



Kishan Reddy Highlights 12 Lakh Crore Central Support to Telangana Ahead of Modi's Visit

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy shared key details with the media after inspecting arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public meeting at the Parade Grounds in Hyderabad. He said that during the Prime Minister's visit on May 10, Modi will virtually inaugurate and lay foundation stones for multiple development projects from the HICC. Kishan Reddy stated that the Central Government has extended nearly 12 lakh crore in support for Telangana's development through various schemes, institutions, and infrastructure projects. He noted that Telangana's national highway network has seen significant expansion under the Modi government. From around 2,400 km at the time of independence until 2014, the state now has an additional 2,500 km of highways developed in the last 11 years. He also mentioned ongoing development of 42 railway stations and major projects such as the Ramagundam Fertilizer Plant, NTPC units, rail manufacturing facilities, and Sammakka-Sarakka University. The Minister said that further projects will continue to be inaugurated and launched in phases over the coming years, reflecting the Centre's commitment to Telangana's growth. Referring to the upcoming public meeting, he said it is expected to be one of the largest gatherings addressed by Prime Minister Modi, with strong participation from across Telangana. Special arrangements, including transport facilities and cultural programmes, have been made to accommodate the large turnout. He urged people from all sections of society to attend the event and extend support under the slogan "Modi for Nation, Nation for Modi." Kishan Reddy also criticised previous BRS and present Congress governments, alleging financial mismanagement and unfulfilled promises, stating that Telangana has been pushed into heavy debt despite its earlier strong financial position.

Karimnagar Political Clash Sparks Tension

Karimnagar, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Karimnagar witnessed heightened political tension as confrontations between BRS and BJP leaders escalated, creating a charged atmosphere around the camp office of MLA Gangula Kamalakar. The situation intensified after remarks made by BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy targeting Union Minister Bandi Sanjay triggered strong reactions from BJP workers.



Kaushik Reddy had made serious allegations, including claims about drug consumption, which provoked outrage among BJP supporters. In response, a large group of BJP activists gathered at the MLA's camp office, leading to vandalism of vehicles and damage to property. Attempts by police to control the crowd were partially successful, but tensions remained high as the situation unfolded. The incident quickly turned into a broader political confrontation, with exchanges between leaders crossing the boundaries of routine criticism. What began as verbal sparring soon escalated into personal attacks, deepening the rift between the two parties. Social media further amplified the controversy as statements and counter-statements went viral, intensifying public debate.

Earlier, Union Minister Bandi Sanjay had challenged opposition leaders on certain allegations, which was met with a sharp counter from Kaushik Reddy. He questioned the credibility of such claims and demanded that similar scrutiny be applied across the board, further fueling political friction in the region. Observers note that the dispute has moved beyond policy discussions, shifting instead into personal accusations and aggressive political messaging. This has raised concerns among local residents, who are increasingly uneasy about the

growing hostility in the district's political landscape. Many citizens have expressed concern that such confrontations are diverting attention from key public issues like development, infrastructure, and governance. Instead of constructive debate, the focus appears to have shifted toward political one-upmanship and public display of strength. Political analysts point out that Karimnagar, a key constituency in Telangana politics, is becoming a flashpoint for rivalry between major parties. With local body and future elections in view, leaders appear to be asserting dominance through aggressive rhetoric and mass mobilization. The latest incident has left the public watching closely, as questions arise about whether such confrontations serve any developmental purpose or are merely political theatre. The coming days are expected to determine whether tensions ease or further escalate in the region.

BUZZ POINTS



Leaders Change DPs to Mark Operation Sindoor Anniversary

PAGE 07



Bengal Assembly Dissolved After Mamata Refuses to Quit

PAGE 07



Komatireddy Reddy Raises Key Demands in Indiramma Housing Review Meeting

PAGE 02

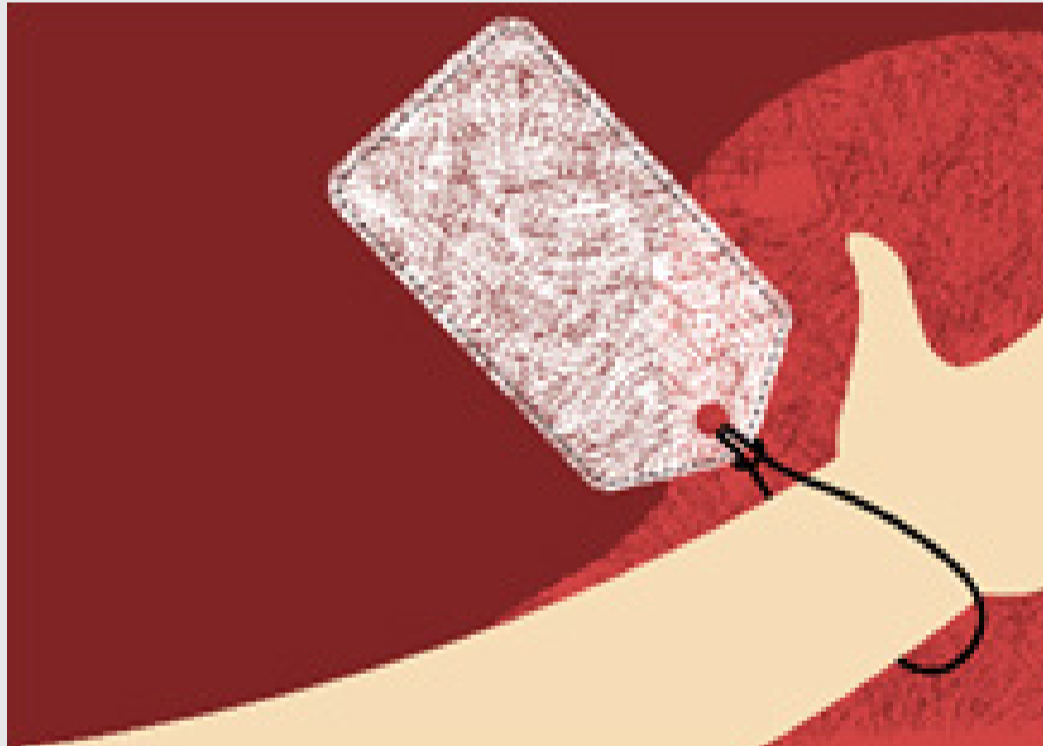
Telangana Reports Highest Human Trafficking Cases in India; Andhra Pradesh Ranks Third: NCRB 2024

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

The latest Crime in India 2024 report released by the Ministry of Home Affairs through the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has revealed a disturbing rise in human trafficking cases across the country, with Telangana recording the highest number and Andhra Pradesh ranking third nationally.

Based on an analysis conducted by the HELP Organization, Telangana registered 423 human trafficking cases during 2024, the highest among all states. Maharashtra followed with 337 cases, while Andhra Pradesh reported 159 cases, placing it among the top three states affected by trafficking.

The findings show that trafficking for sexual exploitation remains the dominant form of crime in both Telugu states. Telangana alone reported 770 victims subjected to sexual exploitation, whereas Andhra Pradesh recorded 279 such victims. Cases related to forced labour were comparatively fewer in both states, indicating that commercial sexual exploitation remains the primary concern.



Overall, Telangana recorded 814 victims of trafficking, of which 792 were women and girls. Andhra Pradesh documented 313 victims, including 291 females. While adult women formed the most affected group, child trafficking also

continues to be a serious issue. Telangana rescued 49 minors during the year, while Andhra Pradesh rescued 27 children from trafficking situations.

The report also highlights that Telangana's trafficking crime rate stood at 1.1 per lakh

population, significantly higher than the national average of 0.2. Andhra Pradesh recorded a rate of 0.3, which is also above the national benchmark.

Hyderabad has been identified as a key trafficking hub,

acting as both a destination and transit point for interstate trafficking networks. There are also indications of international linkages, with foreign nationals, including victims from Bangladesh, found in Telangana. Despite large numbers of cases being registered and victims rescued, conviction rates remain alarmingly low. Andhra Pradesh reported a conviction rate of 2.4%, while Telangana stood at just 1.9%, even though both states maintained nearly full chargesheeting rates. Experts attribute this gap to weak prosecution, lack of witness protection, and inadequate survivor rehabilitation mechanisms.

Institutionally, Telangana has set up Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in all 30 police districts, ensuring full coverage. Andhra Pradesh, however, has only 13 AHTUs across 26 districts, reflecting limited reach. The HELP Organization has urged authorities to strengthen anti-trafficking frameworks through expanded AHTUs, fast-track courts, improved rehabilitation, cyber monitoring, and stronger inter-state coordination to dismantle organised trafficking networks.

Assistive Devices Distributed in Sircilla; Bandi Sanjay Calls Disability a Strength

Karimnagar, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Thursday said that physical disability should not be viewed as a limitation, but as a form of strength, emphasizing that determination and confidence are key to achieving success.

He was speaking at a programme held in Sircilla where assistive devices worth 84 lakh were distributed to 466 persons with disabilities. A total of 813 aids and equipment were handed over during the event. District Collector Garima Agarwal was also present.

The distribution was carried out under the ADIP scheme and ALIMCO support, with funding assistance from Indian Oil Corporation Limited. The minister stated that the government has been actively expanding welfare initiatives aimed at supporting persons with disabilities, senior citizens, and pregnant women.

He noted that more than 100 crore has been spent so far on welfare measures in the Karimnagar Parliamentary constituency. Highlighting central

support, he said the Union government has increased budget allocations for disability welfare compared to the previous regime, with 1,600 crore allocated this year for schemes such as Accessible India and digital identity-based services.

Bandi Sanjay Kumar further said the government's goal is to ensure assistive equipment reaches every eligible beneficiary without delay. He also mentioned that nutritional support for anganwadi centres, including milk and eggs for children and pregnant women, is being provided through central assistance.

Encouraging the beneficiaries, he urged them to remain confident and not allow physical conditions to define their identity. He said individuals should actively explore opportunities in areas such as arts, sports, education, and technology.

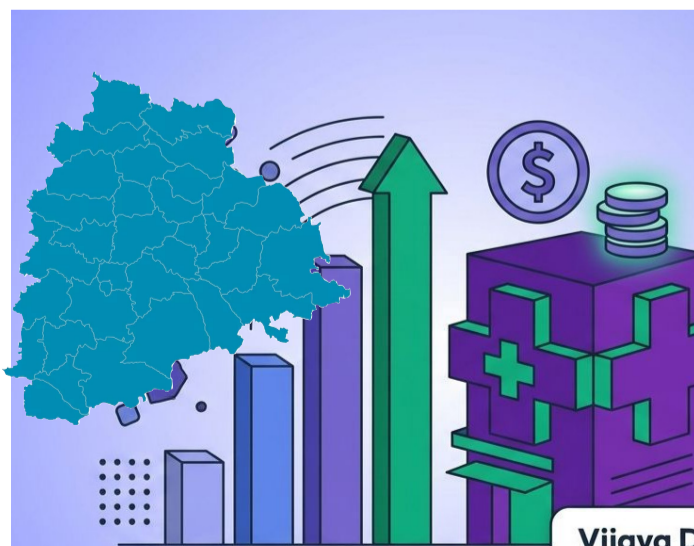
The minister concluded by reiterating that inclusive development remains a priority and that empowerment of persons with disabilities is essential for building a stronger society.

Telangana Begins FY 2026-27 on Strong Revenue Growth

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

The financial year 2026-27 has started on a strong note for Telangana, with the state reporting a notable rise in its own tax revenues during April. Growth in GST collections, excise income, and property registrations contributed to the overall positive fiscal performance. Officials stated that the first-month figures reflect sustained economic momentum, higher consumption levels, and improved tax compliance across sectors.

The most significant boost came from the Goods and Services Tax (GST), which registered a 35% year-on-year increase. GST revenue for April 2026 stood at 4,621 crore, compared to 3,422 crore in the same month last year. According to the Commercial Taxes Department, this is the highest-ever monthly GST collection since the tax regime was introduced. It also surpassed the previous record of 4,231 crore recorded in March 2026.



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Officials highlighted that GST collections have remained consistently above 4,000 crore for the past four months, indicating strong economic activity and steady fiscal buoyancy. The growth was driven by increased business operations across multiple sectors, supported by a favorable investment climate, expansion of in-

dustries, and rising consumer demand. Strengthened enforcement and compliance mechanisms further contributed to higher revenue realization.

The excise department also reported encouraging performance, with liquor sales generating 2,993 crore in April 2026, compared to 2,773 crore in April last year. Authorities at-

tributed this rise mainly to increased demand for beer during the peak summer season, which saw unusually high temperatures across the state.

Similarly, the Stamps and Registrations Department recorded revenue of 1,399 crore in April 2026, an increase from 1,115 crore in April 2025. This reflects a rise of 284.43 crore. The growth was largely driven by high-value property transactions in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri, and Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri districts.

Although the number of registered documents declined slightly to 1.30 lakh from 1.45 lakh last year, officials noted that overall revenue increased significantly. This indicates a shift toward higher-value property deals in the real estate market.

Overall, the April performance highlights Telangana's improving fiscal strength and continued economic resilience at the start of the new financial year.

Drug Control Top Priority for Telangana Police: DGP CV Anand

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Director General of Police C.V. Anand has stated that controlling the spread of drugs in the state is the police department's highest priority. He warned that stringent measures, including provisions similar to the Preventive Detention (PD) Act, would be invoked against repeat offenders involved in narcotics cases.

On Thursday, during his first review meeting after assuming charge as State DGP, Anand conducted an extensive review of the Eagle Force and various anti-drug operations. He said discussions covered activities carried out both within Telangana and across the country. According to him, the Eagle Force has produced encouraging results through coordinated operations that led to the arrest of several accused and the seizure of large quantities of narcotics, including through international-level investigations. The DGP said the depart-



ment is focusing equally on disrupting drug supply chains and reducing demand. He also pointed out the shortage of manpower in the Eagle Force and stressed the need for additional personnel from the Civil Police wing.

Anand announced that authorities would begin targeting the financial assets of drug traffickers as part of stricter enforcement measures. He urged Police Commissioners and Superintendents of Police to play a more active role in anti-drug efforts, noting that inadequate monitoring at the district level had emerged dur-

ing the review. He further directed that the five dedicated Narcotics Police Stations in the state be strengthened to function more effectively. The DGP also warned educational institutions that management would be held accountable if drugs were found on campuses.

Additionally, he said de-addiction centres are being established across Telangana with Central government support, while district-level officers will receive specialized training in narcotics investigations through the Eagle Force initiative.



Jupally Releases Telangana Samskruthika Sarathi Annual Progress Report

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Excise Jupally Krishna Rao released the annual progress report of Telangana Samskruthika Sarathi at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat on Thursday. The event was held under the Praja Palana (People's Administration) initiative of the state government, in the presence of Samskruthika Sarathi Chairperson Dr. G.V. Vennela Gaddar and senior officials from the cultural department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the government is committed to strengthening Samskruthika Sarathi and aligning its activities with the broader vision of people-centric governance. He appreciated the release of the progress report in book format, describing it as a meaningful step toward documenting the organisation's work and achievements. He high-

lighted that after the formation of the new government, priority was given to improving the welfare of artists. This included increasing their remuneration and clearing long-pending transfers that had been unresolved for nearly a decade. Jupally Krishna Rao also noted that training programmes are being organised for artists across various traditional art forms, including Dappu, to help preserve and promote cultural heritage while bringing hidden talents to the forefront. He added that special focus is being given to the health and welfare of artists, with measures introduced to ensure timely medical support.

On the occasion, copies of the report were presented to Special Chief Secretary for Tourism and Culture A. Vani Prasad, Director of Language and Culture Dr. Enugu Narasimha Reddy, and Advisory Committee member Mucherla Dinakar, who participated in the programme.



Hyderabad Set to Become Global City by 2036: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has said that Telangana is on a structured path to transform Hyderabad into a globally recognised city within the next decade, with a strong focus on attracting large-scale international investments and building future-ready infrastructure.

Speaking at the NASSCOM GCC Summit 2026 held in Mumbai on Thursday, the Minister said the government is adopting a long-term development strategy under the "Telangana Rising Vision 2047," which aims to increase the state's contribution to India's GDP to 10% by 2047.

He emphasised that rapid urbanisation in many global cities has led to infrastructure stress, and Telangana is determined to avoid such challenges by adopting planned and sustainable urban development. Instead of reacting to future demands, the government is proactively creating systems and infrastructure to shape it, he added.

The Minister highlighted

major ongoing and planned initiatives such as Future City, AI City, Metro rail expansion, new airport development, Regional Ring Road (RRR), Musi River rejuvenation project, Young India Skills University, and the i-CoVE Innovation Hub.

