



High-Voltage Campaigning Intensifies Across States as Assembly Elections 2026 Near Polling Dates

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KKR vs PBKS Match Washed Out Due to Rain in Kolkata

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Swami Naidu Visits JanaSena Office in Maharashtra's Sholapur

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Another BC Kapu Leader Likely as New TTD Chairman..!

The replacement of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Chairman B.R. Naidu imminent? This is currently a hot topic of discussion both within the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and TTD circles. B.R. Naidu, head of TV5 News channel, assumed charge as TTD Chairman on November 5, 2024. It is widely known that he was appointed due to his strong support for TDP during the five years of YSRCP rule. The government had issued orders granting him a two-year tenure. However, political circles are now abuzz with claims that he may be removed within just one and a half years.

It is being widely discussed that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has been unhappy with B.R. Naidu's performance from the beginning. Soon after Naidu took charge, the Vaikuntha Ekadashi festival witnessed a stampede in Tirupati during ticket distribution, leading to the death of 8 devotees and injuries to around 20 others. At the time, YSRCP leaders strongly criticized the negligence of the board members. Since then, TTD has been repeatedly targeted by YSRCP leaders, and B.R. Naidu reportedly failed to respond



B.R. Naidu

Kimidi Kala Venkata Rao

effectively. The controversy escalated further when YSRCP leaders released videos on social media alleging B.R. Naidu's close association with a woman. The issue created a major uproar. Initially, Naidu claimed the videos were AI-generated and warned of legal action against those responsible. Later, he stated that the woman's family had known his family for 30 years and that nothing inappropriate had occurred in the video. These conflicting statements intensified the controversy. TDP leaders say Chandrababu

Naidu is displeased with B.R. Naidu's conduct. Reports suggest that during his recent Tirumala visit, the Chief Minister maintained distance from Naidu. B.R. Naidu was also absent from a review meeting held by the CM in Tirumala, reinforcing speculation about his removal. Even during the Sri Kodandarama Swamy Kalyanotsavam at Ontimitta on April 1, the CM reportedly kept him at arm's length. This has strengthened the belief that Naidu's replacement is imminent. According to reports, senior

TDP leader and former minister Kimidi Kala Venkata Rao is likely to be appointed as the new TTD Chairman. Kala Venkata Rao has served as a state party president, Rajya Sabha member, and minister; and also has prior experience as TTD Chairman. Known as a senior BC leader from North Andhra with a clean image, he maintains good relations across party lines. It is believed that Chandrababu sees him as a suitable choice for the role, and party leaders feel his appointment would be smooth and without controversy.

Amaravati Capital Gazette Notification Released

Amaravati, Telangana | Date: 06 04 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Gazette notification for Amaravati as the capital of Andhra Pradesh has been officially released following the President's signature. The notification, issued by the Central Ministry of Law and Justice, formally recognizes Amaravati as the state capital. It has been announced that the provisions of

the notification will come into effect from June 2, 2024. This marks a significant step in the administrative establishment of Amaravati as the functioning capital, completing the procedural requirements for the government to operate from the designated city. The release of the Amaravati Gazette is expected to streamline governance, development planning, and administrative activities in the region.

Pawan Kalyan's Efforts Bear Fruit: Pithapuram Railway Station Set for Major Upgrade

Amaravathi, 6th April 2026 | TPN Bureau

Under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, Pithapuram Railway Station will undergo comprehensive development with an investment of 37.25 crore. The station's layout and infrastructure are set to be modernized, providing all essential facilities and making it fully passenger-friendly. The proposal to include Pithapuram station in the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme was initiated by Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and received approval from the Ministry of Railways. During a recent field inspection, Pawan Kalyan observed that the station surroundings were unclean and emitting a foul smell, and he instructed officials to immediately clean the area. Earlier, during his Delhi visit in January, Pawan Kalyan discussed the station's development with Railway Minister

Ashwini Vaishnav, emphasizing the need to upgrade the station for pilgrims traveling to the spiritually significant town of Pithapuram. The Ministry responded positively, agreeing to develop the station under the Amrit Bharat initiative. Planned improvements include modern station buildings, main entrances, waiting rooms with special facilities for differently-abled passengers, state-of-the-art toilets, improved drainage systems, updated cabling, platform upgrades, and the construction of new shelters. Pawan Kalyan expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for approving the funds, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav for the prompt response, and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for continuous support in developing Pithapuram station. The upgraded Pithapuram station is expected to provide a comfortable, well-equipped, and aesthetically pleasing travel experience for all passengers visiting the town.



Chandrababu Naidu Welcomes Amaravati's Gazette Notification as AP Capital

Amaravati, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed strong satisfaction after the official gazette notification recognised Amaravati as the sole and permanent capital of the state. The notification was issued by the Central Government's Ministry of Law and Justice following the President's assent to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Act, 2026, providing full statutory backing to Amaravati's status as the capital city. Reacting on social media, Naidu said the decision fulfils the long cherished dream of the people of Andhra Pradesh. He extended his heartfelt gratitude to President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the Union Government for approving the amendment that solidifies Amaravati's legal status.

He also thanked MPs, state leaders, and citizens who supported the movement, especially the Amaravati farmers whose contributions were instrumental. Naidu described the development as a victory for the people of the state and particularly for those who sacrificed land for the capital project. According to him, the gazette notification brings administrative clarity and confidence, allowing infrastructure development and planning to proceed with renewed momentum. The Chief Minister reiterated that Amaravati's legal recognition as the capital eliminates years of uncertainty and provides a stable foundation for future investment and growth. He emphasised that this milestone reflects collective effort and perseverance, and will help accelerate development in the capital region, benefiting residents and boosting investor confidence in the state's growth trajectory.

Chandrababu Launches 'Jaladhara' Program, Emphasizes Water Security and Regional Development

Anantapur, Tadipatri, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the Jaladhara - Water Security and Irrigation Society Responsibility program in Tadipatri, Anantapur district, unveiling a 100-day action plan aimed at ensuring water availability for every acre of farmland across Andhra Pradesh. Highlighting water as the cornerstone of prosperity, the CM stressed efficient water conservation measures, including check dams, trenches, micro-irrigation, and rejuvenation of tanks and canals, to enhance groundwater levels and agricultural productivity.

During the event, he inaugurated a mobile app for irrigation societies, aimed at strengthening accountability and real-time monitoring of water distribution. Chandrababu reiterated that under his leadership, Andhra Pradesh has implemented extensive drip irrigation programs with significant subsidies, positioning Rayalaseema as a horticulture hub. Over Rs. 1,031 crore has been invested in micro-irrigation, supporting farmers with modern techniques to boost yields and ensure optimal use of resources. The CM also highlighted the Pravodaya scheme, which is



expected to bring Rs. 30,000 crore for regional development, supplemented by additional investments totaling Rs. 70,000 crore. Water conservation measures have increased groundwater levels by 1.92 meters in Anantapur; and over 20,000 dry borewells have been replenished. Current reservoir storage stands at 65% post-Kharif and Rabi, ensuring uninterrupted water supply for crops and domestic use. Chandrababu Naidu criticized the previous ruling party for delaying progress and obstructing development initiatives, particularly regarding Amaravati's status as the state capital. He affirmed the government's commitment to Amaravati's legal recognition, expressing pride in the region's support for the initiative. Emphasizing public engagement, the CM reviewed department performance reports, addressed officials directly on efficiency, and encouraged continued collaboration for regional growth. The Tadipatri event saw strong public participation, with citizens raising slogans in support of Amaravati. Local ministers, MPs, MLA Asmith Reddy, and district officials attended. Chandrababu also inspected exhibition stalls showcasing 100-day action plan details, horticulture products, granite and dolomite resources, and women's self-help initiatives. The CM urged citizens and officials to maintain focus on water security, sustainable agriculture, and responsible governance to ensure Andhra Pradesh's long-term prosperity.

This comprehensive approach reflects the government's intent to integrate water conservation, agricultural development, and regional growth, positioning Rayalaseema and broader Andhra Pradesh as sustainable and progressive regions.

Naidu Hits Back at Jagan Over Amaravati Corruption Allegations

Yadiki, Anantapur, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu strongly rebutted the corruption allegations raised by YSRCP leader Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy regarding the development works in Amaravati, calling them politically motivated and baseless. Speaking at a public meeting in Yadiki, Naidu emphasized that Amaravati's development projects are progressing transparently and efficiently, benefiting the state and its people. He described the opposition's claims as an attempt to create confusion and delay progress rather than reflect reality. Naidu expressed concern over Jagan's proposal to move the state capital to the MAVIGUN corridor, labeling it as impractical and unnecessary. He highlighted that the opposition deliberately avoids even mentioning Amaravati by name, showing reluctance to



acknowledge the achievements of the current government. Naidu reiterated that Amaravati remains the official capital and assured the public that all planned projects will be completed in a timely and transparent manner. During his speech,

Naidu outlined the government's development initiatives, including infrastructure modernization, water conservation measures, and urban planning for Amaravati. He stressed that these projects are designed to create long-term

economic growth, improve public services, and enhance the quality of life for residents. He highlighted the government's efforts to safeguard public funds and ensure that all works are free from corruption. Naidu also criticized the

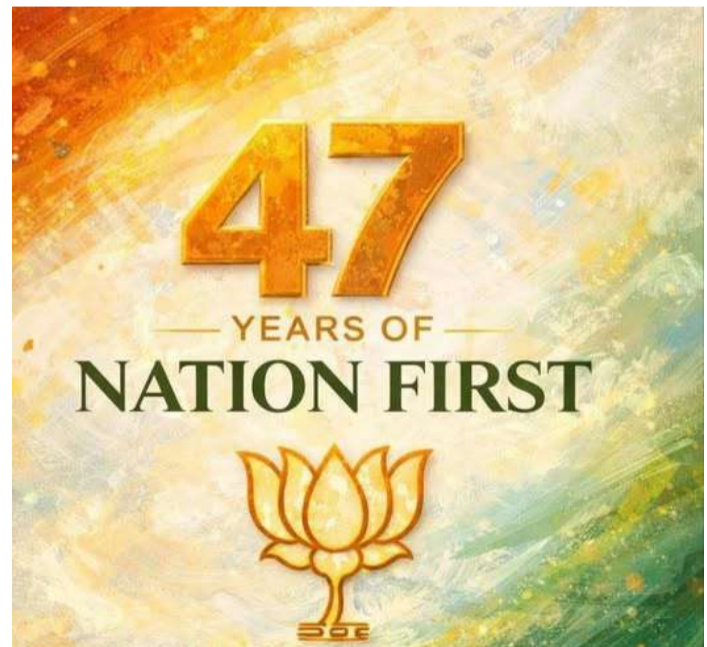
political motivations behind the opposition's repeated attacks, asserting that such tactics are aimed at destabilizing governance and creating unrest among citizens. He called upon the people of Andhra Pradesh to support the state government's vision for Amaravati and to reject baseless allegations designed to undermine progress. The Chief Minister's address was met with strong public support, with citizens expressing their confidence in the government's commitment to Amaravati's growth and development. He assured the public that the administration would continue to prioritize transparency, accountability, and efficiency in all development works. Naidu concluded by reiterating that Amaravati is central to Andhra Pradesh's future, and the government remains committed to completing it as a modern, well-planned, and sustainable capital, ensuring prosperity for generations to come.

Chandrababu Naidu Congratulates BJP on Its 47th Foundation Day

Amaravati, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu extended warm greetings to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on the occasion of its 47th Foundation Day on Monday. He praised the party's commitment to nationalism, inclusive development, and democratic values, highlighting its efforts to strengthen Indian culture and serve the nation. Recalling the BJP's journey under founding leaders and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Naidu noted the party's decisive governance and forward-looking approach under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He

also appreciated the contribution of the NDA government in Andhra Pradesh, emphasizing its focus on development and public welfare. The Chief Minister expressed confidence that the BJP would continue its dedicated service to the nation, guiding India toward a developed and prosperous future. He wished success to the party, its leaders, workers, and supporters across the country, noting their significant role in shaping India's growth and democratic progress. Naidu's message reflects a continued spirit of cooperation between the state leadership and the central government, underlining the importance of collaborative efforts for national development.



Swami Naidu Visits JanaSena Office in Maharashtra's Sholapur

Sholapur, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Swami Naidu, President of the Akhila Bharata Chiranjeevi Seva Samithi, visited the JanaSena Party office in Sholapur, Maharashtra, where he interacted with local party volunteers and leaders. Expressing his satisfaction, Swami Naidu appreciated the efforts of Sholapur JanaSena in-charge Yannam Srinivas for successfully managing the office and organizing various social service activities that benefit the local community.

Swami Naidu emphasized that JanaSena is gaining increasing recognition and importance across all states in India. He highlighted that the party, under the leadership of Pawan Kalyan, continues to uphold its founding principles of public service and unity, bringing people together beyond political boundaries. He noted that working for the welfare of all citizens, regardless of language or region, is a matter of pride for every JanaSena volunteer. Speaking to the local members, Swami Naidu encouraged them to actively support Srinivas and fellow volunteers, including

Anil Konda, Anand, Venkatesh, Prashanti, Basavaraju, Kushan, and Kanki Srinivas, in carrying forward social initiatives and community engagement programs. He also reaffirmed that the party aims to grow into a national-level political force in the near future, with Sholapur serving as a model for regional and national expansion. The visit was marked by a sense of unity, motivation, and commitment to public service and party principles, strengthening the bond between JanaSena leaders and volunteers in Sholapur and across Maharashtra.



Water Resource Conservation Key to Secure Future: Minister Kollu Ravindra

Machilipatnam | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

Emphasizing the critical importance of water resource management, Andhra Pradesh Minister for Mines, Geology, and Excise, Kollu Ravindra, stated that safeguarding water resources is essential to ensuring a secure future for coming generations. He made these remarks while participating in a field visit to irrigation development works in the Machilipatnam constituency. The minister inspected ongoing works at the Ramarajupalem branch canal near Pottlapalem village panchayat and the Kothapudi tank, accompanied by district officials and public representatives. During the visit, he interacted with workers under the employment guarantee scheme, inquiring about working conditions and facilities. He also reviewed developmental activities in local water bodies and symbolically inaugurated the works by breaking a coconut at the tank site.

Addressing the gathering, Ravindra underlined that agri-



culture remains the backbone of the nation and stressed that adequate irrigation facilities are vital for its sustainability. He noted that the state government has launched a special 90-day program aimed at strengthening irrigation infrastructure. The first 80 days will focus on identifying and completing necessary development works across water bodies, followed by a review phase to assess progress and effectiveness. Highlighting past initiatives, the minister recalled that in 1995, when N. Chandrababu Naidu assumed office as Chief Minister, water user associations were established to involve farmers directly in irrigation management. This participatory approach, he said, helped in identifying and resolving issues efficiently, though such efforts were neglected in later

years. Ravindra further explained that the state has made significant progress in improving groundwater levels. From an average depth of 10.62 meters in 2024, groundwater levels have risen to 8.70 meters currently, with an estimated increase of 640 TMC of groundwater reserves. He credited this improvement to desilting and refilling of tanks and ponds across the state. The minister also stressed the importance of river interlinking projects to utilize surplus water from rivers like Krishna and Godavari, much of which currently flows into the sea unused. He noted that the completion of the Polavaram Project would enable storage of up to 190 TMC of water, which could then be distributed to drought-prone regions like Rayalaseema and North Andhra.

