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Temple Lands worth Crores Remain Under Encroachment for Decades in Krishna District

Kumar Chand P Vijayawada: Large stretches of land worth crores of worth with a history spanning several decades have allegedly remained under encroachment for nearly 55 years in Krishna district...

The disputed lands originally belonged to the wealthy Challapalli Raja family, which once ruled parts of Krishna district. The lands were reportedly donated for the development of a temple...

According to available information, around 37 acres of land located in Merakanapalli and Tekupalli villages of Mopidevimala were donated by the then Challapalli Raja to the Goddess Sri NagarapuriDurgaBhavani Maharani MahishasuraMardiniAmmavari Temple in Bandar...



Sources say that several farmers initially took the lands on lease for cultivation, but over time continued to cultivate and commercially benefit from the lands as if they were their own. Legal disputes regarding the ownership and status of these lands reportedly continued in the Eluru Settlement Court until around 1986.

At present, officials themselves appear unclear about

the exact classification of the lands. Questions remain whether the properties fall under government ceiling surplus lands, village wastelands, or temple-owned properties. There is also uncertainty over who has been paying land taxes or lease amounts for these lands over the decades and into whose pockets these payments have gone.

the Challapalli Raja estate, the cultivating farmers, or the government.

The issue has now sparked debate over the status of these highly valuable lands, where private market rates are estimated at around Rs.24-25 lakh per acre despite varying government valuations. While questions continue over these 37 acres, sources indicate that nearly 100 more acres of similar disputed lands exist across Krishna district.

Advanced Medium Combat Aircraftset to Boost AP

Puttaparthi, May 14 | TPN Bureau

In a major push to India's indigenous defence and aerospace capabilities, Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu will jointly lay the foundation stone for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) programme facility at Puttaparthi on May 15.

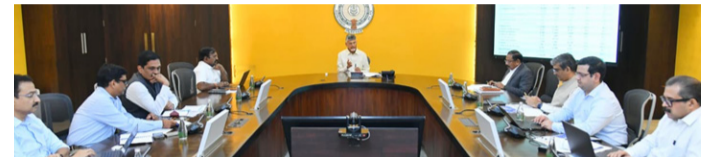


The facility, to be established by the Aeronautical Development Agency under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), will house a core integration, development and flight testing complex for India's flagship fifth-generation fighter aircraft programme.

ing stealth systems, next-generation avionics and integrated combat capabilities.

Spread over nearly 650 acres with an estimated investment of 15,803 crore, the project will function as a national hub for aircraft integration, validation, flight testing and certification. It is expected to significantly strengthen India's strategic aerospace infrastructure while reducing reliance on foreign testing

AP Targets 1.27 Lakh Cr Revenue



Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to enhance the State's revenue generation while intensifying efforts to secure pending funds from the Centre. Reviewing revenue-generating departments at the Secretariat on Thursday, he set a target of 1.27,506 crore for the 2026-27 financial year.

Officials informed that the State's own revenue stood at 1,04,345 crore in 2024-25 and rose to 1,10,643 crore in 2025-26, registering a 6% growth. In 2025-26, GST contributed 33,679 crore, mines 10,300 crore, and stamps and registrations 11,047 crore. The Chief Minister emphasised that all departments must work efficiently to meet targets and ensure that no revenue leakage occurs.

Highlighting the need for innovation, Chandrababu Naidu called for the use of Artificial Intelligence tools to curb tax evasion. He instructed departments such as commercial taxes, excise, transport and mines to adopt AI-driven scrutiny systems, especially in GST returns, to detect irregularities and prevent violations.

The Chief Minister noted that the State has recorded a 38% revenue growth in the first 42 days of the current financial year, calling it a positive sign. He urged departments to analyse revenue models of neighbouring States and adopt best practices to boost collections.

Focusing on long-term growth, he said districts

Chandrababu Calls for Austerity Measures; Statewide Campaign Announced

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has called for the adoption of austerity measures across the state, urging public representatives, officials, and citizens to contribute towards safeguarding the nation's economic stability. Following a special Cabinet meeting on Thursday, Minister for Information and Public Relations KolusuParthasarathy briefed the media on the decisions, stating that the government would launch a statewide campaign under the theme "My Nation - My Responsibility."

Addressing the Cabinet, the Chief Minister emphasized that reducing convoy sizes alone is insufficient and called for broader cost-cutting measures. He suggested limiting expenses on district tours, reducing foreign travel, and prioritizing virtual meetings wherever possible. He also directed all government departments to implement austerity steps, including maintaining air conditioning temperatures between 24-26 degrees Celsius and exploring "Work from Home" policies.

Minister Parthasarathy stated that public representatives and officials would lead by example by voluntarily cutting



down fuel usage, reducing convoy vehicles, and observing "No Vehicle Friday" every week. He added that virtual meetings would be encouraged, and awareness campaigns would be conducted to promote fuel conservation and eco-friendly practices among the public.

Highlighting the broader context, the Minister said that the prevailing war-like global situation necessitates such measures to safeguard resources. He noted that reducing fuel consumption, promoting domestic tourism, and curbing imports of commodities such as oil, gas, and gold would help strengthen the country's economy. He also urged citizens to prefer indigenous products over foreign goods and explore domestic tourist destinations instead of traveling abroad.

As part of the initiative, the government plans to expand electric vehicle infrastructure by offering incentives for EV charging stations and mandating

the purchase of EVs for official use. The Minister suggested that public representatives and officials should adopt practices like walking or cycling for short distances, stating that such visible efforts would inspire citizens. He also proposed "No Vehicle Days" in educational institutions and emphasized reducing idle time of vehicles in traffic through better regulation.