He noted that Hyderabad is emerging as a preferred destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) across multiple sectors, including IT, banking, life sciences, semiconductors, defence, FMCG, space technology, and hospitality. Over 70 GCCs were established last year, the highest in India, and the target is to set up 100 new GCCs this year, creating around one lakh jobs.

The government is also working on converting GCCs into Global Value Centres by encouraging innovation and higher-value operations. Sridhar Babu invited investors to take advantage of Telangana's skilled workforce and supportive industrial ecosystem, assuring full government cooperation. NASSCOM leadership, including Chairman Srikanth and President Rajesh Nambiar, attended the summit

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Seethakka announced a significant enhancement of financial support for women's self-help groups, stating that the interest-free loan limit per group has been raised from 5 lakh to 10 lakh. She

also assured that the government will bear the entire interest burden on bank loans up to this revised limit. Addressing a large gathering, the Minister said the government will spend around 2,500 crore this year alone to cover interest payments on loans extended to women's groups. She added

Transport Dept Steps Up Support for Paddy Procurement Movement

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

In response to the heavy arrival of paddy at procurement centres across the state, the Transport Department has stepped in to streamline logistics and ensure smooth movement of grain to storage facilities and rice mills.

Following a request from the Civil Supplies Department for additional transport arrangements, Transport Department Commissioner Ilambarthi has issued clear instructions to District Transport Officers (DTOs) to coordinate effectively and expedite vehicle mobilisation.

Officials have been directed to work in close coordination

with district administrations and Civil Supplies authorities to ensure uninterrupted transportation operations. The focus has been placed on arranging a sufficient number of goods vehicles to handle the large-scale procurement movement without delays.

The commissioner also stressed strict compliance with transport regulations. DTOs have been instructed to verify that all deployed vehicles possess valid registration certificates, pollution under control (PUC) certificates, fitness documents, and insurance coverage. In addition, it has been mandated that drivers must hold valid driving licences before being assigned duties.

Authorities have been told to

ensure that the entire movement of paddy from procurement centres to designated storage points or rice mills is carried out smoothly, without logistical bottlenecks or disruptions.

To maintain efficiency and accountability, district transport officials have also been asked to continuously monitor the transportation process and submit regular progress reports to the Office of the State Transport Commissioner.

The directive aims to strengthen coordination between departments and prevent delays in the procurement and distribution chain during the ongoing paddy procurement season.

Jupally Reviews Thummadihetti Project Ahead of Field Visit

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Tourism, Culture and Excise Jupally Krishna Rao, who is also the in-charge Minister for the erstwhile Adilabad district, conducted a detailed review of the Thummadihetti irrigation project at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat on Thursday. The meeting gained importance as the Minister is scheduled to visit the project site for a field inspection on Friday.

During the review, officials briefed the Minister on the historical background of the project, its present status, and its potential benefits for the ayacut area in the erstwhile Adilabad district. Project maps and technical details were presented, including information on irrigable land coverage, storage capacity, structural height, and other engineering aspects.

The Minister held extensive discussions with irrigation officials and sought clarification on design parameters, water availability, and feasibility aspects. He instructed them to



examine all possibilities for ensuring irrigation water reaches maximum agricultural land across the district through the project.

Jupally Krishna Rao stated that the primary objective of the government is to ensure that irrigation projects are implemented in a way that directly benefits farmers. He emphasised that the development of the Thummadihetti project should focus on enhancing agricultural productivity and

supporting the farming community.

He also announced that he would personally inspect the ongoing works during his visit to the project site on Friday to assess progress on the ground.

The review meeting was attended by MLC Dande Vithal, Irrigation Department Joint Secretary Srinivas, and other senior officials, who participated in discussions and provided technical inputs regarding the project.

Seethakka Lauds TG Foods Role in Strengthening Anganwadi Services

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Women and Child Welfare Seethakka praised the efforts of TG Foods in strengthening Anganwadi services across Telangana, stating that the initiative is playing a key role in improving nutrition for women and children.

She said that the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), launched under the vision of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, continues to remain a cornerstone in delivering nutritional and welfare support to underprivileged sections of society. According to her, ICDS has been instrumental in ensuring food security and child welfare at the grassroots level.

The Minister noted that Telangana Foods has emerged as a leading organisation in the country in terms of quality and efficiency. She appreciated the staff and workers for their dedication in preparing nutritious items such as 'Balamrutham' and other food supplements that are supplied to Anganwadi centres.

Seethakka said the government's objective of providing safe and nutritious food is be-



ing effectively implemented through TG Foods. However, she expressed concern over reports of misuse and diversion of 'Balamrutham' supplies and directed officials to take strict action to prevent such irregularities. She also warned that any compromise in quality standards will not be tolerated. Referring to reports of under-sized eggs being supplied in Hyderabad Anganwadi centres, she announced that a detailed inquiry would be conducted and action taken against those responsible.

The Minister further stated that steps are being taken to fill

all vacant posts of Anganwadi teachers and helpers. She confirmed that she has already signed the file for initiating the recruitment process.

She also assured that new Anganwadi centres will be sanctioned in Uppal constituency as requested by MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy. In areas where construction of buildings is not feasible, mobile Anganwadi units will be deployed to ensure uninterrupted service delivery.

Seethakka reiterated that there will be zero compromise on Anganwadi services and child nutrition programmes.



Komatireddy Reddy Raises Key Demands in Indiramma Housing Review Meeting

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

State Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy participated in a high-level review meeting held at the Himayat Nagar Housing Corporation office. The meeting primarily focused on issues concerning the Indiramma Housing Scheme and revenue-related matters of the erstwhile Nalgonda district.

The session was chaired by Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and attended by Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Ministers Uttam Kumar Reddy and Adhuri Laxman Kumar, along with MLAs, MLCs, and senior officials from the district.

During the discussions, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy raised several key proposals and concerns. He requested the establishment of a new Registration Office at the district headquarters to meet increasing administrative needs, which was approved during the meeting. He also urged of-

ficials to prepare proposals for developing a 70-acre housing colony opposite Mahatma Gandhi University for municipal staff and other eligible beneficiaries.

He highlighted issues faced by residents in merged villages under the Nalgonda Municipal Corporation, where lack of proper records is preventing house numbering and property registration for around 9,640 homes. He called for an immediate detailed survey and resolution of the issue.

The Minister also sanctioned 1 crore for completing pending works in the 552-unit 2BHK housing colony near the Nalgonda Collectorate and stressed early inauguration. Additionally, he approved new MRO offices for urban and rural areas at the district headquarters and called for more housing units in ST-dominated regions like Devarakonda and Aleru.

Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy responded positively and assured necessary approvals and action on the proposals.



Uttam Kumar Reddy Pushes for Fast Completion of Dindi Lift Irrigation Project

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has directed officials to accelerate the execution of the Dindi Lift Irrigation Scheme and complete key pending works at the earliest. He stressed the need for immediate decisions on technical aspects and better coordination among departments to avoid further delays.

Chairing a review meeting at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar State Secretariat, along with Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy, the Minister reviewed the project's progress in detail. Senior officials from the Irrigation Department, including the Principal Secretary, ENC, and other engineers, participated in the discussions.

The Minister instructed officials to finalize the water intake level from the Edula Reservoir under the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme and ensure swift progress of associated works. He also ordered the immediate commencement of the barrage construction at Pothireddypalli village once financial approvals are completed by May 15.

Uttam Kumar Reddy emphasised strengthening the AMRPSLBC canal system by increasing its carrying capacity from 2,400 to 4,000 cusecs, with further expansion up to 6,000 cusecs in future. He suggested prioritising canal widening before taking up cement concrete lining works, for which 443 crore has already been sanctioned.

He noted that the Dindi project would significantly benefit seven Assembly constituencies and help address drinking and irrigation water issues in 228 fluoride-affected villages. The scheme aims to provide irrigation to 3.61 lakh acres and includes the construction of multiple reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 25.31 TMC. The Minister said 95% of project works are already completed, with remaining delays linked to rehabilitation and forest clearance issues. He expressed confidence that approvals would be obtained soon and directed officials to expedite tender processes and prepare revised estimates for remaining works to be placed before the Cabinet for approval.

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district has achieved "Zero NPA" status. She urged all districts to replicate this performance and maintain full repayment records. Bankers were appreciated for their cooperation, while DRDO officials and federation leaders with outstanding performance were felicitated during the programme.

Seethakka Announces Major Boost for Women Self-Help Groups



Modi's Visit Signals Political Shift in Telangana: BJP's N.V. Subhash

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

BJP State Chief Spokesperson and Media In-charge N.V. Subhash stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Telangana is triggering a major political shift in the state, with growing public support for the BJP.

He said the overwhelming response to Modi's public meetings has unsettled both the Congress and BRS parties. According to him, people are increasingly convinced that only the BJP can bring real development to Telangana. He also highlighted that the Central Government has already sanctioned projects worth nearly 12.5 lakh crore for the state.



Subhash accused the Congress government of engaging in diversion politics, particularly through the so-called

"power purchase inquiry," claiming it is an attempt to shift attention away from Modi's successful public outreach. He also criticised recent cabinet decisions, calling them delayed and politically motivated.

Targeting BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, Subhash described him as indulging in irresponsible and blackmail-oriented politics. He said such leaders are attempting to spread false propaganda against BJP leaders, including Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar. He added that Bandi Sanjay has openly denied allegations and even challenged opponents to prove their claims through proper tests.

He further stated that Bandi

Sanjay rose from grassroots politics to become a Union Minister through dedication, and that baseless allegations against him reflect political frustration.

Subhash also alleged that Congress and BRS have an unspoken understanding and are working together to weaken the BJP. He claimed that law and order failures during previous regimes are being ignored while BJP is unfairly targeted.

He concluded that the people of Telangana are now looking at the BJP as the only credible alternative for the state's future, especially after the momentum generated by Prime Minister Modi's visit.



Kaushik Reddy Slams BJP, Revanth Reddy Over Karimnagar Law and Order Issue

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy launched a strong attack on Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay and the State Government over the deteriorating law and order situation in Karimnagar.

Speaking to the media, Kaushik Reddy alleged that a recent jewellery shop burglary in Karimnagar, located close to the police commissioner's office and Bandi Sanjay's residence, exposed serious lapses in policing. He questioned the leadership's response and asked why review meetings were not held with police officials after such incidents in the constituency headquarters.

He criticised Bandi Sanjay for targeting KTR instead of addressing governance issues and challenged him to explain alleged financial irregularities during election campaigns. He also questioned the development claims of BJP leaders in Karimnagar, stating that past progress in the region was achieved under other leaders.

The MLA invited Bandi Sanjay for an open debate at Geetha Bhavan Junction and said he was ready to discuss issues related to irrigation, civil supplies, IT, and law and order. He added that the BRS leadership is prepared to present facts on development across constituencies.

Kaushik Reddy further alleged that law and order has collapsed in Karimnagar, citing incidents of theft and violence, including attacks and threats reported in recent days. He questioned the functioning of police patrol systems and demanded accountability from senior officials.

He also called for immediate action against those responsible for recent crimes and criticised the delay in arrests. The MLA demanded a review of policing in the district and suggested changes in key police positions if required.

He urged state ministers and top officials to respond promptly, warning that continued negligence could lead to further deterioration of public safety.

BJLP Deputy Leader Payal Shankar Responds to Political Tensions

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Leader of the BJLP, Payal Shankar, issued a press note addressing recent political developments and alleged attacks, stating that while the BJP does not support any form of physical violence, repeated personal attacks and abusive language in politics cannot be ignored.

He said party workers are expected to exercise restraint, but questioned how they should respond when public representatives allegedly use derogatory language and make personal remarks. He referred to MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, alleging that the legislator had previously made inappropriate comments against a woman Governor and also used offensive language against government officials.

Shankar claimed that such behaviour and "irresponsible statements" often lead to political tensions and incidents on the ground. He further alleged that the MLA has engaged in intimidation of voters and continues to make provocative remarks even after being



elected.

He clarified that neither the BJP nor Union Minister Bandi Sanjay has ever supported or encouraged violent actions. However, he warned that repeatedly testing the patience of party workers should not be mistaken for weakness.

Addressing allegations made by KTR, he challenged him to substantiate claims related to land issues and other accusations, stating that political statements must be backed by evidence. He also countered al-

legations against BJP leaders and said the party is ready to respond transparently, even offering to take oaths along with family members to affirm their position.

Payal Shankar concluded that politics should remain issue-based and not driven by false allegations, warning that public opinion ultimately responds to irresponsible conduct by elected representatives.



War of Words Between Congress Leader and KTR at Gandhi Bhavan

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

A political confrontation unfolded at Gandhi Bhavan after Corporation Chairman Mettu Saikumar reportedly sent a bottle of phenyl to BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR), triggering sharp reactions from Congress leaders.

Addressing the issue, Congress representatives made strong remarks against BRS leadership, accusing them of causing significant hardship to farmers in Telangana. They alleged that the actions and policies of the previous regime led to severe distress in the farming community.

Further criticism was directed at former Chief Minister K.

Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), with claims that he ignored farmer suicides in the state while extending financial support to farmers in Punjab. Leaders also highlighted the establishment of a Farmers' Commission, stating it was created to safeguard farmers' interests.

The remarks also included personal attacks on KTR's public interactions, alleging he is accompanied by a small group of supporters.

The exchange has intensified the ongoing political tension between the Congress and BRS, with both sides continuing to trade allegations over farmer welfare and governance.

Bakery Fined for Selling Goods Without Expiry Labels

Suryapet, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Officials conducted a surprise inspection at Diamond Bakery near the Telangana Talli statue in Suryapet district headquarters after identifying the sale of food products without expiry date labels.

Food Inspector Prabhakar, along with Municipal Junior Assistant Yadagiri, carried out the inspection and found several items being sold without proper labeling and quality compliance. Following the inspection, officials imposed a fine of 6,000 on the bakery and registered a case against the establishment.

During the inspection, authorities stressed the importance of maintaining food safety and quality standards. Food Inspector Prabhakar warned that stringent action would be



taken against shops and food outlets found violating regulations related to product quality, labeling, and consumer safety.

Officials stated that regular inspections would continue across the district to ensure that food businesses comply with prescribed health and safety norms.

BRS Leaders Accuse Congress, BJP of Misleading Farmers After Warangal Meeting

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and MLA Venula Prashanth Reddy, along with senior BRS leaders, addressed a press meet at Telangana Bhavan and strongly criticised the Congress government and BJP, alleging betrayal of farmers' trust and diversionary politics after KTR's "Rythu Sangrama Sabha" in Warangal.

Prashanth Reddy said the Congress government had failed to implement promises made under the "Warangal Farmers' Declaration," which he claimed remain unfulfilled even after 900 days. He alleged that the government is attempting to distract public attention through counter-programmes and criticism of BRS leadership instead of addressing farmers' issues.

He claimed that KTR's Warangal meeting witnessed massive farmer participation, which, according to him, unsettled the ruling leadership. He also alleged that a Congress-organised counter event saw



poor attendance and that officials and ministers resorted to political attacks rather than addressing concerns.

The BRS leader further criticised the Congress government for delays in implementing Rythu Bandhu payments and crop bonuses, alleging inconsistent support to farmers. He also raised concerns over farmer distress, citing suicides and lack of adequate procurement centres in several districts.

Prashanth Reddy accused Congress leaders of engaging in political rhetoric instead of governance and alleged that

false narratives were being created against KCR, KTR, and Harish Rao. He questioned the credibility of allegations made against BRS leaders, stating that none have been proven.

He also criticised BJP leaders over alleged attacks on BRS offices and claimed both Congress and BJP were acting together politically against the party. The leaders reiterated that BRS would continue to question both state and central governments on farmers' issues and development promises, and challenged Congress leadership on loan waiver and welfare commitments.

BRS Condemns Attack on Gangula Kamalakar Camp Office in Karimnagar

Karimnagar, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS leader Singireddy Niranjan Reddy has strongly condemned the alleged attack on the camp office of BRS MLA and former minister Gangula Kamalakar in Karimnagar, terming it a highly reprehensible act.