Piduguralla Government Medical College to Be Operational This Academic Year: Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar

Palnadu | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Energy Minister and Palnadu District In-charge Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar announced that the Government Medical College and its attached hospital under construction at Piduguralla in Gurazala constituency will be made operational within the academic year. The announcement came during his inspection of the ongoing construction works on Monday.

The Minister, accompanied by Narasaraopet MP Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu and local MLA Yarapathineni Srinivasa Rao, reviewed the progress of the medical college and hospital facilities. He later held a meeting with district officials to assess the pace of construction and ensure that the project meets its deadlines.

Directing officials and contractors to accelerate the works, Ravi Kumar emphasized the need for round-the-clock efforts to complete the project on time. Spread over nearly 1.3 million square feet, the medical college is expected to emerge as a prestigious institution in the state and a significant milestone for the development of the Palnadu region. The Minister also stated that he would soon revisit the project along with the Health Minister to further monitor its progress.



Addressing political developments, the Minister responded to comments made by former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, criticizing the previous government for allegedly delaying development under

the three-capital proposal. He remarked that a clear presentation of facts from the past five years would lead the public to reject the previous regime's leadership.

Ravi Kumar further highlighted that farmers had voluntarily contributed around 30,000 acres of land for the development of Amaravati, expressing concern that even after more than a decade since state bifurcation, Andhra

Pradesh still lacks a permanent capital. He asserted that the current coalition government is focused on restoring governance systems and accelerating both development and welfare initiatives. On the welfare front, the Minister announced a major initiative to provide free 2 kW solar power units to approximately 600,000 SC and ST households consuming up to 200 units of electricity. Additionally, beneficiaries opting for 3 kW solar units will receive a subsidy of 78,000, along with an extra 20,000 subsidy for BC communities. The scheme will initially be implemented in tribal (tanda) areas, benefiting over 50 families.

He also pointed out that while electricity tariffs were increased multiple times under the previous administration, the current government has maintained stable tariffs and even introduced marginal reductions. Under the leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, the state is witnessing renewed momentum in infrastructure development and welfare programs. District Collector Kritika Shukla and other officials were present during the inspection.

Pawan Kalyan Invited to Andhra University Mega Cultural Fest Valedictory

Mangalagiri | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

The valedictory ceremony of the mega cultural fest as part of the centenary celebrations of Andhra University is set to gain prominence with the invitation extended to Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. University officials formally invited him to attend the closing ceremony scheduled for April 8.

The invitation was presented during a meeting held at the Deputy Chief Minister's camp office in Mangalagiri on Monday. On this occasion, Pawan Kalyan unveiled the official poster of the mega cultural fest, marking a significant step in the lead-up to the concluding celebrations. The event is part of Andhra University's centenary festivities, which have been celebrated with a series of academic, cultural, and social programs over the past months.

Officials expressed their enthusiasm about the Deputy Chief Minister's potential presence, stating that his participation would add prestige and visibility to the event. The university administration has planned the valedictory ceremony on a grand scale in Visakhapatnam, aiming to bring together students, faculty, alumni, and distinguished guests.

The delegation that met the Deputy Chief Minister included Rector Professor Pulipati King, Director of Physical Education Professor Vijaya Mohan, Director of the Durgabai Deshmukh Centre for Women's Studies Professor Pallavi, and State Science and Technology Member Secretary Kotamaraju Sarath, among others. They briefed him on the significance of the cultural fest and the broader centenary celebrations.



The mega cultural fest has been designed to showcase the diverse talents of students across various disciplines, including music, dance, drama, and literary arts. It also aims to reflect the rich cultural heritage and academic excellence associated with Andhra University over the past 100 years.

During the interaction, the officials highlighted the university's efforts in promoting holistic education by integrating cultural activities with academic pursuits. They noted that such large-scale events not only encourage student participation but also strengthen the institution's reputation at the state and national levels.

The unveiling of the poster by Pawan Kalyan symbolized the official countdown to the grand finale of the celebrations. The Deputy Chief Minister appreciated the initiative and the university's commitment to fostering cultural and educational growth.

With preparations in full swing, the university is gearing up to host a memorable valedictory ceremony that reflects its century-long legacy. The event is expected to draw significant attention from across the state, further reinforcing Andhra University's position as a leading institution in higher education and cultural development.

Agriculture Department Calls for Strategic Preparedness as Kharif Season Begins

Amaravathi April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

As the Kharif season commences, the Department of Agriculture has urged officials to prioritize preparedness and adopt proactive strategies to tackle emerging challenges. Director of Agriculture Dr. Manazir Jeelani Samoon chaired a high-level review meeting with departmental section heads, focusing on seasonal planning and risk mitigation.

The Director emphasized the need to closely monitor the potential impact of the El Niño phenomenon, which could significantly affect rainfall patterns and crop productivity. Additionally, he highlighted concerns over the ongoing geopolitical tensions in Western Asia, which may disrupt fertilizer supply chains, thereby



Addressing fertilizer management, Dr. Samoon noted that during the previous Rabi season, consistent monitoring ensured there was no shortage

maintaining a rolling stock of urea sufficient for 21 days, conducting district-level reviews every ten days, and comparing fertilizer sales data with the average of the past three years

proved effective. These strategies will be continued and strengthened for the Kharif 2026 season.

To further streamline fertilizer distribution, the Director instructed officials to utilize the Integrated Fertiliser Management System (IFMS). This system will help track urea stocks in real-time and integrate data with the farmers' database, ensuring transparency and efficiency in supply management.

Highlighting technological advancements, Dr. Samoon pointed out the success of the E-Crop initiative under the Digital Agricultural Mission. The program was implemented in over 90 percent of villages, covering more than 90 percent of survey numbers during the Rabi season. The initiative involved geo-referencing sur-

veys at every 20 meters, enabling precise agricultural data collection. This achievement helped the state secure a grant of 100 crore from the central government.

The Director commended field-level officers for their dedication and effective implementation of digital initiatives. He stressed that similar efforts must continue during the Kharif season to enhance agricultural productivity and resilience.

The review meeting was attended by Additional Directors Prasad and Sridhar, along with Joint Directors and other departmental heads. The Department reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring a smooth and productive Kharif season through strategic planning and efficient resource management.

Minister Nara Lokesh Attends Traditional Ceremony in Vijayawada

Vijayawada | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education and IT, Nara Lokesh, participated in a traditional "New Clothes Presentation Ceremony" held in Vijayawada on Monday. The event was organized on the occasion of a family celebration hosted by Arya Vysya Welfare and Development Corporation Chairman Dundi Rakesh. The ceremony took place at the prominent Punnami Ghat in Vijayawada, drawing the presence of several community members, well-wishers, and political leaders. Minister Lokesh attended the event as a chief guest and extended his blessings to Dundi Rakesh's son Sai Seetharam and daughter Lakshmi Kusuma Kumari, who were the fo-



cus of the function. The "New Clothes Presentation Ceremony," a culturally significant ritual, symbolizes prosperity, and blessings for

the individuals being honored. Such events are deeply rooted in tradition and reflect the social and familial values upheld by communities in Andhra

Pradesh. During his visit, Lokesh interacted with attendees and appreciated the cultural significance of the ceremony. He highlighted the importance of preserving traditional practices while progressing toward modern development. His participation also underscored the connection between political leadership and community engagement at the grassroots level. Several leaders from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) were also present at the event, showing solidarity and support for the occasion. The gathering witnessed a festive atmosphere, with rituals performed in accordance with customary practices and family traditions. Punnami Ghat, known for hosting religious and cultural events along the banks of the Krishna River, provided a vibrant and serene setting for

the ceremony. The event not only celebrated a family milestone but also brought together people from different walks of life, fostering a sense of unity and cultural pride. Minister Lokesh's presence added prominence to the occasion, reflecting his active participation in both administrative responsibilities and social engagements. Over the years, he has been seen attending various public and private events, strengthening ties with communities across the state.

The ceremony concluded on a celebratory note, with blessings, traditional rituals, and interactions among guests. Events like these continue to highlight the rich cultural fabric of Andhra Pradesh while reinforcing the importance of community bonding and shared values.

YSRCP Leaders Slam ABN Radhakrishna, Defend 'MAVIGAN' Development Model

Visakhapatnam | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

Senior leaders of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) launched a strong attack on ABN Andhra Jyothy Managing Director Vemuri Radhakrishna, accusing him of indulging in diversion politics and making derogatory remarks to undermine the proposed "MAVIGAN" development model.



Kannababu alleged that Radhakrishna and his media platforms have become a "menace" to the state, claiming that the criticism stems from growing public support for the MAVIGAN model proposed by former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

opment corridor encompassing Machilipatnam, Vijayawada, and Guntur—the leaders said it could act as a "growth engine" for Andhra Pradesh with comparatively lower investment.

ports, and national highways, while neglecting other regions like North Andhra and Rayalaseema. They questioned the feasibility of spending lakhs of crores on Amaravati, pointing out that only limited funds had been utilized during earlier tenures.

for "development corridors" by the ruling party was a reaction to the MAVIGAN proposal gaining traction. He accused the government of failing to respond to substantive questions raised by Jagan Mohan Reddy and instead engaging in political mudslinging.

Gudivada Amarnath alleged that the legal framework introduced for Amaravati was aimed at legitimizing corruption rather than development. He argued that the MAVIGAN model offers a more practical and inclusive alternative for balanced regional growth.

Echoing similar sentiments, Majji Srinivasa Rao stated that the ruling party had ignored regional development concerns for years and only began discussing corridors after the MAVIGAN proposal. Meanwhile, Kumbha Ravibabu demanded that both Radhakrishna and Chandrababu Naidu respond to the allegations and uphold standards of public discourse.



YSRCP Alleges Inflated Costs in Amaravati Construction, Questions Transparency

Tadepalli | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on Tuesday accused the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) of misleading the public with "fabricated figures" regarding construction costs in Amaravati.

feet for key administrative towers, the government is reportedly projecting it as nearly 70 lakh square feet by including surrounding infrastructure such as parking and external development works.

Narendra claimed that the TDP's assertion that construction in Amaravati costs around 7,000 per square foot was "completely false." Citing tender details, he stated that the actual cost ranges between 12,000 and 14,000 per square foot.

Narendra also questioned the state's request for central funds, pointing out that Amaravati was earlier described as a self-financing capital. "If it is truly self-sustaining, why seek funds from the Centre?" he asked.

Condemning the alleged remarks against women, the YSRCP leaders emphasized that such behavior is unacceptable in a society and called for maintaining dignity and respect in political and media discourse.

held on the layout of lands in Shettipalli, a long-pending issue, with the Minister stating that steps have been taken to resolve it.



Home Minister Anita Visits Injured Police Personnel After Challapalli Blast

Mangalagiri | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapati Anita on Monday visited police personnel injured in a blast incident that occurred under the limits of Challapalli Police Station in Krishna district.

transported to court. These materials had been confiscated from shops allegedly selling firecrackers without proper permissions in the Challapalli police station jurisdiction.

According to officials, four police personnel were injured in the incident, including a Sub-Inspector, a court constable, and two constables. One of the injured, identified as Abdullah, reportedly sustained 50-60 percent burn injuries, while the others are said to be out of danger.

The Minister visited the victims at NRI Hospital, interacted with doctors, and reviewed the medical care being provided. She also spoke to the injured personnel and their family members, assuring them that the state government would extend full support during their recovery.

YSRCP Slams Chandrababu, Accuses Friendly Media of Derogatory Remarks Against Women

Nellore/Proddatur | April 06, 2026 TPN Bureau

The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on Monday launched a sharp attack on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and sections of what it termed as "friendly media," accusing them of resorting to cheap theatrics and making derogatory remarks against women to divert public attention.



Addressing separate press conferences, former minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy and party leader Rachamalla Siva Prasad Reddy alleged that the ruling party's propaganda machinery was activated after it failed to counter the "Mavigun" development proposal put forward by former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

of crossing all limits by involving the families of political leaders, calling it an unacceptable and indecent practice.

Defending the Mavigun proposal, the YSRCP leaders described it as a practical and cost-effective alternative for the state's development. They stated that the model could be implemented with an estimated cost of 20,000 crore, in contrast to Amaravati, which they claimed could require up to 2 lakh crore, potentially placing a heavy burden on the state's finances.

both mainstream and social media. They claimed that ministers, MLAs, and party workers were being encouraged to aggressively criticize the proposal, often using inappropriate language to gain political favor.

According to them, the alleged propaganda campaign began with statements from cabinet ministers, followed by party cadre and social media amplification. They further accused pro-government media

The leaders alleged that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, unable to counter the proposal effectively, has resorted to a widespread campaign of misinformation through



Minister Narayana Reviews Development Works with TUDA and Municipal Officials in Tirupati

Tirupati | April 6, 2026 TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Minister P Narayana conducted a review meeting with officials of the Tirupati Urban Development Authority (TUDA) and the Municipal Corporation at the TUDA office in Tirupati on Monday, focusing on ongoing development works, revenue generation, and urban infrastructure improvements.

Discussions were also held on the layout of lands in Shettipalli, a long-pending issue, with the Minister stating that steps have been taken to resolve it.

BJP Marks Foundation Day in Vijayawada; "Mana Illu - Mana Jhanda" Campaign Launched

Vijayawada | April 6, 2026 TPN Bureau:



The Bharatiya Janata Party celebrated its 46th Foundation Day with enthusiasm at the party's state office in Vijayawada on Monday, with Andhra Pradesh BJP President PVN Madhav addressing party leaders, workers, and supporters.

party has remained committed to nation-building and removing the causes that led to India's long period under foreign rule. He stated that the BJP was founded with the vision of ensuring unity and preventing divisions based on religion, caste, language, or region.

his life during the Kashmir movement, and Deendayal Upadhyaya, whose philosophy continues to guide the party. He also highlighted the leadership of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, under whom the BJP first formed a government at the Centre and demonstrated governance marked by stability and reform.

key moments in Indian history, including its opposition to the Emergency (India), when thousands of party workers were jailed for defending democracy. He also referred to the party's support during the 1962 war with China and the 1965 war with Pakistan, stating that BJP workers stood with the nation in times of crisis and contributed through various efforts, including public service and support for the armed forces.

across the country. He said these initiatives have strengthened India's global standing and showcased its capabilities on the world stage. Looking ahead, Madhav reiterated the party's vision of building a "Viksit Bharat" by 2047 and called for collective participation from all sections of society.

Andhra Pradesh Emerging as Dynamic Hub for Industrial Development: Governor Abdul Nazeer

Vijayawada | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

Governor of Andhra Pradesh S Abdul Nazeer stated that the state is rapidly emerging as a dynamic hub for industrial development, driven by its strong focus on ports, logistics, and connectivity. He was addressing the XV Convocation of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur, which he presided over as Chancellor at the university auditorium in Anantapur on Monday.

Delivering the convocation address, the Governor highlighted that Andhra Pradesh, with its strategic coastline, is increasingly becoming a gateway for international trade. He noted that massive investments in roads,

industrial corridors, and digital infrastructure have significantly accelerated economic activity and created employment opportunities across the state. Emphasizing the progress in the education sector, Abdul Nazeer said the state has developed a wider and more inclusive higher education system. He pointed out that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education has reached 36.5 percent, which is above the national average, while the Gender Parity Index (GPI) stands at 0.93, reflecting steady progress in women's participation. He added that Andhra Pradesh holds strong potential to advance research aligned with societal needs, technological innovation, and sustainable development.