Further, Parthasarathy announced that the government would review austerity practices in APSRTC and expedite the deployment of electric buses allocated by the Centre. Educational institutions and universities may also adopt online classes where feasible, while certain departments could implement Work from Home policies for two days a week.

In addition to austerity measures, the Cabinet also addressed the long-pending Agri-Gold issue. The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure jus-

tice to victims within six months by constituting a three-member committee. Noting that over 11.5 lakh victims are in Andhra Pradesh and around 20 lakh more across other states, he expressed concern over alleged irregularities in previous investigations.

The government also plans to accelerate solar energy adoption under the Suryaghar scheme, encouraging households to install rooftop panels. Farmers were advised to reduce chemical fertilizer usage and adopt nano and organic alternatives.

Reiterating the importance of collective responsibility, the Minister urged all sections of society to cooperate, stating that disciplined implementation of these measures would help the state and nation navigate challenging times effectively.

Lokesh Visits Rural Development Trust Hospital

Battalapalli, May 14 | TPN Bureau

HRD and IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Thursday visited the Rural Development Trust (RDT) Hospital at Battalapalli in Sri Sathya Sai district, reaffirming his commitment to support the organisation's services. RDT, which has been providing healthcare and social services from its Anantapur



base, had faced a major setback in 2021 after the Centre with-

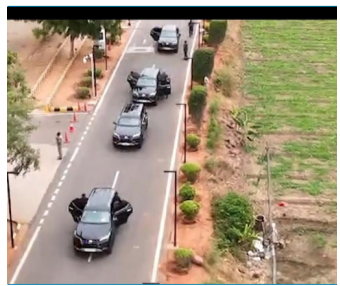
held renewal of its FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) licence, halting foreign funding and affecting its activities. During his Yuvagalampadayatra, Lokesh had assured that he would ensure continuity of RDT services. Fulfilling that promise, he played a key role in securing fresh FCRA approval for the organisation through continuous coordination with the Centre.

Chandrababu Reduces Official Convoy

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

In a move aimed at promoting efficiency and conserving fuel, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has significantly reduced the size of his official convoy, setting an example for others to follow.

Acting on the call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister has cut down his convoy from 12 vehicles to just four. The decision has been implemented with immediate effect from



Thursday.

Demonstrating his commitment to the initiative, Chandrababu Naidu travelled from his camp office at Undavalli to the State Secretariat for a Cabi-

net meeting using the reduced convoy. Officials confirmed that the Chief Minister will continue to follow this practice in all future movements.

The move is seen as part of a broader effort to promote austerity, reduce fuel consumption, and ensure smoother traffic movement. Large political convoys often lead to traffic disruptions and increased fuel usage, drawing criticism from the public.

In line with his decision, the Chief Minister has also advised ministers and public rep-

resentatives to scale down their convoys. Responding positively, several ministers have already begun reducing the number of vehicles accompanying them during official travel.

Sources indicated that the government is keen

Happy Birthday to our MLA Sri. Arani Srinivasulu Garu. Suman Babu General Secretary Janasena Party, Tirupati. Sri Arani Srinivasulu Garu MLA, Tirupati. Includes portraits of various party members.



# AP EAGLE Team Wins Medals at National Police TT Meet

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau
The AP EAGLE Police team secured two bronze medals in table tennis at the 2nd All India Police Badminton Cluster 2025-26 tournament held in Lucknow from May 9 to 13 under the aegis of the Uttar Pradesh Police.

an impressive performance. Continuing their success, the team secured another bronze in the Women's Doubles category. AP Police Academy SP T. ShobhaManjari paired with Swaroopa Rani to win the medal, highlighting the team's consistency and competitive spirit.



# Minister Orders Probe into Food Poisoning Incident

Bhimavaram, May 14 | TPN Bureau
Water Resources Minister NimmalaRamanaidu on Thursday ordered a detailed inquiry into a suspected food poisoning incident reported from S. Kondepadu village in Ganapavarammandal of West Godavari district.

NayeemAsmi, directing them to carry out a thorough investigation into the cause of the illness. He instructed officials to coordinate with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to collect and examine food samples to detect any contamination or violation of safety norms.

# Investments Flowing into AP Driven by CBN Brand Image: Minister Bharat

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau
Industries and Commerce Minister T. G. Bharat on Thursday said the state is witnessing a strong inflow of investments, attributing it to the brand image and leadership of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

couaging industrialists, but added that the current administration has reversed the trend and created a positive investment climate. Highlighting recent developments, the minister said efforts were made to bring major companies, including Reliance, to invest in the state.

# AP Launches Massive Faculty Hiring to Boost Higher Education

Applications for 1,523 Faculty Posts Open on New Common Recruitment Portal from May 18, 2026
In a major push to strengthen higher education, the state government has initiated the direct recruitment of 1,523 teaching faculty positions across State Public Universities under its Job Calendar initiative.



Officials stated that this initiative reflects the government's commitment to strengthening the higher education ecosystem in the state. At present, against a sanctioned strength of 4,343 teaching positions, only 972 posts are filled in State Public Universities, highlighting a significant gap in faculty availability.

qualified permanent faculty is crucial for ensuring quality teaching, effective research supervision, and improved institutional rankings under accreditation systems such as NAAC and NIRF. The move is expected to directly benefit lakhs of students pursuing higher education in the state.

### RECRUITMENT AT A GLANCE

The cadre-wise position of the 1,523 posts is as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Cadre, Regular, Backlog, Total. Rows include Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Assistant Librarian, Lecturer (RGUKT only), and TOTAL.

# Change in Bengal: A Jolt to China, the US, and Pakistan

Ravi Podili
Amaravati: The West Bengal Assembly election results signify more than a routine political shift, carrying broader regional implications. A BJP victory in this strategically located state, bordering Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan, with over 2,200 km of international frontier, has drawn attention from global observers.



