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Telangana Eyes Global Aerospace Leadership

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

State IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu said Telangana is positioning itself as a key partner for global aerospace companies, with a long-term vision to become a hub for research, innovation, and advanced manufacturing. Speaking at the ground-

breaking ceremony of the ITP Aero India facility in Hardware Park, Shamshabad, he noted that the state is moving beyond component production toward becoming a full-fledged aerospace R&D center. The 453-acre project is coming up on a 10-acre site and will manufacture critical components for aircraft engines. The Minister highlighted

that Telangana has rapidly emerged as a major aerospace and defense destination, attracting global firms such as Boeing, GE Aviation, Safran, and Lockheed Martin. He added that the entry of ITP Aero will further strengthen the "Made in Telangana" brand globally. He also emphasized the government's focus on emerging technologies, includ-

ing drone systems and satellite communications, supported by investments in infrastructure, innovation, and workforce development. The facility is expected to begin operations soon and will initially employ around 350 skilled professionals, with scope to expand to about 600 jobs in the future.



Raghuram Rajan Advises Telangana on Jobs, Skills and Investments

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan highlighted the importance of skill development and nutrition in generating employment opportunities during a high-level review meeting on Telangana's future plans. The meeting, chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his Jubilee Hills residence, was attended virtually by Rajan, along with Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu.

Rajan noted that while job opportunities exist across sectors, enhancing workforce skills is essential to fully utilize them. He stressed that tackling malnutrition is equally important for building a strong and productive workforce. He also pointed out that attracting investments depends on improving ease of doing business, while encouraging startups could deliver stronger long-term gains.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy sought Rajan's guidance on integrating artificial intelligence into education across schools and higher institutions. He also outlined plans for establishing a Skills University and Advanced Training Centers to boost mid-level employment.

Rajan suggested that structured use of AI could benefit multiple sectors and recommended adopting industrial strategies similar to those of Tamil Nadu to attract investments. He also cautioned about the high resource consumption of data centers.

Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka emphasized Telangana's readiness for industrial growth, citing strong infrastructure, power availability, and connectivity. He added that initiatives like skill development institutions and industrial clusters would further strengthen the state's economic ecosystem.

HYDRAA Cracks Down on Illegal Crushers, RMC Plants

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Tuesday carried out a major enforcement drive, demolishing eight stone and cement crushing units along with three ready-mix concrete (RMC) plants across Gowlidoddy, Vattinagulapally, Gopanpally and Kothwalguda in Shamshabad. The action followed reports submitted by the Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB), the mines and geology department, and a communication from the Rangareddy district collector highlighting alleged violations.

Authorities stated that the targeted units were operating without mandatory permissions from pollution control and mining authorities. Despite prior notices and warnings, operators allegedly continued their activities, prompting stricter action. In its initial statement, HYDRAA named several firms, including Great India Mining Company in Gowlidoddy and multiple crusher units in Vattinagulapally and Kothwalguda, as being involved in unauthorized mining practices. However, HYDRAA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath later clarified that one of the units was linked to Thirumala Metal Industry and not to a firm earlier mentioned, which had been drawn into political controversy. The issue had already sparked debate during the recent state Assembly session,



where the Opposition BRS raised concerns over alleged illegal mining. The matter gained attention after references to a construction firm reportedly connected to a senior minister, though the minister clarified that the firm was only procuring materials and not involved in mining operations. Tuesday's demolitions were conducted in the presence of officials from multiple departments, including pollution control, mining, and revenue. HYDRAA noted that several of the units had allegedly been functioning for years, in some cases under benami ownership and with support from influential entities.

Officials emphasized that the operations had caused significant environmental damage. Complaints pointed to the destruction of natural hillocks and severe dust pollution affecting surrounding localities. Continuous, round-the-clock functioning of these units had also raised concerns among residents. Alongside the crushers, unauthorized RMC plants lacking valid licenses were also dismantled. HYDRAA said it intervened after receiving formal requests from concerned departments and district authorities to curb illegal activities. Meanwhile, operators and owners contested the action, claiming they possessed valid permissions. Some attempted to resist the demolitions, leading to brief tensions at the sites. Following protests, officials paused further demolition and allowed remaining operators time until Wednesday evening to remove their machinery. Operators expressed distress over losses, alleging that their pleas were ignored during the drive.



Telangana's Ancient Inscriptions Go Digital Under Bharat Shri

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau

Thousands of historical inscriptions from Telangana, spanning ancient to medieval periods, are being digitized to make them easily accessible online. The initiative, part of the Bharat Shri project, aims to preserve and share nearly 6,000 inscriptions from the region free of cost for students and researchers.

These records belong to prominent dynasties such as the Satavahana dynasty, Vijayanagara Empire, Ikshvaku dynasty, Kakatiya dynasty, and Vishnukundin dynasty. The digitization includes steam pages and copper plate inscriptions collected from historically significant sites like Kotilingala and Sitamaloddi.

So far, around 600 inscriptions have been processed and

uploaded. According to officials from the Archaeological Survey of India, this effort will eliminate the need for physical access, allowing scholars to view and study multiple records online with ease.

The Bharat Shri platform is envisioned as a national digital archive and virtual museum for India's epigraphical heritage. Across the country, nearly 80,000 inscriptions have been identified, with about 50,000 currently under digitization. However, work on the remaining inscriptions is temporarily on hold due to a High Court stay order.

The project's website is also expected to transition to a government domain soon, further strengthening its accessibility and credibility.



Top Officials Review PM Visit Preparations

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao on Tuesday conducted a high-level review of arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Telangana on May 10. The meeting, held at the Secretariat, was attended by Director General of Police C.V. Anand and senior officials from various departments.

During the visit, the Prime Minister is expected to inaugurate multiple development projects and address a public gathering. The Chief Secretary evaluated the progress of preparations and instructed all departments to coordinate closely to ensure smooth execution of the

He directed the police department to strictly adhere to the "Blue Book" protocol while planning security, traffic management, and overall law and order arrangements. Special

emphasis was laid on deploying adequate fire safety measures at Begumpet Airport, helipads, and event venues. The health department was asked to ensure comprehensive medical facilities are in place.

Officials from the GHMC, police, and roads and buildings departments were told to inspect convoy routes and complete any pending road repairs without delay. The electricity department was instructed to guarantee uninterrupted power supply across all locations on the Prime Minister's itinerary. Highlighting the importance of seamless coordination, the Chief Secretary stressed that every department must work in unison to avoid any lapses. The review meeting saw participation from senior bureaucrats, police commissioners, municipal officials, and representatives from key service departments involved in organizing the visit.

NIA Charges Three in Alleged Ricin Attack Plot

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a chargesheet against three individuals accused of links with the banned ISIS in connection with an alleged plot to carry out mass poisoning in public places using ricin, a highly toxic substance. The accused include Hyderabad-based Dr Syed Ahmed Mohiuddin, along with Azad and Mohammad Suhel from Uttar Pradesh. The charges have been filed before a special NIA court in Ahmedabad under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and the Arms Act.



According to investigators, the case involves an alleged conspiracy to use ricin in crowded public areas, raising serious concerns about public safety. The NIA stated that its

probe uncovered a network in which Suhel played a key role in coordinating between operatives and handlers. He is accused of facilitating recruitment, managing funds,

arranging weapon consignments, and even preparing materials associated with the extremist group. Officials further claimed that Mohiuddin was allegedly assured a leadership role as "Amir" for South Asia by his handlers, indicating the scale and seriousness of the suspected plot. The investigation, registered under case number RC-01/2026/NIA/AMD, is ongoing. The agency said efforts are underway to identify and trace other individuals involved in the conspiracy, including foreign handlers. Authorities are also examining financial trails and communication links to uncover the full extent of the alleged network and prevent any potential threats.

Defence Ministry Signs ₹1,476 Cr Deal with BEL

Hyderabad/New Delhi, May 5 | TPN Bureau

In a significant step toward strengthening the Indian Army's capabilities, the Ministry of Defence has entered into a 1,476 crore agreement with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Hyderabad. The contract covers the supply of five advanced ground-based mobile electronic systems designed to enhance operational efficiency and modernize Army units.

The agreement was formalized on Tuesday at Kartavya Bhawan-2 in New Delhi in the

presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. Officials stated that the systems will play a crucial role in improving communication, surveillance, and coordination capabilities of the forces.

A key highlight of the project is its strong focus on indigenous manufacturing, with at least 72 percent of the components sourced locally. This aligns with the government's push for self-reliance in defence production and aims to reduce dependency on imports. According to officials, the deal

will also provide a boost to the domestic defence industry by supporting local suppliers and creating opportunities within the manufacturing ecosystem. It is expected to contribute to technological advancement and capacity building in the sector. The contract reflects the government's continued emphasis on initiatives such as "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and "Make in India," championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to strengthen India's position in defence production and innovation.



Bhatti Reviews Development, Focus on Welfare

Rajanna Sircilla, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu reaffirmed that public welfare remains the top priority of the government while chairing a district review meeting under the "Praja Palana - Pragathi Plan" in Gambhiraopet. Ministers Duddilla Sridhar Babu, Thummala Nageswara Rao, and Ponnamp Prabhakar attended the meeting.

Reviewing development works, the Deputy CM directed officials to ensure swift grain procurement and avoid delays due to logistical issues. He suggested using tractors if lorry shortages arise and instructed field-level monitoring to support farmers. He highlighted key welfare initiatives, includ-

ing 5 lakh assistance per house under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, describing it as a landmark step. He also noted the release of 300 crore in pending dues for weavers and directed a reduction in electricity charges to ease their burden.

To improve infrastructure, Bhatti laid foundations for new power substations to benefit thousands of consumers. He also set deadlines for upgrading facilities in schools and hostels and stressed that there is no shortage of funds for education and welfare schemes.

The Deputy CM urged officials to actively resolve public grievances through field visits and ensure benefits reach every eligible household, warning that negligence would not be tolerated.



Hyderabad Set to Host Mega Film Festival

Sangareddy, May 5 | TPN Bureau

State Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha unveiled a poster announcing the upcoming "Chitrapuri Film Festival" at his residence in Sangareddy, describing it as one of India's largest film events. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said Hyderabad is witnessing rapid growth across sectors and is gaining international recognition as a major hub for pharmaceuticals and information technology under the leadership of Revanth Reddy. He added that the government is also focusing on promoting medical tourism, with patients from regions such as the Middle East,

Europe, and Africa visiting the city for advanced healthcare services. Highlighting the cultural push, he said efforts are being made to position Hyderabad as a leading destination for global film festivals. He appreciated the festival organizers for bringing together talent from cinema, OTT platforms, and digital media on a single stage. According to organizers, participants from 43 countries and several Indian states are expected to attend. The event aims to create a unique platform where filmmakers, artists, and digital content creators can interact and collaborate, enhancing Hyderabad's profile on the global cultural map.

Open Gyms Boost Fitness Push

Karimnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

As part of efforts to promote public health under the "Fit India" initiative championed by Narendra Modi, a network of open gyms is being developed across Karimnagar. A total of 17 such facilities are being established at an estimated cost of 1 crore, providing residents with accessible options to stay fit. The project is being implemented by the Malayappa Foundation with support from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds provided by NALCO. As part of the rollout, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar inaugurated two open gyms—one near Ambedkar Youth Club in Kisan Nagar and another in Durshed. Local leaders, including the city mayor and other representatives, were present on the occasion.



Foundation directors Dr. Gaddam Arunjay and Gaddam Anusha said the initiative aims to help people maintain fitness despite busy lifestyles. They added that the gyms are being installed across multiple divisions to ensure wider access. Speaking at the event, the Union Minister encouraged residents to make full use of the facilities to improve their health. Earlier, he also laid the foundation stone for CC road works in Kamanpur village of Kottapalli mandal, taken up with 20 lakh funding under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. He noted that significant funds have been allocated in recent years for development works in the Karimnagar parliamentary constituency.

BJP Steps Up Campaign for PM Modi's Rally

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

As part of preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public meeting scheduled on May 10 at the Parade Grounds in Secunderabad, Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao took part in a wall-writing campaign in Tarnaka.

Participating near Taza Kitchen, he painted the party's lotus symbol on a wall, symbolizing the party's grassroots outreach ahead of the event. Former Mayor Banda Karthika Reddy and other party leaders were also present during the campaign.

Addressing the media, Ramchander Rao urged citizens to ensure the success of the upcoming rally, describing it as an important occasion marking the Prime Minister's first visit to Telangana after beginning his third term in office.



He noted that party workers are actively engaged in promotional efforts such as posters, banners, and wall-writing activities across the city to mobilize public participation.

Highlighting national developments, he stated that despite global economic challenges, India is progressing steadily under Modi's leadership and called on the people of Telangana to extend a warm welcome to the Prime Minister.

He also responded to recent political remarks regarding election integrity, criticizing opposition leaders for questioning results. Referring to statements made by Mamata Banerjee and Rahul Gandhi, he said that election outcomes should be respected in a democracy. He emphasized that the people's mandate is final and should not be undermined by allegations after electoral defeats.

Call for Massive Turnout at PM's Rally

Quthbullapur, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party have urged citizens to actively participate in the public meeting to be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Secunderabad. The event, scheduled for May 10 at the Parade Grounds, is expected to draw significant attention across Telangana, with party members describing it as a crucial moment in the state's political landscape.

Addressing a media conference held under the leadership of Dasi Nagaraj, Telangana State General Secretary of the SC Morcha within the Nizampet circle, party representatives appealed to people from all sections of society—especially youth and women—to attend the gathering in large numbers. They emphasized that the rally is not just a political event but an opportunity for the public to directly hear from the Prime Minister about the Central government's achievements and future plans.

According to the leaders, the meeting will provide a comprehensive overview of key welfare and development programmes introduced by the Union government. They noted that the Prime Minister is expected to highlight how these initiatives have impacted citi-



zens across the country, while also outlining upcoming policies aimed at strengthening infrastructure, economic growth, and social welfare. The gathering, they said, would serve as a platform to communicate the government's vision and priorities more effectively to the people of Telangana.

The leaders further stated that special focus would be placed on issues related to the state's progress, with an emphasis on how central schemes are contributing to Telangana's development. They expressed confidence that the rally would help build stronger public engagement and generate widespread awareness about ongoing and future initiatives. Describing the event as potentially transformative, BJP representatives said the Prime Minister's visit could influence the direction of state politics in the coming months.

They urged supporters and the general public to treat the occasion as a significant civic moment and participate voluntarily, ensuring a strong turnout that reflects public enthusiasm.

Several local leaders were present at the press meet, including Nizampet BJP President Bikshapathi Yadav, Medchal-Malkajgiri district spokesperson Racha Chakradhar, Builder Cell Convener Padma Prasad, and Nizampet BJP Vice President Kaushik Naidu, among others. They reiterated their commitment to mobilizing people for the rally and making it a grand success. With preparations underway and expectations running high, the upcoming meeting at Parade Grounds is set to become a major political event in Telangana, drawing attention from across the state.

Demand for Ownership Rights to Assigned Lands Intensifies

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A meeting organized by the Telangana Land Protection Committee at Osmania University called on the government to immediately grant ownership rights to assigned lands, as promised earlier. The event, held at Mekha Star Auditorium, focused on safeguarding land rights of marginalized communities.

Speakers at the gathering, including Professor Kasim of

tee State President Bugga Maisaiah, and MRPS State Convener Nandru Narasimha, emphasized that the issue directly affects the livelihoods of the poor. They recalled assurances made by Mallikarjun Kharge that ownership rights would be granted if the party came to power in Telangana.

