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Revanth Reddy Accelerates Finalisation of Nominated Posts in Telangana

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Congress government has accelerated the process of finalising nominations to key government and quasi-government posts...

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, along with AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud...

According to party sources, the leadership is prioritising swift completion of the exercise to fill long-pending vacancies and ensure smooth functioning of several institutions...



tioning of several institutions that require political nominations for effective administration.

The discussions reportedly focused on providing balanced representation across districts, social groups, and senior party workers who have contributed significantly to the organisation at various levels.

Congress leaders said that the exercise aims to recognise loyal cadre support while also maintaining regional and social balance in the distribution of nominated posts.

Party insiders noted that delays in finalising nominations had led to administrative gaps in some institutions, prompting the leadership to fast-track the approval process.

Once the final list receives approval from the top leadership, the government is expected to issue formal orders in phases to complete the appointments in a structured manner.

Sources further indicated that the nominated posts will be aligned with the government's welfare and development priorities, ensuring better coordination between institutions and policy implementation.

The accelerated decision-making process is seen within the party as an effort by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to streamline governance and address growing expectations among party cadres awaiting political appointments.

Further clarity on the final list of nominated posts is expected in the coming days after final approval from the leadership.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Campaigns in Sivakasi, Confident of Congress-DMK Alliance Sweep in Tamil Nadu

Sivakasi (Tamil Nadu), April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Campaign activity for the Congress Party intensified in Tamil Nadu as Telangana Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy addressed a series of public meetings in Sivakasi...

As an AICC observer actively touring constituencies including Singanallur near Coimbatore and Kavundampalayam, Uttam Kumar Reddy reached Sivakasi with a strong message of confidence, stating that the Congress would win all 28 seats it is contesting in the state.

The senior leader warned voters against divisive political forces, asserting that Tamil Nadu would continue to uphold secular and progressive values. He praised the DMK-Congress partnership, describing the Secular Progressive Alliance as a well-organised coalition effectively working at the grassroots level.

Referring to Rahul Gandhi, Uttam Kumar Reddy called him the future Prime Minister of India and appealed to party workers to strengthen the alliance for a decisive victory.

He expressed confidence that the Tamil Nadu electorate would once again endorse the leadership of Chief Minister M.K. Stalin.

During his visit to Sivakasi, the Congress leader focused on strengthening support for party candidate G. Ashokan, urging voters to ensure a strong mandate for the Congress in the constituency. He described the alliance as a people-centric political force committed to welfare and development.

Outlining the alliance's welfare agenda, Uttam Kumar Reddy reiterated promises aimed at women's empowerment, including increasing monthly financial assistance for women from 1,000 to 2,000. He also announced plans to create 3 lakh government jobs within 300 days of forming the government.

Additionally, he stated that 10,000 women would be recruited into the state police force under the proposed administration. He emphasised that divisive forces must be rejected to safeguard Tamil Nadu's developmental path.

Concluding his address, Uttam Kumar Reddy called for a renewed mandate for the DMK-Congress alliance, saying it would ensure continuity of welfare schemes and accelerate the state's overall development.

Revanth Reddy to Visit Medigadda on April 20 for Key Irrigation Review

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is scheduled to visit the Medigadda barrage on April 20 as part of a crucial review of the ongoing restoration and safety works of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), according to official sources.

The visit assumes significance in the backdrop of continuing repair works at Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages, which have been under technical scrutiny following structural concerns and expert committee recommendations.

The government has already directed officials to expedite restoration works in accordance with guidelines issued by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA).

During the inspection, the Chief Minister is expected to assess the progress of rehabilitation works, interact with irrigation engineers, and review the implementation of safety measures at the project site.

Senior officials from the Irrigation Department and engineering teams are likely to accompany him.

The Medigadda barrage, a key component of KLIP, has remained at the centre of political and administrative attention due to its importance in ensuring water supply for large irrigation networks in north Telangana.

The state government has reiterated its commitment to restoring the barrage and making the entire project operational at the earliest.

Officials have been instructed to ensure strict monitoring of repair works and complete all pending technical interventions before the onset of the monsoon season. The government is also focusing on strengthening structural stability and ensuring long-term safety of the barrages.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has previously stressed that irrigation projects built with public funds must be protected and effectively utilised for farmers' welfare. The upcoming visit is expected to provide further clarity on the timeline for completion of restoration works and future water release plans.

The Chief Minister's field inspection comes amid intensified review meetings on irrigation infrastructure across the state, with special focus on improving agricultural water availability and preventing any further structural risks in major projects.

Further details of the CM's itinerary are expected to be announced in the coming days.

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Bhatti Vikramarka Inaugurates Puligundala Eco-Tourism Project; 4 Cr Development Announced

Khammam, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka inaugurated the Puligundala Eco-Tourism Project in the Sathupalli constituency of Khammam district on Thursday.

Addressing a public meeting on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister highlighted the government's strong commitment to strengthening the tourism sector and promoting Telangana's natural beauty at a global level.

He further recalled that specific allocations had already been made for developing the Kanakagiri region in Khammam district as a major tourist destination. Emphasizing regional development, he said that Puligundala lake tourism would play a crucial role in transforming the local economy.



Local MLA Matta Ragamaye Dayanand informed the government that 4 crore was required for comprehensive tourism development at Puligundala lake. Responding immediately, the Deputy CM announced 2 crore from the Green Fund and assured that the remaining 2 crore would be mobilized through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions.

He also announced plans to construct a double road connecting Kanakagiri to improve accessibility and boost tourist inflow.

The District Collector has been instructed to prepare detailed proposals at the earliest. The Deputy CM directed officials to set a strict timeline for all development works and ensure their swift completion without delays.

Bhatti Vikramarka stressed that tourism development should be carried out without disturbing the natural ecosystem, reinforcing the government's sustainable development approach.

He expressed confidence that the project would generate significant employment opportunities for rural youth in the area while also benefiting local hotels, transport operators, and small businesses due to increased tourist activity.

He further stated that Puligundala, Kanakagiri hills, and Kallur hills would be integrated and developed as a unified eco-tourism hub.

According to him, the region has the potential to emerge as one of the most prominent tourist destinations not only in Telangana but also at the national level.

Reiterating the government's commitment, he assured that all necessary funds for the project's expansion would be sanctioned without delay. He also appealed to all stakeholders to treat the project as a shared asset and work collectively to develop it into a matter of pride for both the state and the nation.

Several dignitaries, including Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, Sathupalli MLA Matta Ragamaye Dayanand, Wyra MLA Maloth Ramdas Naik, District Collector Anudeep Durishetty, and senior forest and revenue officials, attended the programme.

KTR Reaffirms BRS Support for Women's Reservation, Flags Concerns Over Delimitation Plan

Hyderabad, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Thursday reiterated the party's strong support for the Women's Reservation Bill while strongly opposing any linkage of the legislation with delimitation or constitutional restructuring processes.

Speaking to media in Hyderabad, KTR said the BRS has consistently backed women's empowerment initiatives and has a proven record in implementing reservation policies during its tenure in Telangana. He recalled that under the leadership of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, the party passed resolutions in both the Assembly and Council supporting women's reservation and implemented 50% reservation for women in local bodies, along with one-third reservation in market committees.

KTR questioned the rationale behind linking women's reservation with delimitation and parliamentary seat expansion.

He demanded immediate implementation of women's reservation in the existing 543 Lok Sabha seats and in state assemblies, including Telangana's 119 seats, without introducing additional procedural complications.

"Why create confusion by linking it to census and seat increase? Implement it directly," he said, urging the Centre to follow constitutional clarity in sequence—census first, delimitation next, and reforms thereafter.

The BRS leader warned that any move impacting the representation of southern states would be strongly resisted. He asserted that the party would oppose any attempt to reduce South India's political share and would consider protest actions if necessary.



Launching a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, KTR described him as a "hybrid Chief Minister," alleging inconsistent political positions between Congress and BJP stances. He also criticised the Chief Minister for alleged double standards in governance and decision-making.

KTR further questioned the proposed delimitation exercise, stating that it lacks clarity on increasing parliamentary seats despite references made by Union leaders. He said the freeze on parliamentary constituencies introduced in 1971 was based on population control policies, which southern states have successfully implemented over decades.

"Are we being penalised for following national policy?" he asked, warning that using population as the sole criterion for seat allocation would unfairly disadvantage southern states.

He stressed that southern India currently holds around 24% representation in the Lok Sabha and insisted that this proportion must remain unchanged under any future restructuring.

"Even a minor reduction is unacceptable. Any attempt to alter this balance will face strong resistance," KTR warned, adding that BRS is prepared to coordinate with like-minded parties on the issue. Concluding his remarks, KTR urged the Centre to focus on governance and public delivery rather than creating political uncertainty through ambiguous reforms.

Revanth Reddy Moots Solar Power for Tribal Households

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has proposed the introduction of solar power systems for households in tribal and remote agency areas, aiming to strengthen energy access and promote sustainable development.

During a review meeting with officials and tribal area representatives, the Chief Minister directed that priority be given to implementing rooftop solar solutions in habitations where reliable electricity supply remains a challenge. He stressed the need to improve living standards in tribal regions through clean and renewable energy sources.

Revanth Reddy said the initiative aligns with the state government's broader focus on green energy expansion and inclusive growth. He added that solar power can play a key role in reducing dependency on conventional electricity systems while ensuring uninterrupted power supply in remote



villages. Officials briefed the Chief Minister on existing renewable energy programmes and the

potential for scaling up solar installations in tribal households. The discussion also covered integration of solar systems

with welfare schemes to ensure long-term sustainability and effective implementation.

The Chief Minister emphasized that tribal welfare programmes must be designed in a way that directly benefits households at the grassroots level. He instructed departments to prepare a detailed action plan for phased implementation of the solar power initiative across identified tribal areas.

The proposed plan is expected to involve coordination between the Energy and Tribal Welfare departments to ensure proper execution, funding support, and maintenance mechanisms.

Revanth Reddy reiterated that the government is committed to bridging infrastructure gaps in tribal regions and ensuring equitable access to essential services, including electricity, education, and healthcare.

Further guidelines and implementation timelines are expected to be finalised after departmental consultations in the coming weeks.



Minister Tummala Reviews Marketing & Markfed Operations

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Wednesday conducted a comprehensive review meeting with officials of the Marketing Department and MARKFED at the Secretariat, focusing on the performance of agricultural market yards, ongoing infrastructure works, and procurement preparedness across the state.

During the review, the Marketing Director informed the Minister that the government has sanctioned 568.50 crore over the last two years for 630 development works in various agricultural market committees. Of these, 113 works worth 128 crore have already been completed, while the remaining projects are at different stages of progress.

Expressing concern over reports of "zero business" being conducted in some market yards, the Minister directed officials to take strict action against traders involved in such practices, including cancellation of licenses wherever necessary. He also warned that disciplinary action would be initiated against officials found supporting such irregularities.

The Minister instructed the department to speed up all development works and establish a dedicated dashboard for daily monitoring of project progress. He stressed that priority must be given to facilities that benefit farmers directly, particularly infrastructure that helps protect agricultural produce.

Focusing on specific projects, Tummala directed officials to complete designs and tendering processes for the Koheda market within a fixed timeline. He also reviewed the progress of pilot rooftop solar installations in select market yards and asked officials to assess

their performance before expanding the model statewide. He suggested that successful implementation should lead to full-scale digitalisation of market yards to curb irregularities and ensure transparency.

Officials informed the Minister that smart market yard software is being used in Gadid Annaram market yard for monitoring operations. The Minister directed that if the pilot phase yields positive results, it should be extended to all market committees.

On procurement preparedness, the Minister instructed officials to ensure adequate availability of tarpaulins, moisture meters, and grain dryers at all procurement centres ahead of the upcoming procurement season. He emphasized that farmers should not face any inconvenience during procurement operations.

The Marketing Director informed that cotton procurement from the last Kharif season has been completed, while a large volume of chilli is currently arriving in markets. The department is taking steps to ensure better price realization for farmers.

Regarding maize procurement, the Minister directed MARKFED officials to strengthen procurement arrangements and ensure that farmer produce is properly safeguarded at procurement centres. He also suggested setting up dedicated procurement facilities at market yards and assured that payments to farmers would be released promptly with government approval.

Senior officials including IAS officer Surendra Mohan, Marketing Director Lakshmbai, MARKFED Managing Director Srinivas Reddy, and other department officials attended the meeting.

Fire Safety Awareness Drive Conducted at DGP Office in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A comprehensive fire safety awareness programme was conducted at the Director General of Police (DGP) office in Hyderabad as part of Telangana's ongoing efforts to strengthen emergency preparedness across government institutions.

The programme featured a detailed mock drill and evacuation exercise designed to educate officials and staff on effective response mechanisms during fire emergencies. The drill simulated real-time fire scenarios to demonstrate safe evacuation procedures, coordination among emergency response teams, and rapid action techniques required to minimise casualties and property loss.

Fire and rescue department personnel supervised the exercise and provided hands-on training to participants. Officials were guided on the correct usage of fire extinguishers, identification of emergency exits, and the importance of maintaining clear evacuation routes within office premises. Special emphasis was placed on quick decision-making and orderly evacuation to prevent panic during emergencies.

Authorities stated that the primary objective of the programme was to enhance awareness among employees working in high-security government buildings and ensure strict adherence to fire safety protocols. The exercise also aimed to evaluate the readiness of existing safety systems and identify areas that require improvement.

Officials highlighted that



fire safety preparedness is a critical component of overall disaster management strategy, especially in densely populated urban administrative centres. They noted that even minor negligence in electrical systems, storage practices, or safety compliance can lead to severe consequences if not addressed promptly.

During the awareness session, experts briefed participants on common causes of fire incidents, including short circuits, overloaded electrical circuits, and improper handling of flammable materials. Preventive measures such as regular inspection of electrical wiring, maintenance of fire extinguishers, and installation of smoke detectors were strongly recommended.

The programme also stressed the importance of periodic mock drills in all government departments to ensure that employees remain

well-prepared for emergency situations. Officials were instructed to conduct regular safety audits and ensure that all fire-fighting equipment is functional and within validity.

Authorities reiterated that similar awareness drives are being conducted across various government offices and institutions in Telangana as part of a broader initiative to improve disaster resilience and public safety standards.

They added that strengthening emergency response systems and promoting safety awareness among employees is essential to reducing risks and ensuring swift action during unforeseen fire incidents.

The programme concluded with a demonstration of evacuation procedures, followed by an interactive session where participants clarified doubts regarding fire safety protocols and emergency response measures.

State Orders Heatstroke Preparedness in Hospitals Amid Rising Temperatures

Hyderabad, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

With summer temperatures rising across Telangana, Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha directed officials to strengthen heatstroke preparedness and ensure immediate medical response in all government hospitals.

The minister issued these instructions during a review meeting held at the Rajiv Aarogyasri Trust office in Jubilee Hills, where he assessed readiness measures for handling heat-related emergencies. He stressed that every government hospital must have a dedicated emergency team exclusively trained to treat heatstroke cases without delay.

He instructed officials to ensure essential arrangements such as uninterrupted drinking water supply, adequate ventilation, and installation of fans, coolers, and air-conditioners wherever necessary. The minister also directed that shaded rest areas be created within hospital premises for patients and attendants to protect them from extreme heat.

Officials informed the minister that sufficient stocks of essential medicines, including Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) and other emergency drugs, are available and that hospitals are equipped to provide immediate treatment to heatstroke patients. He emphasized that trained medical teams must remain on alert round the clock during the peak summer period.

Highlighting concerns over possible power disruptions



during summer storms, Damodar Rajanarasimha directed authorities to ensure that generators in all hospitals are fully functional and regularly maintained. He warned that uninterrupted power supply is critical for emergency care services, especially in intensive care and emergency wards.

The minister also expressed concern over fire safety in hospitals and instructed officials to carry out strict safety audits. He directed inspection of electrical wiring to prevent short circuits, replacement of old or damaged cables, and mandatory fire safety mock drills in all major hospitals.