Over the years, Bengal's political landscape has attracted international interest. Reports, including those revealed through WikiLeaks, pointed to foreign observations of leadership trends in the state. However, experts caution against equating this with direct geopolitical intervention, emphasizing that Bengal's political evolution has largely been driven by domestic socio-economic dynamics.

eastern India also comes into focus. Analysts suggest that closer alignment between the Centre and the state could support infrastructure growth and strengthen India's Act East Policy. However, claims that previous governments hindered such progress remain politically contested.

perienced slower growth compared to the national average, along with unemployment and industrial decline. The new government will need to prioritize infrastructure development, investment attraction, and administrative reforms.

# Lokesh Visits Rural Development Trust Hospital

continued
On his first visit to RDT after assuming ministerial office, Lokesh received a warm welcome from RDT Programme Director Moncho Ferrer, Hospital Head Dr P. Lalitha Devi, staff and local residents.

Ferrer's family members, including Anne Ferrer, Yamuna and Sanjeev, and was briefed about the hospital's services by Moncho Ferrer.

strong. He also spoke to their parents and enquired about the treatment being provided. Lokesh reviewed the medical facilities and appreciated the services rendered by the RDT hospital.

# Advanced Medium Combat Aircraftset to Boost AP

continued
systems. The state government has extended full support through land allocation, infrastructure development and fast-tracked approvals. The project is likely to generate around 7,500 high-skilled jobs and trigger the growth of a broader aerospace and defence manufacturing ecosystem in the Rayalaseema region.

ation for aerospace investments due to its proximity to Bengaluru's aerospace ecosystem and established defence infrastructure. Andhra Pradesh has already attracted major players such as Bharat Electronics Limited, Bharat Dynamics Limited and Kalyani Strategic Systems.

# AP Targets 1.27 Lakh Cr Revenue

continued
should function as growth centres, contributing to higher Gross Value Added (GVA) and overall economic activity. With large-scale investments flowing into the State, tax revenues must correspondingly increase.

cesses within 24 hours, and resolving land disputes to boost stamp duty collections. Additionally, Chandrababu Naidu called for leveraging GIS mapping, drone surveys and satellite imagery to monitor illegal constructions and streamline municipal tax assessments.

# Chandrababu Reduces Official Convoy

continued
on sending a strong message about responsible governance and the need to adopt cost-effective practices in public administration. The initiative is also expected to reduce the burden on security and logistical arrangements.

bu Naidu has once again highlighted the importance of leading from the front, encouraging others in public office to adopt similar measures for the larger public good.



# Navy Chief Reviews Eastern Naval Command Operations

Visakhapatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau
Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi on Thursday reviewed the operational preparedness and ongoing activities of the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) during his visit to Visakhapatnam, amid evolving maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

tions across the Bay of Bengal and parts of the Indian Ocean. Officials highlighted efforts to enhance surveillance capabilities, improve rapid response mechanisms, and strengthen coordination with other security agencies.



# Ravindranath Reddy Denies Land Grabbing Allegations

Kadapa, May 14 | TPN Bureau

YSRCP Kadapa District President and former MLA P. Ravindranath Reddy strongly denied allegations of land grabbing, stating that his life is an open book. He challenged his critics, saying he would permanently retire from politics if even a single cent of government land encroachment is proven against him. Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, he questioned whether newspapers like Eenadu and Andhrajyothy would shut down if they fail to substantiate their claims. Clarifying the issue, Reddy said he and his son, as partners in Sri Lakshmi Padmavathi firm, legally purchased 25 acres of patta land belonging to Tayyab Muslim Polytechnic College in Pabbapuram, Chinthakom-

madinnemandal, in 2003. He noted their family's share was only 36 percent and added that no construction took place due to internal disputes in the Tayyab Society. He further stated that before the 2024 elections, the land was legally sold to PeddaDastagiri and four others, with all transactions properly documented, including registrations and tax records. Asserting innocence, he said he has never committed any illegal act and is accountable to God. Reddy accused certain media outlets of spreading false narratives and targeting former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Referring to Dastagiri's murder, he called him a close associate and alleged a political conspiracy to implicate him. He rejected claims of benami dealings and warned of legal action against defamatory reporting.



## Heatwave Alert Issued in State, Public Advised Caution

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA) has cautioned people over rising temperatures and heatwave conditions across the state. APSDMA Managing Director Prakhar Jain said several districts are witnessing intense heat, with temperatures crossing 40°C in many regions. On Thursday, the highest temperature of 43.3°C was recorded in Sanjamala of Nandyal district. Overall, 126 mandals in 17 districts reported temperatures above 40°C. The situation is expected to intensify further, with maximum temperatures likely to reach 43-44°C on Friday.

Heatwave conditions are forecast in parts of Alluri, Polavaram, Konaseema, East Godavari, NTR, and Anantapur districts. At the same time, a trough system extending from the Bay of Bengal may bring light rains accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning in districts such as Kurnool, Nandyal, Anantapur, Sri Sathya Sai, and Kadapa. Officials warned farmers and field workers to avoid sheltering under trees during lightning and instead move to safe structures. People are advised to stay indoors during peak heat hours, remain hydrated, and consume fluids like water, buttermilk, and coconut water to prevent heat-related illnesses.