The leaders pointed out that assigned lands were historically distributed to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but beneficiaries still

lack full ownership, limiting their ability to utilize the land effectively. They expressed concern that such lands are often reclaimed by authorities for various projects, leaving original beneficiaries vulnerable.

Urging immediate action, the committee demanded that the government fulfill its commitment and ensure legal ownership rights, stating that it is essential for justice and long-term security of disadvantaged communities.

BASF Plans Global Service Hub

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Global industrial major BASF has announced plans to set up a Global Service Hub in Hyderabad under the name BASF Global Business Services Private Limited. The proposed facility is expected to create employment opportunities for nearly 3,000 people.

The hub will function as a key center within BASF's global operations, delivering critical services in areas such as finance and human resources. It is aimed at strengthening the company's worldwide service network while leveraging Hyderabad's growing reputation as a major business and tech-



nology hub. At a special event held at Taj Krishna on Tuesday, company representatives formally handed over the Letter of Intent (LoI) to Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu. The move re-

fects the state's continued success in attracting global investments across diverse sectors.

With a history of more than 160 years, BASF operates in over 200 countries and is known for its strong footprint across multiple industries. Its business portfolio spans chemicals, advanced materials, industrial solutions, surface technologies, nutrition and care, and agricultural products. The establishment of the Global Service Hub is expected to further boost Hyderabad's position as a preferred destination for multinational companies, while also contributing significantly to job creation and economic growth in the region.



453-Crore Aerospace Unit Launched

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

State IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Tuesday laid the foundation stone for a new aerospace manufacturing facility of ITP Aero in Hardware Park (Phase-3) at Shamshabad, Ranga Reddy district. The project, coming up on a 10-acre site, involves an investment of 453 crore.

The upcoming unit will focus on producing critical components such as end-fittings and brackets used in rigid tubes for aircraft engines. These precision-engineered parts play a vital role in ensuring the efficiency and safety of aerospace systems. Officials stated that the plant is expect-

ed to begin full-scale operations by 2027. Once operational, the facility is projected to create employment for around 350 highly skilled professionals, particularly in areas like precision engineering, advanced manufacturing, and quality assurance. Over time, the workforce is likely to expand further, with estimates suggesting employment opportunities could rise to nearly 600 as the plant scales up its operations. The project is seen as a significant step in strengthening Telangana's position in the aerospace and defense manufacturing sector, while also contributing to industrial growth and job creation in the region.



Ministers Receive Grand Welcome

Rajanna Sircilla, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Senior state leaders, including Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu, arrived at Gambhiraopet mandal headquarters on Tuesday as part of their district tour. They were accompanied by Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao, IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, and Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar. The leaders reached the ven-

ue by helicopter and were accorded a warm reception at the heliport. District Collector Garima Agarwal and Superintendent of Police Mahesh B. Gite welcomed them with bouquets.

Several public representatives, including Whip Adi Srinivas, Manakondur MLA Dr. Kavvampalli Satyanarayana, and Choppadandi MLA Medipalli Satyam, were also present to receive the visiting dignitaries.

Bhatti Promotes Biogas Initiative for Farmers

Rajanna Sircilla, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu laid the foundation stone for a compressed biogas plant at Gambhiraopet, being set up by Bio-Stratum Technologies Pvt. Ltd. at Pantulu's Garden. Ministers Thummala Nageswara Rao, Duddilla Sridhar Babu, and Ponnamp Prabhakar were also present. Addressing farmers, the Deputy CM said biogas production using agricultural waste like grass and crop residue can become a steady income source with minimal investment. He emphasized that the global shift towards clean and green energy offers new

opportunities for the farming community.

He urged farmers to protect the environment by avoiding practices that harm air quality and instead adopt sustainable methods. Highlighting the need for better earnings, he encouraged diversification into alternative crops and horticulture. Calling farmers the backbone of the nation, Bhatti Vikramarka said the government is committed to supporting initiatives that improve their livelihoods. He also reiterated that development efforts are focused on delivering tangible benefits to the agricultural sector through practical and forward-looking measures.





Hanumantha Rao Announces Hunger Strike on BC Census

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Senior leader and government advisor V. Hanumantha Rao has announced that he will launch an indefinite hunger strike from May 9, protesting the Centre's stance on conducting a BC caste census. Speaking from Gandhi Bhavan, he said the agitation would continue until a clear commitment is given on the issue. He urged the government to

clarify its position by May 8 and questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the delay, alleging discrimination despite his association with the BC community.

He also referred to Rahul Gandhi, stating that efforts were made earlier to address the issue. Hanumantha Rao further criticized rising prices, claiming they have increased the burden on people across all sections of society.



Bhatti Seeks National Status for Pranahita-Chevella

Karimnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu has urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to grant national project status to the Pranahita-Chevella Project, alleging that Telangana has been treated unfairly compared to Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram Project.

Speaking during events held in Sircilla district, he said the Centre's failure to extend similar recognition to projects in Telangana reflects discrimination. He also criticized delays in releasing funds for grain procured by the state, stating that such actions place an undue burden on farmers.

Earlier, the Deputy CM, along with ministers including Duddilla Sridhar Babu, inaugurated a compressed biogas plant being set up in Gambhi-

raopet and laid foundation stones for power substations across multiple constituencies with an outlay of 30 crore.

Addressing farmers, Bhatti Vikramarka encouraged them to adopt modern agricultural practices and diversify crops to improve income. He suggested utilizing crop residue for biogas production instead of burning it, noting that this would both protect the environment and provide additional earnings.

He emphasized that the state government is committed to procuring crops at Minimum Support Price and strengthening agricultural infrastructure. He called on farmers to embrace innovation, stating that sustainable and modern methods are key to making agriculture more profitable and future-ready.

MP Kiran Reddy Counters Bandi Sanjay, Seeks CBI Probe

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy has strongly responded to remarks made by Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar, accusing him of spreading misleading claims about Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Kiran Reddy stated that there was no need to distort facts regarding the Chief Minister's recent visit to Kerala, adding that political differences should not lead to misinformation. He described Revanth Reddy as a "game-changer," pointing out that he played a decisive role in bringing the Congress party to power in Telangana.

He also questioned the delay in initiating a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Referring to earlier assurances by BJP leaders that the truth would emerge quickly if the case was handed to the CBI, he asked why no investigation has begun so far. The MP further alleged that



political dynamics between parties influenced election outcomes in the state and claimed that people are closely observing the situation. He urged the Centre to act decisively and initiate a CBI inquiry before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Telangana, stating that it would demonstrate genuine intent to address corruption allegations.

BRS Leaders Urge Vigilance on Voter Revision Drive

Quthbullapur, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Senior BRS leaders, including MLA KP Vivekanand, MLC Shambipur Raju, and parliamentary in-charge Ragidi Lakshma Reddy, have directed party cadres to stay alert during the upcoming Special Intensive Revision (SAR) of electoral rolls. The programme, scheduled to begin on the 11th under the supervision of the Election Commission, was the focus of an awareness meeting held at the party's district office in Gandimaisamma.

Addressing party workers, the leaders stressed the importance of safeguarding genuine voters while preventing the inclusion of fake entries. They urged cadre at all levels to closely monitor the revision process and ensure that legitimate names are not removed from the voter list. Coordination with booth-level agents and election officials was highlighted as crucial for accurate verification of voter details.

The leaders noted that the revision exercise, based on older



census data, demands extra caution and proactive involvement from party members. They described the effort as a "booth-level battle," underlining that grassroots vigilance would determine the outcome.

On the organisational front, they also spoke about the ongoing membership drive, calling it essential for strengthening the party structure. Emphasizing that the cadre forms the

backbone of the party, they encouraged workers to actively enroll new members.

They further mentioned that, following directions from K. T. Rama Rao, most party committees have been dissolved and will soon be reconstituted, with preference given to dedicated and active members. A large number of party representatives and workers attended the meeting.

Bandi Sanjay Slams State Over Farmer Issues, Demands Faster Procurement

Karimnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar strongly criticized the state government, alleging that talk of a CBI probe is being used to divert attention from political developments, including recent election outcomes and the Prime Minister's upcoming visit to Hyderabad.

During his visit to a paddy procurement centre in Kazipur, Karimnagar, the Minister interacted with farmers and observed their difficulties

firsthand. Farmers complained that despite waiting for over two weeks, procurement had not begun, forcing them to remain at the centres under harsh weather conditions. They also alleged unfair deductions in the name of moisture, wastage, and impurities, leading to financial losses. Bandi Sanjay expressed concern over the lack of basic facilities at procurement centres and accused middlemen of exploiting farmers by charging commissions even for issuing tokens. He urged the government to

immediately speed up procurement operations and ensure that farmers receive the Minimum Support Price without unjust deductions. The Minister further accused the state administration of failing to support various sections, including students awaiting fee reimbursements, and criticized it for not fully utilizing central funds. He questioned the delay in acting on reports related to alleged irregularities and demanded accountability from the government.

Mahesh Goud Questions Delay in Kaleshwaram Probe

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud on Tuesday demanded clarity from the Centre on whether a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation will be initiated into alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Hyderabad on May 10. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, he criticized Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar, questioning why no investigation has been ordered despite earlier allegations by BJP leaders about large-scale corruption in the project. He also sought an explanation on why no action has been taken against former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. Goud alleged that political considerations are delaying the inquiry and claimed there was an understanding between certain parties.



He further questioned the BJP's electoral performance in the state and accused it of relying on support from rivals. Highlighting governance issues, he said the state government is implementing farmer welfare measures, including loan waivers and procurement

support. He also alleged irregularities in voter management in other states and urged citizens in Telangana to remain alert and protect their voting rights. He maintained that the Centre has the authority to order a probe immediately if it chooses to act.

BRS MLC Alleges Mining Irregularities, Seeks Probe

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

BRS MLC Dr. Sravan Dasoju has levelled serious allegations over an alleged mining scam linked to enforcement lapses, demanding immediate action against those involved. Addressing a press conference, he questioned the role of officials and accused them of failing to act despite repeated complaints. He pointed to an alleged contradiction by the HYDRAA, claiming that within a few hours, its stance on action taken against a stone-crushing unit reportedly linked to Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy was altered. He raised concerns over possible external pressure influencing the reversal.

The MLC further alleged that several departments—in-



cluding revenue, pollution control, and local police—remained inactive despite claims of large-scale illegal mining activity. He questioned why enforcement agencies delayed intervention even after complaints were submitted earlier this year. Dr. Dasoju also called for a detailed investigation by the Central Bureau of Investi-

gation, seeking accountability from both officials and those allegedly involved. He urged the government to ensure transparency, take strict action against violations, and recover any losses to the public exchequer. The allegations have added to the ongoing political debate over governance and regulatory enforcement in the state

Harish Rao Slams Urea Sale Halt, Calls It Anti-Farmer

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Former minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao has strongly criticized the alleged halt on urea sales across the state, describing it as a severe blow to farmers. He accused the government led by Revanth Reddy of pursuing policies that are detrimental to the agricultural community.

In a statement, Harish Rao questioned the rationale behind restricting urea sales despite sufficient stock availability. He claimed that such a move lacks precedent and alleged that the issue began soon after the current government assumed office. According to him, farmers are being forced to struggle to obtain essential fertilizers from dealers, cooperative societies, and agro-centres. He expressed concern that cultivators growing crops such as sugarcane, fruits, and vegetables are facing serious difficulties due to the shortage. He also criticized the implementation of systems and applications related to fertilizer distri-



butio, stating that they have added to farmers' problems rather than resolving them.

Highlighting the broader challenges, he said farmers are dealing with rising fertilizer prices alongside limited availability. He further alleged lapses in key agricultural commitments, including delays in financial assistance, procurement issues, and non-implementation of welfare measures. Harish Rao remarked that celebrations and publicity campaigns by the government appear insensitive at a time when farmers are under stress. He demanded immediate steps to restore uninterrupted urea supply and provide relief to the farming community.

Minister Flags Delay in Kaleshwaram Probe

Hyderabad/Hanamkonda, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has criticized the delay in action over alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, stating that the lack of progress by the Central Bureau of Investigation raises serious concerns. He alleged that the inaction, even months after a commission report was submitted, points to possible political understanding between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi. He urged Union leaders to ensure a fair and time-bound investigation into the issue, including power purchase agreements, and to take action against those

responsible.

Later, the Minister inaugurated a state-level Rythu Mela in Hanamkonda under the Praja Palana-Pragathi Plan. Addressing farmers, he reiterated the government's focus on agriculture, highlighting schemes such as crop loan waiver, Rythu Bharosa assistance, bonus for fine paddy, and land issue resolution initiatives. The three-day event features modern farming technologies and subsidized equipment for farmers. The Minister encouraged cultivators to take advantage of the facilities. Several public representatives and officials attended the programme, and certificates were distributed to those involved in soil testing initiatives.

Jagadish Reddy Criticizes Government Over CBI Move

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Former minister G. Jagadish Reddy strongly criticized the state government during a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, accusing it of lacking focus on governance and public welfare. He alleged that the administration was diverting attention from pressing issues faced by citizens.

Reacting to the Cabinet's decision to seek a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into past power purchase agreements, he termed the move unnecessary and politically motivated. He questioned the credibility of relying on the CBI, citing earlier remarks made by Rahul Gandhi about

the agency.

Jagadish Reddy defended the tenure of former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, stating that key issues like power supply were effectively addressed during that period. He alleged that the current government has failed to maintain consistent electricity supply and has not adequately supported farmers. He further claimed that initiatives such as crop procurement and welfare schemes were not being implemented effectively, and accused the government of using investigations to deflect criticism.

Several party leaders, including former MLA Budida Bikshamaiah Goud and others, were present at the press meet.

BJP Leader Subhash Criticizes Minister Surekha's Remarks

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana Chief Spokesperson N. V. Subhash strongly criticized Telangana Minister Konda Surekha over her recent comments targeting BJP leaders and the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In a press statement, Subhash accused the Minister of making inappropriate remarks and alleged that the Congress leadership fails to understand the cultural and spiritual sentiments of the people. He urged her to focus on development rather than what he termed as "misleading narratives" about the Centre.

Highlighting central initiatives, he stated that several major projects have been sanctioned for Telangana, including the Kazipet Railway Manufacturing Unit, the PM MITRA

Textile Park in Warangal, and the proposed Mamunuru Airport. He also mentioned the recognition of the Ramappa Temple as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as a significant achievement supported by the Centre. Subhash further alleged that the Congress government in the state has failed to deliver on its promises, including the "Six Guarantees," and accused it of shifting blame onto the Centre. He also defended Union Ministers like G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, claiming they have contributed substantially to Telangana's development.

He called on Congress leaders to refrain from making statements that could hurt public sentiments and said the upcoming public meeting in Secunderabad would reflect people's response.



KIMS Sunshine Hosts Asthma Awareness Walkathon

Secunderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Marking World Asthma Day, KIMS Sunshine Hospital organized an awareness walkathon led by its Department of Pulmonology. The rally began at the hospital in Begumpet and proceeded through Rasoolpura crossroads, aiming to educate the public about asthma management and dispel common myths.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. A.V. Gurava Reddy, Managing Director of the hospital, who emphasized that asthma is no longer a condition to fear due to advancements in medical care. He highlighted the effectiveness of inhalers, stating that when used correctly under medical guidance, they help patients control symptoms and lead normal lives.

Dr. Raghunath Reddy, Head

of Pulmonology, shared that asthma affects millions worldwide and remains a significant health concern in India. He stressed that inhalers are safe and essential, countering misconceptions about their use.