Hospitals were further instructed to ensure that fire extinguishers are available in all departments, properly maintained, and within expiry dates. Staff and security personnel should also be adequately trained to respond to fire emergencies, he added.

The government reiterated that protecting public health during extreme summer conditions is a top priority and directed all district health authorities to strictly implement heatwave preparedness protocols across the state.

Delimitation Will Redraw Telangana State's Electoral Map

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Centre's proposed delimitation and women's reservation exercise is expected to significantly reshape Telangana's political and electoral landscape, with indications that the state's Lok Sabha constituencies may rise from the present 17 to 26, adding nearly nine new seats and altering electoral dynamics across regions.

Hyderabad city is likely to emerge as a major political battleground in future elections, given its rapidly expanding population and voter base. Political observers believe that urban constituencies in and around the capital region will undergo major restructuring under the proposed exercise.

Congress MP from Bhongir, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, said that preliminary indications suggest the delimitation process may rely on the 2011 Census data, when Telangana had 10 districts prior to the creation of 23 new districts in 2016. He noted that the erstwhile Ranga Reddy district, with a population of over 52.96 lakh, was the most populous in the state and among the largest nationally, and its areas are currently spread across constituencies such as Malkajgiri, Chevella, Bhongir and Secunderabad.

He added that these constituencies are expected to undergo major boundary revisions, with new parliamentary segments likely to be carved out. In particular, high-density constituencies such as Hyderabad, Malkajgiri, Secunderabad and Bhongir may be split

further, potentially creating three to four additional seats in the urban belt.

The Malkajgiri Lok Sabha constituency, which recorded 37.79 lakh voters in the 2024 general elections, currently stands as the largest parliamentary constituency in India by electorate size, and is expected to be significantly reorganised.

In northern Telangana, districts such as Adilabad, Nizamabad and Karimnagar may collectively gain up to two additional constituencies, while Medak region could see one more seat added between existing segments like Medak and Zaheerabad. In southern Telangana, Mahabubnagar and Nagarkurnool districts are likely to be restructured to accommodate an additional constituency, while Warangal, Khammam

and Nalgonda regions may collectively gain one or two new seats.

The delimitation exercise is also expected to expand women's representation in Parliament. Currently, Telangana has only two women MPs, but under the proposed 33 per cent reservation framework, the number could rise to around nine women representatives in the 2029 Lok Sabha elections. Reports suggest that women's constituencies may be reserved based on upcoming census data.

At present, Telangana has a voter base of 3.39 crore, including 1.70 crore women voters, who now outnumber male voters in the state. Political parties are expected to significantly revise their candidate strategies in response to the upcoming electoral restructuring.



Palamuru Projects Must Be Completed Without Delay: Leaders Demand Government Action

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy, along with former MLAs Jaipal Yadav, Alla Venkateshwar Reddy, and Beeram Harshavardhan Reddy, has strongly urged the government to immediately accelerate pending irrigation projects in the Palamuru region and ensure full utilization of water resources in the upcoming monsoon season.

Speaking at a media conference held at Telangana Bhavan, the leaders criticized the alleged slow pace of works and demanded that the government take urgent steps to fill Palamuru reservoirs and complete all pending infrastructure works. They announced a "direct struggle" and said protest programs, including long marches under intense summer conditions, would be launched from the first week of May if the government fails to respond.

The leaders demanded uninterrupted water flow under the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation (KLI) and opposed the proposed Gollapalli Reservoir, calling for its withdrawal. They recalled that Palamuru



district was once agriculturally prosperous before 1956 but later became drought-prone and a major migration zone after political and administrative changes during the united state period.

They noted that nearly 14 lakh people migrated from the region due to water scarcity and lack of employment oppor-

tunities. The leaders said Telangana's formation brought renewed focus on irrigation development, which significantly improved socio-economic conditions in Palamuru.

Citing official socio-economic survey data, they pointed out that per capita income in the district increased from 74,000 in 2014 to 3,36,898 in 2024-25,

marking a growth of over 352 percent. They described this as evidence of post-bifurcation development, while warning that delays in project completion could reverse progress and trigger fresh migration.

They alleged that despite significant progress in the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme, including completion

of key reservoirs, pumping stations, and trial runs, several critical works remain pending. They questioned the lack of high-level review meetings by the government and raised concerns over political inaction.

The leaders also referred to inter-state water disputes and pending approvals, stating that Andhra Pradesh's objections and legal challenges were slowing down progress. They urged both the state and central governments to resolve issues related to water allocation and clear pending permissions without further delay.

They further stated that completing the remaining 10 percent of works would enable storage of up to 50 TMC of water, benefiting lakhs of acres and improving groundwater levels. They also stressed that completion of distributary systems could be achieved with proper funding and administrative focus.

Concluding the briefing, the leaders appealed for collective political effort to safeguard Palamuru's long-term interests and ensure that every acre receives irrigation water, calling it essential for the region's future development.



Harish Rao Pays Tributes to Late Young Leader Karne Aravind, Console Family

Ibrahimpattanam, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Senior leader and former minister, Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao visited the residence of party senior leader and former MLC Karne Prabhakar in Ibrahimpattanam following the untimely demise of his nephew and young leader Karne Aravind.

Harish Rao paid floral tributes to the portrait of the deceased and offered condolences to the grieving family members. He personally met Karne Prabhakar and Aravind's parents, consoling them during their moment of deep sorrow and expressing solidarity with the bereaved family.

Expressing shock over the sudden demise, Harish Rao said that Karne Aravind was an active and promising young leader who consistently participated in party activities. He noted that Aravind's death at a young age was a significant loss not only to the family but

also to the party. He conveyed his heartfelt sympathies to the family and assured them that the party stands firmly with them in this difficult time. Harish Rao prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength for the family members to bear the irreparable loss.

Party leaders and local cadres also accompanied Harish Rao during the visit and paid their respects. The atmosphere at the residence remained somber as leaders and well-wishers gathered to offer condolences.

The sudden passing of Karne Aravind has left party ranks in shock, with several leaders expressing grief and recalling his active involvement in organizational work and grassroots-level activities.

Harish Rao's visit reflected the party's support to the bereaved family, as leaders across the region continue to extend condolences over the tragic loss.



Road Accident Claims Life of Former Khammam CCC President Mohammad Javid

Khammam, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former CCC President of Khammam district Mohammad Javid died in a tragic road accident while travelling from Khammam to Hyderabad in his personal vehicle. According to reports, the accident occurred near Pilalamarri on the Khammam-Hyderabad highway when the vehicle reportedly hit a road divider, resulting in a severe crash. Mohammad Javid died on the spot due to the impact of the accident. The news of his sudden demise has cast a pall of gloom over political circles

in the district. TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud expressed deep shock and grief over the incident. Recalling his recent interaction with Javid at a meeting held in Khammam, Mahesh Kumar Goud described him as a disciplined and dedicated leader who actively participated in party activities. He said he was deeply saddened by the untimely loss. Soon after hearing the news, the TPCC chief reportedly contacted Congress leaders in Khammam over phone to gather details about the accident and to ensure necessary arrangements were being made. Mahesh Kumar Goud extended

his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members and prayed for peace to the departed soul. He assured that the party stands firmly with the family in this difficult time. Local Congress leaders and supporters also expressed grief over the sudden demise of Mohammad Javid, remembering his contribution to party organisation and his active role in district-level political programmes. The incident has once again raised concerns over road safety on the busy Khammam-Hyderabad highway, where several fatal accidents have been reported in recent times.



Delimitation Debate: No Injustice to South, Says BJP's Ramchander Rao

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Amid the intensifying national debate over delimitation, Telangana BJP chief N. Ramchander Rao has asserted that southern states will not suffer any injustice in the proposed exercise, seeking to allay concerns raised by opposition parties.

Addressing the media, Rao said the delimitation process would be conducted in a fair and transparent manner, ensuring proportional representation based on population without discriminating against any region. He dismissed apprehensions that southern states like Telangana would lose political influence, calling such claims "misleading narratives" being spread for political gains.

The BJP leader clarified that the proposed increase in parliamentary and Assembly seats would be carried out proportionately. He explained that if seats are increased by a fixed percentage, every state would benefit accordingly based on its population, thereby maintaining balance across regions. He added that reserved constituencies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would also increase in proportion.

Rao emphasised that delimitation is essential to correct disparities in constituency sizes, pointing out that some constituencies currently have significantly higher populations

than others. The exercise, he said, would bring uniformity and ensure fairer representation for voters.

He also noted that urban regions, particularly Hyderabad, could witness an increase in constituencies due to higher population density. This, he argued, would improve governance and accessibility for citizens by reducing the burden on elected representatives.

Taking a dig at the Congress and other opposition parties, Rao accused them of politicising the issue and creating unnecessary fear among people in southern states. He maintained that the Centre is committed to protecting the interests of all regions and would follow constitutional procedures in implementing delimitation.

The BJP leader reiterated that the exercise would be based on established guidelines and data, ensuring that no state is disadvantaged. He called on political parties to engage in constructive dialogue rather than spreading confusion.

The delimitation issue has triggered a wider political debate across the country, with differing views on its impact on federal balance and regional representation. However, Rao expressed confidence that the process would ultimately strengthen democracy by making representation more equitable and reflective of population realities.

RTC Employees' Issues Must Be Resolved Immediately: INTUC Leaders

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

NTUC Telangana State Vice President Mogulla Rajireddy has urged the government and TGSRTC management to immediately address the long-pending issues of RTC employees and take steps to resolve their grievances without delay. Speaking on Wednesday, Rajireddy, along with RD Chandrasekhar and other INTUC leaders, RTC JAC representatives, and affiliated union leaders, submitted a representation to TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, requesting urgent intervention in the matter. He stated that the RTC employees' proposed strike should be taken seriously and resolved through immediate dialogue. He stressed that industrial peace must be maintained by addressing the dissatisfaction among workers.

Rajireddy demanded that RTC employees be merged into government service, with an official appointment date announced without further delay. He also called for immediate implementation of the 2021 and 2025 wage revision agreements.

He further insisted on the revival of trade unions within

RTC and immediate conduct of union elections. He also demanded the clearance of all pending dues of retired employees, including gratuity and pension-related payments.

The INTUC leader alleged that funds such as PF, SBT, and SR amounts used by RTC management should be returned to the respective institutions without delay. He also opposed the decision related to electric buses and the reallocation of drivers and conductors under the "excess" category from city depots to other regions, demanding its immediate withdrawal and continuation of staff within city limits. Rajireddy further called for the cancellation of illegal duty practices and amendments in accordance with the MTW Act. He also sought improved medical facilities at Tarnaka hospital and requested that employees' parents be provided treatment at referral hospitals. Several union leaders including E. Ashwaddhama Reddy (TMU), Jakkula Mallesh Goud (SWU INTUC), K. Hanumanthu Mudiraj (TJM U), M. Narendar (NMU), A. Venkateshwarlu (BRTU), P. Harikishan (STM U), and Y. Swami Kumar (BMS) participated in the meeting.



TGMREIS Students Shine in Intermediate, NEET Results

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Students from the Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGMREIS) have recorded outstanding results in the Intermediate examinations and the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), showcasing the rising academic standards of government-run residential institutions. According to officials, TGMREIS students achieved impressive pass percentages in Intermediate results, with many securing top grades in both MPC and BiPC streams. Their performance has been on par with, and in several cas-



es better than, overall state averages, reflecting steady academic progress. The success story extended to NEET as well, with a significant number of students qualifying with competitive scores, opening doors for admissions into medical courses. Authorities attrib-

uted this achievement to focused academic strategies, including regular mock tests, detailed subject-wise planning, and continuous evaluation of student performance. Officials highlighted that many of these students come from economically weaker and rural back-

grounds, making their success even more noteworthy. The residential system, which provides free education, accommodation, and specialised coaching, has enabled students to focus entirely on their studies without financial burden. Faculty members played a crucial role by offering dedicated mentoring and personalised attention, ensuring that students were well-prepared for both board exams and national-level competitive tests. The government has been strengthening residential institutions by improving infrastructure, enhancing teaching quality, and integrating competitive exam coaching into the regular cur-

riculum. These efforts have contributed significantly to the improved outcomes seen in recent years.

Education authorities expressed confidence that TGMREIS institutions will continue to produce strong academic results, with more students expected to secure top ranks in national examinations and gain admission into prestigious professional courses.

The achievements of TGMREIS students stand as a testament to the impact of quality education and targeted support in empowering students from minority communities and helping them compete at the highest levels.

Early Bird Scheme Offers 5% Property Tax Discount: MMC Appeals to Citizens

Tarnaka, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 The Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (MMC) has announced a 5% discount on property tax under its "Early Bird Scheme" for the financial year 2026-27, offering relief to timely taxpayers.
 Commissioner Vinay Krishna Reddy stated that property owners who pay their full annual tax before April 30, 2026, will be eligible for the rebate. He urged citizens to make use of the opportunity and complete payments within the stipulated deadline.
 According to municipal officials, the scheme is designed to encourage early compliance and improve revenue collection efficiency. However, authorities clarified that the benefit will be applicable only to those who clear all previous dues. If any arrears are pending, the 5% discount will not be granted.
 The corporation has facilitated multiple payment channels to ensure convenience for taxpayers. Citizens can pay through the MyCURE mobile



application, the official website (mmc.telangana.gov.in), designated Citizen Service Centres at circle offices, and MeeSeva centres across the region.

Officials highlighted that the digital payment options aim to reduce long queues at municipal offices and improve transparency in tax collection. The MMC also emphasized that the

scheme helps strengthen civic infrastructure development by ensuring timely revenue inflow.
 Commissioner Vinay Krishna Reddy further noted that

property tax is a crucial source of income for urban development projects such as road maintenance, drainage systems, street lighting, and sanitation services. He said that prompt tax payment directly contributes to better civic amenities for residents.
 The civic body has also initiated awareness campaigns to educate property owners about the benefits of early payment. Field staff have been instructed to reach households and commercial establishments to spread awareness regarding the scheme.
 Officials expressed confidence that the Early Bird Scheme will receive a positive response from citizens and help the corporation achieve its revenue targets efficiently. Residents have been advised to verify their property tax details in advance and avoid last-minute rushes.
 The MMC has appealed to all property owners in the Malkajgiri limits to take advantage of the 5% rebate and support the city's development by paying taxes on time.

BC JAC Demands Sub-Quota for BC Women in Women's Reservation Bill

Osmania University, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 BC JAC State Convenor Jajula Lingam Goud has demanded a sub-quota for BC women within the Women's Reservation Bill, stating that without it, backward classes would be politically disadvantaged.
 Speaking to the media, he alleged that the current form of the bill would largely benefit women from upper castes while denying adequate representation to BC women. He claimed that the legislation, instead of ensuring equality, could further concentrate political power among dominant groups.
 Lingam Goud said that although OBC communities constitute a majority in Parliament and state assemblies,



they remain underrepresented in decision-making roles. He warned that BC women would face further political marginalisation if sub-quota provisions are not included.
 He announced a protest and fast to be held on April 16 at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, demanding justice for BC women. He appealed to all concerned groups to support the demand for fair political representation.

SIT Links Dubai Overdose Victim Kedar to Moinabad Drug Case

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Moinabad farmhouse drug case has uncovered fresh links connecting the case to film producer Kedar Selagamsetty, who reportedly died of a drug overdose in Dubai, adding a new dimension to the ongoing investigation. According to police sources, Kedar was earlier named in a 2024 drug-related case in Hyderabad and is now emerging as a key figure in the expanding probe. Investigators are examining his alleged connections with individuals involved in the Moinabad case, including political and business personalities, as part of efforts to trace the wider network behind the drug activities.
 Officials revealed that financial transactions between Kedar and some of the accused have come under scrutiny. Preliminary findings suggest that significant amounts of money were transferred, raising suspicions about possible links to drug procurement or related events. Authorities are analysing these transactions to establish their nature and purpose.
 The case dates back to a raid conducted at a farmhouse in Moinabad on the outskirts of Hyderabad, where several individuals were found allegedly involved in a private gathering. During the operation, police reportedly seized narcotic substances and detained multiple persons for questioning.
 Investigators are also looking into inconsistencies in statements given by the accused, which have further intensified the probe. The SIT is expanding its investigation to include possible international connections, particularly links to Dubai, in order to understand the full extent of the network.
 Officials stated that tracing the financial trail and identifying the source of narcotics are key priorities in the case. The emerging links involving Kedar are being seen as crucial in uncovering the broader framework of the alleged drug network. The SIT continues to examine evidence and question suspects, with more developments expected as the investigation progresses.

