

BUZZ POINTS



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Modi's Fuel-Saving Push Triggers Nationwide Convoy Cuts, Ministers Embrace Public Transport

New Delhi, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set off a nationwide campaign on fuel conservation, with Union ministers, chief ministers and governors across several States announcing sharp cuts in official convoys and promoting public transport, carpooling and electric vehicles in response to his recent appeal for responsible energy consumption.

In a symbolic yet significant move, the Prime Minister substantially reduced the size of his official convoy during recent visits to Gujarat and Assam while maintaining all mandatory Special Protection Group security protocols. He also directed officials to incorporate electric vehicles into his convoy wherever feasible without making fresh purchases.

The initiative followed Modi's address at a BJP rally in Hyderabad, where he issued what has come to be known as his "seven appeals" to the nation. Stressing the need for fuel conservation amid global uncertainties, he urged citizens to cut down petrol and diesel consumption, prefer metro rail and public transport, adopt work-from-home practices, reduce foreign travel and avoid extravagant overseas



weddings.

"Patriotism is not only about sacrificing one's life at the border, but also about living responsibly in everyday life," the Prime Minister said.

Senior Union ministers swiftly followed suit. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh reduced their convoys by nearly half, while Health Minister JP Nadda also downsized his fleet. Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari announced he would travel by bus during his Maharashtra tour on May 14 and 15 and directed authorities to reduce convoy vehicles by 50 per cent.

In Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ordered an immediate 50 per cent re-

duction in official vehicle fleets used by ministers and bureaucrats. He also encouraged legislators to use public transport at least once a week and promoted cycling, electric vehicles and virtual meetings. Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak echoed the call, saying "national interest is paramount."

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced restrictions on the use of official vehicles and appealed to residents to increasingly rely on buses and metro rail services. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav suspended vehicle rallies and directed ministers to minimise convoy strength.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma ordered cuts in unnecessary security

and convoy vehicles, while the Maharashtra government under Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis began reviewing proposals to halve ministerial convoys and tighten the use of government aircraft.

In Gujarat, Governor Acharya Devvrat declared he would use trains and state-run buses for travel within the State instead of helicopters and flights. Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghvi also cancelled a planned trip to the United States following the Prime Minister's appeal to reduce foreign travel.

Governors and ministers in Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand similarly announced measures ranging from halving convoys to promoting video conferencing and electric vehicles. Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta even declared Lok Bhanu a "Fuel Conservation Zone," banning official vehicles using imported fuel on Sundays.

The coordinated campaign is being projected by the BJP-led governments as a national movement aimed at conserving fuel, reducing dependence on imports and strengthening economic self-reliance amid continuing global energy uncertainties.



RBI Governor Warns of Possible Fuel Price Hike as Gulf Conflict Pressures Oil Markets

Mumbai, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Reserve Bank of India Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Wednesday warned that prolonged geopolitical tensions in West Asia could eventually lead to higher fuel prices in India, as the government may find it difficult to indefinitely absorb the impact of rising global crude oil prices.

Addressing the 12th High-Level Conference on the International Monetary System, jointly organised by the International Monetary Fund and the Swiss National Bank, Malhotra said the Centre has so far shielded consumers from the sharp rise in international crude prices by reducing duties and limiting increases in regulated fuel and gas prices.

He noted that petrol and diesel retail prices have largely remained stable despite volatility in global energy markets triggered by the ongoing conflict in West Asia. However, he indicated that if the crisis continues, the government may eventually have to pass on a portion of the burden to consumers.

"The conflict has already continued for nearly 75 days.

Over time, some of the increased costs may need to be transmitted," the RBI Governor observed, signalling the possibility of fuel price revisions in the coming months.

Malhotra also highlighted the government's fiscal consolidation efforts, noting that the fiscal deficit, which had surged to 9.2 per cent of GDP during the pandemic, has now been brought down to around 4.3 per cent.

Emphasising India's economic dependence on the Middle East, he said nearly one-sixth of India's imports and exports are linked to the region. Around 40 per cent of India's remittances and fertiliser imports, along with almost 60 per cent of natural gas supplies, are also connected to West Asia, making the Indian economy particularly vulnerable to disruptions in the region.

Given the uncertain global environment, Malhotra stressed that monetary policy must remain agile and responsive to rapidly evolving domestic and international developments.

Revanth Reviews Mega Growth Corridor Plans

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy conducted a high-level review meeting on the proposed Mega Growth Corridor at the Bodhi Pavilion of MCR HRD Institute. Senior officials, including CMO Secretary Manik Raj, Commissioner and Director of Municipal Administration Dr. T.K. Sreedevi, Director of Town and Country Planning Devender Reddy, and other department heads, attended the meeting.

During the review, the Chief Minister directed officials to prepare long-term urban development plans capable of meeting the state's needs for the next 25 years. He emphasized



that future infrastructure planning should focus on sustainable and urban-centric growth across Telangana.

Revanth Reddy instructed officials to develop Outer Ring Roads for the municipal corpo-

rations of Khammam, Warangal, and Karimnagar while also planning roads in alignment with upcoming airport projects. He stressed the need for modern Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs), wastewater re-

cycling systems, underground drainage networks, and scientific solid waste management facilities in all urban areas.

The Chief Minister also directed officials to promote renewable energy generation by establishing solar power units in municipalities. He suggested the large-scale adoption of Electric Vehicles (EVs), including leased government vehicles, to reduce operational costs and pollution levels.

Special focus was placed on technology-driven urban management. Officials were asked to explore the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in traffic regulation and city planning. Revanth Reddy further proposed the installation of smart poles and multi-utility towers in

towns and cities to improve civic infrastructure and reduce radiation concerns.

The meeting also discussed several regional development corridors, including the Warangal-Karimnagar-Khammam growth corridor, which the Chief Minister described as crucial for Telangana's future expansion. Plans were also reviewed for tourism and temple corridors connecting places such as Yadadri Temple, Basara Temple, Nagoba Temple, and Jogulamba Temple.

The Chief Minister stated that infrastructure development across municipalities should follow a uniform model while remaining tailored to local population needs and future urban growth.



Literary Post Turns Political

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Sahitya Akademi, once envisioned as a prestigious institution to encourage and preserve the literary spirit of Telangana, has now become the center of intense political discussions and lobbying. Even after more than two and a half years of Congress rule in the state, the government has failed to appoint a Chairman for the Akademi, raising serious criticism from writers, poets, and intellectuals across Telangana.

Literary circles are openly questioning whether the ruling leadership possesses adequate understanding of Telangana's literary heritage and the personalities who contributed to its cultural identity. The prolonged delay in appointing a Chairman has reportedly created space for political intermediaries and influential groups to interfere in the selection process. Instead of merit and literary contribution guiding the appointment, allegations suggest that lobbying and political influence are shaping the race.

Particular attention is being drawn toward a leader from Khammam district who is said to be actively seeking the post with the support of two senior ministers. Critics argue that the controversy surrounding this leader stems from his earlier opposition to the Telangana statehood movement. Many believe that offering such an important literary position to someone who once opposed the aspirations of Telangana would undermine the sacrifices of writers, poets, and activists who played a crucial role

in the movement.

At the same time, noted lyricist and "People's Poet" Suddala Ashok Teja is also reportedly making efforts to secure the position. Sources indicate that he has been in regular touch with the concerned minister, strengthening speculation that he is among the front-runners for the appointment. The growing competition has transformed the selection process into a politically charged contest rather than a dignified literary decision.

Writers and intellectuals are expressing disappointment that an institution meant to represent Telangana's literary excellence has become a platform for political bargaining. Several scholars feel that deserving literary personalities are being ignored while politically connected aspirants dominate the discussion. Concerns are also being raised over whether nominated positions in cultural bodies are being treated merely as political rewards.

Observers state that Telangana's literary tradition was deeply connected to the spirit of resistance and social consciousness during the statehood movement. They argue that any appointment lacking credibility or literary merit could damage the reputation of the Akademi and alienate the literary community.

With criticism mounting, many are now urging the Chief Minister to intervene directly and ensure that the appointment is made purely on merit, literary achievement, and commitment to Telangana's cultural values rather than political calculations and lobbying.

CBI Arrests Five in NEET UG Paper Leak Probe

New Delhi, May 13 | TPN Bureau

The Central Bureau of Investigation arrested five individuals from Rajasthan, Haryana, and Maharashtra in connection with the alleged NEET UG 2026 paper leak case. Officials stated that three accused were apprehended in Jaipur, one in Gurugram, and another in Nashik as the investigation intensified across multiple states.

Among those arrested was Shubham Khairnar, a resident of Nashik, who is being brought to New Delhi for further questioning after a local court granted transit remand. He had earlier been detained by Nashik police based on a request from Rajasthan authorities. Following its takeover of the investigation, the CBI carried out searches at several locations across the country using fresh leads gathered during the probe. Investigators seized mobile phones, laptops, and other digital devices suspected to have been used in circulating the leaked examination material. Officials said the electronic devices would undergo forensic analysis to trace communication channels and messaging applications linked to the alleged leak.

The agency is also coordinating with the Rajasthan Police Special Operations Group, which had conducted the preliminary inquiry into the



matter.

On Wednesday, CBI officials visited the headquarters of the National Testing Agency to collect documents related to the NEET UG examination. Investigators also interacted with officials associated with the conduct of the exam. The NEET UG 2026 examination, held on May 3 across 551 cities in India and 14 overseas centers, witnessed registrations from nearly 23 lakh candidates. The examination was later canceled following allegations of question paper leakage. According to the NTA, reports of suspected malpractice were received on May 7 and subsequently forwarded to central agencies for verification and further action. Preliminary findings by Rajasthan Police reportedly revealed that a "guess paper" circulated before the exam contained a large number of questions similar to those appearing in the actual test.

Cabinet Raises MSP for Kharif Crops to Support Farmers

New Delhi, May 13 | TPN Bureau

In a significant move aimed at strengthening the agricultural sector and improving farmers' incomes, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved an increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 14 Kharif crops for the 2026-27 agricultural season.

The decision is being viewed as a major step toward providing better financial security to farmers and encouraging agricultural production across the country. The revised MSP rates are expected to ensure that cultivators receive remunerative prices for their produce while also protecting them from market fluctuations.

Among the crops receiving the highest increase in MSP are sunflower seeds, which saw a hike of Rs. 622 per quintal. Cotton MSP was increased by Rs. 557 per quintal, while Niger seeds received an increase of Rs. 515 per quintal. Sesame seeds also recorded a substantial rise of Rs. 500 per quintal. Officials said the revised support prices were finalized after considering production costs, market trends, and the need to provide adequate returns to farmers.

The Centre stated that the enhanced MSP structure reflects the government's contin-



ued commitment to rural welfare and agricultural growth. The move is expected to encourage farmers to cultivate a wider range of crops while promoting sustainable agricultural practices and boosting domestic production.

Agriculture experts believe the MSP hike could provide relief to farmers facing rising cultivation expenses, including increased input costs for seeds, fertilizers, labour, and irrigation. The decision is also expected to strengthen the rural economy by improving purchasing power among farming communities.

The government reiterated that the welfare of farmers remains one of its top priorities and emphasized that measures such as MSP revisions, crop insurance schemes, irrigation projects, and support for agricultural infrastructure are aimed at building a self-reliant farming sector. Several farmer groups and public representatives welcomed the announcement and expressed appreciation to the Prime Minister and the Union Cabinet for taking what they described as a farmer-friendly and growth-oriented decision ahead of the upcoming Kharif season.



# Ponnam Reviews PV Memorial and Education Projects

**Hanamkonda, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar inspected the ongoing construction works of the PV Vignana Vedika Park in Vangara village of Bheemadavarapalli mandal, the native place of former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao. The project is being developed in the Husnabad constituency as a memorial dedicated to the late leader's contributions to education and national development.

infrastructure works at the memorial site. He instructed officials to speed up the remaining construction activities and assured that efforts would be made to secure additional funds required for the completion of the project.

Ponnam Prabhakar stated that the government is preparing a plan to complete the PV Memorial before the birth anniversary celebrations of PV Narasimha Rao next month. He recalled the former Prime Minister's contribution to strengthening rural education through the introduction of Navodaya schools and emphasized the need to preserve his legacy in Telangana.

The minister also participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for additional classrooms and infrastructure facilities at the Kasturba School in Bheemadavarapalli mandal headquarters. He said the government is committed to improving educational facilities in the region.

Further, Ponnam Prabhakar announced that proposals would be submitted for establishing a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Vangara village. He expressed confidence that the institution would contribute significantly to educational development and provide better opportunities for rural students in the area.

# BC Merit Awards Ceremony on May 14

**Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar announced that the "Prathibha Puraskaralu-2026" awards ceremony will be held on May 14 at the Komaram Bheem Adivasi Bhavan in Banjara Hills. The programme is being organized to honor meritorious students from BC Gurukuls and BC Hostels who secured top marks in SSC and Intermediate examinations.

According to the minister, a total of 508 students from backward community educational institutions will be felicitated for the academic year 2025-26. He stated that the state government remains committed to supporting talented students from BC communities and encouraging academic excellence. Ponnam Prabhakar explained that 214 students will receive awards based on SSC results, including 147 students from Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Telangana Backward Classes Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society and 67 students from BC hostels.

For Intermediate second-year results, 165 students will be honored, including 137 students from BC residential institutions and 28 students from BC hostels. Similarly, 129 students will receive awards in the Intermediate first-year category, including 107 students from MJPTBCWREIS institutions and 22 students from BC hostels. The minister stated that the government is focusing on providing quality education to BC students and organizing such programmes to motivate and encourage young achievers across the state.

# Uber Plans Expansion

**Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi met Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his Jubilee Hills residence to discuss the company's expansion plans in the state.

The meeting was attended by Uber Chief Business Officer Madhu Kannan, Uber India and South Asia President Prabhjeet Singh, Chief Technology Officer Praveen Nippalli Naga, and the Chief Minister's Special Secretary Ajit Reddy.

During the discussions, Dara Khosrowshahi informed the Chief Minister that Uber is expanding its Center of Excellence in Hyderabad. He stated that nearly 600 engineers are currently working at the facility, which is the company's first major engineering center established outside the United States.

Uber representatives also expressed interest in setting up a corporate office in the proposed Bharat Future City project. The Chief Minister assured the company of full support from the Telangana government for its business expansion and future investments in the state.

Revanth Reddy also suggested that Uber explore opportunities in the parking management sector, highlighting the growing parking challenges in major urban centers. He proposed the development of multi-level parking facilities to meet future city requirements.

Uber officials responded positively to the proposal and said the company would conduct a detailed study on the possibility of entering the parking management business in India.

# Ponnam Reviews Paddy Procurement in Siddipet

**Siddipet, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar conducted a review meeting at the Siddipet Collectorate on the ongoing Yasangi paddy procurement operations in the district. District Collector K. Haimavathi, Commissioner of Police Sadhana Rashmi Perumal, officials, rice millers, and transport contractors participated in the meeting.

The minister stated that Siddipet district recorded an excellent Yasangi harvest this season, with paddy production expected to cross 4 lakh metric tonnes. Out of 427 procurement centers established in the district, 390 are already functioning, and nearly 1.2 lakh metric tonnes of paddy have been procured and shifted to rice mills.

Ponnam Prabhakar instructed officials to speed up transportation and unloading operations so that farmers do not face inconvenience. He directed authorities to ensure that grain meeting moisture standards is immediately weighed, transported, and unloaded



without delays. Around 54 rice mills are currently handling procurement operations with the support of nearly 1,000 hamalis.

The minister ordered the recruitment of additional hamalis for rice mills and suggested engaging local workers at procurement centers through women's self-help groups. He also emphasized coordination among revenue, police, transport, civil supplies, and cooperative departments to avoid transportation bottlenecks.