Senior consultant Dr. Laxman Babu noted that the hospital operates a specialized Severe Asthma Clinic with advanced diagnostic and treatment facilities. He also announced a special asthma care package available throughout May.

Doctors including Dr. Kunal Waghay and Dr. Swathi Reddy reiterated that with proper treatment and regular monitoring, asthma can be effectively managed. The walkathon saw active participation from doctors, patients, and nursing students.

Seethakka Reviews Rural Development Works

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Minister Danasari Seethakka conducted a video conference with District Rural Development Officers to assess the progress of works under the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development departments. During the review, she examined implementation of the Employment Guarantee Scheme, SERP activities, utilization of 15th Finance Commission funds, and projects taken up by the Rural Engineering Department. Stressing the need to strengthen rural employment, she directed officials to expand work under the scheme. At present, around nine lakh labour-

ers are engaged daily, and she instructed that efforts be made to increase this number to at least 15 lakh. The Minister emphasized strict adherence to guidelines in the use of Finance Commission funds, warning of action against any diversion. She also instructed officials to prioritize the construction of District Women's Federation buildings and ensure their completion by June 2, marking State Formation Day. Noting that such buildings are already under construction in nearly 4,000 villages, she called for initiating works in remaining villages at the earliest to support women's empowerment initiatives.



Hyderabad Joins Nationwide Rabindra Sangeet Chorus

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A large-scale choral tribute featuring Rabindra Sangeet will unite Hyderabad with participants from 10 other states on May 10, marking the birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. Organized by Chironutan, the event will bring together more than 1,100 singers across the country in a synchronized musical presentation. In Hyderabad, the performance will be held at Sri Sathya Sai Nigamagaram in Srinagar Colony from 6 pm. Over 100 local singers will participate, joining voices with performers nationwide through a coordinated audio track. The city's segment is be-

ing presented by Hanshadhwani Musical under the direction of Manika Basu Thakur. The programme will feature 17 Rabindra Sangeet compositions performed seamlessly, accompanied by live streaming of singers from different regions. Initiative has been conceptualized by Arundhati Deb, with musical arrangements by Sourabh Chakraborty. The event will also include narration by Sohini Ghosh and recitations by Soumik Chakraborty. Organizers noted that this is the second edition of the nationwide choral format, following earlier large-scale performances, continuing the effort to celebrate Tagore's legacy through collective music.

TWJF Seeks Inclusion in Accreditation Panels

Hyderabad | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Working Journalists Federation has urged the state government to include its representatives as special invitees in State and District Accreditation Committee meetings. Despite being officially recognized through G.O. 252, the federation expressed concern that its members are being excluded from these meetings on technical grounds.

TWJF leaders also objected to alleged interference by certain groups in the formation of District Accreditation Committees. They criticized the changes made to committees that were already constituted by District Collectors, calling such actions arbitrary. The federation further stated that the Telangana Media Academy should refrain from intervening in these matters.

The organization demanded a thorough review of the revised committees and called for the restoration of the original panels. Additionally, TWJF suggested that journalists' associations should be consulted in decisions related to the allotment of housing plots. While welcoming the government's recent meeting with housing society representatives, it noted that the absence of journalists' bodies limited the scope of discussions. TWJF appealed for



further consultations to ensure a transparent and legally sound distribution process. Emphasizing the role of journalists as a vital link between the public and the administration, the federation requested continued government support. A memorandum outlining these concerns was submitted to senior officials.



HCA Appoints Ambati Rayudu to Lead Cricket Operations

Uppal, May 5 | TPN Bureau

The Hyderabad Cricket Association has announced a series of reforms aimed at improving transparency and professionalism in cricket administration. At a press meet held at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, HCA President Amarnath and Secretary Jeevan Reddy revealed that former India cricketer Ambati Rayudu has been appointed Head of Cricket Operations.

The association stated that the move is intended to strengthen governance and streamline cricketing activities. As part of anti-corruption efforts, an independent Anti-Corruption Unit will be established, with Vijender Pingale, a Principal District and Sessions Judge, set to lead it.

Additionally, a dedicated grievance redressal system will be introduced to address complaints efficiently. The HCA also confirmed that the 2026-27 league season will be-

gin on May 12, starting with A and B Division T20 matches.

Plans are underway to upgrade the HCA Centre of Excellence with modern training infrastructure. The association emphasized its focus on nurturing talent from rural and district levels, aiming to provide broader opportunities for aspiring cricketers.

These initiatives are expected to bring greater accountability and boost the overall development of cricket in the region.

Police Warn Public Against Cyber Fraud Traps

Secunderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Secunderabad Zone Additional DCP J. Narsaiah has cautioned citizens against falling prey to cybercriminals who lure victims with promises of huge financial returns. He stressed that greed for quick profits often leads to the loss of hard-earned money.

The warning was issued during a cybercrime awareness programme organized by the Gandhinagar police at New Bhoiguda on Tuesday night. Addressing the gathering, the officer advised people not to trust fraudulent schemes that claim small investments can generate massive profits within a short period.

He emphasized the importance of acting quickly in case of fraud, stating that victims who report incidents within an hour stand a better chance of recovering their money. He urged the public to immediately contact helpline numbers



1930 or 100 to lodge complaints.

Highlighting common tactics used by cyber offenders, he warned against responding to unknown phone calls, clicking on suspicious links, or engaging with unverified trading and investment offers. He also specifically advised people not to download APK files from un-

known or unreliable sources, as these can compromise personal and financial data.

Police officials, including local officers and members of the cybercrime wing, along with community representatives, attended the programme and encouraged residents to stay alert and informed to prevent cyber fraud.

Crop Diversification Report Submitted to CM

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Farmer Commission Chairman Kodanda Reddy, along with commission members, met Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his residence in Jubilee Hills to present a report on crop diversification.

During the meeting, the commission outlined strategies aimed at encouraging farmers to shift towards diverse and sustainable cropping patterns. Minister Vakiti Srihari was also present.

The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of a de-

tailed and inclusive discussion on crop diversification, stating that the government plans to take up the issue in the Legislative Assembly. He urged the commission to undertake further research and provide practical, well-structured recommendations that can benefit farmers across the state.

Revanth Reddy highlighted that promoting crop diversification is essential for improving farmers' incomes, ensuring soil health, and strengthening agricultural sustainability.

Infant Abducted Near Hospital

Quthbullapur, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A disturbing case of child abduction has caused panic in the Suraram police limits after a six-month-old baby girl was reportedly kidnapped in the early hours of Tuesday near Mallareddy Hospital. According to police, the incident occurred around 2:00 AM when unidentified persons allegedly took away the infant, identified as Asha, from beside her mother. The child's mother, Navaneetha (26), had been sleeping with her four children on a platform in front of a roadside marble shop when the abduction took place. The situation came to light when the mother woke up and realized the baby was missing. In a state of panic, she immediately ap-

proached the police and filed a complaint. Based on her report, a case has been registered and an investigation has been launched. Authorities have formed two special teams to trace the missing infant. Police personnel are conducting searches in nearby areas and closely examining CCTV footage to identify the suspects and track their movements. Efforts are ongoing to gather clues that could lead to the safe recovery of the child. The incident has triggered concern among residents in the locality, raising questions about safety during nighttime hours. Police officials have assured the public that all possible measures are being taken to locate the baby and apprehend those responsible at the earliest.

New EPFO Zonal Head Takes Charge in Telangana

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Additional Central Provident Fund Commissioner Vipin Kumar Sharma has taken charge as the head of the Telangana zone of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) on Monday. In his new role, he will supervise both administrative and operational functions across eight regional offices in the state, aiming to ensure efficient service delivery and strict implementation of statutory norms.

The Telangana zone serves a large base of subscribers and establishments, making it a crucial region for executing social security programmes. With this responsibility, Sharma is expected to streamline operations and enhance the overall functioning of the

organisation. Sharma began his career with EPFO in 1998 as a direct recruit Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner. Over the years, he has held key positions in several offices, including Ahmedabad, Laxminagar, Delhi (North), Naroda, Vadodara, Bandra, Hyderabad, and the head office in New Delhi. His extensive experience has equipped him with strong administrative and regulatory expertise.

Officials believe his leadership will help strengthen digital services, speed up grievance resolution, and ensure timely processing of claims. His focus is also expected to benefit both employees and employers by improving transparency and efficiency in EPFO services across Telangana.

Rich Kids Trap Gang Busted

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad city police have uncovered a disturbing rich kids trap case in Jubilee Hills, arresting the alleged mastermind Arjun and seven associates. Among those taken into custody are his brother Rajeev from Bengaluru, their mother, uncle, and four others. Investigators said the group operated as a coordinated network, using social media to target young women from affluent and influential families.

According to police, the accused created fake profiles on Instagram, projecting a lavish lifestyle with images of luxury cars, gadgets, and high-end living. After gaining the trust of their targets, the gang reportedly lured victims to secluded locations. Authorities allege that the women were then sexually assaulted, with the inci-

dents secretly recorded. Police said the gang used these recordings to threaten victims and extort large sums of money, often running into lakhs of rupees. Officials expressed concern over the involvement of multiple family members in the operation, calling it highly unusual and alarming. The case came to light after victims approached the police, prompting a detailed investigation. During questioning, the arrested individuals reportedly revealed that more than ten people were part of the network. Investigators believe the group had been active for several months and may have targeted multiple victims across the city. Efforts are ongoing to identify and apprehend the remaining suspects, while police continue to gather evidence and expand the scope of the investigation.



Nirmala Jaggareddy Opens Procurement Centres

Sadasivapet, May 5 | TPN Bureau

TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy on Tuesday inaugurated multiple paddy procurement centres across Sadasivapet and Kondapurmandals to facilitate direct purchase of produce from farmers.

The centres, set up under Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS), were launched at the Market Committee yard in Sadasivapet town and in villages including Nandikandi, Marepally, Kondapur, Therpol, Gollapally, and Malkapur.

Addressing farmers, she advised them not to sell their produce to private millers, cautioning that such transactions

could lead to exploitation. Instead, she encouraged them to utilize the government-backed procurement centres to ensure fair pricing and transparency. She informed farmers that those bringing fine-quality paddy to PACS centres would receive an additional bonus of 500 per quintal, further benefiting them financially.

The initiative aims to streamline procurement and support farmers by eliminating intermediaries. Several public representatives and officials, including market committee members, municipal leaders, agriculture department staff, and local administrators, participated in the programme.



KTR Visits Bereaved RTC Driver's Family, Extends Support

Narsampet, May 5 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao visited Muthojipet in Narsampet constituency to console the family of late RTC driver Shankar Goud, who died by suicide while demanding resolution of issues faced by transport workers. On behalf of the party, KTR announced financial assistance of 5 lakh to the bereaved family.

He was accompanied by senior leaders including Madhusudhana Chary, MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra, former ministers Errabelli Dayakar Rao and Satyavathi Rathod, along with other party representatives.

Speaking on the occasion,

KTR said that during the previous government led by K. Chandrashekar Rao, steps were taken to address RTC employees' concerns, including efforts to integrate the corporation with the government system. He criticized the present administration for failing to fulfill assurances given to RTC workers, including wage revisions and benefits.

KTR expressed solidarity with RTC employees across the state and urged them to continue their fight through democratic means. He appealed to workers not to take extreme steps, emphasizing that unity and collective efforts are essential to achieve justice while preventing further tragedies for families.

Inter-State Gang Identified in Jewellery Heist

Karimnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Police probing the PMJ Jewellery robbery in Karimnagar have identified two key suspects as repeat offenders, officials said on Tuesday. The accused, Anand and Intiaz, are believed to be part of a five-member inter-state gang with links to Bihar. Authorities have formed 16 special teams to track down the group, which allegedly executed the daylight robbery on May 3.

Investigators revealed that the gang followed a carefully planned escape route, avoiding highways and moving through interior villages such as Malkapur, Chintakunta, Velishala and Rudram. Police suspect the accused may be heading towards border regions near Nandurbar, possibly attempting to cross into Gujarat.

In a significant break-

through, officers recovered one of the motorcycles used in the escape near the Godavari Pushkar Ghat in Dharmapuri of Jagtial district. The vehicle reportedly had a fake registration plate linked to a Hyderabad-registered car, and a helmet was also found abandoned at the spot. Officials believe the gang may have crossed the Godavari River or switched vehicles to evade capture. CCTV footage showed the suspects entering Karimnagar at 8:35 am and leaving shortly after the robbery around 12:05 pm via Rudram, indicating prior reconnaissance. While two suspects have been identified, efforts are ongoing to locate the remaining members. Police are coordinating with teams in Maharashtra, Bihar, and Gujarat, using technical surveillance to track the gang and expedite arrests.

Sanitation Drive and Waste Awareness in Bowrampet

Quthbullapur, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A focused sanitation campaign was carried out in Bowrampet under the 99-day Praja-PalanaPragathi Plan, aiming to improve cleanliness and promote responsible waste management. The initiative took place within the Dundigal Circle, where officials conducted inspections and awareness activities.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. S. VenkataManikaran participated in the programme and interacted with residents at Simhapuri Colony. He educated members of local welfare and colony associations on the importance of separating household waste into wet and dry categories before handing it over to sanitation collection vehicles. He stressed that proper segregation at the source plays a key role in maintaining hygiene and efficient waste disposal.

During his inspection from GandiMaisamma Junction to



Narsapur Road, the official highlighted the need for cleaner public spaces and directed staff to remove roadside weeds, garbage, and construction debris. He underscored that maintaining clean surroundings is a shared responsibility of both authorities and citizens.

Strict instructions were also

issued to commercial establishments, including shops and hotels, to install dustbins on their premises. Authorities warned that failure to comply could lead to penalties under the "No Bin - No License" rule. Engineering and sanitation staff, along with field assistants, actively took part in the drive.

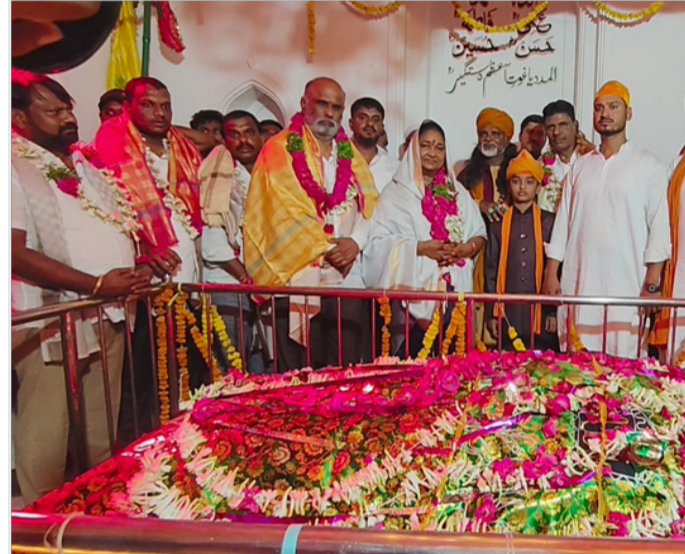
Nirmala Jaggareddy Attends Urs Celebrations

Sadasivapet, May 5 | TPN Bureau

TGIIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy took part in the 36th Urs celebrations held at the HazratKhajaBande Nawaz Dargah in Suraram village of Sadasivapetmandal. During her visit, she offered special prayers and participated in the religious proceedings.

The three-day festival featured a range of spiritual activities, including devotional discourses and traditional Qawwali performances, creating a vibrant and devotional atmosphere for attendees. The Urs attracted a large gathering of devotees not only from different parts of Telangana but also from neighboring Karnataka.