In a press statement, he alleged that BJP activists were involved in the incident and expressed serious concern over what he described as a growing breakdown of law and order in the region. He further stated that the situa-

tion reflects increasing political tensions and rising incidents of violence in the district. The BRS leader also criticised Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay, alleging that instead of ensuring public safety and maintaining law and order, he is encouraging disruptive elements. He questioned how such incidents could occur repeatedly in his constituency despite his position in the central government. Referring to a recent incident of daylight robbery in Karimnagar, he said the attack on the camp office shortly after such an event indicates a worrying decline

in policing effectiveness and public safety. Niranjan Reddy demanded immediate arrest of those responsible for the attack and strict legal action against them to restore public confidence. He also called upon the state government and the Home Minister to take full responsibility for maintaining peace and preventing further escalation of political violence. He further questioned the reaction of BJP leaders whenever criticism is raised against the ruling government, alleging that such responses reflect intolerance towards accountability and opposition voices.

Harish Rao Slams Congress Over Farmer Issues, Predicts BRS Comeback

Kodad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Former Minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao addressed a large party workers' meeting at Gununtla Appayya Function Hall, where he strongly criticised the Congress government and expressed confidence in the return of BRS to power.

Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government has failed on all fronts, particularly in fulfilling its election promises. He said commitments such as 2 lakh jobs, fee reimbursement for students, and 2,500 monthly support for

women remain unimplemented. He also claimed that welfare schemes for minority communities have been neglected and earlier benefits extended under the previous government have been stopped.

Calling the current administration a "talk-heavy, action-poor government," he accused it of failing to deliver development or welfare on the ground. He further alleged that funds under SC and ST sub-plans are not reaching beneficiaries.

Highlighting irrigation development, he credited the BRS government for projects like Kaleshwaram and SRSP Phase-2, claiming they brought

irrigation water to the region. He contrasted this with the previous Congress tenure, alleging lack of progress in water projects. Harish Rao also criticised the government's handling of paddy procurement, stating that farmers are facing hardships in selling their produce, along with issues of fertiliser shortage, power cuts, and irrigation problems. He said procurement targets have not been

met as claimed by the government. He praised former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao's leadership during the COVID-19 period, stating that even during crisis times, paddy procurement and welfare schemes were continued effectively. He alleged political harassment of BRS workers and warned that those responsible would be held accountable if the party returns to power. Concluding his remarks, he asserted that public sentiment is shifting and claimed that BRS would regain power in the next elections under the slogan of restoring KCR's leadership.





Harish Rao Inspects Paddy Procurement Issues at Choutuppal Market

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau
Former Minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao visited the grain procurement centre at the Choutuppal Agricultural Market to assess the difficulties being faced by farmers during the ongoing paddy procurement season. During his visit, he interacted directly with farmers and enquired about the challenges they are encountering at the procurement centre. Farmers raised concerns over delays in weighing operations and alleged irregularities, including unfair deductions in the name of "tare weight," which they claimed were affecting their rightful payments. Harish Rao also inspected large piles of paddy that had been damaged after being exposed to unseasonal

rains in the drying yards. He expressed concern over the loss and assured farmers that their grievances would be taken seriously. The former minister spent time speaking with farmers who have been waiting for several days for their produce to be procured. He extended moral support and reassured them that their concerns would be highlighted at the appropriate levels. Expressing dissatisfaction over the handling of procurement operations, Harish Rao questioned the government's preparedness and response to the crisis. He stated that farmers are being put under severe hardship due to administrative delays and urged authorities to act swiftly to resolve issues at procurement centres and ensure smooth, transparent operations.

Leaders Pay Tributes to Damodaram Sanjeevayya

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau
TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, Government Advisor V. Hanumantha Rao, and DCC President Motha Rohit offered floral tributes at the statue of former Chief Minister Da-

modaram Sanjeevayya at Sanjeevayya Park on his death anniversary. The leaders remembered his services and contributions, honouring his legacy with respect and solemn remembrance during the commemorative gathering.

Guduri Srinivas Meets Minister Ponnab Prabhakar After Appointment

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau
On his appointment as Chairman of the Padmashali Co-operative Corporation Limited, Guduri Srinivas paid a courtesy visit to Minister Ponnab Prabhakar. The minister congratulated

him on assuming the new responsibility and conveyed his best wishes. He expressed confidence that Srinivas would work with dedication for the progress and welfare of the Padmashali community and contribute to its overall development.

Seethakka Launches 26,621 Crore Credit Plan for Women SHGs

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau
Minister Seethakka attended as the chief guest at the launch of the Annual Bank Credit Plan for Women's Self-Help Groups held at Jyothiba Phule Praja Bhavan. The programme saw the participation of Special Chief Secretary Dana Kishore, SERP CEO Divya Devarajan, Stree Nidhi Deputy Managing Director Srinath, along with several senior bankers and representatives of women's groups. The minister formally inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp, marking the official commencement of the programme. During the oc-

casional, she unveiled the Annual Bank Credit Plan for the financial year 2026-27. Officials announced that the target set for the year is to extend credit support worth 26,621.47 crore to women's self-help groups across the state. The initiative aims to strengthen financial inclusion and empower women-led enterprises through easier access to institutional credit. The event highlighted the government's continued focus on supporting SHGs and promoting women's economic independence through structured financial assistance and banking partnerships.

Student Ends Life After Family Reprimand

Mancherial, May 7 | TPN Bureau
A tragic incident was reported from Rotiguda village in Jannaram mandal of Mancherial district, where a 19-year-old degree student allegedly died by suicide after being reprimanded by her family. The deceased was identified as Mothkuri Akshaya, a first-year degree student. According to Jannaram Sub-Inspector G. Uday Kiran, Akshaya consumed pesticide after reportedly becoming upset over comments made by her family

members regarding her television habits. Police said her parents had repeatedly advised her to concentrate more on her studies, as she was spending considerable time watching TV. Disturbed by the reprimand, the young woman allegedly took the extreme step. Family members rushed her for medical assistance, but she could not be saved. Police have registered a case and initiated an investigation into the incident.

Operation Sindoor Reflects India's Military Strength, Says Ramchander Rao

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao described "Operation Sindoor" as a powerful demonstration of India's military capability and a clear message to terror-supporting forces. Speaking at a programme held at the BJP state office in Nampally, he said the operation reflects the strong national security approach of the Narendra Modi-led government.

The event was organised by the BJP Retired Army Cell to mark the completion of one year since the successful military action carried out by the Indian Army against terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Ramchander Rao paid tribute to soldiers who sacrificed their lives in terror-related incidents and later participated in the celebrations, including a cake-cutting ceremony with party workers.

He praised the Indian Army for its swift and precise response following the Pahalgam terror attack, stating that the terrorist camps linked to organisations like Lashkar and Jaish were destroyed within a short



span of time. He noted that the operation was completed in just 22 minutes without any Indian casualties, calling it a proud moment for the nation.

Ramchander Rao strongly criticised Congress leaders, accusing them of questioning the armed forces despite such achievements. He said attempts to doubt military operations reflect a lack of respect for the Army and recalled earlier controversies during similar strikes.

He further remarked that "New India" under Prime Minister Modi responds firmly to

terrorism and does not tolerate attacks on its citizens.

On state politics, he condemned alleged personal remarks made against Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar by BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy. He stated that while political criticism is acceptable, personal attacks are not, and warned that BJP workers may respond if such behaviour continues, though the party does not support violence.

The programme concluded with participation from several party leaders and ex-service-men representatives.

Carlton London forays into Indian furniture market with EBG Group

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

International lifestyle brand Carlton London has marked its entry into India's furniture segment through a strategic partnership with the EBG Group. The collaboration will introduce a new premium range called "Carlton Luxury Furniture," aimed at catering to the growing demand for stylish and sustainable home solutions in the country.

As part of its long-term expansion strategy, the joint venture plans to launch around 600 franchise showrooms across 300 major Indian cities over the next five years. The ambitious rollout is expected to attract investments in the range of 1,800 to 2,000 crore and generate employment opportunities for nearly 12,000 people across manufacturing, retail, and allied sectors. A key highlight of the initiative is its focus on strengthening India's domestic ecosystem. The companies intend to actively integrate MSME and SME partners into their supply and production networks, thereby boosting local entrepreneurship and manufacturing capabilities.



Sustainability also forms a core pillar of the project. The brand aims to reduce its annual carbon footprint by nearly 16,000 kilograms by adopting eco-friendly production practices, recycling methods, and circular design principles. In a first for the Indian furniture industry, the company has also launched a buyback programme, allowing customers to return used furniture in exchange for value compensation. These returned products will be refurbished and resold, reducing waste and promoting reuse. The Carlton Luxury

Furniture range will include Chesterfield sofas, high-back chairs, and modern dining sets, all designed using sustainable materials with a durability span of 10 to 15 years. Speaking at the launch, EBG Group founder Dr. Irfan Khan said the initiative aims to make premium and environmentally responsible living accessible to all. Carlton London founder Carl Virk added that the brand is expanding beyond fashion into home interiors to deliver high-quality lifestyle products to Indian consumers.

CMRF Assistance Ensures Medical Support for Needy Patients in Quthbullapur

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Quthbullapur: Beneficiaries suffering from serious health conditions received financial support for medical treatment through Letters of Credit (LOCs) sanctioned under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). The distribution programme was held on Thursday at the BRS party office in Chintal, Quthbullapur constituency, under the supervision of MLA and BRS LP Whip K.P. Vivekananda. During the event, a CMRF LOC worth 2 lakh was handed over to C. Narayana, son of the late Satyam Naidu from the 131st Division, for his advanced medical treatment. The documents were formally presented by BRS leaders, including Jalgam Rakesh, to the beneficiary. Speaking on the occasion, party leaders highlighted that MLA K.P. Vivekananda has been consistently working to ensure that economically weaker sections receive timely and quality healthcare support. They appreciated the efforts of the CMRF in extending financial aid to families struggling to afford costly medical treatments. The leaders stated



that such initiatives are helping many underprivileged families access essential healthcare services without financial burden. Several party leaders and workers, including former Youth Wing President Doodu-

metla Somesh Yadav, Kishore Chari, Sattireddy, Narasimhareddy, Nazeer, Anjaneyulu, Ajay, Venkat, Ramanareddy, Ravi, Ramu, Mohan, and others, participated in the programme.



Ponguleti Urges Probationary Deputy Collectors to Serve with Integrity

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Hyderabad: State Revenue, Housing and Civil Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has called upon newly selected probationary Deputy Collectors to dedicate their roles entirely to public service with honesty, commitment, and a strong sense of responsibility.

Addressing 44 Group-I probationary officers who met him during a courtesy visit on Thursday, the Minister said their selection through a highly competitive process should inspire them to serve society with dedication. He emphasized that their decisions should focus on improving the lives of the poorest sections of society.

Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy noted that Revenue officials

play a key role in coordinating with various government departments and addressing public grievances effectively. He advised the young officers to view challenges in administration as opportunities for growth and to move forward with confidence and determination.

He further stated that their work should not only enhance their personal reputation but also strengthen the image of the government. The Minister encouraged them to become role models for future generations through sincere and impactful service.

Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy, Social Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar, and other officials participated in the programme.



Best Wishes to C.V. Anand on Appointment as Telangana DGP

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Quthbullapur: BRS leader and Rangareddy District BRSV Vice President Ravamkol Saikiran Goud has extended his congratulations to C.V. Anand assumed charge as the Director General of Police of Telangana.

He expressed confidence that the state police department would function more efficiently under the leadership of C.V. Anand, who is known for his vast experience, discipline, and people-oriented policing

approach. Saikiran Goud stated that Anand's leadership would further strengthen law and order in the state and enhance the delivery of justice to the public. He also conveyed his hope that the new DGP would continue to serve with dedication and maintain public trust in the police system.

He wished C.V. Anand success in his new responsibilities and expressed optimism about positive reforms in policing under his tenure.

KTR Invited as Chief Guest for Telangana Formation Day Celebrations in Malaysia

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) has been invited as the Chief Guest for the Telangana Formation Day celebrations scheduled to be held in Malaysia on June 6, 2026.

The grand event will be organised by BRS Malaysia at the MATRADE Exhibition and Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The celebrations aim to bring together the Telangana and Telugu diaspora on a single platform.

A delegation from BRS Malaysia, led by NRI Global Coordinator Mahesh Bigala and comprising members including Maruti Kurma, Chittibabu, Sridhar, Priya, and others, met

KTR in Hyderabad and formally extended the invitation.

KTR accepted the invitation and confirmed his participation in the upcoming celebrations. The meeting was also attended by MLC L. Ramana and former MLA G. Kishore.

Organisers from BRS Malaysia stated that elaborate arrangements are being made to celebrate Telangana Formation Day in a grand manner, highlighting the culture, identity, and achievements of Telangana on an international stage.

The event is expected to strengthen ties among the global Telugu community and showcase Telangana's progress to the world.



Fake Registration Number Used in PMJ Jewellery Robbery

Karimnagar, May 7 | TPN Bureau

A new development has surfaced in the PMJ Jewellery robbery case, with police discovering that the motorcycle used by the accused carried a fake registration number linked to a Hyderabad resident. During the investigation, officials found that the number plate attached to the bike used in the crime actually belonged to an Apache motorcycle owned by a mobile shop operator from Hyderabad. Acting swiftly, police teams from Karimnagar and Hyderabad questioned the businessman to verify his connection to the case. However, during interrogation, investigators confirmed that the businessman had no involvement in the robbery. Police later concluded that the culprits had de-

liberately copied the registration number from his vehicle and placed it on their own motorcycle to mislead investigators and avoid detection.

Further inquiry revealed that the Hyderabad-based owner had recently posted his Apache bike for sale on the online marketplace OLX. Investigators believe the robbers accessed the advertisement, noted down the registration details displayed in the listing, and used the same number plate during the crime. The revelation has prompted police to widen their probe into the planning and execution of the robbery. Officials are now examining additional digital and surveillance evidence to trace the suspects and uncover their movements before and after the incident.

Fake Police Officer Using AI Arrested in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Cases of people misusing modern technology to deceive the public are on the rise, and in a recent incident, the Rajendranagar Task Force police arrested a man for allegedly impersonating a police officer using Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The accused, identified as Abubaker Ali from Mylardevpally, was reportedly working as a Zomato delivery executive. According to police, he turned to illegal means in an attempt to make quick money by exploiting AI-based applications.

Investigators revealed that Abubaker Ali created fabricated photos and videos of himself dressed in a police uniform through AI tools. He then uploaded the manipulated content on Instagram, portraying himself as a senior police offi-

cial in order to gain public attention and credibility.

Police said his activities went beyond social media videos. He allegedly claimed to have strong political and administrative connections and promised people that he could arrange appointments with the Chief Minister and other influential personalities.

His flashy online presence and suspicious claims drew the attention of the police, who began closely monitoring his activities. After conducting surveillance for several days, the Rajendranagar Task Force confirmed that he was falsely posing as a police officer.

The accused was taken into custody, and during questioning, police uncovered details of the deception. A case has been registered against him, and he has been remanded to judicial custody for further investigation.

Elaborate Arrangements for Sri Hanuman Jayanthi Celebrations

Karimnagar, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Extensive arrangements are underway for the three-day Sri Hanuman Pedda Jayanthi celebrations scheduled from May 10 to 12 at the Sri Anjaneya Swamy Temple. Anticipating a heavy influx of devotees, temple authorities, in coordination with the district administration, have stepped up preparations to ensure smooth conduct of the festivities.

The temple premises are being beautified with decorative

lighting and floral arrangements. Executive Officer S. Anjana Reddy stated that essential facilities such as temporary shelters, drinking water supply, and mobile toilets have been arranged for devotees. Dedicated parking zones have been identified at the hilltop and nearby areas to regulate vehicular flow.

Additional staff have been deployed to manage rituals, including tonsuring services, considering the expected rush during the 'Mala Viramana' period. Special arrangements

have also been made for the preparation and distribution of laddu prasadam and free anna prasadam to devotees.

For security, police personnel will be stationed across the premises, supported by CCTV surveillance and traffic regulation systems, particularly on ghat roads to control crowd movement effectively. The celebrations will include traditional rituals such as yagnas, homams, and the concluding 'Poornahuti' ceremony, marking the spiritual significance of the event.



Bhongir Development Works Reviewed at Municipal Council Meeting

Bhongir, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Bhongir MLA Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy participated in the Municipal Council meeting and the election of co-opted members held at the Bhongir Town Municipal Office. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said the government is giving high priority to the overall development and beautification of Bhongir town. He assured that comprehensive infrastructure improvements are being taken up to enhance civic amenities and improve the quality of life for residents. He reiterated that providing housing to all eligible beneficiaries is a key objective of the government. He informed that construction works of double-bedroom houses in Bhongir are progressing rapidly and the associated infrastructure works are expected to be completed by the end of this month.

He added that house-warming ceremonies for beneficiaries will be conducted soon thereafter.