Ponnam Prabhakar said the district administration should aim to procure and unload 20,000 metric tonnes daily so that procurement can be completed within ten days. He also instructed the Agriculture Department to promote cultivation of fine-quality paddy, with a target of producing 2.5 lakh metric tonnes of premium varieties in the district.



# Ponnam Reviews Procurement and Development Works

**Karimnagar, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar conducted an extensive tour of the Husnabad constituency in Karimnagar district and reviewed both paddy procurement operations and ongoing development activities.

During his visit to the grain procurement center at Nawabpet village in Chigurumamidi mandal, the minister instructed officials to speed up paddy procurement and ensure that farmers do not face any inconvenience. He warned officials against negligence and stressed the importance of smooth coordination at procurement centers.

Considering the large arrival of paddy at IKP centers, Ponnam Prabhakar directed authorities to maintain sufficient stocks of gunny bags and ensure the immediate transportation of weighed and packed grain to rice mills. He also instructed officials to keep tarpaulins ready to protect paddy stocks from unexpected rainfall.

To streamline transportation, a dedicated Motor Vehicle Inspector (MVI) has reportedly

been assigned to monitor the movement of grain-laden vehicles and avoid delays. The minister also advised hamalis and workers to take necessary precautions while working in the intense summer heat.

He further instructed Panchayat Secretaries, Agriculture Extension Officers (AEOs), and Village Grain Procurement Committees to work in close coordination for the timely completion of procurement activities.

Later, the minister inspected the ongoing development works at Kotha Cheruvu in Husnabad. He reviewed the bund beautification and sluice construction works and offered several suggestions to officials for improving the project. He directed that concrete road works on the bund should be taken up phase-wise after the widening process is completed.

Ponnam Prabhakar also proposed utilizing the Kotha Cheruvu bund link road as an outer connectivity route linking the Siddipet National Highway road with Husnabad and Karimnagar, which he said would improve transportation and regional connectivity.

# Krishna Bridge Set for Major Makeover : Srihari

**Atmakur, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana State Minister for Sports, Dairy Development, and Animal Husbandry Vakiti Srihari stated that Atmakur town in the Makthal constituency is set to witness rapid progress with the construction of the prestigious bridge across the Krishna River near Jurala. The project is being developed at an estimated cost of 123 crore. During his visit to the construction site, the minister reviewed the ongoing works and inspected the quality standards being maintained. He said the bridge fulfills a long-standing dream of the people of Atmakur and surrounding regions, adding that the project would significantly improve transportation facilities for residents of both Gadwal and Atmakur municipalities.



Vakiti Srihari informed that the construction of bridge pillars is expected to be completed before the arrival of the monsoon season, while the entire bridge is likely to be ready for public use within a year. According to the minister, the bridge will reduce travel distance by nearly 60 kilometers for commuters traveling from Raichur to Mantralayam through Atmakur and Gadwal, without passing through Hyderabad. He further noted that the new bridge would strengthen regional connectivity and boost economic and transport activity in the area. With the completion of the project, Atmakur is expected to emerge as an important connectivity hub in the region.



# Ponnam Calls for Strengthening Government Education

**Siddipet, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

An education awareness workshop for sarpanches and councilors was organized at Vaishya Bhavan in Husnabad as part of the "Praja Palana Pragathi Plan" 99-day action programme and Education Week celebrations. Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar attended the event as the chief guest and stressed the importance of strengthening government education across rural areas.

During the programme, the minister felicitated meritorious students from government institutions in the Husnabad constituency, including Government Junior Colleges, Social Welfare Schools, Model Schools, Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Gurukul Schools, and Akkanapet Tribal Schools.

Addressing the gathering, Ponnam Prabhakar said the government is giving top priority to education and urged village leaders to actively support the development of government schools. He expressed concern that many parents seek government jobs and welfare benefits while preferring private institutions for education and healthcare. He called

on sarpanches to encourage admissions in government schools through the "Badi Bata" campaign by conducting door-to-door awareness drives.

The minister suggested taking steps to prevent private school buses from entering villages to help improve enrollment in local government schools. He also emphasized the need to eliminate student dropouts and create awareness among parents regarding the quality of education available in government institutions.

Highlighting ongoing educational development projects, he said an engineering college affiliated with Satavahana University is under construction in Husnabad. He also mentioned that an Integrated Residential School costing 200 crore is being developed near Koheda and that a branch of Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies is coming up in Elkathurthi.

He urged sarpanches to regularly attend parent-teacher meetings, monitor school infrastructure, and ensure better facilities for sports and academics to strengthen government education for poor and rural students.

# Jupally Assures Enhanced Compensation for Canal Project Farmers

**Kollapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Telangana Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Excise Jupally Krishna Rao directed officials to speed up the Singotam-Gopaladinne Link Canal project and ensure fair compensation to farmers affected by land acquisition. During a meeting held at the Rythu Vedika in Bollaram village of Veepanagandla mandal, the minister interacted with farmers from Bollaram, Sanginenipalli, and Thumukunta villages and addressed their concerns regarding compensation and rehabilitation.

Jupally Krishna Rao stated that the canal project is crucial for supplying irrigation water to tail-end ayacut areas in Veepanagandla and Chinnambavi mandals. He said the project would help provide water to nearly 40,000 acres, including 25,000 acres under the Jurala Project and 15,000 acres under the Bhima Project.

Responding to farmers' objections over the low market

value fixed for acquired land, the minister instructed officials to revise the government value from 1.87 lakh per acre to 3.75 lakh per acre. Based on this revised rate, he ordered payment of nearly 11.50 lakh per acre, including triple compensation under the Land Acquisition Act along with applicable interest.

The minister also assured that equal compensation would be provided to farmers holding assigned lands as well as poor cultivators farming government lands without pattas. He directed officials to immediately complete compensation procedures and distribute award copies without delay.

Officials informed that around 305 acres of land are required for the project across villages in Wanaparthy and Nagarkurnool districts. Farmers welcomed the minister's assurances and expressed hope that the long-pending irrigation project would soon be completed.

# Gutha Calls for Strengthening Government Schools

**Nalgonda, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy emphasized that education is the foundation of development and urged public representatives to actively support government schools. He was speaking at an education awareness seminar organized at TTDC in Nalgonda as part of the "Praja Palana-Pragathi Pranalika" programme and Education Week celebrations.

Addressing sarpanches, corporators, and public representatives, Gutha Sukhender Reddy said the Telangana government is allocating nearly 8 percent of its budget to education. He advised local representatives to visit government schools regularly to re-

view teaching standards and infrastructure facilities. He also stressed the need to improve student enrollment in government institutions.

The Chairman pointed out that around 19 lakh students study in government schools across the state, while a larger number attend private institutions. He noted that the student-teacher ratio in government schools remains favorable and recalled how teachers earlier played an active role in village activities, sports, and cultural programmes.

District Collector B. Chandrasekhar stated that the Education Week initiative aims to improve quality education in government schools through awareness campaigns.

# CMRF Aid Extended to 30 Residents

**Cantonment, May 13 | TPN Bureau**

Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh on Wednesday distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques to 30 beneficiaries at his camp office, extending financial support to economically weaker families in need of medical assistance. The cheques, sanctioned by the State government, were handed over to residents of the Cantonment constituency who are undergoing treatment for various health issues. Addressing the gathering, the MLA said the assistance would help reduce the financial pressure on poor families struggling with medical expenses. He stated that the government is committed to ensuring better healthcare support for underprivileged sections and is giving



high priority to public health services. According to him, several government hospitals are now equipped with advanced medical facilities comparable to corporate hospitals, enabling people to receive quality treatment without spending huge amounts of money. Sri Ganesh urged citizens to make use of the healthcare services available in government hospitals and welfare schemes introduced by the State government.

He added that such initiatives are aimed at providing relief to vulnerable families and improving access to affordable medical care. The event witnessed the participation of local Congress leaders, party workers, beneficiaries, and residents from different parts of the constituency. Beneficiaries thanked the MLA and the government for extending timely assistance during difficult times.

## Vamsi Alleges Bias Against Telangana

Peddapalli, May 13 | TPN Bureau

MP Gaddam Vamsi Krishna criticized the Central Government during a press conference held at the Peddapalli Guest House, alleging discrimination against Telangana in financial allocations and development projects.

He claimed that despite Telangana contributing significant tax revenues to the Centre, the state was not receiving a fair share of funds in return. According to him, the Union Government was favoring states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh while neglecting Telangana's interests. He also alleged that a semiconductor project originally expected to come to Telangana had been shifted to Andhra Pradesh.

Vamsi stated that leaders from Telangana had successfully opposed the Centre's proposed delimitation plans and accused the BJP of encouraging divisive politics. He also

criticized the Centre over issues related to fertilizer supply, alleging that negligence in urea production at Ramagundam was creating an artificial shortage affecting farmers.

The MP expressed concern over grain procurement operations, accusing officials of discrimination in handling paddy stocks from neighboring districts such as Mancherial and Nirmal. He questioned whether Dalit farmers were being treated unfairly and warned officials against political interference in administrative matters. Vamsi asserted that he would continue raising issues affecting farmers and the people of the Peddapalli parliamentary constituency regardless of political circumstances. He also targeted BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao over comments related to the case involving BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar's son, stating that the law would take its own course.



## Kavitha Demands National Status

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

At a press conference held at the Telangana Rakshana Sena office in Banjara Hills, K. Kavitha strongly criticized both the Central and State governments over irrigation, reservation, and law-and-order issues concerning Telangana.

Kavitha alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke about financial discipline during his Telangana visit while extending generous support to Andhra Pradesh projects. She expressed disappointment that the Prime Minister did not announce National Project status for the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme. Comparing the issue with Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram project, she said Andhra leaders actively pursued Central support, while the Telangana government was neglecting Palamuru.

She urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to formally demand National Project recognition for Palamuru and accused him of failing to review the project despite repeatedly

speaking about Telangana's water rights.

Kavitha stated that Telangana was formed to secure equitable water resources, yet the state has not fully utilized available Krishna and Godavari waters. She promised that if her party returned to power, it would establish a dedicated Water Commission, construct durable check dams, strengthen irrigation systems, and ensure water supply to every acre of cultivable land.

On the issue involving the son of BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Kavitha demanded lookout notices to prevent any attempt to leave the country and called for a transparent investigation. She also condemned the circulation of photographs related to the victim and demanded strict action against those responsible for leaking them online.

Kavitha further called for the inclusion of an OBC column in the national census and demanded stronger implementation of BC reservations in politics, education, and employment.

## Petbasheerabad Police Crack Chain Snatching Case

Quthbullapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau

The Petbasheerabad Police successfully solved a recent chain snatching case reported near Dhulapally T-Junction by using CCTV footage and technical evidence. Police arrested one accused person while launching a search operation to trace another suspect who remains absconding. According to police officials, the incident took place on the morning of May 7 when two men riding a motorcycle allegedly snatched a four-thula gold mangalsutra from a woman near Dhulapally T-Junction before fleeing the scene. Following a complaint from the victim, police registered a case and began an investigation using surveillance footage collected from nearby areas. During the probe,

officers identified and arrested Hasan Ali, aged 37, a resident of Nashik in Maharashtra. He was later remanded to judicial custody. Police said the prime accused, identified as Mustafa, is currently absconding, and special teams have been formed to trace and arrest him.

Investigators revealed that the accused had allegedly stolen a TVS motorcycle in Nizamabad before committing another chain snatching incident in Medchal. Police further stated that after carrying out the theft at Dhulapally, the suspects abandoned the motorcycle in the Paradise area and escaped to their native place. Officials said the swift breakthrough in the case was made possible through coordinated technical analysis and CCTV surveillance.

# Ponguleti Slams Centre Over NEET Leak

Khammam, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy strongly criticized the Central Government over the alleged NEET examination paper leak while addressing a Praja Darbar programme held at Jeelacheruvu cluster in Kusumanchi mandal.

Questioning the BJP's "double-engine government" slogan, the minister remarked that repeated examination leaks were destroying the future of lakhs of students across the country. He alleged that the NEET paper leak exposed the Centre's failure in conducting national-level examinations transparently and responsibly.

Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy expressed concern that nearly 23 lakh students nationwide, including thousands from Telangana, were affected by the controversy. He alleged that the examination paper had surfaced well before the scheduled test and demanded strict action against those responsible.



He also urged the Centre to support students who suffered due to the incident.

The minister further recalled earlier examination controversies during the previous BRS regime, alleging that paper leaks had occurred in several recruitment and competitive examinations in Telangana. He stated that the present state government had reformed recruitment systems after coming to power and ensured transparent filling of

government vacancies.

During the Praja Darbar, the minister, along with district officials, received petitions from residents of 13 gram panchayats under the Jeelacheruvu cluster. Complaints related to Indiramma housing, pensions, and land disputes were submitted by the public. Ponguleti directed officials to resolve genuine grievances promptly and assured people that their concerns would be addressed effectively.

## Youth Congress Protests Over NEET Paper Leak

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Youth Congress organized a large protest rally near the Ambedkar statue at Himayat Nagar against the alleged irregularities and paper leak in the NEET examination. Demonstrators condemned the Central Government over the cancellation of the national-level medical entrance test and demanded accountability from the Union Government.

State Youth Congress President Jakkidi Shiva Charan Reddy attended the protest as the chief guest. During the agitation, Youth Congress activists burnt effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, accusing the Centre of failing to protect the integrity of national examinations. Addressing the gathering, Shiva Charan Reddy alleged that repeated examination leaks under the Modi government were destroying the future of students across the country. He stated that the cancellation of the NEET examination had caused severe anxiety among lakhs of aspirants who had spent years preparing for the test.

He claimed that examination leaks had become frequent during the last decade and criti-



cized the Centre for allegedly failing to take adequate preventive measures. According to him, students are being forced to face emotional stress and uncertainty due to repeated cancellations and re-examinations.

The Youth Congress leader demanded that the Central Government accept responsibility for the incident and take strict action against those involved in the leak. He also

called for the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, alleging administrative failure in conducting national examinations transparently.

Several Youth Congress leaders and activists, including Haridhar, Gurram Shyam Charan Reddy, Bommak Ajay, Santhosh Goud, Keezer, Shivanth Reddy, and Peer Muneer, participated in the protest programme.

## BRS Leader Alleges Political Interference in POCSSO Case

Wanaparthy, May 13 | TPN Bureau

BRS State General Secretary R. S. Praveen Kumar on Tuesday accused senior political leaders and police officials of attempting to shield Bandi Sai Bhagirath, who is facing allegations in a POCSSO-related case involving a minor girl. Addressing the media, Praveen Kumar demanded that a suo motu criminal case be registered against Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar and also called for the resignation of Telangana DGP C.V. Anand.

Praveen Kumar alleged that despite serious accusations, authorities had failed to take swift action against the accused. He questioned why notices were allegedly issued to Bhagirath's maternal uncle instead of directly serving them to the accused. He also criticized the handling of complaints filed by the minor girl's family and claimed that police delayed registering a formal FIR. According to the BRS leader, the victim's family faced



pressure and counter-cases soon after approaching the police. He alleged that political influence was used to manipulate the investigation and accused both the State government and senior police officials of protecting the accused.

Praveen Kumar further claimed that sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita were deliberately invoked in a counter-case against the girl's family to make the charges more

severe and deny them immediate relief through station bail.

He also condemned the circulation of alleged personal photographs and videos of the young woman on social media, stating that such actions caused severe emotional distress to the victim. He urged the judiciary and legal fraternity to ensure justice in the case and avoid showing leniency to those accused in crimes involving minors.

## Mahesh Kumar Goud Targets BJP, Defends Congress Government

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud made several political remarks during an informal interaction with the media at Gandhi Bhavan on Tuesday, strongly defending the Congress government in Telangana while criticizing the BJP and BRS leadership.