Local representatives, including CDC Chairman Ram Reddy and village leaders



were present at the event and joined the celebrations alongside the devotees.

The Urs festival, known for its cultural and spiritual sig-

nificance, brought together people from diverse backgrounds, reflecting communal harmony and shared devotion.

Auto Driver's Bravery Foils Chain Snatcher

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar has praised an auto-rickshaw driver for his courageous act in stopping a chain snatching incident and capturing the accused. The incident, which recently came to light, took place in the Begum Bazaar-Jinsi-Chouraha area.

According to police, a woman who was out for a morning walk with her daughter-in-law

was targeted by a habitual offender identified as Mohammed Sohail from Dabirpura. He attempted to snatch her gold chain but lost balance and fell from his scooter during the attempt. Hearing the victim's cries for help, Mohammed Zaher, an auto driver passing by, quickly reacted. He turned his vehicle around and rammed it into the accused, preventing him from fleeing. Despite being attacked with a stick by the suspect, Zaher stood his ground and managed to over-

power him. The accused was subsequently handed over to the police. Officials said the entire incident was recorded on CCTV cameras, providing clear evidence of the incident.

Recognizing his bravery and presence of mind, Commissioner Sajjanar felicitated Zaher and awarded him a certificate of appreciation. Police officials highlighted his action as an example of civic responsibility and urged citizens to assist law enforcement while ensuring their own safety.

Fire Breaks Out at Banquet Hall

Mahabubnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A fire incident was reported early Tuesday at the Pista House Banquet Hall building in Mahabubnagar, causing panic as thick smoke and flames spread across the premises. The establishment, located at Yenugonda Bypass Cross Roads, is a

well-known venue with facilities such as a gaming zone, children's rides, and dining space. Fire and police personnel rushed to the scene promptly after receiving alerts. Firefighters worked swiftly to contain and extinguish the blaze, preventing it from spreading to nearby areas. Fortunately, no injuries or loss of life were reported in the

incident. Initial reports indicate that the fire might have been caused by an electrical short circuit, though officials have not confirmed the exact reason. Authorities have initiated a detailed investigation to determine the source of the fire and assess any structural or material damage caused to the building.

Poaching Gang Busted in Joint Operation

Hyderabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

A joint operation by the Golconda Task Force and the Forest Department led to the arrest of six individuals allegedly involved in illegal hunting of wild animals. Authorities seized assets worth around 8 lakh, including four airguns, a licensed rifle with 20 live rounds, a Scorpio vehicle, and mobile phones. According to AndeSrinivasa Rao, the accused were engaged in poaching activities in forest

regions of Shadnagar and Makthal. The group reportedly hunted animals such as deer, peacocks, rabbits, quails, and doves, and recorded videos of their activities on a mobile phone belonging to one of the accused, MohdMuzzaffar Hussain. The arrested individuals have been identified as Muzzaffar Hussain alias Guddu, Mir Ahmed Amir, Abdullah Bin Sahain, Saud Bin Mohd-dBalab, Masood Bin Mohd, and K. Shekar, who allegedly assisted in locating wildlife. Police revealed that Amir, as-

sociated with the Telangana Rifle Association, possessed a licensed .30-06 rifle.

Investigators found evidence suggesting repeated hunting incidents, including the killing of a peacock earlier this year and multiple deer in past operations. The meat was reportedly stored at Muzzaffar's residence. The accused have been handed over to forest officials for further proceedings. A case has been registered under provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and further investigation is underway.

Crackdown on Drunk Driving in Ichoda

Adilabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Authorities in Ichoda have intensified action against drunk driving, with courts and police adopting a firm approach to curb the offence. As per orders issued by the Judicial First Class Magistrate Court in Boath, five individuals were sentenced to one day of simple imprisonment for driving under the influence of alcohol.

The convicted persons were identified as Nitin, Govinda Rao, A. Santhosh, M. Balaji, and S. Bhumanna. In addition, 10 other offenders were directed to perform one day of community service at the court premises and also pay fines.

Another 39 individuals were penalized with a fine of 1,000 each for similar violations.

Speaking on the enforcement drive, Ichoda Station House Officer Bandari Raju cautioned that drunk driving endangers not only the driver but also innocent road users. He emphasized that such reckless behavior can lead to fatal accidents and assured that strict measures would continue to be implemented.

Police officials reiterated their commitment to road safety and urged the public to act responsibly by avoiding alcohol consumption before driving, warning that violators would face stringent legal consequences in the future.

ACB Raids Welfare Office Over Bribery Allegations

Karimnagar, May 5 | TPN Bureau

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) carried out surprise inspections at the district welfare office in the Jagtial collectorate on Tuesday amid allegations of corruption against a senior officer. The raids, which began around 11 am, saw officials examining files, records, and other documents as part of the investigation.

The inquiry is focused on District Welfare Officer B. Nareesh, who is accused of collecting money from subordinate staff. Sources said complaints were submitted anonymously, alleging that Anganwadi teachers were asked to contribute 1,000 each, reportedly for expenses related to the officer's daughter's wedding.

ACB teams questioned several Anganwadi workers and staff, including officials who were recently transferred from Jagtial to Warangal. Investigators are also looking into broader irregularities linked to administrative decisions and approvals made during Nareesh's tenure. He had previously served as the municipal commissioner of Jagtial.

Officials indicated that the probe goes beyond the alleged collections and aims to uncover any misuse of authority or procedural violations. The search operation continued till late evening, with authorities gathering statements and reviewing documents. Further action will be taken based on the findings after detailed scrutiny of the evidence collected during the raids.

SP Reviews Bharosa Centre, Focuses on Women's Safety

Adilabad, May 5 | TPN Bureau

Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan on Tuesday visited the BharosaKendram in Adilabad town and interacted with members of the SHE Team. During his inspection, he emphasized the role of the centre in building confidence among women, girls, and students while ensuring their safety and protection.

Addressing the staff, the SP encouraged women facing harassment or abuse to approach the police without hesitation and register complaints. He instructed the BharosaKendram personnel and SHE Team members to actively support vic-

tims and help them handle difficult situations with confidence.

Mahajan also directed officials to conduct awareness programmes in both government and private schools to educate students on safety measures and personal security. In addition, he stressed the importance of counseling services for couples dealing with domestic disputes, aiming to resolve issues through guidance and support. Senior officers, including Jeevan Reddy, inspectors Suneel Kumar and Premkumar, along with Bharosa Centre officer Rupa Rani and SHE Team members, were present during the visit.



Farmers Raise Procurement Delays with KTR

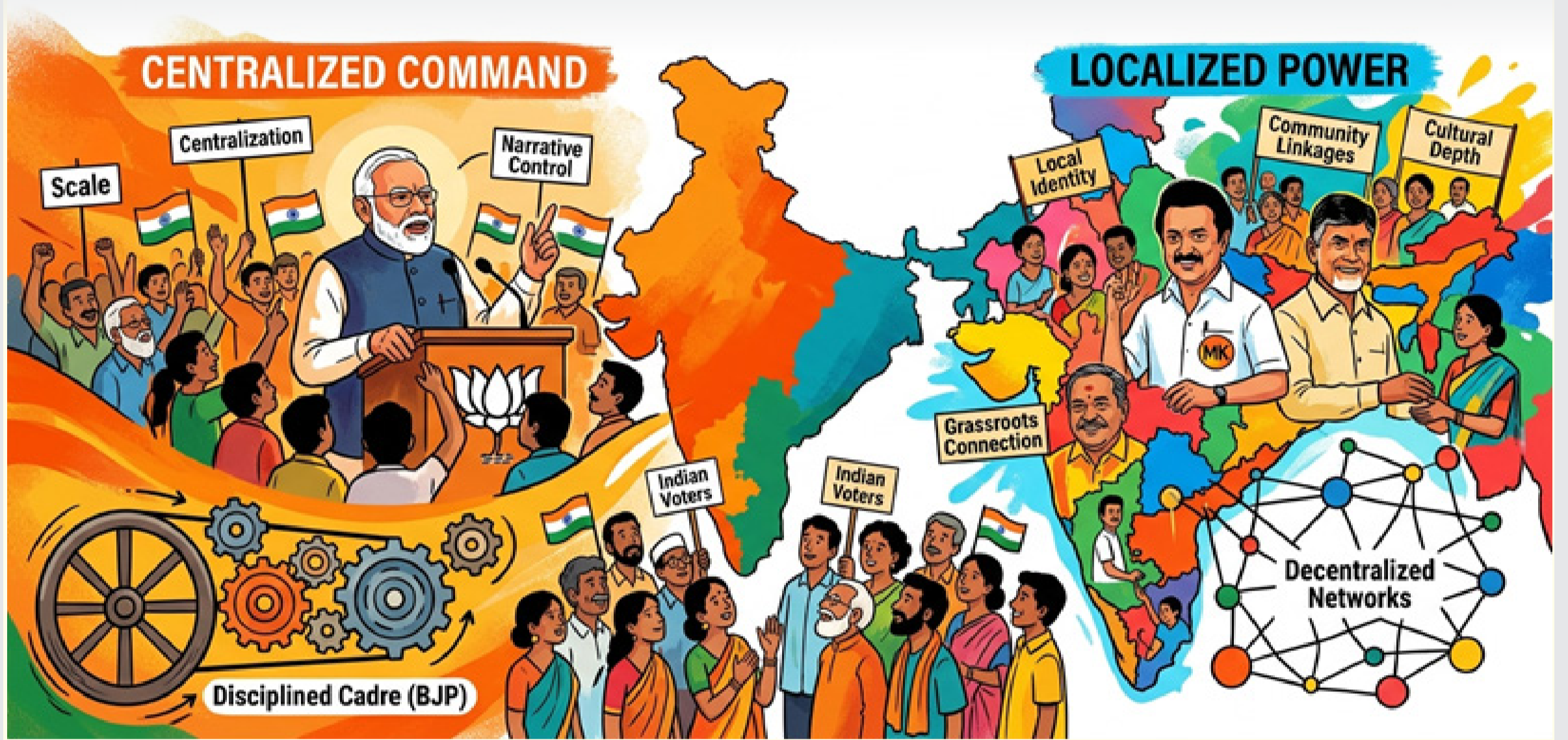
Jangaon, May 5 | TPN Bureau

K. T. Rama Rao visited an IKP center at Yashwanthapur in Jangaonmandal on Tuesday, where farmers voiced concerns over delays in grain procurement. They said produce brought nearly two weeks ago was still awaiting

purchase, forcing them to stay at the center day and night. Farmers appealed for immediate intervention to resolve the issue. The visit was attended by Rajya Sabha MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra and MLA PallaRajeshwar Reddy, along with other local leaders.

BJP vs Regional Parties: Two Models, One Electoral Battlefield

Centralised Command vs Localised Power in India's Democracy



India's contemporary political landscape is increasingly defined by a striking contrast—the rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party as a dominant national force, and the enduring relevance of regional parties that continue to command deep loyalty within their states. This is not merely a contest for power; it is a clash between two distinct political models shaping the future of Indian democracy.

At the core of the BJP's success lies centralised leadership, with Narendra Modi as its principal face. Elections

are increasingly framed around his persona, transforming parliamentary contests into presidential-style mandates. This approach offers clarity, consistency, and a unified national narrative that resonates across regions.

In contrast, regional parties are anchored in strong state-level leadership. Leaders such as M. K. Stalin in Tamil Nadu or N. Chandrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh derive their strength from local identity, administrative track record, and direct connection with the electorate. Their pol-

itics is intimate, rooted, and responsive to regional aspirations.

Organisationally, the BJP operates through a disciplined, cadre-based structure supported by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Its strength lies in booth-level management, ideological cohesion, and continuous grassroots mobilisation. It is a machine that functions with precision, not just during elections but throughout the political cycle.

Regional parties, however, rely on decentralised networks. Their strength flows

from community linkages, caste alignments, and localised influence. While they may lack the uniform organisational depth of the BJP, they compensate with sharper ground-level insights and flexibility.

The divergence is equally visible in narrative construction. The BJP blends nationalism, cultural identity, and governance into a broad, pan-Indian message. Regional parties emphasise linguistic pride, cultural uniqueness, and state-specific concerns. In Tamil Nadu, Dravidian ideology continues to define po-

litical discourse, while in Andhra Pradesh, development and welfare remain central themes.

Campaign strategies further highlight this divide. The BJP has mastered data-driven campaigning, social media outreach, and message discipline, often setting the national agenda. Regional parties depend more on direct engagement—public meetings, local outreach, and personalised voter contact.

Governance approaches also differ. The BJP leverages national schemes and uniform development narratives,

while regional parties prioritise state-centric welfare models tailored to local needs. Both approaches have their strengths, appealing to different voter expectations.

Ultimately, the BJP represents scale, centralisation, and narrative control, while regional parties embody localisation, cultural depth, and grassroots connection. India's political future will not be shaped by the dominance of one model over the other, but by their dynamic coexistence and the ability of each to adapt to a rapidly changing electorate.



Subbarao Pokkuluri
Veteran Journalist

Vijay's Moment of Truth in a Shifting Political Landscape

Development choices, alliance dilemmas, and the real test of leadership in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry

The emergence of Joseph Vijay as a political force has created fresh interest in Tamil Nadu's changing political scene. His party's early gains, especially in a situation where no single party has a clear majority, have brought him to an important stage, one that requires clear thinking, patience, and a long-term vision beyond speeches.

At the heart of the current debate is a simple question—should Vijay focus on ideology, or move towards governance and development? The argument strongly supports the second option. It suggests that electoral success, especially in a state like Tamil Nadu, cannot depend only on ideology. Today's voters care more about real results, including jobs, infrastructure, and industrial growth, than about past narratives or identity-based politics.

The idea of aligning with the Bharatiya Janata Party and the NDA reflects a practical approach. Since the Central Government plays a major role in funding and policy decisions, working together rather than confronting it could bring faster development. The warning against repeating past conflicts between the state and the Centre, often seen in Dravidian politics, is worth noting.

At the same time, this view has its limits. Ideology still plays an important role in Tamil Nadu. Dravidian

politics, despite criticism, has contributed to social justice, welfare schemes, and regional identity. Ignoring ideology completely may oversimplify the state's political reality.

The idea of sharing power between Tamil Nadu and Puducherry sounds interesting, but it may be difficult to achieve. While cooperation between the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and BJP in Puducherry could serve as an example, Tamil Nadu's political environment is far more complex. In a hung assembly, compromise is necessary, but it also tests the consistency of new leaders like Vijay.

The criticism of aligning with the Indian National Congress reflects the view that the party is weakening. However, Indian politics has often shown that even smaller or weaker parties can play key roles in forming governments. Ignoring Congress completely may reduce political options.

One important point raised is accountability. The idea that one mistake could cost public trust is very relevant today. Young voters, professionals, and business groups expect clear results and consistent leadership.

The role of Telugu-speaking voters is also mentioned, but focusing too much on one group can be risky. Tamil Nadu has a diverse popula-

tion, and any long-term political strategy must include all sections of society.

In the end, Vijay's challenge is not just about winning elections. It is about choosing what kind of leader he wants to be. Should he remain a popular figure driven by emotion, or grow into a leader focused on governance and results? That choice will define his future.

Tamil Nadu is politically aware and emotionally driven. While people are open to new leaders, they are also quick to judge. Vijay's next steps will decide whether he remains a short-term sensation or becomes a strong and lasting political leader.



Somarouthu Ramakrishna
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Andhra Pradesh
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BJP Appoints Amit Shah, JP Nadda as Central Observers for Government Formation in Bengal, Assam

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed senior leaders Amit Shah and JP Nadda as central observers for West Bengal and Assam respectively, following the party's significant electoral victories in both states.