## Amzath Basha Slams TDP for Politicizing Almaspet Clashes

Kadapa, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Former Deputy Chief Minister S.B. Amzath Basha expressed deep concern over the recent clashes between two groups in Almaspet, calling the incident unfortunate for Kadapa, a city known for religious harmony. Addressing a press conference on Thursday, he condemned the violence and said all sections of society have denounced the unrest. Basha criticized the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and sections of the media for attempting to politicize the issue. He alleged that certain media outlets published provocative reports falsely blaming YSRCP supporters instead of promoting peace. Such actions, he said, undermine journalistic responsibility and risk inciting further tensions. He claimed the clashes were triggered by "evil forces" and accused the state government of shifting blame onto the YSRCP to cover administrative



failures. He also criticized Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for indulging in divisive politics and expressed disappointment with government advisor Sharif, alleging he was echoing the ruling party's narrative. Denying any involvement of the YSRCP, Basha asserted that his party does not engage in such politics. He alleged that

the TDP is acting out of fear of losing upcoming local body elections and is trying to influence YSRCP leaders. He further stated that public dissatisfaction with the government has increased due to unfulfilled welfare promises and challenged leaders to disclose development funds brought to their constituencies.

## Atchannaidu Slams Jagan Over False Propaganda on Aqua Farmers' Sector

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Agriculture Kinjarapu Atchannaidu launched a scathing attack on MLA Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of orchestrating political dramas and spreading "Goebbels-like" misinformation regarding the aqua sector. The Minister clarified that the government acted within hours of reports regarding aqua feed price hikes, issuing notices through the Fisheries Commissioner that compelled companies to withdraw the increase out of fear of strict legal action. He dismissed Jagan's allegations of collusion with feed companies as a reflection of the YSRCP's own corrupt legacy, stating that those with "jaundice see the whole world as yellow." Highlighting the pre-

vious administration's failures, Atchannaidu remarked that Jagan's tenure devastated the aqua industry through high electricity charges and restrictive "zone" regulations. In contrast, the current NDA coalition government has extended the 1.50 per unit power subsidy to all farmers by removing the zone/non-zone disparity and increased registrations under APSADA from 15% to over 83%. The Minister noted that 1.65 lakh acres have been brought into the aqua zone to simplify licensing. He warned that the government would deal with an iron hand against anyone harming farmers' interests and urged Jagan to stop inciting unrest for political gain, as the public remains fully aware of his past governance.



## Social Welfare Director Inspects Development Works at Krishna District Hostels

Machilipatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Social Welfare Director Smt. Lavanya Veni, IAS, inspected hostel construction and repair works in Pamarru, Challapalli, and Mopidevi. During her visit, she emphasized quality standards under the PMAJAY scheme, directing officials to ensure proper ventilation, reading rooms, and solar panels. She set a strict

deadline of June 10 for project completion. The Director revealed that 2.5 crore, along with an additional 4.5 crore from DMF, is being utilized for district hostel development. Modern facilities like CCTV, RO plants, and "Net Zero Healthy Campus" initiatives are being implemented, while essential supplies have already been dispatched for the new academic year.

## Mahanadu is a Collective Celebration of Cadres and Leaders: MP Kesineni Chinni

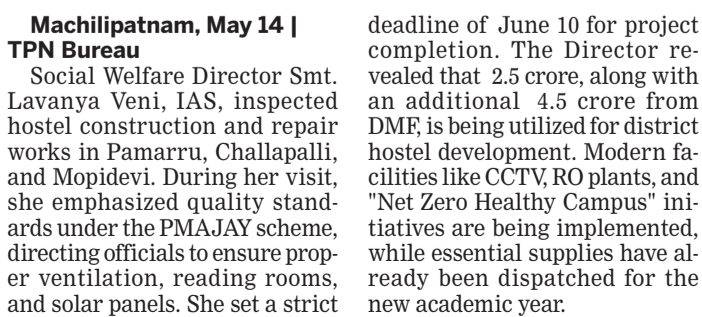
Nandigama, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Mini Mahanadu program held in the Nandigama constituency of NTR district witnessed a massive turnout of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) activists, creating a festive atmosphere. Vijayawada Member of Parliament Kesineni Chinni attended as the chief guest, alongside local MLA Tangirala Sowmya. Addressing the gathering, MP Chinni emphasized that while leaders may come and go, the cadres remain the permanent backbone of the party. He credited the people of Nandigama for the party's significant electoral success and noted that the TDP is the only party with a dedicated family of one crore members. He urged activists to maintain this momentum for the upcoming local body elections, stressing that the party is committed to fighting for public issues regardless of being in power. The MP further highlighted that the party is organizing political training classes and that



General Secretary Nara Lokesh is specifically focusing on the safety and welfare of every worker. He assured the gathering that special attention would be given to resolving the local issues of Nandigama.

The event saw the participation of several prominent figures, including District Party President Gadde Anuradha, KDCC Bank Chairman Nettem Raghuram, and other regional leaders and observers.



## Environmental Protection is Everyone's Responsibility: Collector DK Balaji

Machilipatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Krishna District Collector DK Balaji emphasized that safeguarding the environment is a collective duty and urged the public to plant saplings extensively to curb air pollution. After participating in yoga classes at the Walkers' Association Hall in Gandhinagar on Thursday morning, the

Collector, accompanied by his father Krishnaiah Shetty and nephew Lohith, planted saplings at the local Children's Park. Addressing the gathering, the Collector highlighted that trees provide pure oxygen, reduce pollution, and create a pleasant atmosphere. He noted that increasing greenery is vital for ecological balance and appealed to every

citizen to not only plant trees but also take responsibility for their protection. His father, Krishnaiah Shetty, added that maintaining greenery in parks ensures a healthy environment and fresh air for children. The event was attended by Walkers' Association Trustee Yara Jagan Mohan, yoga instructors, and various district officials.

