and several others were injured in the assault.

Yasin Malik, leader of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), is the prime accused in the case. Along with him, six others have also been

charged in connection with the killings.

Earlier, in November last year, two prosecution witnesses had identified Malik as one of the shooters involved in the attack. They also identified three of his alleged associates, strengthening the prosecution’s case.

The rejection of Malik’s plea marks another important step in the long-pending trial, which remains one of the most significant terror-related cases linked to militancy in Kashmir.

Man Kills Girlfriend, Her Mother in Maharashtra, Attempts Suicide

A shocking double murder has been reported from Maharashtra’s Palghar district, where a 27-year-old man allegedly stabbed his girlfriend and her mother to death before attempting to take his own life.

The incident occurred in the Gokul Township area of Virar West. According to police, the accused, identified as Shivam Upadhyay, attacked his 24-year-old girlfriend Nancy Mishra and her 45-year-old mother Sarita Mishra with a knife, inflicting multiple stab wounds that led to their deaths on the spot.

Officials said the attack was brutal, with both victims sustaining severe injuries. The exact motive behind the crime is yet to be officially confirmed, and investigators are probing

the nature of the relationship and any possible disputes that may have triggered the incident.

After carrying out the killings, the accused reportedly attempted suicide by stabbing himself. He was later found injured and rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment. He is currently undergoing medical care at a private hospital in Virar and remains under police custody.

Police teams reached the crime scene soon after receiving information about the incident. The bodies of the deceased were sent for post-mortem examination to determine the exact cause and timing of death. A forensic team has also been deployed to collect evidence and recon-

struct the sequence of events.

Authorities have begun questioning neighbours and people known to the victims to understand the background of the case. Investigators are also examining whether there had been prior tensions or conflicts between the accused and the victims.

The incident has sent shockwaves through the local community, with residents expressing concern over the rise in violent crimes linked to personal relationships. Police officials said further details would emerge as the investigation progresses.

A case has been registered, and legal action will follow based on the findings once the accused recovers from his injuries.



White House Unveils Limited-Edition Patriot Passport Featuring Trump’s Portrait

The White House has introduced a special limited-edition ‘Patriot Passport’ to mark America’s 250th Independence anniversary, and it is already creating major political and public discussion. The commemorative passport will feature US President Donald Trump’s portrait inside the document, making it one of the most talked-about symbolic moves of the administration.

The new passport design places Trump’s official photo on the inside front cover, superimposed over the Declaration of Independence. His signature also appears in gold, giving the document a highly personalized and ceremonial look. On the opposite page,

there is an image showing the signing of the Declaration of Independence, while the back cover includes a redesigned American flag with the number “250” placed among the stars to celebrate the historic milestone.

According to the US State Department, the special edition passport will retain all normal security features and will function exactly like a standard passport. Officials clarified that this is purely a commemorative version and not a replacement for regular passports. Standard passport options will continue to be available through the usual application channels.

Reports suggest that only a limited number of these pass-

ports, between 25,000 and 30,000, will be issued initially, and they will be available mainly through the Washington Passport Agency around the July 4 celebrations. There will reportedly be no additional cost for applicants choosing this version.

This marks the first time a living US president’s image will appear in such a prominent way inside an American passport. Supporters see it as a patriotic tribute tied to the country’s semiquincentennial celebrations, while critics argue that it reflects excessive personal branding of official government documents.

The move is also part of a broader “America250” cam-

paign led by the Trump administration, which includes commemorative coins, redesigned national park passes, and other symbolic projects aimed at celebrating the nation’s 250th birthday. Trump’s name and image have increasingly appeared across several federal initiatives during his second term, adding to both admiration and controversy. Public reactions have been sharply divided. Some Americans see the passport as a collector’s item and a unique national keepsake, while others question whether a president’s portrait should be placed inside such an important official identity document.

Regardless of opinion, the



Patriot Passport has quickly become one of the most controversial and attention-grabbing announcements of America’s 250th anniversary celebrations, ensuring that it will remain a major talking point in both political and public circles.

Trump Prepares for Extended Strait of Hormuz Blockade Amid Rising Global Tensions

US President Donald Trump has reportedly instructed his aides to prepare for an extended blockade of Iran, signaling a prolonged standoff in the already tense West Asia conflict. The move is aimed at increasing economic pressure on Tehran and forcing stronger concessions on its nuclear programme, according to reports.

The decision comes after recent high-level meetings, including discussions in the White House Situation Room, where Trump reviewed America’s options regarding Iran. Reports suggest he concluded that maintaining the blockade was less risky than restarting direct military strikes or stepping away from the conflict entirely. Instead of escalating military action, the administration appears focused on using economic pressure as its main strategy.

The blockade mainly targets oil shipments moving to and from Iranian ports. By restricting these routes, the US hopes to weaken Iran’s economy and push its leadership toward negotiations. Since oil exports are a major source of revenue for Iran, the continued blockade could place serious financial strain on the country.

The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world’s most strategically important waterways, as a significant portion of global oil trade passes through it. Any disruption in this region immediately affects global energy markets, shipping routes, and fuel prices worldwide. Reports of a pro-



longed blockade have already pushed oil prices higher, creating concern among major importing countries.

Trump also claimed that Iran had privately informed Washington that it is in a “state of collapse” and wants the US to reopen the Strait of Hormuz as soon as possible. He suggested that Tehran is under growing internal and economic pressure and may be looking for a way to ease tensions. However, there has been no official confirmation from Iran regarding these claims.

Despite some signs of interest in negotiations, reports indicate that Trump remains unconvinced by Iran’s recent proposals. US officials reportedly believe Tehran is delaying meaningful nuclear talks and trying to outlast American pressure rather than making serious concessions. This has strengthened Washington’s decision to continue the blockade for a longer period.

The situation has created uncertainty across international markets. Rising crude oil prices, fears of supply disruption, and concerns over shipping safety have all added to global economic anxiety. Analysts warn that if the blockade continues for an extended period, it could lead to higher fuel costs and inflation in several countries.

The US decision suggests that the conflict may enter a “no-deal, no-war” phase—where neither side fully escalates nor reaches a final agreement. For now, the blockade remains one of Trump’s strongest tools in dealing with Iran, but it also carries major risks for global trade and political stability.

As the world watches closely, the future of the Strait of Hormuz remains uncertain, with both diplomacy and economic pressure shaping the next phase of the crisis.

US Envoy to Ukraine Julie Davis to Step Down Amid Reports of Differences with Trump

Julie Davis, the acting US ambassador to Ukraine, is set to leave her post in June 2026, less than a year after taking charge in Kyiv. Her departure comes at a sensitive time, with US-led efforts to broker a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine facing major setbacks and growing uncertainty around Washington’s support for Kyiv.