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GHMC Commissioner Reviews Key Infra Projects; Pushes for June Completion Deadline

Hyderabad, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner R.V. Karnan, along with the Chief Engineer and Zonal Commissioner, inspected key infrastructure works including the Shastripuram ROB and the Nalgonda Flyover to review their progress and ensure timely completion.
 The Commissioner noted that the Shastripuram Road Over Bridge (ROB) has been completed and is ready for inauguration. He directed officials to ensure proper upkeep and regular maintenance of the structure to maintain safety and longevity.
 At the Nalgonda Flyover, officials informed that construction

is progressing at a brisk pace, with major components nearing completion. Works including deck slab concreting and girder erection for both up and down ramps are currently underway.
 Reviewing the progress on-site, Commissioner Karnan instructed officials to mobilize additional resources wherever required and accelerate the remaining works. He set a clear target to complete the flyover by June, emphasizing the importance of meeting deadlines without compromising quality standards.
 He also reiterated that continuous monitoring through field inspections and weekly review meetings is being implemented to ensure accountability and faster execution of civic

infrastructure projects across Hyderabad.
 Officials informed that coordination between engineering teams and contractors has been strengthened to avoid delays and streamline construction activities at critical junctions.
 The Commissioner stressed that both projects are crucial for improving urban mobility and reducing traffic congestion in busy corridors. Once completed, they are expected to significantly ease vehicular movement and provide safer, smoother commuting experience for citizens.
 GHMC reiterated its commitment to fast-tracking infrastructure development with a focus on public convenience, road safety, and long-term urban planning across the city.



Arrive Alive Campaign Promotes Road Safety Awareness in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
 As part of the statewide "Arrive Alive" road safety initiative, an awareness seminar was conducted at the Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) Auditorium on Wednesday, focusing on reducing road accidents and promoting responsible driving habits.
 During the programme, Hyderabad Commissioner of Police V. C. Sajjanar distributed free helmets to children to encourage early adoption of road safety practices. Addressing the gathering, he stressed that road safety committees play a crucial role in transforming Hyderabad into an accident-free city.
 Highlighting the human cost of road accidents, Sajjanar said that the loss of a family's breadwinner can have devastating consequences, pushing entire households into distress. He also pointed out that it is illegal for children below 12 years to sit in the front seat of a car and advised that they must always be seated in the rear for safety.
 He further suggested installing "No Helmet - No Entry"

boards in residential colonies to instil a sense of responsibility among citizens and promote compliance with safety norms.
 Joint Commissioner (Traffic) D. Joel Davis emphasised that road safety is not just the responsibility of enforcement agencies but a collective social duty. He noted that following basic traffic rules can significantly reduce accidents and save lives. He added that wearing ISI-marked helmets can provide up to 80 per cent protection against fatal head injuries. In addition, the Cyberabad Traffic Police organised a separate awareness session for students at KLH University. Cyberabad Commissioner of Police M. Ramesh addressed students, urging them to adopt responsible behaviour on roads and spread awareness among peers and family members.
 Officials reiterated that the "Arrive Alive" campaign aims to create long-term behavioural change through awareness, education, and enforcement. The initiative is being conducted across Telangana to reduce accidents and ensure safer roads for all citizens.



Zero Tolerance on Extortion: DCP Kiran Khare Warns Offenders

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a strong crackdown against illegal extortion activities, Charminar Zone Deputy Commissioner of Police Kiran Khare has issued a stern warning, declaring zero tolerance for any form of "mamool" collection or intimidation.
 At a special counselling session conducted on Wednesday, police officials summoned identified rowdy-sheeters and habitual offenders from across the Charminar zone. The session aimed to sensitise them about the legal consequences of engaging in extortion and other unlawful activities.
 Addressing the gathering, DCP Kiran Khare made it clear that any individual found indulging in extortion, threats, or harassment would face strict legal action without exception. He emphasized that the police department is closely monitoring such activities and will not hesitate to invoke stringent laws against violators. Officials explained that extortion practices, often carried out under the guise of informal collections, have been a persistent concern in parts of the Old City. The police have now intensified surveillance and intelligence gathering to identify those involved and curb such activities at the root.

During the counselling, offenders were warned to immediately desist from illegal activities and maintain lawful conduct. They were also informed that repeated violations would lead to preventive detention and other severe penal measures.
 Senior police officers, including ACPs and SHOs, participated in the session and reiterated the department's commitment to maintaining law and order. The initiative is part of a broader strategy by Hyderabad City Police to curb organised and petty crime through a mix of enforcement and awareness.
 The DCP also appealed to the public and business community to report any instances of extortion or harassment without fear. He assured that complainants' identities would be kept confidential and that swift action would be taken against offenders. Police sources indicated that similar counselling sessions and enforcement drives would continue across sensitive areas to ensure a safe environment for residents and traders. The move has been widely seen as a proactive step to restore public confidence and send a clear message that unlawful activities will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Students Lead Road Safety Pledge Drive at Abids

Hyderabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a major push towards promoting road safety awareness, students in Abids took part in a large-scale "Arrive Alive" campaign, pledging to follow traffic rules and encourage safer road practices across the city.
 The awareness drive, organised by traffic police in coordination with educational institutions, witnessed enthusiastic participation from hundreds of students, teachers, and officials. The initiative aimed to instil a sense of responsibility among young citizens and empower them to promote road safety within their families and



communities.
 During the programme, students took a formal pledge to

strictly adhere to traffic rules, including wearing helmets and seat belts, avoiding mobile

phone usage while driving, and respecting fellow road users. Officials highlighted that such behavioural changes are essential to reducing road accidents and saving lives.
 As part of the campaign, various awareness activities such as interactive sessions, demonstrations, and skits were conducted to educate participants about the dangers of over-speeding, rash driving, and negligence on roads. Students actively participated in these activities, reflecting increased awareness and commitment towards responsible behaviour.
 Traffic officials emphasised that youth play a key role in influencing society and can act as change-makers by en-

couraging their families to follow safety norms. They noted that educating students can create a positive ripple effect in society.
 Authorities reiterated that road safety is a collective responsibility requiring cooperation from all sections of society. The "Arrive Alive" initiative is part of a broader effort to reduce accidents and improve traffic discipline across Telangana.
 The programme concluded with a strong message on the importance of responsible road usage, with officials expressing confidence that such awareness drives would contribute to safer roads and reduced accident rates in the future.

Nalgonda Collector Directs Speedy Procurement of Paddy to Ensure No Delays

Nalgonda, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Nalgonda District Collector B. Chandrasekhar has instructed officials to expedite paddy procurement operations and ensure smooth movement of grain from procurement centres to rice mills without any delays.

On Wednesday, the Collector inspected the paddy procurement centre at Narketpally mandal headquarters and reviewed the ongoing procurement process. He issued several directions to the centre management, emphasizing that purchased paddy should be immediately transported to rice mills and that sufficient lorries

must be kept ready in advance to avoid bottlenecks.

He further instructed officials to ensure that additional rice mills are arranged wherever existing milling capacity is insufficient so that procurement operations are not disrupted. The Collector also directed that loading should be carried out only after proper certification from agricultural officials, ensuring transparency at every stage.

During his interaction with farmers at the procurement centre, the Collector enquired about crop conditions and pest-related issues. Farmers explained that despite pesticide spray-

ing, some crop damage occurred due to late-stage pest infestation. Another farmer shared details of cultivating paddy on six acres, including leased and own land.

Later, the Collector inspected the Shiva Sai Vinayaka Rice Mill at Jivvigudem village in the same mandal. He examined the storage facilities for paddy and gunny bags as well as the quality of rice being processed. The mill owner Ravinder Reddy informed that around 10 lorry loads of paddy had been received so far.

The Collector directed the mill management to ensure speedy unloading of paddy brought by farmers and maintain complete trans-

parency at every stage of the process. He stressed that farmers should not face any inconvenience during procurement or milling operations.

He reiterated that the administration is committed to strengthening the procurement system and ensuring timely payments and smooth logistics so that farmers receive fair support during the procurement season.

The inspection was attended by Tahsildar L. Venkateswara Rao, Civil Supplies DT Deepak, Revenue Inspector Tarun, mill owner Ravinder Reddy and Anita Ravinder Reddy, along with local farmers.



Ponnam Prabhakar Urges Road Safety Awareness at 'Arrive Alive' Programme in Adilabad

Adilabad, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar participated in the 'Arrive Alive' programme held in Adilabad district headquarters, aimed at creating awareness on road safety and reducing fatal road accidents.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister expressed serious concern over the rising number of road accidents, stating that many young people who are the primary support for their families are losing their lives in such incidents.

He said the government is conducting the 'Arrive Alive' initiative to prevent accidents and promote responsible driving habits among citizens. Stressing the importance of safety, he urged every two-wheeler rider to compulsorily wear helmets and follow traffic rules to safeguard their lives.

Ponnam Prabhakar noted that accident-related deaths



are occurring on a large scale and emphasized that even a single moment of negligence on the road can lead to irreversible loss. He called upon vehicle users to strictly adhere to traffic regulations and develop a culture of road discipline. He appreciated that Adilabad district is emerging as a model in implementing traffic awareness measures, adding that even school children are now educating their parents about road safety rules, which he described as a positive social change. The Minister also stated that as part of accident prevention measures, awareness meetings are being conducted regularly across the state. He urged bystanders at

accident sites to immediately help victims and ensure they are shifted to hospitals without delay, as timely assistance can save lives. Highlighting a new incentive initiative, he announced that individuals who help accident victims reach hospitals safely will be rewarded with 25,000. He further assured that those who act as good Samaritans will not face any legal cases, encouraging more people to come forward and help in emergencies.

He reiterated that road safety is a shared responsibility and appealed to all citizens to follow traffic rules sincerely to prevent avoidable deaths and ensure safer roads across Telangana.

Ponnam Prabhakar Leads Road Safety Awareness Drive in Nizamabad

Nizamabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar stated that the government is conducting large-scale awareness programmes across Telangana to curb rising road accidents and promote road safety discipline among citizens.

As part of the government's flagship "Arrive Alive" initiative under the 99-day action plan of Praja Palana Pragathi, the Minister participated in a major awareness programme held in Nizamabad on Wednesday. He was accorded a grand welcome by District Collector Ila Tripathi, Police Commissioner Sai Chaitanya, and other senior officials upon his arrival by helicopter at the Integrated District Offices Complex helipad.

From the helipad, the Minister proceeded under tight police security to the Government Polytechnic College, where he formally flagged off



a bike rally aimed at spreading awareness on road safety. The rally passed through key junctions up to Kanteshwar Bypass Chowrasta.

Later, the Minister participated in a human chain formed with students and officials, reinforcing the message of traffic discipline and accident prevention. The programme saw the participation of Rural MLA Dr. Bhoopathi Reddy, Mayor Uma Rani, Special

Chief Secretary Vikash Raj, TSRTC Managing Director Nagireddy, and several district officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Ponnam Prabhakar expressed concern over the increasing number of road accidents caused by overspeeding and violation of traffic rules. He said such incidents are resulting in loss of young lives and causing severe hardship to families.

He emphasized that no matter how many laws are implemented, accidents cannot be prevented unless there is a behavioral change among people. The Minister said the government, through the police and transport departments, is actively conducting awareness programmes under the "Arrive Alive" campaign to bring this change. He urged all sections of society to actively participate in road safety initiatives and contribute to reducing accidents. He also appealed to citizens to immediately shift accident victims to hospitals without delay, noting that those who help save lives will be rewarded under the "Rahu Veer" scheme with 25,000 as an incentive. The Minister particularly advised students and youth to strictly follow traffic rules while riding or driving vehicles and take all necessary precautions to avoid accidents. Officials, public representatives, and large numbers of students participated in the programme.



Private Moneylenders' High-Interest Harassment Sparks Alarm in Adilabad

Adilabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Concerns are growing over the alleged exploitation of vulnerable communities by private moneylenders charging exorbitant interest rates across the erstwhile Adilabad district. Reports indicate that poor families, daily wage earners, small employees, and other economically weaker sections are falling into severe financial distress due to high-interest lending practices.

According to local sources, several moneylenders are operating under the guise of finance companies, particularly in agency areas such as Utanoor and Ichoda. They are reportedly luring tribal and rural families with easy loan approv-



als and later imposing excessive and compounding interest rates, pushing borrowers into a debt trap.

Allegations have also emerged that when borrowers fail to repay on time, they are subjected to intimidation, verbal abuse, and physical harassment. In some cases, families have reportedly been humiliated and women threatened, leading to serious mental distress among victims. There are

also disturbing claims that borrowers are being threatened with abduction and even death if payments are delayed.

The situation has reportedly led to a rise in extreme distress cases, with some individuals taking their own lives due to mounting debt pressure and harassment. Incidents from nearby districts, including violent assaults over unpaid loans and suicides linked to financial stress, have further heightened public concern.

Sources also allege that some individuals involved in unregulated lending are investing unaccounted money into high-interest lending activities, further worsening the exploitation cycle. Interest rates are

reportedly ranging from 5 to 20 per 100 per month, depending on the lender and borrower's vulnerability.

Residents say that due to limited access to formal banking credit, many people are forced to rely on informal lenders, pushing them deeper into financial instability. Tribal communities in remote areas are said to be particularly affected due to lack of awareness and financial literacy.

Local citizens and social groups are now urging the government to intervene immediately by strengthening enforcement against illegal lending practices and promoting access to bank loans and institutional credit. They have also demanded strict action against

moneylenders violating legal limits and engaging in coercive recovery practices.

Community leaders stress that awareness programmes and financial inclusion initiatives are urgently needed to protect rural and tribal populations from exploitation.



Madi Ganesh Senior Journalist, Adilabad

10 Crore Released for Red Gram Procurement Payments: Congress Leader Pasula Chanti

Adilabad, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Congress Party district spokesperson Pasula Chanti has announced that 10 crore has been released towards payments for farmers who sold red gram (kandulu) to MARKFED in the district. Speaking to the media, he said that payments for red gram procured up to March 17 have now been sanctioned and the amount will be credited directly into farmers' bank accounts. He added that procurement of red gram across the district was carried out until March 17, and the newly released funds will benefit a large number of farmers who had been waiting for their dues. Pasula Chanti further explained that the state government has already initiated payment clearance for procurement done up to February 27. He noted that 18,194 quintals of red gram were purchased through MARKFED during that period, for which 14.52 crore is pending to be

credited into farmers' accounts.

He said that out of the total pending amount, the government has already released 3.5 crore, of which 2.5 crore has been deposited directly into farmers' accounts. The latest 10 crore release will further accelerate pending payments and provide relief to cultivators across the district.

He stated that the government is taking steps to ensure that farmers do not face financial hardship due to delayed procurement payments and that all dues will be cleared in a phased manner. Pasula Chanti assured that the Congress party is closely monitoring the procurement and payment process and is committed to safeguarding farmers' interests by ensuring timely credit of MSP-related dues. Farmers in the district have welcomed the announcement, expressing hope that remaining dues will also be released at the earliest without further delay.

Nalgonda, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for SC, ST and Disabled Welfare and Nalgonda District In-charge Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar has stressed the urgent need for large-scale public awareness campaigns to prevent road accidents across the state.

Participating in the "Arrive Alive" road safety awareness programme held at Nakrekal constituency headquarters on Wednesday, the Minister said that every individual must actively contribute to reducing road accidents. The programme was jointly organised by the police and transport departments as part of the state government's "Praja Palana-Pragathi" 99-day action plan, which is being implemented from April 13 to 18 across Telangana.