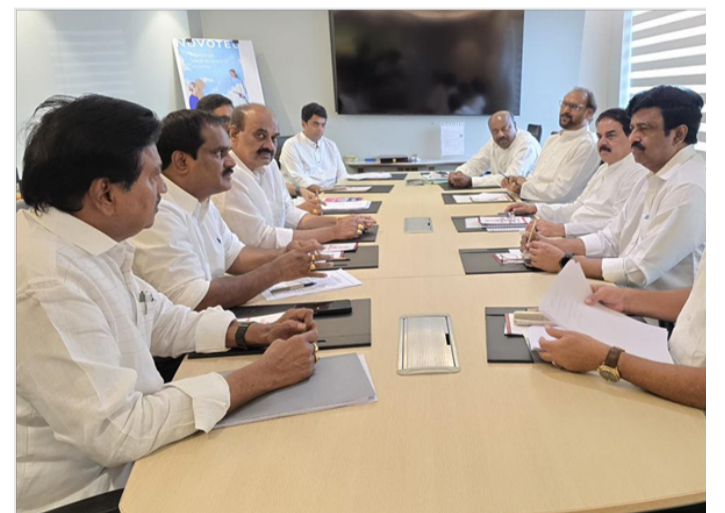


## Senior Leader Mopidevi Srinivasa Rao Joins YSRCP

Tadepalli, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Senior leader Mopidevi Srinivasa Rao from Guntur's Repalle constituency officially joined the YSR Congress Party on Thursday. Former Chief Minister and YSRCP President YS Jagan Mohan Reddy welcomed him and his hundreds of supporters at the party's central office by draping the party scarf. Speaking on the occasion, YS Jagan stated that Srinivasa Rao joined as a family member with full confidence in the leadership, promising him due recognition and

a legislative position once the party returns to power. He specifically instructed the Repalle constituency in-charge, Peeta Naga Mohana Krishna, treating him like a younger brother to ensure party victory. YS Jagan expressed gratitude to the dedicated workers and women who attended the event to strengthen the party's foundation. Prominent leaders including Ambati Rambabu, Merugu Nagarjuna, and Lella Appi Reddy were present to witness the induction.



## Jana Sena Committee Deliberates on Ward Delimitation and Membership Success

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Jana Sena Party committee met on Thursday under the chairmanship of PAC Chairman and Civil Supplies Minister Nadendla Manohar to discuss the delimitation of wards and divisions for upcoming local body elections. Regional committees representing North Andhra, Godavari, Krishna-Guntur, and Rayalaseema districts submitted reports based on their field visits and interactions with activists. The meeting focused on the expected increase in wards across municipalities and corporations

while emphasizing the maintenance of the alliance spirit during the electoral process. These findings will be formally presented to Party President and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. Additionally, the party announced the successful completion of the "Jana Sena Udyami" membership drive. An "Atmiya Sabhas" gathering is scheduled for Friday evening in Mangalagiri, where Pawan Kalyan will address "Sadhaks" who registered over 300 members. Key ministers, MPs, MLAs, and corporation chairmen are expected to attend this celebratory session.



## Gannavaram Special Officer Conducts Surprise Inspection of Census Operations

Gannavaram, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Gannavaram Special Officer and ZP CEO Mrs. Aruna conducted a surprise inspection of the national census house listing program in Kesarapalli village. Observing the enumeration opposite Medha Company, she praised the staff for their accuracy in collecting household data. During a subsequent

review, she noted that Gannavaram leads the district with a 67.9% completion rate. Mrs. Aruna directed officials to ensure every household is covered meticulously before the May 30 deadline. Tahsildar Sivaiiah, MPDO Swarna Latha, and other officials joined the inspection, pledging to maintain high standards through the program's conclusion.

## VMC Imposes Rs 4 Lakh Fine and Seizes 2 Metric Tons of Plastic in Special Drive

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) conducted an extensive special inspection drive targeting the usage of banned single-use plastics within its Circle-1 jurisdiction. VMC Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. K. Arjuna Rao stated that civic authorities carried out surprise inspections across various commercial establishments, thoroughly examining a total of 20 shops in the area. During these rigorous enforcement checks, municipal teams successfully seized two metric tons of single-use plastic and collected fines amounting to Rs. 4 lakhs from the violating traders. Issuing a stern warning to habitual offenders, Dr. Arjuna Rao announced that the municipal corporation will initiate stringent action, including the immediate cancellation of trade licenses for any establishments found selling single-use plastics. In addition to enforcement, authorities fo-



cusused on public education, raising awareness about the severe environmental hazards posed by plastic items measuring less than 120 microns in thickness. Officials emphasized that such plastics fail to decompose in the soil, leading to severe and long-term environmental pollution. As a crucial step toward environmental conservation, both merchants

and consumers were strongly advised to adopt eco-friendly alternatives such as cloth bags, jute bags, and paper covers. The successful execution of this special enforcement drive was driven by the active participation of sanitary supervisors, 12 sanitary inspectors, sanitation secretaries, and other dedicated municipal staff members.



## Champs Sailing Club Enthralls Vijayawada with Live Music and New Riverfront Recreational Facilities

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Champs Sailing Club hosted a captivating live music event featuring Hyderabad's 'Octave Tech Rider' band at Lotus Gardens, delighting crowds with hit melodies along the Krishna River. Director Nadelia Krishna Kishore and GM Deepak Reddy highlighted that, alongside AP Tourism, the club offers parasailing, a

150-capacity floating restaurant, and unique "catch and cook" fishing. Developed in line with Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's tourism vision, the site is slated for international-standard expansion under the name 'Highland.' Visitors lauded the venue as a much-needed family recreational hub, urging for more such vibrant community events on the riverfront.