The MLA also highlighted the ongoing Musi River rejuvenation programme, describing it as a prestigious initiative of the government. He said a bridge over the Musi River has been sanctioned at a cost of 50 crore. Additionally, bridge works are underway in Juluru, Anajipuram, and Sivareddygudem areas under the Praja Palana programme.

During the council meeting, development issues were discussed and the election process for co-opted members was successfully conducted. The MLA congratulated the newly elected members. Municipal Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, councilors, officials, and public representatives attended the meeting.

HYDRAA Expansion to Districts Depends on Government Decision: Commissioner

Nalgonda, May 7 | TPN Bureau

The extension of Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) operations to districts will be decided by the state government, said Commissioner A.V. Ranganath on Thursday. He was speaking to the media in Miryalaguda.

Ranganath stated that the agency has been receiving a large number of complaints from various districts, especially from the erstwhile Nalgonda region, regarding illegal constructions and encroachments on government land. He clarified that any decision to expand HYDRAA's jurisdiction

beyond Hyderabad would be taken only after approval from the government.

He revealed that nearly 30,000 complaints have been registered so far. According to him, properties worth around 10 lakh crore were found to be encroached in Hyderabad, out of which about 2,100 acres have already been reclaimed and secured by the agency.

Describing HYDRAA as a pioneering initiative in the country, he said it is being implemented effectively in Telangana with visible results. He cited the example of Ameenpur, where encroached land was successfully brought back under government control. He added that all actions are being

carried out strictly as per legal provisions and court directives.

The Commissioner also mentioned that demolition drives have been conducted on illegal structures, including those linked to leaders from different political parties such as MIM and Congress. He said around 25 irrigation tanks in Hyderabad have been cleared of encroachments, while another 100 tanks are planned for protection. He further noted that development works such as walking tracks, green spaces, and parks on reclaimed land will be completed within the next two years, aiming to improve urban infrastructure and public amenities.

Farmers Protest Delay in Paddy Procurement

Mancherial, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed on National Highway-63 at Gudipeta in Hajipur mandal of Mancherial district on Thursday after farmers staged a road blockade over delays in paddy procurement. The protesting farmers alleged that despite depositing their grain at procurement centres several days ago, officials had failed to complete the weighing process or lift the stock.

Farmers expressed frustration that even paddy meeting the prescribed moisture stand-

ards was not being purchased. They said nearly 1,500 bags that had already been weighed were damaged after being soaked in rain on Tuesday night, and demanded their immediate transportation to rice mills.

The protesters also accused officials of deducting an additional three kilograms for every 40-kilogram bag during weighing and alleged that bribes of 2 per bag were being demanded to arrange transport vehicles. Insisting on justice, the farmers declared they would continue the protest un-

til the District Collector intervened.

Following information about the agitation, Hajipur SI Kiran Kumar reached the spot and persuaded the farmers to withdraw the blockade.

In an emotional appeal, several farmers reportedly fell at the feet of Tahsildar Pushpalatha and DRDO Kishan, requesting immediate transportation of the rain-soaked grain. Responding promptly, the DRDO contacted the transport contractor and directed two lorries to be sent to the procurement centre without delay.

Forest Officials Trapped by ACB in Bribery Case

Bhadradi Kothagudem, May 7 | TPN Bureau

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials of Khammam Range caught two forest department officers red-handed while allegedly accepting a bribe in Bhadradi Kothagudem district on Thursday.

The accused were identified as Forest Divisional Officer Santhapuri Sujatha of Bhadrachalam and Deputy Range Officer Bhukya Krishna, who was also serving as in-charge

Forest Range Officer of Charla. According to the ACB, the officers allegedly demanded 10 lakh from a complainant in connection with a forest tree-felling case. Later, after negotiations, they reportedly agreed to accept 3.50 lakh.

The complaint was related to alleged damage caused to forest trees during the construction of a two-kilometre BT road from Pusuguppa village in Charla mandal to the Chhattisgarh border. The road pro-

ject was completed in 2025.

Acting on the complaint, ACB officials conducted a trap operation at the forest divisional office and recovered the marked cash from the possession of Bhukya Krishna.

Both officials were arrested and later produced before the Special Judge for ACB cases in Warangal. The identity of the complainant has been withheld for security reasons, according to an official ACB statement.

Seethakka Calls for Promotion of Handlooms and Rural Crafts

Hyderabad, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Minister Seethakka has urged people to actively promote handloom fabrics, traditional handicrafts and rural products, stating that preserving them is a shared responsibility of society.

She said that protecting India's cultural heritage and traditional arts is essential, as they represent the identity of the nation. Encouraging arti-

ans and local craftsmen, she added, should be treated as a personal commitment by every citizen. The Minister highlighted that the government has already taken steps in this direction by establishing the 'Indira Mahila Shakti Bazaar' in Hi-Tech City, which provides a dedicated platform for rural women and artisans to showcase and sell their products.

Seethakka further announced that similar bazaars will be set up in district head-

quarters across the state to expand market access for rural producers and support their livelihoods.

She reiterated that handloom and handicraft sectors will be given strong support from the government, ensuring their growth and sustainability. According to her, promoting local crafts will not only strengthen rural economies but also preserve India's rich traditional art forms for future generations.

Three Youths Drown in Stream Near Siddipet Temple

Siddipet, May 7 | TPN Bureau

Three young men lost their lives after drowning in a stream at Nacharam in Vargal mandal of Siddipet district on Wednesday. The deceased were identified as Prashanth, Vikas, and Anand Reddy, all aged 27 and residents of Narsapur.

According to Gouraram Sub-Inspector Arogyam, the trio had visited the Nacharam Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple to offer prayers. After the darshan, Vikas and Anand Reddy entered the nearby stream to bathe. Police said both reportedly did not know how to swim and soon began struggling in the water.

Seeing them in danger, Prashanth, who was standing on the bank, jumped into the stream in an attempt to rescue his friends. However, he too was unable to swim, and all three drowned.

On Thursday morning, police personnel, along with expert swimmers, launched a search operation and recovered the bodies from the stream. The bodies were later shifted to the Government Hospital in Gajwel for postmortem examination.

Police registered a case based on complaints filed by the victims' family members and initiated further investigation into the incident.

Case Filed Over Demolition of Kakatiya-Era Temple

Warangal, May 7 | TPN Bureau

The Union Ministry of Culture and the Archaeology Department have initiated legal action following the demolition of an 800-year-old temple from the Kakatiya period at Ashok Nagar in Warangal district. The move came after advocate Immeneni Rama Rao lodged a complaint with the National Monuments Authority, alleging that the historic Shiva temple was demolished using heavy machinery for the construction of an integrated school. The temple reportedly housed a Telugu inscription dated February 1231 AD men-

tioning Kakatiya ruler Ganapati Deva along with his royal titles. Historians stated that the structure had been identified and documented by the heritage department in 1965 and was part of the historic Kota Katta mud fort area.

The complaint accused authorities of failing to establish a Heritage Conservation Committee as required under the Telangana Heritage Act. It further argued that the temple could have been relocated instead of being destroyed. The petition sought action against officials responsible and demanded a detailed investigation into the incident.

Three Saved from Sea at Suryalanka Beach

Bapatla, May 07 | TPN Bureau

A major tragedy was averted at the popular Suryalanka beach in Bapatla district on Thursday when three members of a family were rescued from strong sea currents by local swimmers. The incident occurred when a family from Warangal, Telangana, was enjoying a summer vacation and entered the sea for bathing. Suddenly, powerful waves pulled the father, mother, and their son deeper into the sea, leaving them struggling to

stay afloat. Hearing their cries, trained lifeguards stationed at the beach immediately responded without delay. Demonstrating remarkable courage and presence of mind, the swimmers rushed into the turbulent waters and reached the drowning family members. After a challenging rescue effort, all three were safely brought back to shore, prompting relief among onlookers. Visitors praised the swift response of the rescue team and the alertness of local authorities.



Jana Sena Activist Vinay Returns Home Healthy

Nellore, May 07 | TPN Bureau:

Kunapati Vinay, a Jana Sena Party activist who was seriously injured in a recent accident, has successfully returned home following a massive collaborative effort by political leaders, hospital management, and donors. The recovery was made possible through the swift intervention of Kavali MLA Kavaya Krishna Reddy, who provided 4 lakh in financial assistance through a Letter of Credit (LoC). When the family struggled to clear the remaining hospital bills, Jana Sena District General Secretary Kishore Gunukula stepped in. After Kishore consulted with Medicover Hospital CEO Ranjith Reddy

and the management, the hospital generously reduced the bill significantly, facilitating Vinay's discharge. Kishore Gunukula also highlighted the crucial role played by party activists and donors, including Jana Sainiks from Australia and Queensland, who provided advance funds for the surgery. Expressing their joy, Vinay's parents thanked the leadership for standing by them. Kishore noted that this collective effort reflects the ideology of Party Chief PawanKalyan, where the party acts as a family to support common people and activists in times of crisis. The family expressed hope that Vinay would soon resume his journey in public service with renewed vigor.



Hidden No More in the Fight Against Thalassemia

World Thalassemia Day theme highlights early screening and prevention

Every year on 8 May, the global community observes World Thalassemia Day to raise awareness about Thalassemia, support affected families, and encourage stronger public health action.

The 2026 theme, Hidden No More: Finding the Undiagnosed. Supporting the Unseen calls attention to thousands of people who live with mild or silent forms of the condition without knowing it. Early identification can prevent serious complications and help families make informed decisions.

Thalassemia is an inherited blood disorder in which the body produces abnormal or insufficient Haemoglobin, the protein in Red Blood Cells that carries oxygen throughout the body. Because of this, patients may develop chronic Anaemia, tiredness, weakness, poor growth, and other health complications.

Thalassemia is an autosomal recessive genetic disorder. This means a child inherits the disease only when both parents carry the abnormal gene. When both parents are Carriers, there is a 25 per cent chance that their child may be born with Thalassemia major, a severe form requiring lifelong medical care.

One of the most important messages of World Thalassemia Day 2026 is that many Carriers and mildly affected individuals remain undiagnosed. They may appear healthy and may not know they carry the gene. Without screening, the condition may silently pass from one generation to another.

Early screening and genetic counselling are essential tools in prevention and management. Pre-marital screening, pre-pregnancy testing, and family counselling help people understand their carrier status, assess risk, and make informed reproductive choices. Strengthening community-level screening programs can significantly reduce the number of children born with severe



Thalassemia.

Although Thalassemia often requires lifelong care, medical advances have greatly improved the quality of life for patients.

Blood transfusions remain a major component of treatment. Many patients require regular transfusions every two to five weeks to maintain healthy Red Blood Cell levels.

Repeated transfusions can lead to excess iron in the body. Iron Chelation therapy helps remove this excess iron and protects vital organs such as the heart and liver.

Stem cell transplantation is currently the only potential cure. However, it requires a suitable matched donor and access to specialised medical facilities.

Alongside medical treatment, patients benefit from a healthy lifestyle. A balanced diet, monitoring iron intake, regular medical follow-up, and light physical activity such as yoga or walking can support overall well-being.

These hereditary blood disorders impose a significant

social, economic and health burden on affected families. In many tribal communities, lack of awareness, absence of early diagnosis and limited access to counselling have contributed to the continued transmission of these disorders from one generation to another.

The Andhra Pradesh State Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society will undertake a comprehensive initiative to prevent, detect early, identify carriers, provide counselling, and scientifically map these disorders across the State.

At present, Andhra Pradesh lacks adequate specialised diagnostic facilities for Thalassemia and related Haemoglobin disorders. As a result, patients and families are compelled to travel to Hyderabad and Vellore for confirmatory tests and certification required for uploading in the SADAREM (Software for Assessment of Disabled for Access Rehabilitation and Empowerment) portal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. This creates financial hardship and delays in

diagnosis, especially for poor and tribal families.

In view of this urgent need, the Andhra Pradesh State Branch is going to establish a state-of-the-art diagnostic centre for Blood Related Disorders at Vijayawada in the newly constructed State Office building.

The Center will serve as a dedicated referral and diagnostic facility for Thalassemia, Sickle Cell Disease and other inherited blood disorders. The major objectives of the center are:

- Establish advanced laboratory facilities for screening, confirmatory diagnosis and carrier detection.
- Undertake a large-scale collection of blood samples, especially from tribal and high-risk populations.
- Conduct statewide mapping of carriers and affected individuals to develop a scientific database for policy planning.
- Provide genetic counselling, family counselling and preventive guidance to reduce the incidence of hereditary blood disorders.



- Support the Government of Andhra Pradesh in strengthening public health interventions and certification systems.
- Reduce the burden on families who presently travel outside the State for diagnosis and certification.

The proposed program will particularly focus on tribal habitations, vulnerable communities, adolescents, young adults and families with a known history of blood disorders. Through field-level



B.V.S. Kumar

State Coordinator
Blood Banks &
Projects
AP Red Cross

Vijay's Political Future Hinges on Constitutional Clarity

The decision involving Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar and Vijay, chief of Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, has triggered a fresh constitutional debate on gubernatorial discretion in government formation in Tamil Nadu. The Governor is reported to have indicated that Vijay must secure letters of support from 118 legislators to stake a claim, even though his party has emerged as the single largest in a hung Assembly.

In a fractured mandate where no party has reached the majority mark of 118 seats, TVK has won 108 seats, including two by Vijay himself. The narrow gap has left Tamil Nadu in political uncertainty, with over 72 hours since counting, and no clear pathway to government formation, intensifying political tension.

At the heart of the issue lies a familiar constitutional question that in a hung Assembly, should the Governor first invite the single largest party or a post-poll alliance claiming majority support? While constitutional practice and judicial rulings provide broad guidance, the absence of a rigid rule has repeatedly led to divergent interpretations and political controversy across states.

For Vijay, a first-time political entrant who has moved

from cinema to politics, this marks his first major institutional test. His party's performance signals a shift in Tamil Nadu's political mood, traditionally dominated by established Dravidian formations. Yet, the transition from electoral success to governance has been delayed by constitutional ambiguity and procedural interpretation.

The broader significance of the Governor's decision is evident in India's past experiences. In Karnataka (2018), the Governor invited the single largest party despite it lacking majority support, leading to a Supreme Court-directed floor test. In Goa (2017) and Manipur (2017), post-poll alliances were allowed to form governments. In Maharashtra (2019), gubernatorial action triggered judicial scrutiny and a court-monitored floor test. These cases reflect the absence of a consistent national standard.

The clearest judicial guidance comes from Rameshwar Prasad vs Union of India, arising from the Bihar Assembly dissolution of 2005, where the Supreme Court held that denying a chance to prove majority on the floor of the House was unconstitutional. The earlier S. R. Bommai vs Union of India further established that the majority must be tested in the Assembly, not assumed in Raj



Bhavan. Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam is now exploring legal options, including approaching the Supreme Court or Madras High Court, challenging the process of government formation. This legal move is sig-

nificant as it may prompt clearer judicial guidelines on the Governor's role in hung Assemblies and the order of inviting claims. For Vijay, this moment could decisively shape his political journey. It may es-

tablish him as a Chief Minister-in-waiting or position him as a strong opposition leader who challenged institutional ambiguity at a crucial juncture. Either outcome will define his early political identity.

Ultimately, the controversy highlights a deeper constitutional concern about the need for consistency, neutrality, and clarity in gubernatorial decisions. The Governor's role is not to decide political out-

comes but to ensure democratic processes function fairly. In a parliamentary democracy, legitimacy must emerge from the Assembly floor, not from subjective discretion.

True Point News Desk

Leaders Change DPs to Mark Operation Sindoor Anniversary

Marking the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several Union ministers on Thursday changed their social media display pictures, paying tribute to the armed forces and calling on citizens to follow suit.

The coordinated move saw senior leaders, including Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, update their profile images across platforms such as X, Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp. The Bharatiya Janata Party leadership also joined the initiative, reflecting a unified show of solidarity.

The new display picture features the words "Operation Sindoor" against a black background, with elements of the Indian tricolour. A distinctive visual detail includes one of the letters symbolically filled with vermilion, representing sacrifice and cultural identity.

In a message shared online, Modi recalled the events of the operation, stating that the armed forces had demonstrated exceptional courage and de-



livered a firm response to attacks on Indian citizens. He urged people across the country to adopt the commemorative image as a gesture of respect for the forces and their achievements.

Operation Sindoor, conducted between May 7 and 10 last year, involved coordinated action by the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Border Security Force along the western frontier. The mission targeted ter-

ror infrastructure and strategic locations across the border in response to a deadly terror attack in Pahalgam that claimed the lives of several civilians.