Reports first suggested that Davis was stepping down because of disagreements with President Donald Trump’s approach toward Ukraine and Russia. According to these reports, she had become frustrated with what was seen as declining US support for Ukraine and the administration’s softer stance toward Russian President Vladimir Putin. Davis was reportedly uncomfortable with the direction of American foreign policy during a crucial phase of the war.

However, the US State Department strongly denied that her resignation was linked to any conflict with Trump. State Department spokesperson Tommy Pigott said it was “false” to suggest she was leaving because of policy differences. Officials clarified that Davis is retiring after nearly 30 years in the US Foreign Service and will continue serving until her official departure in June.



Davis took over as chargé d’affaires in Kyiv in May 2025 after the resignation of her predecessor, Bridget Brink. Interestingly, Brink had also stepped down after openly disagreeing with the administration’s Ukraine policy, saying she could no longer support it in good faith. This has added more attention to Davis’s exit, with many viewing it as part of a broader pattern of diplomatic unease over Washington’s changing position on Ukraine.

During her time in Kyiv, Davis also continued serving as

the US ambassador to Cyprus, managing both roles during one of the most difficult periods in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. She played an important role as the top US diplomat in Ukraine while ceasefire negotiations repeatedly stalled and military tensions remained high.

Since returning to office, Trump has taken a different approach to the war compared to previous administrations. He has pushed for direct negotiations to end the conflict but has also been criticized for placing pressure on Ukraine

and appearing more open to Russia’s position. His relationship with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has also remained tense, adding more complexity to diplomatic efforts.

Julie Davis’s departure leaves a key diplomatic post uncertain at a critical moment for both Ukraine and US foreign policy. Whether her exit is simply a retirement or a reflection of deeper tensions, it has once again drawn attention to the challenges inside Washington’s handling of the ongoing war.

Why UAE’s Exit from OPEC Is Being Linked to Saudi Arabia and Pakistan

The United Arab Emirates’ decision to leave OPEC after nearly 60 years is being seen as much more than just an oil-related move. Analysts believe it reflects a larger geopolitical shift involving Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and the UAE’s growing push for strategic independence in the Gulf region.

Officially, the UAE said its exit reflects its “evolving energy profile” and a stronger focus on expanding domestic oil production. As OPEC’s third-largest producer, Abu Dhabi wants more freedom to increase output without being restricted by production quotas largely shaped by Saudi Arabia, the group’s most powerful member. ADNOC has indicated that the UAE could significantly raise crude production capacity in the coming years after leaving the bloc.

For years, tensions had been building between the UAE and Saudi Arabia over oil policy. Saudi Arabia preferred tighter supply controls to support higher global oil prices, while the UAE wanted greater production flexibility to maximize exports and revenue. This disagreement became sharper during the recent Iran conflict and disruptions around the Strait of Hormuz, when every barrel of oil became strategically more important.

The Pakistan factor adds another political layer. Reports suggest the UAE was unhappy with Pakistan’s role during the Iran crisis, especially Islamabad’s attempts to act as a me-



diator between the United States and Iran rather than taking a stronger stand against Tehran. Abu Dhabi reportedly viewed this neutrality as indirectly benefiting Iran and not aligning with its own security concerns. At the same time, Saudi Arabia’s close strategic relationship with Pakistan created further discomfort for the UAE. Analysts believe Abu Dhabi sees the growing Saudi-Pakistan alignment as something that could weaken its own regional influence. Reports also noted that the UAE had earlier withdrawn billions of dollars in financial deposits from Pakistan, which was interpreted as a signal of diplo-

matic frustration. Saudi Arabia later stepped in to support Pakistan financially, highlighting the shifting regional alliances. Another major issue was the Gulf Cooperation Council’s response to Iran. The UAE reportedly pushed for a stronger coordinated response against Tehran after attacks linked to the conflict, but did not receive enough support from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and other Gulf partners. This added to Abu Dhabi’s feeling that it needed to act more independently rather than remain tied to collective regional decision-making. Leaving OPEC gives the UAE both economic and political advantages. Economically,

it can produce and export more oil without quota restrictions. Politically, it weakens Saudi Arabia’s traditional control over oil pricing and strengthens the UAE’s image as an independent power center in the Gulf. It may also help Abu Dhabi deepen ties with the United States, especially as President Donald Trump has long criticized OPEC’s supply controls.

In short, the UAE’s OPEC exit is not just about oil—it is about power, alliances, and influence. By stepping out of the cartel, Abu Dhabi is signalling that it wants to shape regional politics on its own terms rather than under Saudi leadership.

China-US Tensions Rise Over Iran and AI Ahead of Trump-Xi Summit

US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping are preparing for a crucial summit next month aimed at stabilising relations between the world’s two biggest economies. However, growing tensions over Iran, artificial intelligence, and supply chain control are making the path to that meeting increasingly complicated.

One major flashpoint is Iran. The Trump administration has intensified pressure on China over its economic ties with Tehran, especially regarding Iranian oil exports. The US recently sanctioned one of China’s largest private refiners for its alleged links to Iranian oil purchases and warned that Chinese banks could face secondary sanctions if they continue supporting Iran’s oil revenues. Washington believes cutting off China’s role as a major buyer could weaken Iran economically and force stronger concessions in nuclear negotiations.

For China, this issue is especially sensitive because it depends heavily on energy imports passing through the Strait of Hormuz. Around 40 percent of China’s oil imports come from the Middle East, and it receives more liquefied natural gas through Hormuz than any other country. Any US blockade or prolonged dis-



ruption in the Persian Gulf directly threatens Beijing’s energy security and economic stability.

At the same time, artificial intelligence has become another major area of conflict. China recently blocked Meta’s proposed \$2 billion acquisition of AI start up Manus, showing its determination to keep advanced technology and intellectual property within its borders. Beijing has also introduced new regulations targeting foreign companies that shift supply chains away from China or comply with US export restrictions, signalling a stronger push to protect its manufacturing and tech dominance.

The US, meanwhile, sees AI as a strategic battleground. Officials in Washington have accused China of attempting to

gain access to American AI innovation and sensitive technologies. As both countries race for leadership in frontier technologies, AI is no longer just a business competition—it has become a matter of national security and global influence.

Taiwan is also expected to be one of the most sensitive topics during the summit. Beijing wants stronger US assurances against Taiwanese independence and remains deeply concerned about continued American arms sales to Taipei. Taiwan has reportedly become China’s top diplomatic priority ahead of the meeting, adding another layer of tension to already difficult talks.