## Eco-friendly Living is the Only Security for Future Generations: Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Collector and VMC Special Officer Dr. G. Lakshmisha emphasized that single-use plastic poses a severe threat to both the environment and public health, urging citizens to transition entirely to cloth bags. During an extensive field inspection of Chittinagar and Kothapet areas on Thursday morning, the Collector personally raised awareness regarding sanitation and the plastic ban. Noticing a shop selling prohibited plastic covers, he warned traders to comply with the ban and

encourage customers to bring reusable bags. In a proactive gesture, he replaced a citizen's plastic cover with a cloth bag to demonstrate personal responsibility in reducing pollution. Furthermore, Dr. Lakshmisha urged residents to participate in the Swachh Survekshan feedback process by scanning QR codes to register their opinions. He appealed for public cooperation to ensure Vijayawada secures a top national ranking in cleanliness. Chief Medical Officer Dr. K. Arjuna Rao and other municipal officials accompanied him.

## NTR District Collector Reviews PM Surya Ghar, Kishori Vikasam, and Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva Programs

NTR District, May 14 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha emphasized the need for visible progress in the implementation of the PM Surya Ghar and PM Kusum schemes, announcing that weekly review meetings will be conducted to monitor their status. During a high-level meeting on Thursday, the Collector noted that out of 44,292 applications received in the general category, technical feasibility has been verified for 44,256, with 37,716 mapped to vendors and 6,228 already synchronized. Additionally, 35,445 SC and ST beneficiaries were identified for rooftop solar installations in the first phase, with approximately 5,000 installations com-

pleted. Highlighting the importance of energy security, Dr. Lakshmisha directed officials to conduct special drives and ensure coordinated efforts between departments to bring solar benefits to farmers.

The Collector also reviewed the "Kishori Vikasam" special summer camps, running from May 1 to June 11, aimed at the holistic development and safety of adolescent boys and girls. He instructed officials from the Health, Education, Police, and Skill Development departments to collaborate with the Women and Child Welfare department to organize sessions at community halls on Tuesdays and Fridays. These programs will focus on career guidance, cyber security, POC- SO Act awareness, nutrition,

and self-defense training to foster leadership qualities and self-confidence among the youth. Furthermore, Dr. Lakshmisha visited the Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva "Ignite Cell" at the Collectorate, highlighting that the district provides cashless quality healthcare through 96 empanelled hospitals. He revealed that 5,81,282 BPL health cards are active in the district, facilitating 89,168 surgeries or therapies since April 2022. He assured that "Vaidya Mitras" remain available at all empanelled facilities to assist beneficiaries in accessing hassle-free medical services. District Medical and Health officials, including Dr. J. Suman and electricity department engineers, participated in these sessions.

## Women's Organizations Demand Immediate Arrest of Union Minister's Son Bandi Sai Bhagirath

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Women's organizations protested at Lenin Center, demanding the immediate arrest of Bandi Sai Bhagirath in a POC- SO case. Leaders criti-

cized the police's failure to apprehend him despite a week passing, alleging political interference. They demanded Union Minister Bandi Sanjay's dismissal and called for fast-track courts to ensure justice



## AIPSO Marks 75th Foundation Day with a Call for Global Peace

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The All India Peace and Solidarity Organisation (AIPSO) marked its 75th Foundation Day with a flag-hoisting ceremony at Lenin Center. Led by Akkineni Chandra Rao and state conveners, the organization reaffirmed its commitment to anti-imperialism and world peace. Leaders expressed grave concern over escalating con-

flicts in West Asia, condemning Israeli military actions against Palestine, Lebanon, and Iran. They criticized the US administration under President Trump for backing these attacks, which have caused massive loss of life and global economic crises. AIPSO urged international leaders to abandon warfare and prioritize humanitarian stability to protect vulnerable populations worldwide



## Vijayawada to Celebrate International Museum Day with Grand Festivities

NTR District, May 14 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha announced that International Museum Day will be celebrated on May 18 with a grand festival at the historic Babu Museum. Organized jointly by the district administration, the Tourism and Archaeology Departments, and the Vijayawada Utsav Committee, the event aims to highlight museums as vital centers of heritage and culture under the global theme, "Museums, Uniting a Divided World."

The Collector invited the public to visit the 1887-established Babu Museum free of cost on the day of the celebrations. The scheduled itinerary includes cultural opening ceremonies, guided tours, heritage quiz competitions, and a

photography hunt. A special laser show promoting patriotism and the significance of museums will also be featured. In the evening, the "Roots Reloaded" program at Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium will showcase a live concert by renowned singer Geetha Madhuri and Band Sehari.

Dr. Lakshmisha emphasized that museums serve as essential bridges connecting historical glory with future generations, and all citizens to participate actively to ensure the success of these festivities. Tourism and Archaeology officials joined the Collector in the announcement, confirming that senior officials and public representatives will attend the events.



## Sports Culture Essential for a Healthy Society: Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha

NTR District, May 14 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha emphasized that cultivating a sports culture is vital for building a healthy society and urged everyone to integrate physical activities into

their lifestyle. Visiting a summer coaching camp at Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium on Thursday, the Collector interacted and played with children to boost their morale. He stated that such camps help unearth hidden talent while fostering

discipline and self-confidence. Encouraging youth to move away from mobile phones and television, he noted that the district is hosting 50 camps across 27 disciplines until May 31 to help students utilize their holidays constructively.

## Minister Narayana Inspects Anna Canteen in Vijayawada

Vijayawada, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Minister for Municipal Administration Ponguru Narayana, accompanied by VMC Commissioner Dhyanchandra, conducted a surprise inspection of the Anna Canteen at Ranigarhota on Thursday. The Minister assessed food quality, hygiene, and drinking water facilities before dining alongside the public by purchasing a five-rupee token. He noted that nearly 3.5 lakh people benefit daily



from these canteens, fulfilling Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's vision of providing quality meals to the poor. Criticizing the previous government

for closing these centers, Narayana directed municipal commissioners to dine at these canteens weekly to ensure sustained standards and excellence.