The Governor congratulated

Tessy Thomas, Vice-Chancellor of NICHE, Kanyakumari, who attended as Chief Guest-cum-Orator and was conferred with an honorary doctorate (Honoris Causa). He also extended his best wishes to the students who received their degrees and medals during the convocation.

Earlier, Vice-Chancellor H Sudarsana Rao presented the annual report of the university, outlining its academic achievements and future plans. The Governor was later felicitated with a memento on behalf of the institution.

The event was attended by First Lady Sameera Nazeer, faculty members, students, and other dignitaries, marking a significant academic occasion for the university.



No Shortage of LPG or Fuel Supplies in Andhra Pradesh: Civil Supplies Director.

Vijayawada | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

The Andhra Pradesh government on Monday clarified that there is no shortage of LPG, petrol, diesel, or fertilizers in the state, urging the public not to panic over rumors circulating on social media. Civil Supplies Director Nupur Ajay Kumar stated that sufficient stocks are available and the supply chain is functioning smoothly without disruptions.

Addressing a joint press conference at the State Civil Supplies Corporation office in Kanuru along with PIB Director G Suresh Kumar, she said the government has taken all necessary measures to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities. Despite the impact of international developments, authorities are closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with relevant departments to prevent any shortages.

She revealed that the state currently has around 14,000 metric tonnes of LPG in stock, while the daily consumption



stands at about 4,000 metric tonnes. To meet demand efficiently, supply has been increased to 4,100 metric tonnes per day. The Director emphasized that LPG delivery is being carried out through a 100% home delivery system, eliminating the need for consumers to visit gas agencies. Cylinders can be booked conveniently through WhatsApp, IVRS, missed calls, or mobile apps.

To prevent panic booking, the government has introduced restrictions, allowing refills only after 25 days in urban areas and 45 days in rural regions. She appealed to citizens not to indulge in unnecessary hoarding or believe un-

verified information. Highlighting enforcement measures, Nupur Ajay Kumar said that nearly 90% of LPG deliveries are now being done through OTP-based verification to prevent diversion and misuse. Strict action is being taken against violators, and since March 1, authorities have registered 1,075 cases and seized 4,377 gas cylinders in connection with irregularities.

She further assured that petrol and diesel supplies in the state remain stable, with no changes in prices and adequate stock availability. Fertilizer supplies are also sufficient to meet agricultural

needs. Speaking on the occasion, PIB Director G. Suresh Kumar said that while ongoing tensions in West Asia have had some impact on global oil and gas supply, both the central and state governments are effectively managing the situation through coordinated efforts. He noted that the Centre, under the leadership of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has constituted a Group of Ministers and an empowered team of secretaries to continuously review the situation.

At the state level, a special committee under the Chief Minister, along with officials from civil supplies, agriculture, and finance departments, is monitoring the situation on a daily basis. Authorities also plan to issue daily briefings in Telugu to ensure that accurate information reaches the public.

Officials reiterated that there is no need for concern and urged people to rely only on official sources for updates while avoiding panic booking and unnecessary rush at gas agencies.

'Drugs Dandayatra 2.0' Launched in Vijayawada to Curb Drug Abuse

Vijayawada | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

The NTR District Police Commissionerate on Monday launched "Drugs Dandayatra 2.0" as part of its intensified drive to curb drug abuse and promote a drug-free society. The programme was initiated in Vambay Colony under the slogan "Zero Tolerance to Drugs," focusing on enforcement measures following a large-scale awareness campaign conducted earlier.

City Police Commissioner SV Rajasekhara Babu, District Collector Lakshmi Sha, and Municipal Commissioner Dhyanchand participated in the programme along with senior police officials, health department representatives, and members of voluntary organizations.

Addressing the gathering, the Police Commissioner said a 34-day cycle rally covering 550 km by five women police personnel had earlier created widespread awareness about the harmful effects of drugs. During the campaign, nearly three lakh people took a digital

pledge not to consume drugs. Building on this response, the second phase focuses on strict action and monitoring.

He said that 149 drug "hotspots" have been identified across the commissionerate limits. In these areas, special teams will conduct checks for 30 days using around 3,000 drug testing kits, testing nearly 100 individuals daily. Those who voluntarily undergo testing and are found positive will be referred to de-addiction centres for treatment.

A special bus has been deployed for the programme, with a team of 20 police personnel and 10 health department staff conducting surprise inspections at the identified locations. Authorities are also planning to introduce facial recognition systems, improve lighting, strengthen CCTV surveillance, and use drones for continuous monitoring in these hotspots.

The Commissioner warned that strict action would be taken against those involved in drug-related activities, including rowdy sheeters and repeat offenders. He also cautioned

that open drinking and drug use would invite stringent measures, reiterating the goal of making the entire commissionerate drug-free.

He further announced that "Drugs Dandayatra 3.0" will be launched in June-July, focusing on colleges and youth, with increased screening and awareness efforts. He added that 25 individuals involved in ganja-related offences have already been booked under the PIT NDPS Act, and proposals have been sent against another 20 individuals.

District Collector Lakshmi Sha said the earlier awareness campaign had a significant impact but warned that stricter enforcement would follow if there is no change in behaviour. She emphasized that drug abuse affects not only individuals but also families and society, and reiterated the administration's commitment to making NTR district drug-free. She also announced that participants contributing to the campaign would be recognized and issued certificates under a special initiative.

KDCC Launches New PACS Building in Uyyuru, Strengthening Support for Farmers

Uyyuru (Penamaluru Constituency) | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

In a significant boost to the cooperative sector and rural economy, the newly constructed Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) building was inaugurated in Uyyuru town of Penamaluru constituency on Monday. The inauguration was carried out by KDCC Bank Chairman Nettam Raghuram and MLA Bode Prasad amid a large gathering of local leaders, farmers, and residents.

The programme was organized under the leadership of Cooperative Society President Vasu Kunapareddy and witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local community. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Nettam Raghuram emphasized that the cooperative sector has emerged as a strong financial backbone for farmers, providing them with reliable and affordable credit facilities. He stated that cooperative banks and societies in the erstwhile Krishna district are playing a crucial role in supporting agriculture, dairy, and allied sectors by offering loans at lower interest rates, thereby improving the financial stability of rural households.

He further highlighted that through PACS, both agricultural loans and DWACRA loans for women's groups are being disbursed effectively, strengthening the rural economy. He expressed pride that

the Krishna District Cooperative Central Bank stands among the top three in the state and the country. Raghuram also noted that computerization of cooperative societies has been completed, urging farmers to make full use of these digital services. He encouraged youth to utilize schemes like PMEGP to explore self-employment opportunities and assured that KDCC Bank would be further strengthened to match commercial banking standards. MLA Bode Prasad, addressing the gathering, said that the present coalition government is committed to people-centric governance and rapid development. He pointed out that major infrastructure projects

such as Amaravati, Polavaram, and road development works are progressing at a faster pace, driving the state towards reconstruction and growth. The PACS building, constructed at a cost of 49 lakh, is expected to enhance accessibility of services for farmers while also generating rental income through shops within the premises, thereby strengthening the institution financially. During the event, loan cheques worth 10 crore were distributed to over 100 beneficiaries under agricultural and DWACRA schemes, boosting confidence among farmers and women self-help groups. Several coalition leaders, officials, and local residents attended the programme in large numbers.



Free Buttermilk Camp Launched at Collectorate to Provide Relief from Summer Heat

Machilipatnam (Krishna District) | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

In a thoughtful initiative to provide relief to visitors during the summer season, a free buttermilk distribution camp was inaugurated at the Collectorate in Machilipatnam on Monday. The camp was formally launched by Joint Collector M Naveen, in the presence of district officials. Speaking on the occasion, the Joint Collector stated that the buttermilk distribution programme is being organized every year during the summer to help people cope with rising temperatures. He explained that every Monday, a large number of people from various parts of the district visit the Collectorate to attend the "Meekosam" grievance redressal programme. Keeping their comfort in mind, the administration has arranged for free distribution of buttermilk as a gesture of care and support. He further added that the initiative is being carried out with the cooperation of officials and

staff from various departments, ensuring smooth and continuous service to the public. The programme aims not only to provide physical relief from the heat but also to create a welcoming and citizen-friendly atmosphere at the Collectorate premises.

The Joint Collector appreciated the efforts of the staff involved in organizing the camp and emphasized the importance of such small yet meaningful initiatives in improving public service delivery. He noted that ensuring the well-being of citizens visiting government offices is a priority for the district administration.

District Revenue Officer K Chandrasekhar Rao, Vigilance Deputy Collector Pothuraju, Collectorate Administrative Officer Radhika, and other officials were present at the event. The initiative was well received by visitors, who expressed appreciation for the administration's efforts in addressing their needs during the summer season.

Ensure Quality Resolution for 'Meekosam' Petitions, Directs Collector DK Balaji

Machilipatnam (Krishna District) | April 6, 2026
TPN Bureau:

Emphasizing the importance of responsive governance, District Collector DK Balaji directed officials to ensure quality and timely resolution of grievances submitted under the "Meekosam" programme. He stated that addressing public issues in a transparent and efficient manner is the primary responsibility of the administration.

The Collector made these remarks while participating in the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) meeting held at the Collectorate on Monday. People from various parts of the district attended the programme and submitted their petitions directly to the officials.

Along with Joint Collector M Naveen Kumar, District Revenue Officer K Chandrasekhar Rao, Vigilance Deputy Collector Pothuraju, and Bandaru In-charge DSP Dharmendra, the Collector received and reviewed grievances from the public.

Addressing the officials, the Collector pointed out that people approach the Collectorate with hope and trust, expecting their issues to be resolved. Therefore, every petition must be handled with sensitivity, responsibility, and a humanitarian approach.

He stressed that merely receiving applications is not sufficient, and officials must thoroughly understand the nature of each issue and work towards providing comprehensive solu-

tions. The Collector further instructed that no petition should remain pending and all grievances must be resolved within the stipulated time frame. He warned that delays, negligence, or casual attitudes in addressing public issues would not be tolerated. Officials were directed to conduct field-level inquiries, assess ground realities, and take necessary steps to ensure permanent solutions wherever possible. Several petitions highlighted pressing social and civic issues. A resident from Machilipatnam appealed for financial assistance and pension support for her twin children with disabilities, citing severe financial hardship. Another petitioner requested assistance for house construc-

tion after being allotted a house site in the previous regime but lacking the resources to build a home. A separate complaint raised concerns over alleged encroachment of government land in the city, seeking immediate action for its recovery. The Collector assured that all grievances would be examined carefully and appropriate action would be taken. He reiterated the administration's commitment to prioritizing public concerns and delivering effective governance. Officials from various departments, including revenue, police, agriculture, health, municipal, and civil supplies, participated in the programme, reinforcing a coordinated approach to grievance redressal in Krishna district.



Clean Drinking Water for Students in Hostels, Says Collector A. Shyam Prasad

Puttaparthi, April 6 | TPN Bureau

District Collector A. Shyam Prasad emphasized that providing clean drinking water to students in welfare hostels is a key priority. On Monday, he inaugurated four water purifiers supplied under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank at the Collectorate.

The purifiers, valued at approximately 50,000, were allocated to three BC welfare hostels and one SC hostel in the Kadiri area. With support from various banks, the district has so far distributed a total of 14 water purifiers to BC, SC, and

ST hostels.

The Collector urged bankers to continue contributing through CSR initiatives, ensuring that all hostels in the district are equipped with essential facilities. The program included the participation of APGB Regional Manager T. Ramesh, Puttaparthi Branch Manager K. Chandrashekhar, District Backward Classes Welfare Officer G. Rajendra Kumar Reddy, and hostel officials.

This initiative reflects the administration's commitment to improving student welfare and promoting health and hygiene in residential educational institutions.



Brutal Gang Violence in Kadapa Leaves One Dead, 10 Injured

Kadapa, April 6 | TPN Bureau

A horrific incident shook Kadapa early Monday morning when a gang attack led to the death of a local resident and left ten others seriously injured. The violence erupted following a minor dispute during the Alan Khanpalli festival on Saturday, which escalated when youths under the influence of cannabis attacked Dastagiri and his son. The injured were rushed to Kadapa RIMS for treatment. However, the attackers tracked Dastagiri to the hospital and brutally stabbed him to death on hospital premises. His son and several bystanders sustained injuries and are receiving medical care. Reports suggest that longstanding enmity between the families played a role in the escalation.

Kadapa's history." He criticized local law enforcement for failing to prevent the violence despite prior warnings and advised victims to seek medical help safely. Chandra accused police of neglecting the rising threat from cannabis gangs, whose unchecked activities have spread fear and lawlessness in the area.

Prominent political leaders, including former Deputy CM Anjad Basha, ex-mayors Suresh Babu and Paka Suresh, and ex-Deputy Mayor Nityananda Reddy, visited the hospital to offer support and called for immediate arrest of the perpetrators. They demanded a SIT investigation, transfer of the negligent District SP, and strict action against drug mafias threatening public safety.

The shocking hospital attack underscores the urgent need for stronger law enforcement and preventive measures to curb gang violence fueled by drug abuse in Kadapa.

CPI district secretary Gali Chandra condemned the attack, calling it "a dark stain in



"Jaladhara" Initiative Launched in Atmakur to Strengthen Irrigation

Atmakur, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Atmakur constituency witnessed the grand launch of the "Jaladhara" program aimed at enhancing irrigation and water security. Minister Annam Ramanarayana Reddy inaugurated the project at Gandhi Janasangham in Sangam Mandal by offering a saree to Goddess Gangamma and officially starting the overbank works in Kanigiri Reservoir's main canal, with an estimated cost of 84.75 lakh.

The minister held a cordial meeting with farmers and irrigation society members to

discuss a 100-day action plan for water conservation. He emphasized filling all tanks and canals to ensure irrigation reaches every last patch of land in the Mett region.

Minister Annam reaffirmed his commitment to protect every drop of water in line with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's call, earning appreciation from local farmers. Sangam Mandal's irrigation society heads and farmers attended in large numbers, welcoming the initiative and applauding the minister for his continuous efforts to supply water to the region's fields.



Mega Cricket Tournament Kicks Off in Nellore to Celebrate MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy's Birthday

Nellore, April 6 | TPN Bureau

A grand Parliament-level mega cricket tournament was inaugurated in Nellore on Monday to mark MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy's birthday. Organized by Dr. Arjun Reddy Youth under the auspices of VPR Foundation, the event commenced at Damaramadugu, Buchireddipalem Mandal, Kovuru constituency, with ASP Soujanya lighting the sports flame and unfurling the national flag. Speaking at the event, ASP Soujanya highlighted that sports foster physical fitness and guide youth on the right path. She lauded MP VPR, Kovuru MLA Vemireddy Prashanti Reddy, and VPR Foundation for promoting

sports alongside public service initiatives. Nellore Rural DSP Ghatthamneni Srinivas Rao emphasized that such events cultivate teamwork among young participants. The tournament, running from April 6 to 19, features 56 teams from Nellore, Kovuru, Atmakur, Kavali, Kandukur, Nellore City, Rural, and Udayagiri constituencies. Prizes include 1 lakh for the winners, 75,000 for runners-up, 50,000 for third place, and 25,000 for fourth, with cash awards of 10,000 each for Best Batsman, Best Bowler, and Man of the Tournament.

The opening saw the participation of senior TDP leaders, local officials, party workers, and a large enthusiastic youth audience.