Despite these disagreements, both sides still appear committed to holding the summit. Analysts say neither Washington nor Beijing wants a complete breakdown in relations, but both are using the period before the meeting to strengthen leverage and protect strategic interests.

The coming Trump-Xi meeting may be presented as a peace-building effort, but behind the scenes it reflects a deeper struggle over power, technology, trade, and global influence. Rather than reducing tensions, the summit may simply reveal how intense the rivalry between the US and China has become.

Nifty Crosses 24,150, Sensex Surges Over 600 Points

After slipping in the previous session, the Indian stock market made a strong comeback on April 29, with benchmark indices ending sharply higher. The Nifty 50 reclaimed the crucial 24,150 mark, while the BSE Sensex jumped more than 600 points, reflecting renewed investor confidence and broad-based buying across sectors. The rally marked a strong start to the May derivatives series and was largely supported by solid corporate earnings and improved market sentiment. The Nifty 50 touched an intraday high of 24,334.70 before closing at 24,177.65, gaining 181.95 points or 0.76 percent. Meanwhile, the Sensex ended at 77,496.36, up

609.45 points or 0.79 percent. Although profit booking at higher levels trimmed some gains by the close, the overall mood remained positive. Among sectoral performers, auto, IT, FMCG, and realty stocks led the gains, with each index rising around 1 percent. Infrastructure, metal, oil and gas, and pharma sectors also posted moderate gains of nearly 0.5 percent. However, PSU banks, media, and consumer durables showed some weakness and ended slightly lower, limiting broader market advances. Top gainers on the Nifty included Maruti Suzuki, Coal India, Tech Mahindra, ITC, and Reliance Industries. On the losing side, InterGlobe

Aviation, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, NTPC, ICICI Bank, and Bajaj Finserv were among the key laggards. In the broader market, the Nifty Smallcap 100 index gained 0.65 percent, while the Nifty Midcap 100 ended marginally lower. Analysts attributed the rally to strong fourth-quarter earnings, buying on dips after the previous decline, and hopes of easing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. Reports suggesting possible de-escalation in the Iran-US conflict improved investor sentiment globally, while lower volatility and selective value buying also supported the rebound. More than 160 stocks

touched their 52-week highs on the BSE, including Bandhan Bank, Adani Green, Adani Ports, Nestle India, ONGC, BHEL, MCX India, and JSW Energy, showing strong participation beyond frontline stocks. This indicates that investor confidence is not limited to large-cap names but is spreading across sectors. Despite the positive close, experts remain cautious due to risks such as high crude oil prices, foreign investor selling, and global uncertainty. Still, the day's performance signals resilience in the market and suggests that investors continue to remain optimistic about earnings growth and long-term recovery.



Vedanta Q4 Profit Jumps 89% To Record Rs 9,352 Crore, Beats Street Expectations

Vedanta Ltd delivered a strong fourth-quarter performance for FY26, reporting a sharp rise in profit and revenue that exceeded market expectations. The company's consolidated net profit surged nearly 89 percent year-on-year to Rs 9,352 crore, making it its highest-ever quarterly profit. Strong operational performance across its metals, mining, and energy businesses helped drive the impressive results. Revenue for the January-March quarter also rose significantly, increasing 29 percent to a record Rs 51,524 crore. This strong topline growth reflected better commodity prices, higher production volumes, and improved demand across key business segments such as aluminium, zinc, copper, and oil and gas. The results came as a major positive surprise for investors and analysts, who had expected strong numbers but were impressed by the scale of the earnings jump. Vedanta's EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation) rose 59 percent to an all-time high of Rs 18,447 crore. EBITDA margins expanded sharply to around 44 percent, compared to much lower levels a year ago. This margin improvement was supported by stronger commodity realisations, cost efficiencies, and favourable operating conditions across its major businesses. Global metal prices played a major role in boosting profitability. Aluminium prices rose strongly during the quarter, while zinc and copper also ben-

efited from global supply disruptions and improved international demand. Vedanta's aluminium business, which contributes a major share of total revenue, performed particularly well and supported overall earnings growth. Another major development is the company's long-awaited demerger, which is set to take effect from May 1. Under this plan, Vedanta will separate into multiple listed entities focused on different businesses such as aluminium, power, oil and gas, and steel. The company believes this move will unlock shareholder value and allow each business to grow independently with better strategic focus. The strong Q4 results also improved market sentiment around the stock, with Vedanta shares rising after the announcement. Investors welcomed both the earnings beat and the progress on the demerger plan, seeing them as signs of stronger long-term value creation. Despite the strong quarter, analysts continue to watch the company's debt levels closely, as Vedanta has historically carried significant borrowings. However, the latest earnings performance has provided confidence that the company remains financially strong and operationally resilient. Overall, Vedanta's record-breaking quarter highlights strong execution, favourable commodity cycles, and improving investor confidence as the company enters a major structural transition.

REC Shares Fall Over 3% After Weak Q4 Results And Brokerage Downgrades

REC Limited shares declined more than 3 percent after the company reported weaker-than-expected fourth-quarter results for FY26, disappointing investors despite improvements in asset quality. The fall came as brokerages turned cautious, lowering ratings and target prices after the company's profit missed market expectations. REC's consolidated net profit for the March quarter dropped around 22 percent year-on-year to Rs 3,375 crore, compared to Rs 4,309 crore in the same period last year. Revenue from operations also declined by nearly 5 percent to around Rs 14,564 crore, reflecting pressure on margins and slower earnings growth. The weaker quarterly numbers led to negative market sentiment, pushing the stock lower during trading. Despite the decline in profits, REC reported better asset quality, which remained one of the

few positives in the results. Lower bad loans and stable operational performance showed that the company's core lending business remains strong. However, investors focused more on the earnings miss and cautious brokerage commentary rather than the asset quality improvement. Brokerage firms quickly revised their outlook. DAM Capital downgraded REC from "Buy" to "Neutral" and reduced its target price to Rs 400. Phillip Securities also downgraded the stock to "Neutral," cutting its target from Rs 440 to Rs 420. Analysts cited weaker profitability, valuation concerns, and limited near-term upside as key reasons behind the downgrade. Still, not all brokerages turned negative. MotilalOswal maintained its "Buy" rating on REC, highlighting attractive valuations and the company's strong long-term fundamen-

als. The brokerage believes that despite short-term earnings pressure, REC remains well-positioned due to its strong balance sheet and important role in financing India's power sector. REC also announced a final dividend of Rs 1.55 per share, taking its total FY26 dividend payout to Rs 18.55 per share. Additionally, the company closed the financial year with its highest-ever annual profit of over Rs 16,000 crore, showing that while the quarter was weak, the full-year performance remained solid. The stock's sharp fall reflects how strongly markets react to quarterly earnings surprises, especially when brokerages revise expectations downward. While REC's long-term outlook remains stable, investors are likely to stay cautious until earnings growth shows stronger recovery.



