

Chandrababu Naidu Reviews KDCC Bank Progress, Emphasizes Cooperative Sector Growth

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held discussions with Krishna District Cooperative Central Bank (KDCC) Chairman Nettem Sri Raghu Ram at the Secretariat in Amaravati, focusing on strengthening the cooperative banking system and

promoting rural development. During the meeting, the Chairman briefed Chandrababu Naidu on the bank's strong financial performance, highlighting a record profit of 106 crore in the current financial year. He also informed that KDCC Bank has taken significant steps toward digital transformation by becoming the first

District Cooperative Central Bank to introduce UPI services and achieving 100% computerization across 425 PACS, marking a major milestone in cooperative banking. The Chief Minister reviewed various farmer welfare initiatives, including insurance schemes, funeral assistance, and One-Time Settlement (OTS) bene-

fits for families of deceased farmers. He stressed the importance of ensuring transparent and timely delivery of benefits. Chandrababu Naidu appreciated the bank's performance and suggested further strengthening of technology-driven services to support farmers and boost the rural economy across the state.



Minister Warns Excise Officials Over Enforcement & Revenue

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau:

Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra has issued a strict warning to officials of the Prohibition and Excise Department, stating that there will be no compromise on enforcement, transparency, and liquor quality standards. He reviewed department performance and directed Principal Secretary Mukesh Kumar Meena to strengthen field monitoring and ensure immediate action on violations and media reports. He instructed frequent inspections of liquor shops, bars, permit rooms and other

establishments to prevent adulteration and illegal sales with zero tolerance for violations. Officials were also asked to implement Standard Operating Procedures for random sampling of IMFL and foreign liquor to maintain quality across the state. He said the department achieved 29,042 crore revenue in 2025-26 despite losses due to price cuts and reduced application fees. He also directed officials to prepare the upcoming excise policy and place pending proposals before the next GoM meeting without delay in Amaravati district headquarters.

Opposition to Delimitation and Women's Bill is Anti-Progress: Minister Satyakumar Yadav

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

BJP national leader and State Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav strongly criticised the opposition to the Women's Reservation Bill and the Delimitation process, calling it a "black day for Indian democracy".

In a statement issued on Friday, the Minister said that opposing the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament amounts to blocking women's empowerment and denying equal opportunities to women from ordinary families. He alleged that the Congress has consistently obstructed the bill

both in power and in opposition, and will not be forgiven by the people.

He further said that opposing delimitation means blocking the political progress of SC and ST communities. Citing global comparisons, he noted that India still has a much higher population-to-representative ratio compared to countries like the USA, UK, France, and Japan.

The Minister added that delimitation based on 2023 data is necessary and the Union Government is taking appropriate steps, while opposition parties are unnecessarily creating hurdles.

Polavaram Project-Affected Families Seek Jobs, Compensation Support

Amaravati, April 18 | TPN Bureau

Families displaced due to the Polavaram Project have urged the government to provide employment opportunities along with pending compensation and rehabilitation support. The issue was highlighted in reports from project-affected villages, where several families expressed concern that despite receiving partial compensation, livelihood rehabilitation remains incomplete. Many displaced families said they are still awaiting stable jobs and full implementation of resettlement benefits under the Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) package. The Polavaram project, a major irrigation initiative in Andhra Pradesh, has led to the displacement of thousands of families across multiple districts. While the government has been releasing compensation in phases, affected fami-



lies argue that long-term livelihood security has not been fully addressed. Officials maintain that rehabilitation measures, including housing, cash compensation, and infrastructure in resettlement colonies, are being implemented in a phased manner. However, displaced communities continue to demand employment guarantees and faster resolution of pending issues. The matter once again brings focus to the challenges of balancing large-scale infrastructure development with social rehabilitation and livelihood restoration for affected populations.

India Should Emerge as Global Gaming Hub: Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad

Chennai, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Minister for Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, participated in the 6th edition of the India Gaming Show organized by CII and IDGS at Chennai Trade Centre on Thursday. The Minister inaugurated the event by cutting the ribbon and also visited the exhibition showcasing advanced technologies and emerging trends in the gaming and e-sports sector.

Addressing the conference, the Minister said that the gaming industry is creating vast opportunities for youth and playing a key role in technology-driven development. He emphasized that India should emerge as a global gaming hub, leveraging its talent pool and innovation ecosystem. He interacted with repre-



sentatives from India and abroad and appreciated IDGS President Rajan Navani, Vice President Sean Sonu, and members of the secretariat Subhash Sarpu and Madhuri Maniyar for organizing the

event. The Minister expressed confidence that such platforms would further boost the growth of the gaming and e-sports industry and open new avenues for youth employment and entrepreneurship.

Rayadurgam Development Push: 30 Cr Works Launched, Solar Scheme Expanded

Rayadurgam, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar, along with MLA Kalava Srinivas, inaugurated development works worth 30 crore in Rayadurgam on Friday. During the visit, the Minister also launched the PM Surya Ghar solar rooftop scheme at Nemakallu village.

He announced that in the first phase, 2,400 SC and ST beneficiaries in Rayadurgam constituency will receive free solar rooftop connections under the scheme. Across Andhra Pradesh, the government has sanctioned 6 lakh Surya Ghar connections, which are targeted for completion before the summer season.

The Minister said that to address persistent low-voltage issues, three new substations have been sanctioned for Rayadurgam. He reaffirmed that the coalition government is committed to strengthening



power infrastructure and ensuring uninterrupted electricity supply.

Under the RDSS scheme, works such as installation of new transformers and replacement of electricity poles are underway. He also assured that pending agricultural electrici-

ty service connections will be cleared before the next cropping season.

The Minister emphasized that the government's focus is on modernizing the power sector and improving services in both rural and urban areas of Rayadurgam constituency.

CM Chandrababu Meets Capital Farmers, Announces Enhanced Lease Support

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a meeting with capital farmers from 10 villages of Tadikonda and Pedakurapadu constituencies regarding the second phase of land pooling for the Amaravati capital project. During the meeting, the Chief Minister announced enhanced lease benefits for farmers participating in land pooling. He stated that farmers who give their land under the second phase will receive an annual lease amount of 40,000 per acre for a period of 10 years. He further announced an annual increment of 3,000 in the lease amount, ensuring long-term financial support to farmers. The Chief Minister also agreed to provide agricultural loan waiver



support of up to 1.50 lakh per family. The meeting focused on addressing farmers' concerns and strengthening confidence in the capital development process.

Officials said the decisions aim to ensure sustained welfare benefits while advancing the Amaravati capital region development plan.

NPSPL to Invest 2,550 Crore Cathode Material Plant in Chittoor, Boosting EV and Electronics Ecosystem

Amaravati, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has approved a 2,550 crore investment by NPSPL Speciality Chemicals Private Limited to establish a cathode material manufacturing facility in Gudupalle Mandal, Chittoor district. Spread across 105 acres, the project is expected to strengthen India's electronics and battery supply chain.

Cathode materials are a key component in lithium-ion batteries, determining performance, energy density, safety, and lifecycle. They are widely used in electric vehicles, consumer electronics such as smartphones and laptops, and large-scale energy storage systems supporting renewable

integration.

Officials said the project aligns with India's push for self-reliance in critical materials and will reduce dependence on imports. It also positions Andhra Pradesh as a key hub in EV and electronics manufacturing.

Approved under the Andhra Pradesh Electronics Component Manufacturing Policy 4.0 (2025-30), the project has received incentives including capital subsidies, 10-year electricity duty exemption, and power cost support.

The project is expected to generate around 400 direct jobs and boost allied industries, strengthening the state's industrial ecosystem and future-ready manufacturing base.

Chandrababu Naidu Reviews Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra Progress, Orders 100% Waste Management Goals

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to implement a strong action plan to achieve the goals of "Swachhandhra" within the stipulated time frame, warning that failure to meet targets must be reviewed with corrective action. He held a detailed review meeting on the Swarnandhra-Swachhandhra programme at the Camp Office.

Officials informed that Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, and Guntur districts topped the cleanliness rankings, while Alluri Sitarama Raju district ranked lowest. The CM suggested introducing third-party

evaluation for future rankings. He instructed that 100% door-to-door waste collection and processing must be ensured, and all accumulated waste in urban and rural areas should be cleared by June. He also directed that old dumping yards be converted into parks and emphasized construction of public toilets in municipalities. The Chief Minister further ordered expansion of waste-to-energy plants, promotion of green cover, installation of soak pits, and strengthening sanitation systems in schools and hostels. He reiterated achieving a clean, green, and sustainable Andhra Pradesh by 2047.

Chandrababu Naidu to Visit Nidadavolu for Swachhandhra-Swarnandhra Programme

Amaravati, April 18, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will visit Nidadavolu in East Godavari district on Saturday to participate in the Swachhandhra-Swarnandhra programme, the government announced in a press release. As part of the initiative, which is conducted on the third Saturday of every month with a selected theme, this month's focus is "Jaladhara-Jalaharathi", highlighting the importance of water conservation and sustainable water

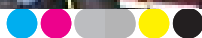
management. The Chief Minister will depart from Amaravati at 10:30 AM and reach Nidadavolu by 11:00 AM. He will address a public meeting at Subbarajupeta at 11:20 AM. Later in the day, at around 1:50 PM, he will visit Malakodu lake and interact with locals, scientists, and experts on water-related issues. At 2:30 PM, he will hold a review meeting with TDP cadre near St. Ambrose School in the constituency. The Chief Minister is scheduled to return to Amaravati by 4:45 PM, the release added.

Thunderstorms, Heatwave Likely Across Andhra Pradesh

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) has warned of fluctuating weather conditions across the state over the next two days, with a mix of intense heat and scattered thunderstorms expected in several regions. APSDMA Managing Director Prakhar Jain stated that due to a trough extending from Marathwada through Karnataka, Rayalaseema and Tamil Nadu up to the Gulf of Man-

nar, light to moderate rains accompanied by lightning are likely on Saturday in parts of Manyam, Alluri Sitarama Raju, Polavaram, Visakhapatnam, West Godavari and Eluru districts. Isolated thunderstorms may also occur in other districts. Officials cautioned farmers and shepherds against taking shelter under trees during lightning activity. Meanwhile, heatwave conditions are expected in several mandals, particularly in north coastal and tribal regions.





CP Rajasekhara Babu Announces Drug Tests for Betting and Crime Offenders

Kumar Chand

Commissioner of Police Rajasekhara Babu has stated that drug detection tests will be made mandatory for individuals involved in criminal activities. He said counselling sessions were conducted at the CP office in Vijayawada for those involved in cricket betting within the NTR Commissionerate limits, along with drug detection testing. He explained that rowdy sheeters and offenders involved in chain snatching, mobile theft, and motorcycle-related crimes will also undergo drug tests to

check substance abuse patterns. Action will be intensified against those operating social media apps used for promoting cricket betting, he added. The CP said a proposal is being prepared to bring cricket betting under the PD Act through a legal amendment. He revealed that out of 170 samples tested in 2 Town limits, 39 tested positive for drug use. Rajasekhara Babu further stated that “Drugs on Attack 3.0” will be launched soon, including testing in educational institutions and action against eve-teasing cases as well.

CP Leads Crackdown on Cricket Betting and Drug Abuse Drive

Vijayawada, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Commissioner of Police Rajasekhara Babu has said that strict action is being taken against individuals involved in cricket betting, and counselling sessions are being conducted at the CP office. He stated that offenders, including rowdy sheeters and those involved in chain snatching, mobile theft, and bike-related crimes, are being examined for drug usage through detection tests. The CP noted that surveillance is being strengthened on those operating social media apps linked to cricket betting. He added that

a proposal has been sent to include cricket betting under the PD Act through a legal amendment. According to officials, 170 samples were collected in the 2 Town limits, of which 39 tested positive for drug use. Rajasekhara Babu said repeated testing is showing continued positive results even after months. He further announced that the “Drugs on Attack 3.0” drive will be launched soon, including testing in educational institutions and against eve-teasing cases. The police are also working to reduce the cost of drug detection kits from 600 to 200.

BJP OBC Morcha Demands Fast-Track Welfare Measures for Nomadic Communities in AP

Vijayawada, April 17 | TPN Bureau

BJP OBC Morcha State Unit has stated that the Central Government is taking strong steps for the liberation and social development of nomadic communities. Members of the Central DNT Board, Praveen Guge and Bharat Bhai Patni, said that the Modi government is committed to removing the colonial-era “criminal tribe” stigma and integrating these communities into the mainstream.

Addressing a media conference at the BJP state office in Vijayawada, they highlighted the importance of the SEED scheme in supporting the de-

velopment of nearly 80 lakh people belonging to nomadic groups in Andhra Pradesh. They expressed concern over delays in issuing DNT certificates in the state and demanded a faster, district-level certification process through collectors.

They also urged the formation of a dedicated DNT Development Board and full implementation of welfare benefits for all identified communities. The leaders announced plans to discuss these issues with the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary, and to strengthen district-level support through BJP OBC Morcha initiatives.

No LPG Shortage in Andhra Pradesh, Supply Continues Smoothly: Centre

Vijayawada, April 17 | TPN Bureau

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has clarified that there is no disruption in domestic LPG supply in Andhra Pradesh and distribution is continuing smoothly. Addressing a state-level media briefing at the Press Information Bureau in Vijayawada, GM & OMC State Level Coordinator N. Bhaskar Reddy said that while supply remains stable, panic-driven bulk bookings have caused minor delivery delays in some areas.

He stated that domestic LPG supply is being maintained at 100% capacity, while commercial LPG supply is being prioritized and currently

maintained at 70%–80% of demand. Essential sectors such as hospitals, educational institutions, canteens, and major temples are receiving uninterrupted supply. Officials said the state maintains at least three days of buffer stock, ensuring there is no shortage. They added that LPG booking volumes have increased significantly due to global geopolitical tensions, leading to temporary logistical pressure rather than actual scarcity. Bhaskar Reddy also encouraged the adoption of PNG (Piped Natural Gas), stating it is a cheaper and more stable alternative. He assured that petrol and diesel stocks are also sufficient across the state.