Referring to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Mahesh Kumar Goud described him as a genuine Congress leader and stated that the party fully supports his leadership. He clarified that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is viewed only in his constitutional role as the Prime Minister and not beyond that politically.

Speaking about the case involving the son of BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar, he asserted that there has been no delay in the investigation and said the Congress government has no intention of protecting any-

one. He emphasized that strict legal action would be taken according to the law and assured support and justice for the victim.

Mahesh Kumar Goud also criticized BJP MPs for allegedly failing to seek adequate support and allocations for Telangana during the Prime Minister's recent visit. He said the state expected meaningful announcements from the Centre but received none.

Targeting BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao, he remarked that despite being entrusted with the role of Opposition leader by the people, KCR has remained inactive and confined to his farmhouse.

He further accused the BJP of attempting to polarize secular votes in Telangana and maintained that Congress remains committed to social justice, democratic values, and the welfare of Telangana activists and citizens.



## BRS Women Leaders Demand Action in POCSSO Case

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

BRS women leaders met Telangana DGP C.V. Anand on Tuesday submitted a complaint seeking immediate action in the POCSSO case registered against Bandi Bhagirath, son of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, former minister Satyavathi Rathod questioned why the accused had not been arrested despite the seriousness of the allegations. She alleged that the police were acting under political pressure and accused the government of applying different standards of justice for influential families.

The BRS leaders claimed that sections allowing station bail had been invoked and al-

leged attempts were being made to weaken the case. They also criticized Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who also handles the Home portfolio, accusing him of failing to ensure proper action in the matter.

Senior BRS leader Thula Uma demanded the resignation of Bandi Sanjay, alleging that protecting an accused person was itself a serious offence. Meanwhile, Gongidi Sunitha alleged that notices were served to the accused's relatives instead of directly arresting him. The leaders further claimed that threats were being issued against those demanding justice and accused certain officials of attempting to dilute the investigation. They said the BRS would continue its protest until strict action is taken in the case.

## Mahesh Goud Criticizes BJP and BRS Leadership

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that the Telangana government is taking measures to reduce unnecessary expenditure and promote financial discipline. He remarked that while citizens are being advised to save, the Central Government should also focus on controlling its own spending.

Speaking to the media, Mahesh Goud said the Congress party had always maintained respect toward former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao during his tenure. At the same time, he strongly criticized BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao for using inappropriate language against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He also accused BRS

supporters of spreading irresponsible content on social media platforms.

Commenting on economic issues, Mahesh Goud said wealthy people purchase gold freely, whereas poor families buy gold mainly during weddings and important occasions. He questioned why Prime Minister Narendra Modi had not emphasized public savings over the last several years and criticized the Centre over fuel price hikes despite falling crude oil prices globally.

He further stated that even if the TDP, BJP, and Janasena contest together in Telangana, their combined vote share would remain limited. Mahesh Goud added that serving as PCC chief gives him greater satisfaction than holding a Cabinet position.



### Dignitaries Meet Chief Minister Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau
Several prominent officials and representatives paid courtesy visits to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his residence in Jubilee Hills on Tuesday.

Chief Minister during the day. EEPIC India Regional Chairman Raman Raghu and Regional Director J.V. Rajagopal Rao discussed matters related to the engineering export sector and industrial development.



### Mahesh Kumar Goud Meets Vishwabrahmin Leaders

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau
Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud held a meeting with representatives and leaders of various Vishwabrahmin associations at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad.

and traditional professions. Responding to their concerns, Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that the Congress party remains committed to the welfare and upliftment of all sections of society.

### Commissioner Srijana Reviews Civic Issues

Quthbullapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau
As part of the 99-day action plan under the "Public Administration and Progress Plan" initiative, G. Srijana continued the "One Ward Every Day" programme with a field inspection in Jeedimetla Ward No. 286 of Quthbullapur zone.

civic infrastructure and delivering better public services to people in every ward. The Commissioner stated that the objective of the programme is to directly engage with citizens, identify local problems on the ground, and accelerate development works in urban areas.

## Collector Rajarshi Shah Urges Support for Government Schools

Adilabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Adilabad District Collector Rajarshi Shah called upon public representatives to actively support efforts to strengthen government schools by increasing student enrollment.



the district. Rajarshi Shah highlighted the role of Amma Adarsha Pathashala Committees in ensuring transparency in school modernization and distribution of uniforms.

## Awareness Drive on Waste Segregation Conducted Across City

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

As part of the ongoing "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranali" programme, authorities conducted a large-scale awareness campaign to educate Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) on the importance of segregating waste at the source for effective solid waste management.



responsible waste disposal practices. Special awareness programmes were conducted in areas including Falaknuma, Jangammet, Moosarambagh, Kavadiguda, Mettuguda, and Santoshnagar, among other municipal colonies.

## Pinkesh Kumar Reviews Census Enumeration Drive

Quthbullapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Pinkesh Kumar inspected the ongoing house listing operations under the first phase of Census-2027 in Shapur Nagar ward of Gajularamaram circle on Wednesday.

house numbers, family information, and civic amenities, are accurately entered into the mobile application without errors. Pinkesh Kumar emphasized that enumerators should have a clear understanding of all 33 questions prescribed by the government for the census process.

During the inspection, the Zonal Commissioner interacted with enumerators and supervisors involved in the survey process. He directed officials to ensure that all household details, including



## Kavitha Appears Before Court in BC Reservation Protest Case

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

K. Kavitha appeared before the Secunderabad Second Judicial Magistrate of First Class Court at the Manoranjan Complex in Nampally on Tuesday in connection with a railway blockade protest case.

on railway tracks as part of their demand for enhanced BC reservations. Following the agitation, the Railway Police registered cases against 12 individuals, including Kavitha and several party leaders, for their participation in the protest.

## Ponguleti Warns Public Over Severe Heatwave

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing, Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy urged people across the state to remain cautious as temperatures are expected to cross 44 degrees Celsius in several districts over the coming days.

advised citizens to avoid stepping outdoors between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM unless absolutely necessary. He particularly appealed to children, elderly people, pregnant women, and individuals with health issues to take extra precautions during the heatwave.



## Illegal Structures Demolished

Quthbullapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Authorities in Dundigal Circle launched a crackdown on unauthorized constructions and demolished several illegally erected sheds at three different locations on Wednesday.

ties proceeded with demolition measures in accordance with municipal rules. The operation was conducted under the supervision of Assistant City Planner Srinivasa along with Town Planning personnel and municipal staff.

## CM Likely to Launch Indiramma Housing Phase-II

Adilabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is expected to inaugurate the second phase of the Indiramma Housing Scheme from Adilabad district on June 2, marking the occasion of Telangana Formation TDay. Khanapur MLA Vedma Bojju said a large public meeting is being planned in Adilabad as part of the celebrations. He stated that Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and district in-charge minister Jupally Krishna Rao are also likely to participate in the event.

As part of the proposed visit, the Chief Minister may tour Heerapur gram panchayat in Indravelli mandal, where he is expected to lay foundation stones for several development projects and interact with members of the Adivasi

community.

Officials are reportedly focusing on transforming Heerapur into a model gram panchayat. Plans include the installation of solar pump sets for lands covered under the Recognition of Forest Rights (ROFR) Act and patta lands spread across seven villages.

Recently, NPDC Chairman and Managing Director K. Varun Reddy visited Heerapur, which has been identified as a model solar village in the Adilabad circle. He instructed officials to begin work on providing solar-powered electricity connections to homes and agricultural lands through the Telangana Renewable Energy Development Corporation.

The upcoming program is expected to highlight both the housing scheme expansion and rural development initiatives in the district.



## Co-opted Members Elected in Municipality

Husnabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

A special meeting for the election of co-opted members to the Husnabad Municipality was conducted in the presence of Telangana Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, who attended as an ex-officio member. Municipal Chairperson Dandi Lakshmi, Vice-Chairperson Chittari Padma, councilors, and officials participated in the meeting.

Municipal Commissioner Mallikarjun supervised the voting process for the selection of co-opted members. In the general category, Punna Lavanya and Bhukya Sarojana were elected, while Mohammed Hasan Lal was chosen as the co-opted member under the minority category. The election

for one remaining co-opted post was postponed due to differing opinions among members.

Following the election, Commissioner Mallikarjun administered the oath of office to the newly elected members. Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar later congratulated and honored them during the program.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said the municipality should move forward with unity beyond political differences. He urged the newly elected members to work closely with councilors for the development of Husnabad and called for the speedy completion of Indiramma housing projects in all municipal wards before taking up new housing constructions.

## Arvind to Hold Dharma Deeksha for Kendriya Vidyalaya

Jagtial, May 13 | TPN Bureau

A "Dharma Deeksha" protest demanding land allocation for a Kendriya Vidyalaya will be organized in Jagtial on May 18 under the leadership of MP Dharmapuri Arvind. The peaceful demonstration is scheduled to take place from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

The protest is being conducted to press the government for the immediate allotment of

land required for establishing the central educational institution in the region. Supporters and BJP leaders are expected to participate in large numbers.

BJP Telangana State President N. Ramchander Rao is also likely to attend the event and extend support to the agitation. The protest aims to highlight the importance of improving educational infrastructure in Jagtial district.



## Ponnamp Launches School Infrastructure Works

Hanamkonda, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar laid the foundation stone for additional classrooms and infrastructure development works at the Kasturba Gandhi Girls' School located at the Bheemadevarapalli mandal headquarters in Hanamkonda district. The project is being undertaken at an esti-

mated cost of 101.052 lakh.

The minister said the government is committed to strengthening educational infrastructure and improving facilities for girl students in government institutions. District Collector Chahat Bajpai, Additional Collector Ravi, DEO Giriraju Goud, public representatives, and senior officials attended the programme.

## Grand Yellamma Temple Consecration Held

Secunderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

A grand idol consecration ceremony of Goddess Yellamma was held at the newly renovated ancient temple in Bholakpur under the Bansilalpet division on Tuesday. The spiritual event was organized with great devotion and traditional fervor by the temple committee led by former corporator Aesuri Savitri Mahesh and committee members.

The newly installed idol of Goddess Yellamma was consecrated through Vedic rituals and special prayers conducted over three days. Following the ceremony, the celestial wedding celebrations of the Goddess were performed in a grand manner, attracting large numbers of devotees from surrounding areas.

Talasan Srinivas Yadav attended the event as the chief guest and participated in the special religious rituals. He offered prayers at the temple and received blessings from the de-



ity. Temple committee members felicitated the MLA during the programme.

A large-scale annadanam programme was also organized for devotees who attended the celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, Aesuri Mahesh said the Yellamma temple, which began as a small shrine decades ago, has now completed nearly 40 years of history and

development. He thanked Talasan Srinivas Yadav and all supporters who contributed to the temple's reconstruction and growth.

Several temple committee members, local leaders, BRS representatives, and devotees participated enthusiastically in the celebrations.

## BRS BLA Meeting Scheduled

Secunderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

A meeting of Booth Level Agents (BLAs) belonging to the BRS party in the Sanath Nagar constituency will be held on May 16 at Telangana Bhavan, according to Talasan Srinivas Yadav. The announcement was made during a meeting of key party leaders conducted at his camp office in West Marredpally on Wednesday.

Speaking at the gathering, Talasan expressed concern over the alleged irregular implementation of the Special Summary Revision (SSR) voter verification programme. He stated that although officials are expected to conduct door-to-door voter surveys, the process was reportedly not being carried out effectively in several areas.

He informed party leaders that the voter revision programme, which began earlier this month, would continue until the end of May. He urged



BRS workers and BLAs to closely monitor the survey process and create awareness among citizens to prevent eligible voters' names from being wrongly deleted from electoral rolls.

The MLA also revealed that representations highlighting irregularities in the SSR process were being submitted to the State Election Commis-

sioner and GHMC authorities.

He announced that K. T. Rama Rao would attend the BLA meeting as the chief guest. Talasan further stated that the party's membership drive would begin on June 1, followed by the formation of organizational committees, with priority given to active party workers and dedicated members.

## SI Suspended After Constable Files Cheating Complaint

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

A Sub-Inspector posted at Kollur Police Station was suspended after a female constable accused him of cheating her by promising marriage and later refusing to fulfill the commitment.

The incident came to light within the limits of the Kukatpally Police Station, where a case has now been registered based on the victim's complaint. According to police sources, S. Suresh Kumar, a 2018-batch SI, became acquainted with the woman constable while she was serving at

Kukatpally Police Station. Their friendship reportedly developed into a relationship after Suresh allegedly assured her that he would marry her.

Over time, the constable is said to have repeatedly raised the issue of marriage, but Suresh allegedly began avoiding the matter by giving different excuses. Tensions reportedly increased between the two, leading to frequent arguments over his unwillingness to proceed with the marriage.

Suspecting that she had been misled, the woman confronted the SI directly. During the con-

frontation, Suresh allegedly made it clear that he would not marry her. Following this, the constable approached the Kukatpally police and lodged a formal complaint. Police registered a case and attempted to question the SI. However, officials said Suresh became unavailable and switched off his mobile phone. Based on the complaint and preliminary evidence, senior police authorities placed him under suspension pending further investigation.

## Free Driving License Camp

Adilabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

The Bazar Hathnur Police in Adilabad district have launched a special Driving License Mela to help unemployed youth and motorists obtain valid driving licenses with ease. The initiative is being organized under the supervision of local Sub-Inspector G. Ramesh with the aim of promoting road safety and legal awareness among vehicle users. Police officials stated that individuals who had already applied for driving licenses earlier should immediately submit their relevant documents at the local police station. Those seeking new licenses have been advised to first complete the online application process through Mee Seva centers and then submit a copy of the application at the police station for further processing. Officials also clarified that



applicants who had previously applied for Learner's Licenses would be issued the necessary learner permits through this special drive. The camp is being conducted on May 13, 14, and 15, and eligible youth have been encouraged to make use of the opportunity. Police authorities explained

that the main objective behind the initiative is to reduce road accidents caused by unlicensed driving and to help young motorists avoid legal complications. They appealed to the public to follow traffic regulations and ensure safe travel by obtaining proper driving licenses.



## Women's Groups Hold Protest at Police Station

Quthbullapur, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed outside the Pet Basheerabad Police Station on Wednesday as members of several women's and student organizations staged a protest demanding the arrest of Bandi Bhagirath, son of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar, in connection with an alleged harassment case involving a minor girl.

Activists from IFTU, PDSU, and POW organized a sit-in demonstration, accusing authorities of delaying action despite a complaint reportedly being filed by the victim's family days earlier. Protesters questioned whether influential individuals were receiving preferential treatment and de-

manded swift legal action.

Addressing the gathering, IFTU State Vice President Anuradha called for the removal of Bandi Sanjay from his ministerial position, alleging that leaders in power should not be allowed to shield accused persons. She warned that state-wide protests would be organized if authorities failed to act.

The demonstrators also criticized public leaders for remaining silent on serious allegations involving their own family members while speaking about morality in public forums. POW national leader Sandhya, Anuradha, and representatives from various organizations participated in the agitation outside the police station.



## Bhagirath Seeks More Time for SIT Inquiry

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Bandi Bhagirath, son of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar, has informed the Pet Basheerabad police that he will not be able to appear for questioning on Wednesday as previously scheduled. Citing personal reasons, he requested additional time and stated that he would attend the inquiry on May 15 instead. Bhagirath conveyed his decision through both a formal letter and an email addressed to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) officials. In his communication, he assured investigators that he would fully cooperate with the ongoing probe and provide all necessary support required for

the investigation.

He further mentioned that he plans to submit important evidence and testimonies related to the case during his appearance before the SIT. According to sources, the information and materials he intends to present could become significant in the course of the investigation.