## Sports Culture is Essential for Building a Healthy Society: NTR District Collector

NTR District, May 14 | TPN Bureau

NTR District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmisha emphasized that a robust sports culture is vital for a healthy society, urging citizens to integrate athletics into their daily lives. During his visit to the Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium on Thursday, the Collector inspected one of the 50 summer coaching camps organized by the District Sports Authority (DSA). To inspire the young participants, Dr. Lakshmisha actively joined the children in their games, noting that these camps are essential for discovering

raw talent and fostering discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness.

He advised the youth to prioritize outdoor sports over indoor screen time on mobile phones and televisions. The Collector highlighted that 27 different sports disciplines are being taught in morning and evening sessions across the district until May 31, allowing students to utilize their summer holidays constructively. District Sports Development Officer K. Koteswara Rao and other officials accompanied the Collector during the visit.



Govt Committed to Dalit Welfare: SC Commission Chairman K.S. Jawahar

Kurnool, May 14 | TPN Bureau State SC Commission Chairman K.S. Jawahar reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to the welfare and upliftment of Dalits.

Kurnool and Nandyal districts, Jawahar stated that proactive steps are being taken to address them. With over 113 pending cases currently identified, a special meeting will be convened to expedite the resolution processes.



Rajugari Tank Rejuvenation Brings New Hope to Farmers

Visakhapatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau The ongoing rejuvenation of the Rajugari tank in Anandapuram village under the state government's "Jaladhara-Jalaharati" program has become a beacon of hope for local farmers.

Villagers expressed immense happiness, noting that the initiative successfully achieves rural development, water conservation, and farmer welfare simultaneously.



Devotee Donates Gold Necklace to Sri Kanaka Mahalakshmi Ammavaru

Visakhapatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau Fulfilling her vow, a devout worshipper donated a valuable gold necklace to the renowned Sri Kanaka Mahalakshmi Ammavaru temple in Burujupeta.

the presiding deity is considered a highly sacred practice among devotees, especially during the Margashira month festivities, Fridays, and other special occasions.

Lokesh Urges MLAs to Protect Cadre, Warns Against Complacency

Anantapur, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Emphasizing the crucial role of grassroots workers in the party's strength, Telugu Desam Party (TDP) National General Secretary Nara Lokesh on Thursday asserted that it is the responsibility of elected representatives to safeguard and value the cadre who stood by the party during challenging times.



2024 but remained steadfast. "Our strength comes from the sacrifices of our cadre. Despite difficulties, they never lowered the party flag," he said.

Lokesh urged party members not to withdraw due to internal differences but instead engage actively with leadership to resolve issues. "Sitting at home

out of frustration harms the party. Leaders must be approached repeatedly until concerns are addressed," he advised.

Touching upon governance, Lokesh stated that the coalition government is working diligently to fulfill its election promises, including welfare schemes and development initiatives.

"I have a message for the MLA of Anantapur. Our party workers endured immense hardships in the last five years. It was these very workers who supported me throughout my foot march. The responsibility to protect and value each of them lies with you," Lokesh stated.

Lokesh highlighted that the party is actively collecting grassroots feedback and making necessary corrections to strengthen internal systems.

Recalling past challenges, Lokesh said thousands of TDP workers faced harassment and legal cases between 2019 and



Mega Job Fair at Narayana Engineering College Receives Exceptional Response

Nellore, May 14 | TPN Bureau

A mega job fair organized by the Andhra Pradesh State Skill Development Corporation (APSSDC) at Narayana Engineering College on Thursday witnessed an overwhelming response, attracting 800 unemployed youth and students from across the district.



Vinay Kumar and Principal Dr. Ravi Prasad emphasized the institution's dedication to providing quality education alongside specialized technical and communication training to boost youth employability.

scheduled for May 15, open to BTech, BSc, MSc, and Pharmacy graduates, offering annual packages up to Rs. 3.40 lakhs.

Cleanliness is a Collective Responsibility: Commissioner Sharada Devi

Tirupati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Municipal Corporation In-charge Commissioner Sharada Devi emphasized that maintaining cleanliness in both our homes and the city is the collective responsibility of every citizen.



staff to implement strict measures to prevent the unauthorized dumping of construction waste across the city.

pletely unpolluted. Surveyor Koteswara Rao, Town Planning Officer Vamsi, Swarna, several ward secretaries, and other municipal staff members accompanied the In-charge Commissioner during her sanitation inspection.



District Administration Gears Up for Chief Minister's Visit

Kavali, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Nellore District Collector Himanshu Shukla has directed officials to ensure flawless arrangements for Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu's visit to Tummalapenta on the 19th.

Krishna Reddy said the visit is the Chief Minister's first to the constituency after his election and termed it significant for the local people.

The inspection was attended by Joint Collector Mogili Venkateshwarlu, ASP Soujanya, Fisheries JD Dr. Shanthi, RDOs Elisha and Pavani, ZP CEO Sridhar Reddy, DPO Vasumathi, SE Raghavendran, and officials from various departments.

Meanwhile, villagers expressed happiness over the visit. Local leader Paladugu Ranga Rao recalled NTR's 1987 visit for a fisheries scheme and Naidu's 2004 visit during the tsunami, making this visit emotionally significant.



Ganja Smuggler Gets Three-Year Jail

Bapatla, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Bapatla District Police's Court Monitoring System, the Guntur First Additional District Court sentenced a marijuana smuggler to three years in prison and imposed a fine of Rs. 20,000.

District SP B. Umamaheswar With Head Constable N. Kishore ensuring the timely appearance of witnesses and Public Prosecutor S. Ashoka Vani presenting robust arguments, Judge V.A.L. Satyavathi delivered the conviction based on solid physical and expert evidence.