P.B. Siddhartha College Signs MoU with SR University for Academic Collaboration

Vijayawada, April 17 | TPN Bureau

P.B. Siddhartha College of Arts and Science, Vijayawada, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SR University, Warangal, to strengthen academic and research collaboration. The MoU exchange was held at the Principal’s chamber of P.B. Siddhartha College on Friday.

The agreement was signed by Dr. Meka Ramesh, Principal of P.B. Siddhartha College, and Dr. Balaji Maram, Dean (Collaborations & Outreach), SR University. Under this partnership, both institutions will jointly guide Ph.D. scholars, conduct research activities, organize technical seminars and training programs, and develop advanced curricula in emerging technologies.

The collaboration also focuses on promoting faculty and student research, sharing aca-



demographic resources, and providing joint consultancy services to various organizations to generate revenue.

College Director Vemuri Baburao, Dean Dr. Rajesh C. Jampala, and SR University post-doctoral research schol-

ars Dr. T.S. Ravikiran and Dr. M.V. Srinivasa Rao participated in the event. The MoU is expected to enhance academic excellence and industry-oriented learning opportunities for students and faculty from both institutions.

ACB Catches Irrigation Department Senior Assistant Red-Handed in Bribery Case

Vijayawada, April 17 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has caught a Senior Assistant of the Irrigation Department red-handed while allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe of 13,000. The accused, Sk. Abdul Razaak, working in the office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Palamaner in Chittoor district, was arrested during a trap operation conducted on April 17.

According to ACB officials, the case was registered based on a complaint from Thoti Eswarappa of Annamayya district, who had executed a tank bund strengthening work in 2017 under a government pro-

gramme. Despite completion of work and approval of bills by concerned engineers, the payment was allegedly delayed. The complainant alleged that the accused demanded a bribe initially of 15,000, later reduced to 13,000, for uploading the bill in the government system. Following the complaint, ACB officials laid a trap and apprehended the accused near the Executive Engineer’s office while accepting the bribe.

Searches are underway at the accused’s office and residence. He will be produced before the ACB Court, Nellore. The ACB has urged the public to report corruption through its toll-free number 1064



Justice V. Srinivas Given Warm Farewell at Andhra Pradesh High Court

Amaravati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

A full bench of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, led by Chief Justice Justice Dheeraj Singh Thakur, accorded a grand farewell to Justice V. Srinivas on the occasion of his retirement on Friday. The farewell ceremony was held at the First Court Hall of the High Court.

Chief Justice Thakur lauded Justice V. Srinivas as a dedicated and committed judge who rendered significant service to the judiciary. He highlighted that Justice Srinivas was born on April 18, 1964, in Tiruvuru of Krishna district, and began his legal practice in 1988 at the Nuzvid Bar Council. He was elevated as a High Court judge on August 4, 2022, and served in various important judicial and administrative roles, including District and Sessions Judge and Regis-



trar. Several dignitaries, including Additional Solicitor General Challa Dhanunjay, Advocate General Dammalapati Srinivas, and AP High Court Bar Association President Prabhanath Vasireddy, extended their greetings and shared

their experiences. In his farewell address, Justice V. Srinivas thanked all colleagues and mentors for their support throughout his legal journey and expressed gratitude for their guidance in shaping his career.

Collector Dr. Lakshmeesha Emphasizes Quality Education and School Infrastructure

NTR District/Nandigama, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmeesha has stated that the government is giving top priority to high-quality education in government schools and ensuring strong infrastructure facilities without compromise. He urged students to make full use of the available facilities and strive for academic excellence. As part of his field visit on Friday, the Collector inspected DVR Colony MPP School in Nandigama. He interacted with students, assessed their learning skills, and reviewed the implementation of the midday meal scheme. He also examined kitchen hygiene, food quality, drinking water usage, and storage practices. Dr. Lakshmeesha



said the Dokka Seethamma Mid-Day Meal Scheme is positively impacting student health, attendance, and academic performance. He stressed that authorities must ensure strict quality standards

in meals and warned that negligence will not be tolerated. He further advised students to focus on studies and achieve their goals by utilizing all government-provided facilities effectively.

Swarnandhra Swachh Andhra Programme to Focus on Water Conservation: Collector DK Balaji

Machilipatnam, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector DK Balaji has directed officials to successfully conduct the “Swarnandhra Swachh Andhra” programme on Saturday across the district with the theme “Jalam Jeevam Andhra.” He reviewed the arrangements through a video conference with field-level officers from his camp office in Machilipatnam.

He said that as per government instructions, every third Saturday a thematic cleanliness programme is being implemented, and this month’s focus is water conservation. He instructed officials to ensure effective implementation of

rainwater harvesting measures, including check dams, percolation tanks, and soak pits, and to identify suitable locations for new structures.

The Collector also directed desilting of 250 ponds under MGNREGA and cleaning of supply channels. He emphasized plantation around water bodies, proper drainage systems, and maintenance of government buildings to prevent rainwater stagnation.

He further instructed officials to monitor sanitation workers, inspect schools and hostels, and ensure awareness activities under the Swachh Survekshan programme for better cleanliness outcomes across the district.

Collector Dr. Lakshmeesha Calls for Active Participation in Self Enumeration for Census-2027

NTR District, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmeesha has appealed to the public to actively participate in the Self Enumeration (SE) process as part of the first phase of Census-2027, ensuring error-free and time-saving digital data collection. Inspecting a training programme for enumerators and supervisors held at PB Siddhartha College, Vijayawada, on Friday, the Collector emphasized the importance of understanding the House Listing and Housing Census procedures thoroughly. He urged officials to perform

their duties with transparency and accountability.

He informed that Self Enumeration is available from April 16 to 30 through the portal <https://se.census.gov.in>. Citizens can enter details across 34 parameters and generate a unique 11-digit Self Enumeration ID (SE ID). This ID will be used during the door-to-door survey for verification and validation of data. Dr. Lakshmeesha urged all citizens to enthusiastically take part in the process from their homes to ensure accurate census data for effective planning and governance.



KL University Hosts National Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Vijayawada, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

KL University organized a two-day national-level conference titled Confluence 2026 focusing on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and next-generation computing, highlighting the growing importance of emerging technologies.

The conference, conducted by the BCA Department, brought together academicians, industry experts, and students to discuss advancements in AI, machine learning, and modern computing technologies. Head of the Department Dr. K. Bhagavan said the event served as a platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration on rapidly evolving technologies.

A key highlight of the event was the launch of the KL Apps (Knowledge Lab for Agile Programming Skills) technical club, aimed at enhancing students’ programming skills, innovation capacity, and practical exposure through workshops and coding sessions.

Experts emphasized that AI is transforming sectors such as healthcare, education, finance, cybersecurity, and automation. They stressed the need for students to develop strong technical foundations and problem-solving abilities to stay competitive in the digital era.

University officials, including Vice-Chancellor Dr. G. Parthasaradhi Varma and other senior dignitaries, participated in the event.

Huge Cash Seized in Pastor’s House Raid in West Godavari

West Godavari, April 18 | TPN Bureau

In a major development, vigilance officials conducted a surprise raid on the residence of Ghanta John Babu Rao, a pastor in West Godavari district, and reportedly recovered a large amount of unaccounted cash, triggering widespread discussion in the locality.

According to sources, the raid was carried out following credible information regarding suspected financial irregularities linked to the pastor. During the search operation, officials allegedly found a substantial quantity of cash hidden inside the premises. The exact amount is yet to be officially confirmed, and authorities are currently verifying documents and financial records seized during the inspection.

The sudden raid drew attention in the surrounding area, with locals gathering near the premises as news of the operation spread. Officials also examined electronic devices and financial documents to trace the source and usage of the funds.

Authorities have not yet issued a detailed statement regarding possible charges, but preliminary investigations suggest the case may involve unaccounted income and financial compliance issues. Further inquiry is underway, and more details are expected after forensic verification of the seized materials.

The incident has sparked debate in the district, with officials maintaining that action will be taken strictly as per law once the investigation is completed.

Legal Services Secretary Inspects Eluru District Jail

Eluru, April 17 | TPN Bureau

The Secretary of the Joint West Godavari District Legal Services Authority, K. Ratna Prasad, visited the District Jail in Eluru on Friday following directions from the State Legal Services Authority, Amaravati. During the inspection, he reviewed food quality, hygiene conditions, drinking water facilities, and medical services provided to the inmates.

He interacted with jail authorities and gathered detailed information on the welfare measures being implemented for prisoners. He stated that routine monthly inspections are being conducted as part of the legal services framework to ensure proper living conditions inside prisons.

Ratna Prasad further highlighted that free legal aid is being provided to undertrial prisoners who cannot afford legal representation. He also noted that legal assistance is extended to help prisoners and their families access various central and state government welfare schemes.

Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel Kone Seetharam, Deputy Legal Aid Counsel Varaprasad, Jail Superintendent Narasimha Reddy, and Jailor K. Srinivasa Rao were present during the visit.



TIDCO Housing Refunds Announced: Eluru MLA Badesi Chanti

Eluru, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Eluru MLA and District TDP President Badeti Radhakrishnaiah (Chanti) has clarified that the coalition government is committed to resolving every issue raised during the Praja Darbar. He assured that those who had paid money for TIDCO houses during the previous TDP regime will receive refunds this month. Addressing a Praja Darbar held at the MLA camp office in Powerpet, Eluru, he personally reviewed public grievances from various parts of the constituency and directed officials over phone for immediate action. He stated that the Praja Darbar is being conducted daily and every Friday in a special format to ensure faster resolution of public issues. Major complaints relate to TIDCO houses, house sites, and



pensions. Chanti further announced that eligible beneficiaries will be allotted houses in the third phase and that TIDCO housing units will be distributed by the end of June. Free medical camps and health check-ups are also being conducted regularly for public welfare.

Collector Suspends Digital Assistant for Improper Dress Code in Bapatla

Bapatla, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla District Collector Dr. V. Vinod Kumar has taken strict action against negligence in government offices, ordering the suspension of a digital assistant who reportedly attended duty wearing night pants.

During a surprise inspection of the 5th ward secretariat in Bapatla town on Thursday, the Collector observed the employee in inappropriate attire and expressed strong dissatisfaction over the lack of basic discipline and office decorum. He questioned how a government employee could report to duty without maintaining proper



dress standards and immediately directed officials to initiate suspension proceedings.

The Collector also reviewed office records and expressed displeasure over delays in grievance redressal. He found 11 petitions pending beyond the deadline and warned staff against negligence in public service delivery. Dr. Vinod Kumar emphasized that the government's priority is timely and efficient public services. He cautioned that strict action will be taken against any official or employee failing to perform duties responsibly.

Kapu JAC Leaders Meet Investigation Officer in Ambati Anudeep Murder Case

Eluru, 17 April 2026 | TPN Bureau

In connection with the murder of Ambati Anudeep, the investigation officer appointed by the state government, Pedavegi Circle Inspector Rajasekhara, was met at his office in Eluru on Friday by Kapu Joint Action Committee (JAC) State President Chandu Janardhan.

During the meeting, Chandu Janardhan urged the police to complete the investigation at the earliest and demanded immediate arrest of all those involved in the crime. He stressed that justice should be delivered without delay in the case that has triggered public concern.

Speaking to the media afterwards, Chandu Janardhan alleged that individuals who had previously come to Ambati Anudeep's residence and threatened him with death have still not been arrested. He also said that since the day of the incident, several doubts and unanswered questions have emerged, but no clarity has been provided so far by the investigation.



He further stated that due to these unresolved issues, the situation has become increasingly suspicious and public confidence in the investigation process is weakening.

Chandu Janardhan announced that a meeting will be held on Sunday evening at the residence of the late Ambati Anudeep in Chatrai village to discuss the future course of action and decide on the next steps.

The meeting was attended by Chatrai Jana Sena leader Tummalala Jagan, Anudeep's father Srinivas, Jagadish, Kadavakolu Sagar, Srinivas, and members of the Chatrai youth leadership.

The case continues to draw attention in the region, with demands growing for a speedy and transparent investigation into the murder.

Kurnool Municipal Commissioner Expresses Gratitude to Public

Kurnool, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Kurnool Municipal Corporation Commissioner P. Vishwanath has expressed heartfelt gratitude to the people of Kurnool, stating that their cooperation in transforming the city's outlook will always be remembered. Addressing the media at the Commissioner's camp office near the old control room on Friday, he said he remains thankful to the public at all times.

He noted that in the last nine months, several initiatives were successfully implemented, including cleanliness drives, greenery improvement under "Kurnool Hariitha Haram," installation of CCTV cameras at garbage points, night-time sanitation works, and awareness programmes. He also highlighted reforms such as LRS, BPAS, PGRS, Dial Your Commissioner, and Open Forum initiatives.



The Commissioner said development works like road expansion, drainage construction, Smart City projects, eat streets, vendor zones, and water pipeline repairs were taken up with strong support from officials, public representatives, media, and citizens.

Clarifying his transfer, Vishwanath stated there were no political pressures involved and it was due to personal reasons. He expressed confidence that Kurnool would achieve national-level recognition in the future with continued public cooperation.

Tirupati Municipal Corporation Launches Special Vehicle for Stray Dog Control

Tirupati, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Municipal Commissioner N. Mourya stated that all necessary measures are being taken for the control and welfare of stray dogs in Tirupati city. On Friday, she inaugurated a newly procured vehicle designed for capturing stray dogs.

The Commissioner said the vehicle, worth around 13 lakh, has been specially introduced to safely capture street dogs and facilitate their sterilization and vaccination. She added that the vehicle will be operated by a driver and four staff members. She emphasized that the initiative aims to improve public safety while also ensuring animal welfare through proper scientific management of stray dogs. The captured dogs will undergo sterilization and necessary vaccinations as part of the program.

Municipal Engineer Gomathi, Health Officer Dr. Yuva Anvesh, Veterinary Officer Guna Shekhar, DE Ramana, and Sanitary Supervisor Chenchayya were present during the inauguration event.