The Minister urged two-wheeler riders to compulsorily wear helmets and car users to use seat belts, adding that pillion riders must also wear hel-



metts for their safety. He directed police officials to intensify patrolling on national and state highways to control overspeeding and ensure strict enforcement of road safety rules.

Adluri Laxman Kumar stated that all public representatives and officials must actively participate in spreading awareness on road safety. He assured that if proposals for underpass roads in Nalgonda district are submitted, he would take them to the Chief Minister for sanction. He also

promised to secure funds for an Ambedkar Bhavan in Nakrekal if suitable land is identified.

DGP Shivadhar Reddy, who also addressed the programme, expressed concern that road accident deaths are significantly higher than deaths due to murders in the state. He said nearly 7,500 people die in road accidents annually in Telangana compared to around 800 murder cases. In Nalgonda district alone, 325 deaths were reported due to road accidents

compared to 24 murder cases, while Suryapet recorded 230 accident deaths compared to 25 murder-related deaths.

He emphasized that coordinated efforts by all departments are essential to reduce fatalities and called for strict adherence to traffic rules. He urged motorists to avoid negligence and always wear helmets and seat belts, noting that a majority of victims are two-wheeler riders and pedestrians. Government Whip and Nakrekal MLA Vemula Veeresham, who presided over the meeting, said road safety awareness is crucial due to the high traffic density on national highways passing through the district. He described the "Arrive Alive" initiative as a strong step towards saving lives and announced that the programme would be implemented effectively in his constituency.

District Collector B. Chandrasekhar informed that continuous awareness programmes are being conducted

across the district from April 13 to 18 and urged citizens to wear helmets mandatorily. He said efforts are underway to reduce road accidents through regular review meetings and enforcement measures.

District SP Sharath Chandra Pawar noted that road accidents in the district have decreased compared to the previous year due to coordinated efforts by the administration and police. He stated that fatalities dropped from 390 in 2024 to 347 in the previous year.

Several public representatives including Dairy Development Chairman Gutta Amit Reddy, MLC Nellikanti Satyam, MLAs, officials, and large numbers of citizens participated in the programme. Around 2,000 helmets were distributed to motorists, and a road safety pledge was administered to all attendees.

As part of the programme, the Minister also visited an eye screening camp and a library set up on road safety awareness at the venue.



CS Holds Review on Revenue Reforms and Development Programmes

Tirupati, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
A review meeting on key state development programmes was conducted through a video conference from the Andhra Pradesh Secretariat conference hall under the leadership of Chief Secretary G. Sai Prasad.

The meeting focused on major initiatives including land administration reforms such as Section 22A, Webland, patadar passbook distribution, re-survey works, digital revenue records, and the Jaladhara-Jalaharathi programme. The Chief Secretary reviewed progress with district collec-

tors and joint collectors and issued necessary directions for speedy implementation.

From Tirupati district, Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar participated along with revenue officials. District Revenue Officer G. Narasimhalu, RDOs of Tirupati, Srikalahasti and Sulurupeta divisions, land survey officials, irrigation engineers, and other departmental staff attended the video conference.

Officials were instructed to ensure timely completion of land records digitisation and re-survey activities while maintaining accuracy and transparency in all revenue-related works across the state.



Delhi CM Visits Integrated Command Control Centre in Tirumala

Tirumala, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
The Honourable Chief Minister of New Delhi, Smt. Rekha Gupta, visited the Integrated Command Control Centre located at the Vaikuntham Queue Complex in Tirumala on Wednesday after having darshan of Sri Venkateswara Swamy. TTD Additional EO Ch. Venkaiiah Chowdary explained the functioning of the centre, including its use of predictive analytics for effective monitor-

ing and management of pilgrim movement. He also briefed her on operational systems related to laddu production, traffic regulation, and accommodation management for devotees.

The Delhi Chief Minister appreciated the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) for ensuring smooth pilgrim safety and efficient crowd management through advanced technology. TTD Trust Board member Bhanu Prakash Reddy was also present during the visit.



Kapilesvara Swamy Darshan Brings Divine Bliss: Chaganti Koteswara Rao

Tirupati, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau
Renowned spiritual speaker Brahmasri Chaganti Koteswara Rao offered special prayers at the Sri Kapilesvara Swamy Temple, located in the sacred Tirupati Saptagiri region, on Wednesday.

Speaking to the media, he said that taking a holy dip at Kapila Theertham is considered highly auspicious and is believed in scriptures to bring joy to both deities and ancestors. He described the temple as one of the most spiritually significant places in the region.

He advised devotees to first seek blessings of Lord Ganesha, followed by darshan of Sri Kamakshi Sametha Kapilesvara Swamy, which is believed to bring prosperity, family well-being, and happiness. He further added that visiting Kalabhairava Swamy, the Kotilingas, and the sacred Bilva tree completes the spiritual journey and enhances positive results.

Former TTD EO L.V. Subrahmanyam, Superintendent K.P. Chandrasekhar, temple priests, officials, and staff participated in the programme.

Collector Launches 'Palle Vekshanam' Programme in Nellore District

Nellore, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Himanshu Shukla has launched a new initiative titled "Palle Vekshanam" aimed at directly monitoring the implementation of welfare and development schemes at the village level in Nellore district. The programme was formally inaugurated in Nabbi Nagar and Boyila Chiruvella villages of Atmakur mandal. The Collector, along with district officials, extensively toured the villages and inspected key facilities including the Rythu Seva Kendra, Village Health Clinic, Anganwadi Centre, housing colonies, and mini Gokulam units.

He interacted directly with MGNREGA workers and villagers, listening to their griev-



ances and instructing officials to resolve issues on the spot. The Collector also reviewed welfare scheme implementation by visiting households.

He stated that every week

one village would be selected for field inspection to ensure transparency and effective service delivery. Officials from various departments participated in the programme.

Commissioner Inspects 'Eat Street', Inauguration on April 16

Tirupati, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Municipal Commissioner N. Mourya inspected the newly developed Eat Street set up in front of the municipal corporation office on Wednesday evening along with officials. He stated that the Eat Street, developed with all modern amenities, will be formally inaugurated on Thursday evening. He informed that shop allotments were completed through a lucky dip system and keys have already been handed over to the selected vendors. He directed officials to enhance the area with flower pots and greenery. The Commissioner said that all vendors can commence operations from April 16 and assured that hygienic and quality food would be made available to the public. Facilities such as a children's play



area, "I Love Tirupati" selfie point, and a water fountain have also been arranged to attract visitors.

He added that the space is de-

signed for families to enjoy food in a clean and pleasant environment. Senior municipal and engineering officials participated in the inspection.



Awareness Key to Beat Breast Cancer: Apollo Experts

Chittoor, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Experts at the Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (AIMSR), Chittoor, have stressed that early awareness and regular screening are crucial in preventing breast cancer, which is rapidly increasing among women. At a clinical meeting held on campus, PG stu-

dent Dr. Padmini presented data highlighting the severity of breast cancer and discussed its symptoms, risk factors, and screening methods. Chittoor District Government Hospital Superintendent Dr. B.G. Ranganath noted that breast cancer accounts for a major share of cancer cases in women, with nearly two lakh new cases reported annually in India. He expressed

concern that nearly 60% of patients report in advanced stages due to lack of awareness and negligence. AIMSR Associate Dean Dr. Ramya Ramakrishnan emphasized the importance of self-breast examination and wider awareness campaigns in local languages. Experts also presented case studies and urged early medical consultation for abnormal symptoms.

Collector Orders Daily Review of Village Development Works

Chittoor, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Sumit Kumar directed MPDOs to conduct daily reviews with field assistants on village development works. He issued the instructions during a video conference held from the Collectorate.

The review focused on the "Wage Earners Mobilisation" programme aimed at providing employment opportunities and creating awareness on government welfare schemes. He instructed officials to closely monitor ongoing works in vil-

lages and resolve issues without delay.

The Collector also reviewed the "Jaladhara-Jalaharathi" programme and asked officials to identify water conservation structures, repair tanks, construct check dams, and strengthen groundwater recharge systems. He directed that all works be updated on the official app.

MPDOs from several mandals participated. He warned of strict action against negligence and said regular monitoring will continue through further video conferences.



Celebrations Mark Prashanthi Reddy's Elevation to TDP Politburo

Nellore, April 16, 2026 | TPN Bureau

A festive atmosphere prevailed in Nellore district as Kovur MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy was appointed as a member of the Telugu Desam Party's Politburo, the party's highest decision-making body.

Huge celebrations were held at the VPR office in Nellore, where leaders, cadre, and supporters from across the district gathered to congratulate her. The premises echoed with slogans praising TDP leadership, while fireworks were burst and

cakes were cut in celebration.

Speaking on the occasion, Prashanthi Reddy said TDP workers are her true strength and support system. She expressed gratitude to the party leadership and assured that she would work tirelessly for strengthening the organisation and stand by the cadre at all times. The event witnessed large participation of women leaders and local party workers, who extended warm wishes and felicitations to the newly appointed Politburo member.



Wear Helmet, Save Life: SP Umamaheshwar Appeals to Riders

Bapatla, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla District SP Umamaheshwar has urged two-wheeler riders to mandatorily wear helmets and ensure their own safety. He made the appeal during the "Shiro Raksha - Prana Raksha" awareness campaign being implemented by the district police. As part of the initiative, the SP conducted surprise inspections at key junctions in Bapatla town on Wednesday and personally reviewed vehicle checking operations. He appreciated riders who were following traffic

rules and wearing helmets, encouraging them to serve as role models for others.

He also counseled violators found riding without helmets, stressing that helmets are not meant to avoid fines but to save lives. He noted that most fatalities in road accidents occur due to head injuries and emphasized the importance of safety precautions.

The SP warned that strict action, including fines and legal measures, will be taken against traffic rule violators as part of efforts to reduce road accidents in the district.



Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy 78th Birth Anniversary Observed in Srikalahasti

Srikalahasti, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The 78th birth anniversary of former minister Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy was observed with reverence in Srikalahasti under the leadership of Bheemala Muni Krishna and Vankayala Siddhulal. The event highlighted his contributions to the development of the constituency. As part of the programme, Annadanam and a Chalivendram (free drinking water facility) were organized at Rajagopuram. MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy attended as the chief guest and

formally inaugurated the services.

Speakers recalled Bojjala Gopalakrishna Reddy's efforts for public welfare, including initiatives in education and temple-based development activities. They noted his role in bringing institutions and promoting industrial growth in the region.

Participants stated that MLA Bojjala Venkata Sudheer Reddy continues to carry forward his father's development legacy. Party leaders, local representatives, and a large number of followers participated in the programme.

Sri Venkateswara Swamy Brahmotsavams from May 1 to 9

Tirupati, April 15, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The annual Brahmotsavams of Sri Venkateswara Swamy will be held in a grand manner from May 1 to May 9 at the temple, with Ankurarpanam scheduled on April 30.

As part of the pre-festival rituals, Koil Alwar Tirumanjanam (temple cleansing) will be performed on April 28. The Dhvajorohanam will be held on May 1 between 9.00 pm and 10.30 pm in Mithuna Lagnam.

During the nine-day festival, Vahana Sevass will be conducted daily from 8.00 to 9.00 am and 7.30 to 8.30 pm. The festival will conclude with Pushpayagam on May 10 from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

The schedule includes various vahanams such as Pedda Sesha, Garuda, Hanumantha, Ratha and Chakrasnanam rituals. Devotees are invited to participate in the divine celebrations and seek the blessings of Lord Venkateswara.

38% vs 18%: Bengal Highlights The Paradox At The Heart Of Women's Reservation Debate

The debate over women's reservation in India has resurfaced with renewed intensity, particularly after the passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, which aims to reserve 33% of seats for women in Parliament and state assemblies. While the law is widely viewed as a landmark reform to improve gender representation in politics, recent developments in West Bengal have highlighted a striking contradiction. The state presents a compelling example of how political commitment to women's representation can vary significantly between rhetoric and reality — a paradox captured in the contrasting figures of 38% women representation in Parliament versus just 18% in state election candidates.

A Long Journey For Women's Reservation

The push for women's reservation in India has been decades in the making. The idea was first introduced in 1996, but political disagreements, procedural delays, and lack of consensus prevented its implementation for nearly three decades. Finally, in September 2023, Parliament passed the 128th Constitutional Amendment Bill, reserving one-third of seats for women in the Lok Sabha, state assemblies, and the Delhi Assembly.

However, the law came with an important condition: its implementation would occur only after a new census and delimitation exercise. This effectively delayed the rollout until at least 2034. Critics argue that this delay undermines the urgency of improving gender representation, while supporters say it ensures fair redistribution of constituencies.

In recent months, the Union government has explored ways to accelerate implementation. One proposal involves using 2011 census data and expanding Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 816, with 273 seats reserved for women. This move, however, has sparked political controversy, with op-

position leaders warning that such changes could alter the balance of political power among states.

Delimitation Debate And Political Tensions

The proposal to expand parliamentary seats has triggered concerns, especially from southern states. Under the new structure, northern states would gain a significantly larger number of seats compared to southern counterparts. This could shift political influence toward the Hindi-belt states, raising fears about regional imbalance in national decision-making.

Another point of contention is the reliance on 2011 census data. Critics argue that outdated data fails to reflect demographic changes such as migration, urbanisation, and population shifts over the past decade. Additionally, the absence of comprehensive caste enumeration in the 2011 census has revived demands for a quota within the women's reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

These debates have turned women's reservation from a purely gender-focused issue into a broader political and regional contest.

West Bengal: A Political Battleground

West Bengal has emerged as a key battleground in the women's reservation debate. With elections underway, political parties are using the issue to appeal to women voters — a demographic that has increasingly influenced electoral outcomes.

The ruling Trinamool Congress has historically enjoyed strong support from women voters, aided by welfare schemes and visible female leadership. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee remains one of the few women leaders at the helm of a major Indian state, further strengthening the party's image as pro-women.

At the same time, the Bharatiya Janata Party has launched a women-focused



campaign, promising enhanced representation and security measures. The competition for women voters has turned the reservation debate into a central election theme.

Strong Parliamentary Representation

Ironically, West Bengal already exceeds the proposed 33% benchmark in parliamentary representation. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, 11 out of 29 Trinamool Congress MPs were women, accounting for roughly 38% representation — one of the highest among major parties.

The representation also reflects diversity. Women MPs from the state include professionals, grassroots workers, and leaders from various communities, including tribal, minority, and urban back-

grounds. This diversity demonstrates that increased representation can broaden participation across social groups.

Additionally, women hold significant portfolios in the state government, further strengthening the perception that West Bengal has made meaningful progress in gender representation.

The 18% Reality In Assembly Elections

Despite these achievements, the upcoming West Bengal Assembly elections reveal a stark contrast. The Trinamool Congress has fielded only 52 women candidates out of 291 — roughly 18%. This figure is significantly lower than the 33% reservation threshold and far below the party's parliamentary representation.

The BJP has performed even worse in terms of women's representation, fielding only about 11% women candidates. These numbers highlight a broader issue: while parties support women's reservation in principle, they often hesitate to nominate women candidates when electoral stakes are high.

Political analysts suggest that parties often prioritise "winnability" over gender representation. Established male leaders with strong organisational backing are frequently preferred over newer female candidates, especially in competitive elections.

The Political Calculation

The discrepancy between parliamentary representation and assembly nominations reflects the structural challenges facing women in

politics. While leadership may promote women's empowerment, ground-level electoral calculations often favour male candidates.

The Trinamool Congress reportedly dropped several sitting legislators while introducing new faces. However, the pressure to retain power may have influenced candidate selection, resulting in fewer women nominees.

This highlights the central paradox: political parties often support women's reservation laws while failing to voluntarily increase representation within their own ranks.

Why Reservation Still Matters

The West Bengal example strengthens the argument for women's reservation. Without a mandatory quota, politi-

cal parties may not consistently prioritise gender representation. Even states considered progressive on women's empowerment struggle to maintain balanced representation.