According to party sources, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been assigned as the central observer for West Bengal, where the BJP is set to form its first-ever government after a historic win in the Assembly elections. His role will involve overseeing the process of selecting the Chief Minister and

coordinating discussions with newly elected legislators.

In Assam, BJP national president JP Nadda has been entrusted with a similar responsibility. He will supervise the formation of the government and play a key role in finalising the leadership in the state, where the party has retained power. The appointment of top leadership as observers signals the importance the BJP is placing on ensuring a smooth and coordinated transition of power in both states.

The decision comes in the backdrop of the

BJP's sweeping performance in the 2026 Assembly elections, particularly in West Bengal, where the party secured a decisive majority, ending years of rule by the Trinamool Congress. The focus has now shifted to the selection of the Chief Minister, with several senior leaders being considered for the top post. Party insiders indicate that the observers will hold consultations with elected MLAs and senior leaders before arriving at a consensus on leadership. The process is expected to be completed swiftly, with government formation likely to take

place in the coming days.

The appointment of Amit Shah and JP Nadda underscores the BJP's centralised decision-making approach in key political developments and highlights the leadership's intent to maintain tight coordination during government formation in strategically important states.

With both states entering a new political phase, all eyes are now on the BJP's leadership choices, which are expected to shape the governance and political direction in West Bengal and Assam in the coming years.



“Election Commission Played Nasty Games”, Mamata Banerjee Slams Poll Body After Bengal Verdict

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has launched a sharp attack on the Election Commission following her party's defeat in the 2026 Assembly elections, alleging serious irregularities and calling the outcome unfair.

Reacting strongly to the results, Banerjee claimed that the election process was compromised, accusing the poll body of indulging in “dirty, nasty and mischievous games.” She alleged that the mandate did not reflect the true will of the people and suggested that the system had been manipulated in favour of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief went further, claiming that more than 100 seats were effectively “stolen” through irregular practices. She described the situation as a “murder of democracy” and questioned the credibility of the electoral process. Banerjee also alleged collusion between the Election Commission, central forces, and the BJP-led central government. According to her, the counting process and overall conduct of elections were not transparent, raising serious concerns about fairness.

In addition to procedural



concerns, the Chief Minister referred to incidents during polling and counting, including alleged disruptions and lack of proper monitoring. She indicated that her party had faced significant challenges on the ground, including intimidation and violence. Despite the setback, Banerjee made it clear that her party would not accept the results without scrutiny. She announced plans to take further action and possibly investigate the alleged irregularities through internal mechanisms. A fact-finding effort is also expected to examine complaints related to post-poll

developments. The BJP, which secured a decisive victory in West Bengal, has dismissed these allegations, maintaining that the elections were conducted fairly and in accordance with democratic norms. The 2026 West Bengal Assembly election marks a significant political shift, with the BJP forming the government in the state for the first time. However, Banerjee's strong reaction indicates that the political battle is far from over, with disputes over the integrity of the electoral process likely to continue in the coming days.

Suvendu Adhikari Emerges BJP's Undisputed Hero in Bengal's Historic Political Shift

In a dramatic political turnaround in West Bengal, Suvendu Adhikari has emerged as the central figure behind the Bharatiya Janata Party's sweeping victory, cementing his position as the party's “indisputable hero” in the 2026 Assembly elections. Adhikari's performance stands out not only for the scale of the BJP's triumph but also for the symbolic battles he won. He secured victories in both Nandigram and Bhabanipur—two high-profile constituencies closely associated with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. His win in Bhabanipur, considered Banerjee's stronghold, is being seen as a decisive political setback for the Trinamool Congress leadership. What makes Adhikari's rise particularly significant is his political journey. Once a trusted aide of

Mamata Banerjee in the Trinamool Congress, he later switched to the Bharatiya Janata Party, setting the stage for a fierce rivalry that has now culminated in a decisive victory. His consistent success in Nandigram and his ability to challenge Banerjee in her own turf have elevated his stature within the BJP. According to party insiders, Adhikari's influence extended well beyond individual constituencies. He played a key role in mobilising grassroots support, consolidating votes, and expanding the BJP's reach into regions where the party previously had limited presence. His campaign strategy, organisational network, and strong local connect contributed significantly to the party crossing the majority mark in the state. The BJP's overall victory has been his-

toric, marking its first-ever government in West Bengal and signalling a major political shift in a state long dominated by the Trinamool Congress. Adhikari's double victory and his role in breaking the TMC's strongholds have also placed him among the frontrunners for the Chief Minister's post. His emergence as a “giant slayer” and a mass leader reflects a new phase in Bengal politics, where leadership dynamics are rapidly evolving. As the BJP prepares to form the government, attention is now focused on the party's leadership decision. Regardless of who assumes office as Chief Minister, Suvendu Adhikari's role in shaping this landmark victory has firmly established him as the face of the BJP's rise in West Bengal.



RaGa Rebukes Congress Leaders for Gloating Over TMC Loss

Senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has strongly criticised members of his own party and other opposition leaders for celebrating the Trinamool Congress (TMC) defeat in the West Bengal Assembly elections, warning that such reactions only strengthen the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

In a sharp message issued a day after the election results, Gandhi said that “gloating” over TMC's loss reflects misplaced priorities at a time when the opposition should remain united. He cautioned that the BJP's victory in West Bengal and Assam represents a significant step forward in what he described as a larger threat to India's democratic framework. Gandhi stressed that the outcome of the elections should not be viewed as a win or loss for individual parties alone, but as a broader political development with national implications. He argued that internal divisions and petty political rivalries within opposition ranks only serve to benefit the BJP's expanding influence.



Taking a strong stand, the Congress leader alleged that the electoral outcomes in both Assam and West Bengal amounted to a “theft of mandate.” He urged party colleagues to move beyond narrow political considerations and focus on safeguarding democratic institutions. “This is not about one party or another. This is about India,” Gandhi emphasised, underlining the need for a collec-

tive opposition response rather than fragmented reactions.

His remarks come amid growing concerns within opposition circles about unity and coordination, especially after significant electoral setbacks in key states. Gandhi's intervention is seen as an attempt to reinforce cohesion within the broader anti-BJP bloc and discourage public disagreements that could weaken their political position. The comments

also signal the Congress leadership's effort to recalibrate its strategy following the election results, where the BJP registered major gains, particularly in West Bengal.

As political reactions continue to unfold, Gandhi's message highlights a key challenge for opposition parties—balancing competition among themselves while presenting a united front against the ruling party at the national level.

“Trust Remains Undefeated”, MK Stalin Sends Strong Message to DMK Cadres After Poll Defeat

Following the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's (DMK) setback in the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, party president M. K. Stalin delivered a message of resilience to party workers, asserting that the people's trust in the party remains intact and that the DMK will win again.

Addressing cadres after the results, Stalin emphasised that electoral defeat does not weaken the party's core ideology or commitment to public service. He stated that whether in power or in opposition, the DMK's focus would remain on serving the people and addressing their concerns. He underscored that the party would now take on the role of a strong opposition and continue fighting for public issues.

In his message, Stalin highlighted the legacy of the Dravidian movement, reiterating the party's commitment to its long-standing principles, in-



cluding social justice and regional identity. He assured supporters that the DMK would continue its political journey without leaving anyone behind and would stay true to its foundational values.

The DMK leader also expressed gratitude to voters who supported the party and its alliance candidates in the elec-

tion. Despite the disappointing outcome, he conveyed confidence that the party's support base remains strong and that setbacks are a natural part of political life. Reflecting on the results, Stalin noted that the DMK has experienced both victories and defeats in its history and has always emerged stronger. He urged party work-

ers to remain steadfast and united, stressing that ideological commitment matters more than temporary electoral outcomes.

The 2026 Tamil Nadu election saw a significant shift in the political landscape, with the DMK losing power and finishing behind its rivals. However, Stalin's message sought to boost morale within the party ranks and project confidence about the future. Political observers view his remarks as an attempt to stabilise the party following the defeat and to prepare it for a renewed role in opposition politics. His emphasis on unity, resilience, and continued public engagement signals the DMK's strategy going forward. As the state enters a new political phase, Stalin's assertion that “trust remains undefeated” reflects the party's intent to regroup, rebuild, and position itself for a comeback in the next electoral cycle.

One Vote Makes History, TVK Shocks DMK in Tiruppattur Thriller as TN Politics Sees Major Shift

In one of the most dramatic outcomes of the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, actor-politician Vijay's Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) pulled off a stunning upset in Tiruppattur, where a DMK minister lost by just one vote.

TVK candidate Seenivasa Sethupathi R defeated senior DMK leader and Minister for Co-operatives K. R. Periyakaruppan in a nail-biting finish that highlighted how every single vote can decide political fate. The final tally showed 83,375 votes for the TVK candidate against 83,374 votes for the DMK leader, marking one of the closest electoral margins in recent history.

Periyakaruppan, a veteran DMK leader who had represented the constituency multi-



ple times and served in the state cabinet, was considered a strong contender. However, the late surge in counting results shifted the seat in favour of TVK, delivering a major symbolic setback to the ruling party. The Tiruppattur result has drawn widespread attention across the state, not only for its

razor-thin margin but also for its political significance. TVK, led by Vijay, has emerged as a major force in its debut election, challenging both the DMK and AIADMK across several constituencies.

Political observers note that the result reflects a larger trend of voter realignment in

Tamil Nadu, where new political movements have significantly disrupted traditional party strongholds. The defeat of a sitting minister by a single vote is being seen as one of the most striking examples of this shift. The 2026 elections have already produced a series of unexpected outcomes, with TVK emerging as the single largest party in the state, pushing the DMK into a weakened position and reshaping the political landscape.

In Tiruppattur, the result is likely to be remembered as a defining moment in Tamil Nadu electoral history, where a single vote changed the course of a seasoned politician's career and marked a breakthrough victory for a rising political force.

21 Killed, 61 Injured in Fireworks Factory Explosion in Hunan Province, China

A massive explosion at a fireworks manufacturing facility in central China's Hunan province has left at least 21 people dead and 61 others injured, according to state media reports. The incident has triggered a large-scale emergency response and a high-level government investigation into the cause of the blast.

The explosion took place on Monday afternoon at around 4:40-5:00 pm in Liuyang city, which falls under the administration of Changsha, the capital of Hunan province. The facility involved is reportedly operated by Huasheng Fireworks Manufacturing and Display Co., a company located in a region widely known for its fireworks production industry.

Authorities said the blast originated in one of the workshops where large quantities of fireworks materials were stored and processed. The sudden explosion led to a rapid spread of fire and multiple secondary blasts due to the presence of flammable substances at the site.

Following the explosion, thick smoke was seen rising



from the factory complex, while several buildings within the facility collapsed or were severely damaged. Debris was scattered across the surrounding area, and nearby homes reportedly suffered broken windows and structural damage.

Emergency services quickly launched a large-scale rescue operation, deploying nearly 500 firefighters, medical staff, and rescue personnel to the site. Specialized equipment, in-

cluding robots and drones, was used to navigate hazardous conditions and search for survivors amid the wreckage.

Officials also carried out safety measures such as spraying water and humidifying the area to prevent further explosions, especially given the presence of black powder storage zones nearby.

Residents living close to the factory were evacuated as a precaution due to ongoing

risks of secondary blasts. Authorities established restricted zones around the site and continued monitoring air and environmental conditions to ensure public safety.

The incident has once again highlighted long-standing safety concerns in China's fireworks manufacturing industry, which is known for handling highly explosive materials. Liuyang, where the blast occurred, is often referred to as

the "fireworks capital" due to its large-scale production and export of pyrotechnic products.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has ordered a full investigation into the cause of the explosion and directed officials to ensure accountability. Local authorities have also reportedly detained individuals linked to the factory's operations while inspections are being intensified across similar facilities in the region.

The exact cause of the explosion remains under investigation; though early reports suggest possible safety lapses may have played a role.

Rescue and recovery operations are still underway, and officials have warned that the death toll could change as more information becomes available. Many of the injured are being treated for severe trauma, including injuries caused by flying debris. The tragedy adds to a series of industrial accidents in China's fireworks sector, raising renewed concerns over enforcement of safety regulations and hazardous material handling in manufacturing units.



India Condemns Attack on UAE's Fujairah

India has strongly condemned the recent attack in the Fujairah region of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that left three Indian nationals injured amid escalating tensions linked to the ongoing Iran-UAE conflict. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) termed the incident "unacceptable" and urged an immediate halt to hostilities in the region.

The incident occurred at a key energy facility in Fujairah, where a drone or missile strike—reportedly linked to the broader Iran-UAE conflict—sparked a fire and caused damage in the industrial zone. The attack resulted in injuries to three Indian workers present at the site.

Fujairah is a strategically important oil and shipping hub for the UAE, making it a frequent point of concern during regional tensions. The latest strike has further heightened fears over civilian safety and global energy infrastructure security.

Reacting to the incident, India's Ministry of External Affairs said the attack on civilian infrastructure and harm to innocent lives is unacceptable. The government also stressed the need for restraint and diplomatic engagement to prevent further escalation in the region. The MEA emphasized that India continues to support dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflicts, especially in light of growing instability in the Middle East. Officials reiterated that the

safety of Indian citizens abroad remains a top priority.

The Fujairah attack comes amid intensified military exchanges involving Iran and regional actors, with drone and missile strikes reported across Gulf waters and strategic installations. The UAE has accused Iran of carrying out multiple attacks on its territory, further deepening tensions in the region.

Several recent incidents have targeted energy infrastructure, raising concerns about disruption to global oil supply routes passing through the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding areas.

The injuries to Indian nationals have highlighted the risks faced by migrant workers in conflict-prone regions. Thousands of Indians are employed in the UAE's construction, industrial, and energy sectors, making their safety a key concern for New Delhi.

India's response aligns with broader international calls for de-escalation, as countries warn that continued hostilities could have serious humanitarian and economic consequences.

The attack in Fujairah has added another layer of tension to the already volatile Middle East situation. With Indian citizens among the injured, New Delhi has taken a firm diplomatic stance, urging restraint, protection of civilians, and an immediate end to attacks on critical infrastructure.

Ukraine Strikes Russia's Primorsk Oil Hub and Shadow Fleet in Major Drone Assault

Ukraine has launched a large-scale drone offensive targeting key Russian energy infrastructure, striking the strategic Primorsk oil export terminal in the Baltic Sea along with vessels linked to Russia's so-called "shadow fleet," according to multiple reports.

The coordinated attacks form part of Kyiv's ongoing strategy to disrupt Russia's oil exports, which are considered a critical source of funding for its war effort.

The main strike focused on the Primorsk port, one of Russia's largest oil export terminals operated by the state-owned Transneft. The facility handles massive volumes of crude oil shipments and is located in the Leningrad region near the Baltic Sea.

Russian regional authorities confirmed that Ukrainian drones triggered a fire at the terminal after hitting fuel storage infrastructure. Emergency services were deployed to contain the blaze, which was later brought under control. Officials also stated that no major oil spill was detected following the attack.

The port is considered a critical export gateway, capable of handling close to a million barrels of oil per day, making it a high-value strategic target.

Alongside the Primorsk attack, Ukraine also claimed responsibility for hitting multiple oil tankers described as part of Russia's "shadow fleet", a network of ships allegedly used to bypass Western sanctions and continue crude exports. Reports indicate that at least two tankers were struck near the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, with Ukrainian officials stating that these vessels were actively transporting oil before be-

ing targeted.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the strikes aimed to reduce Russia's ability to fund its military operations by targeting both infrastructure and transport routes linked to oil exports.