Collector Dr. A. Siri Calls for Strict GST Compliance in Kurnool District

Kurnool, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. A. Siri has directed officials to ensure strict GST compliance across Kurnool district and take steps to prevent any delay in tax collection. She said that every industry in the district must have GST registration and instructed departments to verify compliance at all levels.

Chairing a GST coordination meeting at the Collectorate, she stressed improving transparency in revenue collection and strengthening the district's tax base. She ordered verification of GST registration for contractors working under NIDCO Orvakal node, NEDCAP power projects, and other industrial units, in coordination with APIIC officials.

The Collector also directed officials to identify GST-registered and non-registered contractors under construction activities including R&B, Panchayat Raj, APM-SIDC, National Highways, municipalities, and government hospitals. She instructed training programmes for DDOs and implementation of GST TDS monitoring.

Officials informed that the district achieved 11% growth and collected 85% of the GST target last year, ranking fifth in the state. The Collector urged intensified efforts to clear 190 crore pending arrears and strengthen tax compliance mechanisms.





Integrated Command Control Centre Launched in Tirupati

Tirupati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

An Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC) was inaugurated in Tirupati by MLA Arani Srinivasulu, District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar, SP Subbarayudu, and Municipal Commissioner N. Mourya under the Smart City project.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Arani Srinivasulu said the centre will enable real-time monitoring of every activity in the city, ensuring quick response to traffic violations, emergencies, vehicle thefts, and civic issues. He stressed the importance of efficient maintenance for better public service delivery.

Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar said the ICCC is a prestigious Smart City initiative built with 120 crore investment, with 80% of the work completed. He added that it will integrate surveillance across key locations with 360-degree CCTV coverage and enhance safety for both residents and Tirumala pilgrims.

SP Subbarayudu said the system will significantly improve traffic and crime management through real-time monitoring and online challan systems. Officials said the centre will fully function within two months, strengthening urban governance and emergency response systems.

Jaladhara-Jalaharathi Drive to Boost Groundwater Levels in Kurnool

Kurnool, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. A. Siri has directed officials to accelerate the implementation of the "Jaladhara-Jalaharathi" programme aimed at improving water security and groundwater recharge across Kurnool district. Chairing a review meeting at the Collectorate with Irrigation SE and DWAMA PD, she emphasized completing all identified works before the upcoming monsoon season. Officials informed that 3,435 works have been identified across 479 gram panchayats, including

380 minor irrigation tank works and several initiatives for desilting, jungle clearance, and restoration of canals, tanks, and streams. The Collector stressed the importance of utilizing local knowledge through gram sabhas and involving village elders in planning and execution. She noted that groundwater levels currently stand at an average depth of 6.6 meters and set a target to reduce it to 3 meters through effective interventions. She urged coordinated efforts among departments to ensure successful implementation.



Heat Wave Alert: Public Advised to Avoid Outdoor Activity Between 11 AM-3 PM

Chittoor, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Sumit Kumar has urged residents to remain highly cautious in view of rising temperatures across the district. Addressing the media on Friday, he warned that the ongoing summer season could turn severe and potentially life-threatening.

The Collector advised people to avoid stepping outdoors between 11 AM and 3 PM unless absolutely necessary, as heat wave conditions may lead to serious health risks. He said the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) is issuing daily weather updates and advance alerts regarding extreme heat conditions across districts.

He noted that temperatures in Chittoor district are currently ranging between 36°C and 40°C, with higher readings recorded in mandals such as Gangavaram, Ramachandrapuram, and Vijayapuram. Although a formal heat wave has not yet been declared in the district, precautionary measures are being strengthened.

The Collector also cautioned about possible heat wave conditions in the next ten days and stressed adequate hydration, water conservation, and strict adherence to safety guidelines to prevent heat-related illnesses and fatalities.

Kotamreddy Giridhar Reddy Conducts Public Darbar in Nellore Rural

Nellore, April 17 | TPN Bureau

TDP State Official Spokesperson Kotamreddy Giridhar Reddy participated in the Public Darbar programme held at the Nellore Rural MLA office on Friday. He stated that the MLA office is being kept accessible to the public from 7 AM to 8 PM daily to address people's grievances effectively.

As per the directions of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh, the Public Darbar is being conducted every Friday from 10 AM to 12 PM, he said. He added that the programme is aimed at resolving public issues in coordination with officials at the earliest.

Giridhar Reddy said that grievances raised by citizens are being systematically reviewed and forwarded to concerned departments for swift action. He assured that every possible effort would be made to ensure timely resolution of issues.



Several TDP leaders, corporators, and party representatives participated in the programme.

Bapatla Police Intensify Cordon & Search Operations

Bapatla, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District SP B. Umamaheswar IPS held a virtual review meeting with DSPs on Cordon and Search Operations aimed at curbing crime and strengthening law and order across the district.

The SP said the main objective of the drive is to control criminal activities, dismantle rowdy elements, and eliminate drug trafficking, especially ganja-related offences. He instructed officers to identify sensitive and crime-prone areas and conduct simultaneous searches in all police station limits.

Police teams are verifying individuals, checking vehicles, collecting details of newcomers, and seizing vehicles without proper documents. Strict surveillance is also being maintained on rowdy sheeters and suspicious movements.

He informed that so far this year, 34 operations have been conducted, 14 habitual offenders were bind-overed, and 614 vehicles were seized. He said more such operations will continue in the coming days.

The SP urged citizens to report suspicious activities through 112, assuring full confidentiality.



Relief for NRI MBBS Students at SVIMS: Fee Fixed for 4½ Years

Tirupati, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A major relief has been extended to NRI MBBS students studying at SVIMS – Sri Padmavathi Women's Medical College, Tirupati, with a decision to collect tuition fees for 4½ years instead of 5 years for the 2021-22 batch.

The decision follows a representation submitted by NRI MBBS students and their parents to TTD Executive Officer M. Ravichandra, requesting fee revision in line with the actual course duration of 4½ years. The students highlighted that SVIMS was collecting fees for an additional year.

After reviewing the issue and examining National Medical Commission guidelines issued on 07-04-2026, the EO approved the proposal to limit fee collection to the actual course period. The proposal will be placed before the SVIMS Executive Body for ratification. As the 2021-22 batch is in its final year, the decision will be implemented immediately and extended to future batches as well, officials said.

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Andhra Paper Organises LLA Meeting to Strengthen Industrial Safety

East Godavari, April 18 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Paper Limited is set to organise a one-day "Lessons Learned from Accidents (LLA)" meeting at the Rajamahendravaram Learning Centre on Saturday. The programme aims to enhance industrial safety standards and prevent the recurrence of workplace accidents. The key objective of the meeting is to analyse past industrial incidents in detail

and implement stronger preventive mechanisms across operational units. The initiative also focuses on improving safety awareness among employees, promoting safe work practices, and sharing best practices among industry professionals.

Senior officials from the industrial sector, safety experts, and representatives from safety departments are expected to participate in the programme. They will present case studies,

technical analyses, and safety improvement models through interactive sessions and presentations. The inaugural session will highlight the importance of safety compliance, followed by technical discussions where participants will exchange field experiences. The concluding session will compile suggestions and recommendations for future implementation to strengthen industrial safety frameworks.



Coastal Surveillance Boost for Fishermen in Nellore

Nellore, April 17 | TPN Bureau

To protect the interests of coastal fishermen and prevent illegal fishing by neighbouring state vessels, the District Level Committee chaired by the Collector of Nellore district has approved the procurement of mechanised patrol boats under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

The decision was taken on April 17, 2026, following concerns that fishermen from Puducherry and Tamil Nadu were entering Andhra waters and depleting marine resources.

Officials said the initiative aims to ensure continuous monitoring and security along the coastal belt across nine mandals. Under the scheme, two high-capacity mechanised boats equipped with 650 HP engines will be procured at a cost of 120 lakh with full subsidy support. These boats will be allotted to 20 Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) for patrolling operations.

The proposals have been forwarded to the state-level committee for approval, and the boats are expected to be handed over within three months.



Amara Raja Vidyalaya Celebrates 30th Anniversary with Grandeur

Tirupati, April 17, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The 30th anniversary celebrations of Amara Raja Vidyalaya were held in a grand manner at Karakambadi in Renigunta mandal, Tirupati district, on Friday evening under the theme "Integrity – One Vision, One Heart, One Goal."

The event was conducted after a visit to the Amara Raja company plant. District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar, the chief guest, praised the Amara Raja Group for its four-decade-long service in industry and education, highlighting its contribution to providing quality education

to thousands of underprivileged students. He emphasized that education should go beyond textbooks and focus on character building, discipline, and time management.

Amara Raja Group Founder Chairman Dr. Galla Ramachandra Naidu stressed the importance of values, leadership, and creativity in shaping future leaders. Guest speaker Dr. Ramadevi Gourineni and Supply Chain President L. Venkat Madhav also addressed students, underlining discipline, health, and self-confidence.

Students showcased cultural performances, and achievers were felicitated during the event.



CM Visit Arrangements Reviewed in Nidadavolu

East Godavari, April 17 | TPN Bureau

Comprehensive security arrangements are being made for the upcoming visit of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to Nidadavolu. In this context, IG G.V.G. Ashok Kumar and East Godavari SP D. Narasimha Kishore conducted a detailed review of the arrangements in the town.

Officials inspected key locations including the helipad, public meeting venue, traffic diversion routes, and parking areas. The officers stressed that strict security measures must be implemented without

any lapses to ensure the smooth conduct of the Chief Minister's programme.

The IG and SP directed officials to prepare a foolproof security plan for the CM's movement and ensure that no inconvenience is caused to the general public. Special focus was placed on traffic management, with instructions to divert vehicles effectively and avoid congestion during the visit. They emphasized inter-departmental coordination and timely execution of assigned duties. Police personnel have been put on high alert as Nidadavolu gears up for the high-profile visit.

Tirupati, April 17 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar and SP L. Subbarayudu stated that ganja and narcotic drug transportation, possession, and consumption are serious offences under law and strict action, including PD Act cases, will be taken against offenders. They made these remarks during the legal disposal of around 4,100 kg of seized ganja at the Solid Waste Management Centre in Tukkiyakam, Renigunta mandal.

The Collector said the consignment, worth nearly

20 crore and linked to 208 cases, was destroyed through court-approved incineration. He noted that Tirupati has become a transit point for drug trafficking between ASR district and southern states, and special search teams are conducting checks in buses, trains, and luggage to curb smuggling.

He also highlighted large-scale awareness programmes for nearly one lakh students on the ill effects of drugs. The SP reiterated that Tirupati, being a spiritual city, will have zero tolerance for narcotics.





Amir Hamza Attack: A Warning Sign of a Dangerous Power Struggle Within Lashkar-e-Taiba

The recent attack on Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) co-founder Amir Hamza in Lahore has drawn significant attention from security analysts and policymakers across South Asia. At first glance, the incident may appear to be just another episode of violence involving extremist groups in Pakistan. However, a closer examination reveals that the attack is far more significant. It signals a deeper internal turmoil within Lashkar-e-Taiba — one that could lead to heightened instability and potentially more dangerous consequences for regional security, especially for India.

The assault on Amir Hamza is not merely about one individual being targeted. Instead, it reflects the growing tensions and power struggles within Lashkar-e-Taiba, an organization with a long history of militancy and cross-border terrorism. When senior leaders in such organizations are attacked, it often triggers leadership contests, factionalism, and attempts by emerging figures to prove their authority through acts of violence. In many cases, such developments lead to escalation rather than decline.

The Importance of Amir Hamza in Lashkar-e-Taiba

Amir Hamza is not a marginal figure within Lashkar-e-Taiba. He is considered one of the founding members and played a critical role in shaping the organization's ideological foundation. His association with prominent leaders like Hafiz Saeed and Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi dates back to the formative years of the organization.

In the 1980s, Hamza became involved in the ideological and organizational groundwork that later evolved into Lashkar-e-Taiba. He was associated with the Markaz-ud-Dawa wal-Irshad (MDI), which served as the parent body of the group. Through his involvement, Hamza helped develop the ideological narrative that guided the organization's objectives and recruitment efforts.

One of Hamza's most significant contributions was in the field of propaganda and publications. He headed Lashkar-e-Taiba's publica-

tions wing, producing magazines, pamphlets, and other materials designed to spread extremist ideology. These publications were instrumental in recruiting members and strengthening the organization's support base. His writings often glorified militant activity and promoted narratives that portrayed conflict as a religious duty.

Beyond propaganda, Hamza was also involved in fundraising and networking. His influence extended into multiple regions, and he helped build connections with other extremist groups. This combination of ideological influence and operational involvement made him a key figure within the organization.

A Veteran of the Afghan Jihad

Amir Hamza's militant background also includes participation in the Afghan jihad. Like many figures associated with Lashkar-e-Taiba, he gained experience during the Soviet-Afghan conflict. This period played a major role in shaping the ideology and operational capabilities of many militant leaders in the region.