At the same time, the Bengal case also demonstrates that reservation alone is not enough. Political will, leadership commitment, and structural reforms are equally important for meaningful change.

The contrast between 38% representation in Parliament and 18% in assembly candidates illustrates the gap between policy goals and political realities.

A Broader National Question

The debate triggered by West Bengal raises important national questions:

- Can political parties rely on voluntary measures to improve women's representation?

- Will reservation laws ensure lasting change?

- How should representation balance regional and demographic factors?

These questions will shape the future of women's political participation in India.

Conclusion

West Bengal's contrasting figures — 38% women MPs versus 18% women candidates in assembly elections — capture the paradox at the heart of India's women's reservation debate. While political parties champion gender equality at the national level, electoral realities often produce different outcomes on the ground.

The case underscores why institutional reforms like reservation remain necessary. At the same time, it also highlights that representation is not just about numbers — it requires sustained political commitment, inclusive leadership, and structural change.

As India moves closer to implementing women's reservation, West Bengal's example serves both as a model of progress and a reminder of the challenges ahead.

Delimitation & Democracy: A Fair Deal for South By CM Revanth

Today, the issue of delimitation is being discussed across the country. But this is not just a technical or political matter. It is about fairness, equal representation, and the balance of power in India. Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has raised a strong and important voice on this issue. He is speaking not just for Telangana, but for the entire South India. His message is simple: any decision on delimitation must be fair to all regions. The Indian National Congress has also made its stand very clear. The party supports the Women's Reservation Bill and believes in strengthening democracy. But it strongly opposes any attempt to use delimitation for political advantage or to weaken certain states. One major concern is that the Centre is trying to handle delimitation and the Women's Reservation Bill together. These are two different issues. They should be discussed separately. Each one needs time, debate, and consultation with all states. Rushing both together creates confusion and raises doubts.

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has rightly demanded a full debate in Parliament and also in all State As-

semblies. He has also asked for an expert committee to study the issue and consult all political parties. This is how a democracy should work. Big decisions should not be taken in a hurry. The biggest fear in South India is about how seats will be increased. If seats are increased only based on population, southern states will lose their political strength. States like Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala have controlled population growth and focused on development. But now, this success may turn into a disadvantage. This leads to a serious question: should states be punished for doing better? South Indian states contribute a large share to India's economy. They generate income, create jobs, and support national growth. But if delimitation is based only on population, their voice in Parliament will reduce. At the same time, states with higher population growth will gain more power. This creates an imbalance. It sends the wrong message that development and population control do not matter. To solve this, Revanth Reddy has suggested a "Hybrid Model." This is a balanced idea. According to this model, half of the seats should be given



based on population, and the other half based on economic contribution like GSDP. This method gives importance to both people and performance. It ensures that states contributing more to the economy also get fair representation. This idea reflects the Congress party's belief in balanced and inclusive growth. The Congress party has always supported women's empower-

ment. It has given many opportunities to women in politics. Even now, it supports the Women's Reservation Bill. But the party says it should be implemented properly, based on the 2026 Census, not old data. This will ensure fair representation. Another concern is the growing gap between North and South India. If delimitation is done without balance, this gap will increase. South-

ern states may feel ignored, even though they contribute more to the economy. This is dangerous for the unity of the country. India is a union of states. Every state is important. No region should feel that its voice is being reduced. Smaller states like Delhi and Punjab may also lose importance if this process is not handled carefully. There is also a larger issue. Over the years,

southern states have followed population control seriously. This has helped the country by reducing pressure on resources. But now, if seats are given only based on population, these states will lose representation. This is unfair. Even in the past, leaders understood this problem. During the time of Indira Gandhi, the number of Lok Sabha seats was frozen to ensure that states controlling population were not punished. Later, under Atal Bihari Vajpayee, this approach continued with some changes, keeping fairness in mind. Today, India's population has grown a lot. There is a need to increase seats in Parliament. But this must be done carefully. It should not create new inequalities. The principle of "one person, one vote" is important. But it cannot be applied blindly. Even today, smaller states and northeastern regions are given representation beyond strict population numbers to ensure balance. The same fairness should apply to South India. There is also a feeling that southern states are not getting a fair share in national projects and investments. Many believe that political power is shifting in a way that may ignore their contribution. This is

creating concern and dissatisfaction. Revanth Reddy has said that he will work with other southern states and smaller states to raise a united voice. This shows leadership and commitment to protecting federal values. The message is clear — India must grow together. Delimitation is not just about increasing seats. It is about who gets a voice and who gets power. If done without fairness, it can create division between regions. The solution is simple. The Centre must slow down, hold discussions, listen to all states, and build consensus. In the end, democracy is not just about numbers. It is about fairness, balance, and respect for every region. South India is not asking for special treatment. It is only asking for justice.



Aadhri Srinivas, Telangana Government Whip.

PratibhaPatil Calls Women's Quota Bill a "Transformative Step" in Letter to Narendra Modi

India's first woman President, PratibhaPatil, has praised the Women's Reservation Bill — officially known as the Nari Shakti VandanAdhiniyam — describing it as a "transformative step" for strengthening democracy and empowering women. In a letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Patil expressed appreciation for the initiative and highlighted its potential to increase women's participation in governance and policymaking.

Landmark Reform for Women's Representation

The Nari Shakti VandanAdhiniyam provides for one-third reservation for women in legislative bodies, including Parliament and state assemblies. The legislation was passed in 2023 and is now moving toward implementation, with discussions underway to ensure it comes into force before the 2029 general elections. A special session of Parliament has also been scheduled to discuss the next steps re-



garding the rollout of the policy.

In her letter, PratibhaPatil described the amendment as a historic milestone that would strengthen India's democratic structure by ensuring greater representation of women in decision-making roles. She said the move reflects a collective commitment to advancing

gender equality and building a more inclusive governance system.

"Powerful Affirmation" of Gender Equality

Patil emphasized that the legislation is not just a legal reform but a broader step toward inclusive growth. She stated that the reservation would allow more women to participate

in legislative processes and contribute to policymaking from diverse perspectives. According to her, this greater inclusion would result in more empathetic and balanced policy outcomes. She also highlighted that women's increased presence in political institutions would inspire future generations and encourage more women to step into leadership roles. Patil particularly stressed the importance of empowering women from rural and marginalized communities, saying the reform would motivate them to participate actively in nation-building.

A Long-Cherished Dream

In her message, the former President commended leaders and stakeholders who worked over the years to bring the legislation to reality. She described the bill as a long-awaited reform aimed at correcting historical inequalities and ensuring equal opportunities for women in governance.

Patil also expressed confidence that the measure would

play a key role in building a stronger, more progressive India by promoting inclusive leadership and equitable development. She extended her best wishes for continued efforts toward women's empowerment and national progress.

Significance of the Nari Shakti VandanAdhiniyam

The Women's Reservation Bill has been widely viewed as a major political reform that could reshape India's governance structure. By reserving one-third of seats for women, the law aims to enhance gender balance in legislative bodies and ensure that women have a stronger voice in policymaking.

With growing political momentum and endorsements from prominent leaders, the focus is now shifting to implementation. PratibhaPatil's support adds further weight to the initiative, reinforcing its importance in advancing gender equality and strengthening India's democratic institutions.



Why Delimitation Has Become Flashpoint Between Centre And Southern States

A fresh political confrontation is brewing between the Centre and several southern states over the proposed delimitation exercise, which is expected to redraw parliamentary constituencies and increase the number of Lok Sabha seats. The issue has sparked intense debate, with southern leaders warning that the move could shift political power toward northern states and reduce their influence in national decision-making.

What Is Delimitation?

Delimitation refers to the process of redrawing the boundaries of parliamentary and assembly constituencies based on population changes. This exercise is typically conducted after a census to ensure fair representation in legislatures. The next delimitation is expected after the upcoming census, which could significantly alter the number of seats allocated to each state.

Why The Issue Has Escalated Now

The debate has intensified after the Centre proposed increasing the number of Lok Sabha seats from 543 to around 850. The move is aimed at implementing the Women's Reservation law and expanding representation in Parliament ahead of the 2029 general elections.

However, the proposed seat redistribution is expected to be based largely on population. This has raised concerns in southern states, where population growth has slowed due to better family planning and development indicators. Leaders from these states argue that they are being penalised for successfully controlling population growth.

Why Southern States Are Concerned

Southern states such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh fear that population-based seat allocation will benefit northern states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh, where population growth has been higher.

If this happens, northern states could gain more parliamentary seats, while southern states may see a smaller increase or reduced share in

overall representation. This could shift political influence toward the north and weaken the voice of southern states in national policymaking.

Experts warn that strict population-based delimitation could result in a handful of large northern states gaining a permanent majority in Parliament, allowing them to shape national policies more decisively.

The Population Freeze Factor

The current seat distribution is based largely on population data from the 1971 census due to a freeze imposed decades ago to encourage states to control population growth. That freeze is set to end, meaning future delimitation could be based on more recent population data, potentially altering representation significantly.

Southern states argue that they followed population control policies successfully, and changing the formula now would disadvantage them compared to states where population grew faster.

Political Tensions Rising

The issue has triggered strong political reactions. Several southern leaders have called for consultations and safeguards before implementing delimitation. Some have demanded a fair formula that balances population with development performance and governance indicators.

The Centre, meanwhile, has indicated that the exercise will be carried out in a fair and transparent manner, but discussions are expected to intensify as legislative proposals move forward.

What Happens Next

The delimitation process will likely be one of the most significant political developments ahead of the 2029 elections. With representation, federal balance, and regional influence at stake, the debate between the Centre and southern states is expected to grow sharper in the coming months.

As India prepares for a possible expansion of Parliament and new electoral boundaries, the delimitation issue is shaping up to be a major political flashpoint with long-term implications for the country's democratic structure.

Bulldozer Action Taken Against Maharashtra Man Accused of Assaulting 180 Minors

Authorities in Maharashtra carried out bulldozer action against the house of a 19-year-old man accused of sexually assaulting and exploiting nearly 180 minor girls. The accused, identified as Mohammad Ayaz, also known as Tanveer, is a resident of Paratwada in Amravati district. The action came shortly after his arrest in a case that has sparked widespread outrage.

Illegal Structure Demolished

A JCB machine was used to demolish alleged illegal portions of the accused's one-storey house. Visuals showed the demolition of an iron staircase built outside the residence to access the first floor. The operation was conducted by officials from the Achalpur Municipal Council, while a heavy police presence was deployed to maintain law and order during the action. Authorities said notices regarding encroachment had already been issued before the demolition took place. Local BJP MLA Pravin-Tayade was also present during the demolition, which took place amid heightened security and public attention. The action followed growing outrage over the seriousness of the allegations and the scale of the case.

Arrest and Serious Allegations

Police arrested Mohammad Ayaz on April 11 after allegations surfaced that he lured minor girls into relationships using what investigators described as a "love trap." He allegedly took victims to cities



such as Mumbai and Pune, where he recorded obscene videos.

Investigators believe that the accused recorded around 350 explicit videos involving minors. These videos were allegedly used to blackmail victims, and in some cases, force them into prostitution. Several images and videos linked to the accused reportedly surfaced on social media, which led to further police action.

Social Media Targeting According to officials, the accused allegedly targeted victims systematically through WhatsApp and Snapchat groups. Authorities are now examining digital evidence, including mobile phones and online data, to identify additional victims and determine whether others were involved.

Investigation Continues The case is still under investigation, and authorities are working to identify more victims and possible accomplices. Police have urged families to come forward and assured confidentiality and support for victims.

The incident has triggered widespread outrage and calls for strict action, with officials indicating that more developments could follow as the investigation progresses.

Opposition Backs Women's Quota But Will Oppose Delimitation Bill, Says MallikarjunKcharge

Congress President MallikarjunKcharge has said that opposition parties support the Women's Reservation initiative but will oppose the proposed delimitation exercise, warning that it could alter the federal balance and affect fair political representation across states.

Support For Women's Reservation, But With Conditions

Kcharge made it clear that opposition parties are not against the Women's Reservation law — commonly referred to as Nari Shakti VandanAdhiniyam — which aims to reserve one-third of seats for women in Parliament and state assemblies. However, he expressed concerns about linking the implementation of the quota with delimitation and census exercises.

Opposition leaders believe the government is pushing delimitation alongside women's reservation without sufficient consultation. They argue that the two issues should be treated separately to ensure that the reservation for women is implemented without delays or political complications.

Opposition Meeting Ahead Of Parliament Session

Kcharge convened a meeting of opposition leaders to chalk out a joint strategy before a special Parliament session expected to discuss amendments related to women's reservation and delimitation. Several parties from the INDIA bloc participated in discussions, reflecting growing concern over the government's proposed changes.

According to opposition



leaders, the proposed amendments could significantly increase the number of Lok Sabha seats, potentially up to around 850, after a fresh delimitation exercise based on the latest census data. The move is intended to operationalise women's reservation before the 2029 general elections.

Concerns Over Federal Balance

Kcharge and other opposition leaders warned that delimitation based purely on population could benefit states with higher population growth, while reducing the relative representation of states that have successfully controlled population growth.

Some leaders described the proposed delimitation approach as potentially "mischievous" or "devious," arguing that it could weaken parliamentary democracy if implemented without broad consensus.

The opposition has also raised concerns that linking women's reservation to delimitation

could delay the implementation of the quota, defeating the purpose of empowering women in politics.

Political Debate Intensifies

The issue has quickly become a major political flashpoint ahead of the special Parliament session. While the ruling government is pushing for quick implementation of women's reservation, opposition parties insist that delimitation must be debated separately and carefully.

Kcharge emphasised that the opposition supports women's empowerment but would resist any move that alters electoral representation without proper consultation and consensus among states and political parties.

With Parliament set to take up the matter soon, the debate over women's reservation and delimitation is expected to intensify, shaping one of the most significant political discussions ahead of the next general elections.

AmarnathYatra Registration Opens In Jammu, Pilgrimage To Begin From July 3

Registration for the annual AmarnathYatra has officially begun in Jammu, with large numbers of devotees gathering at designated counters to secure their permits. The pilgrimage to the sacred Amarnath cave shrine in Jammu and Kashmir is scheduled to start on July 3 and will continue for 57 days, concluding on August 28, coinciding with the festival of RakshaBandhan.

Heavy Rush At Registration Counters

Devotees lined up early in the morning at various registration centres in Jammu. Ofline branches of banks, including Punjab National Bank and Jammu & Kashmir Bank, witnessed long queues as pilgrims arrived even before counters opened. Officials confirmed that advance registration has been made available in both online and offline modes to make the process

more accessible for devotees across the country.

According to officials, six registration counters were set up in Jammu to handle the rush. Many devotees expressed eagerness to be part of the first batch of pilgrims, with some travelling from nearby states specifically to complete registration early.

556 Bank Branches Across India

Authorities said that registration for the pilgrimage is being conducted through 556 bank branches across India. These include 310 branches of Punjab National Bank, along with branches of Jammu & Kashmir Bank, State Bank of India, Yes Bank and others. The large network of branches aims to ensure that devotees from different parts of the country can easily register for the yatra.

Officials also indicated that Punjab National Bank is act-

ing as the nodal bank for the registration process. With improving law and order conditions in Jammu and Kashmir, authorities expect a higher number of pilgrims to participate this year.

Two Routes For Pilgrimage

The AmarnathYatra will begin simultaneously from two routes:

- The traditional 48-kilometre Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district
- The shorter but steeper 14-kilometre Baltal route in Ganderbal district

Both routes lead to the holy cave shrine located in the Himalayas, where devotees offer prayers to the naturally formed ice Shivaling.

Devotees Express Enthusiasm

Many pilgrims said they were eager to take part in the yatra and sought blessings at the shrine. Some participants

who have undertaken the journey multiple times described the pilgrimage as an annual spiritual tradition. Others also noted improvements in facilities and security arrangements, encouraging more devotees to participate.