ITC, Godfrey Phillips Shares Jump as Cigarette Price Hike Report Boosts Investor Sentiment

Shares of major cigarette companies such as ITC and Godfrey Phillips rose sharply on April 29 after reports suggested that both firms may increase cigarette prices by up to 17 percent in May 2026. The news created strong buying interest in tobacco stocks, with investors expecting higher profit margins and stronger earnings from the upcoming price revision. ITC shares gained significantly during the trading session, while Godfrey Phillips surged as much as 6.5 percent. The market reaction was driven by expectations that higher cigarette prices would directly improve revenue growth, especially after recent tax and cost pressures faced by the sector. Investors often view price hikes in the tobacco business positively because cigarette demand tends to remain relatively stable despite higher prices. According to reports, one of ITC's popular products, Gold-flake Premium, may see its pack price rise from around Rs 115 to nearly Rs 135 starting in May. This expected increase reflects the broader pricing strategy being adopted by cigarette makers after previous rounds of excise duty hikes and rising input costs. Godfrey Phillips, another major player in the segment, also attracted strong investor attention as the company is expected to implement similar price revisions across key cigarette brands. The move is seen as an effort to protect margins while maintaining profitability.

ty in a competitive and highly regulated industry. The rally was not limited to just these two companies. Other cigarette-related stocks such as VST Industries also saw positive momentum, showing that the market viewed the pricing change as a sector-wide positive development. Analysts believe that consistent pricing power remains one of the biggest strengths of tobacco companies, especially in times of inflation and rising operational expenses. Brokerage views have also supported investor confidence in the sector. Some market experts believe that repeated price hikes, if accepted smoothly by consumers, could strengthen earnings visibility for these companies over the next few quarters. Since tobacco companies often enjoy strong brand loyalty, the risk of sharp demand destruction remains relatively low compared to other consumer sectors. However, experts also caution that long-term challenges remain, including regulatory pressure, health-related restrictions, and taxation risks. Despite this, short-term sentiment remains positive as investors focus on improved profitability and stable demand. The rise in ITC and Godfrey Phillips shares highlights how pricing decisions in defensive sectors like tobacco can quickly influence market sentiment. For now, the expected May price hike has given investors a strong reason to stay optimistic about cigarette stocks.

Adani Power Q4 Profit Jumps 64% To 4,271 Crore, But Stock Slips

Adani Power reported a strong fourth-quarter performance for FY26, with consolidated net profit rising sharply by 64 percent year-on-year to 4,271 crore. Despite the strong earnings growth, the company's stock slipped nearly 2.5 percent after the results announcement, showing that investors remained cautious about the quality of earnings and future growth outlook. The sharp rise in profit was mainly supported by significantly lower tax expenses during the quarter rather than strong revenue growth. Revenue from opera-

tions remained almost flat at around 14,223 crore compared to 14,237 crore in the same quarter last year. This indicated that while profitability improved, the company's core operating performance remained largely stable rather than showing major expansion. EBITDA also showed some pressure, falling slightly by around 1.7 percent to 4,732 crore, while EBITDA margins softened to 33.27 percent from 33.80 percent a year earlier. Analysts noted that weaker merchant power tariffs, unseasonal weather affecting

electricity demand, and increased renewable energy penetration contributed to softer operating margins during the quarter. One of the key positives for the company was that nearly 95 percent of its operating capacity is now tied to long-term and medium-term power purchase agreements (PPAs). This improves revenue visibility and reduces dependence on volatile merchant power markets. The company also secured a major long-term supply agreement with Maharashtra DISCOM for 1,600 MW of

power supply for 25 years, strengthening its future growth pipeline. For the full financial year FY26, Adani Power reported net profit of around 12,971 crore, slightly higher than the previous year. Total power generation reached 105 billion units during the year, reflecting stable operational performance despite market challenges. The company also continued its expansion plans with multiple new capacity tie-ups across states. The stock decline after results reflects investor concern that the profit jump was driven

more by lower taxes than by stronger operational growth. Markets often react cautiously when earnings growth is supported by one-time financial benefits rather than sustained business expansion. Still, analysts believe Adani Power remains strong due to its large thermal power base, stable long-term contracts, and expansion opportunities. While short-term market reaction was negative, the company's long-term outlook remains supported by India's rising power demand and infrastructure growth.



Rs 36 Lakh Salary, Yet No Baby, Why This Gurugram Couple Chose the DINK Lifestyle

A Gurugram-based couple earning a combined annual income of Rs 36 lakh has sparked a major conversation online after revealing why they have decided not to have children. Despite what many would consider a high income, the couple says they simply cannot afford to raise a child in the city and have chosen the DINK lifestyle, Double Income, No Kids.

Their statement, shared through a viral social media post, reflects a growing concern among young urban professionals who feel that even good salaries are no longer enough to ensure financial security. The couple explained that if they are struggling to afford

even a decent one-bedroom apartment in Gurugram, planning for a baby feels unrealistic.

According to the post, their biggest concern is housing affordability. Real estate prices and rents in Gurugram have risen sharply over the years, making it difficult for many middle- and upper-middle-class couples to own or rent a comfortable home. The couple believes that bringing a child into such financial uncertainty would only increase stress and compromise quality of life. NDTV reported that they questioned how they could responsibly care for a baby when basic housing itself feels out of reach.

The issue quickly resonated with many people online, especially working professionals living in metro cities. Several users agreed that high salaries today do not automatically guarantee stability, savings, or the confidence to start a family. Expenses such as rent, education, healthcare, and daily living costs continue to rise faster than income growth.

The post was shared by content creator Harsh Gupta, who often discusses real estate investments and urban living challenges. Sharing his perspective, Gupta said the problem is not really about income, but about a “structurally broken real estate market.”

He argued that even financially successful young people are finding it difficult to achieve traditional life goals like buying a home and raising children because property prices have become disproportionately high.

This story highlights a broader shift in mindset among India’s younger generation. For many couples, parenthood is no longer just a personal decision but an economic one. The Gurugram couple’s choice has become a symbol of how rising urban costs are reshaping family planning and forcing people to rethink what financial security truly means in modern city life.