Highlighting the signifi-

cance of the operation, Rajnath Singh described it as a powerful symbol of India's resolve and preparedness. He said the mission showcased precision, coordination among the armed forces, and set a benchmark for modern military operations.

Echoing similar sentiments, Amit Shah termed the operation an "epochal mission" that demonstrated India's decisive capability to counter threats. He said the anniversary serves as a reminder to adversaries that India's security forces remain vigilant and capable of striking when necessary.

S. Jaishankar also marked the occasion by sharing the commemorative image, underlining the diplomatic and strategic dimensions of the operation. Political leaders emphasised that Operation Sindoor represents not only a military success but also a broader message of national unity, resilience and determination. The anniversary observance, they said, is a tribute to the courage and sacrifices of India's security forces, whose actions continue to safeguard the nation.



Bengal Assembly Dissolved After Mamata Refuses to Quit

In a dramatic escalation of political tensions in West Bengal, Governor R. N. Ravi has dissolved the State Assembly after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee refused to step down despite her party's electoral defeat.

The move follows the recently concluded Assembly elections, where the All India Trinamool Congress suffered a significant setback, losing its majority to the Bharatiya Janata Party, which emerged as the single largest party with a clear mandate to form the government.

Despite the outcome, Banerjee declined to resign, questioning the credibility of the election process and alleging irregularities. She maintained that her party retained public support and described the results as inconsistent with ground realities. Her stance created a constitutional impasse, as the continuation of a government without majority support is seen as contrary to established democratic conventions.

With the Assembly's term nearing its constitutional end and no immediate resolution in sight, the Governor exercised his powers to dissolve the House. The decision effectively brought the tenure of the outgoing government to a close and paved the way for the formation of a new administration.

Under India's constitutional framework, a chief minister is expected to resign if they lose

majority support in the Assembly. In situations where this does not happen voluntarily, the Governor can intervene to ensure continuity of governance. The dissolution in this case is being viewed as a step to prevent administrative paralysis and facilitate a smooth transition of power.

The BJP has strongly criticised Banerjee's refusal to step down, calling it a violation of democratic norms. Party leaders have asserted that the electorate has delivered a clear verdict and demanded that the new government be sworn in without delay. On the other hand, the Trinamool Congress has stood firmly behind its leader, alleging that the mandate has been "distorted" and hinting at possible legal challenges.

The unfolding developments have sparked a wider debate on constitutional propriety and the role of Governors in politically sensitive situations. While such standoffs are rare, they underscore the importance of adherence to democratic conventions in ensuring stability.

As the situation evolves, attention has shifted to Raj Bhavan, where the Governor is expected to initiate the process of inviting the leader of the majority party to form the government. The coming days are likely to witness swift political action, even as the possibility of legal and procedural challenges looms over the transition.

Somnath and Bharat's unconquerable spirit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has highlighted the enduring legacy of the Somnath Temple, describing it as a powerful symbol of India's civilisational resilience and spiritual continuity. As the country prepares to mark 75 years since the temple's reconstruction and inauguration in 1951, the Prime Minister said the occasion reflects the journey from destruction to renewal.



Recalling his visit earlier this year for the Somnath-SwabhimanParv, marking a thousand years since the first attack on the temple, Modi said returning for another milestone within months is both significant and emotional. He noted that Somnath stands not just as a place of worship but as a timeless reminder of India's ability to rebuild and rise despite repeated invasions and challenges.

The Prime Minister described the temple's location by the Arabian Sea as deeply symbolic, with its waves reflecting the enduring strength of the nation. "No matter how fierce the storms, the spirit of the people rises again with dignity," he said, underlining the philosophical message embedded in Somnath's history.

Highlighting historical contributions, Modi paid tribute to generations of rulers, scholars, and devotees who protected and rebuilt the temple over centuries. He recalled the role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who in 1947 called for the reconstruction of Somnath soon after Independence. Though Patel did not live to see its completion, his vision was carried forward by leaders like K. M. Munshi. The temple was eventually inaugurated in 1951 by India's first President, Rajen-

Man Swallows Key in Custody, Fed Bananas to Retrieve It

In a bizarre incident in Bengaluru, a man in police custody allegedly swallowed a lock-key, prompting authorities and doctors to adopt an unusual method to retrieve it—feeding him nearly 10 kilograms of bananas over several days.

The incident occurred at a local police station where the accused had been detained in connection with a case involving a missing minor. According to officials, the man panicked during questioning and swallowed the lock-up key, reportedly in an attempt to avoid further legal consequences.

Realising the seriousness of the situation, police rushed him to a nearby private hospital for medical examination. Doctors initially considered surgical intervention but opted for a safer, non-invasive approach after assessing his condition. The key concern was to ensure that the sharp metallic

object passed through his digestive system without causing internal injury.

Medical experts decided to use a high-fiber diet to aid the natural expulsion of the key. The man was placed under strict supervision and fed large quantities of bananas—amounting to nearly 10 kilograms over three days, to facilitate bowel movement and safely push the object through his system. The unusual treatment eventually proved successful. After continuous monitoring, the swallowed key was recovered naturally without the need for surgery, much to the relief of both doctors and police officials. Authorities confirmed that the man remained stable throughout the process and did not suffer any serious complications. However, the incident has raised concerns about safety and monitoring of individuals in custody, as well as the extreme

steps some accused persons take under stress.

Police have also registered a separate case against the man for attempting self-harm while in custody. Meanwhile, the original investigation linked to the missing minor is still ongoing. Such incidents, though rare, are not entirely unheard of. In the past, there have been cases where accused individuals swallowed objects ranging from keys to jewellery in an attempt to conceal evidence or delay legal proceedings. Medical professionals often rely on non-surgical methods like dietary intervention in such situations, provided the object is not immediately life-threatening. The episode has drawn attention for its unusual nature and highlights the challenges faced by law enforcement and healthcare personnel in handling unpredictable behaviour during custody.



VandeMataram Insult to Become Punishable Offence

In a significant move aimed at reinforcing respect for national symbols, the Union Cabinet has approved a proposal to make insults to VandeMataram a punishable offence. The decision is seen as part of a broader effort to strengthen patriotic values and uphold the dignity of the iconic national song.

According to officials, the proposed measure seeks to introduce legal provisions that would penalise individuals found guilty of disrespecting or insulting VandeMataram, which holds a special place in India's freedom movement and cultural identity. The song, composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, played a crucial role during the struggle for independence and continues to evoke strong emotional and nationalistic sentiments across the country.

Sources indicate that the law will define what constitutes an "insult" to the song, ensuring that enforcement remains clear and consistent. While the exact nature of penalties is yet to be detailed, they are expected to include fines and possible imprisonment, depending on the severity of the offence.

The move has triggered a mixed response from different sections of society. Supporters argue that national symbols must be protected by law, especially at a time when social media and public platforms can

amplify acts perceived as disrespectful. They believe such legislation will serve as a deterrent and promote a sense of unity and respect among citizens.

However, critics have raised concerns over the potential misuse of such a law, cautioning that it could infringe upon freedom of expression. Legal experts have pointed out the need for precise definitions and safeguards to prevent arbitrary or politically motivated action. They stress that any such legislation must strike a balance between preserving national pride and protecting constitutional rights.

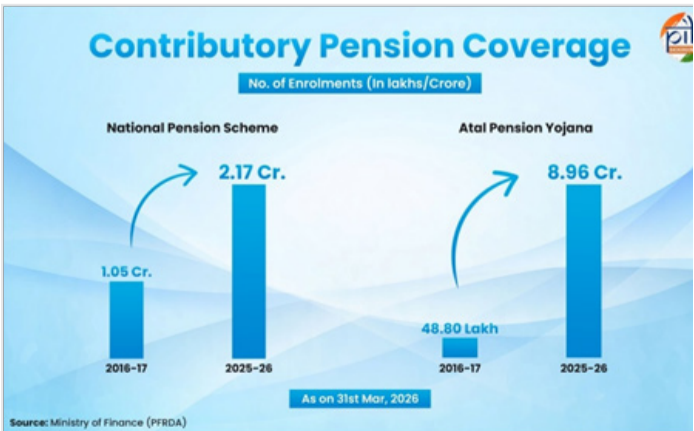
The development also comes amid ongoing debates over the role of nationalism in public life and governance. While India already has laws protecting the national flag and anthem, extending similar legal protection to VandeMataram marks a notable expansion in this domain.

The government is expected to introduce the necessary legislative framework in Parliament soon. If passed, the law will formalise the status of VandeMataram not just as a symbol of cultural heritage, but also as one protected under legal provisions. As discussions continue, the proposed move underscores the evolving intersection of patriotism, law, and civil liberties in contemporary India.

India Expands Pension Net, Focuses on Long-Term Security

India's pension ecosystem is undergoing a significant transformation, with the government expanding coverage beyond traditional beneficiaries while also addressing long-term sustainability. The transition from the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) to the National Pension Scheme (NPS), and now towards the evolving Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), reflects a shift towards a more structured and financially sustainable model.

As of March 31, 2026, the pension landscape has seen substantial growth. The NPS has crossed 2.17 crore subscribers, while the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has recorded nearly 8.96 crore enrolments. These numbers underline the increasing acceptance of contributory pension models across different segments of society.



A key feature of India's evolving pension system is its expanding reach beyond government employees. While the NPS initially catered largely to public sector workers, it has now been extended to corporate employees through the Corporate NPS model, ena-

bling private sector participation in retirement planning. At the same time, the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) continues to serve organised sector workers, offering a layer of social security.

The government has also introduced targeted schemes to

broaden inclusivity. The recently launched NPS Vatsalya aims to bring minors into the pension framework, encouraging early financial planning. For workers in the unorganised sector, the APY remains a cornerstone initiative, providing assured pension benefits at low contribution levels.

In addition, social pension schemes continue to support vulnerable groups, including the elderly, widows, and persons with disabilities, ensuring a basic safety net for those outside formal employment structures. Experts note that while expanding coverage is essential, ensuring sustainability remains equally critical. The shift away from the OPS, which placed a heavy fiscal burden on governments due to its defined-benefit nature, to contributory schemes like the

NPS is aimed at maintaining long-term financial stability. The proposed UPS seeks to strike a balance between providing assured returns and managing fiscal risks. With demographic changes and increasing life expectancy, the importance of a robust pension system has grown significantly. Policymakers are now focusing on strengthening institutional frameworks, improving financial literacy, and enhancing accessibility to pension products.

India's pension reforms signal a move towards a more inclusive and resilient social security architecture. By widening coverage and promoting shared responsibility between the state and individuals, the country aims to ensure a secure and dignified future for its ageing population.

Hantavirus Alert on Cruise Sparks Health Concerns

A recent outbreak of Hantavirus aboard a cruise ship has raised fresh concerns among global health authorities, drawing attention to the rare but potentially deadly infection linked to rodents. Health officials confirmed that several passengers reported symptoms consistent with hantavirus infection during the voyage, prompting immediate medical response and isolation measures. While the number of confirmed cases remains limited, the incident has triggered heightened surveillance and precautionary steps across ports and cruise operators. Hantavirus is primarily transmitted to humans

through contact with infected rodent urine, droppings, or saliva. In enclosed environments such as ships, the risk can increase if sanitation lapses allow rodents to contaminate food storage or living areas. Experts clarified that the virus does not typically spread from person to person, making containment relatively manageable if detected early. Symptoms of hantavirus infection can initially resemble common flu, including fever, fatigue, muscle aches, and headaches. However, in severe cases, it can progress rapidly into hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS), a life-threatening respiratory condition marked by short-

ness of breath and fluid accumulation in the lungs. Early diagnosis and supportive medical care are crucial to improving survival rates. Authorities have initiated thorough inspections of the vessel, focusing on hygiene standards, food storage practices, and possible rodent infestation. Passengers and crew members have been advised to monitor their health closely and report any symptoms immediately. Preventive measures such as proper sanitation, pest control, and safe food handling are being reinforced. Public health experts emphasize that while hantavirus cases are rare, awareness is key. Travelers are advised

to avoid contact with rodents, ensure cleanliness in living spaces, and follow health advisories, especially in confined or shared environments. The incident serves as a reminder of how quickly infectious diseases can emerge in closed settings and the importance of maintaining strict hygiene protocols. As global travel continues to rebound, health agencies are urging vigilance to prevent isolated cases from escalating into wider outbreaks. For now, the situation remains under control, with authorities confident that timely intervention will prevent further spread.



US Eyes Strong Growth Amid Policy Push

The United States economy could witness robust growth of around 5 to 6 percent, according to top economic adviser Kevin Hassett, who expressed optimism about the country's economic trajectory in the coming months. His remarks come at a time when global markets are navigating uncertainty, inflation concerns, and shifting geopolitical dynamics. Hassett attributed the positive outlook to a combination of policy measures, improving consumer demand, and a resilient labour market. He noted that ongoing efforts to boost domestic manufacturing, encourage investment, and stabilise inflation are beginning to show tangible results. The US economy, which had faced headwinds due to high interest rates and supply chain disruptions in recent years, is now demonstrating signs of renewed momentum. A key factor behind the projected growth is the steady performance of consumer spending, which continues to drive a significant portion of the US economy. Despite earlier fears of a slowdown, household consumption has remained stable, supported by wage growth and easing price pressures. Additionally, government-backed infrastructure and industrial initiatives are expected to fur-



ther stimulate economic activity. Hassett also highlighted the role of monetary policy, suggesting that inflation is gradually coming under control. This could provide the Federal Reserve with more flexibility in its future decisions on interest rates. A stable rate environment, he indicated, would encourage borrowing and investment, further supporting growth. However, he cautioned that certain risks still persist. Global economic uncertainties, including geopolitical tensions and fluctuations in energy prices, could impact the pace of expansion. Trade dynamics and policy decisions in other major econo-

mies will also play a role in shaping the overall outlook. The projected growth rate, if achieved, would mark a significant improvement and reinforce the US economy's position as a key driver of global economic stability. Analysts believe that sustained growth at this level could have positive spillover effects on international trade, investment flows, and emerging markets. While optimism remains high, experts emphasise the importance of maintaining policy discipline and addressing structural challenges to ensure that growth remains inclusive and sustainable in the long term.

Musk-Zilis Relationship Sparks Buzz

Tech billionaire Elon Musk is once again in the spotlight after Shivon Zilis opened up about her relationship with him, describing it as a "platonic" arrangement centered around having children. Zilis, an executive at Neuralink, revealed that she had offered to be a sperm donor arrangement partner to Musk, emphasizing that their relationship was not romantic. Her comments have drawn global attention, especially given Musk's growing family and unconventional personal choices. According to her statement, the decision was rooted in a shared belief about addressing concerns over declining birth rates and contributing to the future of humanity. Musk, who has repeatedly spoken about population decline as a major risk to civilization, has fathered several children with different partners over the years. Zilis clarified that their understanding was based on mutual respect and a clear agreement, without the complexities of a traditional romantic relationship. She described Musk as someone deeply focused on long-term human survival, aligning with his public statements about the need for high-



er birth rates. The revelation has sparked mixed reactions online. While some view the arrangement as a personal choice between consenting adults, others have debated the ethical and social implications of such unconventional parenting decisions, especially involving a high-profile figure like Musk. Musk has often made headlines not only for his ven-

tures—ranging from Tesla to SpaceX—but also for his outspoken views on global issues, including artificial intelligence, free speech, and demographics. His personal life, particularly his relationships and children, continues to attract significant public curiosity. The discussion also touches on broader questions about modern family structures and evolving definitions of parent-

hood. With advancements in reproductive technology and changing social norms, arrangements like the one described by Zilis are becoming more visible, though still uncommon. As the story gains traction, it highlights how the personal choices of influential figures like Musk can ignite wider conversations about society, ethics, and the future of human relationships.