Growing Preparations Authorities are also assessing ways to simplify the registration process further as the number of applicants increases. Security, logistics and infrastructure arrangements are being reviewed to ensure the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

The AmarnathYatra is one of the most significant religious pilgrimages in India, attracting thousands of devotees every year. With registrations now open and preparations underway, authorities expect strong participation in the 2026 pilgrimage beginning July 3.



Oil Tanker Blacklisted By US Crossed Hormuz With Tracker On, Claims Iran

A major geopolitical development unfolded after Iran claimed that an oil tanker blacklisted by the United States successfully crossed the strategic Strait of Hormuz despite an ongoing US-led blockade. The incident has added fresh tension to the already volatile situation in the Middle East and raised concerns over global oil supply routes.

Sanctioned Tanker Crosses Despite US Blockade

According to Iranian officials, a very large crude carrier (VLCC) that had been blacklisted by the United States sailed through the Strait of Hormuz and reached Iranian waters without any interference. The claim was made by Iran's Consulate General in Mumbai, which stated that the vessel completed its journey openly with its tracking system switched on, challenging



US sanctions and restrictions. The supertanker, capable of carrying up to two million barrels

of crude oil, reportedly crossed international waters and arrived at Iranian shores

without attempting to conceal its movement. Iranian authorities highlighted that the vessel

kept its tracking system active throughout the journey, signaling transparency and defiance of the US-imposed restrictions.

US Blockade and Rising Tensions

The development comes after the United States announced a naval blockade aimed at preventing ships from traveling to or from Iranian ports. US officials had earlier stated that they would intercept any vessel attempting to move from international waters toward Iran's coastline or dock at its ports. The blockade was introduced following escalating tensions and stalled diplomatic efforts between the United States and Iran.

US Central Command reportedly said that the blockade was fully operational and that maritime trade linked to Iran had been significantly disrupted. The move is part of broader

efforts to pressure Iran economically, as a large portion of the country's economy relies on sea-based trade.

Other Ships Also Passed Through

Tracking data also indicated that at least two additional vessels had crossed the Strait of Hormuz shortly after the blockade came into effect. One of them, a Liberia-flagged bulk carrier named Christianna, transited the strait after unloading cargo at an Iranian port. Another vessel, the tanker Elpis, carrying methanol, also passed through the strategic waterway after departing from Iran.

Strategic Importance of Strait of Hormuz

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most critical oil transit routes, through which a significant portion of global crude oil supply flows. Any disruption or escalation in this

region typically leads to volatility in oil prices and global financial markets.

The latest development highlights growing geopolitical tensions and the challenges involved in enforcing maritime restrictions. If more vessels continue to cross despite the blockade, it could weaken US efforts and increase uncertainty in global energy markets.

Market and Global Impact

The incident is likely to keep oil markets on edge, as traders closely monitor developments in the Middle East. Any escalation or further defiance of the blockade could impact crude oil prices and global trade flows. Overall, the crossing of a US-blacklisted tanker through the Strait of Hormuz underscores the fragile geopolitical environment and signals that tensions between the United States and Iran remain far from resolved.

Trump Wants To Restart Iran Talks – But Sets Two Key Conditions

U.S. President Donald Trump has indicated that Washington is open to restarting peace talks with Iran, but only if two key conditions are met. The proposed negotiations could take place in Islamabad, where earlier talks between the two sides ended without a breakthrough.

Two Key Conditions Set by the US

According to reports, the United States has outlined two major demands before returning to negotiations:

1. Full Reopening of the Strait of Hormuz

Washington has demanded that Iran ensure the complete reopening of the Strait of Hormuz before talks resume. The US has insisted on reciprocal arrangements — meaning if Iran restricts shipping routes, Iranian vessels could also face restrictions. This condition highlights the importance of



maritime security and global oil supply routes in the negotiations.

2. Full Authority for Iranian Negotiators

The second condition re-

quires that Iran's delegation must have full authority from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps to finalise any agreement. The US wants assurance that any deal reached

during negotiations will be backed by all senior Iranian leadership and not blocked later.

Internal Differences Within Iran

Reports suggest there may be growing divisions within Iran's leadership between political officials and the Revolutionary Guard. These disagreements reportedly slowed progress during earlier negotiations and prevented Iranian representatives from making final commitments.

The US is now seeking clarity and stronger decision-making authority from Iran's delegation before agreeing to return to the negotiating table.

Talks May Resume Soon

Despite the conditions, both sides appear open to resuming dialogue. Diplomatic sources indicate that delegations from the United States and Iran may

return to Islamabad later this week, although no final date has been confirmed.

The earlier round of talks, held after a temporary ceasefire, marked the first direct engagement between the two countries in more than a decade. However, negotiations ended without any major breakthrough, leaving several issues unresolved.

High Stakes for Global Markets

The outcome of these negotiations is being closely watched worldwide. The Strait of Hormuz is a crucial global oil route, and any disruption in the region can significantly impact energy prices and financial markets. If talks resume and progress is made, it could ease geopolitical tensions and stabilise global markets. However, failure to meet the conditions could prolong uncertainty in the region.

Iranian Delegation Switched Planes, Took Bus and Train After Security Threat During Pakistan Visit

An Iranian delegation returning from high-level talks with the United States in Pakistan reportedly altered its travel plans after receiving serious security threats. The delegation switched aircraft mid-journey and completed the rest of their return to Tehran using land transportation, including train, bus, and car, according to reports.

Security Threat Forced Sudden Change in Travel Plans

The incident occurred after ceasefire negotiations between the United States and Iran in Islamabad ended without a breakthrough. Iranian political analyst Mohammad Marandi, who accompanied the delegation, said the team received direct threats suggesting their plane could be attacked. This prompted officials to take additional precautions while returning to Iran.

Marandi stated that the delegation feared their aircraft could be shot down or targeted with missiles. Due to these concerns, the group secretly boarded a different aircraft instead of their original flight. The alternative plane later made an unexpected landing in Mashhad, a city in northeastern Iran.

After landing in Mashhad, the delegation avoided further air travel and completed their journey to Tehran using multiple modes of transport, including train, bus, and car. The unusual travel arrangements highlighted the level of concern surrounding their safety following the failed talks.

High-Level Officials Were Part of Delegation

The delegation reportedly included senior Iranian leaders such as Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf. Their presence increased the sensitivity of the visit and may have contributed to heightened security concerns.



Marandi also said the Iranian side remains cautious about negotiations and expressed distrust toward the United States. He noted that while Iran continues to engage in diplomatic efforts, the country is also preparing for possible escalation if talks fail.

Talks May Resume Soon

Despite the tense developments, reports indicate that US and Iranian negotiating teams may return to Islamabad for another round of discussions. Officials from both sides have suggested that talks could resume later this week, although no final date has been confirmed.

The previous meeting in Pakistan marked one of the highest-level engagements between the United States and Iran in more than a decade. However, negotiations ended without a breakthrough, leaving key issues unresolved.

Rising Tensions Continue

The incident underscores the fragile nature of ongoing diplomatic efforts between the United States and Iran. While both sides appear open to further negotiations, security concerns and deep mistrust continue to complicate the peace process.

The delegation's unusual return journey highlights the tense geopolitical environment and the risks surrounding diplomatic engagements during ongoing conflict.

Bulldozed Villages, New Outposts: Inside Israel's 'Gaza Playbook' in Lebanon

Israel is reportedly expanding its military operations in southern Lebanon by demolishing villages and constructing new outposts near the border, a strategy analysts say mirrors tactics previously used in Gaza. The development comes amid the ongoing conflict involving Israel, Iran-backed Hezbollah, and broader Middle East tensions.

Villages Demolished Near Border

According to reports citing Israeli soldiers, bulldozers have been used to raze villages near the Israel-Lebanon border fence. The cleared land is being used to build new military outposts, which some soldiers believe are intended to be permanent structures. One official reportedly described the approach as similar to operations previously carried out in



Gaza. A combat soldier quoted in the report said there was even a list of homes marked for demolition, and progress was being measured based on the number of buildings destroyed each day. The comments suggest a systematic ap-

proach to clearing areas along the border.

Push To Move Hezbollah North

Reports indicate Israeli forces have advanced deeper into southern Lebanon, reaching the third line of villages from

the border — roughly 20 kilometres south of the Litani River. The objective appears to be pushing Hezbollah fighters further north and creating a buffer zone along Israel's northern frontier. The construction of additional military outposts in southern Lebanon is part of this broader strategy. These installations are believed to help maintain Israeli control in cleared areas and prevent Hezbollah from re-establishing positions near the border.

Gaza-Style Strategy

Israeli officials and soldiers reportedly acknowledged similarities between the operations in Lebanon and earlier tactics used in Gaza. The approach includes clearing civilian infrastructure, expanding military presence, and creating buffer zones to reduce security

threats. The strategy is controversial, with critics arguing that such operations could lead to long-term instability and humanitarian concerns, particularly if civilians are unable to return to their homes.

Rising Regional Tensions

The development comes as diplomatic efforts continue between the United States and Iran to end broader hostilities in the region. However, the ongoing Israeli operations in Lebanon suggest that tensions remain high, especially with Hezbollah continuing to play a major role in the conflict. The situation in southern Lebanon remains fluid, with further military developments likely as Israel continues to pursue its security objectives while negotiations unfold elsewhere in the region.

Pakistani Journalist Blames "Not-So-Educated Pehalwan" For PM Sharif's 'Draft' X Gaffe

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif faced embarrassment after a "draft" message was mistakenly posted from his official X (formerly Twitter) account. The incident sparked criticism, with a Pakistani journalist blaming a staff member nicknamed "Pehalwan" for the blunder.

What Happened

The controversy began when a "draft" message related to ceasefire discussions between the United States and Iran was accidentally posted from the Prime Minister's official account. The post reportedly included internal instructions and appeared unfinished, quickly going viral and

drawing widespread criticism. The error raised concerns over professionalism and communication protocols at the highest level of Pakistan's government.

The incident occurred during a sensitive diplomatic period, as Pakistan was attempting to act as a mediator in talks between the United States and Iran. The timing of the mistake made the situation more embarrassing for Islamabad, especially given the international attention on the negotiations.

Journalist Points To 'Pehalwan'

Pakistani journalist Absar Alam alleged that the mistake was made by

a person known as "Pehalwan," who reportedly handled the Prime Minister's social media account. According to Alam, the individual was "not very educated" and had been given responsibility despite lacking professional qualifications.

Alam further claimed that the previous person managing the account was more qualified, but the new handler allegedly enjoyed protection from a senior federal minister. He said the mistake occurred when the message was copied and pasted directly from WhatsApp without proper review.

Mild Action Taken

Following the blunder,

the individual reportedly received only a mild reprimand. According to Alam, the person was instructed not to appear before the Prime Minister for a few days, which drew further criticism about accountability within the administration.

Pakistan's Role in US-Iran Talks

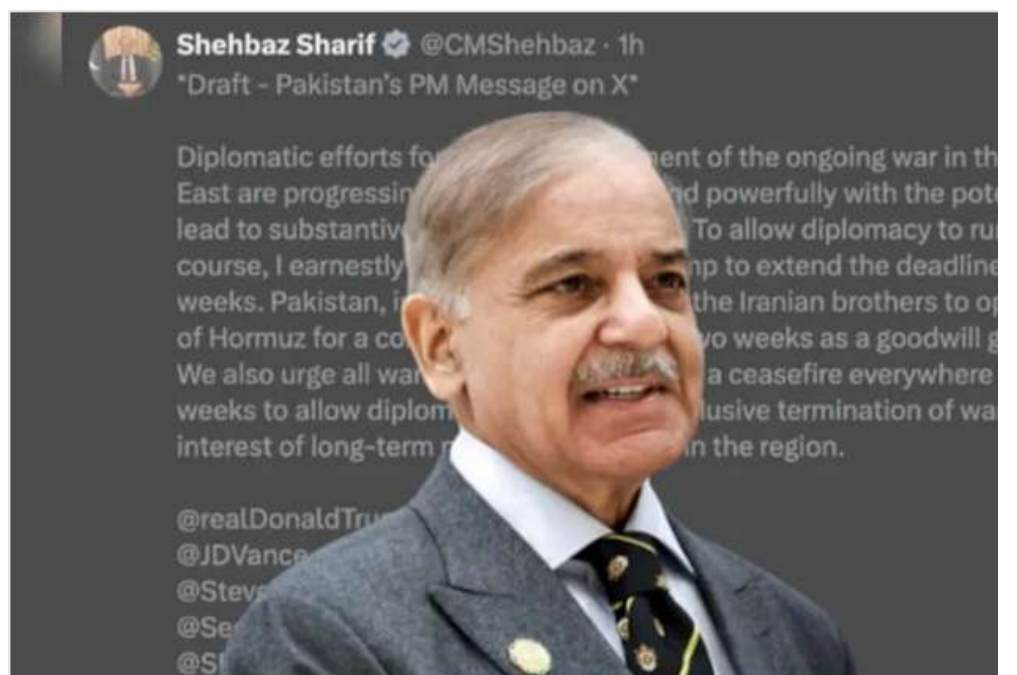
The incident came at a time when Pakistan was trying to broker peace between the United States and Iran. Islamabad had positioned itself as a mediator, relaying proposals and hosting negotiations aimed at reducing tensions in the Gulf region. Negotiating teams from both countries were also

expected to return for further discussions after earlier talks ended without a breakthrough.

Diplomatic Embarrassment

The social media gaffe has raised broader concerns about communication management and professionalism in official government messaging. Given the high-stakes geopolitical environment, even minor communication errors can have diplomatic consequences.

The incident quickly became viral online, with critics pointing to lapses in governance and digital oversight within the Prime Minister's office.



The tweet reads: "Draft - Pakistan's PM Message on X". The visible text includes: "Diplomatic efforts for the resolution of the ongoing war in the East are progressing... and powerfully with the potential to lead to substantive... To allow diplomacy to run its course, I earnestly... weeks. Pakistan, I... the Iranian brothers to... two weeks as a goodwill... We also urge all war... a ceasefire everywhere... weeks to allow diplom... usive termination of wa... in the region."

Nifty Ends Above 24,200; Sensex Surges 1,264 Points as Broad-Based Rally Lifts All Sectors

Indian equity benchmarks ended Wednesday's trading session on a strong note, with the Nifty 50 closing above the crucial 24,200 level and the BSE Sensex surging more than 1,200 points. The rally was broad-based, with buying seen across sectors, while midcap and smallcap stocks outperformed the benchmark indices. Strong global cues, easing geopolitical tensions, and falling crude oil prices boosted investor sentiment, driving markets higher throughout the day. The BSE Sensex jumped 1,264 points, or around 1.6 percent, to close near 78,100, while the NSE Nifty gained nearly 390 points to settle above the 24,200 mark. The market maintained its positive momentum throughout the trading session, ending near the day's high, indicating sustained buying interest across segments.

All Sectors Rally; Midcaps and Smallcaps Outperform

The rally was supported by widespread buying across all sectoral indices, with most sectors ending firmly in the green. Midcap and smallcap stocks delivered stronger gains compared to frontline indices, reflecting improving risk appetite among investors. Market breadth also remained highly positive, with advancing stocks significantly outnumbering declining shares.

Over 150 stocks touched their 52-week highs during the session, highlighting the strength of the rally. RailTel Corporation emerged as one of the standout performers, surging sharply after securing new orders, while several capital goods, infrastructure, and industrial stocks also witnessed strong buying interest.

Key Gainers and Losers

Among the top gainers on the Nifty were InterGlobe Aviation, Max Healthcare, Power Grid Corporation, Wipro, and

Eternal, which saw strong buying interest during the session. These stocks helped push the indices higher and contributed significantly to the market's positive closing. On the other hand, a few stocks such as Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Bharti Airtel, and ICICI Bank witnessed mild selling pressure and ended the day in the red. However, losses in these counters were limited and did not significantly impact the overall market trend.