Ex-Sarpanches Honoured for Key Role in Village Development

Uravakonda, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Former MLA and YSR Congress Party coordinator Y. Visweshwar Reddy felicitated recently retired sarpanches across the Uravakonda constituency on Monday, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to village development and public service. The ex-sarpanches were honored with shawls and garlands in a grand ceremony attended by senior party lead-

ers, officials, and local residents. Speaking on the occasion, Visweshwar Reddy praised the sarpanches for identifying grassroots issues and effectively implementing government schemes to benefit eligible citizens. He emphasized that their role is central to strengthening Gram Swaraj and ensuring community welfare.

He encouraged them to continue serving the public with the same dedication in

the future and assured his support for constituency development and citizens' welfare. The event saw the participation of district officials C.P. Veeranna and Ramana, senior YSRCP leaders Karanam Bhimareddy, A.C. Erraswami, Basavaraju, and local MPTCs and party workers, reflecting widespread appreciation for the leadership and service of the former sarpanches.



Water Security Program Launched in Nellore Rural Constituency

Nellore Rural, April 6 | TPN Bureau

TDP leader Kotamreddy Girdhar Reddy inaugurated the "Water Security - Irrigation Society Responsibility" program at Swarnala Cheruvu in Pottapalem village, Nellore Rural constituency, on Monday. The 100-day initiative, under the guidance of Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, aims to strengthen irrigation infrastructure, ensure water reaches farms, and involve

farmers and local representatives in water conservation.

The program focuses on identifying and repairing small irrigation tanks, cleaning canals, reinforcing embankments, linking upstream and downstream water bodies, channeling rainwater into reservoirs, and establishing new water conservation structures. Each village will receive a tailored water security plan and budget to optimize agricultural benefits while increasing groundwater levels. Local

farmers and irrigation society officials attended in large numbers, appreciating the initiative. Prominent participants included Vedagiri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple Chairman Indupuru Achyut Reddy, AMC Chairman Manubolu Sridhar Reddy, and several ex-sarpanches and irrigation society heads. The project is expected to provide long-term benefits to farmers, improve water management, and promote sustainable agriculture across the constituency.



SP Leads Quick Redressal of Public Grievances in East Godavari

East Godavari, April 6 | TPN Bureau

East Godavari SP D. Narasimha Kishore personally oversaw the "Public Grievance Redressal System" (PGRS) at the district police office on Monday. Engaging directly with victims, he listened to 25 complaints covering civil disputes, property issues, family conflicts, and financial fraud cases.

emphasized that public problems are the foremost duty of the police and ordered timely investigations without delays.

Residents expressed satisfaction as their concerns were heard and addressed on the spot, instilling confidence in the police system. Officials highlighted that PGRS brings the police closer to the community, providing rapid solutions and reinforcing trust between citizens and law enforcement.

After receiving grievances, the SP issued immediate instructions to police station officials via phone to ensure swift action within the law. He

Through such initiatives, the district police aim to ensure justice reaches victims promptly while strengthening public engagement.



Nellore Collector Hosts Public Grievance Redressal Program

Nellore City, April 6 | TPN Bureau

A "Public Grievance Redressal" program was held Monday at the Tikkana premises of the Nellore Collectorate. Collector Himanshu Shukla, Joint Collector Mogili Venkateshwar, D.R.O. Vijay Kumar, Telugu Gang Special Collector Harishchandrarreddy, and other officials personally received complaints from citizens.

were advised to prioritize. For unresolved cases, citizens were to be provided detailed explanations. He also urged departments to complete the KPI upload process by April 8.

The Collector instructed officials to examine grievances carefully, conduct transparent inquiries, and resolve them within a stipulated timeframe. Most complaints related to land issues, revenue matters, and pensions, which officials

To ensure smooth proceedings, the district administration set up dedicated counters, reception areas, special facilities for differently-abled persons, drinking water, supervision mechanisms, queue management, and shaded tents. Divisional revenue clinics and special counters were established to expedite grievance resolution. Officials from various departments actively participated, ensuring citizens' complaints were addressed efficiently.

Water Security Initiative Launched in Sarvepalli Constituency

Nellore District, Sarvepalli, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Sarvepalli MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy inaugurated the "Water Security - Irrigation Society Responsibility" 100-day program at Venkatachal on Monday. The initiative aims to modernize minor irrigation tanks, construct check dams, repair feeder canals, and link reservoirs for efficient water distribution.

work identification will be completed within 10 days, approvals issued by April 20, and construction to begin April 21, with completion in 80 days. Officials and irrigation society representatives are tasked with ensuring transparency, monitoring progress with GPS-enabled photos, and prioritizing floodwater management and greenery initiatives.

The MLA emphasized that under the current coalition government, all works are executed honestly, unlike past practices under previous regimes, and every irrigation activity benefits farmers directly. With over 106 tanks already supplying water, authorities are committed to providing irrigation and minimum support price benefits efficiently. The program underscores accountability, farmer welfare, and strengthening irrigation infrastructure across the constituency.



Tirupati District Launches 100-Day Water Security Initiative

Tirupati, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Tirupati District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar, along with MLA Bojjala Sudheer Reddy and Sri Kalahasti RDO Banuprakash Reddy, formally inaugurated the 100-day "Water Security - Responsibility of Irrigation Societies" program at Suravari Palli village in Sri Kalahasti constituency.

The Collector emphasized the urgent need for efficient utilization and conservation of water resources, particularly in rainfed agricultural areas. Key measures in this initiative include:

- Tank and Canal Restoration: Desilting, cleaning, and repair to enhance water storage capacity.
- Interlinking Water Bodies: Connecting nearby tanks to optimize rainwater storage and usage.
- Water Conservation Structures: Constructing check dams, percolation tanks, and recharge pits to replenish groundwater.



- Greening Initiatives: Planting trees around water bodies for environmental balance.
- Integrated Water Management: Coordinated village-level planning with active participation of Water User Associations.

recharge pits to replenish groundwater. Greening Initiatives: Planting trees around water bodies for environmental balance. Integrated Water Management: Coordinated village-level planning with active participation of Water User Associations.

Tirupati Police Launch "Cycle Rally - Dandi March 2.0" to Promote Drug-Free Andhra Pradesh

Tirupati, April 6 | TPN Bureau

Tirupati District Police, in coordination with the EAGLE team and Vibrants of Kalam, organized a large-scale awareness program for youth against drugs and cannabis. As part of the "Cycle Rally - Dandi March 2.0", under the Drug-Free Andhra Pradesh mission, the campaign was inaugurated at S.V. University Auditorium to educate students on the dangers of drug abuse and promote a drug-free society.

District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar, IAS, and District SP L. Subbarayudu, IPS, along with MLA Bojjala Sudheer Reddy and RDO Banuprakash Reddy, launched the rally, which will span from Tirupati to Visakhapatnam. Over 1,15,000 students participated virtually via Zoom, gaining insights on drug prevention and personal responsibility.

Officials emphasized that drug consumption poses severe social, legal, and health risks, potentially derailing youth education and careers. The government has set up the EAGLE team to monitor and take strict action against drug networks. Citizens were urged to report drug-related activities via 1972 toll-free number or district police WhatsApp, with complete confidentiality assured.



Key participants included District SPs, Additional SPs, SV University and Padmavati University VCs, faculty members, and Vibrants of Kalam founder Dandi Vijay Kalam. The program concluded with a cycle rally where police officers and students actively participated, symbolizing collective action for a drug-free future.

The initiative underscores the critical role of youth in shaping a safe and healthy society, urging them to stay vigilant, responsible, and free from substance abuse.



Tirupati District: Minister Narayana Inspects Ramapuram Dumping Yard

Tirupati District, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

Minister Narayana inspected the Ramapuram dumping yard alongside MLAs Arani Srinivas and Pulivarthi Nani, and Commissioner Maurya. The minister criticized the previous government for collecting taxes but leaving waste unmanaged, impacting public health across 123 municipalities.

Since 2024, under CM Chandrababu Naidu's directive, 85 lakh tons of waste have been cleared, with 68 lakh tons remaining underground to be re-

moved within two months. Minister Narayana emphasized permanent solutions through waste-to-energy (WtE) plants, citing inspections of plants in Tokyo and Singapore by the CM.

Two WtE plants in Visakhapatnam and Guntur are operational, processing 2,800 tons of waste daily. Six additional plants are being set up in Kakinada, Nellore, Vijayawada, Tirupati, Kurnool, and Kadapa, aiming to burn 7,000 tons of waste daily, generate electricity, and achieve a waste-free Andhra Pradesh within two years.

Nannaya University Convocation 2026: Celebration Amid Leadership Controversies

Tirupati, TPN Bureau - April 6

Adikavi Nannaya University is gearing up for its 16th and 17th Convocation on April 10 at the NTR Convention Center. Over 50,000 students from the 2022-24 batches, including Ph.D. scholars and gold medalists, will receive their degrees and honors in a grand ceremony. The event will be graced by Governor and University Chancellor Abdul Nazir and national security advisor Prof. Mahendra P. Lama, underscoring its importance. However, the university's Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Prasanna Sri faces criticism for maintaining a low profile amid allegations of administrative irregularities. Observers note that, unlike typical universities that hold press briefings to showcase achievements and convocation details, Nannaya University has largely relied on press notes, avoiding media interactions. University insiders allege that the VC has not convened even five formal meetings since assuming office, and transparency concerns have intensified due to



ongoing reports of financial mismanagement, internal disputes, and the university's absence in NIRF rankings. Critics question whether the focus on convocation celebrations masks deeper governance issues. Despite the festive preparations, stakeholders emphasize that a convocation's value lies not only in the ceremonial distribution of degrees but also in reinforcing administrative accountability and transparency. Experts suggest that addressing these leader-

ship and governance concerns openly during the event will strengthen the university's reputation and reflect true academic excellence. As the campus prepares for this major educational milestone, the VC faces a dual challenge: ensure a successful convocation while restoring faith in university administration. The coming days will reveal whether celebration and accountability can coexist effectively at Adikavi Nannaya University.



Tirupati Celebrates BJP's 77th Foundation Day with Grandeur

Tirupati, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

The 77th Foundation Day of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the Tirupati district office on Monday. The event was graced by State Chief Secretary Sannareddy Dayakar Reddy, who unfurled the party flag. Speaking on the occasion, he recalled BJP's inception on April 6, 1980, under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, which began with just two seats. Within 15 years, Vajpayee became India's Prime Minister, marking a historic journey. Today, BJP leads the NDA government in 18 states,

with Prime Minister Narendra Modi steering India towards security and economic growth.

District President Samanchi Srinivas extended greetings to party workers and emphasized the goal of raising BJP flags in every village. Following the flag hoisting, a bike rally was organized across Tirupati's 16 wards to promote party presence and visibility.

Key participants included Jalli Madhusudhan, Dr. Sridhar, BD Balaji, Dr. K. Naresh Babu, S. Mani Krishnayya, Mall Kuppam Shekhar, Vedavati Royal, BJYM State Secretary Nagothu Hari Krishna, and other senior leaders, ward presidents, and activists.

Annamayya District Launches 100-Day Water Security Mission

Madanapalli, April 6, | TPN Bureau:

To combat chronic water shortages, District Collector Nishanth Kumar inaugurated the "Jaladhara-Jalaharati" 100-day water conservation program, running until July 14, at Reddivaripalli Golusukattu Cheruvu, Chinnamandem Mandal. Chief guest Mandipalli Lakshmi Prasad Reddy highlighted the importance of restoring small tanks and minor irrigation reservoirs to ensure rainwater storage, groundwater recharge, and agricultural sustainability.

Collector Kumar emphasized that water scarcity affects drinking supply and 40-

50% of Kharif crops, and the program focuses on reservoir restoration, feeder canal cleaning, and community participation. Early outcomes are promising: groundwater levels rose 5.6 meters, pond area increased by 11,341 acres, 22,000 hectares of crops were supported, and farmers' potential income may increase by 2,000 crore.

Officials and Water User Associations conducted field inspections to prioritize works. The collector urged villages, farmers, and associations to actively participate to ensure timely restoration of ponds, check-dams, and irrigation infrastructure, securing the district's water future.

Kadapa, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

District Collector Dr. Sridhar Cherukuri inaugurated the "Jaladhara-Jalaharati" program, introducing a 100-day action plan to strengthen water security. The initiative focuses on water conservation, efficient irrigation through smart drip systems, rainwater harvesting, and empowering irrigation water associations to take responsibility at the

grassroots level. In March, average groundwater levels in the district stood at 9.15 meters, highlighting the need for active conservation. Collector Cherukuri emphasized identifying and removing encroachments on ponds, repairing leaks, and constructing boundary trenches. Both rural and urban water bodies are being targeted, with municipal commissioners tasked with clearing obstructions. The program inte-

grates GNSS, Telugu Ganga, K.C. Canal, nine reservoirs, and over 911 minor irrigation projects covering 75,685 acres of irrigated land. Farmers are being trained to capture rainwater on fields, set up farm ponds, and adopt drip irrigation for higher efficiency.

Key officials including JDC Dr. Nidhi Meena, DRO Mallikarjuna, and DWMA PD Adishes Reddy participated, reinforcing collaboration across departments.



Kadapa District Launches "Jaladhara" Program for Water Conservation

Chittoor Development Focus: Clean Water and Urban Infrastructure

Chittoor, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

During an inspection of Chittoor city's roads and dumping yard, Urban Development Minister P. Narayana emphasized that every household in the state will have access to clean water and sanitation by 2030. He announced that 153 lakh metric tons of waste will be cleared by May and highlighted progress on the Adavipalle Reservoir, which is 60% complete, supplying drinking water to Chittoor.

The inspection and review meeting included District Collector Sumit Kumar, MLAs Gurjala Jagan Mohan and Puthalapattu Murali Mohan, municipal officials, and engineers. Minister

Narayana urged accelerated implementation of AMRUT projects, LED streetlights, drainage works, and road widening under municipal, MLA, and finance commission funds.

He also announced plans for SCB Water Plant, waste management initiatives, and long-term irrigation projects. The officials highlighted ongoing efforts to solve public grievances, improve urban infrastructure, and address water scarcity while ensuring coordinated action across departments.

The meeting stressed completing pending works within six months to benefit residents and support Chittoor's sustainable urban growth.



Walkers International Leaders Meet in Tirupati to Promote Community Service

Tirupati, April 06 | TPN Bureau:

Walkers International held a high-profile meeting at Changee Plaza Apartments, Kapilatheertham Road, Tirupati, led by Convention Chairman Arkat Krishna Prasad. The gathering brought together presidents and secretaries of all Walkers associations across the city. Dr. Ravi Raju, President of Walkers International, was the chief guest and addressed the assembly, emphasizing the organization's commitment to community service and members' health protection. Dr. Raju announced that special identity and medical cards would be issued globally to members at concessional rates. Members were encouraged to complete their biodata through local association leaders. Chairman Arkat Krishna Prasad highlighted



the unity of Walkers associations in Tirupati, urging collaborative efforts for health initiatives and the development of park grounds. The program concluded with a felicitation ceremony for Dr.

Ravi Raju. Key office bearers, including secretaries and joint secretaries, actively participated, reinforcing the organization's mission and strengthening its local network for social welfare.

Chittoor District Police Holds Public Grievance Redressal Program

Chittoor, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

The Chittoor District Police organized a special Public Grievances Redressal program to address citizen complaints efficiently. District SP Tushar Dudi, IPS, emphasized that police officials must act promptly and responsibly in resolving public grievances, ensuring justice for all complainants.