New Gaming Rules, LPG Updates Effective From May 1

Several important rule changes are set to come into effect across India from May 1, 2026, and these updates are expected to impact households, online users, and financial transactions. From stricter online gaming regulations to possible LPG price revisions and tighter delivery rules, consumers may need to adjust to a number of new systems in daily life. These measures are aimed at improving transparency, safety, and better regulation across sectors.

One of the biggest changes is the implementation of the Online Gaming Rules 2026. Under the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, the government is introducing a unified regulatory framework for the online gaming industry. A new body called the Online Gaming Authority of India (OGAI) will regulate, classify, and monitor online games across the country. The goal is to protect users from financial losses, addiction risks, and unfair practices.

The new rules divide games into three categories, Online Money Games, Online Social Games, and E-sports. Platforms dealing with high-risk



or high-value games will need mandatory registration. Additional safety measures such as age restrictions, parental controls, time limits, fair-play monitoring, and stricter oversight of financial transactions

will also be introduced. Even foreign gaming platforms serving Indian users must now comply with Indian laws, regardless of where they are based.

Another major change in-

volves LPG cylinder booking and delivery. LPG prices may be revised again from May 1 depending on global market conditions, especially due to recent disruptions in international energy supply. Domestic

LPG cylinder prices have already increased by around Rs 60, and another revision is widely expected. Commercial LPG cylinders have also seen multiple price hikes in recent weeks.

The booking process for LPG cylinders is also becoming stricter. The gap between bookings has reportedly increased from 21 to 25 days in urban areas and up to 45 days in rural areas. OTP-based delivery through the Delivery Authentication Code (DAC) is being made mandatory, meaning customers must provide a one-time password at the time of delivery. Aadhaar-based eKYC is also compulsory for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries who have not yet completed verification.

Experts say these changes are designed to strengthen regulation, reduce fraud, and improve consumer protection. While they may require extra steps from users, they are expected to create a more secure and transparent system in the long run. People are advised to stay updated through official announcements and complete necessary formalities on time to avoid inconvenience.



Do you know why Bengaluru feels like India’s loneliest city?

Entrepreneur Harsh Snehanshu recently triggered a widespread discussion online after calling Bengaluru the “loneliest” city he has ever lived in. His comments, shared in a LinkedIn post, resonated with many professionals and migrants living in India’s tech capital, where people often feel emotionally isolated despite being surrounded by crowds. He said that even though all his friends in the city have company, they still feel lonely.

Snehanshu, founder of Cubbon Reads and Pint of View, explained that he has lived in several cities, from Patna to Paris, but none made him feel as lonely as Bengaluru. According to him, the city offers “nothing to watch” and there is “no inspiration for idling,” which he believes plays a major role in the emotional disconnect many people experience there. He suggested that unlike cities with vibrant street life, spontaneous conversations, and public spaces that encourage people to slow down, Bengaluru feels overly functional and work-driven.

He argued that cities like Paris, Goa, or even Patna provide moments of pause—places where people can simply sit, observe, and feel connected to life around them. Bengaluru, on the other hand, often feels like a place built only for productivity. For many young pro-

fessionals who move there for jobs, the city becomes a cycle of office, traffic, and home, leaving little room for meaningful social interaction.

His post quickly gained attention because it reflected a common experience among migrants and tech workers. Many agreed that Bengaluru can be socially challenging, especially for newcomers trying to build friendships while managing long work hours and daily commuting stress. Some users pointed out that the city’s fast-paced startup culture and expensive lifestyle make it difficult to form deeper human connections. At the same time, others defended Bengaluru, saying loneliness depends more on personal effort and community involvement than on the city itself. They argued that the city offers many opportunities through clubs, cafés, reading groups, and cultural spaces for those willing to seek them out. Still, Snehanshu’s remarks have opened up an important conversation about urban loneliness. His statement highlights how modern metro cities, despite their opportunities and energy, can leave people feeling disconnected. In a city known for startups and success, many are now asking whether Bengaluru also needs more spaces for human connection and simple moments of belonging.

Vinod Kamblí’s Ice Cream Ad Sparks Online Backlash

A recent advertisement by ice cream brand Dinshaw’s featuring former India cricketer Vinod Kamblí has triggered strong reactions online, with many viewers accusing the campaign of being insensitive and emotionally exploitative. The commercial, which was intended to celebrate Kamblí’s resilience and comeback after a difficult period in his life, instead sparked criticism for allegedly reducing his personal struggles to a marketing tool.

The ad marked Kamblí’s first public appearance since a major health scare last year. Set against a nostalgic cricket backdrop, the commercial focused on the message that people who have received “a little less” in life deserve “a little more.” This idea was symbolised through an ice cream cone with an enlarged chocolate tip, suggesting a small but meaningful reward. The campaign tried to present this as a tribute to second chances and



positivity.

However, many viewers felt the concept failed to connect emotionally. Critics argued that Kamblí’s life story, marked by early cricketing success, career setbacks, financial struggles, health issues, and public controversies—was far too serious to be represented through

something as trivial as an ice cream promotion. Social media users said the advertisement leaned more on sympathy than genuine empathy, turning a deeply personal journey into a sales pitch.

Several users described the campaign as tone-deaf, saying the contrast between Kamblí’s

hardships and the “reward” of a bigger chocolate cone felt inappropriate. For many, it seemed as though the brand was using emotional pain to sell a product rather than sincerely honouring his resilience. This criticism quickly spread online and turned the campaign into a wider debate

about how brands use real-life struggles in advertising.

Despite the backlash, the creators of the advertisement defended their intentions. Gunjan Gaba, the creative lead associated with the campaign, said the response had been overwhelmingly positive and claimed that more than 95 percent of viewers appreciated the message. He stated that the team approached the project with genuine positivity and wanted to highlight Kamblí’s strength and ability to find joy in simple moments.

The controversy has once again highlighted the fine line brands must walk when using public figures and personal struggles in advertising. While the intention may have been to inspire, the audience reaction shows that emotional storytelling must be handled with great sensitivity, especially when it involves someone whose life journey is so publicly known and deeply human.

Rare Split-Coloured Lobster Found Off Cape Cod

A fishing crew off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, recently made an extraordinary discovery, a rare split-coloured lobster with one half of its body brown and the other half bright orange-red. Wildlife experts say such a lobster appears only once in nearly 50 million cases, making it one of the rarest marine finds in the world. The unusual lobster was caught by the crew of the fishing vessel Timothy Michael and later shared by Wellfleet Shellfish Company.