Global Cues Boost Investor Sentiment

Positive global developments played a crucial role in lifting domestic markets. Reports of easing geopolitical tensions and declining crude oil prices improved investor confidence. Lower oil prices are generally considered beneficial for India, as they help reduce inflationary pressure and improve corporate margins, encouraging investors to increase exposure to

equities. Additionally, strong performance in global markets and sustained institutional buying also supported the rally. The broader market witnessed healthy participation from domestic institutional investors and foreign funds, further strengthening the bullish sentiment.

Market Outlook

Despite the strong rally, analysts remain cautiously optimistic about the near-term outlook. While the broad-based participation and positive global cues indicate continued strength, market experts advise investors to remain selective and focus on fundamentally strong stocks. The strong closing above 24,200 is considered technically positive for the Nifty, with further upside likely if the index sustains above key support levels. However, global developments, crude oil prices, and institutional flows will remain important trig-



gers for the next leg of market movement.

Overall, Wednesday's session reflected strong bullish sentiment in Indian markets, with

broad-based buying, sectoral participation, and improved global cues pushing benchmark indices sharply higher. If momentum continues,

markets may attempt higher levels in the coming sessions, although investors are advised to remain cautious at elevated levels.

Paras Defence Shares Jump 7% After 10-Year Strategic Deal with US-Based NorthStar

Shares of Paras Defence and Space Technologies surged nearly 7 percent in Wednesday's trading session after the company announced a long-term strategic agreement with US-based NorthStar. The development boosted investor sentiment, driving strong buying interest in the stock during the day.

The stock climbed to around Rs 757 on the NSE, gaining over Rs 50, after the company disclosed the agreement through a regulatory filing. The sharp move reflects market optimism about the company's growth prospects following the announcement of the long-term partnership.

Details of the Agreement

Paras Defence signed a 10-year agreement with Bandak Aviation Inc., which operates under the NorthStar brand in the United States. Under this partnership, Paras Defence will supply and support NorthStar products for the Indian armed forces. The deal is expected to strengthen the company's position in the defence and aerospace segment while expanding its global partnerships.

The collaboration will primarily focus on air-to-air refuelling systems and related accessories. In addition to supplying equipment, the agreement also includes associated services and long-term support, which could help generate recurring revenue for Paras Defence over the next decade.

Strategic Importance of the Deal

The partnership is significant as it enhances Paras Defence's footprint in advanced



defence technologies. Air-to-air refuelling systems are critical for modern military operations, enabling aircraft to extend operational range and improve mission efficiency. By entering this segment through a global collaboration, Paras Defence aims to strengthen its technological capabilities and expand its offerings to defence customers. This agreement also aligns with India's push toward defence indigenisation and self-reliance. Partnerships with global defence technology companies allow domestic firms to access advanced systems and develop local manufacturing capabilities. Over time, this could help Paras Defence secure more contracts from Indian defence forces.

Positive Sentiment in Defence Stocks

The defence sector has been attracting investor interest due to strong order books, government support, and rising geopolitical uncertainties. Companies operating in defence manufacturing and technology have witnessed increased attention from investors looking for long-term growth opportunities.

Paras Defence has been actively expanding its presence through strategic collaborations and new product offerings. The latest agreement with NorthStar is seen as another step toward strengthening its order pipeline and enhancing long-term growth visibility.

Outlook

The 10-year deal provides strong visibility for future revenues and supports the company's growth strategy in defence and aerospace technologies. Analysts believe that long-term contracts such as these can improve earnings stability and strengthen investor confidence.

With growing defence spending, increasing localisation efforts, and strategic global partnerships, Paras Defence appears well-positioned to benefit from sectoral tailwinds. The strong market reaction to the announcement reflects optimism about the company's long-term growth prospects and expanding role in India's defence ecosystem.

Pakistan Stock Exchange Rises 3% as US-Iran Peace Talks May Resume in Islamabad

Pakistan's stock market rallied sharply on Wednesday, with the benchmark KSE-100 index gaining more than 3 percent amid renewed optimism over possible peace talks between the United States and Iran. Improved geopolitical sentiment boosted investor confidence, leading to strong buying across sectors.

The benchmark KSE-100 index surged more than 5,000 points during intraday trade, reaching a high of 170,640.27. The rally marked the second consecutive day of gains for the Pakistan Stock Exchange, following a strong rebound in the previous session.

Optimism Over Peace Talks Lifts Sentiment

Investor sentiment improved after reports suggested that US-Iran peace negotiations could resume in Islamabad. The possibility of diplomatic progress helped ease concerns about escalating geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. As tensions appeared to soften, global markets responded positively, and Pakistan's stock market joined the broader rally.

The improved outlook also contributed to a decline in crude oil prices, which further supported investor confidence. Lower oil prices generally reduce economic uncertainty and improve the outlook for emerging markets, including Pakistan.

Second Day of Strong Gains

The rally extended gains from the previous trading session when the Pakistan Stock Exchange had already surged



sharply. On Tuesday, the KSE-100 index gained nearly 5,000 points amid similar optimism over renewed diplomatic efforts. The continuation of positive news encouraged investors to maintain buying momentum. The broader market also witnessed strong participation, with multiple sectors ending in positive territory. Financial stocks, energy companies, and industrial shares were among the key contributors to the rally. Improved market breadth reflected strong investor participation across the board.

Global Factors Driving Markets

Geopolitical developments remained the primary driver of the market movement. Rising tensions in recent weeks had created volatility across global markets, particularly due to concerns about oil supply disruptions. However, hopes of resumed negotiations reduced fears of prolonged conflict.

The easing of oil supply concerns and improved diplomatic

prospects helped stabilize markets. Investors typically respond positively to signs of geopolitical stability, which was evident in the strong rally across Pakistan's equities.

Outlook for Pakistan Market

Analysts believe that further developments in US-Iran negotiations will continue to influence market direction. If talks resume and progress toward de-escalation, markets could see continued positive momentum. However, uncertainty around geopolitical developments may still lead to volatility in the near term.

Overall, the Pakistan Stock Exchange's sharp rise highlights how global geopolitical developments can significantly impact regional markets. The renewed optimism surrounding potential peace talks between the United States and Iran provided a strong boost to investor sentiment, pushing the KSE-100 index higher for the second consecutive session.

Private vs PSU Bank Stocks: Where Can Investors Find Alpha?

Indian banking stocks have delivered mixed performance in recent months, with public sector banks (PSU banks) significantly outperforming private sector lenders. However, analysts now believe that the trend may be shifting as valuations in PSU banks appear stretched while private banks are becoming more attractive for investors seeking better returns.

PSU Banks Lead the Rally

Over the past year, PSU banks have witnessed a strong rally driven by improving fundamentals, better asset quality, and steady earnings growth. After years of underperformance, public sector banks have regained investor confidence due to disciplined lending practices and reduced non-performing assets. These improvements have helped PSU banks narrow the gap with private sector banks in terms of profitability and operational efficiency.

Loan growth has also been

a key driver for PSU banks. In recent quarters, public sector lenders recorded stronger credit growth compared to private banks, allowing them to regain market share. This shift boosted investor sentiment and supported stock price performance across several PSU banks. Another factor contributing to the rally has been the improvement in asset quality. Declining bad loans and lower credit costs have enhanced profitability for public sector banks. Additionally, recoveries from previously written-off loans and treasury gains have further supported earnings growth. Profitability levels have improved significantly as well. Many PSU banks have reported return on assets above 1 percent, which marks a notable turnaround compared to earlier years when profitability remained under pressure. These improvements have led to a re-rating of PSU bank stocks in the market.

Valuation Concerns Emerging

Despite strong performance, analysts caution that much of the positive momentum in PSU banks may already be priced into current valuations. Several public sector bank stocks are now trading above their historical averages, leaving limited room for further upside.

There are also concerns about the sustainability of loan growth. PSU banks have utilized liquidity buffers to support credit expansion, but these buffers are gradually declining. As liquidity tightens, growth rates may moderate in the coming quarters.

Moreover, a portion of recent earnings growth has come from non-core income such as recoveries and treasury gains. If these factors weaken, profitability could face pressure, raising questions about the sustainability of current valuations.

Private Banks Offer Attractive Opportunities

While PSU banks have rallied strongly, private banks have lagged behind, resulting

in more attractive valuations. Many private lenders are currently trading below their historical averages, offering better risk-reward opportunities for long-term investors.

Private banks continue to maintain strong fundamentals, including stable asset quality, better capital adequacy, and consistent earnings growth. Analysts expect return on equity for private banks to remain healthy, supported by improving credit demand and operational efficiency.

The valuation correction in private banks has created potential buying opportunities. Investors seeking long-term growth may find private lenders appealing, especially those with strong balance sheets and stable earnings outlooks.

Investment Outlook

The banking sector continues to remain attractive, but investors may need to be selective. While PSU banks have delivered impressive returns, the scope for further



gains may be limited due to stretched valuations. On the other hand, private banks appear better positioned for future growth as they offer attractive valuations combined with strong fundamentals.

Experts suggest that invest-

ors consider gradually shifting focus toward high-quality private banks while maintaining selective exposure to PSU banks. Stock-specific opportunities may exist in both segments, but private banks currently offer a more favora-

ble risk-reward balance.

In conclusion, while PSU banks have led the rally, private banks may provide the next wave of alpha for investors looking for long-term opportunities in the banking sector.

RCB Cruise Past LSG by Five Wickets in IPL 2026 Clash

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) registered a comfortable five-wicket victory over Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in an IPL 2026 encounter, continuing their strong run in the tournament and strengthening their position on the points table. Chasing a modest target set by LSG, RCB displayed a composed batting performance, anchored by opener Virat Kohli's fluent knock of 49 runs. Kohli set the tone early, rotating strike efficiently and punishing loose deliveries, ensuring RCB stayed ahead in the chase.

Captain Rajat Patidar provided stability in the middle order with a useful contribution, while wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma added quick runs to keep the required rate under control. RCB's batting depth once again proved decisive as they comfortably absorbed pressure phases during the chase. Earlier in the match, RCB's bowling unit delivered a



disciplined performance to restrict LSG to a below-par total. The Lucknow batting lineup

struggled to build momentum after early setbacks, with only a few middle-order batters of

fering resistance. The RCB bowlers maintained tight lines and effectively used variations

to prevent LSG from accelerating in the death overs. Lucknow's innings never fully recovered from early breakthroughs, as regular wickets halted their scoring rhythm. Despite brief contributions from a couple of batters, they were unable to post a challenging total on the board.

With this win, RCB further solidified their reputation as one of the most balanced teams of IPL 2026. Their consistent performances with both bat and ball have placed them among the top contenders this season. LSG, on the other hand, will need to regroup quickly as they look to bounce back in upcoming fixtures. Their inconsistent batting form remains a concern, especially against top-quality bowling attacks. RCB's clinical performance in both departments highlighted their growing confidence and team coordination, making them one of the standout sides in the current IPL season.



Kolkata Knight Riders Captain Ajinkya Rahane Reprimanded by BCCI Amid Winless Run in Indian Premier League 2026

The struggles of Kolkata Knight Riders in IPL 2026 deepened as captain Ajinkya Rahane was officially reprimanded by the Board of Control for Cricket in India for breaching the league's Code of Conduct. The disciplinary action came at a time when the franchise is already battling poor form and mounting pressure after a winless start to the season.

Rahane was found guilty of a Level 1 offence under the IPL Code of Conduct during KKR's recent match. While the exact details of the incident were not extensively disclosed, reports indicated that the breach involved showing dissent toward an umpiring decision during the game. The experienced batter accepted the sanction imposed by the match referee, which meant no formal hearing was required.

The reprimand adds to Rahane's growing challenges as captain of Kolkata Knight Riders. The team has struggled to find momentum this season, failing to secure a win in their opening matches. The lack of consistency in both batting and bowling has left KKR near the bottom of the points table, increasing scrutiny on leadership and team strategy.

Rahane, who took over captaincy responsibilities with expectations of bringing stability and experience, has yet to turn things around. Despite his calm demeanor and vast experience in international and domestic cricket, results have not gone in KKR's favor. The team's

top order has been inconsistent, while the bowling unit has struggled to contain opposition batters during crucial phases of matches.

The reprimand also highlights the intense pressure faced by captains in high-stakes tournaments like the Indian Premier League. With large fan bases, franchise expectations, and competitive teams, even minor incidents can quickly draw attention. For Rahane, the disciplinary action only adds to the pressure of delivering results and guiding the team back to winning ways.

KKR supporters remain hopeful that the team can recover as the tournament progresses. The IPL format allows teams to bounce back quickly with a few strong performances. However, time is running out for Kolkata Knight Riders to regain momentum and stay in contention for playoff qualification.

Rahane's immediate focus will likely be on regrouping the squad, improving on-field decision-making, and ensuring discipline within the team. A turnaround in performance could not only improve KKR's standings but also ease the pressure surrounding the captain.

As IPL 2026 continues, all eyes will remain on Rahane and Kolkata Knight Riders to see whether they can overcome their early struggles and revive their campaign.

Kolkata Knight Riders Still Part of Indian Premier League 2026 Despite Winless Start – Here's Why

The Kolkata Knight Riders' disastrous start to IPL 2026 has sparked conversations about whether the struggling franchise risks elimination from the tournament. However, despite their poor run, KKR will remain part of the competition because the Indian Premier League does not have a relegation system.

KKR's campaign has gone from bad to worse in IPL 2026, with the team failing to register a single victory in their opening matches. Their latest defeat left them rooted at the bottom of the points table, intensifying criticism of both team strategy and leadership. The only point they have earned so far came from a rain-affected match, rather than a competitive performance on the field.

No Relegation Clause in IPL
Unlike many football leagues around the world, the IPL operates on a franchise-based sys-



tem rather than promotion and relegation. This means that even if a team finishes last in the standings, they remain part of the league the following season.

For Kolkata Knight Riders, this structure is currently the

only relief during a difficult season. Despite being three-time champions, their performances this year have raised concerns about team balance, auction decisions, and player form.

Big-Money Signings

Underperform

One of the major issues affecting KKR's performance has been the failure of high-profile signings to deliver. Australian all-rounder Cameron Green, who was bought for 25.20 crore, has struggled to make an impact. Reports suggest he has failed to contribute significantly with both bat and ball, leaving a major gap in the squad.

The underperformance of key players has exposed weaknesses in the team's batting depth and bowling attack. As a result, Kolkata has repeatedly failed to defend totals or chase targets successfully.

Leadership Under Pressure
Captain Ajinkya Rahane is also under pressure as the team searches for its first win. Questions have been raised about tactics, team combinations, and overall approach as losses continue to pile up.

KKR's struggles have also been compounded by inconsis-

ent batting performances, lack of momentum, and an inability to finish matches strongly. With each defeat, their chances of making the playoffs become slimmer.

Time Running Out For Comeback

While the absence of relegation ensures KKR will remain in the IPL, the team still faces a race against time to revive its campaign. The IPL format allows teams to bounce back with a few wins, but continued losses could effectively end their playoff hopes early.

For now, Kolkata Knight Riders remain in IPL 2026 — not because of performance, but because the league structure guarantees every franchise a place regardless of results. However, if the team fails to turn things around soon, this season could go down as one of the most disappointing campaigns in the franchise's history.

MS Dhoni Behind Noor Ahmad's Match-Winning Spell Against KKR, Reveals CSK Coach

Chennai Super Kings spinner Noor Ahmad delivered a match-winning performance against Kolkata Knight Riders in IPL 2026, but behind his brilliant spell stood the experience and guidance of MS Dhoni. The Afghan wrist-spinner returned to form at a crucial time, picking up three key wickets and playing a major role in Chennai Super Kings' convincing victory.

Noor Ahmad, who had struggled in the early part of the tournament, produced figures of 3 for 21 in four overs. His spell proved decisive as Chennai Super Kings restricted Kolkata Knight Riders comfortably. The left-arm wrist spinner removed key batters including Ajinkya Rahane, Rinku Singh and Cameron Green, shifting momentum firmly in CSK's favour during the middle overs.