The development has reportedly attracted attention within police circles, with officials closely monitoring the situation ahead of the scheduled questioning. Investigators are expected to examine the evidence presented by Bhagirath to determine its relevance and impact on the case.

## Two Daily Wage Workers Killed in Road Mishap

Hyderabad, May 13 | TPN Bureau

Two men died in a tragic road accident under the jurisdiction of the Nacharam Police Station on Wednesday. The incident took place near Swagath Convention in Mallapur when a speeding car reportedly rammed into a motorcycle with great force. The victims, identified as Ganesh and Gangadhar, residents of Moula Ali, suffered critical injuries in the collision and died on the spot. Police officials rushed to the location soon after receiving information about the accident and shifted the bodies for further procedures. According to the police, both deceased individuals worked as daily wage labourers and were returning on their two-wheeler when the accident occurred. Their bod-

ies were later moved to a government hospital for post-mortem examination.

Preliminary investigation suggests that overspeeding may have led to the fatal crash. Police said the occupants of the car fled immediately after the incident, leaving the damaged vehicle behind. A case has been registered, and efforts are underway to trace and apprehend those responsible for the accident. Following the incident, family members and relatives of the deceased gathered outside the Nacharam Police Station and staged a protest, demanding strict action against the accused and speedy justice for the victims. Police officials assured them that a thorough investigation is being carried out into the case.

# Paradoxical Reality of Intersex Lives



The sleek, crystalline silhouette of the APCRDA headquarters in Rayapudi stands as a testament to the future of Amaravati—a rising "green capital" built on the promise of modernity. But last week, while visiting the Director and Commissioner of Municipal Administration, it wasn't the impressive architecture or the panoramic views of the new Andhra Pradesh that caught my breath. It was a simple, strategically placed sign between the traditional men's and women's restrooms: "Transgender."

In that minute detail, I saw something rare, even in the

bustling metropolises of Europe or the United States. It was a quiet, dignified endorsement of human identity, etched into the very blueprint of our state's futuristic vision. To many, it was just a doorway; to me, it was a bridge back to a memory from a train journey that had long haunted my conscience.

Some time ago, while travelling in a 3rd AC coach from Anantapur to Vijayawada, I found myself in a vibrant, unexpected microcosm of society. As a senior citizen, I occupied my usual side-lower berth, but I was surrounded. To my left and right were



nearly forty members of the transgender community, their sarees and churidars a sea of colour against the sterile train interior. For a moment, I felt like an alien in their world, observing the delicate "masks" of femininity they wore to navigate a world that often refuses to see them.

Their leader, a middle-aged woman with a regal, commanding presence, sat directly across from me. She carried herself like a queen among her subjects as they made their way toward a pilgrimage at the Kanaka Durga Temple. Curious and moved by their grace, I struck up a conversation with one of the younger members of the group.

I asked her about her life before the pilgrimage, specifically about her education. Her answer was a sharp reminder of how easily we let talent slip through the cracks of our systems. She had loved

school, she told me, but the journey ended abruptly in the fifth grade. As she entered adolescence, the simple, biological necessity of using a restroom became a gauntlet of discomfort and exclusion. Unable to find a safe space in the girls' toilet, and unwelcome in the boys', she simply stopped going.

That young girl's stolen future stands in stark contrast to the new "third toilet" at the APCRDA headquarters. Seeing that sign in Amaravati wasn't just about infrastructure; it was a call to action. If we are to build a truly "futuristic" society, we must start by ensuring that the "Inclusive Education" we speak of in policy papers translates into an ecosystem where every child—regardless of where they fall on the spectrum of gender, can walk into a school, use a restroom with dignity, and earn their place in the world.

The story of the third sign

is, ultimately, the story of justice. It is time we write the rest of the chapters. The birth of a child is typically greeted with the binary question: "Is it a boy or a girl?" However, for approximately one in every 2,000 children, the answer is not so simple. These individuals are born with intersex traits—a term encompassing over 30 different conditions where a person's anatomy, reproductive organs, or genetics do not fit standard medical definitions of male or female. Despite being a relatively common phenomenon affecting millions globally, the intersex community has historically faced a world of secrecy, surgical intervention, and social erasure.

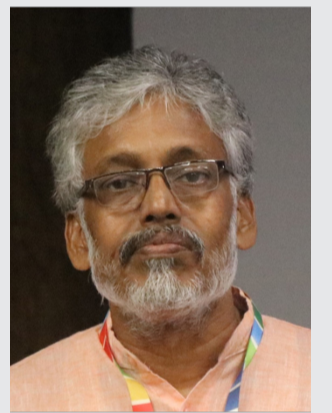
**'Nurture over Nature', the Medical Legacy of Secrecy**

For decades, the global treatment of intersex children was dictated by a "nurture over nature" theory developed in the 1950s at Johns

Hopkins University. This model argued that gender identity was learned and that children could be "assigned" a sex through aggressive surgeries and hormonal treatments to make them look typically male or female. But all who have gone through this inhumane process struggled all their lives with lost identity. This approach birthed a culture of profound secrecy.

Parents were often told to move to new towns, change the child's name, and destroy all records of their birth condition to ensure they never discovered the truth. Children grew up undergoing dozens of surgeries they didn't understand, often being told they were simply "fixing a leak". The result was frequently a childhood defined by medical trauma, frequent hospitalisations, and a deep, unexplained sense of being a "freak". Now in India, as the society grows and the medical facilities are also becoming

more and more aggressive to kill Nature's symphony to agony. Why can't we create an ecosystem where we respect intersex people as part of the natural web? What is stopping us from accepting every individual identity?



Ram Kamal  
Social Engineer

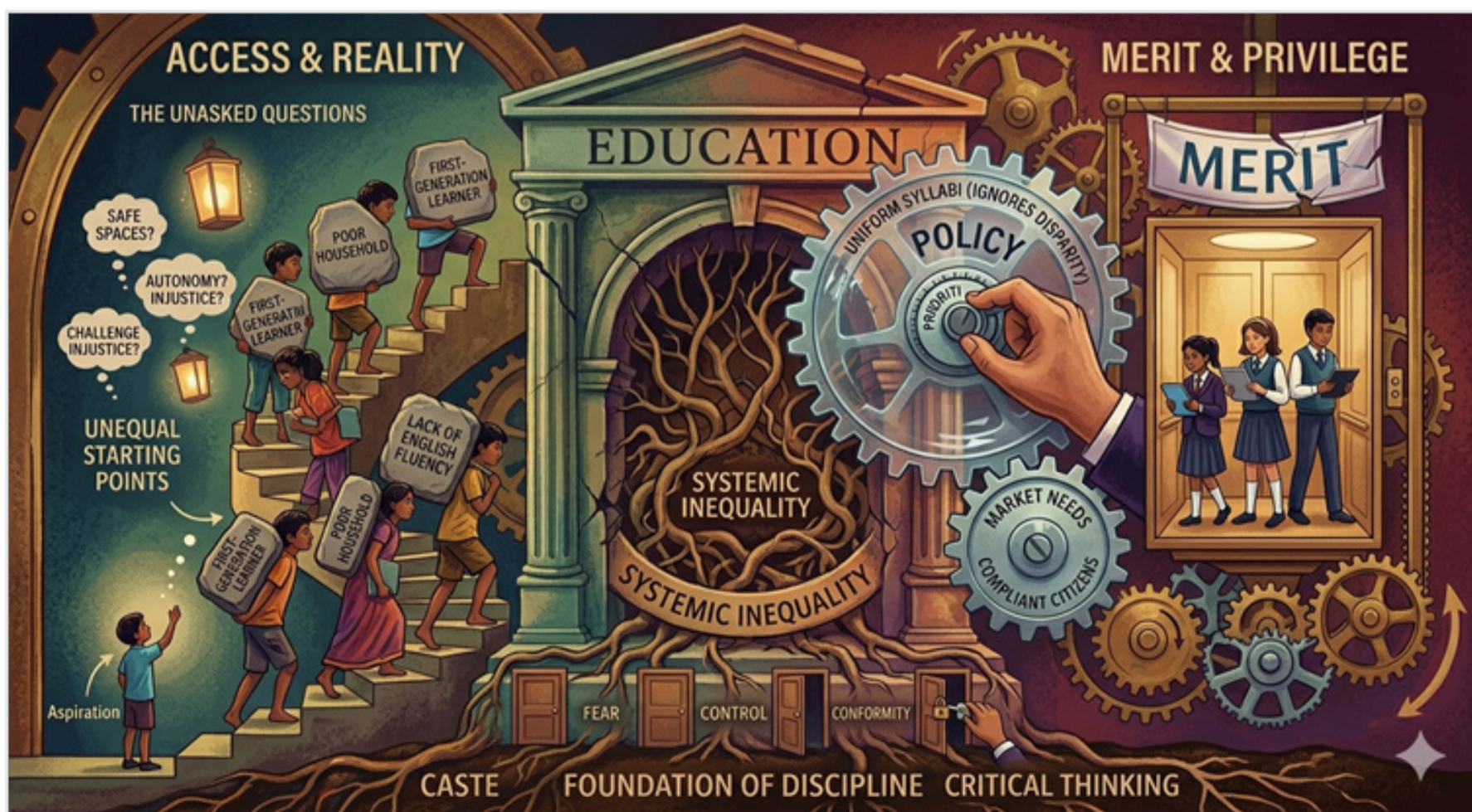
# Education Without Equality: A System Designed to Stand Still

We often lament that education is failing to transform society. But the uncomfortable truth is not that education cannot change society; it is that it has been structured in ways that rarely challenge it. This is not merely a failure of imagination; it reflects deeper political and institutional choices that prioritise stability over transformation.

Seventy-seven years after Independence, India has expanded its school and university systems and access to degrees. Yet, the core structure of society remains largely unchanged. Caste continues to exert influence, gender inequality persists, and poverty is still viewed as an individual failing rather than a systemic issue. Education, instead of challenging these realities, often conditions individuals to adapt to them. Literacy has increased, but justice and equality remain elusive.

For education to be transformative, it must first acknowledge inequality, encourage questioning, and equip learners with the tools to challenge injustice. However, the system often does the opposite. Policies framed as fairness, such as uniform syllabi, examinations, and evaluations, ignore unequal starting points. A first-generation learner, a child from a poor household, and a privileged student cannot be expected to compete on identical terms. Treating them as equals in the process while ignoring disparities in access is, in effect, systemic inequity.

The idea of 'merit' dominates educational discourse,



yet it rarely reflects pure talent. Instead, it often mirrors access to privilege, English fluency, coaching centres, digital tools, and financial support. When success is attributed solely to individual effort, systemic disadvantages are recast as personal failures. This shift of responsibility allows the system to avoid accountability

while reinforcing existing hierarchies. Gender inequality presents another contradiction. Rising enrollment of girls is celebrated, but deeper questions remain unanswered. Are schools truly safe spaces? Do girls have the freedom to speak about their bodies, health, and rights? Can they question har-

assment without fear? Education frequently stops at inclusion, without addressing empowerment. Teaching girls without recognising their autonomy sustains, rather than dismantles, inequality. Similarly, the treatment of children within schools raises serious concerns. While rights are constitutionally guaran-

teed, classrooms often function through fear and control. Discipline frequently masks punishment, and academic pressure becomes a tool of intimidation. Children's voices are seldom heard, and their aspirations are often decided for them. Such practices reflect not education, but an imbalance of power.

Education is also shaped by political priorities. Beyond textbook changes, its deeper function often lies in producing compliant citizens, shifting responsibility to individuals, and aligning human potential with market needs. Critical thinking is discouraged, while conformity is rewarded. Education becomes linked narrow-

ly to employment, losing its role in nurturing democratic consciousness.

As a result, India has an educated population, but not necessarily an empowered one. Degrees have multiplied, but the capacity to question, to challenge injustice, and to imagine alternatives remains limited. This is not accidental; it is the outcome of long-standing policy choices.

Meaningful reform requires more than structural adjustments; it demands a rethinking of purpose. Equality must be treated as a responsibility, not a slogan. The myth of merit must be interrogated. Silence should not be mistaken for discipline, nor conformity for success. Education must listen, to children, to girls, and to those on the margins, and place their lived realities at its centre.

Until then, education will continue to function, but society will remain largely unchanged. If education does not help us see beyond our differences, then what, ultimately, are we learning?



Sudha Mani  
Inamanamelluri

PGT Mathematics  
AP Model School  
Mavillapadu  
Tirupati District

# SuvenduAdhikari Retains Bhabanipur Seat, To Vacate Nandigram

West Bengal Chief Minister SuvenduAdhikari has decided to retain the Bhabanipur Assembly seat while vacating Nandigram after securing victories in both constituencies during the recently concluded state elections. The decision marks a major political development in Bengal politics, especially because Bhabanipur was considered one of the strongest bastions of Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee.

Adhikari defeated Mamata Banerjee in Bhabanipur by a margin of over 15,000 votes in what became one of the most closely watched electoral battles of the 2026 West Bengal Assembly elections. At the same time, he successfully defended his traditional stronghold of Nandigram, where he won by nearly 10,000 votes.

Under election rules, a candidate elected from two constituencies must vacate one seat within a specified period. Adhikari had earlier indicated that he would take a final decision soon and assured supporters that he would continue fulfilling promises made to voters in both constituencies.



His decision to keep Bhabanipur is being seen as politically symbolic because the constituency was long associated with Mamata Banerjee and the Trinamool Congress leadership. Political observers believe re-

taining the seat strengthens the BJP's message following its historic victory in West Bengal and highlights Adhikari's emergence as the party's central face in the state. The BJP recently formed its

first-ever government in West Bengal, ending nearly two decades of Trinamool Congress rule. SuvenduAdhikari was sworn in as the state's first BJP Chief Minister after leading the party to a decisive electoral

win. Adhikari's political rivalry with Mamata Banerjee has become one of the defining stories of Bengal politics in recent years. Once considered one of Banerjee's closest aides in the Trinamool Congress, he later joined the BJP and emerged as her strongest political challenger. His victory over Banerjee in Nandigram during the 2021 elections had already transformed him into a major BJP leader in the state.

The latest election further intensified that rivalry, with Adhikari contesting directly against Banerjee in Bhabanipur — a constituency widely viewed as her political fortress. His win there is being described by BJP supporters as a historic breakthrough in Bengal politics.

With Nandigram now set to become vacant, the Election Commission will eventually announce a by-election for the constituency. Political parties are expected to closely watch the upcoming contest, as the seat carries strong political significance after becoming central to Bengal's recent political battles.



## N. Rangasamy Sworn In As Puducherry Chief Minister For Record Fifth Term

Veteran politician N. Rangasamy was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Puducherry for a record fifth term, further strengthening his position as one of the most influential leaders in the Union Territory's political history. The swearing-in ceremony took place at the Lok Bhavan in Puducherry in the presence of senior political leaders, party workers and supporters.

Lieutenant Governor K. Kailashnathan administered the oath of office and secrecy to Rangasamy during the ceremony. Along with him, BJP leader A. Namassivayam and AINRC MLA Malladi Krishna Rao were also sworn in as ministers in the new cabinet.

Rangasamy's return to power comes after the National Democratic Alliance secured a comfortable majority in the recently concluded Puducherry Assembly elections. His party, the All India N.R. Congress (AINRC), emerged as the dominant force within the alliance, while the BJP and other allies also contributed to the NDA's victory.

The latest oath-taking marks Rangasamy's second consecutive term under the NDA alliance and his fifth overall tenure as Chief Minister, setting a new political record in Puducherry. Political observers say the achievement reflects his enduring popularity and strong grassroots support in the Union Territory.

Known for his simple public

image and welfare-oriented politics, Rangasamy has remained a prominent figure in Puducherry politics for more than two decades. Supporters often credit him for maintaining a direct connection with the public and focusing on local development issues.