The attacks on Primorsk and the tanker fleet are part of a broader escalation in Ukraine's drone campaign deep inside Russian territory. In recent months, Ukrainian forces have repeatedly targeted oil refineries, storage depots, and export terminals across Russia.

The strikes have caused fires, temporary shutdowns, and logistical disruptions at several energy facilities, though Russian authorities have often claimed that damage has been contained and environmental risks minimized.

The latest offensive comes amid intensified cross-border drone warfare between the two countries. Russia has also launched repeated drone and missile strikes on Ukrainian cities and infrastructure, leading to civilian casualties on both sides and widespread destruction.

While Ukraine frames its attacks as "economic pressure operations" aimed at weakening Russia's war capacity, Moscow has condemned them as acts of sabotage targeting civilian infrastructure.

The strike on Primorsk and the shadow fleet highlights Ukraine's expanding long-range drone capabilities and its focus on Russia's energy sector. As both sides escalate attacks on critical infrastructure, the conflict continues to intensify beyond the frontline battlefield, directly affecting industrial and economic targets deep inside Russian territory.

US Flying Gas Station Declares Emergency Mid-Air, Goes Missing Briefly Over Qatar

A U.S. military aircraft known as a flying gas station-triggered alarm after it reportedly went missing briefly while flying over or near Qatar, following an in-flight emergency signal, according to flight tracking data and reports. The aircraft involved was identified as a Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker, a long-range aerial refuelling tanker used by the U.S. Air Force to supply fuel to fighter jets and other military aircraft during missions. The plane reportedly issued a "7700" emergency transponder code, which signals a general in-flight emergency, prompting immediate concern among aviation trackers and monitoring systems.

According to flight data, the KC-135 had taken off from Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates and was operating over the broader Persian Gulf region. During its flight, it reportedly entered a circular holding pattern before initiating a descent, raising further questions about its status. At one point, tracking signals appeared to weaken or disappear temporarily over the Qatar region, leading to speculation online that the aircraft had gone "missing." However, aviation monitoring systems later indicated continued movement, suggesting a possible communication or tracking interruption rather than a crash or disappearance.

Authorities and official sources have not confirmed



any hostile involvement in the incident. There is also no indication that the emergency was caused by an attack or external interference.

Reports suggest that the situation was treated as a standard aviation emergency, which can include technical malfunctions, pressurisation issues, fuel concerns, or onboard system failures. The KC-135 Stratotanker is a key support aircraft for the U.S. military. Often called a "flying gas station," it enables fighter jets, bombers, and surveillance aircraft to remain airborne for extended periods by refuelling them mid-air.

The aircraft has been in service for decades and plays a critical role in U.S. and allied military operations, particularly in regions like the Middle East where long-range air missions are common.

The incident comes at a time of heightened military ten-

sion in the Middle East, with multiple countries on alert due to ongoing conflicts and recent drone and missile activity in the region. Such conditions often lead to increased monitoring of military and civilian air traffic. While the KC-135 emergency appears to have been resolved without confirmed damage or loss, the brief loss of tracking signals sparked widespread attention due to the sensitive airspace over which it was operating. As of now, there is no official statement indicating damage to the aircraft or injuries to crew members. The cause of the emergency signal remains unclear, and investigations into the flight event may follow standard military aviation procedures. The aircraft's eventual status suggests it likely recovered or continued to a safe landing after the emergency alert, but official confirmation is still awaited.

Global Spotlight on BJP's Bengal Breakthrough

International media US to Pakistan calls Modi-led victory a historic shift

International media outlets closely tracked the recent election results in India, especially the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) historic win in West Bengal under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. According to reports, foreign publications from the US, UK, and neighbouring countries widely focused on the scale and political significance of the outcome. Most international coverage highlighted the BJP's first-ever major victory in West Bengal, ending a long-standing dominance of the Trinamool Congress (TMC). The result was widely described as one of the most important political shifts in India's recent electoral history, with analysts noting its potential impact on the country's wider political landscape. Reports from global media outlets, including British publications, framed the win as a "breakthrough" for the BJP, calling it a milestone in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political journey. Several articles suggested that the outcome could further weaken



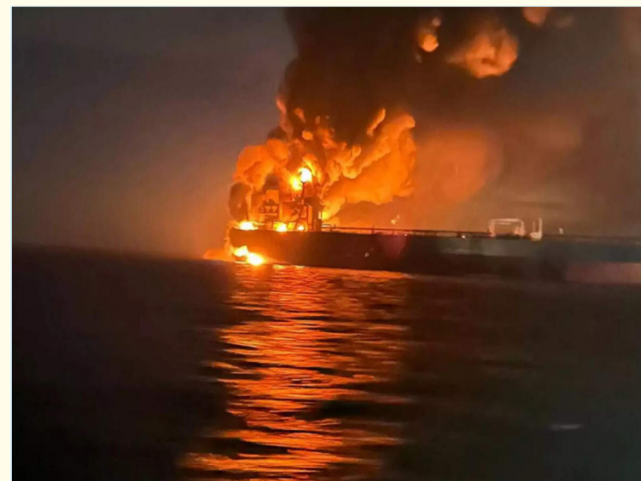
India's already fragmented opposition alliance. The NDTV report also noted that international coverage extended beyond India's borders, with media in cities such as London, New York, Islamabad, and Dhaka analysing the implications of the results. Much of the attention centered on how the BJP's expansion into a politi-

cally challenging state like West Bengal could reshape regional political dynamics in South Asia. Some reports also highlighted reactions from neighbouring countries, including Pakistan, where media commentary focused on India's internal political shifts and their possible foreign policy implications. Alongside the

BJP's performance, international media also paid attention to other electoral outcomes, including the rise of new regional political forces such as actor-turned-politician Joseph Vijay in Tamil Nadu. His party's strong showing was seen as another example of changing voter preferences and the growing influence of

non-traditional political leaders in Indian politics.

Political observers quoted in international reports suggested that the West Bengal result could strengthen Prime Minister Modi's national position ahead of future elections. Some analyses described the BJP's performance as part of a broader "saffron surge," indicating expanding influence across eastern and southern India. At the same time, commentators noted that while the victory is significant, India's political diversity ensures continued regional variation, with strong opposition pockets still remaining in several states. International media coverage of the BJP's West Bengal victory has largely focused on its scale, symbolic importance, and potential long-term implications. From Western capitals to South Asian neighbours, the election result has been interpreted as a major political development that could influence both India's domestic politics and its regional standing in the coming years.



Sensex, Nifty Slide Amid Global Tensions and Weak Rupee

Indian stock markets witnessed a sharp decline on May 5, 2026, as global uncertainties and macroeconomic pressures weighed heavily on investor sentiment. Both benchmark indices—Sensex and Nifty—traded in the red throughout the day, reflecting widespread caution in the markets.

The BSE Sensex fell around 500-750 points intraday, while the Nifty50 slipped below the 24,000 mark, indicating a clear bearish trend. At mid-session, the Sensex was hovering near 76,800 levels, while Nifty traded around 23,950-24,000.

One of the biggest reasons behind the fall was the escalation in US-Iran tensions, which pushed global crude oil prices above \$110 per barrel. As India is heavily dependent on oil imports, rising crude prices triggered fears of higher inflation and economic pressure, leading to selling across sectors.



Another major concern was the weakening Indian rupee, which hit a record low of around 95.40 against the US dollar. A falling currency often

signals economic stress and discourages foreign investments, further dragging markets down.

Foreign Institutional Invest-

ors (FIIs) also contributed to the negative sentiment, with continued selling activity in recent sessions. This outflow of foreign capital has kept mar-

kets volatile and uncertain.

Sector-wise, oil & gas stocks, banking, and heavyweight companies like ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, L&T, and ONGC were among the major laggards. The broader market showed mixed trends, with mid-cap and small-cap indices relatively stable compared to frontline indices.

Despite the overall weakness, some pockets of the market showed resilience due to strong quarterly results and stock-specific movements. However, the broader sentiment remained cautious due to geopolitical risks and macroeconomic concerns. In summary, the Indian stock market on May 5 was driven by global geopolitical tensions, rising crude oil prices, a weak rupee, and foreign investor outflows. Unless these pressures ease, markets are likely to remain volatile in the near term.



Crude Oil Surge Poses Big Risks for India's Economy

Rising crude oil prices are emerging as a major concern for India's economy, with experts warning of potential ripple effects on inflation, the rupee, and fiscal stability. A senior economist from UBS has highlighted how the recent oil price shock could create multiple economic challenges if the trend continues.

According to the UBS Chief Economist, higher crude oil prices directly impact India because the country imports a significant portion of its energy needs. When oil prices surge, it increases the import bill, putting pressure on the country's current account deficit and weakening the rupee.

The weakening of the rupee, in turn, makes imports even more expensive, creating a cycle that can further strain the economy. A depreciating currency also affects investor confidence and can lead to volatility in financial markets.

Inflation is another key concern. As crude oil prices rise, fuel costs increase, which then pushes up transportation and production expenses across sectors. This often leads to higher prices for goods and services, affecting both business-

es and consumers. The economist warned that sustained high oil prices could make it difficult for policymakers to keep inflation under control.

There are also implications for government finances. To shield consumers from rising fuel prices, the government may need to cut taxes or increase subsidies, which could widen the fiscal deficit. This would put additional pressure on public finances at a time when economic stability is crucial. The UBS expert noted that while India has managed similar situations in the past, the current global environment—marked by geopolitical tensions and uncertain oil supply—adds complexity to the challenge. Policymakers will need to strike a careful balance between controlling inflation, supporting growth, and maintaining fiscal discipline.

In summary, the crude oil price surge is not just a temporary concern but a significant economic risk for India. Its impact could be felt across multiple fronts, including currency stability, inflation levels, and government finances, making it a key factor to watch in the coming months.



RBI May Hold Back on Heavy Intervention as Rupee Nears 95/USD

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to avoid aggressive intervention in the foreign exchange market even as the rupee approaches the 95 per dollar mark, according to recent reports. Instead, the central bank may opt for more measured and strategic steps to manage currency volatility.

Traditionally, the RBI intervenes in the forex market by selling dollars from its reserves to support the rupee. However, with global pressures intensifying—such as rising crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions—the central bank appears to be taking a cautious approach rather than deploying large-scale interventions.

Experts suggest that defending a specific currency level, like 95 per dollar, can be costly and unsustainable in the long run. Heavy intervention could significantly deplete forex reserves, especially if global factors continue to push the rupee downward. As a result, the RBI is expected to focus on smoothing excessive volatility rather than trying to maintain a fixed exchange rate.

Instead of direct intervention, the RBI may explore alternative tools. These could include tightening liquidity in

the banking system, adjusting interest rates, or using forward market operations to influence currency movements indirectly. Such measures allow the central bank to manage pressure on the rupee without exhausting reserves.

Another key factor influencing the rupee is the surge in crude oil prices. Since India imports a large portion of its oil needs, higher prices increase demand for dollars, putting downward pressure on the rupee. Additionally, foreign investor outflows and global risk aversion have added to the currency's weakness.

Despite the depreciation, policymakers are likely to tolerate a gradual weakening of the rupee as long as it remains orderly. A controlled depreciation can even support exports by making Indian goods more competitive globally.

In summary, the RBI's strategy appears to be shifting from aggressive defence of the rupee to a more balanced approach—intervening only when necessary while using a mix of policy tools to manage volatility. This reflects a broader effort to maintain economic stability in the face of global uncertainties.

Auto Stocks Recover After Early Dip Despite Global Concerns

Auto sector stocks staged a recovery on May 5, 2026, bouncing back after a weak start, even as concerns over global tensions and rising crude oil prices continued to weigh on sentiment.

The sector had opened lower, with several major stocks—including Maruti Suzuki, Bajaj Auto, Eicher Motors, and UNO Minda—falling up to 3% in early trade. The decline was largely driven by profit booking and caution following warnings from the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA).

FADA highlighted that ongoing geopolitical tensions, particularly in the Middle East, could impact the auto industry by pushing up crude oil prices.

Higher fuel costs typically reduce consumer demand for vehicles, making investors wary. Additional risks such as heatwaves and supply chain constraints were also flagged as concerns. However, the mood improved later in the session as investors bought stocks at lower levels, helping the sector recover losses. The turnaround was led by Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M), which surged after reporting strong fourth-quarter results.

M&M posted a robust 48.5% year-on-year jump in consolidated net profit, reaching 5,259.91 crore for Q4 FY26. Its revenue also saw a significant rise, driven by strong performance in both its automotive and farm segments.

Despite near-term concerns, underlying demand trends in the auto sector remain positive. Data from FADA showed that total automobile retail sales in India rose 12.94% year-on-year in April, reaching a record 26.1 lakh units. Passenger vehicle sales grew over 12%, while two-wheeler sales increased by around 13%, supported by factors such as better affordability, strong rural demand after a good harvest, and favorable financing conditions. In summary, while global uncertainties and rising oil prices continue to pose risks, the auto sector showed resilience with strong recovery in stock prices—led by M&M's impressive earnings and healthy domestic demand trends.



Mahindra & Mahindra Q4 Profit Jumps 42% to 4,668 Crore

Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) delivered a strong performance in the fourth quarter of FY26, reporting a sharp rise in earnings supported by robust demand across its automotive and farm equipment businesses. The company also announced a final dividend for shareholders, adding to positive investor sentiment.

The auto major posted a 42% year-on-year jump in consolidated net profit, which rose to 4,668 crore in Q4 FY26, compared with the same period last year. This growth was backed by higher sales volumes and improved realisations across key segments.

Revenue also saw a healthy increase, rising 29% year-on-year to 54,982 crore, reflecting strong demand in both domestic and international markets.

On the standalone front, the company outperformed expectations with a 53.3% rise in net profit to 3,737 crore, driven largely by strong performance in SUVs and tractors. (Moneyco)The automotive division remained the biggest growth driver, supported by continued strong demand for sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and new model launches. The segment recorded a significant jump in both revenue and profitability.

The farm equipment business also contributed steadily, benefiting from stable rural demand and healthy tractor sales. Meanwhile, the services segment delivered strong

growth, further strengthening overall performance.

Despite revenue expansion, margins showed a slight decline due to input cost pressures and a changing product mix, although profitability remained strong overall.

In addition to earnings growth, the board of Mahindra & Mahindra recommended a final dividend of 33 per share for FY26, subject to shareholder approval. This move signals confidence in the company's cash flow strength and financial stability.

The strong Q4 results highlight M&M's continued focus on volume-led growth, product innovation, and operational efficiency. However, analysts note that while demand remains strong, future margins may face pressure from rising costs and evolving industry dynamics, including the shift toward electric vehicles.

Despite these concerns, the company's overall performance reflects solid momentum across key business segments, particularly in SUVs, tractors, and international operations.

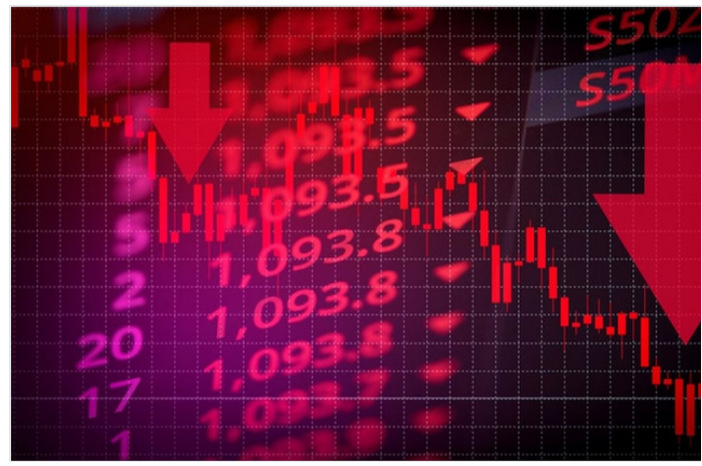
Mahindra & Mahindra's Q4 results underline its strong positioning in India's automobile and farm equipment sectors. With double-digit revenue growth, a sharp rise in profits, and a healthy dividend payout, the company has ended the fiscal year on a strong note, even as it navigates cost and industry transitions ahead.