On Monday, the program received 41 complaints from various parts of the district. Citizens directly met SP Dudi along with Additional SP Operations & Admin S.R. Rajashekar Raju and Chittoor East Circle Inspector Sri Ramachandra, explaining their issues. SP Dudi instructed officers to investigate every complaint thoroughly and resolve them within the prescribed timeframe. The complaints included: cheating - 3, family disputes - 4, harassment - 2, land



disputes - 11, financial disputes - 7, minor quarrels - 5, threats - 1, property disputes - 5, police service issues - 3, SP Dudi reiterated that police must remain accessible to the public and handle grievances lawfully and efficiently.

Man Murdered at RIMS, SP Inspects Crime Scene

Kadapa, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

A shocking murder occurred early Monday morning in the premises of G.G.H. Hospital near RIMS Police Station. District SP Shelke Nachiketh Viswanath visited the crime scene to oversee investigations. Details of the victim and the circumstances of the attack were collected from RIMS PS In-Charge CI Obulesu.

The SP instructed that the case be fast-tracked, urging officers to arrest the culprits promptly and ensure strict

punishment using scientific evidence and other relevant materials. He emphasized that justice must be served swiftly and efficiently.

Accompanying the SP were Special Branch DSP N. Sudhakar, Kadapa DSP A. Venkateshwar, RIMS CI Obulesu, Kadapa Two Town CI Prasad Rao, and other police personnel. The officials coordinated on the spot to begin a detailed probe and secure the crime scene, highlighting the police department's commitment to law and order in the city.



Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani's Son Vinil Birthday Celebrations

Chandragiri, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

The birthday of Pulivarthi Nani's son, Vinil, was celebrated grandly across the Chandragiri constituency. In C. Ramapuram of Ramachandrapuram Mandal, local leaders, party workers, and youth organized a massive cake-cutting event.

MLA Pulivarthi Nani personally cut the cake and distributed it among supporters. The celebrations were accompanied by a festive atmosphere with bows, drums, and musical performances. Party leaders, activists, and local residents joined in the festivities, making it a vibrant and memorable occasion for the constituency.

P. Narayana Reviews Tirupati Urban Development Projects



Tirupati, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

Minister P. Narayana conducted a comprehensive review of ongoing development works with TUDA and municipal officials at the TUDA office. Commissioner Maurya briefed the minister on projects within the municipal limits, revenue collection, and LED streetlight installations.

The minister instructed officials to complete end-to-end

roads, resolve the Shettipalli land layout issue, and enhance revenue from TUDA Towers, plots, and shops. He emphasized developing townships to increase TUDA's income.

Key points highlighted by Minister Narayana include providing piped water to every household in the state with a 14,000 crore allocation, ensuring daily water supply to Tirupati residents with 91 crore, completing drains in Tirupati with 100 crore, and

resolving long-standing civic issues within two years. He also stressed development of scavenger colonies, constructing permanent houses, and improving underprivileged areas while taking action against errors in TDR bonds.

Officials present included MLA Arani Srinivasulu, CDMA Manager Sampath Kumar, TUDA Vice-Chairman Govindrao, TUDA Chairman Dolar Divakar Reddy, and other key municipal and party leaders.



Kadapa Police Counsel Offenders to Stay Away from Crime

Kadapa, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

Following a murder in a cannabis-induced state at RIMS, Kadapa police have intensified vigilance across the district. Under the guidance of District SP Shelke Nachiketh Viswanath, authorities initiated counseling sessions for repeat offenders, rowdy-sheeters, and individuals with criminal records. The counseling focused on encouraging good conduct, discouraging criminal tendencies, and staying away from unlawful activities. Police officials warned that involvement

in illegal acts would invite strict legal action.

This initiative forms part of the district's broader strategy to maintain law and order, enhance public safety, and prevent crime. On Monday, police personnel across various stations actively engaged in these counseling sessions, stressing the importance of reform and responsible behavior for a safer community. Officials emphasized that these efforts aim not only to deter crime but also to guide vulnerable individuals towards productive and law-abiding lives.

Kurnool, April 6 | TPN Bureau:

District Collector Dr. A. Siri stressed the importance of addressing public issues without negligence during the "Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS)" session held at Collectorate Sunayana Auditorium on Monday.

Dr. Siri instructed officials to handle grievances with care and provide clear endorsements to petitioners. If a problem cannot be resolved, officials must clearly explain the reasons to ensure public understanding. He specifically urged Revenue and Survey Department officers to act promptly,

avoiding last-minute actions. Highlighting procedural lapses, the Collector mentioned instances where surveyors delayed issuing certificates despite completing surveys, affecting increments. He warned that negligence would invite strict action. Officials were instructed to reopen and properly redress complaints to improve satisfaction levels. Petitioners must be engaged immediately upon filing a grievance.

The program was attended by Joint Collector Noorul Khamar, DRO C. Venkata Narayanamma, Housing PD Chiranjeevi, and other district officials.



Kurnool Collector Emphasizes Prompt Resolution of Public Grievances

High-Voltage Campaigning Intensifies Across States as Assembly Elections 2026 Near Polling Dates

With the 2026 Assembly elections approaching, political activity has reached a fever pitch across key states including West Bengal, Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. Leaders from major political parties have intensified their campaigns, sharpened their attacks on rivals, and rolled out promises aimed at securing voter support in what is shaping up to be a crucial electoral battle.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been actively campaigning in Assam, where polling is scheduled soon. He is addressing multiple rallies across key constituencies, aiming to consolidate support for BJP candidates. His repeated visits underline the importance of the party places on retaining power in the state and maintaining its political momentum in the Northeast.

In West Bengal, the BJP has deployed a strong lineup of star campaigners, including senior leaders such as Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, and J. P. Nadda. The state is set to witness a multi-phase election, making it one of the most closely watched political contests in the country. The intense competition between major parties is expected to drive high voter turnout.

Meanwhile, political tensions in Assam have escalated with a war of words between the ruling BJP and the Congress. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has accused opposition leaders of making false allegations, while the Congress has responded with counter-charges. The situation has added a layer of controversy to an already heated campaign atmosphere.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has also stepped up his campaign efforts, particularly in Kerala and Assam. He has targeted the ruling govern-

ments on issues of governance and alleged corruption, positioning the Congress as a viable alternative. His rallies have focused on local concerns as

well as broader national issues, aiming to connect with diverse sections of voters.

In Tamil Nadu, Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has made lan-

guage and regional identity key themes of his campaign. He has strongly opposed policies perceived as threats to the state's linguistic culture and

expressed confidence in securing a decisive mandate. At the same time, rival parties are attempting to expand their base by emphasizing development and national leadership.

The Election Commission has scheduled polling in phases across these states, with voting dates spread out to ensure smooth conduct. Counting will take place after all phases are completed, with results expected to have significant political implications at both the state and national levels. Overall, the elections are witnessing a blend of national narratives and regional issues, intense political rhetoric, and strategic outreach. With multiple parties vying for power, the coming days are expected to see even more aggressive campaigning as leaders seek to gain the upper hand in these decisive contests.



Mamata Banerjee's 'Pahalgam' Remark Sparks Political Storm Ahead of Bengal Polls

A major political controversy has erupted ahead of the West Bengal Assembly elections after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee made a provocative remark linking the possibility of another terror-like incident to the upcoming polls. Her statement has triggered sharp reactions from the BJP, further intensifying the already heated campaign atmosphere in the state.

Addressing a public rally, Banerjee questioned whether there was a "blueprint" for "another Pahalgam-like incident" before the elections. Her comments came in the context of recent geopolitical tensions and a reported threat involving Kolkata. She raised concerns over what she described as the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, questioning why a strong response had not been issued.

Banerjee's remarks referenced the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam, which had shocked the nation. By invoking the incident in an election speech, she suggested that there could be political motives or lapses linked to such events, a claim that immediately drew criticism from the opposition.

The BJP reacted strongly, accusing the Trinamool Congress leader of making irresponsible and divisive statements. Party leaders alleged that her remarks were aimed at appeasing certain sections of voters and criticised her for questioning a sensitive national security issue. BJP spokespersons described the

comments as an attempt to politicise a tragic terror incident and termed them inappropriate in the context of public discourse.

The exchange marks yet another escalation in the war of words between the ruling Trinamool Congress and the BJP, as both sides intensify their campaigns. National security, infiltration, and law-and-order issues have become central themes in the political narrative, with both parties accusing each other of exploiting sensitive topics for electoral gains.

Banerjee also warned that any threat to Kolkata or the people of West Bengal would not be tolerated, asserting that the state would strongly respond to any such attempts. Her remarks were aimed at projecting a strong stance on protecting the state's interests, even as she targeted the central leadership.

The controversy has added a new dimension to the election campaign, which was already witnessing sharp rhetoric and aggressive outreach from all major parties. With polling dates approaching, such statements are likely to further polarise the political environment and influence campaign strategies. As the debate continues, the focus now shifts to how voters perceive these claims and counterclaims. With both sides refusing to back down, the incident underscores the high stakes involved in the upcoming elections and the increasingly intense nature of political discourse in the run-up to polling day.

Arvind Kejriwal to Argue Own Case in Delhi High Court, Seeks Judge's Recusal in Liquor Policy Matter

Former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has moved the Delhi High Court seeking the recusal of a sitting judge in connection with the ongoing liquor policy case, while also announcing that he will argue the matter personally.

Kejriwal, along with other accused, has filed an application requesting that Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma step aside from hearing the case. The plea comes in response to a petition filed by the Enforcement Directorate, which has challenged a trial court order that had earlier granted relief to Kejriwal in a related matter.

What makes this development significant is Kejriwal's decision to represent himself in court. According to his party, the Aam Aadmi Party leader intends to personally present arguments before the High Court, rather than relying solely on legal counsel. This move is being seen as both a legal and

political statement, highlighting his direct involvement in defending his position in the case. The case is linked to alleged irregularities in Delhi's now-scrapped excise policy. Investigative agencies, including the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation, have been probing the matter, alleging corruption and procedural violations in the formulation and implementation of the policy. However, a trial court had earlier discharged Kejriwal and several others, citing lack of sufficient evidence.

Following that decision, the Enforcement Directorate approached the High Court, challenging the trial court's findings. This led to the current round of legal proceedings, in which Kejriwal has now sought the judge's recusal. His application was filed shortly before the matter was scheduled for hearing, adding a fresh twist to an already complex legal battle.

Legal experts note that recusal pleas are not uncommon but are typically granted only under specific circumstances, such as potential bias or conflict of interest. The High Court will now have to consider whether the grounds cited in Kejriwal's application warrant a change in the bench.

The broader liquor policy case has remained politically sensitive, with both the ruling establishment and opposition parties trading allegations over its handling. For Kejriwal, the outcome of this legal process carries significant implications, not just in legal terms but also for his political standing.

As the matter proceeds, all eyes will be on the High Court's response to the recusal plea and Kejriwal's decision to argue the case himself. The next hearing is expected to further clarify the direction of this high-profile case, which continues to draw national attention.



India Has Fiscal Strength to Handle Middle East Crisis, Says Nirmala Sitharaman

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has expressed confidence that India is well-prepared to handle the economic fallout of the ongoing Middle East crisis, stating that the country has sufficient fiscal space to manage emerging challenges while maintaining growth momentum.

Addressing concerns over rising global uncertainty, Sitharaman emphasized that India's economic fundamentals remain strong despite geopolitical tensions impacting energy markets and global supply chains. She noted that prudent fiscal management over the past decade has provided the government with enough flexibility to respond effectively to external shocks.

The ongoing tensions in the Middle East have raised fears of disruptions in crude oil supplies and increased volatility in global markets. However, Sitharaman reassured that India is closely monitoring the situation and is prepared to take necessary steps to protect its economy and citizens from adverse effects. She underlined that the government remains vigilant, particularly with regard to managing fuel prices and inflationary pressures.

A key highlight of her remarks was India's ability to continue capital expenditure even during uncertain times. The government has been focusing on infrastructure development and long-term growth, and Sitharaman indicated that this strategy would not be derailed by global crises. Strong fiscal discipline has ensured that the country retains the capacity to invest in development projects while also addressing immediate economic concerns.

She also pointed out that In-

dia has successfully navigated multiple global disruptions in recent years, including the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain challenges. According to her, these experiences have strengthened the country's economic resilience and policy framework, enabling it to better handle fresh crises such as the current situation in the Middle East.

The Finance Minister reiterated the government's commitment to maintaining fiscal deficit targets, even as it takes measures to cushion the impact of global developments. India's fiscal deficit is being kept within a disciplined range, reflecting a balanced approach between growth and stability.

Additionally, the government has created mechanisms such as an economic stabilisation framework to respond quickly to global shocks. These measures are designed to ensure that any external disruption—whether due to geopolitical conflicts or market volatility—does not significantly derail India's economic trajectory.

Sitharaman's remarks come at a time when global economies are grappling with uncertainty due to escalating tensions in West Asia. She described the situation as a potential disruptor of critical energy routes but maintained that India's strong macroeconomic position provides a buffer against such risks.

Overall, the Finance Minister's message was clear: while the Middle East crisis poses challenges, India's sound fiscal management, strong economic fundamentals, and proactive policy measures place it in a position of relative strength to absorb shocks and sustain growth.



Nine Tamil Nadu Policemen Sentenced to Death in Shocking Sathankulam Custodial Torture Case

In a landmark and rare judgment, a court in Tamil Nadu has awarded the death penalty to nine policemen for their role in the brutal custodial torture and deaths of a father-son duo in the Sathankulam case. The verdict, delivered by a sessions court in Madurai, comes nearly six years after the incident that had sparked nationwide outrage and intense debate over police brutality. The case dates back to June 2020, when P. Jeyaraj and his son J. Benicks, small traders running a mobile shop, were arrested for allegedly violating COVID-19 lockdown restrictions. However, investigations later revealed that the charges were questionable. The duo

was taken to the Sathankulam police station, where they were allegedly subjected to severe physical torture throughout the night. Within days of being remanded to judicial custody, both succumbed to their injuries. The brutality of the incident shocked the nation, with reports of extreme physical abuse emerging during the investigation. Witness testimonies, including that of a woman constable, pointed to violent assaults inside the police station, with evidence such as bloodstains reinforcing the claims. The case soon gained widespread attention, leading to protests and demands for justice across the country.

Following public outrage,

the probe was handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which registered murder charges against the accused policemen. A total of ten officers were initially arrested, including an inspector, sub-inspectors, and constables. One of the accused later died during the course of the investigation. After an extensive trial spanning several years and involving numerous witnesses, the court found nine policemen guilty of murder. The prosecution described the crime as falling under the "rarest of rare" category, arguing that the brutality and abuse of authority warranted the maximum punishment. Accepting this argument, the court awarded the



death sentence to all nine convicts, sending a strong message against custodial violence. The judgment is being seen as a significant moment in India's judicial history, par-

ticularly in cases involving custodial deaths. Legal experts believe it reinforces accountability within law enforcement agencies and underscores the seriousness with which courts

are now addressing human rights violations. The Sathankulam case had earlier exposed systemic issues, including alleged destruction of crucial evidence such as CCTV footage and

attempts to shield those involved. Despite these challenges, investigators were able to build a strong case based on eyewitness accounts and forensic evidence. For the victims' family, the verdict marks a long-awaited step toward justice after years of legal battle. At the same time, the ruling has reignited discussions around police reforms, custodial safeguards, and the need for stricter enforcement of human rights protections. As the case concludes with one of the harshest punishments under Indian law, it stands as a powerful reminder of the consequences of abuse of power and the importance of accountability within the justice system.