In the recent elections, the NDA alliance comfortably crossed the majority mark in the 30-member Assembly. The AINRC won 12 seats, while the BJP secured four. Other alliance partners, including AI-ADMK and LatchiyaJananayagaKatchi, also added to the coalition's strength.

The swearing-in ceremony witnessed the presence of several senior BJP leaders and alliance representatives. Party workers celebrated the occasion with processions, slogans and public gatherings across different parts of Puducherry.

Political analysts believe Rangasamy's latest term will be closely watched because of the growing role of the BJP within the Union Territory's political structure. The NDA government is expected to focus on infrastructure development, tourism, employment generation and welfare schemes in the coming years.

Rangasamy's political journey has been marked by multiple comebacks and strong electoral performances. His fifth term as Chief Minister further cements his legacy as one of Puducherry's longest-serving and most successful political leaders.



## Sonia Gandhi Admitted ToGurugram'sMedanta Hospital For Routine Check-Up

Senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi was admitted to Medanta Hospital in Gurugram for a routine medical check-up, party sources confirmed. The Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson was admitted under the supervision of a team of specialist doctors and is said to be stable.

According to party leaders, the hospital visit was part of a scheduled health evaluation and there is no immediate cause for concern regarding her condition. Sources indicated that Sonia Gandhi has been undergoing regular medical monitoring in recent years due to age-related health issues.

The development drew attention from political leaders across parties, with several Congress members visiting or enquiring about her health after news of her admission emerged. Party workers and supporters also expressed concern and wished for her speedy recovery on social media platforms. Sonia Gandhi, one of the most influential figures in Indian politics, has been active in key opposition meetings and Congress organisational matters despite reducing her pub-

lic appearances in recent years. Her health has often been closely watched due to her long political career and central role within the Congress party.

Congress leaders stated that doctors are conducting routine examinations and necessary medical tests as part of the evaluation process. Hospital authorities have not issued any detailed medical bulletin so far. The 79-year-old leader has previously travelled abroad for medical consultations and treatment on multiple occasions. Despite health concerns, she has continued to play an important advisory role within the party, particularly during major political developments and election strategies.

Political observers noted that Sonia Gandhi remains a significant figure in opposition politics, especially in efforts aimed at bringing together anti-BJP parties at the national level. Party leaders have appealed to supporters not to speculate about her health and assured that there is no serious medical emergency at present. Further updates are expected after doctors complete the scheduled assessments.

## BJP Leaders Begin Fuel-Saving Measures After PM Modi's Appeal

Several BJP leaders and ministers across the country have started adopting fuel-saving measures following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent appeal to reduce fuel consumption and promote energy conservation. The initiatives include smaller vehicle convoys, restrictions on unnecessary travel and increased use of virtual meetings for official work. The Prime Minister had recently urged citizens and government representatives to contribute towards fuel conservation amid rising global oil prices and growing concerns over energy security. His remarks came during discussions on India's dependence on imported crude oil and the need to promote responsible energy usage. Following the appeal, many BJP leaders reportedly instructed officials to minimise the number of vehicles used during public programmes and political events. Some ministers have also reduced large security convoys and encouraged carpooling among staff members during official visits. In several states, party leaders have started preferring virtual meetings instead of travelling frequently for organisational reviews and coordination activities. Officials believe these measures could help reduce fuel consumption while also cutting administrative costs. The move is being projected as part of a broader effort to encourage sustainable practices within the government and political system. BJP leaders have said public representatives should lead by example when it comes to conserving resources and reducing unnecessary expendi-

ture. Political observers note that fuel prices and energy costs remain sensitive issues for the public, especially during periods of global economic uncertainty. By promoting fuel-saving measures, the government appears to be sending a message about responsible consumption and long-term energy planning. Some state governments led by the BJP are also reportedly reviewing official vehicle usage policies and considering guidelines aimed at reducing fuel wastage during government events and VIP movement. Apart from reducing convoy sizes, officials are said to be encouraging better route planning, avoiding unnecessary air travel and limiting the use of government vehicles for non-essential purposes. The initiative has triggered mixed reactions online. Supporters praised the move as a practical step towards energy conservation, while critics questioned whether the measures would result in substantial savings without broader policy changes related to fuel pricing and public transport. India remains one of the world's largest importers of crude oil, making global fuel price fluctuations a major economic concern. Experts believe long-term energy security will require a combination of fuel conservation, renewable energy expansion and reduced dependence on imports.

The latest measures by BJP leaders are being seen as an attempt to align government functioning with the Prime Minister's broader message on sustainability, efficiency and responsible resource management.

## Vijay Removes Astrologer Appointed As Officer On Special Duty After Criticism

Tamil actor-turned-politician Vijay has reportedly removed an astrologer who was recently appointed as an Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in his political party after facing criticism from various quarters. The decision came shortly after the appointment sparked widespread debate on social media and among political observers.

The controversy began when reports emerged that an astrologer had been given an important role within Vijay's political setup. Critics questioned the decision and argued that political organisations should focus on professional expertise and administrative capability rather than beliefs linked to astrology. As the criticism intensified online, the appointment quickly became a major talking point in Tamil Nadu politics. Opposition voices and social media users began mocking the move, while some supporters expressed

disappointment over the controversy overshadowing Vijay's political activities.

Following the backlash, Vijay is said to have acted swiftly and removed the astrologer from the position. The development is being viewed as an attempt to avoid unnecessary controversy and maintain a serious image for his political party ahead of future electoral plans. Vijay officially entered politics with the launch of his party, Tamilaga Vetri-Kazhagam (TVK), and has been steadily building its organisational structure across Tamil Nadu. Since announcing his political ambitions, the actor has attracted significant attention due to his massive fan following and influence among younger voters.

Political analysts believe Vijay is trying to position himself as a credible alternative in Tamil Nadu politics, which has long been dominated by major Dravidian parties. Because of this, every decision



# National-Level Quiz Launched for Viksit Vibrant Villages Programme 2026

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, has launched a national-level quiz for the Viksit Vibrant Villages Programme (VVVP)-2026. The quiz is being conducted through the MY Bharat portal and serves as the first stage in selecting youth participants for field-level activities to be held in border villages in June 2026.

The Viksit Vibrant Villages Programme-2026 is a youth-led national initiative aimed at strengthening participation, social engagement, cultural exchange and awareness in

strategically important border villages located in regions such as Leh-Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

The online quiz will be conducted across the country from May 10 to May 20, 2026. The initiative seeks to create awareness among participants about the vision and objectives of the programme while encouraging youth participation in nation-building and border area development. The quiz will provide a platform for young people to learn about border village development, local culture, environmental awareness, governance activities, community

participation and the government's efforts to strengthen border regions. Candidates who perform exceptionally well in the quiz will undergo eligibility screening and physical fitness tests. Following this process, 500 MY Bharat volunteers from different states and Union Territories will be selected to participate in a one-week field programme under VVVP in June 2026. Selected volunteers will engage in field activities and community-based programmes in identified border villages. The activities will focus on cleanliness drives, youth interactions, environmental initia-

tives, cultural exchange programmes, awareness campaigns, career counselling sessions and experiential learning opportunities aimed at promoting grassroots development and national integration.

The programme reflects the government's commitment to empowering youth as active contributors toward achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. It also aims to raise awareness about the importance of strong and sustainable border communities.

Interested youth can participate in the quiz through the MY Bharat portal.



# China Sets "Four Red Lines" Ahead Of Expected Trump-Xi Summit

China has reportedly laid down "four red lines" in its relationship with the United States ahead of a possible summit between former US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. The move signals Beijing's attempt to clearly define its core interests and establish boundaries before any major diplomatic engagement with Washington.

According to reports, the Chinese leadership has identified Taiwan, democracy and human rights issues, China's political system and its development path as the key areas where it expects the United States not to cross certain limits. Beijing believes these issues directly concern Chi-

na's sovereignty, national security and long-term strategic interests.

The development comes amid rising geopolitical tensions between the two global powers over trade, technology, military influence and regional security. Although both countries have occasionally expressed interest in stabilising relations, disagreements continue to deepen on several fronts.

Taiwan remains the most sensitive issue in US-China relations. China views Taiwan as part of its territory and strongly opposes any foreign support for Taiwanese independence. Beijing has repeatedly criticised US military cooperation and political

engagement with Taiwan, warning that such actions could seriously damage bilateral relations.

Human rights and democracy-related criticism from the United States has also been a major source of friction. Washington has frequently raised concerns regarding issues in Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet, while China accuses the US of interfering in its internal affairs.

Another key concern for Beijing is criticism of China's political structure and governance model. Chinese officials have consistently defended the country's one-party political system and argued that each nation has the

right to choose its own development path without external pressure.

The timing of the reported "red lines" is significant as speculation grows over a possible high-level meeting between Trump and Xi if Trump returns to the White House following the US presidential election. Analysts believe Beijing is attempting to prepare the groundwork for future negotiations by clarifying what it considers non-negotiable issues.

Relations between the two countries have remained tense in recent years due to disputes over tariffs, semiconductor restrictions, military activity in the South China Sea and competition in

emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing.

Despite the tensions, both nations continue to maintain strong economic ties, and experts believe neither side wants relations to deteriorate beyond a certain point. However, the growing strategic rivalry between Washington and Beijing has made diplomatic engagement increasingly complicated.

Observers say the reported "four red lines" reflect China's broader strategy of projecting confidence on the global stage while signalling that it is prepared to firmly defend its national interests in any future negotiations with the United States.



## Pakistan Secretly Hosting Iranian Military Jets For Years, Claims Report

A new report has claimed that Pakistan has been quietly hosting Iranian military aircraft for several years, raising fresh questions about the security and strategic cooperation between the two neighbouring countries. The revelation comes at a time of heightened tensions in West Asia and growing global attention on regional military alliances.

According to the report, several Iranian military jets were allegedly stationed at undisclosed air bases inside Pakistan as part of a long-standing arrangement between Tehran and Islamabad. The aircraft were reportedly moved to Pakistan during periods of heightened regional instability and concerns over potential attacks on Iranian military infrastructure.

The report suggests that Pakistan's role went beyond simple diplomatic coordination and may have involved providing temporary shelter and logistical support to the Iranian aircraft. The development has attracted attention because Pakistan has often projected itself as a neutral player in Middle East conflicts while maintaining relationships with multiple countries in the region.

The issue has become particularly sensitive amid ongoing tensions involving Iran, Israel and the United States. Analysts believe any evidence of covert military cooperation between Pakistan and Iran could complicate Islamabad's diplomatic balancing act with Gulf nations and Western allies.



Security experts say countries sometimes relocate strategic military assets to allied or friendly territories during periods of geopolitical uncertainty to reduce the risk of direct attacks. If the claims are accurate, the arrangement could indicate a deeper level of trust and coordination between Pakistan and Iran than publicly acknowledged.

The report also highlights the strategic importance of Pakistan's geographic location. Sharing a long border with Iran, Pakistan occupies a crucial position in regional security dynamics involving South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East.

Neither Pakistan nor Iran has officially commented in detail on the claims so far. However, the report has already triggered widespread debate among geopolitical observers and defence analysts regarding the true nature of ties between the two countries.

Pakistan has historically maintained a complicated relationship with Iran. While the two nations cooperate on border security and trade, they have also experienced tensions related to sectarian violence, militant groups and differing regional alignments.

At the same time, Pakistan has close economic and military ties with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations that are often seen as rivals of Iran. This has forced Islamabad to carefully manage its diplomatic positioning in the region over the years.

The report is likely to intensify discussions around regional military coordination and secret defence arrangements at a time when geopolitical tensions in the Middle East continue to rise. Analysts believe further disclosures or official responses could have significant diplomatic implications in the coming weeks.

## US-Iran War Costs Reach \$29 Billion In 60 Days, Exceeding Initial Estimates

The financial burden of the ongoing US-Iran conflict has surged dramatically, with the Pentagon now estimating that the war has cost nearly \$29 billion in just 60 days. The revised figure is around 16 percent higher than earlier estimates, highlighting the rapidly escalating economic impact of the military campaign.

According to reports, the updated estimate was presented by senior Pentagon officials during a congressional hearing in Washington. The revised cost includes operational expenses, military deployments, repair and replacement of damaged equipment, and continued combat readiness across the Middle East.

Just weeks earlier, US officials had estimated the war cost at approximately \$25 billion. However, continued military operations, naval deployments and missile defence activities significantly increased expenses beyond expectations. Analysts believe the final bill could rise even further if tensions continue.

The conflict reportedly became expensive almost immediately after it began. Earlier briefings to lawmakers suggested that the first six days alone had already cost the United States more than \$11 billion due to the heavy use of missiles, airstrikes and military assets.

The war has also intensified political debate within the United States. Opposition lawmakers have demanded greater transparency from the Pen-



tagon regarding how the money is being spent and whether Congress should approve additional funding for the military campaign. Some estimates suggest the administration could seek tens of billions more in emergency war funding if the conflict continues.

Apart from direct military spending, experts warn that the broader economic consequences could be far more severe. Rising oil prices, disruptions around the Strait of

Hormuz and growing geopolitical uncertainty have already impacted global markets and increased inflation concerns worldwide.

The Pentagon has reportedly not provided a detailed public breakdown of all expenditures, leading to criticism from several lawmakers who argue that taxpayers deserve clearer information about the financial scale of the conflict.

Meanwhile, global energy markets remain on edge as tensions in the Middle East con-

tinue. Since the region plays a crucial role in global oil supply, prolonged instability could further raise fuel prices and affect economies across the world, including India.

Despite growing costs and political pressure, US officials continue to defend the military campaign as necessary for national security and regional stability. However, analysts say the rising financial toll is becoming one of the most closely watched aspects of the conflict.

## Pakistan Signals Expansion Of "Islamic NATO" With Turkey And Qatar

Pakistan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has indicated that Turkey and Qatar could soon join the existing defence pact between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, fuelling fresh discussions about the emergence of an "Islamic NATO" in the region. The proposed alliance is being viewed as a major geopolitical development amid rising tensions across the Middle East.

Speaking to local media, Asif said discussions regarding the arrangement were at various stages of completion and suggested that a broader regional security framework involving "like-minded" Muslim-majority nations could soon take shape. He described the move as an effort to strengthen regional stability and reduce dependence on external powers.

The comments come months after Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement, under which both countries agreed to treat aggression against one nation as an attack on both. The pact significantly deepened military cooperation between Islamabad and Riyadh and triggered widespread debate about a possible new security bloc in the Muslim world.

Analysts believe the inclusion of Turkey and Qatar would dramatically increase the alliance's strategic importance. Turkey possesses one of NATO's strongest militaries,



while Qatar plays a key diplomatic and economic role in the Gulf region. Together with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, the grouping could emerge as a powerful regional coalition with influence across West Asia and South Asia.

The idea of an "Islamic NATO" has circulated for years, but recent geopolitical instability, especially the ongoing US-Iran conflict, has accelerated discussions around greater military coordination among Muslim-majority countries. Security concerns, energy routes, missile threats and shifting alliances have all contributed to the renewed push for closer defence cooperation.

Pakistan has also attempted to position itself as a key diplomatic player during the current Middle East crisis. Islamabad has maintained relations with both Iran and Gulf countries while simultaneously strengthening strategic ties with Saudi Arabia and Turkey. This balancing act has in-

creased Pakistan's importance in regional diplomacy.

Supporters of the proposed alliance argue that regional countries need stronger collective security mechanisms to handle emerging threats without depending entirely on Western military structures. However, critics warn that such a bloc could further polarise the Middle East and intensify rivalries involving Iran and other regional powers.

Experts also point out that despite media attention, the proposed arrangement is still far from becoming a formal NATO-style military alliance. Unlike NATO, there is currently no publicly announced treaty structure, integrated command system or collective military framework.