The striking crustacean immediately stood out because of its perfect vertical split, with a clear line running from head to tail. One side displayed the normal brown shade commonly seen in American lobsters, while the other side shone in a vivid orange-red colour. Even its claws and antennae reflected the same dramatic two-tone pattern. Scientists explain that this rare split-colour phenomenon occurs due to a highly unusual genetic event. According to re-

ports, it can happen when two fertilised eggs before being laid come into contact and one absorbs the other, resulting in a single lobster carrying two sets of genetic information. This leads to the body developing with two distinct colour patterns, almost as if two lobsters were fused into one. Some experts also describe it as a form of genetic mosaicism or a chimera-like condition. Because of its rarity, the lobster was spared from ending up on a dinner plate. Instead, it

was donated to the Woods Hole Science Aquarium in southeastern Massachusetts, where marine biologists will study its unusual genetics and colouration. Aquarium officials said the lobster is not only visually fascinating but also serves as an important reminder of how complex and diverse nature can be. Julia Studley, a biologist at the aquarium, said the animal highlights the intricate genetic mechanisms that create biodiversity in the natural world. The

aquarium is currently under renovation, and the lobster is expected to be put on public display in 2027 after the facility reopens. Until then, it is being cared for in holding tanks nearby. Experts note that while blue lobsters occur once in about 2 million cases and orange lobsters around 1 in 30 million, split-coloured lobsters are even rarer. This remarkable catch has now become a symbol of nature’s surprises and a fascinating example of genetic wonder beneath the sea.



SRH Pull Off Stunning Chase Against MI

In one of the most thrilling run-fests of the Indian Premier League, Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) scripted a sensational six-wicket victory over Mumbai Indians (MI), chasing down a mammoth 244-run target in just 18.4 overs at the iconic Wankhede Stadium. The high-scoring encounter saw SRH produce a batting masterclass, led by explosive knocks from Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma at the top. The duo gave SRH a dream start, tearing into the MI bowling attack from the very first over. Their aggressive intent paid off as they

stitched together a remarkable 129-run opening partnership in just 8.4 overs, setting the perfect platform for the chase. Head was in destructive form, smashing 76 off just 30 balls, including five fours and eight towering sixes. Abhishek complemented him brilliantly with a quickfire 45 off 24 deliveries, laced with five boundaries and three sixes. However, after Abhishek's dismissal, SRH briefly lost momentum, with Ishan Kishan departing for a duck and Head following soon after. At a crucial juncture, Heinrich Klaasen steadied the innings with a blistering unbeaten 65 off 30 balls.

He ensured the required run rate never spiraled out of control, finding boundaries with ease and maintaining pressure on the opposition. He was well supported by Nitish Kumar Reddy, who chipped in with a handy 21. The finishing touches were provided by young sensation Salil Arora, who played a match-winning cameo of 30 not out off just 10 balls. His late onslaught, particularly in the 19th over bowled by Hardik Pandya, where he struck a four and two massive sixes, sealed the game with eight balls to spare. Earlier, MI had posted a

formidable 243/5 after being put in to bat. Opener Ryan Rickelton delivered a sensational performance, remaining unbeaten on 123 off 55 balls, studded with 11 fours and eight sixes. He was well supported by Will Jacks (46 off 22) and Hardik Pandya (31 off 15), who added valuable runs in the middle and death overs. Despite their strong batting display, MI's bowlers failed to defend the total, as SRH's relentless batting proved too powerful. The match will be remembered as one of the finest chases in IPL history, showcasing SRH's fearless approach and batting depth.



Gavaskar's Big Prediction forVaibhavSooryavanshi After Explosive 16-Ball 43 vs PBKS

Rajasthan Royals' teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi continues to amaze cricket fans and experts alike with his fearless batting in IPL 2026. His latest explosive knock of 43 runs off just 16 balls against Punjab Kings left former India captain Sunil Gavaskar highly impressed and led him to make a bold statement that now feels like a warning for every IPL team.

In the high-scoring clash against Punjab Kings, the 15-year-old batter smashed five sixes and three fours, giving Rajasthan Royals a flying start in a massive chase of 220-plus runs. His aggressive intent from the very first over changed the momentum of the game and put Punjab under immediate pressure. With this innings, Sooryavanshi also became the first batter to cross 400 runs in IPL 2026.

Sunil Gavaskar, speaking on Star Sports, was full of praise for the youngster's fearless approach and exceptional shot-making ability. He said that even placing 10 fielders on the boundary would not have been enough to stop Sooryavanshi because of the way he was striking the ball. Gavaskar pointed out that the young batter plays without fear and does not seem bothered by the opposition or pressure situations.

According to Gavaskar, this



fearless attitude is one of the biggest advantages of being so young. He explained that Sooryavanshi is not overthinking situations or worrying about reputations of bowlers, which allows him to play with complete freedom. His confidence and natural attacking instinct are making him one of the most dangerous players in the tournament right now.

The match itself turned into a thrilling victory for Rajasthan Royals. After Sooryavanshi's explosive start, Donovan Ferreira and Shubham Dubey finished the job brilliantly with an unbeaten 77-run partnership off just 32 balls. Their aggressive finishing helped RR chase down the target and hand Punjab Kings

their first defeat of the season.

Vaibhav's rise this season has been nothing short of extraordinary. At just 15, he is not only scoring consistently but also dominating experienced international bowlers with remarkable confidence. His performances have already sparked comparisons with some of India's greatest young batting talents.

Gavaskar's statement now feels like a challenge for every IPL team—how do you stop a batter who seems impossible to contain? If Sooryavanshi continues this form, IPL 2026 may well become the season where Indian cricket discovers its next superstar.

Riyan Parag Caught Vaping in Rajasthan Royals Dressing Room

Rajasthan Royals captain Riyan Parag has landed in fresh controversy after he was caught on camera apparently vaping inside the team dressing room during an IPL 2026 match against Punjab Kings. The incident quickly went viral on social media, drawing strong reactions from fans and raising questions about possible disciplinary action.

The moment happened during the 16th over of Rajasthan Royals' run chase in New Chandigarh. Broadcast cameras briefly showed Parag sitting in the dressing room with teammates while using what appeared to be a vape device. The clip spread rapidly online, with many viewers criticizing the act, especially because the incident took place during a live match and inside the stadium premises.

According to BCCI guidelines, smoking and vaping are not allowed inside IPL stadium premises except in designated smoking zones. This means Parag's actions could be seen as a breach of conduct if confirmed officially. Reports suggest that the BCCI may review the incident and decide whether disciplinary action is necessary. The controversy became even bigger because vaping is banned in India under the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019. The law prohibits the production, sale, storage, and advertisement of



e-cigarettes. This added another layer of public criticism, with many fans questioning the example set by a high-profile cricketer and team captain.