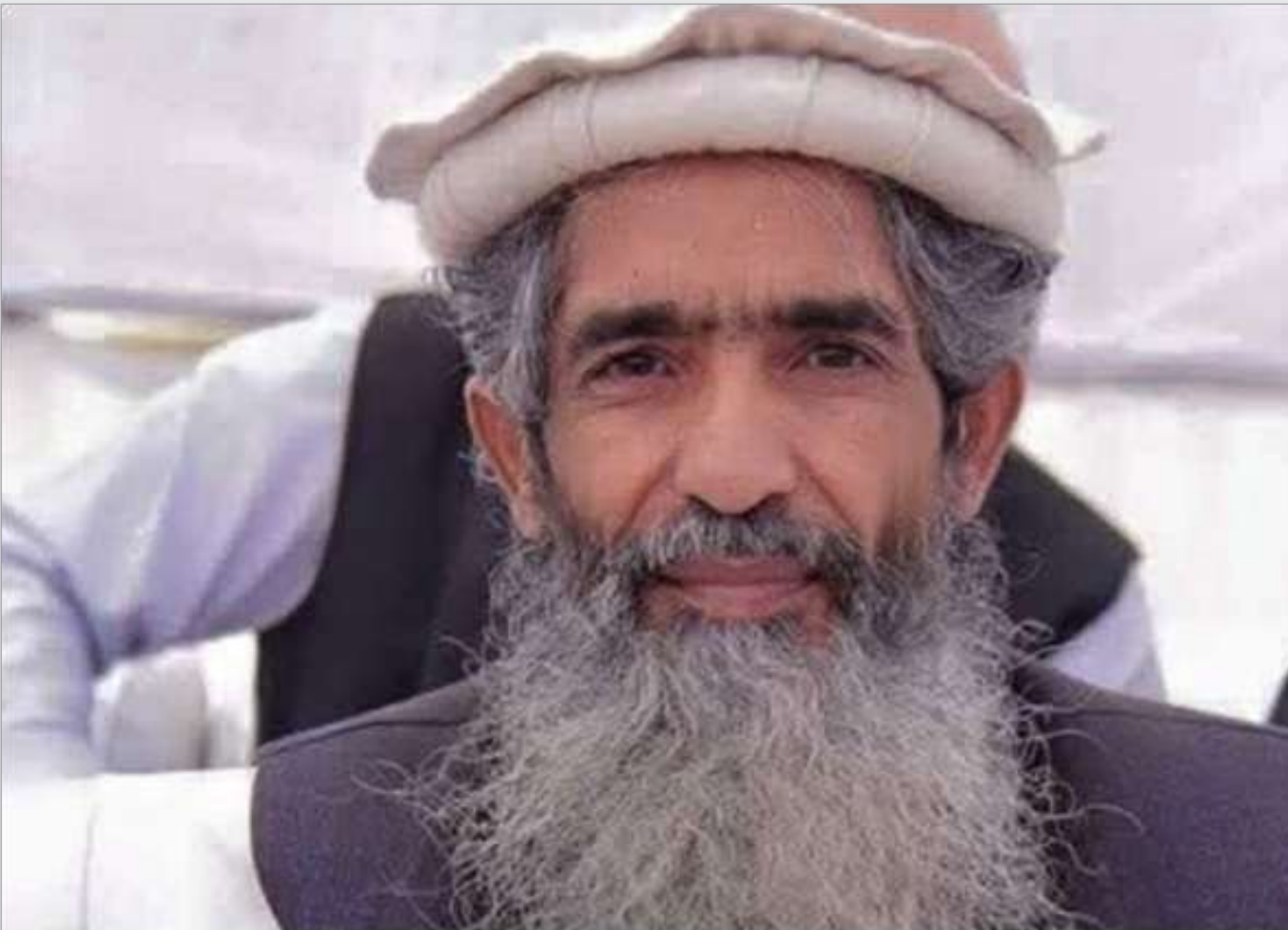
The Afghan conflict served as a training ground for several extremist networks, allowing individuals like Hamza to develop connections with fighters, financiers, and ideological leaders. These networks later became instrumental in supporting cross-border militancy.

Hamza's involvement in these networks enhanced his status within Lashkar-e-Taiba. He was seen not only as an ideologue but also as a veteran with operational experience and international connections.

Internal Tensions Within Lashkar-e-Taiba

Despite its structured appearance, Lashkar-e-Taiba has experienced internal disagreements and rivalries over the years. Leadership disputes, ideological differences, and competition for influence have occasionally surfaced within the organization.

Such tensions often intensify when senior leaders become inactive, detained, or eliminated. In these situations, different factions at-



tempt to assert control. These struggles can lead to fragmentation or increased militancy, depending on how the situation evolves.

The attack on Amir Hamza suggests that Lashkar-e-Taiba may be entering such a phase. With multiple leaders competing for influence, the organization could witness a shift in strategy. Emerging figures may attempt to gain prominence by advocating aggressive operations or high-profile attacks.

The Leadership Vacuum

Leadership transitions in militant organizations are rarely smooth. When influential figures are removed or weakened, a vacuum often emerges. In Lashkar-e-Taiba's case, several developments in recent years have already contributed to instability.

Various leaders have faced arrests, restrictions, or have gone underground. These developments have reduced centralized control and increased the likelihood of factionalism. As a result, younger

leaders may see an opportunity to rise within the ranks.

The attack on Amir Hamza could accelerate this process. If he is unable to play an active role, other leaders may attempt to fill the gap. This competition may lead to increased radicalization, as contenders seek to demonstrate their commitment to the organization's objectives.

Emerging Figures and Growing Rivalries

Recent developments indicate that new leaders have started to emerge within Lashkar-e-Taiba. Some figures have appeared in public statements and videos, issuing threats and attempting to assert authority. Others have reportedly been involved in internal disputes.

Such developments suggest that Lashkar-e-Taiba is undergoing a transition period. During such times, organizations often become more unpredictable. Competing factions may attempt to outdo each other, leading to increased risk of violent actions.

This pattern has been observed in other militant organizations as well. Leadership struggles often lead to escalation, as factions seek legitimacy through violence. This possibility makes the current situation particularly concerning.

Continued Threat Despite Internal Conflict

While internal divisions might weaken Lashkar-e-Taiba temporarily, they do not eliminate the threat. In fact, history suggests that militant organizations often become more dangerous during periods of internal turmoil.

Recent security operations have revealed ongoing efforts by extremist networks to expand their reach. Authorities have dismantled several modules and uncovered plans targeting sensitive locations. These developments indicate that operational capabilities remain intact.

The use of drones, cross-border infiltration, and local recruitment suggests that Lashkar-linked networks continue to function. This high-

lights the resilience of such organizations, even during leadership transitions.

Regional Implications

The implications of these developments extend beyond Lashkar-e-Taiba itself. Internal instability within the organization could impact regional security. Increased competition among factions may lead to attempts at high-profile attacks.

India remains a primary concern in this context. Historically, Lashkar-e-Taiba has targeted Indian cities and institutions. During leadership transitions, emerging leaders may attempt to gain recognition through dramatic operations.

Such actions could escalate tensions between India and Pakistan, complicating diplomatic relations and increasing the risk of conflict.

The Risk of Radical Successors

One of the most concerning aspects of the current situation is the possibility that new leaders may adopt more extreme positions.

Younger commanders often seek to distinguish themselves by advocating aggressive strategies.

This trend has been observed in various extremist organizations. New leaders sometimes abandon restraint and pursue more ambitious objectives. Such developments increase the risk of large-scale attacks.

If Lashkar-e-Taiba experiences such a shift, the consequences could be significant. Increased militancy could destabilize the region and create new security challenges.

A Storm on the Horizon

The attack on Amir Hamza is more than just an isolated act of violence. It represents a deeper transformation within Lashkar-e-Taiba. Leadership struggles, emerging factions, and ideological shifts are creating an uncertain environment.

While internal divisions may weaken the organization temporarily, they also create incentives for aggressive actions. Competing leaders may attempt to prove themselves through high-profile operations.

This makes the situation particularly dangerous. The removal or weakening of one leader does not necessarily reduce the threat. Instead, it may lead to the rise of more radical figures.

The coming months will likely be crucial in determining how Lashkar-e-Taiba evolves. If internal rivalries intensify, the organization could become more unpredictable and dangerous.

In this context, the attack on Amir Hamza appears to be a warning sign. It suggests that Lashkar-e-Taiba is undergoing a period of transformation. Whether this leads to fragmentation or escalation remains uncertain.

However, history indicates that such transitions often lead to increased violence. For regional security, this possibility cannot be ignored.

The attack in Lahore may therefore be just the beginning. Beneath the surface, a larger storm may be forming — one that could reshape the trajectory of Lashkar-e-Taiba and impact the broader region in the months ahead.

Can Donald Trump Face An ICC Arrest Warrant Like Putin And Netanyahu?

The idea that a sitting or former American president could face an arrest warrant from the International Criminal Court (ICC) once seemed unimaginable. However, recent developments — including arrest warrants issued against Russian President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu — have sparked a global debate: Could Donald Trump also face similar legal scrutiny?

While such a scenario remains unlikely in the immediate future, the question itself highlights how international law is evolving and how even the most powerful leaders are no longer seen as beyond accountability.

The Growing Reach of the International Criminal Court

The International Criminal Court was established in 2002 to prosecute individuals accused of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression. The court steps in when national governments are unwilling or unable to prosecute such crimes themselves. It currently has over 120 member states, though some major powers — including the United States, Russia, and Israel — are not members.

Despite this limitation, the ICC has shown that non-member states are not necessarily beyond its reach. Arrest warrants against Vladimir Putin and Benjamin Netanyahu demonstrated that the court could claim jurisdiction if alleged crimes were committed in territories that fall under ICC authority. This has broadened discussions about accountability for leaders from powerful nations.

Why Trump's Name Is Being

Discussed

Donald Trump's name has entered this conversation due to controversies surrounding U.S. foreign policy decisions, particularly military operations and sanctions. Some analysts argue that if the ICC could pursue leaders of non-member countries, then theoretically, any leader — including a U.S. president — could face scrutiny if alleged crimes fall within the court's jurisdiction.

However, experts caution that comparing Trump directly with Putin or Netanyahu is premature. The situations differ in legal context, evidence, and political circumstances. Moreover, the ICC generally proceeds only when there is a clear legal basis and substantial evidence of serious international crimes.

Legal Obstacles to Prosecuting Trump

There are several major hurdles that make an ICC arrest warrant against Trump unlikely.

1. The United States Is Not An ICC Member

The United States has never ratified the Rome Statute, the treaty that established the ICC. This means the court does not automatically have jurisdiction over U.S. nationals. For the ICC to pursue an American leader, it would need to demonstrate that alleged crimes occurred on the territory of a member state or that the United Nations Security Council referred the case.

Such conditions are rare and politically complicated. Additionally, the United States holds veto power in the UN Security Council, making referral highly unlikely.

2. Political Power And



Global Influence

The United States remains one of the most powerful countries in the world. Unlike smaller nations, it has the diplomatic and economic influence to resist ICC proceedings. In fact, previous U.S. administrations — including Trump's — have imposed sanctions on ICC officials when investigations targeted American personnel or allies.

These actions reflect Washington's long-standing position that the ICC does not have authority over U.S. citizens.

3. Enforcement Challenges

Even when the ICC issues arrest warrants, enforcement depends on member states. For example, Putin continues to travel internationally despite the warrant against him, as not all countries are willing to arrest him.

Similarly, if an arrest warrant were ever issued against Trump, enforcement would depend on whether he traveled to countries willing to execute the warrant.

Comparing Trump With Putin And Netanyahu

The arrest warrants against Putin and Netanyahu changed

the conversation about international justice. The ICC argued jurisdiction based on the territories where alleged crimes occurred — Ukraine in Putin's case and Gaza-related allegations in Netanyahu's situation.

These cases demonstrated that membership in the ICC is not the only factor. Jurisdiction can also arise through territorial connections.

This legal reasoning is why some observers believe that, in theory, any leader — including Trump — could face scrutiny if alleged crimes occurred in

ICC member states.

However, analysts emphasize that such comparisons remain speculative and do not indicate that Trump faces an imminent arrest warrant.

Political Versus Legal Reality

Even if legal pathways exist, political realities often determine outcomes. The ICC relies heavily on international cooperation. When powerful countries resist, enforcement becomes extremely difficult.

Moreover, the United States has historically opposed ICC jurisdiction over its citizens.

Washington has consistently argued that American courts are capable of handling allegations involving U.S. personnel.

This position significantly reduces the likelihood of ICC action against a U.S. president.

Changing Nature Of Global Accountability

Despite these obstacles, the fact that Trump's name is being discussed reflects a broader shift in global politics. International institutions are increasingly willing to examine the actions of powerful leaders.

The warrants against Putin and Netanyahu marked a turning point. They demonstrated that even leaders of major nations could face legal scrutiny.

This shift raises new questions about accountability, sovereignty, and the limits of international law.

The Bottom Line

Could Donald Trump face an arrest warrant like Putin or Netanyahu?

Technically, it is possible under certain circumstances. But in practical terms, it remains highly unlikely. The United States' non-membership in the ICC, its global influence, and enforcement challenges make such a scenario difficult.

However, the mere discussion reflects a changing world. International law is evolving, and the idea that powerful leaders are immune from scrutiny is slowly fading.

While Trump is not facing an immediate threat of an ICC arrest warrant, the conversation itself signals a new era — one where global accountability is expanding and even the most powerful figures are no longer beyond debate.

PM Modi Congratulates Harivansh on Historic Third Term as Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Rajya Sabha and congratulated Shri Harivansh on being elected Deputy Chairman of the Upper House for a historic third consecutive term. The Prime Minister described the achievement as a strong reflection of the House's trust in Harivansh's leadership, experience, and dignified conduct. He emphasized that being elected for three consecutive terms demonstrates widespread respect and confidence in his abilities.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the significance of the occasion, noting that Harivansh's re-election coincided with the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar. He pointed out Harivansh's close association with Chandra Shekhar, recalling that he had worked alongside him and even authored books about his life. This connection, he said, added special meaning to the beginning of

the third term.

Recalling Harivansh's background in journalism, the Prime Minister praised his commitment to high standards and thoughtful writing. He mentioned that he had followed Harivansh's articles during his tenure as Gujarat Chief Minister and appreciated his balanced views and depth of understanding. According to the Prime Minister, Harivansh's writing reflected conviction and strong research, while his personal conduct remained polite and composed.

Prime Minister Modi also spoke about Harivansh's well-known column series on parliamentary conduct, where he discussed the ideal role of Members of Parliament. He noted that these writings remain valuable for new MPs who want to understand parliamentary traditions, responsibilities, and dignity. The Prime Minister remarked that Harivansh's earlier reflections on parliamentary functioning have gained

even more relevance now that he occupies a key leadership position in the Rajya Sabha.

Highlighting Harivansh's disciplined lifestyle and dedication, the Prime Minister praised his punctuality and seriousness toward responsibilities. He pointed out that Harivansh maintains a strong presence in the House and attends proceedings regularly, even when he is not presiding. This commitment, he said, sets an example for all members of Parliament.