US-Iran Tensions Escalate as Trump's Ultimatum Raises Fears of Wider Middle East Conflict

The ongoing tensions between the United States and Iran have intensified sharply, with the crisis now centred around the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz. The developments have sparked fears of a broader conflict in the Middle East, with serious implications for global energy supplies and regional stability.

The Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil transit routes, has become the focal point of the standoff. A significant share of global crude oil passes through this narrow waterway, making any disruption a major concern for international markets. Recent developments have raised alarms about po-

tential supply shocks and rising energy prices worldwide.

The situation escalated following military actions targeting Iranian assets, which prompted a strong retaliatory response from Iran. The country has reportedly used its strategic position in the region to exert pressure, particularly by threatening or restricting movement through the strait. This has further heightened tensions and drawn global attention to the conflict.

Former US President Donald Trump has issued a stern warning to Iran, demanding that it ensure the free flow of traffic through the Strait of Hormuz. His strong rhetoric, including threats of severe

consequences, has added to the already volatile situation. Observers warn that such statements could further escalate the crisis rather than de-escalate it.

Iran, on its part, has maintained a defiant stance, viewing control over the strait as a key strategic tool. The country has indicated that its actions are a response to external military pressure, and it has shown little willingness to back down in the face of threats. This has resulted in a tense standoff with no immediate resolution in sight.

The impact of the crisis is being felt across the Middle East. Countries dependent on the Strait of Hormuz for oil exports are facing disrup-

tions, while others with alternative routes are relatively less affected. The uncertainty has created uneven economic consequences across the region.

Beyond the region, the crisis is affecting global markets. Rising oil prices are increasing concerns about inflation and economic stability in many countries. Governments and policymakers are closely monitoring the situation, as prolonged disruptions could have far-reaching consequences for the global economy. On the ground, the conflict is also affecting civilian life in nearby regions. Economic activities such as shipping, fishing, and tourism have been disrupted due to heightened

security concerns and restricted movement.

Experts warn that the situation remains highly volatile and could escalate further if diplomatic efforts fail. While there are occasional indications of possible negotiations, the continued exchange of threats and strategic posturing suggests that tensions may persist in the near term.

Overall, the US-Iran standoff has evolved into a major geopolitical crisis, with the Strait of Hormuz at its core. The situation underscores the delicate balance between global energy security and regional power dynamics, as the world watches closely for any signs of escalation or resolution.



Trump's "Blow Up Iran" Ultimatum Escalates Tensions, Sparks Global Alarm

US President Donald Trump has issued a stark and controversial ultimatum to Iran, warning that unless a peace deal is reached by Tuesday, the United States could launch massive attacks across the country. The statement marks one of the most aggressive escalations in the ongoing conflict, raising fears of a wider regional war.

In recent remarks and interviews, Trump said that if negotiations fail within the given deadline, the US would respond with overwhelming force, even suggesting the possibility of targeting large parts of Iran's infrastructure. His comments indicated that key facilities such as power plants and bridges could be hit as part of a broader military response.

The ultimatum comes amid ongoing but fragile diplomatic efforts involving mediators from countries like Egypt, Turkey, and Pakistan. These back-channel talks are aimed at securing at least a temporary ceasefire and reopening the strategically critical Strait of Hormuz, a vital route for global oil shipments. However, progress has been limited, and both sides remain far apart on key demands. Trump has expressed confidence that a deal is still possible, but his repeated warnings have cast doubt on the likelihood of a peaceful resolution. His rhetoric has also drawn criticism from global leaders and legal experts, who warn that targeting civilian infrastructure could violate international law and lead to severe humanitarian

consequences.

Iran has reacted sharply to the ultimatum, rejecting the threats and warning of strong retaliation if any large-scale attack is carried out. Iranian officials have stated that any strike on their infrastructure would trigger responses not only within Iran but also across the wider region, potentially targeting US allies and assets in the Middle East. The situation is further complicated by the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz. Any disruption in this narrow waterway could severely impact global oil supplies, sending energy prices soaring and affecting economies worldwide. The ongoing standoff has already contributed to volatility in global markets and heightened geopolitical uncertainty. The escalation follows recent military confrontations, including airstrikes, drone attacks, and the downing of aircraft, which have intensified hostilities between the two sides. Each new development appears to be pushing the conflict closer to a broader and more destructive phase. As the Tuesday deadline approaches, the world is watching closely. Diplomatic channels remain open, but the tone of recent statements suggests that the risk of a major military escalation is higher than ever. Overall, Trump's ultimatum has significantly raised the stakes in the US-Iran conflict, with potential consequences that could extend far beyond the region, impacting global security, energy markets, and international stability.

F-15 Crash and High-Risk Rescue Could Cost US Nearly \$500 Million in Iran Conflict

The downing of a US F-15E fighter jet inside Iran and the subsequent rescue operation has turned into one of the most complex and expensive military missions in the ongoing conflict, with total costs estimated to approach \$500 million.

The incident began when the advanced F-15E Strike Eagle was shot down during combat operations over Iranian territory. The aircraft, valued at around \$100 million, had two crew members on board. While one was rescued quickly, the second crew member was left stranded deep inside hostile territory, triggering an urgent and large-scale rescue mission. The recovery effort soon escalated into a multi-layered military operation involving elite special forces and advanced air support. A range of assets, including attack aircraft, transport planes, helicopters, and surveillance drones, were deployed to locate and extract the missing personnel. The operation required precise coordina-

tion and constant monitoring due to the high-risk environment. The mission was particularly challenging because of difficult terrain, active enemy pursuit, and the constant threat of capture. The stranded crew member reportedly spent several hours evading detection in rugged conditions before being located through aerial surveillance and communication tracking. Special forces were then deployed under cover of darkness, supported by aerial firepower to secure the extraction zone. A significant portion of the estimated cost stems from the loss and destruction of military equipment during the operation. Multiple high-value aircraft were either damaged, abandoned, or deliberately destroyed by US forces to prevent sensitive technology from falling into enemy hands. This included large transport planes and support helicopters, each worth tens or even hundreds of millions of dollars. Additional costs were incurred due to the

deployment of drones, sustained air operations, and the mobilisation of a large number of personnel. The scale and duration of the mission further contributed to the overall expense. Despite the heavy costs and operational risks, the mission was ultimately successful, with both crew members safely recovered. Military officials described it as one of the most challenging rescue operations in recent times, underscoring the importance placed on retrieving personnel from hostile zones. The incident highlights the escalating intensity of the conflict, where even a single aircraft loss can lead to a massive military response. It also reflects the strategic importance of safeguarding both personnel and advanced military technology, even at a significant financial cost. Overall, the F-15 crash and the daring rescue operation illustrate the high stakes of modern warfare, where success often comes at a substantial economic and strategic price.



IRGC Intelligence Chief Majid Khademi Killed in Strikes, Escalating Iran-US-Israel Tensions

In a major escalation of the ongoing Middle East conflict, Majid Khademi, the intelligence chief of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), has been killed in coordinated strikes attributed to the United States and Israel. His death marks a significant blow to Iran's intelligence leadership at a time of rising regional tensions.

Iranian authorities confirmed that Khademi was killed during a series of airstrikes targeting areas in and around Tehran. While details of the exact location remain limited, the strikes reportedly caused significant damage and casualties, underlining the intensity of the ongoing conflict.

Khademi was a key figure within Iran's military establishment and had recently taken over as head of the IRGC's intelligence wing. His appointment came after his predecessor was also killed in earlier attacks, indicating a continued pattern of targeting senior Iranian officials.

The IRGC intelligence unit plays a crucial role in both domestic security and international operations. As its chief, Khademi was responsible for overseeing intelligence gathering, counter-intelligence efforts, and strategic planning. His position placed him at the centre of Iran's response to external threats and internal challenges.

The strike is seen as part of a broader effort by the US and Israel to weaken Iran's mili-

tary and intelligence capabilities. Over the past few weeks, several high-profile targets, including military installations and senior officials, have been hit, significantly intensifying the conflict.

Iran has strongly condemned the killing, describing it as a deliberate and hostile act. The country has vowed retaliation, further raising concerns about a potential widening of the conflict across the region. Previous responses from Iran have included missile and drone strikes on opposing targets, signalling its readiness to escalate.

The killing of Khademi is likely to have immediate operational implications for Iran's intelligence network. However, experts believe it could also trigger a more aggressive stance from Tehran, as the leadership may seek to demonstrate strength and deter further attacks.

The development adds to growing global concerns over stability in the Middle East. With tensions already high due to ongoing military exchanges and disruptions in key energy routes, the elimination of a top intelligence official further deepens uncertainty.

Overall, the death of Majid Khademi highlights the intensifying nature of the conflict and the increasing risks of escalation. As both sides continue to target strategic assets and leadership figures, the situation remains volatile, with far-reaching consequences for regional and global security.

Why the US Destroyed Its Own \$100 Million Aircraft During Iran Rescue Operation

In a dramatic development during the ongoing US-Iran conflict, the United States military deliberately destroyed one of its own high-value aircraft inside Iranian territory. The decision, though costly, was part of a high-risk rescue mission aimed at saving stranded crew members after a fighter jet was shot down. The episode began when a US F-15E fighter aircraft was brought down during combat operations over Iran. The jet had two crew members on board, and while one was rescued quickly, the second remained trapped in hostile terrain. This triggered a complex rescue operation involving special forces, surveillance systems, and multiple aircraft.

As part of the mission,

the US deployed advanced transport planes capable of operating in difficult environments. These aircraft were used to insert rescue teams and extract personnel from remote locations. However, complications arose when at least one aircraft became inoperable after landing in a desert region, reportedly due to mechanical issues or challenging terrain conditions.

With the situation rapidly deteriorating and the threat of approaching enemy forces increasing, US commanders faced a critical choice. Leaving behind a fully equipped military aircraft risked exposing sensitive technology and operational systems. To prevent this, the decision was taken to destroy the aircraft on the ground.

The aircraft in question is believed to be a specialised transport plane equipped with advanced communication, navigation, and mission-support systems. Such platforms play a crucial role in special operations and carry classified technology that could compromise national security if captured.

Military doctrine often prioritises the protection of sensitive equipment, even if it involves destroying valuable assets. In high-risk missions deep inside hostile territory, safeguarding technological capabilities is considered more important than the financial cost.

Reports indicate that additional equipment, including helicopters and drones, may also have been damaged or abandoned during the opera-

tion, highlighting the intensity and scale of the mission. Despite these setbacks, the primary objective was achieved, with both crew members successfully rescued.

The incident underscores the challenges of conducting rescue operations in hostile environments, where quick decisions can determine mission success. It also reflects the strategic importance placed on protecting military technology and preventing it from falling into adversary hands.

While the destruction of a \$100 million aircraft may seem extreme, it illustrates the realities of modern warfare, where operational priorities and national security concerns often outweigh financial considerations.



Sensex, Nifty Rise Nearly 1% in Volatile Trade; Auto, Metal and Financial Stocks Lead Rally

Indian equity benchmarks ended on a strong note after a highly volatile trading session, with the Sensex and Nifty gaining close to 1 percent each. Despite sharp fluctuations throughout the day, the markets staged a solid recovery in the latter half, driven by robust buying in auto, metal, and financial stocks.

The session began on a weak footing, reflecting mixed global cues. Both indices slipped into the red during early trade as selling pressure weighed on sentiment. However, the mood shifted as the day progressed, with investors stepping in to buy quality stocks at lower levels. This helped the benchmarks rebound from their intraday lows and move into positive territory.

Auto and metal stocks

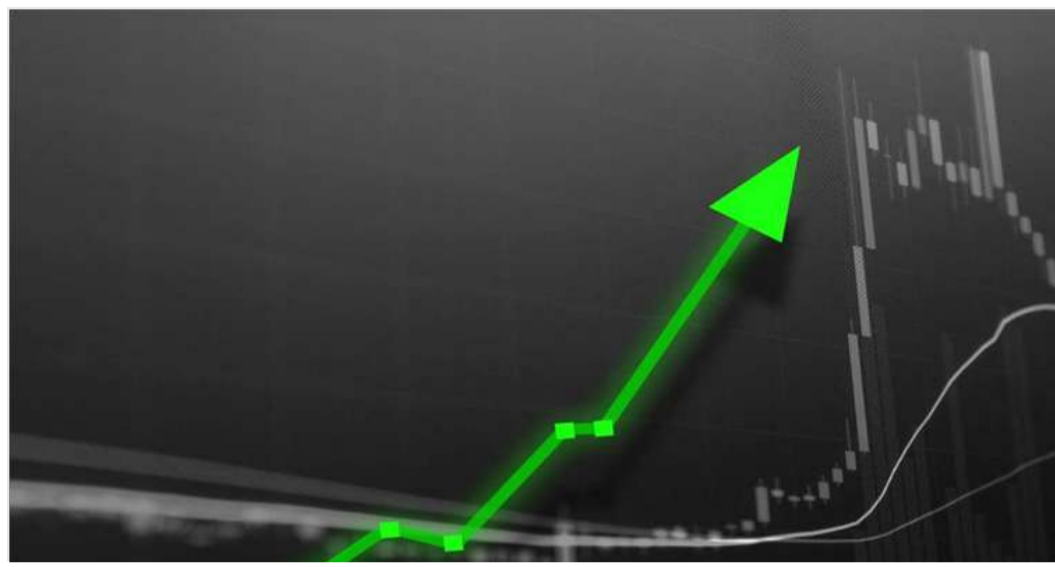
emerged as the top performers, leading the market rally. These sectors witnessed strong buying interest, supported by improving global trends and optimism around demand. Financial stocks also played a key role in lifting the indices, as banking and financial services companies attracted fresh investments. The combined strength in these sectors helped offset weakness seen in other parts of the market.

Volatility remained a dominant theme throughout the session, as investors remained cautious amid global uncertainties. However, sentiment improved significantly in the second half of the trading day. Market participants engaged in value buying, particularly in stocks that had seen recent corrections. This selective ac-

cumulation provided the necessary momentum for the recovery.

The broader markets also reflected a positive undertone. Midcap and smallcap stocks, despite experiencing intraday fluctuations, managed to close higher along with the benchmark indices. This indicates that the rally was not limited to a few large stocks, but had wider participation across segments.

Institutional activity also played an important role in shaping the market trend. Domestic investors continued to lend support to the markets, while foreign investors remained relatively cautious. This divergence contributed to the volatility seen during the session but did not derail the overall upward movement.



Global factors continued to influence investor sentiment. While initial uncertainty led to early losses, improving risk appetite later in the day helped markets recover. A decline in market volatility indicators further boosted confidence, encouraging investors to re-enter

the market.

Market experts believe that the current uptrend is being driven largely by sector-specific strength rather than a broad-based rally. Auto, metal, and financial stocks remain in focus due to their growth potential and earnings outlook. However, they caution that markets may continue to witness intermittent volatility due to external factors and profit booking at higher levels.

Overall, the trading session highlighted the resilience of the Indian stock market. Despite early weakness and persistent volatility, the benchmarks managed to end with notable gains, supported by strong buying in key sectors and improving investor sentiment.



Indian IT Set for Dull Q4, But Profit Growth Likely on Currency Gains and Cost Control

India's information technology (IT) sector is expected to report a subdued performance for the March quarter (Q4), with weak revenue growth and cautious client spending weighing on overall business momentum. However, despite the dull outlook on revenues, profits are likely to remain resilient, supported by favourable currency movements and improved cost management.