This is also not the first controversy involving Rajasthan Royals this season. Earlier in IPL 2026, team manager Romi Bhinder was fined by the BCCI after being caught using a mobile phone in the dugout during a match, which violated match-day protocols. That incident had already brought unwanted attention to the fran-

chise, and Parag's vaping video has only added to the scrutiny.

Interestingly, despite the off-field drama, Rajasthan Royals performed strongly on the field. They successfully chased down Punjab Kings' massive total of 220-plus runs and secured an impressive victory. Parag himself contributed with a quick 29 runs off 16 balls, helping his team maintain momentum in the chase.

However, the focus soon shifted away from the result and toward the viral video. Social media was flooded with

mixed reactions—some fans demanded strict punishment, while others argued it was a personal matter being blown out of proportion. The incident has once again highlighted how closely players are watched during high-profile tournaments like the IPL. For captains especially, public behaviour carries extra responsibility. Whether the BCCI takes formal action or not, the controversy has already become one of the biggest talking points of IPL 2026.

Babar Azam Equals Virat Kohli, Abhishek Sharma's Big T20 Record with Blazing PSL Century

Pakistan star Babar Azam once again proved why he is considered one of the finest T20 batters in the world after smashing a brilliant century in the Pakistan Super League (PSL) 2026. His stunning knock not only helped Peshawar Zalmi reach the PSL final but also placed him alongside Virat Kohli and Abhishek Sharma in an elite T20 record list.

In the PSL qualifier against Islamabad United, Babar played a captain's innings, scoring 103 runs off just 59 balls. His knock included powerful strokeplay, smart rotation of strike, and perfect control under pressure. Thanks to his century, Peshawar Zalmi posted a massive total of 221/7. In reply, Islamabad United were bowled out for 151, giving Zalmi a comfortable 70-run win and a place in the PSL 2026 final. This century was especially significant because it helped Babar equal the record for the most T20 centuries scored in a single country. He now has eight T20 hundreds in Pakistan, matching the record held by Virat Kohli and Abhishek Sharma, who both achieved eight T20 centuries in India. This places Babar in rare company among the game's best white-ball batters.

Babar also created another major milestone by registering his ninth T20 century as captain, the highest by any skipper in the format. He moved past South Africa's Faf du Plessis, who previously held



the record with eight centuries as captain. Virat Kohli is also among the top names on that list, making Babar's achievement even more special.

Adding to the celebration, Babar reached 588 runs this PSL season, equalling Fakhar Zaman's record for the most runs in a single PSL season. His consistency throughout the tournament has been one of the biggest reasons behind Peshawar Zalmi's strong campaign and title hopes.

Fans and experts praised Babar's return to top form, espe-

cially after criticism over his recent performances. His calm leadership and ability to deliver in big matches have once again reminded everyone of his class and importance to Pakistan cricket. By matching Virat Kohli and Abhishek Sharma in such a major T20 milestone, Babar has strengthened his place among modern cricket's elite batters. With the PSL final still to come, he now has the

perfect chance to turn a record-breaking season into a title-winning one.

Former India captain Sourav Ganguly believes the IPL 2026 title race is still wide open, but he has identified Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Punjab Kings (PBKS) as two of the strongest contenders so far this season. His comments have sparked fresh excitement among fans as both teams continue to impress with consistent performances.

Ganguly said it is difficult to pick one clear favourite because several teams are playing excellent cricket and the tournament remains highly competitive. However, he specifically mentioned RCB and PBKS as sides that have shown strong balance, momentum, and match-winning ability throughout the season.

Punjab Kings have been one of the standout teams this year, sitting near the top of the points table for most of the tournament. Their strong batting performances, disciplined bowling, and leadership under Shreyas Iyer have made them one of the toughest teams to beat. Even after suffering their first defeat against Rajasthan Royals, PBKS remain one of the strongest playoff contenders.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru have also looked like serious title challengers. With six wins in eight matches, RCB have built strong momentum and remain close behind PBKS in the standings. Their recent dominant victory over Delhi Capitals further strengthened their



position and showed the team's ability to perform under pressure.

Ganguly praised the depth and balance in both squads. He highlighted how important it is in a long tournament like the IPL to have multiple match-winners rather than relying on just one or two star players. Both RCB and PBKS, according to him, have shown that strength this season.

At the same time, Ganguly avoided ruling out other teams completely. He pointed out that the IPL is known for sudden

turnarounds, where one strong winning streak can completely change the playoff picture. Teams like Rajasthan Royals, Mumbai Indians, Chennai Super Kings, and Gujarat Titans still remain dangerous if they find momentum at the right time.

The former BCCI president's comments come at a crucial stage of the tournament, where every match is becoming increasingly important for playoff qualification. As teams fight for top-four spots, expert predictions like Ganguly's only

add more excitement to the title race.

For RCB fans, the mention brings renewed hope of finally lifting another title, while PBKS supporters see it as recognition of a season filled with strong performances and belief. With the league entering its decisive phase, Ganguly's prediction may soon be tested. Whether RCB or PBKS go all the way remains to be seen, but both teams have clearly established themselves as serious contenders for the IPL 2026 crown.



Pooja Hegde’s Dating Rumours Go Viral

Popular actress Pooja Hegde has once again found herself in the spotlight, this time not for a film release but because of fresh rumours surrounding her personal life. Reports suggesting that the actress is allegedly dating someone have gone viral on social media, quickly becoming a major topic of discussion among fans and the film industry.

According to circulating reports, Pooja Hegde is said to be dating the son of a yes-ter-year actor. However, no official details about the person involved have been confirmed so far, which has only added more curiosity and speculation around the matter. The rumours have spread rapidly online, with fans trying to guess who the mystery person might be.

Pooja Hegde has always maintained a private approach when it comes to her personal relationships. Unlike many celebrities who openly share details of their personal lives, she has

mostly stayed away from addressing dating rumours and relationship gossip. This has made the latest speculation even more intriguing for her followers.

As soon as the reports surfaced, social media platforms were flooded with discussions, fan theories, and reactions. Some fans expressed excitement and support, while others urged people not to believe unverified reports without any official confirmation. The topic quickly became one of the most talked-about entertainment updates of the day.

So far, neither Pooja Hegde nor her team has issued any statement regarding these claims. In the absence of confirmation from the actress herself, the reports remain purely speculative. Many fans believe that unless she chooses to speak about it publicly, the rumours should be treated with caution.

Pooja Hegde remains one of the most popular actresses

in Indian cinema, with a strong presence across Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. Her upcoming projects continue to keep her busy, and she remains one of the most followed celebrities in the industry. Naturally, any update related to her personal life attracts major public attention.