The Prime Minister also appreciated Harivansh's engagement with youth across the country. Since assuming office in 2018, Harivansh has conducted hundreds of programs at colleges and universities. These initiatives, the Prime Minister said, reflect his commitment to inspiring young people and encouraging them to contribute to India's development.

During his remarks, the Prime Minister shared an anecdote from Harivansh's visit to the United States in the

1990s. When asked what he wanted to see during the trip, Harivansh reportedly chose to visit universities to understand the education system that contributed to the country's progress. The Prime Minister said this reflected Harivansh's focus on education and national development.

Prime Minister Modi also highlighted Harivansh's effective use of MPLADS funds for long-term development initiatives. These included the establishment of research and study centres, such as centres focusing on Indian languages, earthquake engineering, and river studies. He said these initiatives demonstrated thoughtful planning and a focus on lasting impact.

Other initiatives supported by Harivansh include a business incubation centre and an artificial intelligence centre at educational institutions. The Prime Minister also appreciated his continued connection with grass-



roots communities, noting that he remains closely involved in addressing local concerns.

Sharing his personal experience, the Prime Minister recalled working with Harivansh during the construction of the new Parliament building. He described the

collaboration as productive and noted Harivansh's quick decision-making and attention to detail.

Concluding his remarks, Prime Minister Modi expressed confidence that Harivansh would continue to play an important role in strengthening parliamentary tradi-

tions and guiding the House in the years ahead. He emphasized that the leadership of presiding officers would be crucial as India moves forward in the second quarter of the 21st century.

2,500 For Women, 25 Lakh Loan: Vijay's Big Welfare Push In TVK Manifesto

Actor-turned-politician Vijay has unveiled the Tamilaga-VettriKazhagam (TVK) manifesto for the upcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, promising a wide range of welfare schemes aimed at women, youth, and fishermen. The manifesto places special emphasis on women voters, who make up nearly half of the state's electorate, making them central to the party's electoral strategy.

Women-Centric Promises Take Centre Stage

Women form the backbone of Vijay's welfare blueprint. One of the most prominent promises is a monthly financial assistance of 2,500 for women, a significant increase from earlier proposals. The party also announced six free LPG cylinders annually, aiming to reduce household expenses and support families facing rising living costs.

In addition to financial support, the manifesto includes several other benefits for women, such as marriage assistance with eight grams of gold and enhanced maternity benefits. The party has also promised targeted skill-development programs and support for women-led self-help groups to increase women's participation in the workforce and improve economic independence.

These announcements highlight Vijay's strategy to strengthen social security for



women while also promoting economic empowerment.

25 Lakh Loan And Economic Support

Apart from direct financial aid, the manifesto also proposes loans of up to 25 lakh aimed at supporting entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities. This initiative is expected to benefit small businesses, women entrepreneurs, and youth looking to start ventures.

The loan scheme is designed to boost economic mobility and encourage job creation, especially in rural and semi-urban areas. By offering access to credit, TVK aims to empower individuals to build sustainable livelihoods and reduce unemployment.

Focus On Youth And Fishermen

The manifesto also highlights welfare schemes for youth and fishermen, two other key voter groups identified by the party. The document

outlines plans for skill development, employment generation, and improved infrastructure to support young people.

For fishermen, the party has proposed targeted welfare initiatives, including financial assistance and measures to improve livelihoods. These promises aim to address long-standing issues faced by coastal communities.

Drug-Free Tamil Nadu And Social Security

Another key pledge in the manifesto is the commitment to building a drug-free Tamil Nadu. The party has highlighted the need for stronger enforcement and rehabilitation programs to tackle substance abuse and protect young people. The manifesto also focuses on expanding social security measures and improving access to essential services. The party has promised to strengthen welfare programs and ensure targeted subsidies for vulnerable groups.

Structured Welfare Blueprint

Released in book format, the manifesto presents Vijay's earlier assurances in a structured manner. The party describes the document as a roadmap for expanding social security, boosting economic growth, and supporting disadvantaged communities.

The emphasis on financial assistance, entrepreneurship, and social welfare signals Vijay's attempt to position TVK as a strong alternative in Tamil Nadu politics.

Electoral Strategy And Political Significance

With women, youth, and fishermen identified as key voter groups, the manifesto reflects a carefully designed electoral strategy. By focusing on welfare schemes and economic empowerment, Vijay aims to build broad-based support ahead of the elections.

The announcement also marks a major step in Vijay's political journey as he attempts to transition from cinema to politics. With ambitious promises and a welfare-focused agenda, TVK is positioning itself as a strong contender in the upcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly elections.

Overall, the manifesto highlights Vijay's emphasis on social welfare, economic opportunity, and targeted support for key voter groups, setting the stage for an intense electoral battle in the state.

Allahabad High Court Orders Probe Into Rahul Gandhi Dual Citizenship Allegations

The Allahabad High Court has ordered an inquiry into allegations that Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi holds dual citizenship. The Lucknow bench of the High Court directed the Uttar Pradesh government to investigate the matter or refer it to a central agency for further probe. The directive came while hearing a petition filed by S. VigneshShishir, a BJP worker from Karnataka. The petitioner had challenged a January 28 order of a special MP/MLA court in Lucknow, which had earlier rejected his plea seeking registration of an FIR against Rahul Gandhi. The lower court had ruled that it did not have jurisdiction to decide matters related to citizenship.

What The Petition Claims

The petitioner alleged that Rahul Gandhi holds British citizenship in addition to Indian citizenship. According to the complaint, documents and emails purportedly from British authorities indicate that Rahul Gandhi may have been listed as a British citizen. Based on these claims, the petitioner argued that Rahul Gandhi would be ineligible to contest elections in India or hold public office if the allegations were proven true. The plea also sought action under multiple laws, including provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Official Secrets Act, the



Foreigners Act, and the Passport Act. The petitioner requested a detailed investigation and registration of a case against the Congress leader.

High Court's Observation

The High Court observed that the seriousness of the allegations warranted an investigation. The bench directed the Uttar Pradesh government to either conduct the inquiry itself or refer the matter to a central agency for further examination. This decision effectively revived the controversy surrounding Rahul Gandhi's alleged dual citizenship.

The case has seen several developments in recent weeks. Earlier, the High Court had transferred the complaint to Lucknow and also reviewed records related to the matter. The petitioner approached the High Court after the Lucknow court dismissed his request for registration of an FIR.

Background Of The Case

The controversy over Rahul Gandhi's citizenship is not new. The issue has surfaced multiple times in the past, with petitions alleging that he declared

British nationality in documents related to a UK-based company. The matter has been under legal scrutiny for several years, with courts seeking clarifications and documents from authorities.

In recent hearings, the High Court had also sought records from the central government and reviewed confidential documents submitted by authorities. The proceedings were sometimes conducted in chambers due to the sensitive nature of the documents involved.

Political And Legal Implications

The High Court's direction to conduct an inquiry could have significant political implications, given Rahul Gandhi's position as Leader of the Opposition and a prominent national leader. However, it is important to note that the court has only ordered an investigation and has not made any findings on the allegations. The inquiry will now determine whether there is any merit to the claims. Depending on the findings, further legal proceedings may follow. For now, the case remains under judicial consideration, and the final outcome will depend on the results of the investigation. The development has triggered political reactions and renewed debate around citizenship laws and eligibility for public office. As the probe moves forward, more clarity is expected on the matter.

MSME Ministry Conducts Packaging Workshop for Toy and Doll Artisans in Varanasi

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP), organized a transformative workshop in Varanasi under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme. The initiative focused on strengthening the traditional dolls and toys sector while equipping artisans with modern packaging techniques to enhance their products' market potential.

The workshop aimed to bridge the gap between traditional craftsmanship and modern market requirements. By introducing artisans to advanced packaging methods, the program sought to improve product presentation, ensure safer transportation, and help artisans reach wider domestic and international markets. Experts emphasized that professional packaging plays a crucial role in increasing the perceived value of handcrafted products and boosting consumer interest.

More than 200 artisans and beneficiaries participated in the workshop, making it a significant step toward skill development and enterprise growth in the region. Partici-

pants received practical guidance on improving packaging aesthetics and adopting professional standards that can help them compete with global brands. The program also created awareness about government support schemes available for toy and doll manufacturers.

A key highlight of the workshop was the distribution of high-quality packaging materials to artisans. This initiative is expected to provide immediate benefits by improving product protection during transit and enhancing visual appeal. The improved packaging standards are likely to help artisans attract more customers and expand their market reach.

The workshop focused on several important outcomes, including improving product aesthetics to boost customer interest, promoting professional packaging standards, and increasing awareness about government initiatives supporting the toy manufacturing sector. These efforts are expected to empower artisans and strengthen the overall ecosystem of traditional crafts.

Varanasi has long been known for its rich cultural her-

itage and traditional craftsmanship. By integrating modern packaging techniques with traditional skills, the initiative aims to position "Made in Varanasi" products as symbols of quality and innovation. This approach is expected to enhance competitiveness in both domestic and global markets.

The Ministry of MSME continues to focus on empowering artisans and strengthening local industries through targeted interventions, skill development programs, and market-oriented support. The workshop represents another step toward enhancing the livelihoods of artisans and promoting sustainable growth in the traditional toys and dolls sector.

Overall, the initiative reflects the government's commitment to supporting artisans, preserving traditional crafts, and creating new economic opportunities through innovation and capacity building. The workshop is expected to provide long-term benefits by improving product quality, increasing market access, and encouraging entrepreneurship among artisans in Varanasi and beyond.

MSME Ministry Signs MoU to Strengthen Data-Driven Logistics Ecosystem

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NICDC Logistics Data Services Limited (NLDS) to enhance logistics efficiency and promote data-driven policymaking for the MSME sector. The initiative aims to strengthen supply chains and improve competitiveness for small businesses across the country.

NICDC Logistics Data Services Limited functions as the digital and data arm of the National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation. The collaboration is expected to create a strong digital framework that will enable seamless data exchange between the Ministry of MSME and NLDS through API-based integration. This integration will allow the ministry to access real-time logistics data, improving decision-making and policy planning for MSMEs.

Officials highlighted that access to logistics data can help MSMEs reduce operational inefficiencies, optimize transportation costs, and improve delivery timelines. These improvements are expected to significantly enhance competitiveness, particularly for small



enterprises that often struggle with logistics-related challenges. The initiative also aligns with the government's broader vision of strengthening India's logistics infrastructure and promoting digital transformation across industries.

The partnership is designed to empower MSMEs with comprehensive logistics insights. By leveraging data-driven systems, businesses will be able to track movement of goods, improve planning, and enhance supply chain reliability. These improvements will help MSMEs expand into new markets

and strengthen their presence both domestically and internationally.

The MoU was signed by Smt. AnujaBapat, Deputy Director General, Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME), and Shri Arvind Devaraj, Chief Operating Officer of NLDS. Senior officials from both organizations were present during the signing ceremony, highlighting the importance of the collaboration.

Officials emphasized that the integration of logistics data with MSME systems represents a major step toward

building a resilient and technology-driven ecosystem. The move is expected to support small businesses by providing actionable insights that can improve operational efficiency and business performance.

The initiative also aligns with the government's ongoing efforts to improve ease of doing business. By simplifying logistics processes and improving transparency, the collaboration is expected to help MSMEs reduce delays, minimize costs, and increase productivity.

The Ministry of MSME reiterated its commitment to supporting small businesses through digital transformation and strategic partnerships. The collaboration with NLDS reflects a broader push toward innovation, efficiency, and sustainable growth within the MSME sector.

Overall, the MoU marks an important step in strengthening India's logistics ecosystem and empowering MSMEs with modern digital tools. By enhancing supply chain efficiency and improving access to logistics data, the initiative is expected to boost competitiveness and support long-term growth for small businesses across the country.

US Surveillance Drone Over Cuba Seen as Strategic Move Targeting China

The United States’ deployment of a high-altitude surveillance drone over Cuba has drawn attention from geopolitical analysts, who view the move as part of a broader strategic effort aimed at monitoring China’s global energy supply routes. The operation is being described as the fourth move in a larger geopolitical “chess game” involving key maritime chokepoints and trade corridors.

At the centre of the development is the US Navy’s MQ-4C Triton drone, a sophisticated surveillance aircraft capable of flying for more than 24 hours at altitudes above 50,000 feet. The drone recently conducted

extended reconnaissance missions around Cuba and the Caribbean region, particularly near major shipping routes. Its advanced sensors allow it to track maritime traffic, gather intelligence, and monitor strategic movements across vast areas.

The drone reportedly focused on the Jamaica Channel, a crucial maritime passage connecting the Panama Canal with the Atlantic Ocean. It also monitored nearby routes such as the Windward Passage and the Yucatan Channel. Although these corridors do not carry the world’s largest oil volumes, they remain strategically significant for global

shipping and energy transport. Monitoring these routes allows the US to track maritime movements and maintain strategic awareness in the region.

Analysts believe this deployment fits into a wider US strategy aimed at monitoring China’s energy lifelines. China imports a significant portion of its oil, much of which travels through vulnerable maritime chokepoints. By strengthening surveillance across these routes, the United States can potentially influence or monitor energy flows critical to China’s economy.

This drone deployment follows other developments

that analysts interpret as part of the same strategy. These include tensions surrounding Iranian oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz, increased focus on the Strait of Malacca, and developments involving Venezuela’s oil exports. Together, these areas represent major routes connected to China’s energy imports.

Cuba’s location adds to the strategic importance of the operation. Positioned near key Caribbean shipping lanes, Cuba offers a vantage point for monitoring vessels moving between Latin America, the Atlantic, and the Panama Canal. The surveillance mission may also serve to monitor elec-

tronic intelligence activity and expanding geopolitical influence in the region.

The move reflects a broader shift in global competition, where intelligence gathering and strategic positioning are becoming more important than direct confrontation. As major powers compete for influence over trade routes and energy supplies, surveillance operations like this may become more common.

The US drone flight over Cuba therefore signals more than routine reconnaissance. It highlights growing strategic rivalry and underscores the increasing importance of maritime chokepoints in global geopolitics.