Trump Says Iran Deal Very Possible After Marathon Talks

Former US President Donald Trump has expressed renewed optimism about a potential agreement with Iran following prolonged and high-stakes negotiations, even as major differences between the two sides remain unresolved. The remarks come after marathon diplomatic engagements involving senior US officials and Iranian representatives, which stretched for over 40 hours across multiple sessions. Despite the absence of a final agreement, both sides described the discussions as substantive, with indications of cautious progress in narrowing differences. According to US officials, the talks focused heavily on Iran's nuclear programme, a long-standing point of contention. Washington has insisted on firm guarantees that Tehran will not pursue nuclear weapons, while Iran has sought sanctions relief and recognition of its nuclear rights for civilian purposes. The inability to reconcile these positions has been a recurring obstacle in previous negotiations as well. JD Vance, who played a key role in the discussions, indicated that while no breakthrough was achieved, the negotiations helped build a degree of trust between the two sides. This, analysts believe, could lay the groundwork for future agreements if diplomatic momentum is sustained. Trump, however, struck a more optimistic tone, stating that a deal remains "very possible" despite the complexities involved. His comments signal a willingness on the US side to continue engagement, even after earlier rounds of talks ended without consensus. He also emphasized that the United



States had presented what it considers a "final and best offer," suggesting that the next move may depend on Iran's response. The backdrop to these negotiations is a fragile ceasefire that temporarily halted escalating hostilities in the region. While the pause in conflict has created space for diplomacy, tensions remain high, with both sides wary of each other's intentions. Any failure to reach an agreement could risk reigniting conflict and further destabilizing global energy markets. Experts note that while optimism from political leaders can help sustain dialogue, the fundamental disagreements, particularly over nuclear commitments and sanctions, are deeply entrenched. Bridging these gaps will require significant concessions from both sides, which may be politically challenging. For now, the outcome of the talks remains uncertain. However, the continuation of dialogue and the acknowledgment of progress, even if limited, suggest that diplomatic channels remain open. Whether this momentum translates into a concrete agreement will depend on the willingness of both Washington and Tehran to move beyond long-standing red lines.

Iran President Confirms Meeting with Supreme Leader

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian has confirmed that he recently held a direct meeting with Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, offering rare insight into the country's top leadership at a time of heightened regional tensions. The president said the meeting lasted over two hours and was conducted in a calm and constructive atmosphere. He described it as a rare opportunity for direct, unmediated interaction, allowing for open discussion on key national issues. The confirmation is significant as the Supreme Leader has largely remained out of public view in recent months, leading to speculation about his health and level of involvement in governance. Pezeshkian portrayed



Khamenei as composed and actively engaged, dismissing concerns about instability at the highest levels of leadership. He

highlighted the Supreme Leader's approachability and sincerity during their interaction, suggesting that the exchange

helped reinforce coordination within the country's political system. The meeting comes at a crucial time for Iran, which is dealing with escalating geopolitical pressures and ongoing tensions involving Israel and the United States. The evolving regional situation has placed Iran's leadership under intense international scrutiny, making any signal of internal stability particularly significant. While the president confirmed the meeting, he did not disclose specific details regarding the agenda or decisions taken. This lack of clarity has left room for continued speculation about policy direction and strategic planning within the Iranian leadership. Political observers view the

statement as an effort to project stability and continuity in governance. By confirming direct contact with the Supreme Leader, the Iranian administration appears keen to dispel rumours of a leadership vacuum or internal discord during a sensitive period. Despite these reassurances, the limited public appearances of Khamenei continue to raise questions. Analysts say that greater transparency could help address concerns about decision-making processes in the country. The confirmation of the meeting, however, sends a clear message that Iran's leadership remains functional and engaged, even as the country navigates a complex and volatile geopolitical landscape.

Iran Deputy FM Likely for BRICS Meet

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi is likely to visit India to attend the upcoming BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting in New Delhi, reflecting Tehran's continued push to strengthen ties with emerging global blocs. Gharibabadi, who oversees legal and international affairs, is expected to be part of Iran's delegation for the meeting scheduled later this month. The event assumes added importance as India holds the BRICS chair this year, placing it at the centre of key diplomatic engagements involving both established and newly inducted members. The expanded BRICS grouping now includes countries



such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, alongside Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The meeting is expected to focus on pressing global issues, including economic cooperation, geopolitical stability, and reforms in international institutions.

Iran's participation comes at a time of heightened tensions in West Asia and ongoing negotiations with global powers over its nuclear programme. By engaging actively with BRICS, Tehran aims to diversify its diplomatic outreach and reduce reliance on West-

ern-led platforms, especially in the face of continued sanctions. Officials indicate that the discussions in New Delhi could also serve as groundwork for the upcoming BRICS Summit later this year. The foreign ministers are expected to deliberate on enhancing collaboration in trade, energy security, and multilateral coordination on global challenges. On the sidelines, bilateral interactions are likely to take place, including between India and Iran. Both countries share long-standing historical and strategic ties, with cooperation spanning energy, connectivity, and regional development. The meeting could provide an opportunity to revive momentum

in these areas. India, as the current chair, is expected to steer discussions toward inclusive growth and cooperation among developing nations, while navigating complex geopolitical dynamics within the grouping. Although Gharibabadi's participation has not been officially confirmed, his expected presence underscores Iran's intent to play a more active role in multilateral forums like BRICS. It also highlights the growing significance of such platforms in shaping global discourse, particularly at a time when traditional alliances are being reassessed and new partnerships are emerging.

Nifty Nears 25,000; Analysts Back 'Buy on Dips'

India's benchmark equity index, the Nifty, is holding firm near key support levels, keeping hopes alive for a potential rally toward the 25,000 mark. Market experts say the index's ability to sustain above 24,200 will be crucial in determining its near-term direction.

Despite bouts of volatility, the broader market trend remains positive. Analysts point to a steady pattern of higher lows on technical charts, indicating underlying strength and continued buying interest at lower levels. This has reinforced the widely recommended "buy on dips" strategy among traders and investors.

The 24,200-24,800 range is currently acting as a strong support zone. As long as the Nifty trades above this band, the bullish structure is expected to remain intact. Any dips toward this level are being seen as opportunities to accumulate quality stocks rather than signals of weakness.

On the upside, the 25,000 mark has emerged as a key psychological resistance level. A decisive breakout above this threshold could trigger fresh



momentum, potentially pushing the index toward higher targets in the coming sessions. Analysts believe sustained buying from institutional investors could play a pivotal

role in driving this move.

Sectoral trends are also contributing to the market's resilience. Banking, IT, auto, and capital goods stocks continue to attract investor interest,

supported by earnings visibility and improving macroeconomic conditions. Rotational buying across sectors has helped maintain upward momentum even during consoli-

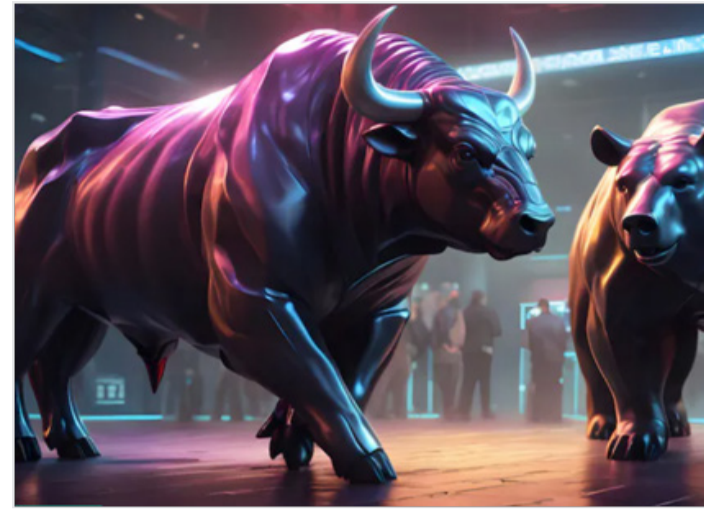
dation phases.

Global cues, however, remain an important variable. Developments in crude oil prices, geopolitical tensions, and policy signals from major central banks could influence short-term market movements. While domestic fundamentals remain strong, external factors may continue to create intermittent volatility.

Market participants are also keeping a close watch on liquidity trends and foreign institutional investor activity, both of which have been supportive in recent sessions. Strong inflows have helped cushion the market against sharp corrections.

That said, analysts caution that a sustained breach below 24,200 could weaken the current trend and lead to profit booking. Until then, the overall outlook remains constructive.

With technical indicators favoring bulls and fundamentals providing support, Dalal Street appears poised for further gains—provided key support levels continue to hold and buying interest remains steady.



Markets End Flat Amid Volatility, Midcaps Outperform

Indian equity markets ended on a flat note after a volatile trading session, as benchmark indices struggled to sustain early gains despite positive cues.

The BSE Sensex slipped 114 points to close at 77,844.52, while the NSE Nifty 50 edged down by 4.3 points to settle at 24,326.65. Markets opened on a firm footing and briefly extended gains, but profit booking at higher levels erased most of the advances by the close.

Investor sentiment remained cautiously optimistic, supported by easing global concerns and expectations of stability in key geopolitical regions. However, the absence of strong triggers and valuation concerns at elevated levels kept the indices range-bound through the session.

In contrast, broader markets continued to shine. Midcap and smallcap stocks witnessed strong buying interest, with indices in both segments registering notable gains and hitting fresh highs. The outperformance highlights a shift toward stock-specific opportunities and improving market breadth beyond large-cap counters.

Sectoral performance remained mixed. Buying was seen in auto, metal, defence, and media stocks, which helped cushion losses in the

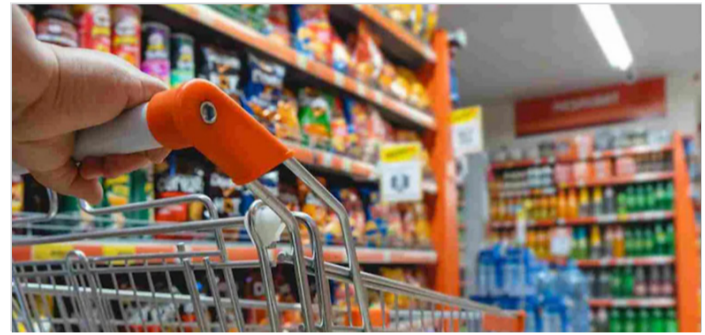
broader market. On the flip side, IT, FMCG, PSU banking, and consumer durable stocks faced selling pressure, limiting the upside in benchmark indices.

Among key gainers, stocks like HDFC Life, Bajaj Auto, Mahindra & Mahindra, Grasim Industries, and NTPC supported the market. Meanwhile, heavyweight stocks such as ITC, TCS, Hindustan Unilever, and Titan Company dragged the indices lower.

The session also witnessed strong stock-specific action, with several companies touching their 52-week highs, indicating continued investor interest in select counters. Notably, shares of Paytm saw sharp gains after reporting its first full-year profit, boosting sentiment in new-age technology stocks.

Market experts believe that the indices are currently in a consolidation phase, with resistance levels capping further upside in the near term. While the overall trend remains positive, intermittent profit booking is likely to persist at higher levels.

Going ahead, analysts recommend a selective investment strategy, focusing on fundamentally strong stocks, as sector rotation and broader market participation continue to define the current market trend.



Dabur Q4 Profit Up 15%, Declares 5.5 Dividend

Dabur India Limited reported a steady performance for the fourth quarter of FY26, posting growth in both profit and revenue on the back of resilient demand and operational efficiency.

The company recorded a consolidated net profit of 369 crore for the January-March quarter, registering a 15% increase compared to 320 crore in the same period last year. The growth was supported by stable consumption trends and improved margins across key business segments.

Revenue from operations rose over 7% year-on-year to 3,038 crore, driven largely by strong performance in the domestic FMCG segment. Volume growth, particularly in rural markets, played a crucial role in boosting overall sales, indicating a gradual recovery in consumption demand.

The company's board has recommended a final dividend of 5.50 per equity share for FY26, reinforcing its commitment to delivering consistent shareholder returns. The dividend announcement comes in line with the company's stable earnings growth and strong cash position.

Operationally, Dabur continued to see traction across its core categories, including home and personal care, healthcare, and hair care products.

Growth in health supplements and wellness-related offerings also contributed to the overall performance, reflecting changing consumer preferenc-

es toward preventive healthcare.

The domestic business remained the key growth driver, with rural markets outperforming urban demand. The company has been focusing on expanding its distribution network and strengthening its presence in smaller towns and villages, which has helped sustain volume growth.

At the same time, Dabur maintained tight control over costs, which supported margin expansion despite fluctuations in input prices. Strategic pricing actions and efficiency measures also contributed to improved profitability during the quarter.

However, on a sequential basis, profit saw a decline compared to the previous quarter, largely due to seasonal factors and changes in consumption patterns. Such variations are typical in the FMCG sector and do not significantly alter the overall growth trajectory.

Looking ahead, Dabur remains optimistic about future demand, particularly with expectations of continued recovery in rural consumption and stable macroeconomic conditions. The company plans to focus on innovation, premiumisation, and digital expansion to drive growth.

With a diversified product portfolio and strong brand presence, Dabur is well-positioned to navigate market challenges while sustaining steady growth in the coming quarters.

NCLT Admits Insolvency Plea Against Prime Focus

The Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has admitted an insolvency petition against Prime Focus Limited, bringing the company under the spotlight despite its strong stock market performance over the past year.

The plea was filed by Reliance Alpha Services Private Limited under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, citing an alleged default of 353.79 crore, including interest. The claim relates to a loan agreement reportedly executed in 2019, which the petitioner argues remains unpaid.

Following the tribunal's decision, Prime Focus moved quickly to challenge the order, filing an appeal before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT). The company has sought an urgent stay on the insolvency proceedings, stating that it will pursue all legal remedies to contest the admission of the case.

Prime Focus has strongly de-

nied the allegations, maintaining that no funds were actually disbursed under the loan agreement in question. It has also argued that the petitioner does not qualify as a "financial creditor" under the legal framework, and therefore, the insolvency plea should not have been admitted in the first place. The company further stated that the dispute stems from a broader business arrangement dating back several years and is already subject to ongoing litigation in other legal forums. It contends that the insolvency route is being misused as a recovery mechanism for a matter that is still under judicial consideration.

Despite the legal development, Prime Focus has reassured stakeholders that its business operations remain stable and unaffected. The company, known for its global visual effects (VFX) and post-production services, said it continues to serve clients without disruption, and that its em-

ployees, vendors, and ongoing projects remain secure.

Interestingly, the insolvency proceedings come at a time when the company's stock has delivered impressive returns. Shares of Prime Focus have surged more than 200% over the past year, reflecting strong investor confidence in its growth prospects and global business operations.

Market participants are expected to closely monitor further developments in the case, particularly the outcome of the appeal before the appellate tribunal. While insolvency proceedings typically raise concerns among investors, the company's firm stance and ongoing legal challenge could influence sentiment in the near term. The case underscores the complexities of corporate litigation in India, where financial disputes, legal interpretations, and market performance often intersect, shaping both investor confidence and corporate strategy.

Lenskart Shares Slide Over 4% Amid Block Deal Buzz

Shares of Lenskart Solutions Ltd declined sharply in a volatile trading session after reports of a potential large block deal triggered selling pressure in the stock.

The stock fell more than 4% during the day, as investors reacted to news that around a 4% equity stake in the company may change hands through block deals. The development is linked to the expiry of the lock-in period for IPO anchor investors, which is expected to open the door for early backers to partially exit their holdings.

Market participants believe that such large secondary stake sales typically create short-term pressure on stock prices due to concerns over increased supply in the market.



The possibility of a sizeable chunk of shares being offloaded led to cautious sentiment, prompting traders to book profits.

Reports suggest that some of the likely sellers in the proposed transaction could include major institutional in-

vestors, including entities backed by global investment firms. The move is seen as part of normal portfolio rebalancing by early investors following the company's public listing.

The stock has also been under pressure in recent ses-

sions, declining around 7% over the past few trading days. Despite the recent fall, it continues to trade above its listing price from November 2025, indicating that longer-term investor confidence remains relatively intact.

The anticipated block deal comes at a time when several recently listed companies are witnessing lock-in expiries, leading to increased market activity. Analysts note that such phases often result in temporary volatility as markets absorb the additional supply of shares.

Lenskart, a leading player in India's eyewear segment, has been in focus since its stock market debut, backed by strong brand recognition and growth prospects in both domestic and

international markets. The company has also reported steady operational performance in recent quarters, supported by expansion in retail stores and digital channels.

However, valuation concerns and supply overhang from stake sales remain key factors influencing near-term stock movement. Investors are expected to closely monitor the pricing and execution of the potential block deal, as well as the market's ability to absorb the shares without significant impact.

Going forward, while the company's fundamentals remain strong, short-term price action is likely to be driven by developments around the stake sale and broader market sentiment.



Coal India Slips on OFS Concerns

Shares of Coal India Limited declined around 2% in a weak trading session after reports suggested that the government may offload a stake in the company through an Offer for Sale (OFS) worth nearly 10,000 crore.

The news triggered selling pressure in the stock, with investors turning cautious over the potential increase in supply of shares in the market. Market participants typically view large OFS announcements as a near-term overhang, as they can dilute existing holdings and weigh on prices until the transaction is absorbed.