Celebrity dating rumours are not uncommon, especially for stars with a large fan following. In many cases, small observations or social media activity can quickly turn into major headlines. For actors like Pooja, maintaining privacy becomes even more challenging under constant public attention.

Until there is an official statement, the latest dating rumours remain just that—rumours. Still, they have successfully put Pooja Hegde back at the center of entertainment headlines, proving once again how much public interest surrounds both her professional and personal life.



Is Chandamama Regaining Her Golden Form?

In the film industry, a heroine’s career is often divided into two phases—before marriage and after marriage. Especially in South Indian cinema, there has long been a strong belief that marriage marks the slowdown of an actress’s career. Whether due to fewer glamorous roles or changing audience perceptions, many actresses struggle to maintain the same success in their second innings.

However, Kajal Aggarwal seems determined to break that pattern. Popularly known as “Chandamama,” Kajal is now making strong moves in 2026, proving that marriage does not mean the end of stardom. Her upcoming projects suggest that she is steadily returning to her previous form and preparing for a powerful comeback.

Kajal surprised many fans in 2020 when she married businessman Gautam Kitchlu during the pandemic. After marriage, her film

career slowed down significantly. She appeared in only a handful of projects, and in some films, her roles were limited to guest appearances. This led many people to believe that her successful run in cinema had come to an end.

But things are now changing rapidly.

One of the biggest turning points in her career could be her role in the much-awaited Ramayana series. In this prestigious Pan-India project, Kajal will be seen playing Mandodari, a character with emotional depth and strong importance in the story. For an actress mostly known for glamorous commercial roles, taking on such a weighty mythological role could become a major career-defining moment.

Along with that, Kajal is also playing the lead in The India Story, a socially driven film that is expected to release on a Pan-India level. This project gives her the chance to

connect not only with South Indian audiences but also with viewers across the country. It also reflects her shift toward performance-oriented roles rather than only commercial glamour-based characters.

At the same time, Kajal is proving that she still has strong appeal in mainstream cinema. She has reportedly bagged the heroine role in Nandamuri Balakrishna and Gopichand Malineni’s much-awaited film NBK111. Pairing with a senior star once again shows that Kajal remains one of the most dependable choices for big commercial entertainers. With back-to-back major projects, stronger characters, and renewed visibility, Kajal Aggarwal appears ready to reclaim her place in the industry. Her second innings is gaining momentum, and fans are eager to see how far Chandamama can shine once again on the big screen.



Prabhas’ Salaar And NTR-Neel’s Dragon Crossover?



Director Prashanth Neel is known for building massive cinematic worlds with larger-than-life characters, and now fresh rumours are creating major excitement among fans. Speculation is growing that Prabhas’ Salaar and Jr NTR’s upcoming film with Prashanth Neel, tentatively titled Dragon, could be connected through a possible cinematic crossover.

Ever since Salaar became a blockbuster and set up a powerful sequel with Salaar: Part 2 – Shouryaanga Parvam, fans have been closely watching Neel’s next move. At the same time, his much-awaited project with Jr NTR has become one of the most anticipated pan-India films in production. With both films coming from the same director and carrying his signature larger-than-life storytelling style, rumours of a shared universe have naturally gained momentum.

According to industry buzz,

there is growing speculation that Dragon may not be a completely standalone story. Instead, some believe it could be linked to the Salaar world, opening the door for a possible crossover between Prabhas and NTR. This idea has created huge excitement among fans, who are already imagining a powerful on-screen clash or alliance between the two superstars.

Prashanth Neel has previously shown his interest in creating connected cinematic worlds. His KGF franchise itself became a benchmark for large-scale universe-building, and Salaar also carries that same grand narrative style. Because of this, fans feel a crossover is not impossible and could become one of Indian cinema’s biggest moments if it happens.

Reports also suggest that Dragon is being mounted on a massive scale and may even be developed as a two-part franchise. The film is expected to feature high-intensity action, global locations, and a

strong emotional core, elements that perfectly match Neel’s storytelling style. This has only strengthened rumours that the film may connect to an already established universe like Salaar.

However, there has been no official confirmation from the makers regarding any crossover. So far, these remain only strong rumours and fan theories. Neither Prabhas, Jr NTR, nor Prashanth Neel has publicly spoken about such a connection.

Still, the possibility itself is enough to create enormous hype. A Prabhas–NTR crossover under Prashanth Neel’s direction would easily become one of the biggest cinematic events in Indian film history.

For now, fans can only wait for official updates. But if these rumours turn out to be true, the Salaar and Dragon universe could become one of the most explosive cinematic combinations Telugu cinema has ever seen.

Faria Abdullah Regrets Rejecting HanuMan

In the film industry, actors often turn down scripts for many reasons—sometimes because the timing is wrong, sometimes because they fail to see the potential of the story. But when those films go on to become massive hits, regret naturally follows. Actress Faria Abdullah has now openly admitted one such regret from her own career.

The JathiRatnalu actress recently revealed that saying no to HanuMan was one of the biggest mistakes of her life. She confessed that she rejected the film without fully understanding its potential and now feels deeply disappointed about missing the opportunity.

Faria, who became widely popular with her role as Chitti in JathiRatnalu, is currently busy promoting her upcoming film Gayapadda Simham, which is set for release on May 1. The film stars Tarun Bhascker in the lead and is directed by Srinivas Kashyap.

During the promotions, Faria spoke candidly in an interview about missing out on HanuMan, the blockbuster superhero film starring Teja Sajja and directed by Prasanth Varma. Released in 2024, HanuMan became a huge success and received praise for its storytelling, visual effects, and strong emotional content.

Faria revealed that the heroine’s role in HanuMan, eventually played by Amritha Aiyer, was

first offered to her. However, she turned it down at the time.

Speaking honestly, she said that she simply lacked the understanding to make the right decision. She admitted that when the offer came, she was still new to the industry and did not know how to judge scripts properly. After the success of JathiRatnalu, she found it difficult to decide which kind of stories she should choose next.

She explained that while trying too hard to pick the “right” script, she failed to recognise the strength of HanuMan. Looking back now, she calls it a decision made without proper thinking and says it remains the biggest mistake of her career.

Faria also added that this experience taught her an important lesson. She said she has now become much more careful while selecting scripts and wants to make smarter choices for her future projects.

Her honesty has been appreciated by many fans, as actors rarely speak so openly about missed opportunities. It also shows how unpredictable the film industry can be, where one decision can completely change the course of a career.

While Faria may have missed HanuMan, her growing career and self-awareness suggest that she is learning from the past and preparing for stronger opportunities ahead.