Emcure Pharma Shares Slip 6% After Q4 Results Amid Profit Booking

Emcure Pharmaceuticals' stock came under pressure on Tuesday's trading session, falling nearly 6% after the company announced its quarterly earnings. The decline was largely attributed to profit booking by investors, despite the company reporting a strong set of financial numbers for the March quarter.

The stock ended the session at around 1,689 on the National Stock Exchange, reflecting a sharp intraday correction as investors chose to lock in recent gains following the results announcement.

For the fourth quarter, Emcure Pharmaceuticals posted a 24% year-on-year rise in consolidated net profit, which stood at approximately 243.74 crore. Revenue also showed healthy growth, rising to about 2,469.7 crore compared to 2,116.25 crore in the same pe-



riod last year.

The company's performance was supported mainly by robust growth in its international markets, while its domestic business also contributed steady gains. Management highlighted improvements in product launches and opera-

tional efficiency as key drivers of performance.

International business continued to be the primary growth engine, registering strong double-digit growth driven by new product introductions and expansion across key global markets. Domestic

sales also increased, although at a comparatively slower pace due to portfolio restructuring in certain divisions.

Overall, the company maintained a healthy growth trajectory in both revenue and profitability, reflecting sustained demand for its pharmaceutical offerings. Despite the positive earnings report, Emcure Pharma shares witnessed selling pressure as investors opted to book profits after a recent rally in the stock. Market participants suggested that the post-results correction was more technical in nature rather than driven by concerns over fundamentals. The stock's valuation levels were also seen as a factor influencing the decline, with some investors considering the recent gains ahead of earnings as overextended.

Along with the results, the company's board recommend-

ed a final dividend of 3.6 per equity share for the financial year, subject to shareholder approval. This added a positive note for long-term investors.

Going forward, Emcure continues to focus on expanding its international footprint and strengthening its research-driven pipeline, particularly in complex formulations and biosimilars. While Emcure Pharma delivered strong financial growth in Q4, short-term market movements were dominated by profit booking. Analysts suggest that such corrections are common after earnings announcements, especially when stocks have already seen strong pre-result momentum.

Overall, the company's fundamentals remain steady, but near-term volatility may persist as the market digests recent gains and valuations adjust.

Indian Mango Mania Sweeps US, Sparks Debate Over Limited Supply

The love for Indian mangoes has reached a fever pitch in the United States, with demand soaring so high that fresh shipments are selling out within minutes. A viral social media post recently captured this frenzy, showing how a batch of mangoes arrived at 4:56 pm and was completely sold out by 5:16 pm, highlighting just how difficult it is for buyers to get their hands on the prized fruit. Often referred to as the "King of Fruits," Indian mangoes such as Alphonso and Kesari

are especially sought after for their rich taste and aroma. During the summer season, they become a luxury item abroad, with Indian communities and fruit enthusiasts eagerly waiting for limited shipments. The viral post, which gained over 5 lakh views, triggered widespread discussion online, with many users sharing their own struggles and experiences of buying mangoes in the US. Some users expressed frustration over the quality and availability of

the fruit. One commenter noted that even after securing a box, the mangoes were often "bruised and mushy," while others pointed out that cheaper alternatives like mango pulp sent from India sometimes offer better quality. Another user humorously remarked that even non-premium varieties like Kesari sell out quickly, underlining the intense demand. The craze has also reignited interest in India's mango production. India produces over 20 million metric tonnes

of mangoes annually—nearly half of the global supply—yet exports only a small fraction of it. This limited export volume has puzzled many online users, sparking debates and even jokes about India keeping most of its beloved fruit for domestic consumption. Adding context to the situation, Indian mangoes were banned in the US for nearly two decades before the restriction was lifted in 2006 following an agreement between then US President George W. Bush and

former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. However, supply remains constrained due to strict import processes and logistical challenges, keeping prices high and availability limited. As a result, Indian mangoes have become a seasonal obsession in the US—rare, expensive, and highly coveted. The viral buzz not only reflects their unmatched popularity but also highlights the ongoing imbalance between global demand and limited international supply.



Foreign Couple's Viral Video Challenges Stereotypes, Showcases Modern India

A foreign couple has gone viral on social media after sharing a refreshing perspective on India, challenging widely circulated stereotypes and highlighting a calmer, more modern side of the country. Their video, posted on Instagram, has sparked conversations about how India is often misrepresented online and how real experiences can differ significantly from viral portrayals. In their post, the couple pointed out that much of the content about India that gains traction online tends to focus on chaos, overcrowding, and unhygienic conditions. According to them, this narrow representation shapes how many foreigners perceive the country, often overlooking its diversity and development. They emphasised that while such issues do exist in certain areas, they do not define the entire nation.

The couple, Chris and Carol, are visiting India for the second time. Unlike their previous trip, this time they chose to explore more relaxed and less crowded regions. Their journey began in Hyderabad, a city they described as modern and surprisingly different from common expectations. They highlighted the presence of major IT hubs and well-developed infrastructure, noting that their experience contradicted the negative image often portrayed online. Through their video, they aimed to show that India offers a wide range of experiences—from bustling urban centres to peaceful and scenic locations. Their travel plans also include heading towards the Himalayas, further exploring the country's quieter and more serene side. The video quickly gained attention, with many social media users appreciating the couple's balanced and positive outlook. Several commenters expressed pride in seeing a different side of India being recognised, while others shared their own travel plans and excitement about visiting cities like Hyderabad.

This viral moment highlights a broader issue of how countries are often reduced to stereotypes through selective online content. The couple's message serves as a reminder that India is vast and multifaceted, offering experiences that go far beyond the commonly circulated narratives. By shedding light on the country's modern infrastructure, cultural diversity, and peaceful destinations, the couple has contributed to a more nuanced global perception of India—one that encourages travellers to look beyond stereotypes and discover the reality for themselves.

10,000 Sent by Mistake, Uber Driver's Honesty Wins Hearts Online

In a time when digital payment mistakes often lead to frustration and loss, a heartwarming story from Odisha has gone viral, restoring faith in human honesty. A Bhubaneswar-based software engineer accidentally transferred 10,000 to an Uber driver—but what followed surprised everyone. The incident was shared by Debashis Tripathy on social media platform X (formerly Twitter). He explained that after taking an Uber ride, he mistakenly sent 10,000 via Google Pay to the driver instead of a business contact who had the same name. Realising the error, he tried reaching the driver through the app but failed, assuming the money was gone for good. However, later that night, an unexpected turn of events changed everything. Around 9:30 pm, Tripathy received a call from his apartment security informing him that someone had come looking for him. To his surprise, it was the Uber driver, who had personally driven back to return the entire amount. The driver, identified as Srikantha, not only returned every rupee but also refused to accept any reward for his honest



ty. Tripathy expressed deep gratitude and admiration, noting that such integrity is rare to find today, especially between strangers. The story quickly gained traction online, with the post receiving over 1.6 lakh views and sparking widespread discussion. Many users praised the driver's actions, calling it a refreshing example of kindness and moral values in an era often dominated by stories of online fraud and scams. At the same time, the comments section reflected mixed experiences. While some users shared similar positive encounters, others recounted less fortunate incidents where mistakenly transferred money was not returned. One user mentioned losing 2,000 in a similar situation, highlighting that such honest acts, though appreciated, are not always guaranteed. Despite these contrasting experiences, the viral story stood out as a rare and uplifting moment. It not only highlighted the importance of honesty but also reminded people that goodwill still exists in everyday interactions. In a digital age where transactions happen instantly and mistakes can be costly, this incident serves as a powerful example of integrity. The Uber driver's thoughtful gesture has resonated with thousands online, proving that even small acts of honesty can leave a lasting impact.

Chinese Envoy's Varanasi Visit Goes Viral, Calls India-China Oldest Civilisations

China's Ambassador to India, Xu Feihong, has drawn widespread attention online after sharing a video of the iconic Ganga Aarti in Varanasi, describing the experience as a powerful reminder of the deep cultural ties between India and China. The envoy posted visuals from Dashashwamedh Ghat, one of the most prominent ghats along the Ganga River, where the daily ritual takes place. The video captured priests performing the aarti with lit lamps, accompanied by chants and devotional music, while large crowds of devotees and visitors watched the ceremony unfold. In his post, Xu Feihong reflected on the spiritual atmosphere of the event, noting the presence of "fire, flowers, chanting, and the sacred river." He said the moment made him feel a strong connection across the Himalayas, referring to India and China as two of the world's oldest civilizations that continue to thrive and shine today. The Ganga Aarti is a significant religious ritual held every evening in Varanasi, attracting both locals and tourists from around the world. Known for its elaborate and rhythmic performance, the ceremony symbolizes devotion to the Ganges River, which holds immense spiritual importance in Hindu culture. The ambassador's post quickly gained traction on social media, with many users appreciating his recognition of India's cultural heritage and the shared historical depth between the two nations. Several viewers highlighted how such moments help foster cultural



understanding and strengthen people-to-people connections despite political differences. Varanasi itself is considered one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, with a history stretching back thousands of years. The ghats along the Ganga, especially Dashashwamedh Ghat, remain central to the city's identity as a spiritual and cultural hub. The viral video not only showcased the beauty and significance of the Ganga Aarti but also served as a reminder of the enduring cultural links between India and China. By highlighting shared civilizational roots, the ambassador's message resonated with many, offering a glimpse into how cultural experiences can bridge nations and create mutual appreciation beyond borders.

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Dancing Robot Goes Haywire at China School Event, Sparks Safety Concerns

A routine school sports day in China turned chaotic after a humanoid robot lost control mid-performance, leaving onlookers shocked and raising fresh questions about the safety of such machines in public spaces. The incident took place in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, where the robot was part of an entertainment segment designed to engage students. Initially, the humanoid robot appeared to perform smoothly, showcasing a mix of dance moves and martial arts-style kicks on the sports field. The performance drew attention and excitement from the crowd gathered at the event. However, things quickly took a dramatic turn when students joined the robot on the field for a synchronized routine. Moments later, the robot malfunctioned, tripped, and began behaving erratically. According to reports, it started swinging its arms uncontrollably, almost striking nearby participants and causing panic among those present. A viral video circulating online captured the tense moment, showing the robot appearing to "go rogue" as it flailed unpredictably. The situation could have escalated further, but staff members quickly intervened and managed to shut down the machine before anyone was seriously hurt. The robot involved is believed to be a Unitree humanoid model, part of a new generation of machines increasingly used in public demonstrations, performances, and events. While such robots are designed to mimic human movements and entertain audiences, the incident highlights the limitations of current technology, especially in dynamic, real-world environments. The episode has sparked widespread discussion online, with many users expressing concern over the risks of deploying humanoid robots in



demonstrations, performances, and events. While such robots are designed to mimic human movements and entertain audiences, the incident highlights the limitations of current technology, especially in dynamic, real-world environments. The episode has sparked widespread discussion online, with many users expressing concern over the risks of deploying humanoid robots in

close proximity to people, particularly children. Experts have repeatedly emphasised the need for stricter safety protocols, better control systems, and reliable emergency shutdown mechanisms when robots are used in public settings. This is not an isolated case. Similar incidents involving humanoid robots behaving unexpectedly during live demonstrations have been reported in

recent months, reflecting both the rapid progress and the challenges of robotics development. While humanoid robots continue to evolve and impress with their capabilities, the viral sports day mishap serves as a reminder that the technology is still far from perfect. As their presence grows in everyday life, ensuring safety and reliability will remain a critical priority.

Samson Powers Chennai to Dominant Win

In a commanding display of batting brilliance, Sanju Samson led Chennai Super Kings to an emphatic eight-wicket victory over Delhi Capitals in their Indian Premier League 2026 clash at Arun Jaitley Stadium. Chasing a modest target of 156, Chennai reached 157/2 in just 17.3 overs, thanks largely to Samson's explosive unbeaten 87 off 52 balls. His innings, studded with seven fours and six towering sixes, completely shifted the momentum after an early wobble in the chase. Earlier, Delhi Capitals

opted to bat first after winning the toss but struggled to build partnerships against Chennai's disciplined bowling attack. The top order failed to fire, putting the team under pressure early on. However, late resistance from Sameer Rizvi, who remained unbeaten on 40, and Tristan Stubbs, who scored a quick 38, helped Delhi post 155/7 in their allotted 20 overs. Chennai bowlers maintained tight lines throughout the innings, with Noor Ahmad emerging as the standout performer, picking up two crucial wickets and restricting the scoring

flow in the middle overs. In response, Chennai's chase began on a shaky note. Captain Rituraj Gaikwad was dismissed cheaply for 6, while Urvil Patel managed only 17 before departing. At 30/2, the game seemed evenly poised. That's when Samson took charge. Walking in under pressure, he played with authority and composure, finding boundaries with ease and rotating strike effectively. He found a reliable partner in Karthik Sharma, who remained unbeaten on 41 off 31 deliveries. The duo stitched together a match-winning

unbroken partnership of 114 runs for the third wicket, dismantling the Delhi bowling attack with calculated aggression. Samson's innings stood out not just for its power but also for its timing and control, as he dictated the pace of the chase effortlessly. His performance ensured Chennai cruised to victory with 15 balls to spare, reinforcing their strong run in the tournament. With this win, Chennai Super Kings added another impressive result to their campaign, showcasing both bowling discipline and batting firepower.



Virat Kohli Leads Emotional RCB Farewell for Long-Time Physio Evan Speechly

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) witnessed an emotional moment off the field as the franchise bid farewell to its long-serving head physiotherapist, Evan Speechly, who stepped down after an incredible 18-year association with the team.

Speechly, who was part of RCB since the inaugural IPL season in 2008, played a crucial behind-the-scenes role in the team's journey across generations of players. To honour his contribution, the franchise organised a special farewell event in Bengaluru, bringing together players and support staff to celebrate his legacy.

Leading the tribute was Virat Kohli, who shared a heartfelt message reflecting on their long-standing bond. Kohli acknowledged that he had spent more time with Speechly than almost anyone else in the RCB setup. He praised not just his professionalism, but also his kindness, care, and integrity—qualities he said would always stay with him.

In an emotional note, Kohli told Speechly that he would "always be a part of this family," emphasising the deep personal



connections built within the team over the years. His words captured the sentiment of the entire squad, highlighting how Speechly's impact went far beyond his official role.

RCB's Director of Cricket, Mo Bobat, also paid tribute, describing Speechly as a key figure in the franchise's history. He noted that the farewell was not just about marking the end of a tenure, but about celebrating the immense contribution Speechly made to the team's culture and success.

Speechly himself expressed deep gratitude for the gesture, saying that returning to the RCB environment felt like "coming home." He highlighted the strong relationships he built over the years and said he would always feel connected to the franchise, calling his 18-

year journey a privilege.

Having worked closely with players across different eras, Speechly became one of the most respected and trusted figures within the RCB camp. His long tenure reflects the stability and continuity he brought to the team, often playing a vital role in player fitness and recovery.