Trump Says Iran Ready To Return “Nuclear Dust”: What It Means And Why It Matters

US President Donald Trump has claimed that Iran is prepared to return what he described as its “nuclear dust,” referring to the country’s stockpile of highly enriched uranium. The statement comes amid ongoing tensions and diplomatic efforts surrounding Iran’s nuclear programme, raising questions about what this material is and why it has become a major point of concern. The term “nuclear dust” is not a technical phrase but rather Trump’s description of enriched uranium believed to be buried deep underground at Iranian nuclear facilities. These sites were reportedly targeted during recent military strikes, leaving portions of Iran’s nuclear material trapped beneath debris and reinforced underground structures. According to Trump, Iran is now willing to retrieve and return this material as part of potential negotiations.



clear weapons if further processing takes place. This is why the international community has closely monitored Iran’s nuclear programme.

Why It Matters

The issue of Iran’s enriched uranium stockpile has long been at the centre of global concerns. Western nations, particularly the United States, fear that Iran’s growing uranium reserves could eventually be used for nuclear weapons development. Iran, however, has repeatedly stated that its nuclear programme is intended for peaceful purposes such as energy generation and research.

If Iran agrees to return or remove this enriched uranium, it would significantly reduce its nuclear capabilities. Such a move could ease tensions in the region and potentially open the door to broader diplomatic agreements.

Uncertainty Remains

Despite Trump’s claim, there

has been no official confirmation from Iran regarding the return of the enriched uranium. Negotiations are believed to be ongoing, and the situation remains uncertain. The process of retrieving material buried deep underground would also be technically complex and require international oversight.

What Happens Next

The future of Iran’s “nuclear dust” is likely to remain a central issue in diplomatic talks. If both sides reach an agreement, it could mark a major breakthrough in efforts to control nuclear proliferation and reduce tensions in the Middle East. However, until a formal agreement is reached and confirmed by all parties, the situation remains fluid. The discussion surrounding Iran’s nuclear material highlights the continuing geopolitical stakes and the importance of diplomatic engagement in addressing nuclear concerns.

of maintaining a strong military presence amid rising geopolitical tensions and concerns over maritime security.

The decision also underscores how non-state actors such as the Houthis are increasingly influencing global shipping and military planning. Their ability to threaten key sea routes has forced even powerful naval forces to reconsider traditional deployment strategies.

As tensions continue in the region, the longer journey of the USS George H.W. Bush highlights the evolving security landscape and the growing importance of safeguarding vital maritime routes.

Houthi Threat Forces USS George H.W. Bush To Take Longer Route To Gulf

The United States aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush is taking a significantly longer route to the Middle East to avoid potential threats from Iran-backed Houthi rebels in the Red Sea. The decision highlights rising security concerns in one of the world’s most strategically important maritime corridors amid growing tensions linked to the US-Iran situation.

Instead of following the usual route through the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal, and the Red Sea, the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier is sailing around Africa. The vessel was recently tracked off the coast of Namibia, suggesting that it is heading around the Cape of Good Hope before entering the Indian Ocean and proceeding toward the Gulf region. This alternate path is approximately 1.5 times longer than the traditional route.

The USS George H.W. Bush is a Nimitz-class supercarrier and one of the most powerful naval platforms in the world. It departed from Naval Station Norfolk in late March with nearly 5,000 sailors and aviators onboard as part of a planned deployment to strengthen the US military presence in the Middle East. Once it reaches the region, the carrier is expected to support ongoing operations and reinforce naval forces already stationed there.



The longer route is widely seen as a precautionary measure due to rising threats in the Red Sea. Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen have previously launched missile and drone attacks targeting ships and naval assets in the region. These attacks have raised concerns about the safety of vessels passing through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a narrow maritime chokepoint that connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden.

The Bab el-Mandeb Strait is one of the world’s most critical shipping lanes, with a large volume of global trade and oil shipments passing through it daily. However, its narrow ge-

ography makes vessels particularly vulnerable to missile and drone strikes. The increasing frequency of such threats has made transit through the region riskier, even for heavily protected naval ships.

By choosing the longer route around Africa, the US Navy appears to be prioritising the safety of its high-value asset. While the detour will delay the carrier’s arrival in the Middle East, it reduces the risk of confrontation and potential attacks during transit.

The USS George H.W. Bush is expected to join other US naval forces already deployed in the region. The move reflects Washington’s broader strategy

of maintaining a strong military presence amid rising geopolitical tensions and concerns over maritime security.

The decision also underscores how non-state actors such as the Houthis are increasingly influencing global shipping and military planning. Their ability to threaten key sea routes has forced even powerful naval forces to reconsider traditional deployment strategies.

As tensions continue in the region, the longer journey of the USS George H.W. Bush highlights the evolving security landscape and the growing importance of safeguarding vital maritime routes.

Former Virginia Leader Justin Fairfax Shoots Wife Dead, Then Kills Self Amid Divorce Battle

Former Virginia Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax allegedly shot and killed his wife before taking his own life at their home in Annandale, Virginia, in what authorities described as a tragic murder-suicide linked to an ongoing divorce dispute. The shocking incident has drawn widespread attention and left the local community stunned.

Police responded to the residence shortly after midnight following a 911 call reportedly made by the couple’s teenage son. When officers arrived, they discovered Justin Fairfax, 47, and his wife, Dr. Cerina Fairfax, 49, dead from gunshot wounds inside the home. Their two teenage children were present in the house at the time of the incident but were unharmed.



Reports suggest that the couple had been going through a difficult separation for several months. Court filings indicated that Cerina Fairfax had filed for divorce, citing serious marital issues. The legal proceedings had reportedly intensified in recent weeks, with a judge ordering Justin Fairfax to vacate the family home within a specified timeframe.

Authorities also revealed that police had previously responded to domestic-related calls at the residence. These earlier incidents pointed to rising tensions between the couple as their relationship deteriorated. The presence of surveillance cameras inside the home further indicated that the situation had become

increasingly strained.

Justin Fairfax was once considered a rising political figure. He served as Virginia’s Lieutenant Governor from 2018 to 2022 and was viewed as a potential future candidate for higher office. However, his political career suffered setbacks after controversies and allegations surfaced during his tenure, which significantly affected his public image and future prospects. After his political ambitions stalled, Fairfax largely stepped away from public life. Reports indicated that he had been facing personal and professional challenges in recent years, though details remain limited.

The couple’s two children are now reportedly staying with relatives following the incident. Authorities said the investigation is ongoing, but preliminary findings suggest a murder-suicide linked to domestic conflict.

The tragedy has shocked many who once saw Fairfax as a prominent political leader. The incident also highlights the devastating consequences that can arise from unresolved domestic disputes and personal struggles.

Iran has mocked US President Donald Trump’s claim that Washington is close to securing a major peace deal with Tehran, using a Persian proverb to dismiss the announcement as unrealistic. The reaction underscores the deep mistrust between the two countries even as diplomatic efforts continue amid rising tensions.

The dispute began after Donald Trump stated that the United States and Iran were “very close” to reaching a peace agreement. He also suggested that Iran was prepared to make key concessions, including handing over enriched uranium — one of the most sensitive issues in ongoing negotiations. Trump expressed optimism that a breakthrough could happen soon and indicated that discussions were progressing in a positive direction.

However, Iran’s state broadcaster quickly rejected the claim, sharing a clip of Trump’s remarks and accusing him of unrealistic expectations. The broadcaster used a well-known Persian proverb — “The camel dreams of cottonseed, sometimes gulping it down, sometimes eating it grain by grain.” The phrase is commonly used to describe wishful thinking or ambitions that are unlikely to materialise.

The response was widely interpreted as Iran’s way of dismissing Trump’s comments as



premature. By invoking the

ful purposes such as energy

major obstacles.

Iran’s reaction suggests that negotiations may not be as advanced as suggested by the US president. The use of the proverb also reflects a cautious stance from Tehran, indicating that it remains skeptical about the possibility of a near-term agreement. Despite the exchange of sharp rhetoric, diplomatic engagement between the two countries is believed to be continuing through intermediaries. However, disagreements over nuclear restrictions, sanctions relief, and security guarantees remain

The situation highlights the fragile nature of US-Iran relations, where optimism from one side is often met with skepticism from the other. While Trump’s comments suggest progress, Iran’s response indicates that negotiations are still uncertain and far from final.

For now, the “camel dreams of cottonseed” remark has become a symbol of the ongoing mistrust between Washington and Tehran. As talks continue, whether a peace deal emerges or not will depend on how both sides bridge their long-standing differences.

Markets Bounce Back Strongly: Sensex Surges 500 Points, Nifty Closes Above 24,350

Indian equity markets staged a strong comeback, with benchmark indices ending higher after a volatile start to the week. The Sensex surged more than 500 points, while the Nifty 50 closed above the crucial 24,350 mark, reflecting renewed investor confidence and broad-based buying across sectors.

The recovery was driven by positive global cues, easing geopolitical concerns, and strong participation across sectors. Investors returned to equities following recent declines, resulting in a steady upward movement throughout the trading session.

Strong Finish After Steady Gains

Markets opened on a positive note and gradually extended gains during the session. Buying momentum remained consistent, and the indices ended near their intraday highs — a sign of

strong bullish sentiment.

The BSE Sensex gained over 500 points to close around 78,493, while the NSE Nifty 50 rose by more than 150 points to settle above 24,350. The strong close suggested that investors remained confident and continued to accumulate stocks across sectors.

The rebound came after recent volatility, indicating that market participants were willing to re-enter positions at lower levels.

Top Gainers Lead the Rally

Several blue-chip stocks contributed to the market's rise. Shares of major companies in FMCG, power, and metal sectors witnessed strong buying interest. Stocks such as Hindustan Unilever, Nestle India, JSW Steel, Power Grid Corporation, and Apollo Hospitals were among the key gainers during the session.

Meanwhile, a few stocks faced mild selling pressure. Companies from IT, pharma,

and select industrial sectors ended lower, though their declines were limited and did not significantly impact overall market performance.

Despite some laggards, the overall sentiment remained positive due to strong gains across most sectors.

Broader Markets Outperform

The broader markets outperformed the benchmark indices, indicating strong participation from retail investors and mid-sized companies. Midcap and smallcap stocks witnessed notable buying interest, with both segments posting solid gains.

A large number of stocks advanced compared to those that declined, further highlighting the strength of the rally. The positive market breadth reflected improving investor sentiment and growing risk appetite.

Stocks Hit Fresh Highs

Another encouraging sign for the markets was the num-

ber of stocks hitting fresh highs. Several companies across sectors touched their 52-week highs, reflecting strong investor interest.

Stocks from infrastructure, power, metals, and manufacturing sectors were among those that reached new highs. The broad-based nature of these gains suggested that the rally was supported by strong fundamentals and investor optimism.

Weekly Gains Add to Optimism

The strong session also helped markets end the week on a positive note. Both the Sensex and the Nifty registered gains for the week, indicating that the recovery was not limited to a single trading session.

Weekly gains boosted investor confidence and suggested that the market may continue to consolidate at higher levels if supportive factors remain in place.

Market Outlook



Analysts believe that the strong recovery indicates improving sentiment, though markets may remain volatile due to global uncertainties. Investors are likely to track global developments, crude oil prices, foreign fund flows,

and corporate earnings for further direction.

The strong close near day's high suggests that bulls currently have the upper hand. If supportive global cues continue, markets may extend gains in the coming

sessions.

However, experts also advise caution, as markets may witness intermittent volatility. Investors are encouraged to remain selective and focus on fundamentally strong stocks.

Gujarat Gas Shares Surge 8% After Nomura Upgrade; Brokerage Sees Strong Growth Ahead

Shares of Gujarat Gas witnessed a sharp rally, jumping nearly 8 percent during trading and emerging as one of the top gainers on the BSE Midcap index. The surge came after global brokerage Nomura upgraded the stock to a “buy” rating, boosting investor sentiment and sparking fresh buying interest in the city gas distribution company.

The upgrade reflects growing optimism about Gujarat Gas's long-term growth prospects, particularly driven by expected demand recovery from industrial customers and improving market dynamics. The stock gained momentum following the positive outlook, with investors responding quickly to the brokerage's revised assessment.

Nomura Upgrade Drives Rally

Gujarat Gas shares climbed significantly during the session, trading around 360 levels after gaining nearly 8 percent. Nomura upgraded the stock from “reduce” to “buy” and set a target price of 390, indicating a potential upside from current levels.

The brokerage's upgrade comes after a period of underperformance for Gujarat Gas. Over the past year, the stock has seen a decline, which made valuations more attractive. This correction provided an opportunity for investors to re-enter the stock at relatively lower levels, contributing to the strong buying interest following the upgrade.

Supply Constraints Create Opportunity

Recent supply constraints in propane availability have further strengthened the case for natural gas adoption. Industrial users have faced challenges due to prioritization of LPG



supply for domestic consumption, leading to limited propane availability.

This situation has encouraged industries to explore alternative fuel options, with natural gas emerging as a viable and cost-effective solution. Gujarat Gas stands to benefit from this shift, as increased industrial demand could boost volume growth and strengthen revenue visibility.

Analysts believe that this structural shift could support long-term growth and enhance Gujarat Gas's market position in the industrial segment.

Potential Price Hikes May Support Margins

Another factor supporting Gujarat Gas's outlook is the possibility of price increases by ceramic manufacturers. Companies in the Morbi cluster are reportedly considering raising prices to offset higher fuel costs.

If implemented successfully, these price hikes could ease pressure on margins and improve profitability across the value chain. This development could further strengthen Gujarat Gas's earnings outlook in the medium to long term.

Earnings Outlook Remains Positive

While the brokerage remains optimistic about long-term growth, it has made some adjustments to near-term earnings estimates. Short-term challenges such as higher LNG prices may impact margins temporarily. However, the long-term outlook remains strong due to expected demand growth and improved operational performance.

Analysts expect that increasing industrial consumption and stable demand from other segments will support Gujarat Gas's growth trajectory in the coming years.

Stock Performance and Valuation

Despite the recent rally, Gujarat Gas shares are still trading below their previous highs. This leaves room for further upside if growth expectations materialize. The improved outlook and attractive valuations have renewed investor interest in the stock.