Demand conditions continue to remain challenging for IT companies, largely due to global economic uncertainty and reduced discretionary spending by clients. Key markets such as the United States and Europe have seen tighter technology budgets, resulting in delays in project approvals and slower deal closures. This has impacted revenue growth across the sector. Seasonal factors have also contributed to the weak performance in Q4. Typically, the March quarter has fewer working days and witnesses some project slow-downs, which affects billing and execution. As a result, several IT companies are expected to report flat or marginal sequential growth, with some even likely to see a decline in constant currency terms.

Despite these headwinds, profitability is expected to improve for many firms. One of the major supporting factors is the depreciation of the Indian rupee against the US dollar. Since a large share of IT revenues comes from overseas clients, a weaker rupee boosts earnings when converted into domestic currency. This currency advantage is expected to support year-on-year profit growth even if revenue expansion remains limited.

In addition to currency benefits, IT companies have been

focusing on cost optimisation to protect margins. Measures such as reduced hiring, lower employee attrition, and tighter control over discretionary spending have helped companies manage their expenses more efficiently. These efforts are likely to reflect positively in operating margins during the quarter. Another notable trend is the relatively better performance expected from mid-sized IT firms compared to larger companies. Mid-tier players are likely to show stronger growth, driven by their niche offerings and agility in responding to changing client needs. In contrast, large IT firms continue to face pressure due to slower growth in traditional service segments and delays in large deal conversions. The sector is also undergoing structural changes, with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence reshaping client priorities. While these technologies present long-term opportunities, they are also causing short-term uncertainty, as clients reassess their spending strategies and focus on efficiency-driven projects. Looking ahead, investor focus will be on management commentary and future guidance. With near-term growth remaining uncertain, companies' strategies for navigating global challenges and leveraging new technologies will be closely tracked. Overall, while the IT sector is likely to deliver a muted revenue performance in Q4, the combination of currency gains and disciplined cost management is expected to support profit growth. The quarter reflects a phase where operational efficiency and external factors are playing a larger role in driving earnings than strong business expansion.

Execution Gap, Not Regulatory Shortfall: SEBI Chief Flags Boardroom Lapses

The Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has raised concerns over corporate governance practices, stating that the real issue lies not in the lack of regulations but in their implementation at the boardroom level.

He noted that India has a strong and comprehensive regulatory framework governing corporate conduct. However, the effectiveness of these rules depends largely on how they are interpreted and executed by companies. According to him, governance failures often stem from weak implementation rather than inadequate regulations.

The SEBI chief noted that while companies may appear compliant on paper, the spirit of governance is sometimes missing in practice. He stressed that boards must move beyond a checkbox approach and ensure that policies are meaningfully enforced. True corporate governance, he said, requires active engagement, ethical leadership, and accountability at all levels.

A key concern highlighted was the functioning of board committees. Audit committees, risk management panels, and

other oversight bodies are often not as effective as they should be. In many cases, these committees exist formally but fail to play a proactive role in monitoring risks, ensuring transparency, and guiding decision-making.

Independent directors, he pointed out, have a critical role in strengthening governance standards. Their independence and ability to question management decisions are essential for maintaining checks and balances within an organisation. However, their effectiveness depends on access to timely information and the willingness to actively participate in board discussions. The SEBI chief also emphasised the importance of corporate culture in shaping governance outcomes. He said that regulations can only set minimum standards, but it is the internal culture of a company that determines whether those standards are upheld in letter and spirit. Companies must foster an environment where ethical behaviour, transparency, and accountability are ingrained in everyday operations.

With India's capital markets witnessing rapid expansion

and a growing investor base, the importance of strong governance has become even more critical. Any lapses, even if minor, can have significant consequences, including loss of investor confidence and reputational damage.

He further observed that governance risks can often be more damaging than business risks. While financial or operational challenges can be managed over time, failures in governance can lead to long-term trust deficits that are difficult to repair.

The regulator's message is clear: strengthening governance is not about introducing more rules but about ensuring that existing ones are followed sincerely. Boardrooms must take greater responsibility for enforcing standards and ensuring that governance practices are not just symbolic but truly effective. Overall, the remarks underline the need for a shift from compliance-driven governance to a more values-driven approach. By focusing on execution, accountability, and ethical leadership, companies can build stronger institutions and sustain investor confidence in the long run.



Senco Gold Surges 11%, Kalyan Jewellers Gains 5% on Cut in Gold, Silver Import Prices

Shares of jewellery companies rallied sharply after the government reduced the base import prices of gold and silver, boosting sentiment across the sector. The move is expected to lower input costs for jewellers and improve demand, leading to strong buying interest in related stocks.

Senco Gold led the rally with an impressive jump of around 11 percent during the trading session. Kalyan Jewellers also recorded solid gains of about 5 percent, reflecting a positive trend across the jewellery segment. Other stocks in the sector followed suit, indicating broad-based investor optimism.

The surge was triggered by the government's decision to cut the base import prices of precious metals. The base import price is used to calculate customs duty, and a reduction effectively lowers the tax burden on imports. This translates into reduced procurement costs for jewellery companies, which can have a direct impact on their profitability.

Lower import prices are particularly beneficial for the jewellery industry, as gold and silver are key raw materials. With reduced costs, companies can either improve their margins or pass on the benefit to customers through lower prices. This is expected to enhance affordability and attract more buyers, especially during the ongoing wedding and festive season when demand for jewellery typically rises.

The jewellery sector is highly sensitive to fluctuations in gold and silver prices. Any fa-

vourable policy change, such as a reduction in import costs, tends to have an immediate positive effect on stock performance. Investors often respond quickly to such developments, anticipating better earnings and improved business conditions.

Despite volatility in the broader market, jewellery stocks stood out as strong performers. The rally in Senco Gold and Kalyan Jewellers highlighted sector-specific momentum, even as benchmark indices witnessed fluctuations throughout the day.

India remains one of the largest consumers of gold globally, relying heavily on imports to meet domestic demand. As a result, any change in import-related pricing has a significant impact on the entire value chain, from manufacturers to retailers. The latest reduction in base prices is expected to support the sector's growth outlook in the near term.

Market analysts believe that the current momentum in jewellery stocks could continue if demand remains strong and input costs stay favourable. However, they also caution that global price movements and currency fluctuations may influence future trends.

Overall, the sharp rise in Senco Gold and Kalyan Jewellers shares reflects the market's positive response to the government's decision. With improved cost structures and expectations of higher demand, the jewellery sector appears well-positioned for growth, even as broader market conditions remain uncertain.

Oil Stocks Slip as Crude Surges Past \$110; IOC, BPCL, HPCL Under Pressure

Shares of oil marketing companies (OMCs) came under selling pressure as global crude oil prices surged past the \$110 per barrel mark, raising concerns over rising input costs and shrinking margins. Stocks of major state-run players such as Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited declined between 1 and 2 percent during the session.

The sharp rise in crude prices has emerged as a key concern for investors, as it directly impacts the profitability of oil marketing companies. These firms depend heavily on imported crude oil as their primary raw material, and any increase in global prices leads to higher refining and production costs.

The recent spike in crude oil prices is largely driven by geopolitical tensions and supply uncertainties in major oil-producing regions. As prices crossed the \$110 mark, market sentiment

turned cautious, leading to a sell-off in oil stocks. Historically, such sharp increases in crude prices tend to weigh on OMCs, as they are often unable to immediately pass on the full cost burden to consumers.

One of the major challenges faced by these companies is pressure on marketing margins. When crude prices rise rapidly, the cost of producing fuels such as petrol and diesel increases. However, retail fuel prices are usually adjusted gradually, creating a gap between input costs and selling prices. This results in margin compression and affects overall profitability.

The decline in stock prices reflects investor concerns about the near-term earnings outlook of these companies. Sustained high crude prices could further strain margins, especially if volatility continues in global markets. Oil marketing stocks are known to be highly sensitive to fluctuations in crude prices, and even short-term spikes can trigger sharp reactions in the market.

The broader oil and gas sector also showed signs of weakness, with selling pressure visible in related stocks. Interestingly, while oil marketing companies face challenges during periods of rising crude prices, upstream oil producers often benefit from such trends, highlighting the contrasting impact within the sector.

Despite the current pressure, analysts believe that any moderation in crude prices could provide relief to OMC stocks. In the past, these stocks have recovered quickly when oil prices eased, as lower input costs help improve margins and earnings outlook.

Overall, the fall in shares of Indian Oil, BPCL, and HPCL highlights the sector's vulnerability to global crude price movements. With oil prices remaining volatile, investors are likely to closely monitor international developments and domestic pricing trends, which will play a crucial role in shaping the near-term direction of oil marketing stocks.



KKR vs PBKS Match Washed Out Due to Rain in Kolkata

The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 clash between Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and Punjab Kings (PBKS) at Eden Gardens, Kolkata, was abandoned due to heavy rain, resulting in both teams sharing one point each. The match, scheduled as an evening fixture, was heavily affected by persistent showers that made play impossible. The game was called off after just 3.4 overs, with KKR struggling at 25 for 2 when the downpour intensified. The weather conditions prevented the minimum number of overs required for a result, leaving the match as a no-result.

KKR captain Ajinkya Rahane won the toss and chose to bat first under overcast conditions. However, the team lost early wickets and failed to settle, with the rain halting proceedings shortly after the start of the innings. KKR's openers tried to steady the innings but could not make significant progress before the officials suspended play. PBKS bowlers had applied early pressure, taking quick wickets and keeping the scoring rate under control. The persistent rain and wet outfield forced the umpires to call off the match completely, awarding both teams a point.

The washout had implications for the IPL points table. KKR, who had suffered consecutive defeats in the opening matches, earned their first point of the season, helping them climb slightly from the bottom of the standings. Fans at Eden Gardens expressed disappointment at the rain, as they were eager to see a full contest between two strong teams. The atmosphere was lively before the rain began, with spectators enjoying chants, music, and cheer for their respective teams. The early start of the match saw fans enthusiastic and optimistic, but the sudden weather change left them with an incomplete game and height-

ened anticipation for future matches. Team management from both sides acknowledged the unusual circumstances and emphasized focusing on the next matches. KKR will look to strengthen their batting lineup, while PBKS will work on maintaining consistency in their bowling attack. With the IPL season in full swing, teams must adapt to challenging conditions, including unexpected rain interruptions, and strategize for upcoming fixtures. Despite the washout, the match highlighted the competitive spirit of both teams and kept fans engaged with the excitement of the tournament.



The KKR-PBKS no-result serves as a reminder of the unpredictable nature of cricket, where weather can play a decisive role in outcomes, and teams must be ready to adapt to unforeseen conditions to succeed in the league.

75 Lakh vs 28.4 Crore: Sarfaraz Khan Shines Bright as CSK's Costly Bets Falter

In the early stages of the Indian Premier League 2026 season, a striking contrast has emerged within the Chennai Super Kings camp—one that highlights the unpredictable nature of cricket and the limitations of big-money signings.



At the centre of this narrative is Sarfaraz Khan, who was picked up at the auction for a modest 75 lakh. Despite his relatively low price tag, he has emerged as the team's most consistent and impactful batter in the first few matches of the season. In just three games, Sarfaraz has scored 99 runs, maintaining an impressive strike rate of over 200 and averaging 33. What makes his performance even more remarkable is the context. Sarfaraz, traditionally known for his red-ball prowess, has adapted seamlessly to the fast-paced T20 format. His ability to accelerate in the middle overs and counter spin has provided much-needed stability to a batting lineup that has struggled at the top. In sharp contrast to CSK's high-profile auction buys—Kartik Sharma and Prashant Veer—who together cost the franchise a whopping 28.4 crore. However, his returns so far have been underwhelming. Kartik Sharma has managed only 25 runs in three matches, failing to find

rhythm, while Prashant Veer, though showing glimpses with the bat, has not yet delivered the all-round impact expected at such a high price. This disparity between investment and performance has sparked debate over CSK's auction strategy. Spending heavily on unproven or underperforming players has limited the team's flexibility, especially when those players fail to justify their price tags on the field. Meanwhile, Sarfaraz's performances have not only rescued the team in difficult situations but also raised questions about how talent is valued in the league. His innings, including a quickfire half-century in one of the matches, showcased his ability to handle pressure and take on bowlers aggres-

sively. The situation serves as a reminder that in T20 cricket, price does not guarantee performance. Smart scouting, role clarity, and form often outweigh the glamour of big auction numbers. For CSK, the irony is evident—their cheapest acquisition is currently leading the batting charts, while their costliest investments are still searching for answers. As the tournament progresses, pressure will mount on the team management to rethink combinations and extract better performances from their expensive signings. At the same time, Sarfaraz Khan's rise stands as a testament to the fact that opportunity, when seized, can outweigh reputation and price tags in the world of ricket.

Tim David's Power-Hitting Storm Lights Up RCB Camp, Kohli's Reaction Steals the Show

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) produced a batting masterclass in the IPL 2026 clash against Chennai Super Kings (CSK), powered by a breathtaking innings from Australian big-hitter Tim David. His explosive knock not only helped RCB post a mammoth total but also triggered a hilarious dressing-room moment that left even Virat Kohli in splits.



Batting first at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, RCB piled up a massive 250/3 in 20 overs, with David playing the starring role. The hard-hitting batter remained unbeaten on 70 off just 25 deliveries, smashing three boundaries and eight towering sixes. His innings came at a staggering strike rate, turning the game decisively in RCB's favour.

The onslaught proved too much for CSK, who were bowled out for 207 in 19.4 overs, handing RCB a comprehensive 43-run victory. The win marked Bengaluru's second consecutive triumph in the tournament, further strengthening their early dominance in the league standings. While the match itself was a spectacle, what followed in the dressing room grabbed equal attention on social media. During a post-match interaction, West Indies all-rounder Ro-

mario Shepherd offered a humorous take on David's batting style. Mimicking his approach, Shepherd joked that David usually takes a few deliveries to settle before unleashing an all-out assault on the bowlers. The light-hearted comment, paired with Shepherd's animated gestures, sent the entire RCB dressing room into laughter. Among those enjoying the moment the most was Kohli, who could not contain himself and burst into hearty laughter. The candid reaction quickly went viral, showcasing the camaraderie within the team. David's innings was particu-

larly significant as it propelled RCB to the highest team total of the ongoing IPL season. The knock also underlined his reputation as one of the most dangerous finishers in T20 cricket, capable of changing the course of a match within a few overs. Earlier in the innings, Kohli had provided a brisk start with an 18-ball 28, setting the tone for the fireworks that followed. However, it was David's late-innings blitz that truly electrified the stadium and left fans, teammates, and even opponents in awe. With both bat and ball clicking in unison—Bhuvneshwar Kumar picking up three wickets and other bowlers chipping in—RCB delivered a complete team performance. The combination of explosive batting, disciplined bowling, and strong team spirit is emerging as a key factor behind their impressive start to the season. As the tournament progresses, David's form and the team's positive atmosphere could prove crucial in their quest to defend the title. And if the dressing-room banter is anything to go by, RCB are not just winning matches—they are enjoying every moment of the journey.

CSK's 14.2 Crore Gamble Backfires as 'Unused All-Rounder' Raises Big Questions

The Chennai Super Kings have endured a disastrous start to their IPL 2026 campaign, and a major talking point behind their struggles has been a costly tactical decision involving one of their biggest auction buys. The franchise, known for its consistency and sharp cricketing acumen, now finds itself under intense scrutiny after losing its first three matches and slipping to the bottom of the points table.