Nevertheless, Khawaja Asif's remarks have intensified global interest in the possibility of a new regional power bloc that could reshape political and military dynamics across the Islamic world in the coming years.

## Saudi Arabia Reportedly Carried Out Secret Strikes On Iran Amid Middle East Conflict

Saudi Arabia reportedly launched covert military strikes on Iran during the ongoing Middle East conflict, marking what analysts describe as a major shift in the kingdom's defence strategy. According to multiple reports citing Western and Iranian officials, the strikes were carried out in late March as retaliation for Iranian missile and drone attacks targeting Saudi territory.

The alleged attacks were never officially announced by Riyadh, making them one of the most significant undisclosed military developments in the region in recent years. Reports claim the Saudi Air Force conducted several "tit-for-tat" strikes after Iranian attacks reportedly hit civilian infrastructure, airports and oil facilities inside the kingdom.

If confirmed, this would be the first publicly known instance of Saudi Arabia directly carrying out military action on Iranian soil. Experts say the development highlights how the regional conflict has expanded far beyond the initial confrontation involving the United States, Israel and Iran.

The broader conflict reportedly intensified after US and Israeli strikes on Iran earlier this year, triggering retaliatory attacks across the Gulf region. Iran is said to have targeted



several Gulf Cooperation Council countries with missiles and drones, increasing fears of a wider regional war.

Reports suggest Saudi Arabia informed Iran about the retaliatory strikes through diplomatic channels shortly after the attacks took place. This was reportedly followed by in-

tense backchannel negotiations aimed at preventing the conflict from escalating further. Analysts believe the Saudi response reflects growing frustration within the kingdom over repeated attacks on its territory despite its close military ties with the United States. The conflict has exposed vulnera-

bilities in Gulf security systems and pushed regional powers to adopt a more aggressive defence posture.

Reports also claim that the United Arab Emirates separately carried out covert operations against Iran during the conflict, suggesting that some Gulf nations have become more directly involved than publicly acknowledged.

Despite the military escalation, Saudi Arabia has reportedly continued diplomatic engagement with Tehran. Officials and analysts say both sides appear to recognise that a full-scale regional war would carry devastating economic and security consequences for the Middle East.

The revelations have sparked intense global attention because Saudi Arabia and Iran are considered the region's two most influential rival powers, representing competing political and strategic interests across the Middle East. Their rivalry has shaped conflicts in Yemen, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq for years.

While neither Riyadh nor Tehran has fully confirmed the reports, the alleged covert strikes underline how rapidly the Middle East conflict has evolved into a broader regional confrontation involving multiple countries and secret military operations.

# Sensex, Nifty Seen Opening Flat After Sharp Selloff; Gold Duty Hike And Crude Oil In Focus

Indian stock markets are expected to witness a cautious and largely flat opening after suffering a sharp selloff in the previous trading session. Investor sentiment remains fragile amid rising crude oil prices, weakness in the rupee and growing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

The Sensex and Nifty had recently faced heavy selling pressure as concerns over inflation and foreign investor outflows intensified. Analysts believe market participants are likely to remain cautious until there is more clarity on global developments, especially regarding crude oil prices and the ongoing US-Iran tensions.

One of the biggest develop-

ments influencing the markets is the government's decision to raise import duties on gold and silver from 6 percent to 15 percent. The move was aimed at curbing rising demand for precious metals and easing pressure on India's foreign exchange reserves. Following the announcement, gold-related stocks and ETFs witnessed strong buying interest.

The higher duty also impacted the bond and currency markets. India's 10-year government bond yield eased slightly after the announcement, while the rupee attempted to stabilise after hitting record lows against the US dollar. However, analysts warn that persistent foreign fund outflows

and elevated oil prices could continue to pressure the currency.

Crude oil prices remain another major concern for investors. Brent crude has been trading near the 106-107 dollar per barrel range amid fears of supply disruptions linked to tensions around the Strait of Hormuz. Since India imports a large portion of its energy needs, rising oil prices could worsen inflation and increase the country's import bill.

Global market cues are also mixed. While some Asian markets showed resilience, uncertainty surrounding the US economy, inflation trends and geopolitical tensions continues to keep in-

vestors nervous. Experts believe volatility may remain high in the near term.

Sector-wise, gold financing companies and jewellery-related stocks attracted buying after the import duty hike, while IT shares continued to face pressure. Metal stocks and broader mid-cap counters also showed signs of recovery after recent declines.

Market experts suggest investors should remain cautious and focus on global crude movements, rupee stability and foreign institutional investor activity over the next few sessions. Any easing in geopolitical tensions or correction in oil prices could provide temporary relief to Indian equities.



## Cipla Q4 Profit Drops 5.5% To Rs 555 Crore Despite Stable Revenue

Pharmaceutical major Cipla reported a 5.5 percent year-on-year decline in its consolidated net profit for the fourth quarter, posting a profit of Rs 555 crore compared to Rs 587 crore in the same period last year. Despite the drop in profit, the company managed to maintain relatively stable revenue during the quarter.

Cipla's consolidated revenue from operations stood at around Rs 6,163 crore in the January-March quarter, showing only a marginal decline compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year. The company said its performance was affected by pricing pressure in certain international markets and softer demand in some segments.

The decline in profit was also linked to higher operational expenses and increased investments in research, product development and expansion activities. Analysts noted that although revenue remained steady, rising costs impacted overall profitability during the quarter.

Cipla's domestic business continued to remain resilient, supported by steady demand in respiratory, cardiac and anti-infective therapies. The company also witnessed stable growth in its India-focused branded formulations segment, which remains one of its strongest revenue contributors.

In international markets, Cipla's North America business showed mixed perfor-



mance amid pricing pressure in the US generics market. However, the company continued to benefit from its respiratory portfolio and specialty products, which partially offset weakness in some generic categories.

The company's Africa business also delivered stable growth, supported by strong demand for prescription medicines and chronic therapies. Cipla has been focusing on expanding its presence across emerging markets while strengthening its specialty product pipeline globally.

Following the earnings announcement, Cipla's shares remained under investor focus as market participants evaluated the impact of slowing profit growth and future margin pressures. Analysts believe the company's long-term outlook remains positive due to its strong domestic positioning and diversified international

business.

Management highlighted that the company would continue investing in innovation, respiratory therapies and complex generics to strengthen future growth opportunities. Cipla also reiterated its focus on improving operational efficiency and maintaining sustainable growth across key markets.

The pharmaceutical sector as a whole has been facing challenges such as pricing pressure in export markets, regulatory costs and global economic uncertainty. However, strong domestic demand and healthcare spending continue to support major Indian drugmakers like Cipla.

Despite the quarterly decline in profit, investors remain optimistic about the company's long-term growth strategy, especially given its strong brand presence and expanding specialty portfolio.

## SEBI Exploring Specialised Distributors To Boost Retail Investment In Bonds

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is evaluating a proposal to introduce a specialised category of distributors aimed at expanding the reach of debt investment products and increasing retail participation in the bond market. The move is expected to make bond investing simpler and more accessible for ordinary investors.

Speaking at the FICCI Products Distribution Summit, SEBI Whole-Time Member Amarjeet Singh said the regulator is studying ways to replicate the success of mutual fund distribution in other segments of the financial market. According to him, debt products remain underpenetrated among retail investors despite growing interest in financial investments across India.

Under the proposed framework, specialised distributors would function similarly to mutual fund distributors by helping investors complete KYC formalities, documentation and transaction processes related to bond investments. The objective is to simplify the overall experience and encourage more individuals to participate in debt markets.

SEBI believes that improving distribution networks could play a major role in the "retailisation" of bonds, where more small investors gain ac-



cess to fixed-income investment opportunities traditionally dominated by institutions and high-net-worth individuals. The regulator has been focusing on broadening financial participation as India witnesses rapid growth in capital market investments.

During his remarks, Amarjeet Singh also highlighted the importance of ethical distribution practices in the financial sector. He cautioned that financial products differ from ordinary consumer products because investors often commit their long-term savings based on trust and professional guidance. He stressed that distribu-

tors should not merely act as transaction facilitators but should also serve as responsible guides throughout the investor journey. Singh added that sustainable growth in financial markets depends on maintaining a balance between scale, trust and investor protection. The proposal comes at a time when household savings are increasingly shifting towards market-linked instruments. According to SEBI, assets under management across mutual funds, portfolio management services and alternative investment funds have grown significantly over recent years, reaching nearly Rs

91 lakh crore by March 2026.

Industry experts believe that improving access to debt products could help diversify retail investment portfolios, which are currently heavily concentrated in equities, gold and traditional bank deposits. A stronger retail bond market could also improve overall market depth and provide companies with broader fundraising options. While the proposal is still under examination, the initiative reflects SEBI's broader effort to deepen India's financial markets while ensuring investor protection and responsible distribution practices remain a priority.

## MSCI May Rejig: Four Indian Stocks Added, Four Removed From Global Index

Global index provider MSCI has announced changes to its widely tracked MSCI Global Standard Indexes as part of its May 2026 semi-annual review, leading to major movements in Indian equities. The latest reshuffle includes the addition of four Indian companies while four others have been excluded from the index, a move expected to trigger significant passive fund inflows and outflows.

The stocks added to the MSCI Global Standard Index are Hyundai Motor India, Swiggy, Waaree Energies and NTPC Green Energy. Their inclusion is expected to attract fresh foreign investment from global passive funds and exchange-traded funds that track MSCI benchmarks.

Market analysts estimate that the additions could collectively attract billions of rupees in passive inflows once the changes become effective. Among the new entrants, Hyundai Motor India and Swiggy are expected to witness particularly strong inflows due to their larger market capitalisation and investor interest.

On the other hand, the companies removed from the index are Adani Total Gas, PB Fintech, Indus Towers and Polycab India. These stocks may face temporary selling pressure as passive funds rebalance their portfolios in line with the revised MSCI composition.

MSCI index changes are



closely monitored by global investors because many international funds automatically adjust their holdings based on these benchmarks. Inclusion in the index generally improves visibility, increases institutional participation and boosts trading volumes for the selected companies.

The latest review reflects changing market dynamics and investor preferences within the Indian equity market. Renewable energy and new-age technology companies have gained increasing attention in recent years, which is evident from the inclusion of firms like Waaree Energies, NTPC Green Energy and Swiggy.

Meanwhile, some stocks removed from the index have witnessed corrections in market value or relative underperformance compared to peers, which may have affected their eligibility during the review process.

The changes announced by

MSCI will become effective after the market closes on May 30, 2026. Traders and institutional investors are expected to closely track stock movements leading up to the implementation date, as index-related adjustments often create short-term volatility.

Apart from the MSCI Global Standard Index, MSCI also made changes to its Small Cap Indexes, adding and removing several Indian companies as part of the broader review. These revisions are aimed at ensuring the index accurately reflects evolving market capitalisation and liquidity conditions.

The MSCI reshuffle once again highlights the growing importance of Indian equities in global investment portfolios. With India continuing to attract strong foreign investor interest, inclusion in major global indexes remains a significant milestone for listed companies.

## Tata Motors Q4 Profit Surges 70% To Rs 2,406 Crore, Dividend Announced

Tata Motors reported a strong financial performance for the fourth quarter, with consolidated net profit rising 70 percent year-on-year to Rs 2,406 crore. The automobile giant also announced a dividend for shareholders following improved earnings driven by steady demand across its passenger and commercial vehicle businesses.

The company's revenue from operations during the January-March quarter stood at around Rs 1.19 lakh crore, reflecting healthy growth compared to the same period last year. Improved operational efficiency, better product mix and strong performance from Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) contributed significantly to the earnings growth.

Tata Motors' luxury arm, Jaguar Land Rover, continued to remain a key contributor to profitability. JLR witnessed improved wholesale volumes, stronger margins and better supply-chain conditions during the quarter. Demand for premium SUVs and luxury vehicles in global markets also supported the company's overall financial performance.

The domestic passenger vehicle business maintained stable growth, led by strong demand for SUVs such as the Nexon, Punch and Harrier. Tata Motors also continued to strengthen its position in the electric vehicle segment,



where it remains one of India's leading EV manufacturers.

In the commercial vehicle segment, the company saw moderate growth amid improving infrastructure activity and transportation demand. However, management acknowledged that competitive pricing pressure and fluctuations in raw material costs remained areas of concern.

Tata Motors' board announced a dividend of Rs 3 per ordinary share and Rs 3.10 per 'A' ordinary share for eligible shareholders. The announcement reflected management's confidence in the company's financial stability and future growth outlook.

Following the earnings report, investors closely tracked Tata Motors shares as analysts evaluated the sustainability of the company's profit growth. Market experts noted that low debt levels, stronger cash flow generation and improved JLR performance have significantly strengthened Tata Motors' balance sheet over the past year.

The company also highlighted its continued focus on electric mobility, technology upgrades and premiumisation strategies. Tata Motors plans to expand its EV portfolio further while investing in advanced automotive technologies and cleaner mobility

solutions.

Management expressed optimism about long-term growth prospects but cautioned that global economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions and rising input costs could impact the automobile industry in the coming quarters. Demand trends in export markets and fluctuations in commodity prices are expected to remain important factors going forward.

Despite external challenges, Tata Motors' latest quarterly results reinforced investor confidence and highlighted the company's recovery momentum across both domestic and international businesses.

# SwiggyInstamart's 10-Minute Delivery Steals the Show at Wedding Ceremony

A wedding function in India recently grabbed the internet's attention after guests witnessed an unusual sight — a SwiggyInstamart delivery arriving during the ceremony. What made the moment even more entertaining was that the order was reportedly delivered within just 10 minutes, leaving social media users amazed and amused at the growing influence of quick-commerce services in everyday life.

The viral incident came to light after a social media user shared a picture from the event online. The image showed a Swiggy delivery partner arranging multiple food packets at the venue while guests attended the

celebration under a decorated tent. The post quickly spread across social media platforms, with users joking that online delivery apps have now become an essential part of weddings and family functions as well.

According to reports, the couple chose to order food online instead of relying entirely on traditional wedding catering services. The unexpected use of a food delivery platform for such a large social gathering sparked a wave of funny reactions and memes. Many internet users joked that modern weddings are becoming increasingly tech-driven, where everything from groceries to party meals can now be delivered

instantly.

The viral post eventually caught the attention of Swiggy itself. The company responded humorously on social media, saying that no one had used its "Crazy Deals" feature better than the couple. Swiggy further joked that the pair should also consider ordering their wedding feast through the app in the future. The witty response added fuel to the online buzz and helped the post gain even more popularity.

Several users joined the conversation with hilarious comments. One person remarked that the wedding probably also had a digital payment QR code for guests. Another joked that invitees

might soon be asked to "eat before coming" while simply sending cash gifts online. However, some users defended the couple's decision, saying it was their celebration and they were free to organise it in any way they liked.

The incident highlights how quick-commerce platforms such as SwiggyInstamart are becoming deeply integrated into modern lifestyles. From emergency wedding shopping to instant food deliveries at ceremonies, these services are changing how people manage even their most important events. What started as a simple online order has now turned into one of the internet's most talked-about wedding moments.



## Russian Woman Reveals 5 Habits She Learned From Indian Women

A Russian woman living in India has gone viral on social media after sharing five habits she says she learned from Indian women. Her video, which quickly gained attention online, highlighted how living in India influenced her daily life, relationships and way of thinking.



In the clip, the woman explained that she had gradually adopted several practices commonly followed by Indian women after spending time in the country and observing local culture closely. She said the experience changed her perspective on family values, traditions and personal relationships.

One of the biggest changes she mentioned was learning to consult her husband more often before making important decisions. According to her, Indian women place strong importance on partnership and family discussions, something she found meaningful and eventually started practising herself. Her statement sparked major discussion online, with many people debating whether such habits reflect tradition, respect or outdated social expectations.