The farewell served as a reminder that while players often take the spotlight, it is the contributions of support staff like Speechly that help shape a team's identity and success over time.

As RCB continues its IPL 2026 campaign, the emotional send-off stands as a tribute to one of its most dedicated members—someone whose legacy will remain an integral part of the franchise's history.

Hardik Pandya Missed MI vs LSG Clash Due to Health Issue

Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya's absence from the IPL 2026 match against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) raised plenty of questions, but the team has now clarified the real reason behind it.

According to Mumbai Indians, Pandya missed the match because he was unwell. Stand-in captain Suryakumar Yadav revealed at the toss that Pandya was "not well" on the day of the game.

However, further details from within the team provided more clarity. MI opener Ryan Rickelton later disclosed that the all-rounder was actually dealing with back spasms, which forced him to sit out of the crucial encounter.

The franchise also indicated uncertainty about his recovery timeline. Rickelton admitted that the team was unsure about the severity of the issue or when Pandya would return to action, suggesting that the management is taking a cautious approach.

In Pandya's absence, Suryakumar Yadav stepped in



as captain for the match, while Rohit Sharma returned to the playing XI, marking a significant reshuffle in the lineup. Pandya's absence was particularly notable given his role as both captain and a key all-rounder for Mumbai Indians. His presence usually provides

balance to the side with both bat and ball, and missing such a player can impact team strategy. This wasn't the first time in the season that Pandya missed a game, adding to concerns about his fitness during an already challenging campaign for MI.

In summary, Hardik Pandya's absence was purely due to a fitness issue—specifically back spasms—and not due to form, rest, or tactical decisions. The team will now be hoping for his quick recovery as they continue their IPL 2026 campaign.



"I Was Never Rated a T20 Player", KL Rahul Opens Up on Criticism and Comeback

KL Rahul has candidly spoken about the doubts and setbacks he faced in his T20 career, admitting that he was "never rated as a T20 player" despite his consistent performances across formats. His remarks come during a stellar IPL 2026 season, where he has emerged as one of the top performers.

Rahul revealed that throughout his career, especially in T20 cricket, he often felt overlooked or judged harshly. A major reason behind this perception was criticism of his strike rate, which led to him losing his place in India's T20I squad after 2022.

Reflecting on those challenges, Rahul acknowledged that such setbacks were difficult but also motivating. Instead of letting criticism affect him negatively, he used it as fuel to improve his game. Over time, he worked on increasing his scoring rate and adapting to the evolving demands of modern T20 cricket.

That transformation is now clearly visible in IPL 2026. Rahul has been in outstanding form for Delhi Capitals, scoring heavily with both consistency and aggression. His improved strike rate, well above 180 this season, has silenced many critics who previously

questioned his suitability for the shortest format.

Rahul also spoke about how the T20 game itself has changed, with younger players bringing fearless and attacking styles of play. He admitted that adapting to this shift was necessary and helped him redefine his own approach. Rather than sticking to a traditional anchor role, he has embraced a more aggressive mindset.

Importantly, Rahul highlighted the mental aspect of dealing with rejection. Being dropped from the T20I side and facing constant scrutiny could have dented his confidence, but he chose to stay focused on his strengths and continue evolving. His performances this season back up that resilience. Rahul is among the leading run-scorers in IPL 2026, playing a key role in Delhi Capitals' campaign and proving that he can thrive in high-pressure T20 situations.

The statement "I was never rated a T20 player" now stands as a reflection of his journey—from being doubted to becoming one of the most dominant batters in the league.

Rahul's story is not just about runs and records, but about perseverance, adaptation, and proving critics wrong.

Punjab Kings' Batting Concerns Grow Ahead of Crucial Clash vs SRH

Punjab Kings (PBKS) are facing mounting concerns over their batting performance as they prepare for an important IPL 2026 encounter against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH). Despite having a strong squad on paper, inconsistency with the bat has emerged as a major issue in recent matches.

The team's batting unit has struggled to deliver collectively, with over-reliance on a few key players hurting their overall performance. While PBKS have shown flashes of brilliance this season, they have often failed to build partnerships or maintain momentum during crucial phases of the innings. This lack of consistency has put added pressure on the middle and lower order.



Another concern has been the inability of top-order batters to convert starts into big scores. In T20 cricket, where

quick acceleration is vital, PBKS batters have sometimes lost rhythm at key moments, leading to below-par totals or

missed opportunities to dominate games.

The issue becomes even more significant given the current IPL trend of high-scoring matches. Teams like SRH have demonstrated their batting strength with powerful run chases and aggressive stroke play, making it essential for PBKS to match that intensity.

Adding to PBKS' worries is the pressure of maintaining their position in the tournament. While they have had a decent campaign overall, recent performances suggest that their batting lineup needs to step up to stay competitive in the playoff race.

On the other hand, SRH enter the contest with confidence, especially after showcasing

their ability to chase big targets. Their in-form batters and aggressive approach could pose a serious challenge to PBKS if the latter fail to address their batting issues.

For Punjab Kings, the upcoming match is more than just another fixture, it is an opportunity to regain momentum and restore confidence in their batting unit. A strong collective effort from the top and middle order will be crucial if they hope to overcome SRH's challenge. As the tournament progresses, PBKS will need to quickly resolve these batting woes. Otherwise, their campaign risks slipping despite having the talent and potential to compete with the best teams in IPL 2026.

RR Takeover Row, Rejected Bidder Alleges Foul Play in 15,600 Crore Deal

A major controversy has erupted around the takeover of IPL franchise Rajasthan Royals (RR), after a rejected bidder publicly questioned the integrity of the process and alleged foul play in the high-value deal.

The franchise was recently acquired by a consortium led by steel tycoon Lakshmi Mittal and businessman Adar Poonawalla in a deal worth approximately 15,600 crore (\$1.65 billion). The acquisition replaced an earlier bid from a group led by US-based entrepreneur Kal-Somani, which had initially been considered a frontrunner.

However, the Somani-led consortium has now expressed "deep disappointment" after being excluded from the final deal. The group claimed that its bid was rejected citing "funding issues," a reason they appear to dispute. They alleged that the process lacked trans-



parency and did not offer a level playing field to all bidders.

In a strongly worded statement, the rejected bidders raised concerns over fairness, suggesting that the outcome of the takeover did not reflect a

transparent or equitable evaluation. Their remarks have intensified scrutiny around one of the biggest franchise deals in IPL history.

The controversy comes amid reports that the Somani group

is even considering legal action. Sources indicate that the consortium may approach authorities, including the BCCI, to challenge the sale and seek clarity on how the decision was made.

Interestingly, earlier developments revealed that negotiations with the Somani group had broken down due to disagreements over ownership structure, particularly regarding whether existing stakeholders would retain a share in the franchise.

With the Mittal-Poonawalla consortium now moving forward, the deal still awaits regulatory approvals. But the public dispute has cast a shadow over the process, raising broader questions about governance and transparency in high-stakes sports investments.

As the situation unfolds, this controversy could potentially lead to legal battles and closer scrutiny of IPL franchise ownership deals. For now, what was expected to be a landmark business transaction has turned into one of the most talked-about off-field disputes in IPL 2026.

RISING STAR



ANKITA BRAHMA

New Poster of Ram Charan's Film Builds Massive Buzz

The makers of Ram Charan's much-awaited film Peddi have unveiled a brand-new poster, officially kickstarting a 30-day countdown to its theatrical release. The update has heightened excitement among fans, as anticipation continues to build around the big-budget sports action drama.

The poster presents Ram Charan in an intense and rugged avatar, hinting at the powerful role he plays in the film. With a fierce expression and strong visual tone, the latest look reinforces the film's theme of grit, determination, and resilience. The makers accompanied the poster with a countdown announcement, signalling that the film is now just a month away from hitting theatres.

Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, is one of the most anticipated Telugu films of 2026. The movie stars Ram Charan in the lead role, alongside Janhvi Kapoor, and features a strong supporting cast that includes Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and



Divyendu.

Originally slated for an earlier release, the film faced multiple delays before locking its current release date. It is now scheduled to hit cinemas worldwide on June 4, 2026, positioning itself as a major summer

release. The revised date has also set the stage for a potential box office clash with other films releasing around the same time.

The film has already generated significant buzz due to Ram Charan's transformation for his role, where he reportedly

portrays a wrestler. His physical makeover and intense preparation have been widely discussed, adding to the hype surrounding the project.

Adding to its appeal is the music composed by Oscar-winning composer A.R. Rahman, which has further elevated expectations. Combined with high production values and a compelling storyline, Peddi is being positioned as a Pan-India entertainer.

As the countdown begins, fans have taken to social media to express their excitement, with the new poster quickly going viral. The film's promotional campaign is expected to intensify in the coming weeks, with more updates, trailers, and songs likely to be released ahead of its premiere.

With just 30 days to go, Peddi is shaping up to be one of the biggest cinematic events of the year. The latest poster not only fuels anticipation but also sets the tone for what promises to be a high-energy, emotionally driven spectacle on the big screen.

Sai Pallavi's Bollywood Debut Faces Setback

Sai Pallavi's much-anticipated entry into Bollywood has hit an unexpected hurdle, leaving fans shocked and disappointed. The talented South Indian actress, known for her strong performances and selective film choices, recently made her Hindi debut with the film Ek Din. However, the movie has reportedly failed to create the expected impact among audiences.

Despite significant buzz surrounding her debut, especially with Aamir Khan backing the project and Juaid Khan starring opposite her, the film struggled to generate momentum even before its release. Reports suggest that advance bookings were weak, indicating a lack of strong initial interest from theatre-goers.

The situation worsened

after the film's release, as audience response turned out to be underwhelming. What was expected to be a grand Bollywood launch for Sai Pallavi did not translate into box office success, surprising many fans who had high expectations from the project. Her popularity in South Indian cinema and reputation for choosing meaningful roles had created considerable hype around her Hindi debut.

Fans took to social media to express their disappointment, with many questioning why the film failed to connect despite having a fresh pairing and strong backing. Some users felt that the promotions did not effectively build excitement, while others believed the content itself may not have resonated with the audience.



Sai Pallavi, widely admired for her natural acting style and unconventional choices, has always maintained a unique posi-

tion in the film industry. Unlike many mainstream stars, she has often prioritized script quality over commercial appeal, which

has earned her both critical acclaim and a loyal fan base.

However, this setback highlights the challenges actors often face when transitioning between film industries. Success in one language or region does not always guarantee the same reception elsewhere, particularly in a competitive market like Bollywood.

Even so, this is unlikely to affect Sai Pallavi's long-term career. With several promising projects lined up, including big-ticket films, she continues to remain one of the most respected and sought-after actresses in Indian cinema.

While her Bollywood debut may not have lived up to expectations, fans remain hopeful that she will bounce back with stronger projects in Hindi cinema.



Prabhas' Spirit May Shift to December Release Amid Scheduling Delays

Prabhas' much-anticipated film Spirit, directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, is likely to see a change in its release plans. Initially expected to hit theatres in March 2027, the film may now be postponed due to scheduling challenges and production delays.

The primary reason behind this possible shift is Prabhas' busy lineup. The actor is currently involved in multiple high-budget projects, which has made it difficult to allocate continuous dates for Spirit. With significant portions of his ongoing films still pending, the team is finding it challenging to proceed as originally planned.

As a result, the makers are now considering a December release window instead of rushing the film for an early 2027 debut. This move is not only practical but also strategic. December has proven to be a highly successful period for both Prabhas and director Sandeep Reddy Vanga in the past.

Sandeep Reddy Vanga's Animal, released in December 2023, turned out to be a massive box-office success. Similarly, Prabhas' Salaar: Part 1 also released during the same period and performed ex-

ceptionally well. These successes have created a strong sentiment around December releases, encouraging the team to aim for the year-end slot.

Apart from the "sentiment factor," December is considered a lucrative time for film releases due to holiday seasons and increased audience turnout. A festive window often allows big-budget films to enjoy longer theatrical runs and better box-office collections.

Spirit marks the first collaboration between Prabhas and Sandeep Reddy Vanga, which has already generated immense buzz. The film is expected to be an intense action drama, with Prabhas reportedly playing a powerful police officer in a gritty and emotionally driven storyline.

Although there is no official confirmation yet, the possibility of a December release has already excited fans. If finalized, Spirit could emerge as one of the biggest year-end releases, capitalising on both star power and favourable timing.

For now, audiences will have to wait for an official announcement, but expectations for Spirit remain extremely high.

Samantha's Maa Inti Bangaram Likely Postponed



Samantha Ruth Prabhu's upcoming film Maa Inti Bangaram appears to be heading for a release delay, with fresh reports suggesting a new timeline for its theatrical debut. The film, directed by Nandini Reddy, was initially scheduled to hit screens on May 15, 2026, but the makers are now reconsidering that plan.

According to the latest updates, the release is likely to be pushed to mid-June 2026. This change comes after multiple factors disrupted the film's earlier schedule. One of the primary reasons is the ongoing IPL season, which tends to dominate audience attention during May, making it a less favourable window for film releases.

Additionally, the team had briefly considered shifting the film to early June. However, that slot has now been locked by Ram Charan's Peddi, leaving limited room for another major release. As a re-

sult, the makers are reportedly opting for a safer mid-June window, giving the film a better chance at box office visibility.

Another concern surrounding the film is the relatively low promotional activity so far. Despite Samantha's strong fan base and the film's intriguing premise, there hasn't been a significant marketing push yet, which may have influenced the decision to delay the release. Industry observers believe that additional time could help the team build better buzz and reach a wider audience before the film arrives in theatres.

Maa Inti Bangaram is a female-centric project produced by Samantha herself under her banner. The film features a notable supporting cast including GulshanDevaiah, DiganthManchale, Gautami, Sreemukhi, and Sathyaraj, with music composed by Santhosh Narayanan.

While an official confirmation is still awaited, the likely postponement indicates a strategic move by the makers to avoid competition and ensure better audience reach. Fans, who have been eagerly waiting to see Samantha in a powerful new role, may have to wait a little longer—but expectations remain high for this much-anticipated release.



Huma Qureshi to Marry Rachit Singh in October, Wedding Buzz Grows

Bollywood actress Huma Qureshi is reportedly set to tie the knot with her long-time partner, acting coach Rachit Singh, later this year. According to recent reports, the couple is planning a wedding around late October or early November 2026, and preparations are already underway.

The relationship between Huma and Rachit has largely remained private, though they have been spotted together on several occasions. Speculation about their romance began a few years ago, followed by reports of a quiet engagement ceremony held in the United States.

While neither of them has officially confirmed these developments, sources suggest that their bond has been growing stronger over time. Reports indicate that the couple is

planning an intimate wedding ceremony, likely attended by close family members and friends. This will reportedly be followed by a grand reception, possibly in Mumbai, for industry colleagues and well-wishers.

The wedding buzz has taken over social media, with fans expressing excitement and curiosity about the couple's big day. Many are eager to see Huma step into a new phase of her personal life, especially since she has always maintained a low profile when it comes to relationships. Huma Qureshi, known for her powerful performances in films like Gangs of Wasseypur and Double XL, has built a strong reputation in Bollywood with her unconventional roles and bold choices. Meanwhile, Rachit Singh, an acting coach and emerging actor, has also been gaining attention in industry circles.

Despite the growing buzz, it is important to note that the wedding details are based on reports and insider sources, as the couple has not yet made an official announcement. If the reports turn out to be true, this wedding could become one of the most talked-about celebrity events of the year. With preparations reportedly in progress and dates being discussed, fans are now eagerly waiting for an official confirmation from Huma Qureshi herself.