At the centre of the debate is young all-rounder Prashant Veer, who was picked up for a staggering 14.2 crore in the IPL auction. The investment raised eyebrows at the time, but it was justified as a long-term move to replace experienced players and add balance to the squad. However, the way the team has handled him so far has sparked widespread criticism. Despite being selected as an all-rounder, Veer has not been utilised with the ball in crucial matches. His role in the playing XI remains unclear, especially when the team has been struggling to contain opposition batters. This underutilisation has led many to label the decision as a "tactical blunder," with fans and experts questioning the team management's approach.

Under the leadership of Ruturaj Gaikwad, CSK have looked far from their dominant best. The absence of veteran leader MS Dhoni has been evident, with the team lacking clarity in both strategy and execution. Decisions on the field, particularly bowling changes, have come under fire as opponents have consistently posted or chased down big totals with ease. One glaring example came during CSK's heavy defeat to Royal Challengers Bengaluru, where the opposition posted a massive score. Despite the bowlers being taken apart, Veer was once again not given an opportunity to bowl. This raised serious questions about team selection and match awareness, especially when an expensive all-round option was sitting unused.

Interestingly, comparisons have been drawn with Cameron Green, one of the most expensive players in IPL history. Like Green—who has also faced criticism for not being fully utilised by his franchise—Veer's situation highlights a broader issue in team strategy, where high-value players are not being used according to their strengths. What makes CSK's case more puzzling is that, unlike Green, Veer does not have any known injury or fitness concerns that would restrict his bowling. This makes the decision to sideline his all-round abilities even harder to justify. The team's auction strategy had focused on investing in young talent, with the management expressing confidence in their long-term potential. However, early results suggest a disconnect between planning and execution. Spending heavily on a player and then not trusting him in match situations sends mixed signals, both to the player and the team.

With the tournament still in its early stages, there remains time for CSK to turn things around. But for that to happen, the team management will need to reassess its strategies, make better use of its resources, and ensure that key players are utilised effectively. If not, this 14.2 crore gamble could go down as one of the most puzzling decisions in the franchise's otherwise illustrious IPL history.

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Dinesh Karthik Backs RCB Star, Urges Selectors to Fast-Track India Recall

A strong endorsement from Dinesh Karthik has sparked fresh debate around national team selection, with the veteran wicketkeeper-batter openly backing a standout performer from Royal Challengers Bengaluru for a return to the Indian squad. Karthik, known for his sharp cricketing insights, made it clear that the player's recent performances in the ongoing IPL season make it increasingly difficult for selectors to ignore him.



The RCB star in question has been in exceptional form, consistently delivering match-winning contributions with the bat. His ability to accelerate the scoring rate, handle pressure situations, and adapt to different match scenarios has caught the attention of fans and experts alike. Karthik highlighted that such performances are not just impactful in the IPL but also highly relevant for international cricket, especially in the shortest format. According to Karthik, the player has shown significant growth in maturity and game awareness. He emphasized that beyond raw talent, what sets this cricketer apart is his improved temperament and ability to finish games—qualities that are crucial for India in high-stakes matches. Karthik suggested that the selectors should take note of this evolution and seriously consider integrating him into the national

setup. The former India international also pointed out that the current Indian team management has been actively looking to build a strong bench, particularly with major ICC tournaments on the horizon. In that context, players who are performing consistently in the IPL deserve opportunities at the highest level. He added that ignoring such performances could mean missing out on a player who is in peak form and confidence. The RCB batter's performances have played a

key role in the franchise's campaign this season. Whether it is chasing challenging targets or setting competitive totals, he has repeatedly stepped up when the team needed him the most. His aggressive yet calculated approach has made him one of the most exciting players to watch this season. Karthik's remarks have also resonated with fans on social media, many of whom echoed his views and called for the player's inclusion in the Indian team. With competition for spots in the national squad al-

ways intense, consistent performances in a tournament as competitive as the IPL often serve as the strongest case for selection. As the IPL season progresses, all eyes will remain on both the player and the selectors. If the current form continues, the pressure on the selection committee will only grow stronger. Karthik's clear message adds weight to the argument: when a player is performing at such a high level, keeping him out of the Indian team becomes increasingly difficult to justify.

Trisha Krishnan's Cryptic Instagram Post Fuels Buzz Around Thalapathy Vijay Relationship Rumours

A recent Instagram post by actress Trisha Krishnan has taken social media by storm, reigniting widespread speculation about her alleged relationship with Tamil superstar Thalapathy Vijay. The post, which carried a cryptic message about love and emotions, quickly went viral and triggered intense discussions among fans and followers. Trisha's post, though not directly mentioning anyone, was interpreted by many as a subtle hint at her personal life. Statements reflecting on love, calmness, and emotional clarity caught the attention of netizens, who began linking the message to ongoing rumours surrounding her and Vijay.

The speculation is not entirely new. For months, there have been unconfirmed reports suggesting a close bond between the two stars. These rumours gained further traction after Trisha and Vijay were seen together at a high-profile wedding in Chennai, an appearance that quickly went viral online. Adding to the intrigue, several social media posts—some real and some fake—have circulated in recent weeks, claiming to reveal details about their relationship. In one instance, a viral message allegedly attributed to Trisha was later found to be from a fan page, highlighting how misinformation has also contributed to the ongoing buzz.

The situation has been further amplified by reports about Vijay's personal life, including speculation about his marital status. While none of these claims have been officially confirmed by the actors, the combination of public appearances, social media activity, and viral content has kept the topic trending across platforms. Despite the noise, both Trisha and Vijay have maintained silence and have not issued any official statements addressing the rumours. This has only added to public curiosity, with fans closely analysing every post, appearance, and interaction for clues. Interestingly, Trisha is known for occasionally sharing thought-provoking or ambiguous messages on social media, which often spark conversations. Her latest post seems to have followed a similar pattern—open to interpretation and widely discussed.

Meanwhile, the duo's on-screen chemistry has always been popular among audiences, dating back to their earlier films together. Their reunion in recent projects has once again brought them into the spotlight, further fueling fan interest in their off-screen equation.

As things stand, the rumours remain speculative, driven largely by social media interpretations and viral moments rather than confirmed facts. However, the episode highlights how celebrity posts—especially cryptic ones—can quickly turn into major talking points in the digital age.

With neither Trisha nor Vijay addressing the issue directly, the curiosity surrounding their relationship continues to grow, making it one of the most talked-about topics in South Indian cinema right now.



Vijay

'Bhooth Bangla' Trailer Out - Akshay Kumar & Priyadarshan Reunite for a Horror-Comedy Entertainer

The trailer of Bhooth Bangla has finally been unveiled, generating significant buzz among Bollywood audiences. Starring Akshay Kumar and directed by Priyadarshan, the film marks the much-awaited reunion of the actor-director duo after more than a decade, bringing back expectations of classic comedy blended with engaging storytelling.

The trailer offers a glimpse into a quirky horror-comedy set in a mysterious mansion filled with supernatural elements. It follows Akshay Kumar's character, who arrives in a small town and gets entangled in strange and eerie happenings. Packed with spooky visuals, humorous situations, and unexpected twists, the film promises a mix of fear and laughter—hallmarks of Priyadarshan's signature style.

One of the biggest highlights of the trailer is its ensemble cast. Alongside Akshay Kumar, the film features Tabu, Paresh Rawal, Rajpal Yadav, and Wamiqa Gabbi in key roles. The presence of seasoned performers adds depth to the film, with their comic timing and screen presence already drawing attention in the trailer.

The visuals hint at a vibrant cinematic experience, combining colorful settings, catchy music, and a nostalgic tone reminiscent of early 2000s Bollywood comedies. At the same time, the film incorporates modern visual effects and suspense elements to appeal to contemporary audiences. The balance between horror and humor appears to be the film's core strength, aiming to entertain a wide range of viewers.

Another key factor driving excitement is the reunion of Akshay Kumar and Priyadarshan, who previously delivered several iconic films together. Fans have long awaited their collaboration, and the trailer suggests a return to their trademark comedic style, which blends situational humor with chaotic, fast-paced storytelling.

Early reactions to the trailer have been largely positive, with many praising its entertaining tone and the chemistry among the cast. Some viewers have also noted similarities to earlier horror-comedy hits, but overall, the response indicates strong anticipation for the film's release. With its intriguing premise, star-studded cast, and the comeback of a successful director-actor duo, Bhooth Bangla is shaping up to be one of the most awaited Bollywood releases. If the film delivers on the promise shown in the trailer, it could offer audiences a perfect blend of thrills, laughter, and nostalgia on the big screen.



'Jai Hanuman' Set for Grand Shoot - Massive Sequel Takes Shape with Pan-India Scale



The much-anticipated sequel Jai Hanuman is gearing up for a grand production phase, raising excitement among fans of Indian mythological cinema. Directed by Prasanth Varma, the film is a follow-up to the blockbuster Hanu-Man, and is part of an expanding cinematic universe rooted in Indian mythology.

The film officially began its journey with a grand launch event held at Hampi, a historically and culturally significant location that aligns with the film's mythological theme. A traditional puja ceremony was conducted at Anjanadri Betta, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Hanuman, adding spiritual significance to the project's beginning. Actor Rishab Shetty headlines the film and will portray Lord Hanuman, marking a major highlight of the project. He is joined by Teja Sajja, who reprises his role from the first film, and Rana Daggubati in a key role. This powerful cast has significantly boosted expectations for the sequel.

According to reports, the makers have completed pre-production and script work, and the film's shooting is scheduled to begin around April 2026. The team is planning the shoot on a much larger scale compared to the first installment, with extensive use of advanced visual

effects and high-end production design to match global standards. One of the biggest talking points is the scale of the film. While Hanu-Man surprised everyone with its massive success on a modest budget, Jai Hanuman is expected to be a far more ambitious project. The sequel aims to expand the mythological universe with grand visuals, intense action sequences, and a deeper exploration of the Hanuman legend. Music for the film is expected to be composed by Oscar-winning composer M. M. Keeravani, which adds further weight to the project's scale and appeal. His involvement is likely to enhance the film's emotional and mythological depth through a powerful background score. Another key aspect is that Jai Hanuman is being designed as a pan-India film, targeting audiences across multiple languages. The makers are aiming to elevate the superhero-meets-mythology genre to a global level, blending Indian cultural roots with modern cinematic techniques. With shooting set to commence soon and production progressing rapidly, Jai Hanuman is already being viewed as one of the most ambitious upcoming Indian films. If executed as planned, it could redefine the scope of mythological storytelling in Indian cinema and further strengthen the growing cinematic universe created by Prasanth Varma.

The film is currently targeting a theatrical release around 2027, and expectations continue to rise as more updates emerge.



'Vishwambhara' Faces Multiple Delays - Will Chiranjeevi's Magnum Opus Live Up to Expectations?

Megastar Chiranjeevi's highly anticipated film Vishwambhara has been making headlines not just for its scale and ambition, but also for its repeated postponements. The socio-fantasy film, directed by Mallidi Vassishtha, is one of the most expensive and ambitious projects in Telugu cinema, but delays have raised questions about whether it can ultimately meet the massive expectations surrounding it.

Initially planned for release much earlier, the film has been pushed multiple times, with the latest indications pointing towards a 2026 release window. The primary reason behind these postponements is the film's heavy reliance on visual effects and CGI. A significant portion of the narrative—especially the second half—depends on high-quality VFX, prompting the makers to extend production timelines to ensure top-notch output.

Reports suggest that the team was not fully satisfied with the initial VFX results and decided to rework several portions of the film. Instead of rushing the release, the makers chose to prioritize quality, even if it meant revisiting completed sequences and investing additional time and resources. This decision reflects a growing trend in Indian cinema, where large-scale fantasy films demand international-level visual standards.

The film is being produced by UV Creations and features a strong cast including Trisha Krishnan, Kunal Kapoor, and Ashika Ranganath. With such a lineup and a grand fantasy backdrop, expectations have naturally skyrocketed among fans and trade circles.

However, the repeated delays have also sparked concern. In the film in-

dustry, postponements—especially multiple ones—often lead to speculation about production challenges, budget escalations, or creative differences. In the case of Vishwambhara, insiders indicate that the delays are largely technical rather than creative, centered on achieving the desired visual grandeur.

Despite these setbacks, optimism around the project remains strong. Trade analysts believe that if the film delivers on its promise of high-quality visuals and engaging storytelling, the delays could actually work in its favor. Releasing a polished product is far more important for a film of this scale than sticking to an initial release date.

For Chiranjeevi, Vishwambhara represents a crucial project. Known for his mass appeal and larger-than-life roles, the actor is stepping into a fantasy genre that demands both performance and visual spectacle. Success here could reinforce his standing among newer-generation audiences and further cement his legacy.

At the same time, expectations are enormous. Fans are hoping for a cinematic experience on par with global fantasy films, while also retaining the emotional depth and storytelling rooted in Indian culture. Delivering on both fronts will be key to the film's success.

In conclusion, while the series of postponements has tested the patience of fans, the makers remain confident that the wait will be worth it. If the film manages to strike the right balance between cutting-edge visuals and compelling narrative, Vishwambhara could emerge as a landmark film. Otherwise, the delays may only add to the scrutiny it will face upon release.

Adivi Sesh's Next After 'Dacoit' and 'Goodachari 2' - New Film with Sai Marthand on Cards

Tollywood actor Adivi Sesh is currently juggling multiple high-profile projects, and fresh reports suggest that he has already locked his next film even before completing his ongoing commitments. After working on Dacoit and the much-awaited sequel Goodachari 2, the actor is now set to collaborate with director Sai Marthand for a new project, creating excitement among fans.

Sesh, known for his selective script choices and strong storytelling approach, has built a reputation for delivering content-driven films. His upcoming lineup reflects a mix of genres—from action-packed drama in Dacoit to a spy thriller in Goodachari 2. Reports indicate that the new film with Sai Marthand will further expand his versatility and present him in a fresh narrative space.

While official details about the storyline are still under wraps, the project is said to be in the early stages of development. Sources suggest that discussions have been finalized, and pre-production work is expected to begin soon. The film is likely to be designed as a gripping entertainer, staying true to Sesh's style of combining intense narratives with engaging screenplays.

Currently, Sesh's immediate focus remains on completing Dacoit, a film that marks a shift in his usual genre choices. Unlike his earlier investigative and spy thrillers, this project leans more towards action and emotional storytelling. Parallely, Goodachari 2 continues to generate strong buzz, as it is a sequel to one of his most successful films and is expected to expand the spy universe established in the original.

Industry insiders believe that Sesh's collaboration with Sai Mart-



hand could be another significant step in his career. The director, though not widely known yet, is said to have impressed the actor with a compelling script. Sesh's involvement in script development—something he is known for—could further strengthen the film's narrative depth.

Another interesting aspect is that Sesh has been consciously working towards creating pan-India appeal. His recent and upcoming films are being planned on a larger scale, often targeting both Telugu and Hindi audiences. This strategy has helped him gain recognition beyond regional cinema and position himself as a versatile actor-writer in the industry.

Fans are particularly excited because Sesh is known to take his time between projects to ensure quality. Instead of signing multiple films at once, he prefers to focus on scripts that offer something unique. This careful selection process has resulted in a strong filmography, and expectations are high for his upcoming ventures.