According to market reports, the proposed OFS could involve the government selling a portion of its stake in the state-run coal giant as part of its broader disinvestment strategy. The Centre currently holds a majority stake in the company, and such stake sales are aimed at raising revenue while improving public shareholding. The possibility of a large-scale stake sale led to profit booking by traders, especially after the stock's recent gains. Analysts note that while OFS-related declines are often temporary, they can create short-term volatility and uncertainty in the market. Despite the dip, Coal India remains fundamentally strong, backed by its dominant position in India's coal

production sector. The company continues to play a critical role in meeting the country's energy needs, supplying coal to power plants and key industries.

In recent quarters, Coal India has reported stable operational performance, supported by steady demand and improved production levels. The company has also maintained a consistent dividend payout track record, making it a preferred pick among income-focused investors.

However, concerns over government stake sales, combined with broader market fluctuations, have weighed on investor sentiment. The timing, pricing, and scale of the proposed OFS will be closely monitored, as these factors will determine the extent of the impact on the stock. Market experts suggest that while the immediate reaction may remain negative, long-term investors could view any sharp correction as a potential buying opportunity, given the company's strong fundamentals and strategic importance.

Going forward, the stock's movement is likely to be influenced by clarity on the OFS plan, global commodity trends, and overall market sentiment. Until then, cautious trading is expected to prevail, with investors keeping a close watch on further developments.

SwanandKirkire's Spam Call Allegation Sparks Privacy Row

Lyricist and writer SwanandKirkire has triggered a fresh debate over digital privacy after alleging that a major automobile company shared his personal details, leading to a flood of spam calls.

Kirkire took to social media to express his frustration, claiming that after purchasing a car from Toyota, his phone number was circulated to multiple third-party agencies. He said the experience quickly turned into an "unending barrage" of promotional calls, disturbing his daily life and raising concerns over data security in customer transactions.

According to his post, what began as a routine car purchase

soon spiralled into what he described as an invasion of privacy. The frequent unsolicited calls from insurance agents and service providers, he alleged, suggested that his personal data had been shared without proper consent.

The allegation quickly gained attention online, with many users echoing similar experiences of receiving marketing calls after major purchases, especially vehicles, telecom connections, and financial services. The issue has once again highlighted the growing concern around how customer data is handled in India's expanding digital marketplace.

Responding to the allegation, Toyota clarified that cus-

tomers data privacy is taken seriously within the organisation. The company stated that it follows strict protocols regarding data protection and does not share personal information without consent. It also indicated that it would look into the matter raised by Kirkire.

While the company's response aimed to address the concern, the incident has already sparked wider discussion on consumer rights and data protection practices. Experts say that such cases underline the urgent need for stronger enforcement of data privacy rules and clearer consent mechanisms when customers sign up for services or make purchases.

Privacy advocates point out that India's digital ecosystem has expanded rapidly, but awareness about how personal data is used remains limited among consumers. As a result, individuals often find themselves on multiple marketing lists without understanding how their information was shared.

Kirkire's allegation, whether ultimately proven or not, has added to the growing chorus demanding stricter safeguards against data misuse. For many users, the incident is yet another reminder that in an increasingly connected world, personal information often travels further than expected—and sometimes without permission.



iPhone Users May Receive Up to \$95 in Settlement Payout

Some iPhone owners could be in line for a small financial windfall after Apple agreed to a \$250 million settlement in a class-action lawsuit that accused the company of misleading customers over artificial intelligence features promoted during recent iPhone launches.

The case centres on claims that Apple advertised advanced AI-powered capabilities for its Siri voice assistant and related "Apple Intelligence" features during the rollout of the iPhone 16 series and select iPhone 15 Pro models. Plaintiffs alleged that the marketing created the impression that these tools were already fully functional at the time of purchase, when in reality several features were either partially available or still under development.

Consumers argued that this mismatch between promotional messaging and actual product capability influenced purchasing decisions, especially among buyers drawn to the promise of next-generation AI integration in smartphones. The lawsuit was filed in a U.S. federal court in California and covered millions of device owners across a defined purchase period.

Apple, while not admitting any wrongdoing, agreed to the settlement to avoid prolonged litigation and associated legal costs. The company maintained that it continues to develop and refine its AI features and that product rollouts often occur in phases, particularly in rapidly evolving areas such as generative AI and voice assistance.

Under the proposed settlement, approximately 36 to 37 million devices could be eligi-



ble. This includes buyers of the iPhone 16 lineup as well as certain models of the iPhone 15 Pro and iPhone 15 Pro Max purchased between June 10, 2024, and March 29, 2025.

If approved by the court, eligible users will be able to file claims for compensation. The expected payout per device is estimated to range from a minimum of about \$25, with some users potentially receiving up to \$95 depending on the total number of valid claims submitted. Legal experts note that such settlements typically operate on a sliding scale, meaning individual payouts decrease as participation increases.

Apple has stated that it remains committed to improving user experience and advancing its AI ecosystem. The company has already begun introducing features under its "Apple Intelligence" branding, including writing tools, enhanced notification summaries, and improved Siri functionality. However, more advanced upgrades—particularly those involving deeper conversation-

al capabilities—are still in development and expected to roll out in future updates.

The settlement is currently awaiting judicial approval. Once cleared, an official claims process will be launched, allowing eligible customers to register and verify their device purchases through a designated portal.

Beyond the financial aspect, the case underscores a broader issue in the tech industry: the growing gap between marketing narratives and the actual availability of AI-driven features. As smartphone makers race to position themselves in the AI era, regulators and consumers are increasingly scrutinising whether promotional claims accurately reflect real-world product performance.

The outcome of this case could set a precedent for how technology companies communicate future-ready features, especially in a market where expectations around artificial intelligence are rapidly evolving and often outpacing product readiness.

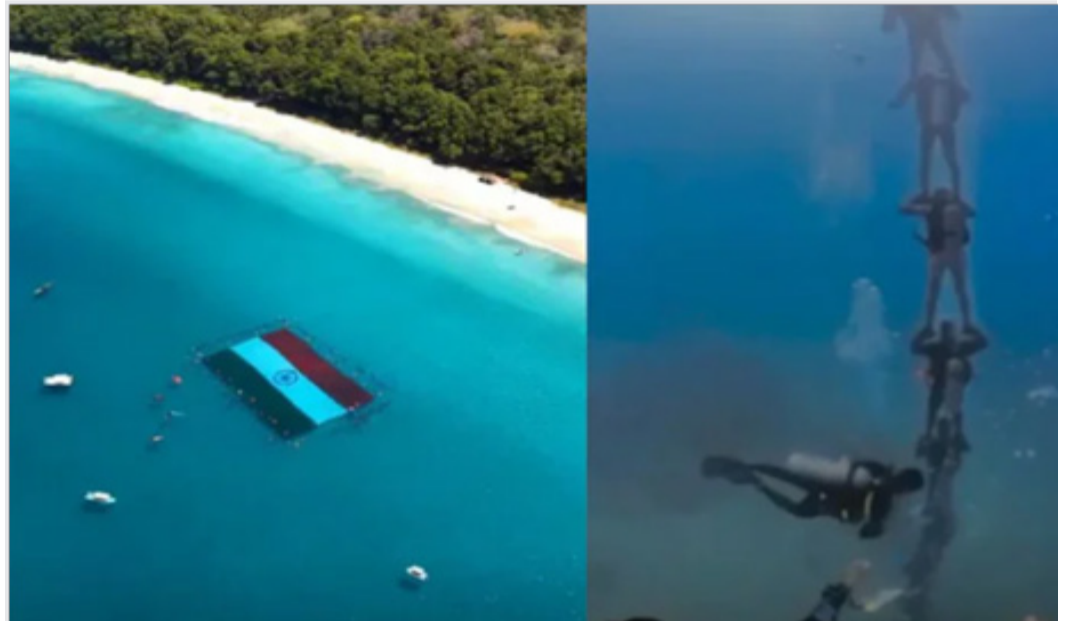
India's Silent Triumph Beneath the Waves

India has quietly achieved a remarkable global milestone by setting two Guinness World Records underwater—an extraordinary feat that has surprisingly remained under the radar for many people across the country.

The record-breaking event took place in the crystal-clear waters of SwarajDweep (Have-lock Island) in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where a massive coordinated underwater operation combined precision diving, national pride, and large-scale teamwork.

The first record involved the unfurling of what is believed to be the world's largest national flag underwater. The enormous tricolour was carefully deployed beneath the sea surface near Radhanagar Beach, creating a striking visual spectacle under the ocean. The effort required months of planning and the participation of more than 200 trained divers, including personnel from naval and marine security forces along with civilian diving experts.

Working in challenging underwater conditions, the divers coordinated to ensure the massive flag was properly positioned and fully visible beneath the water. The achievement demonstrated not only technical skill but also remarkable synchronization among all participants, as even slight misalignment could have disrupted the historic attempt.



The second record was set as part of the same initiative and involved a carefully executed underwater human formation. Divers assembled in a structured arrangement beneath the sea, maintaining position and balance in shifting underwater currents. This formation, requiring both physical endurance and precise coordination, added an artistic dimension to the record attempt and highlighted the versatility of India's diving teams.

What makes the achievement even more unusual is the fact that it was carried out in one of India's most scenic yet relatively less-publicised regions. The Andaman Islands, known for their coral reefs and

marine biodiversity, provided a dramatic backdrop for the record-setting dives.

Officials associated with the initiative have described the twin records as part of a broader effort to promote India's underwater tourism potential. The aim was to draw international attention to the islands as a destination for scuba diving and adventure sports while showcasing India's capacity to execute complex marine operations.

Despite the scale and uniqueness of the achievement, the event has not received widespread public attention, with many people unaware that India had added two Guinness World Records in such an un-

conventional category. This lack of visibility has sparked discussion about how certain landmark accomplishments often remain confined to niche audiences.

The successful execution of both records also highlights the growing collaboration between defence personnel, tourism authorities, and civilian experts in promoting India's soft power through innovative initiatives.

In a country where record-breaking events often capture global attention, these underwater achievements stand out not just for their scale, but for their quiet execution—hidden beneath the surface, both literally and figuratively.

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 DebashisTripathy 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 Srikanta, not only returned every rupee but also refused to accept any reward for his honesty. 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.

A solo motorcycle journey across India turned into a heartwarming moment of humanity after a Dutch female biker was helped by three strangers on a highway when her bike suddenly broke down.

The traveller, identified as MeikeHijman from the Netherlands, was riding through India when her journey came to an unexpected halt due to a flat tyre. Stranded on a busy stretch of road and unable to fix the issue on her own, she found herself in a vulnerable situation with limited tools and no immediate assistance in sight.

That is when three local men noticed her difficulty and stopped without hesitation. Instead of passing by, they pulled over, assessed the problem, and stepped in to help. One of them reportedly assisted in inflating the tyre, while the others guided her towards the nearest mechanic and ensured she was safe before she continued her journey. Their quick action turned what could have been a stressful roadside emergency into a moment of relief and gratitude.

In a video she later shared on social media, Meike described how the situation unfolded in real time. She can be heard explaining that her ride was going smoothly until the breakdown occurred, after which strangers immediately came forward to help her. The clip, titled "Saved by 3 strangers on an Indian highway," quickly



went viral, drawing widespread attention and emotional responses from viewers across platforms.

She also expressed appreciation for the kindness shown by the strangers, noting that they not only helped fix the immediate issue but also ensured she was not left alone on a potentially unsafe highway stretch. The video shows the men coordinating calmly, pointing out the tyre issue and working together to get her moving again. The incident has resonated

widely online, with many users praising the spontaneous act of goodwill. Social media reactions highlighted the contrast between common concerns about road safety and the warmth of unexpected human support in unfamiliar places. Many viewers described the moment as a reminder that kindness from strangers can often appear when least expected.

This is not the first time the Dutch traveller has experienced hospitality during her

journey across India. Earlier, she had also shared moments of rural kindness where local families offered her food, shelter, and assistance during her travels, further shaping her experience of the country as welcoming and supportive.

The latest episode on the highway has now become another memorable chapter in her journey, symbolising how small acts of help from strangers can turn a difficult situation into a story of trust, cooperation, and shared humanity.

Marsh Masterclass Lifts LSG

Lucknow Super Giants returned to winning ways with a thrilling nine-run victory over Royal Challengers Bengaluru in a high-scoring IPL 2026 clash at the Ekana Stadium on Thursday. The home side finally ended their poor run at home with a spirited all-round performance that kept their playoff hopes alive.

Batting first in the rain-shortened 19-over contest, Lucknow delivered an explosive start and maintained the momentum throughout the innings. Australian all-rounder Mitchell Marsh produced a sensational unbeaten century, tearing apart the Bengaluru bowling attack with fearless hitting. Marsh dominated from the outset, smashing boundaries all around the ground and keeping the scoreboard moving at a rapid pace.

Marsh found support from the middle order, while skipper Rishabh Pant added valuable late runs with an aggressive cameo. Their powerful finish helped Lucknow Super

Giants post a commanding total of 209 for 3, putting immense pressure on Bengaluru's batting line-up.

Chasing a daunting target, Royal Challengers Bengaluru started positively but struggled to build strong partnerships in the middle overs. Star batter Virat Kohli failed to convert his start, while the Lucknow bowlers tightened their grip with disciplined bowling.

Young pacer Prince Yadav emerged as the standout performer with the ball for Lucknow. He picked up three crucial wickets at important stages of the innings and played a major role in slowing Bengaluru's chase. His timely breakthroughs shifted the momentum firmly towards the hosts.

Despite losing wickets, Bengaluru remained in the contest through captain Rajat Patidar, who played a composed and attacking half-century. Patidar kept the required run rate under control and en-

sured the chase stayed alive heading into the final overs.

The match turned dramatic when Tim David launched a fierce counterattack late in the innings. The Australian batter smashed towering sixes and brought Bengaluru within touching distance of victory. With the equation narrowing rapidly, the pressure mounted on Lucknow's bowlers.

However, the Super Giants held their nerve in the closing stages. Their bowlers executed their plans well in the final over and prevented Bengaluru from completing an incredible chase. Lucknow eventually sealed a memorable nine-run victory in front of their home crowd.

The win marked Lucknow Super Giants' first home victory of the IPL 2026 season and gave their campaign a significant boost. For Royal Challengers Bengaluru, the defeat proved costly in the race for a top position in the points table.



Injury Crisis Clouds World Cup

With the FIFA World Cup 2026 approaching, a mounting injury crisis is casting a shadow over the tournament, raising concerns about the absence of several star players and the fitness of many others. Teams across continents are grappling with key injuries at a crucial stage, forcing managers to rethink combinations and strategies ahead of the global showpiece.

France faces an anxious wait over Kylian Mbappé, who is recovering from a hamstring problem. While there is optimism about his return, the uncertainty surrounding his match fitness remains a concern. Spain's young sensation Lamine Yamal is also dealing with a muscle injury, while Brazil's promising winger Estevão William is in a race against time after sustaining a hamstring strain. Egypt's Mohamed Salah has also experienced a recent injury scare, though he is expected to recover in time for the tournament.

Several players, however, have already been ruled out, dealing a significant blow to their national teams. France will miss Hugo Ekitike due to a serious Achilles injury that requires extended recovery. Brazil's campaign has been hit hard with Eder Militão and Rodrygo sidelined, while Germany will be without Serge Gnabry following an adductor injury. The Netherlands will miss Xavi Simons, who suf-



fered an anterior cruciate ligament injury, ruling him out of contention. The United States will also be weakened, with Cameron Carter-Vickers and Patrick Agyemang unavailable due to injuries. A number of other players remain doubtful as the tournament draws closer. Argentina defender Cristian Romero is sidelined with a knee issue, while Morocco's Achraf Hakimi and United States defender Miles Robinson are working to regain fitness in time. Croatia's veteran midfielder Luka Modrić has faced a recent injury concern but is expected to be available for selection. The growing list of injuries has once again highlighted concerns about the demanding football calendar. With players participating in

domestic leagues, continental tournaments, and international competitions, the physical toll has increased significantly. The expansion of tournaments and reduced recovery periods have contributed to fatigue and a higher risk of injuries.

As teams prepare to announce their final squads, fitness levels will play a crucial role in shaping the tournament. The absence of key players could impact team balance and performance, potentially opening opportunities for emerging talents. The World Cup, known for showcasing the best in global football, may now unfold with several notable absentees, altering expectations and adding an element of unpredictability even before the tournament begins.

Umesh Highlights Contrast Between Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar

Veteran Indian pacer Umesh Yadav has drawn attention to the contrasting performances of Jasprit Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar Kumar in the ongoing IPL season, pointing to differences in planning, role clarity, and execution as key factors behind their divergent outcomes.