After the match, Chennai Super Kings' bowling coach Sridharan Sriram revealed that Noor Ahmad's turnaround was influenced by a detailed conversation with veteran MS Dhoni during a practice session. According to Sriram, Dhoni advised Noor to work on his leg-break and improve the amount of side spin and drop on the ball. Sriram explained that Noor had been working on generating more turn and slowing the ball through the air, which proved effective on the day. He added that Dhoni's long chat with the spinner helped him regain confidence and execute his plans better during the match. The coach



also mentioned that the pitch offered some assistance, allowing Noor to exploit conditions effectively. Interestingly, Noor Ahmad had managed only one wicket in his first four matches of IPL 2026 before this game. However, following the guidance from Dhoni and technical adjustments in training, the spinner found rhythm and delivered his best performance of the season. His improved control, variation and confidence were evident as KKR's batting lineup struggled against his

spin attack. Despite not playing, Dhoni's influence on the team continues to remain significant. The veteran's mentoring role has been crucial in nurturing young players and helping them perform under pressure. Noor Ahmad's performance once again highlighted Dhoni's sharp cricketing mind and his ability to guide bowlers effectively.

The victory also helped Chennai Super Kings strengthen their campaign, while Kol-

kata Knight Riders continued to face challenges in the tournament. Noor Ahmad's match-winning spell, combined with Dhoni's guidance, proved to be the turning point in the contest. With this performance, Noor Ahmad has not only regained form but also demonstrated his importance in CSK's bowling lineup. If he continues to build on this momentum, Chennai Super Kings could benefit greatly in the remainder of the IPL 2026 season.

"Retired Andre Russell Still Better Than 25 Crore Cameron Green": Mohammad Kaif Slams Kolkata Knight Riders Strategy

Former India cricketer Mohammad Kaif has criticized Kolkata Knight Riders' team strategy in IPL 2026, claiming that even a retired Andre Russell would still be a better all-rounder than the franchise's 25.20 crore signing Cameron Green. The comments came as KKR continue to struggle in the ongoing Indian Premier League 2026 season.

KKR's Poor Start Raises Questions

Kolkata Knight Riders have endured a disappointing start to IPL 2026, losing most of their opening matches and sitting near the bottom of the points table. The team has managed only one point so far, which came from a washed-out match, intensifying criticism of the squad composition and auction strategy.

One of the major talking points has been the performance of Cameron Green, who was bought by KKR for a record 25.20 crore. Despite the hefty price tag, the Australian all-rounder has struggled to make an impact, particularly with the ball. Reports indicate that Green has bowled only limited overs and picked up just one wicket so far in the campaign.

Kaif's Strong Criticism

Mohammad Kaif questioned KKR's decision to move Andre Russell into a coaching role instead of retaining him as a player. He suggested that



Russell's experience and match-winning abilities would still make him more valuable than Green. Kaif wrote that one of KKR's biggest mistakes this season was keeping Russell in the dugout rather than using him as an all-rounder. He also hinted that the franchise's strategy of keeping Russell away from the auction to prevent other teams from signing him had not worked as expected.

Russell's Legacy at KKR

Andre Russell has been one of KKR's most influential players over the years, known for his explosive batting and crucial wickets. His ability to turn matches single-handedly made him a key figure in the franchise's success. Replacing such a player has proven difficult, and KKR's current struggles have only amplified that challenge. Kaif also emphasized that Russell's absence has left a significant gap

in the team's balance, especially in the finishing role and bowling depth.

Pressure Mounting on Green

Cameron Green, meanwhile, continues to face scrutiny due to his high price tag and underwhelming performances. Expectations were high after he became one of the most expensive overseas signings in IPL history, but his limited contributions have drawn criticism from fans and experts alike.

KKR's Road Ahead

With IPL 2026 still underway, Kolkata Knight Riders have time to recover. However, the team must quickly address its performance issues if it hopes to remain competitive. For now, Kaif's remarks have added to the growing debate around KKR's decisions and whether replacing Andre Russell with Cameron Green was the right move.

Ram Charan's 'Peddi' Postponed To June, New Release Date Yet To Be Announced

In a development that has disappointed fans, the makers of Peddi, starring Ram Charan, have officially postponed the film's release. The highly anticipated pan-India project was earlier scheduled to hit theatres on April 30, 2026, but the team has now confirmed that the film will instead release in June 2026. However, the exact release date is still under wraps, keeping fans guessing about when they will finally get to see the film on the big screen.

Delay Confirmed After Lack Of Promotions

Speculation about a possible delay had been doing the rounds for several days. The absence of promotional activities raised doubts about whether the film would meet its April release deadline. With no updates, teasers, or promotional events announced, industry insiders began predicting a postponement. These suspicions have now been confirmed by the makers, who of-

ficially announced that the film will arrive in theatres sometime in June. While the delay has been confirmed, the makers have not revealed a new release date in their announcement. This has further added to the curiosity among fans, who are eagerly waiting for clarity on when the film will finally hit cinemas.

One Of The Most Anticipated Films

Peddi is one of the most awaited Telugu films, especially after the massive success of Ram Charan's previous projects. The film is directed by Buchi Babu Sana and is being mounted on a grand scale. It is expected to be a sports-based rural drama featuring Ram Charan in a powerful and rugged avatar. The film also stars Janhvi Kapoor as the female lead, marking her major appearance in Telugu cinema. Apart from the lead pair, the movie features an impressive supporting cast including Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu,

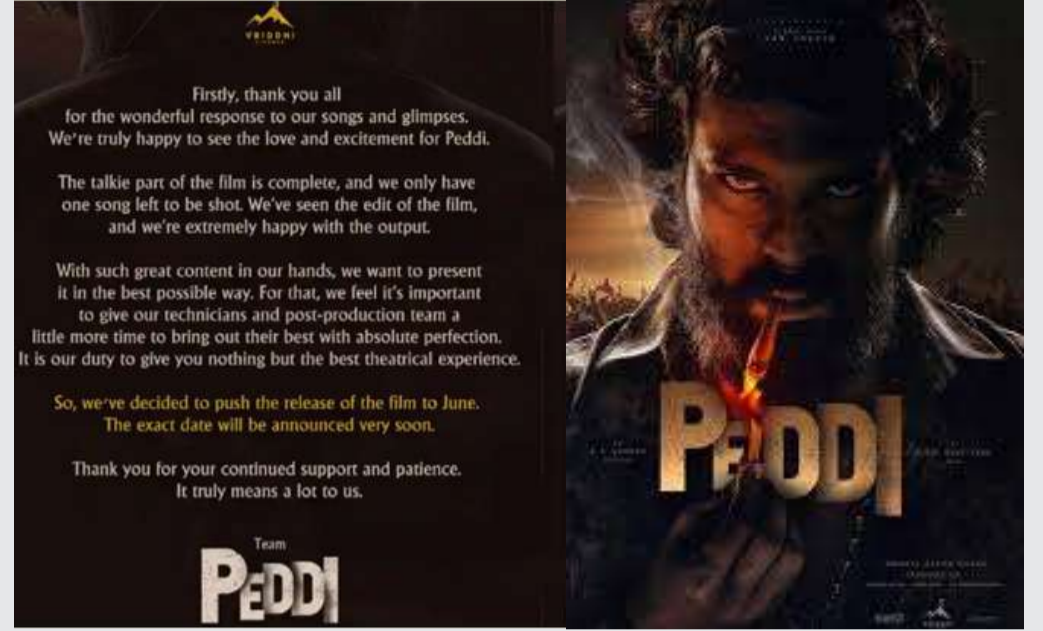
and Divyendu in key roles. The music for the film is composed by A.R. Rahman, which has further raised expectations among audiences.

Multiple Delays For The Film

Interestingly, this is not the first time Peddi has faced a delay. The film was initially planned for release in March 2026 but was later pushed to April 30 due to production-related reasons. Now, with the latest announcement, the release has been postponed once again, this time to June 2026.

Fans Await Official Announcement

With the release now shifted to June, fans are eagerly waiting for the makers to reveal the new date. The film has already generated strong buzz, and expectations remain high despite the delay. Until the official date is announced, the suspense surrounding Peddi continues, with audiences hoping the extra time will help the makers deliver a bigger and better cinematic experience.



Sara Arjun Replaces Rukmini Vasanth in Dhanush's Upcoming Film

A major casting change has reportedly taken place in actor Dhanush's upcoming Tamil film, as young actress Sara Arjun is likely to replace Rukmini Vasanth in the project. The development has created buzz in the South film industry, especially since the film is being directed by TAMILARASAN PACHAMUTHU and is considered one of Dhanush's important upcoming ventures.

According to reports, Rukmini Vasanth was initially approached to play the female lead opposite Dhanush. However, the actress is said to have stepped away from the film due to scheduling conflicts. Her busy lineup, including commitments to other high-profile projects, made it difficult for her to allocate dates for the Dhanush starrer. As a result, the makers were forced to look for an alternative, and Sara Arjun has emerged as the frontrunner for the role. Rukmini Vasanth has been enjoying a strong phase in her career following recent successes and major project signings. Reports indicate that her packed schedule, including work on big-budget films, led to repeated scheduling complications for the Dhanush project. This ultimately resulted in her exit, despite initial plans for her to headline the film.

Meanwhile, Sara Arjun's entry into the film is being seen as a significant opportunity for the young actress. She first gained recognition as a child artist in Tamil cinema and later transitioned into lead roles. Her recent performances and growing popularity have reportedly caught the attention of film-makers.

across industries. The potential collaboration with Dhanush is expected to further boost her career and expand her presence in Tamil cinema.

Sara Arjun is not new to Tamil audiences. She previously appeared in several Tamil films as a child actor and earned appreciation for her performances. In recent years, she has gradually shifted toward more mature roles, gaining attention for her acting skills and screen presence. With her popularity on the rise, landing a project opposite a star like Dhanush could mark a major turning point in her career. The upcoming film, directed by TAMILARASAN PACHAMUTHU, is expected to be a commercial entertainer. While official confirmation about the casting change is still awaited, industry buzz suggests that discussions are in advanced stages. If finalized, this pairing could bring a fresh on-screen combination for audiences.

Dhanush, who is currently busy with multiple projects, continues to expand his lineup across industries. His upcoming films have generated significant anticipation among fans, and this casting update has only added to the excitement.

Although the makers are yet to make an official announcement, the possibility of Sara Arjun replacing Rukmini Vasanth has already sparked discussions among fans. If confirmed, the film will mark another important milestone in Sara Arjun's career while adding a fresh dynamic to Dhanush's upcoming project.



Varun Tej Injured During 'Bhaari' Practice, Actor To Undergo Surgery

Tollywood actor Varun Tej has suffered an injury while preparing for his upcoming film Bhaari. The incident occurred during an intense practice session, forcing the actor to undergo surgery and temporarily halt preparations for the much-anticipated sports drama.

According to reports, Varun Tej sustained a serious leg injury while practicing volleyball for the film. The actor has been training rigorously to get into character, as Bhaari is expected to revolve around sports elements, particularly volleyball. During one such high-intensity training session, Varun reportedly hurt his leg, leading to immediate

medical consultation.

Doctors have advised surgery as part of the treatment, and the actor is expected to undergo a minor surgical procedure soon. While the injury is not believed to be life-threatening, medical experts have recommended rest and recovery before he resumes training or shooting. The development has caused concern among fans, though sources indicate that the situation is under control and the actor is expected to recover fully.

The injury occurred during preparations for Bhaari, which is shaping up to be an ambitious project in Varun Tej's career. The actor has reportedly been dedicating

significant time to physical training to convincingly portray his role. As a result of the injury, the film's schedule could see minor delays, depending on how quickly he recovers from surgery.

The film has already generated considerable buzz among fans and industry insiders. Bhaari is said to be a sports-based drama and is expected to feature Varun Tej in a physically demanding role. With the actor undergoing surgery, the production team is likely to adjust the shooting timeline to accommodate his recovery period.

Despite the setback, fans have taken to social media to send wishes for the ac-

tor's speedy recovery. Many have praised Varun Tej's dedication to his craft, noting that injuries during preparation highlight the level of commitment actors bring to physically demanding roles.

Varun Tej has previously undergone intense transformations for his films, and Bhaari appears to be another such challenging project. While the injury has temporarily slowed things down, the actor is expected to return to training and shooting once doctors give him the green signal.

For now, the focus remains on recovery, with fans and well-wishers hoping to see Varun Tej back in action soon.



Vijay Deverakonda & Rashmika Mandanna Set Couple Goals In New Viral Picture

Tollywood's most loved couple, Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna, are once again winning hearts on social media. A new picture of the duo has gone viral, with fans calling it a perfect "couple goals" moment. The adorable snap, which surfaced online recently, shows the newly married pair sharing a warm and cheerful moment together, sparking excitement among their followers.

The viral image reportedly comes from the sets of their upcoming film Ranabaali, where the couple resumed shooting after enjoying their post-wedding break. The film's team welcomed the newlyweds back with a small celebration, including a cake-cutting ceremony, making the moment even more special. The picture from the event quickly spread across social media platforms, drawing widespread attention from fans and film enthusiasts.

The chemistry between Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna has always been a talking point among fans. From their on-screen collaborations to their real-life romance, the duo continues to capture attention with every public appearance. Their latest

viral photo is no exception, as fans flooded social media with comments praising their bond and adorable expressions. Many users described the pair as one of the most charming couples in the South Indian film industry.

Adding to the excitement, Ranabaali is shaping up to be a major project for both actors. Directed by Rahul Sankrityan, the film is expected to be a period action drama set against the backdrop of Rayalaseema during the British era. Reports suggest that the storyline revolves around a historical genocide, promising a powerful and intense cinematic experience. The film is currently under production and is scheduled for release on September 11.

Producers Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar were also part of the welcome celebration on set, making the moment memorable for the entire team. The atmosphere reportedly turned festive as the cast and crew gathered to celebrate the couple's return to work after their wedding.

Fans are now eagerly waiting to see Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna share the screen once again. With their strong fan base and proven



chemistry, expectations for Ranabaali are already high. Meanwhile, the viral picture continues to trend online, fur-

ther strengthening their reputation as one of the most adored celebrity couples in the industry.

Yash Reveals Big Ramayana Twist: No Scenes With Ranbir Kapoor in Part 1

Rocking star Yash has revealed a surprising twist about the much-anticipated mythological epic Ramayana. The actor, who plays Ravana in the film, confirmed that he will not share screen space with Ranbir Kapoor, who portrays Lord Rama, in the first installment of the ambitious two-part project. The revelation has sparked curiosity among fans and added to the growing buzz around the film.

Ramayana, directed by Nitesh Tiwari, is one of the biggest Indian cinematic ventures currently in production. With a star-studded cast and massive production scale, expectations are already sky-high. The film features Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama and Yash as Ravana, making their on-screen confrontation one of the most anticipated moments. However, fans will have to wait longer, as Yash confirmed that such a face-off won't happen in Part 1.



According to Yash, the narrative structure of the first part focuses on establishing characters and their individual journeys rather than bringing them together. Since Rama and Ravana remain in separate kingdoms during the early portions of the story, the two characters do not interact in the

first installment. This creative decision is expected to build anticipation for the eventual confrontation in the sequel.

The actor also mentioned that despite not sharing scenes, he has immense respect for Ranbir Kapoor and believes both of them share a similar vision for the film. Yash noted

that the film is being crafted with great care and aims to present the epic story in a grand cinematic format. The team is reportedly focused on maintaining authenticity while also delivering a visually stunning experience for global audiences.

The announcement has sur-

prised fans, as many were eagerly waiting to see the iconic Rama-Ravana clash in the first part itself. However, the decision suggests that the makers are planning a layered storytelling approach, where Part 1 sets up the world and characters, while Part 2 delivers the intense conflict and dramatic climax.

Ramayana is being mounted as a large-scale cinematic universe with global appeal. With cutting-edge visual effects, grand sets, and an ensemble cast, the film is expected to redefine mythological storytelling in Indian cinema. The first part is reportedly slated for a major theatrical release, further increasing excitement among movie lovers.

With Yash's revelation, anticipation for the film has only grown stronger. Fans are now even more eager to see how the makers build up the legendary battle between Rama and Ravana across two parts.