The sharp rise also reflects broader optimism in the city gas distribution sector, as demand for cleaner and reliable energy sources continues to grow. Industrial demand, in particular, is expected to remain a key driver for companies operating in this space.

Mid, Smallcap Indices Rebound to Pre-West Asia War Levels; Angel One, Adani Total Gas Among Top Gainers

India's broader equity markets staged a strong recovery, with midcap and smallcap indices rebounding to levels seen before the West Asia conflict. The sharp recovery reflects renewed investor confidence and strong buying interest in mid- and small-cap stocks after a period of volatility triggered by geopolitical tensions.

Broader Markets Recover Fully

Midcap and smallcap indices had witnessed significant declines after geopolitical tensions escalated following the February 28 strikes involving the US, Israel, and Iran. Investors reduced exposure to riskier segments such as mid- and small-cap stocks amid concerns over global uncertainty and supply chain disruptions.

However, these segments have now fully recovered, with both indices returning to pre-conflict levels by April 17. The rebound was primarily driven by improved investor sentiment and renewed buying interest across sectors. The Nifty Smallcap 100 and Nifty Midcap 100 indices led the recovery, showing stronger momentum compared to benchmark indices.

During intraday trading, the Nifty Midcap 100 index rose around 1.1 percent, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 gained nearly 1.5 percent, indicating strong participation in broader markets.

Sharp Gains After Earlier Correction

Earlier, midcap and smallcap stocks had declined around 11–12 percent following the onset of the conflict. These segments are typically more sensi-



tive to external shocks and investor risk appetite, which explains the sharper fall during uncertain periods.

Since February 28, midcap indices have surged between 13–15 percent, while smallcap indices have gained around 16–17 percent. This strong rebound has helped both segments recoup their losses and return to pre-war levels.

The recovery also reflects investors' willingness to re-enter riskier segments once volatility eased and global conditions stabilised.

Why Mid and Smallcaps

Recovered Faster

Mid- and small-cap stocks often experience sharper declines during uncertain times but also recover faster when sentiment improves. Investors typically shift to these segments when valuations become attractive following corrections.

The recent rebound reflects improving risk appetite among investors and confidence in earnings growth for mid- and small-sized companies. Strong domestic liquidity and retail participation also supported the recovery.

Market Sentiment Improves

The rebound in broader markets indicates improving sentiment and strengthening market breadth. Investors appear to be returning to mid- and small-cap stocks after the recent correction, encouraged by attractive valuations and better growth prospects.

The strong performance of broader markets also suggests that the rally is not limited to large-cap stocks. Instead, it reflects widespread participation across sectors and market segments.

Apollo Micro Systems Shares Surge 18% After Government Licence to Manufacture Missiles and Torpedoes

Shares of Apollo Micro Systems witnessed a sharp rally, rising nearly 18 percent during intraday trading after the company announced that it had received a government licence to manufacture and test advanced defence weapon systems. The development triggered strong investor interest, pushing the stock among the top gainers in the market.

The stock climbed to an intraday high of around 287 per share and later traded close to 283, maintaining strong gains throughout the session. The rally also extended the stock's recent upward trend, with Apollo Micro Systems gaining significantly over the past few trading sessions as investors responded positively to the company's expanding role in the defence sector.

Government Licence Boosts Growth Prospects

The surge in Apollo Micro Systems shares came after the company revealed that it had received a licence from the

Government of India through the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). This approval allows the company to manufacture and conduct proof testing of defence weapon systems and ammunition.

The licence is considered a major milestone for the company, as it enables Apollo Micro Systems to expand into high-value defence manufacturing. The approval also grants long-term operational flexibility, allowing the company to manufacture, assemble, integrate, and test various strategic weapon systems.

Such licences are particularly significant in the defence sector, where regulatory approvals are critical for entering new product segments and securing government contracts. The development strengthens Apollo Micro Systems' position in India's growing defence manufacturing ecosystem.

Wide Range of Defence

Systems Covered

The licence covers arms and ammunition with calibre above 12.7 mm, allowing the company to manufacture a wide range of advanced defence systems. These include missiles, anti-tank guided missiles, torpedoes, underwater mines, aerial bombs, rockets, and loitering munitions.

This broad scope significantly enhances the company's capabilities and opens new business opportunities. By entering these high-end segments, Apollo Micro Systems can expand its presence across defence platforms, including land, air, and naval systems.

The approval also positions the company to participate in large-scale defence programs and collaborate with government agencies and defence contractors.

Strengthening Position in Defence Manufacturing

Apollo Micro Systems is already involved in designing and manufacturing electronic



and electromechanical systems for defence applications. With the new licence, the company can now move further up the value chain by manufacturing complete weapon systems.

This transition is expected to improve revenue potential and strengthen the company's long-term growth outlook. The development also aligns with India's push for defence

self-reliance and increased domestic manufacturing.

Government initiatives promoting indigenous defence production have created significant opportunities for domestic companies. Apollo Micro Systems is likely to benefit from this policy support and growing defence spending.

Rising Investor Interest in Defence Stocks

The strong rally in Apollo Micro Systems also reflects broader investor interest in defence stocks. The sector has gained attention due to increasing defence budgets, strong order pipelines, and export opportunities.

Companies involved in defence manufacturing are seen as long-term growth plays, especially as India aims to reduce reliance on imports. The latest licence further strengthens Apollo Micro Systems' growth narrative and enhances investor confidence.

Future Growth Opportunities

The ability to manufacture advanced weapon systems opens new revenue streams for the company. It also improves its chances of securing large defence contracts from government agencies and private players. As defence spending increases and domestic manufacturing gains momentum, Apollo Micro Systems could see improved order inflows.

This, in turn, may support revenue growth and profitability in the coming years.

However, investors will also monitor execution capabilities, order wins, and financial performance to assess the company's long-term potential.

Conclusion

Apollo Micro Systems shares surged nearly 18 percent after the company received a government licence to manufacture missiles, torpedoes, and other advanced defence systems. The approval significantly expands the company's capabilities and strengthens its presence in the defence manufacturing sector.

The development has boosted investor sentiment and highlighted the company's long-term growth potential. With increasing focus on defence self-reliance and domestic manufacturing, Apollo Micro Systems appears well positioned to benefit from future opportunities in India's expanding defence sector.

Gill Leads Gujarat Titans to Victory Over KKR

Shubman Gill led from the front with a captain's innings as the Gujarat Titans defeated the Kolkata Knight Riders in an Indian Premier League 2026 match.

Chasing a competitive target, Gujarat Titans showed composure to secure victory with wickets in hand. Gill anchored the innings with a well-paced knock, scoring a crucial half-century and guiding the team through the chase with confidence. His performance ensured that Gujarat stayed in control despite a few wickets falling during the middle overs.

Earlier, Kolkata Knight Riders posted a challenging total after a steady batting display. Their batters contributed useful runs, but they failed to fully capitalize in the final overs due to disciplined bowling by

Gujarat. The Titans' bowlers maintained tight lines and picked up timely wickets to restrict the opposition.

In reply, Gujarat started on a steady note, with Gill taking responsibility at the top. He combined caution with controlled aggression, building key partnerships and keeping the scoreboard moving. The middle-order batters supported well, ensuring there was no major collapse.

KKR tried to fight back by taking quick wickets, but Gujarat's lower middle order held their nerve and finished the match comfortably in the final overs.

The win gives Gujarat Titans strong momentum in the tournament, while Kolkata Knight Riders will look to improve their performance in upcoming matches.



KKR Urged To Drop AjinkyaRahane As Former India Star Questions Captaincy Call

Kolkata Knight Riders' disastrous start to IPL 2026 has triggered sharp criticism, with former India cricketer Kris Srikkanth urging the franchise to drop skipper AjinkyaRahane and appoint Sunil Narine as captain instead. The suggestion comes after KKR failed to register a single win in the tournament so far, leaving them stranded at the bottom of the points table.

Rahane, who was entrusted with the leadership role ahead of the season, has struggled both as a batter and captain. Under his leadership, KKR's campaign has failed to take off, with the team managing only one point from a washed-out match against Punjab Kings. The poor run of form has drawn criticism from fans and experts alike, with many questioning the team's strategy and leadership decisions.

Srikkanth, known for his outspoken views, did not hold back while assessing KKR's struggles. He termed the decision to appoint Rahane as captain a mistake and suggested that the franchise should consider making immediate changes. According to him, if Rahane continues to underperform, KKR should look beyond him and hand over captaincy duties to Sunil Narine, who has been one of the team's most experienced and impactful players over the years.

The former India selector also hinted that Rahane's place in the playing XI should not be guaranteed if his performances fail to improve. He emphasized that team management must take tough decisions to revive their campaign, even if it involves replacing the captain mid-season.

KKR's struggles have not



been limited to batting alone. Their bowling unit has also lacked consistency, and the team has failed to capitalize on crucial moments in matches. The repeated setbacks have increased pressure on the management to rethink their approach and make necessary changes.

With the tournament still in its early phase, KKR has time to bounce back. However, the margin for error is shrinking rapidly, and any further losses could severely dent their play-off hopes. The coming matches could prove decisive in determining whether the franchise sticks with Rahane or opts for a leadership change.

As pressure mounts, all eyes will now be on KKR's next move and whether the team management considers Srikkanth's bold suggestion to shake things up.



Who Is Lizlaz? Influencer Who Went Viral After Alleged ViratKohli 'Like'

Social media erupted after Royal Challengers Bengaluru star ViratKohli allegedly liked an Instagram post of influencer Lizlaz, sparking massive curiosity among fans. The screenshot of the interaction quickly went viral, triggering memes, jokes, and widespread discussion during IPL 2026.

How Lizlaz Went Viral

The buzz began when fans noticed that ViratKohli's verified Instagram account had allegedly liked one of Lizlaz's posts. Within minutes, screenshots spread across social media platforms, turning the influencer into an overnight sensation.

The incident also revived the famous "Instagram algorithm" jokes, referencing a past controversy when Kohli had suggested that an accidental like might have been caused by algorithmic activity. Fans quickly picked up on this, flooding social media with humorous reactions and memes.

Interestingly, Kohli does not follow Lizlaz on Instagram, which added to the intrigue and further fueled online discussions. The episode highlighted how closely fans track celebrity social media activity,

especially during high-profile events like the IPL.

Who Is Lizlaz?

Lizlaz is a German-South African influencer, model, and content creator known for her travel and lifestyle content. She was born in South Africa to a German mother and South African father and has built a growing presence on social media. She shares travel vlogs, fashion content, and lifestyle posts, often featuring experiences from different countries. Her content has also included Indian culture and travel experiences, which has helped her gain popularity among Indian audiences.

Lizlaz has built a solid following on Instagram, with thousands of users engaging with her posts regularly. Her growing popularity received a massive boost after the viral interaction involving Kohli.

Connection With Indian Cricket

Another reason for the buzz is Lizlaz's interest in Indian cricket. She has expressed admiration for ViratKohli in the past and reportedly considers him one of her favourite cricketers. This detail added further intrigue to the viral moment

after the alleged like.

She has also shown interest in India through her travel content and has attended cultural events, including weddings, which she shared on social media. Her engagement with Indian culture has contributed to her increasing popularity among Indian fans.

Internet Reacts

Social media users reacted quickly after the alleged like went viral. Fans shared memes, jokes, and playful comments, with many referencing Kohli's earlier "algorithm" explanation. Others joked about how even a simple social media interaction by a celebrity can create massive headlines.

The incident once again demonstrated how even minor online activity involving a global cricket star can become a trending topic within minutes.

Kohli's Focus On Cricket

While the social media buzz dominated headlines, ViratKohli has also been in solid form in IPL 2026. His performances have been crucial for Royal Challengers Bengaluru, and he continues to remain one of the most talked-about players in the tournament.

Why JaspritBumrah Hasn't Taken A Wicket In IPL 2026? Irfan Pathan Explains

Mumbai Indians' struggles in IPL 2026 have been compounded by an unusual dip in form from their premier fast bowler JaspritBumrah, who is yet to take a single wicket this season. The wicketless run has surprised fans and experts alike, prompting former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan to analyse the reasons behind the slump. Bumrah, widely regarded as one of the best death bowlers in world cricket, has historically been Mumbai Indians' biggest match-winner. However, in IPL 2026, he has failed to make his usual impact despite bowling in crucial phases of matches. His lack of wickets has coincided with Mumbai Indians' disappointing run, with the team struggling to maintain consistency in the tournament. Irfan Pathan pointed out that the primary reason behind Bumrah's struggles is his excessive reliance on slower deliveries. According to Pathan, Bumrah has been bowling too many slower balls this season, which has reduced his wicket-taking threat. He noted that nearly every second delivery from Bumrah has been a slower ball, making him predictable and allowing batters to adjust more comfortably. Pathan also highlighted that Bumrah's average pace this season has dropped to around 130 kmph, which is lower than his usual speed. This decline in pace, combined with frequent slower deliveries, has reduced the element of surprise that typically makes Bumrah dangerous. Pathan suggested that Bumrah should focus more on bowling at higher speeds and use slower balls sparingly to regain his effectiveness. Despite going wicketless, Pathan clarified that

Bumrah's form is not necessarily poor. Instead, he stressed that minor tactical adjustments could quickly change things for the fast bowler. According to him, Bumrah does not need technical changes but simply needs to alter his approach and return to his strengths. Another factor contributing to Bumrah's lack of wickets is the performance of other Mumbai Indians bowlers. Analysts have noted that when bowlers at the other end concede too many runs, batters tend to play cautiously against Bumrah rather than taking risks. In T20 cricket, wickets often come when batters attack aggressively, and if they choose to play safe against Bumrah, his chances of taking wickets naturally decrease. Mumbai Indians' overall bowling struggles have therefore added to Bumrah's wicket drought. Without consistent pressure from the rest of the bowling attack, opposition batters have been able to play out Bumrah's overs carefully and target other bowlers instead. The situation has raised concerns within the Mumbai Indians camp, especially given Bumrah's importance to the team. However, experts believe that his experience and skill set mean he could bounce back quickly. A single breakthrough could help him regain rhythm and confidence. Bumrah's wicketless run has become one of the biggest talking points of IPL 2026, but both fans and analysts expect the star pacer to turn things around soon. With several matches still remaining in the season, Mumbai Indians will be hoping their ace bowler returns to form and helps revive their campaign.