Bumrah, one of India's most successful fast bowlers in recent years, has endured a surprisingly quiet season. Playing for Mumbai Indians, he has struggled to find rhythm and consistency, managing only a handful of wickets across multiple matches. His usually lethal yorkers and variations have not produced the same impact, and his overall effectiveness has dipped compared to previous seasons.

On the other hand, Bhuvneshwar Kumar has enjoyed a strong resurgence with Royal Challengers Bengaluru. He has been among the leading wicket-takers, consistently delivering breakthroughs in crucial moments. His ability to swing the new ball and maintain disciplined lines has made him a vital asset for his franchise.

Umesh Yadav attributed this contrast mainly to clarity in role definition. According to him, Bhuvneshwar has benefited from a well-structured plan that clearly defines when



and how he is expected to bowl. This has allowed him to focus on his strengths, particularly in the powerplay and at the death, where his control and experience are most effective.

In comparison, Bumrah's role within Mumbai Indians appears less stable this season. He has been used in varying phases of the game, which, according to Umesh, has disrupted his rhythm. The pacer also noted that Bumrah seems to be experimenting more than usual, trying out different approaches rather than relying

on his established strengths, which may have contributed to inconsistent results.

Umesh further emphasized that modern T20 cricket demands clarity from both players and team management. Bowlers, he said, perform best when they are given defined responsibilities and a clear understanding of their match situations. Without that structure, even world-class performers can struggle to maintain impact.

He also highlighted the importance of communication

within the team setup, suggesting that strategic clarity often determines outcomes in high-pressure tournaments like the IPL.

As the season progresses, Bumrah will look to regain his usual dominance, while Bhuvneshwar continues to thrive under a system that appears to maximize his skill set. The comparison between the two experienced pacers underscores how planning and role stability can significantly influence performance in modern cricket.

Raina Backs RCB and RR as IPL 2026 Title Favourites

Former Chennai Super Kings (CSK) star Suresh Raina has named his top two contenders for the IPL 2026 title, backing Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) while surprisingly leaving out Punjab Kings from his shortlist. Raina, speaking on a cricket discussion show, praised RCB for their balanced squad, consistent performances, and strong leadership under captain Rajat Patidar. He noted that the franchise, fresh from their maiden IPL triumph in 2025, have carried forward their winning momentum into the new season. According to him, RCB's clarity in roles and stability in both batting and bowling departments make them strong favourites to defend their crown.

The former India cricketer also highlighted Rajasthan Royals as another serious title challenger. He appreciated their fearless brand of cricket and the emergence of young talents who have stepped up alongside experienced international players. Raina believes RR's mix of youth and experience, along with their aggressive approach, gives them the ability to go deep into the tournament once again.

However, Raina's selection drew attention for the omission of Punjab Kings, a team that has shown competitive form in recent seasons. Despite their improved performances and strong individual contributions, he did not include them among his favourites for the title race.

RCB currently sit near the top of the points table, with a strong win record built on disciplined bowling and explosive batting performances. Rajasthan Royals, meanwhile, remain in playoff contention with several match-winners capable of turning games in their favour.

Raina's analysis reflects his emphasis on consistency, team balance, and leadership as key factors in deciding IPL champions. He stressed that in a long and demanding tournament like the IPL, squads that maintain stability under pressure and execute plans effectively are more likely to succeed.

As IPL 2026 moves into its crucial phase, the competition remains wide open, with several teams still in contention. However, according to Raina, RCB and RR currently stand out as the most complete and dangerous sides in the race for the trophy.

BCCI's IPL Final Shift to Ahmedabad Sparks Commercial Debate

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) decision to shift the IPL 2026 final from Bengaluru to Ahmedabad has triggered a fresh debate, with Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara suggesting that commercial viability could be one of the key reasons behind the move.

Originally, Bengaluru's M. Chinnaswamy Stadium was scheduled to host the high-profile final. However, the BCCI recently confirmed that the summit clash will now be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, one of the largest cricket venues in the world. The change has led to mixed reactions from political leaders, cricket administrators, and fans.

According to Parameshwara, while multiple factors may influence such decisions, the commercial potential of Ahmedabad's venue cannot be ignored. The stadium's massive seating capacity allows for



significantly higher ticket revenue, hospitality earnings, and broadcast value compared to other venues. He indicated that this aspect may have weighed heavily in the BCCI's planning for the final.

At the same time, the minister clarified that there is no evidence suggesting issues related to security or match ar-

rangements in Bengaluru. He also noted that concerns over ticket distribution to legislators, which had been discussed in media reports, were not officially linked to the venue shift decision.

The BCCI, on its part, has maintained that logistical and operational considerations played a role in finalising

Ahmedabad as the host city. The governing body has often chosen the venue for major ICC and IPL finals in recent years, citing its world-class infrastructure, large capacity, and ability to handle high-profile events smoothly.

The decision, however, has disappointed stakeholders in Karnataka cricket circles. Ben-

galuru had initially been set to host the final as part of a rotational or merit-based allocation system, especially with Royal Challengers Bengaluru being the defending champions. The sudden change has raised questions about transparency and consistency in venue selection.

Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium has become a preferred destination for marquee cricket events, having previously hosted major international finals and IPL deciders. Its growing prominence reflects a broader trend of centralising high-revenue matches in larger commercial hubs.

As the IPL 2026 season moves towards its climax, the venue shift has added an off-field talking point to the tournament. While players focus on performance, the debate around commercial priorities versus traditional hosting rights continues to dominate discussions in Indian cricket administration.



Agadha Teaser Unleashes Supernatural Thrills

The teaser of Agadha, directed by M. S. Raju, has arrived, promising a chilling cinematic experience steeped in mystery and the supernatural. Known for delivering blockbusters like Devi, Okkadu, Varsham, and ManasanthaNuvve, Raju appears to have pushed his creative boundaries further with this ambitious project.

The 1-minute-44-second teaser opens with a haunting dialogue by KamakshiBhaskarla, setting the tone for the film's eerie premise. It reflects on humanity's belief in spirits and supernatural forces, hinting that the universe harbours far more powerful and unexplored entities—some protective, others deeply disturbing.

Every frame of the teaser is packed with suspense, offering glimpses into a strange and unfamiliar world. The visuals introduce new characters, unsettling environments, and an underlying narrative that feels both fresh and ominous. With striking cinematography, haunting locations, and intense character expressions, the teaser builds an atmosphere of constant tension. The background score amplifies the fear factor, while cryptic dialogues keep viewers intrigued.

One particularly gripping moment shows a terrified girl struggling to describe what she witnessed in a mysterious video, stammering the word "Agadha," leaving audiences curious about the entity's true

nature. Dialogues like "Agadha has arrived... no one's games will continue before it" heighten the suspense, pushing the teaser towards a powerful climax.

The visual quality and technical finesse suggest that Agadha may surpass the high standards typically associated with M. S. Raju's productions. His direction, combined with a strong visual treatment, creates a sense of awe and anticipation. The filmmaker is reportedly confident about the film, choosing to begin promotions only after completing a well-packaged product. Special attention is being given to every promotional element, including posters, teaser, and the upcoming trailer.

Produced by Kashi VisalakshiBalusu under the banner of Sri AdiVaraha Productions, the film is being mounted on a grand scale and will release simultaneously in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Hindi.

The film features a diverse cast including KamakshiBhaskarla, Shravan Reddy, Ulka Gupta, JovikaVijaykumar, Sijju, Roshan, and Shreya Reddy.

With music by Rakesh Venkatapuram, cinematography by NaniChamidisetty, and editing by Junaid Siddiqui, Agadha is shaping up to be a gripping supernatural thriller that aims to deliver a truly immersive big-screen experience.

Posani's Operation Arunareddy Promotes Honest Journalism

Veteran writer-actor Posani Krishna Murali has unveiled key details about his upcoming film Operation Arunareddy, which he is producing, directing, and headlining. Speaking at a press meet in Hyderabad, Posani said the film carries a strong social message—that society improves when journalists remain honest and fearless.

Clarifying misconceptions, Posani asserted that Operation Arunareddy has no political agenda and is designed as a clean, family-friendly film. "People from all political backgrounds can watch this film. There are no vulgar dialogues or objectionable scenes," he said, emphasizing that the narrative is rooted in sincerity and social awareness rather than political bias.

The film revolves around a principled journalist, played by HindolaChakravarthy, who portrays the titular character Arunareddy. According to Posani, the story highlights how responsible journalism can guide the public in identifying genuine leaders who enter politics for service rather than personal gain. The narrative explores how her warnings awaken citizens and influence their choices in selecting political representatives.



Posani revealed that the film also features a Chief Minister character who supports the journalist during challenging times, played by Raghunandan Rao. He thanked Rao for accepting the role, adding that his involvement is limited strictly to the film and not linked to any political messaging.

Confident about the film's technical strength, Posani described its screenplay as one of the finest in Indian cinema. "This will be the best screenplay of my career and among the best in the country. The audience won't be able to predict what happens next," he stated. With experience of writing over 100 scripts, Posani said he has brought his full creative capabilities to the project, also handling editing, dialogues, lyrics, and story. The film fea-

tures a notable cast including HindolaChakravarthy, Kajal Sharma, Ayesha Khan, and Sai Manikanta. Speaking at the event, Hindola expressed her admiration for Posani's dedication, stating that working with him helped her understand not just acting but also a deeper perspective on cinema. She described Arunareddy as a powerful, emotional, and socially relevant character.

Backed by UP Cinema Lines and Kusuma Entertainments, with presentation by 3 Idiots Movies, the film's technical team includes cinematographer Sudhakar and music composer MahadevElender. With its focus on integrity in journalism and a gripping narrative, Operation Arunareddy aims to deliver both a meaningful message and an engaging cinematic experience.



SK33 Poster Sparks Buzz on SundeepKishan's Birthday

Marking the birthday of his upcoming film, tentatively titled SK33, unveiled a striking new poster that has instantly grabbed attention. The project comes after the blockbuster success of director Yugandhar Muni's Shambala, raising expectations for this ambitious collaboration.

Produced under the Shining Pictures banner by Mahidhar Reddy and RajasekharAnnabhimoju, the film had already generated curiosity with its earlier concept poster. That first glimpse hinted at an intense face-off in the wild—symbolically drawing parallels between a lion and a wolf, suggesting a story rooted in survival, power, and primal instincts.

The newly released birthday poster takes the intrigue a step further. Featuring a child, a sword, and a lion, the visual strongly indicates that the film will be a forest-based fantasy adventure. The imagery suggests themes of legacy, courage, and transformation, with SundeepKishan expected to appear as a fierce warrior-like figure, possibly embodying the spirit of a lion in the narrative.

Adding to the excitement is the tagline, "A Legend Is Born,"

which hints at a powerful origin story. The poster has significantly heightened expectations among fans and film enthusiasts, positioning SK33 as a visually rich and emotionally driven adventure.

The makers are planning to release the film in multiple languages, including Telugu, Hindi, and Tamil, aiming for a wider reach across Indian audiences. With its fantasy-adventure backdrop, the project appears to blend folklore elements with cinematic spectacle.

Currently, the film is in the pre-production stage, with work progressing at a brisk pace. The team had earlier announced that regular shooting is expected to commence in August. Given the scale and ambition hinted at in the promotional material, the film is shaping up to be one of SundeepKishan's most exciting ventures to date.

The birthday poster has not only delighted fans but also reinforced the film's positioning as a grand, adventurous entertainer. As anticipation builds, all eyes are now on further updates from the team, especially regarding the film's cast, technical crew, and eventual title reveal.

Purushaha Set for May 22 Release

A new family entertainer is gearing up to hit the big screen this summer as Purushaha prepares for its worldwide theatrical release on May 22. Positioned as a full-fledged comedy drama with strong emotional undertones, the film is carrying positive buzz ahead of its arrival. Presented by SaraswatiBattula and produced by BattulaKoteswara Rao under the Kalyan Productions banner, the film introduces PavanKalyanBattula as the lead actor. Directed by VeeruVulavala, Purushaha promises a wholesome mix of humor, sentiment, and engaging storytelling designed to appeal to audiences across all age groups. The film features a strong ensemble cast including Saptagiri, Venela Kishore, KasireddyRajkumar, RayanchaKokkura, Vishika, HasiniSudheer, and AnanthSriram in key roles. Supporting performances by Rajeev Kanakala, VTV Ganesh, Pammi Sai, Sri Sandhya, Gabi Rock, and Anaira Gupta further add to the film's entertainment quotient. Originally planned for a summer release, the makers have now locked May 22 as the official date, aligning with the holiday season to draw family audiences to theatres. The release window is currently devoid of major big-ticket films, which is expected to give Purushaha a clear advantage at the box office.



The team is also set to ramp up promotional activities in the coming days to build momentum. The film has already generated considerable interest through its creative promotional campaign. Character introduction posters with a quirky touch, along with a fun-filled teaser and engaging glimpses, have struck a chord with viewers. The songs, too, have been receiving encouraging responses across digital platforms, contributing to the growing anticipation.

On the technical side, Purushaha brings together a com-

petent crew. Music is composed by Shravan Bharadwaj, while cinematography is handled by Satish Muthyala. Editing is by Koti, with art direction by RavibabuDondapati. Lyrics by AnanthSriram are expected to add depth and flavor to the soundtrack. With expectations steadily rising, the upcoming trailer is likely to play a crucial role in amplifying the buzz further. Backed by a vibrant cast, catchy music, and a summer-friendly release slot, Purushaha is positioning itself as a promising family entertainer to watch out for this season.



Vijay's CM Title Card Sparks Frenzy

A viral fan-made video featuring Tamil superstar Vijay with a Chief Minister title card has set social media ablaze, generating massive excitement among fans ahead of his upcoming film Jana Nayagan.

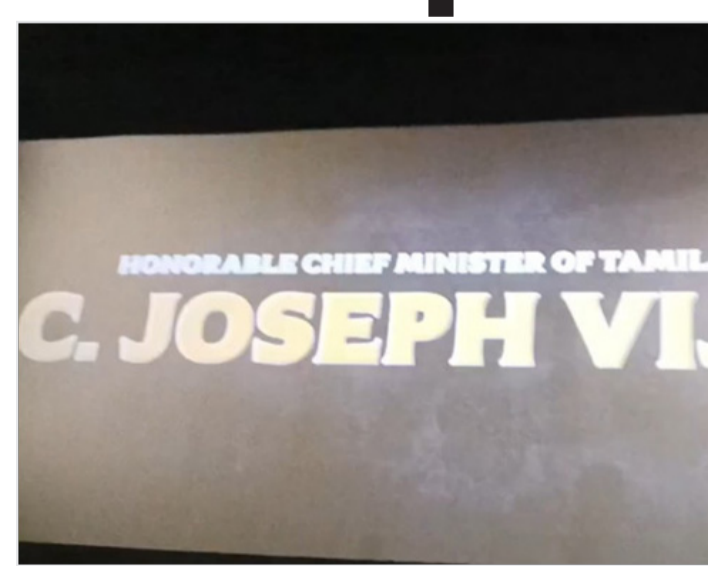
The clip showcases a dramatic theatrical moment where Vijay is introduced as the 'Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu,' drawing thunderous reactions from audiences. Fans inside theatres were seen cheering, dancing, and celebrating as the sequence played out, turning screenings into festive gatherings. The video quickly spread across platforms, amplifying curiosity and discussion around the film.

While many initially believed the title card to be an official part of the film, it has

now been clarified that the clip is a fan-created edit. Despite not being part of the original content, the video has had a significant impact, adding to the already high expectations surrounding the project.

The timing of the viral trend is noteworthy, as it coincides with Vijay's growing political presence. The symbolic portrayal of him as Chief Minister has struck a chord with fans, blurring the lines between his on-screen persona and real-life ambitions. This crossover appeal has further intensified the buzz around Jana Nayagan.

The film itself has been eagerly awaited, with fans closely tracking every update. Although it faced delays from its initially planned festive release, the current wave of at-



tention has brought it back into the spotlight. The makers are expected to leverage this

momentum as they prepare for the next phase of promotions. What makes the viral clip

particularly interesting is how it reflects fan imagination and devotion. The idea of introducing a leading star as a sitting Chief Minister on screen is both bold and unprecedented, and the overwhelming response indicates strong audience interest in such narratives. As discussions continue to trend online, all eyes are now on the official team of Jana Nayagan to see whether they will incorporate similar elements or address the fan-driven hype in their promotional strategy.

With anticipation steadily building, the viral "CM title card" moment has once again highlighted Vijay's unmatched fan base and his unique ability to dominate conversations across cinema and beyond.