The woman also shared that she became more family-oriented after moving to India. She explained that Indian culture places great emphasis on maintaining close ties with relatives and participating actively in family gatherings and celebrations. She said this sense of connection and belonging impressed her deeply.

Another habit she adopted was dressing more modestly in certain situations. She noted that Indian women often choose clothing based on cultural values, family settings and comfort, which influenced her own fashion choices over time.

She further mentioned learning the importance of hospitality and caring for guests. According to her, Indi-

an households are known for warmly welcoming visitors and making them feel comfortable, something she admired and tried to include in her own lifestyle.

The woman also said she became more emotionally expressive and patient in relationships after observing Indian family dynamics. She explained that she learned the value of compromise, communication and emotional support within marriages and households.

The video generated mixed reactions online. Many users appreciated her respect for Indian traditions and praised her willingness to embrace another culture. Some viewers said her observations highlighted the strength of Indian family values and relationships.

However, others criticised parts of her comments, particularly the idea of consulting a husband before taking decisions. Critics argued that women should remain fully independent regardless of cultural influences. Some users also pointed out that modern Indian women themselves are moving toward more equal partnerships and personal freedom.

Despite the debate, the video sparked broader conversations about cultural exchange and how people often adopt habits from the societies they live in. The discussion also reflected how social media continues to amplify personal experiences and turn them into global conversations.

## Viral Classroom Video Sparks Outrage Even After 'Skit' Clarification

A shocking classroom video circulating on social media has triggered intense debate online after viewers watched what appeared to be a teacher physically assaulting a student during class. Although the individuals involved later claimed that the scene was only a scripted skit, many internet users remain unconvinced, arguing that the incident looked disturbingly realistic.

The viral clip shows a teacher aggressively confronting a student inside a classroom while several others watch silently. In the video, the teacher appears to slap and scold the student repeatedly, creating an atmosphere that many viewers described as uncomfortable and disturbing. The footage quickly spread across platforms, attracting thousands of reactions and comments within hours.

Soon after the backlash began, the people involved reportedly clarified that the video was staged for entertainment

purposes and was intended as a social media skit rather than a real act of violence. However, the explanation failed to calm many viewers, with several users insisting that such content should not be normalised online, especially in educational settings. Social media users expressed concern over the growing trend of creating controversial videos merely to gain attention and online engagement. Many argued that classroom environments are sensitive spaces and that content involving teachers and students should be handled responsibly. Some viewers pointed out that even if the video was scripted, it could still send the wrong message or trigger uncomfortable memories for students who have experienced harsh treatment in schools. Others criticised the creators for blurring the line between entertainment and harmful behaviour. A number of users commented that realistic portrayals of violence can easily mislead audiences, especially

when context is not provided immediately. Some even called for stricter monitoring of content creators who produce sensational videos for viral reach.

At the same time, a section of internet users defended the creators, saying that skits and dramatic performances are common on social media platforms. They argued that audiences often react too quickly before understanding the full context behind viral clips. According to these users, the outrage reflected how easily people believe short videos without verifying facts.

Despite the clarification, the video continues to divide opinion online. The incident has once again highlighted the power of social media in shaping public reactions and the challenges creators face when producing realistic content. It has also raised broader questions about the responsibilities of influencers and content makers in an era where viral videos can spread rapidly within minutes.



## Employee's Viral Post About Life After MNC Layoff Sparks Debate Online

A social media post by an employee describing the difficult transition from a multinational corporation (MNC) to a traditional Indian company after a layoff has gone viral online. The post, shared on Reddit, resonated with many professionals and sparked discussions about workplace culture, employee expectations and the realities of corporate life in India.

The employee revealed that they were laid off earlier this year through an email and spent nearly three months searching for a new job. The uncertainty became stressful due to financial responsibilities, including car loan payments and the pressures of newly married life. After submitting more than 200 applications and facing several rejections, the individual finally accepted a position at an Indian firm that offered a 25 percent salary hike.

Although the salary increase seemed attractive, the employee admitted that adapting to the new workplace environment has been emotionally challenging. In the viral post, the person described the experience as an "extreme cultural shock" and shared feelings of loneliness at the office.

The employee explained that the earlier MNC job offered several benefits and a vibrant work culture. According to the post, the previous company provided joining kits, health and wellness perks, free meals, regular team activities and flexible work-from-home options. Office visits were rare, but whenever employees met, there were team lunches and social interactions.

In contrast, the new work-

place reportedly felt silent and disconnected. The employee claimed that colleagues rarely interacted with one another and there were no team-building sessions or welcoming activities. The person shared that for nearly 20 days, they had been eating lunch alone and searching for quiet corners in the office to work peacefully.

The post also mentioned dissatisfaction with office infrastructure. On the first day, the employee allegedly received an outdated laptop that appeared poorly maintained. Despite these complaints, the worker acknowledged that the new job provided financial stability and a fixed routine.

The viral post generated mixed reactions online. Some users sympathised with the employee and said moving from a modern corporate setup to a more traditional office environment can feel isolating. Others, however, argued that the employee may have become too accustomed to the comfort and perks of MNC culture.

Several commenters pointed out that a peaceful office without constant meetings or forced celebrations could actually be beneficial. One user even called it a "dream job" for introverts. Responding to the feedback, the employee later admitted feeling "privileged and spoiled" by the previous workplace and said the stress of adjusting to a new environment may have amplified the frustration.

The discussion has since become a reflection of changing workplace expectations and how employees value culture, connection and flexibility alongside salary.

## "Good Luck Finding My Replacement": Mumbai Employee Quits After Public Humiliation

A Mumbai-based employee has gone viral online after resigning from her job following an alleged public humiliation by her manager. The incident has sparked widespread discussions on toxic workplace culture, employee dignity and the growing demand for respectful work environments.

The woman, identified as Dhrupadi, worked as a vocal coach at a music ed-tech company for over two years. According to reports, she had built a strong reputation at the organisation and was actively involved in teaching and mentoring students. Trouble reportedly began when she asked the company to compensate her for overtime work beyond her regular schedule.

Instead of addressing the matter privately, the manager allegedly shouted at her in front of colleagues

and other staff members. A viral Instagram video linked to the incident captured a heated exchange in which a man believed to be her boss was heard saying that employees unhappy with company rules were free to leave the next day.

The confrontation quickly gained traction on social media, with many viewers criticising the manager's behaviour and supporting the employee's decision to resign. In her statements online, Dhrupadi explained that quitting was not an impulsive move. She claimed she had initially tried to resolve the issue internally and sought accountability as well as an apology from the management before deciding to leave.

The phrase "Good luck finding my replacement" soon became a talking point online, symbolising frustra-

tion among workers who feel undervalued or mistreated in demanding workplaces. Many social media users praised the woman for standing up for herself and refusing to tolerate disrespect, even at the cost of leaving her job.

Several users shared similar experiences of workplace humiliation, unpaid overtime and harsh management practices. Many argued that toxic office behaviour often pushes talented employees to resign, leading companies to lose skilled workers unnecessarily. Some users also highlighted the importance of maintaining professional communication, especially in leadership positions.

However, a few people online believed that workplace disagreements should ideally be handled privately rather than through viral

social media posts. Others argued that both employers and employees should focus on better communication to avoid such situations escalating publicly.

The incident has once again brought attention to employee well-being and workplace ethics in India's corporate culture. Discussions around mental health, fair treatment and respectful leadership have become increasingly common as younger professionals place greater importance on healthy work environments alongside salary and career growth.

As the video continues to circulate online, it has become more than just a resignation story. For many internet users, it reflects a larger conversation about dignity at work and the importance of treating employees with respect.



# BCCI's IPL Final Shift to Ahmedabad Sparks Commercial Debate

The Board of Control for Cricket in India's (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 arrangements in Bengaluru. He also noted that concerns over ticket distribution to legislators, which had been discussed in media reports, were not official-

ly 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. Bengaluru 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.



## Pat Cummins Reprimanded By BCCI Despite GT vs SRH Match Ending in Just 34.5 Overs

Sunrisers Hyderabad captain Pat Cummins has been reprimanded by the BCCI for maintaining a slow over-rate during SRH's IPL 2026 clash against Gujarat Titans, despite the match finishing unusually quickly in just 34.5 overs. The decision surprised many cricket fans and sparked debate online after SRH suffered a crushing 82-run defeat in Ahmedabad.

The IPL governing body fined Cummins Rs 12 lakh for his team's first minimum over-rate offence of the season under the IPL Code of Conduct. What made the punishment particularly notable was the fact that the game itself ended far earlier than a typical T20 match due to SRH's dramatic batting collapse.

In the match played at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Gujarat Titans posted 168 runs before producing a sensational bowling display to dismiss Sunrisers Hyderabad for just 86 in 14.5 overs. The combined innings lasted only 34.5 overs, significantly shorter than the full 40 overs expected in a standard T20 game.

Gujarat's pace attack completely dominated the chase. Mohammed Siraj struck early by dismissing Travis Head, while Kagiso Rabada ripped through SRH's batting lineup with disciplined seam bowling and hard lengths. SRH crumbled under pressure and never recovered from the early setbacks.

After the match, Cummins admitted that Gujarat Titans



had executed their bowling plans far better on a difficult batting surface. He suggested that SRH bowlers perhaps failed to persist with the right lengths during GT's innings. However, the Australian skipper refused to overreact to his side's collapse and defended his batting unit, pointing out that SRH's top order has been among the best-performing groups in IPL 2026.

Cummins also praised Gujarat's bowling effort, calling it one of the finest T20 bowling performances he had witnessed. He acknowledged that the pitch became extremely challenging once bowlers consistently attacked hard lengths and extracted extra bounce

from the surface.

The BCCI's decision quickly became a talking point among fans because penalties for slow over-rates are usually associated with long matches or frequent delays. Many social media users questioned how an innings shortened by a batting collapse could still result in an over-rate violation. Others pointed out that the IPL's timing regulations are strict and based on scheduled over completion rather than total match duration. Despite the heavy defeat, SRH remain in contention for the IPL 2026 playoffs, while Gujarat Titans strengthened their position near the top of the points table with the emphatic win.

## BCCI To Hold Crucial Selection Meeting, Big Decisions On Bumrah And Shami Expected

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is reportedly preparing for a major selection meeting ahead of India's upcoming international assignments, with key decisions expected regarding star pacers Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami. The discussions are likely to focus on workload management, squad planning and the future structure of India's fast-bowling attack.

According to reports, the Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee is expected to meet BCCI officials within the next few days to finalise plans for the Indian team following the conclusion of IPL 2026. India are scheduled to play a one-off Test against Afghanistan beginning in June before entering a busy international calendar that includes multiple Test matches over the next nine months.

One of the biggest topics during the meeting is expected to be Jasprit Bumrah's participation in the Afghanistan Test. The Indian management reportedly wants to field its strongest possible team, even though the match is not part of the World Test Championship cycle. However, Bumrah's workload remains a major concern because he is considered India's most important fast bowler across formats.

The selectors are believed to be carefully monitoring Bumrah's physical condition and IPL workload before making a final call. Reports suggest that the decision will only be taken after detailed discussions in-



volving the medical staff and team management.

Meanwhile, Mohammed Shami's future in the Test setup has also become a major talking point. Shami has not played international cricket for some time due to fitness concerns, and reports claim that the selectors may now be looking beyond the veteran pacer as they plan for the future.

Several young fast bowlers are reportedly being considered as part of India's evolving pace attack. Players such as Anshul Kamboj, Gurnoor Brar

and Aaqib Nabi are said to be on the selectors' radar. The BCCI has allegedly asked some of these bowlers to increase their workloads during the remaining IPL matches as part of their preparation for possible national duties.

The reports also indicate that the board is focused on creating a long-term fast-bowling pool capable of handling India's packed schedule. Managing injuries and maintaining fitness among key bowlers has become a major priority after repeated concerns over player workloads in recent

years.

Despite uncertainty around Bumrah and Shami, the selectors reportedly remain committed to maintaining high standards in Test cricket and are unwilling to treat the Afghanistan match lightly. India are expected to announce the squad soon after the IPL playoffs begin.

The meeting is likely to shape India's pace-bowling strategy for the coming months and could mark the beginning of a transition phase in the national team's bowling department.

## Hardik Pandya Trains Alone Ahead Of PBKS Clash, Sparks Selection Speculation

Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya has once again become the centre of attention ahead of MI's IPL 2026 clash against Punjab Kings after videos of him training alone in the nets surfaced online. The solo practice session has sparked fresh speculation about his fitness, availability and role within the team for the remainder of the tournament.

Hardik has missed Mumbai Indians' last two matches due to back spasms, raising concerns over his physical condition during a disappointing season for the five-time IPL champions. Although he had travelled with the squad earlier, the all-rounder was reportedly not cleared by the franchise's medical team to participate in the match against Royal Challengers Bengaluru. Ahead of Thursday's match against Punjab Kings in Dharamsala, Hardik was seen practising separately in Mumbai rather than travelling with the main MI squad. Videos posted on social media showed him batting intensively against net bowlers and throwdown specialists at a training facility in Navi Mumbai. Reports suggested that the 32-year-old trained for over three hours and appeared comfortable while playing aggressive shots without visible discomfort.

The images and videos quickly went viral online, with fans interpreting the solo



training session as a "selection message" from the MI skipper. Many believed Hardik was signalling that he is ready to return despite fitness concerns. Others, however, questioned why he was practising alone while the rest of the squad had already travelled to Dharamsala. The situation has also fuelled rumours about possible tensions within the Mumbai Indians camp, although there has been no official confirmation of any internal issues. Social media discussions intensified after MI's poor performances this season and their early elimination from the playoff race. Hardik's leadership and personal form have both faced scrutiny throughout the campaign.

In Hardik's absence, Suryakumar Yadav stepped in as captain during MI's recent matches. However, Mumbai Indians continued to struggle and were officially knocked out of playoff contention after a narrow defeat against Royal Challengers Bengaluru. Coach Mahela Jayawardene later admitted that the team simply had not performed well enough this season. Despite the uncertainty, Hardik's intense training session has given MI fans hope that the star all-rounder could still return before the season ends. Whether he features against Punjab Kings or not, his solo practice has already become one of the most talked-about IPL moments of the week.

## Indian Women's Hockey Team To Tour Australia Ahead Of Nations Cup

The Indian women's hockey team is set to tour Australia later this month as part of its preparations for the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup in New Zealand. Hockey India announced that the team will travel to Australia from May 21 to June 3 before heading to Auckland for the prestigious tournament scheduled from June 15 to June 21.

As part of the tour, the Indian team will play four matches against Australia at the Perth Hockey Stadium between May 26 and May 30. The first two matches are scheduled for May 26 and 27, while the remaining fixtures will be played on May 29 and 30. The series is expected to provide the team with high-quality international exposure ahead of the Nations Cup.

The tour comes at an important stage for the Indian side, which is looking to build momentum after a promising performance during its recent tour of Argentina. Earlier this year, the team managed to secure two victories in a four-match series and showed encouraging signs under pressure against strong opposition.

Since returning from Argen-



tina, the squad has been training intensively at the national coaching camp in Bengaluru. The coaching staff has reportedly focused on improving defensive structure, penalty corner conversion and overall consistency as India prepares for a packed international calendar.

Head coach Sjoerd Marijne welcomed the Australia tour and described it as a crucial opportunity for the team to assess its progress. According to him, facing a strong side like Australia will help the players identify areas that still need improvement while also test-

ing how much the team has developed in recent months.

Following the Australia leg, the Indian team will travel directly to New Zealand, where they are expected to continue preparations with additional practice matches before the Nations Cup begins. The tournament holds major importance because the winning team earns promotion opportunities and valuable international ranking points.