PreityZinta Finally Reacts To Salman Khan's 12-Year-Old Tweet On Her IPL Team

Punjab Kings co-owner PreityZinta finally responded to Salman Khan's viral 2014 tweet about her IPL team, creating a nostalgic moment that quickly caught the attention of cricket fans. The interaction resurfaced after Punjab Kings registered an impressive win in IPL 2026, prompting fans to revisit the old post and tag the actress.

The Viral 2014 Tweet

Back in 2014, during the Indian Premier League season, Salman Khan had posted a tweet asking, "Zinta's team won kya?" The simple message quickly gained popularity among fans and eventually became a recurring meme whenever Punjab Kings performed

well.

Although Punjab Kings had lost that particular match at the time, the tweet continued to live on across social media. Over the years, fans repeatedly shared it whenever the team delivered strong performances, turning it into a nostalgic and humorous reference linked to the franchise.

What Happened This Time

In IPL 2026, Punjab Kings secured a convincing victory, which brought renewed excitement among supporters. PreityZinta took to social media to celebrate the win, praising the team's performance and applauding the players for their effort and determination.

Soon after her post, fans

shared Salman Khan's old tweet once again, tagging PreityZinta and reminding her of the long-running joke. This time, she finally responded to the viral tweet, replying enthusiastically with "Yes yesyes," acknowledging the moment and delighting fans online.

Her response quickly went viral, with fans celebrating what many described as a "full circle" moment after more than a decade.

Fans Celebrate The Nostalgic Moment

Social media users reacted instantly to PreityZinta's reply. Memes, jokes, and nostalgic posts flooded platforms, with many fans highlighting the long gap between the original

tweet and her recent response.

Some users also created humorous references to Bollywood dialogues and Salman Khan's films, making the moment even more entertaining. The exchange once again demonstrated how a simple tweet can gain long-lasting popularity and resurface years later.

Punjab Kings' Strong Performance

Punjab Kings have looked competitive in IPL 2026, with several players stepping up at crucial moments. The team's improved performance has generated optimism among fans and stakeholders. PreityZinta has remained actively involved in supporting the team, frequently sharing reactions

and cheering for players during matches. Her enthusiasm and engagement have helped strengthen the connection between the franchise and its supporters.

Bollywood And Cricket Connection

The interaction between PreityZinta and Salman Khan also highlighted the long-standing connection between Bollywood and cricket. Over the years, celebrities have played a major role in promoting IPL teams, and their social media interactions often become viral moments.

Salman Khan's tweet, despite being more than a decade old, remains one of the most memorable celebrity reactions



associated with the IPL.

A Memorable Social Media Moment

PreityZinta's response to Salman Khan's 12-year-old tweet added a nostalgic and entertaining moment to IPL 2026. The exchange brought smiles to fans and showcased how so-

cial media can keep memories alive for years. As Punjab Kings continue their campaign, the viral interaction has become another memorable chapter in the team's journey, reminding fans of the fun and excitement that surrounds both cricket and entertainment.

Tamannaah Gets Legal Setback As Madras High Court Dismisses 1 Crore Plea

Popular actress Tamannaah Bhatia has faced a legal setback after the Madras High Court dismissed her appeal seeking 1 crore in damages from a soap manufacturing company. The court's decision has effectively brought the long-standing dispute to a close, delivering an unexpected blow to the actress.

What The Case Was About

The issue dates back to an endorsement deal Tamannaah signed with Power Soaps Limited in 2008. As part of the agreement, the company was allowed to use her images to promote its products for a limited period of one year, which ended in October 2009.

Tamannaah later alleged that the company continued using her photographs even after the contract expired. She claimed that this unauthorized usage of her promotional material resulted in financial and reputational losses.

Following this, the actress filed a civil suit seeking 1 crore in damages.

Court's Earlier Decision

The matter was first heard by a single judge of the Madras High Court in 2017. After reviewing the documents submitted by Tamannaah, the court concluded that she failed to provide sufficient evidence proving that the company had continued using her images after the contract expired. As a result, her plea was dismissed at that stage. Unhappy with the verdict, Tamannaah filed an appeal in 2018, challenging the earlier ruling and seeking compensation once again.

High Court Rejects Appeal

A division bench of the Madras High Court has now upheld the earlier judgment and dismissed Tamannaah's appeal. The court agreed with the previous findings and stated that the actress had not been able to prove unauthorized

usage of her images by the company.

The judges concluded that the evidence presented did not convincingly establish that the company had misused Tamannaah's photographs after the contract period. With this ruling, the legal battle has effectively ended in favor of the company.

Importance Of Image Rights In Film Industry

The case gained attention as it highlighted the growing importance of brand endorsements and image rights in the entertainment industry. Celebrities frequently sign endorsement deals, and disputes over usage rights after contract expiry have become increasingly common.

Tamannaah's case is seen as an example of how crucial documentation and evidence are in such disputes. Without strong proof, legal claims in-

volving brand endorsements can be difficult to sustain in court.

Tamannaah's Professional Front

Despite the legal setback, Tamannaah continues to remain busy with multiple film projects and endorsements. She has maintained a strong presence across Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi industries, along with several brand collaborations.

The actress has several upcoming projects lined up and continues to be one of the most sought-after stars in South Indian cinema.

Final Verdict

The Madras High Court's decision marks the end of Tamannaah Bhatia's long-running legal battle over alleged unauthorized use of her images. While the ruling comes as a setback, the actress remains focused on her professional commitments and upcoming releases.



After Long Gap, Trisha Dubs in Her Own Voice for Suriya'sKaruppu

Popular actress Trisha Krishnan has taken a significant step for her upcoming film Karuppu, starring Suriya. In a notable development, Trisha has reportedly dubbed in her own voice for the Tamil version of the film after a long gap, creating excitement among fans and industry circles.

Although Tamil is her mother tongue, Trisha has rarely dubbed for her characters in the past. Most of her films across Tamil, Telugu, and Kannada have featured professional dubbing artists lending their voices to her roles. However, for Karuppu, the actress decided to personally dub her character, aiming to bring greater authenticity and emotional depth to the performance. This isn't the first time Trisha has chosen to use her own voice. She had earlier dubbed for select films including AayuthaEzhuthu, ManmadhanAmbu, Mankatha, Samar, and more recently Leo. However, such instances have been rare, making her decision to dub again after a long gap particularly noteworthy.

Reports suggest that director RJ Balaji encouraged Trisha to dub for her character in Karuppu to ensure natural expressions and better emotional connection. The move is expected to enhance the overall impact of her role and add freshness to the film's narrative. Industry insiders believe that Trisha's voice will serve as

a major highlight and strengthen the emotional core of the story.

Karuppu marks an exciting collaboration between Suriya and Trisha, generating considerable anticipation among fans. The film is directed by RJ Balaji and is said to feature Suriya in a powerful role inspired by a protector-like character rooted in rural traditions. The storyline reportedly explores how a heroic figure emerges to safeguard people during difficult times, blending action with strong emotional elements.

The project has already created strong buzz due to its intriguing concept and star cast. Apart from Suriya and Trisha, the film also features several prominent actors in key roles. With music composed by Sai Abhyankkar and production mounted on a large scale, expectations from the film are high. Interestingly, Karuppu also marks a reunion between Suriya and Trisha after many years, further boosting anticipation. Fans are particularly eager to see their on-screen chemistry once again, especially in a film that promises action, emotion, and commercial appeal. With Trisha lending her own voice after a long gap, Karuppu has gained another exciting element ahead of its release. The decision is expected to add authenticity to her performance and enhance the overall cinematic experience, making the film one of the most awaited releases in Tamil cinema.



Yash's Comments On Ravana Go Viral: "His Decisions Were Driven By Beliefs And Ideologies"

Kannada star Yash, who is set to portray Ravana in the highly anticipated film Ramayana, has sparked widespread discussion with his recent remarks about the mythological character. His comments, where he described Ravana as a complex personality driven by beliefs and ideologies, quickly went viral and triggered mixed reactions among audiences.

Yash's Perspective On Ravana

Speaking in a recent interview, Yash explained that he does not view Ravana as merely a cruel villain. Instead, he described him as a layered and complex personality. According to Yash, Ravana made decisions based on his own beliefs and ideological convictions, particularly in his role as a king. The actor also highlighted that Ravana was not just a warrior but a scholar, musician, and devoted follower of Lord Shiva. By pointing out these aspects, Yash emphasized that Ravana's personality had multiple dimensions beyond the traditional portrayal of a one-dimensional antago-

nist. Yash further noted that Ravana's downfall was largely due to his growing arrogance and overconfidence. He explained that every character has its own perspective and that he approached the role by understanding Ravana's mindset rather than simply portraying him as evil.

Mixed Reactions From Public

Yash's comments, however, did not go unnoticed and sparked debate among audiences. Some sections expressed discomfort with presenting Ravana in a sympathetic or layered manner. For many, Ramayana is not just a story but a sacred epic symbolizing the battle between good and evil, where Lord Rama represents righteousness and Ravana represents evil. Critics argued that Ravana's actions, including the abduction of Sita, cannot be justified and warned that portraying him as an anti-hero or glorifying his personality might send the wrong message. These reactions fueled discussions on social media, with people debating the balance between creative freedom



and religious sentiments.

Creative Freedom Vs Traditional Beliefs

On the other hand, many supported Yash's perspective, stating that modern filmmaking often explores characters in greater depth. According to this view, highlighting Ravana's intelligence or strength does not necessarily justify his actions but instead adds layers to storytelling. Supporters believe that presenting Ravana as a complex character could make the narrative more engaging and meaningful. However, some also expressed concerns that excessive glorification might overshadow

the central theme of good triumphing over evil.

High Expectations From Ramayana

The upcoming Ramayana, directed by Nitesh Tiwari, features Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita, and Yash as Ravana. The film is one of the most ambitious Indian cinematic projects and is expected to release in parts, with the first installment planned around Diwali. With the film generating massive buzz, Yash's comments have added further curiosity about how Ravana will be portrayed. Fans are eager to see whether the character will be shown as a

traditional villain or a layered personality with human emotions.

A Debate That Continues

Yash's remarks have opened up an interesting discussion about mythology, storytelling, and cinematic interpretation. While some viewers prefer traditional portrayals, others welcome fresh perspectives on iconic characters. Ultimately, audiences will have to wait until the film's release to see how the makers balance creative storytelling with cultural sensitivity. Until then, Yash's comments on Ravana continue to trend, keeping Ramayana firmly in the spotlight.

Sree Vishnu Launches Gripping Trailer of Arjun Ambati's ParamapadaSopanam Ahead of April 24 Release

Actor Arjun Ambati, known for choosing distinctive and content-driven scripts, is gearing up for the release of his upcoming action thriller ParamapadaSopanam. Directed by Naga Siva, a former associate of star filmmaker PuriJagannadh, the film is slated to hit theatres on April 24. With the release date drawing closer, the makers have stepped up promotional activities. As part of the campaign, talented actor Sree Vishnu officially unveiled the theatrical trailer of the film and extended his best wishes to the entire team. After watching the trailer, Sree Vishnu praised the film's intensity and storytelling. He described the trailer as engaging and packed with suspense, noting that it builds curiosity and promises a gripping thriller ex-



perience. He also expressed confidence in Arjun Ambati's performance and wished him success with the project. Sree Vishnu further appreciated director Naga Siva, calling him a hardworking and talented filmmaker, and conveyed his best

wishes to everyone involved in the film. The trailer offers a glimpse into a compelling narrative filled with action, emotion, and suspense. It also appears to carry a meaningful social message, adding depth to the storyline. Director Naga

Siva seems to have blended commercial elements with strong storytelling, reflecting the influence of his mentor PuriJagannadh's signature "mass and class" style. This is particularly evident in the film's high-energy action se-

quences and visually appealing romantic scenes featuring Arjun Ambati and leading lady Jennifer Emmanuel. The film's music is composed by Davzand, who recently gained attention for delivering a successful album for Ravi Teja's Eagle. The songs released so far, including "ChinniChinniTappulevo" and "BhoomBhoom," have already received a positive response from audiences and performed well on YouTube. With an intriguing trailer, promising performances, and an energetic soundtrack, ParamapadaSopanam has generated considerable buzz ahead of its release. The film is expected to deliver a complete entertainment package, combining action, romance, and meaningful storytelling for audiences across all sections.

Father-Son Emotions Take Centre Stage in Rich Kid, Releasing April 23

The upcoming family entertainer Rich Kid is gearing up for its theatrical release on April 23 under the banner of Sri Manjunadha Cinemas. The film is produced by G. Manjunath Reddy, who also plays the lead role, adding a personal touch to the project.

Directed by ShafiVullah and Anil Derangula, Rich Kid revolves around the emotional bond between a father and son.

While the theme has been explored in cinema before, the makers promise a refreshing narrative and engaging screenplay that aims to offer a new perspective. The film is said to combine heartfelt emotions with humor and music, making it a wholesome entertainment package.

According to the makers, Rich Kid has been designed to appeal to audiences of all age

groups. With its strong emotional core and lighthearted moments, the film aims to connect with families and deliver a meaningful cinematic experience. The directors have focused on presenting the story with care and attention to detail, while producer Manjunath Reddy has ensured quality production values throughout the film.

Manju plays the male lead



opposite Supriya Marla, and their on-screen chemistry is expected to be one of the highlights of the film. The movie also features a strong supporting cast, including RajasekharAningi, ChelliSwapna, Suman Shetty, Ping Pong Surya, Balagam Sanjay, and JabardasthDurga Rao, who bring additional entertain-

ment and emotional depth to the narrative. With its blend of emotions, comedy, and music, Rich Kid is positioned as a complete family entertainer. As the release date approaches, expectations are building for a film that promises to deliver heartfelt moments and engaging storytelling for theatre audiences on April 23.