Another key development during the tour will be a specialised drag-flick training programme for India's penalty corner specialists. Supported

by Anandana, the Coca-Cola India Foundation, the training clinic will be conducted by legendary Dutch drag-flick expert Taeke Taekema in both Perth and Auckland from May 26 to June 21. The Indian women's team is aiming to continue its rise on the international stage after several encouraging performances in recent years. With a combination of experienced players and young talent, the upcoming Australia tour is expected to play a vital role in shaping the team's preparations and confidence ahead of the Nations Cup challenge in New Zealand.

# “Sound Of Peddi” Musical Event Confirmed In Bhopal, AR Rahman To Perform Live

The makers of Ram Charan's much-awaited film Peddi have officially confirmed a grand musical event titled “Sound Of Peddi” in Bhopal on May 23. The announcement has created massive excitement among fans, especially after reports revealed that legendary music composer A.R. Rahman will perform live at the event.

The event is expected to become one of the biggest promotional celebrations for an Indian film this year. Fans are eagerly waiting to witness Ram Charan, director Buchi Babu Sana and the rest of the Peddi team together on stage ahead of the

film's theatrical release. Social media has already been flooded with posters, fan edits and countdown posts after the official confirmation surfaced online.

A.R. Rahman's live performance has become the biggest highlight of the event. The Oscar-winning composer, who has scored the music for Peddi, is expected to perform songs from the film along with some of his iconic hits. Fans believe Rahman's presence will elevate the event into a massive musical spectacle.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, Peddi is one of the most anticipated Telugu films of 2026. The sports ac-

tion drama stars Ram Charan in the lead role alongside Janhvi Kapoor, Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu and Divyendhu. The film has already generated huge buzz due to its scale, rustic setting and Ram Charan's intense transformation for the role.

Initially, there were reports that the film's trailer launch would also take place in Bhopal. However, recent updates suggest the makers may have shifted the trailer launch plans to Mumbai while retaining the grand musical celebration in Madhya Pradesh. Despite the change, excitement around the Bhopal event re-

mains extremely high.

Industry insiders believe the “Sound Of Peddi” event is part of a large-scale promotional strategy aimed at positioning the movie as a true pan-India entertainer. With Ram Charan's nationwide popularity after RRR and Rahman's musical appeal, the event is expected to attract huge media attention and fan turnout.

Peddi is scheduled for a worldwide theatrical release on June 4, 2026. The film's music, action sequences and emotional sports drama backdrop have already raised expectations among audiences across India.



## Vijay Jumps From 21st To 2nd Spot In IMDb's Most Popular Indian Celebrities List

Tamil superstar Vijay has made a massive leap in IMDb's latest list of Most Popular Indian Celebrities, jumping from the 21st position to the second spot. The sudden rise has created huge excitement among fans and once again highlighted the actor's enormous popularity across India.

The rankings are based on page views and user engagement on IMDb, one of the world's most widely used entertainment databases. Vijay's dramatic climb in the list is being linked to the strong buzz surrounding his upcoming projects and his continued dominance in South Indian cinema.

Fans have been actively discussing the achievement on social media, with many celebrating the actor's growing pan-India appeal. Vijay's popularity has significantly expanded in recent years, especially after the success of films that reached audiences beyond Tamil cinema.

The actor has been consistently making headlines due to speculation surrounding his political future and his upcoming film projects. His recent public appearances and announcements have also generated strong online engagement, contributing to the spike in IMDb rankings.

The latest list reportedly features several major Indian film stars from different industries,



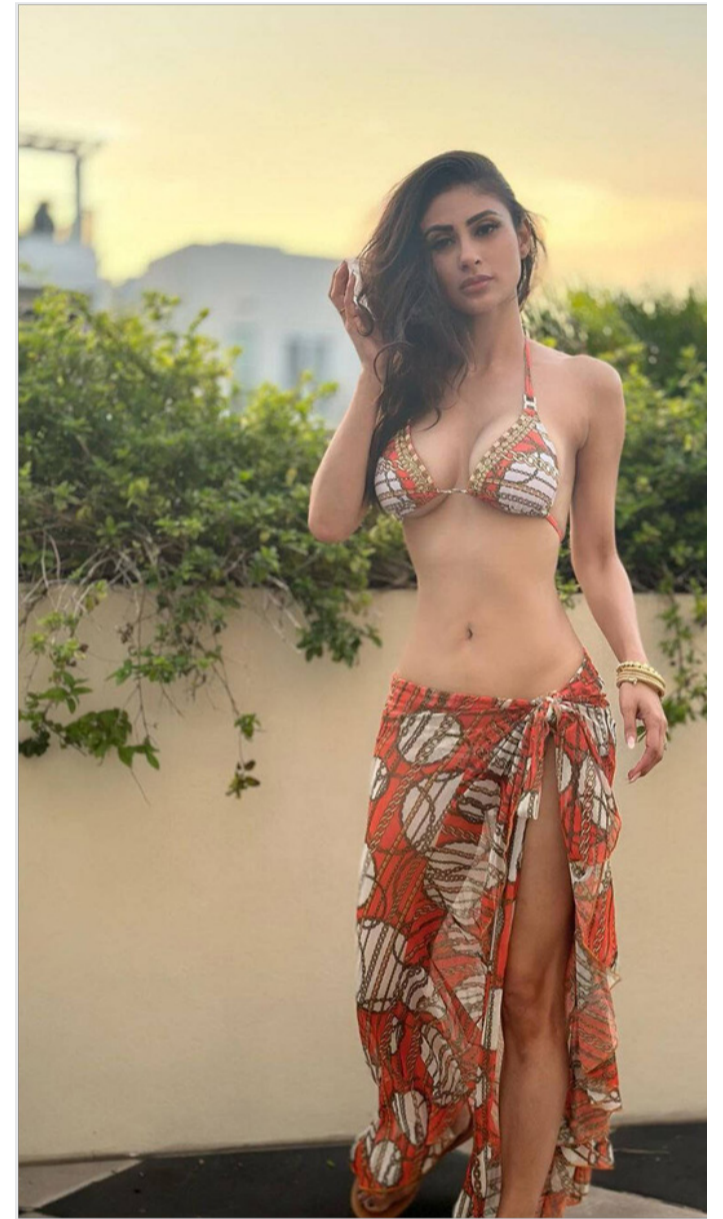
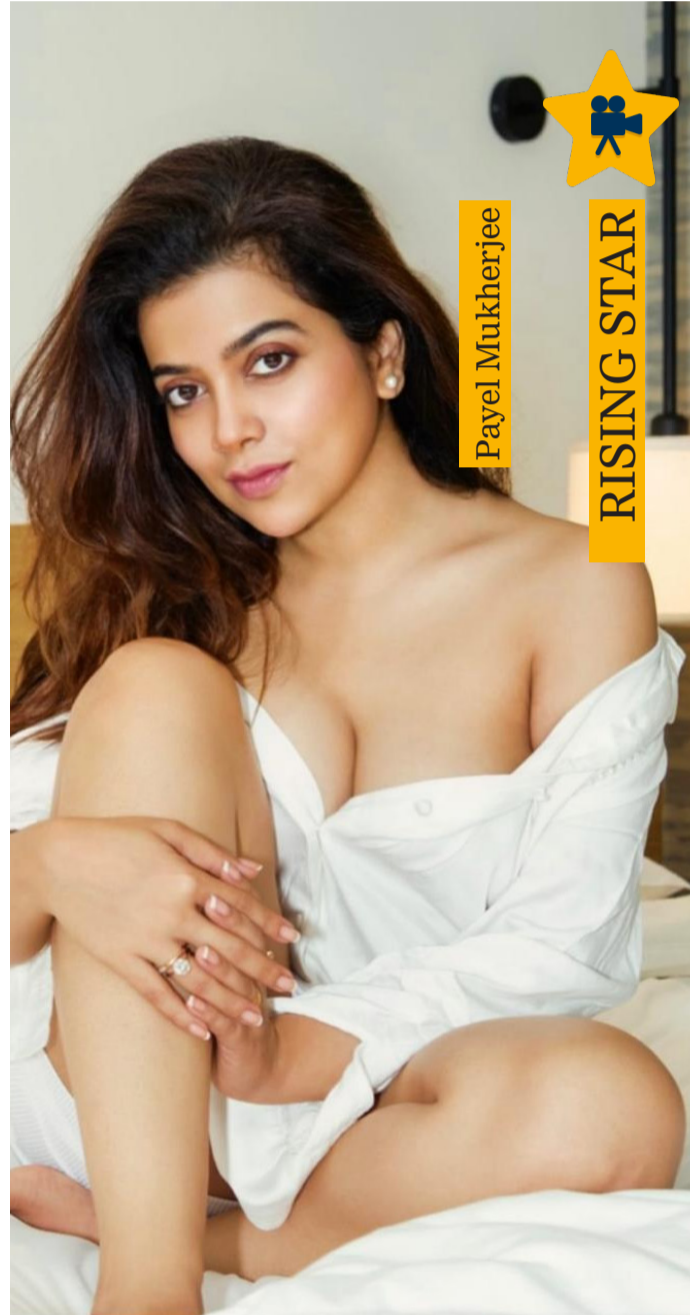
reflecting the growing influence of pan-Indian cinema. However, Vijay's sharp jump from 21st to 2nd position became one of the biggest talking points among movie fans online. Social media platforms were flooded with celebratory posts from Vijay's supporters soon after the rankings were released. Many fans described the achievement as proof of his unmatched fan following and star power. Several fan clubs also began trending hashtags praising the actor's popularity.

Industry observers believe Vijay's strong digital presence and loyal fan base play a major role in maintaining his popularity rankings. His films regularly generate massive online discussions, teaser records and

advance booking trends, especially in Tamil Nadu and overseas markets. The actor is currently working on highly anticipated projects that are expected to release over the next year. Expectations remain extremely high as audiences eagerly wait for official updates regarding his future films and political plans.

IMDb's celebrity rankings often change based on current trends, film announcements, media coverage and audience interest. Vijay's rise to the second spot reflects the intense attention he continues to receive from fans across the country.

The achievement has once again reinforced Vijay's status as one of India's biggest film stars and a dominant force in contemporary Indian cinema.



## Mouni Roy Reacts To Divorce Rumours, Requests Privacy From Media And Fans

Actress Mouni Roy has finally addressed the ongoing rumours surrounding her marriage and strongly appealed for privacy amid growing speculation online. The actress reacted after several social media posts and gossip reports claimed that she and her husband Suraj Nambiar were facing problems in their relationship.

Speaking briefly about the rumours, Mouni dismissed the speculation and urged people not to interfere in her personal life. She reportedly said that everyone deserves “space and privacy,” making it clear that she does not wish to entertain baseless gossip regarding her marriage.

The rumours had been circulating online for several days after some users noticed that the couple had not been posting pictures together recently. Social media discussions intensified further when a few entertainment pages began speculating about a possible separation. However, neither Mouni nor Suraj had responded publicly until now.

Mouni's statement appears to be an attempt to put an end to the growing online chatter. Fans of the actress were quick to support her after her reaction surfaced online, with many criticising the culture of spreading unverified celebrity rumours on social media.

Several users commented that celebrities often face unnecessary scrutiny regarding their personal relationships and family life. Others praised

Mouni for handling the situation calmly instead of reacting aggressively to the speculation.

Mouni Roy married businessman Suraj Nambiar in January 2022 in a lavish ceremony attended by close friends and family members. The wedding received huge attention online, and the couple has often shared glimpses of their travels and celebrations on social media since then.

Over the years, Mouni has remained one of the most popular television and film actresses in the industry. She gained nationwide fame through television shows before successfully transitioning into Bollywood. Her performances in films and reality shows have helped her maintain a strong fan following.

Despite the rumours, neither Mouni nor Suraj has given any indication of serious issues in their marriage. Many fans believe the speculation was simply fuelled by online assumptions and the absence of frequent social media updates.

The incident once again highlights how celebrity relationships often become subjects of intense public discussion, especially in the age of social media where even small observations can quickly turn into viral rumours. For now, Mouni seems focused on maintaining her personal boundaries while continuing with her professional commitments.

## Pooja Hegde Likely To Romance Allu Arjun Again In Lokesh Kanagaraj's Next Film

Actress Pooja Hegde is reportedly in talks to reunite with Allu Arjun for his upcoming film with director Lokesh Kanagaraj. The project, tentatively titled AA23, has already generated massive buzz among fans, and the latest casting speculation has further increased excitement around the film.



If confirmed, this would mark the third on-screen collaboration between Allu Arjun and Pooja Hegde after the successful films Duvvada Jagannadham and Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo. The pair has enjoyed strong popularity among audiences, and many fans believe their chemistry could once again become a major highlight of the movie.

The film itself is one of the most anticipated pan-India projects currently in development. Directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, known for blockbuster action entertainers such as Leo, Vikram and Kaithi, the movie officially went on floors earlier this year after being announced by Mythri Movie Makers.

Reports suggest that discussions regarding the female lead have been ongoing for some time, with several actresses being considered for the role. However, Pooja Hegde's name has now emerged as the front-runner, leading to huge excitement on social media. While there has been no official confirmation from the makers yet,

the possibility of another Allu Arjun-Pooja pairing has already become a trending topic online.

Fans have been especially enthusiastic because both of their previous collaborations turned into major commercial successes. Songs, dance performances and romantic scenes featuring the duo continue to remain popular among Telugu cinema audiences. Many social media users are already calling the potential reunion a “hat-trick combo.”

The film is expected to be mounted on a massive scale and will reportedly feature Lokesh Kanagaraj's trademark action-packed storytelling style. Music for the project will be composed by Anirudh Ravichander, adding further anticipation among movie lovers.

Meanwhile, Pooja Hegde is currently busy with multiple projects across Telugu, Tamil and Hindi cinema, while Allu Arjun continues to focus on large-scale pan-India films following the enormous success of the Pushpa franchise.

## Honey Rose Signs Another Telugu Film After ‘Veera Simha Reddy’ Success

Actress Honey Rose is set to make another return to Telugu cinema after gaining major recognition with Balakrishna's blockbuster film Veera Simha Reddy. The actress recently confirmed that she has signed a new Telugu project, creating excitement among her fans and Telugu movie audiences.

Honey Rose became widely popular in Tollywood after her role in Veera Simha Reddy, where she shared screen space with Nandamuri Balakrishna. Although she had appeared in a few Telugu films earlier, it was the 2023 action entertainer that brought her significant attention and helped expand her fan base in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

During a recent interaction with paparazzi, Honey Rose revealed that she has officially signed another Telugu movie. However, the actress chose not to reveal further details regarding the project. She did not disclose the name of the hero, director or production banner associated with the film, which has led to growing curiosity among fans online.

The announcement quickly became a talking point on social media, with many fans expressing excitement about seeing Honey Rose once again in Telugu cinema. Following the success of Veera Simha Reddy, the actress gained strong visibility not only for her screen



presence but also for her public appearances and growing popularity across South India.

Interestingly, Honey Rose has been selective about her film choices in recent years. Reports suggest that over the last three years, she has acted in only a handful of movies, choosing quality projects instead of signing films in large numbers. This careful approach has made each of her announcements more noticeable among fans and industry followers.

Apart from Telugu cinema, Honey Rose has also been focusing on Malayalam projects. Her upcoming Malayalam film Rachel has been in the news for a long time and is being described as an important comeback project for the actress. However, the movie has reportedly faced multiple postponements, delaying its release.

Industry observers believe Honey Rose still enjoys strong popularity despite appearing in relatively few films recently. Her glamorous image, active social media presence and fan following continue to keep her in the spotlight. Many fans are now eager to know which Telugu star she will collaborate with in the newly signed project.

With Tollywood increasingly welcoming actresses from multiple South Indian industries, Honey Rose's latest signing could mark another important step in strengthening her presence in Telugu cinema.