Unidentified Youth Drowns in Canal

Repalle, May 14 | TPN Bureau

An unidentified youth, estimated to be 17 to 20 years old, tragically drowned in an irrigation canal in Ravi Ananthavaram village of Repalle- mandal on Thursday evening.

fled the scene. Although locals eventually pulled him out, he had already passed away. Based on a report from Penumudi VRO Jonna Ramaswamy, police registered a case and initiated an investigation.

Mega 22A Grievance Redressal Camp on May 15

Eluru, May 14 | TPN Bureau District Collector K. Vetrivel announced that a 'Mega 22A Grievance Redressal Camp' will be organized on Friday, May 15, at the Godavari Meeting Hall within the Eluru-Collectorate.

directly receive representations from the public regarding their long-pending grievances. With officials from all relevant departments scheduled to participate, Collector Vetrivel appealed to the citizens to actively utilize this mega camp to find swift and effective resolutions for their 22A land-related issues



## AP State Transgender Welfare Board Formed to Protect Rights and Empower Community

Tirupati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The state government has established a state-level Transgender Welfare Board to ensure the comprehensive development, rights protection, and socio-economic empowerment of transgender persons. The board's inaugural meeting was held at the AP Secretariat in Amaravati, chaired by Minister Dola Veeranjanya Swamy. Participating virtually, Tirupati District Collector Dr. S. Venkateswar was officially appointed as the Rayalaseema regional representative under G.O.Ms.No.14. The board, con-

stituted under the Transgender Persons Act-2019, includes Secretary A. Suryakumari as Member Secretary, the Visakhapatnam Collector representing the Andhra region, and transgender representatives Kota PremSagar Roy, Nakka JeevanKumari, and BonuDurga. The board aims to actively advise the government on welfare legislation, evaluate existing schemes, enhance inter-departmental coordination, and efficiently resolve community grievances to foster social, economic, and educational advancement across the state.



## Police Conduct Awareness Session on Women's Safety

Chirala, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Under the directives of Bapatla District SP B. Umamaheswar and the leadership of Chirala DSP Mohammad Moin, an awareness session for women employees was held at Bala Handlooms on Thursday. Chirala Two Town CI Sasikumara emphasized that ensuring women's safety is a collective responsibility, advising participants to stay

alert against harassment, cybercrimes, and financial frauds. Shakti Team SI A. Haribabu detailed the department's special protective measures, while staff members explained legal rights and helpline usage. Eagle Team member Suresh further cautioned on secure social media practices. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A to address the attendees' safety concerns.



## Jana Sena Continues Janavani Program

Mangalagiri, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Janavani program, held for the second consecutive day at the Jana Sena Party Central Office in Mangalagiri, saw a large turnout of citizens seeking redressal for various grievances. Dr. Pasupuleti Hariprasad, Chairman of the AP Handicraft Skill Development Organization, and Legal Cell representative Kanchi Shyamala personally

received the petitions. They assured the public that these issues would be brought to the immediate attention of Party President Pawan Kalyan and resolved through coordination with relevant authorities. Leaders including Ponna Yugandhar and Siriveelu Gangadhar participated, reaffirming the party's commitment to continuously advocating for the people's welfare.

## Police Rescue Kidnapped Infant Within Hours

Paderu, May 14 | TPN Bureau

In a swift operation, police rescued a one-month-old infant kidnapped from the Paderu District Hospital within hours. The incident occurred when Pangikanthamma and her husband Ramarao, residents of Buruguchattu, brought their baby for treatment. An unidentified woman lured the parents, took the infant under

the pretext of holding him, and fled. Acting on the parents' complaint, police analyzed CCTV footage and alerted neighboring stations. Within thirty minutes, authorities apprehended the suspect, identified as Krishnaveni from Hukumpeta, and recovered the child. Under CI Dayananda's supervision, the infant was returned to his grateful parents after a medical check-up.

## APCRDA Commissioner Assures Priority Resolution for Farmers' Grievances

Amaravati, May 14 | TPN Bureau

APCRDA Commissioner V. Vijaya Rama Raju, along with Additional Commissioners A. Bhargava Teja and K. Karthik, conducted a gram sabha at Abbarajupalem on Thursday to discuss land acquisition for the development of Amaravati. Addressing the residents, the Commissioner explained that while land pooling remains the preferred method for projects like roads and LPS zones, formal land acquisition notifications were recently issued following discussions with landowners who had not yet joined the pooling scheme. He clarified that farmers still have the opportunity to opt for the Land Pooling Scheme (LPS) within the stipulated time-frame, even if their names appear in the acquisition notification. During the session, the Commissioner assured villagers that local issues, including village site (gramakantam)



concerns, would be resolved on a priority basis in accordance with government directives. Under the Negotiated Settlement Policy (NSP), planning officials were instructed to expedite the preparation of layouts for those displaced by project works. Emphasizing that capital development is progressing rapidly, he urged

farmers to cooperate with authorities and advised those who have received returnable plots to complete their registrations at the respective competent authority offices. Special Deputy Collectors K.S. Bhagyarekha, P. Madhusudhana Rao, and other revenue officials also participated in the meeting.

## GITAM School of Pharmacy Earns Prestigious NBA Accreditation

Visakhapatnam, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Principal Professor N. Srinivas announced that the B. Pharmacy and M. Pharmacy courses offered by the GITAM Deemed to be University School of Pharmacy have secured the prestigious National Board of Accreditation (NBA) recognition. Speaking at a

press conference held at the campus on Thursday, he highlighted that the institution is modernizing its curriculum to stay ahead of industry trends. Starting from the 2026-27 academic year, the B.Pharmacy program will integrate advanced subjects such as AI Machine Learning, Pharmaceutical Automation, and Python. While the courses already hold

Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) approval, they will now be taught with these innovative additions as per the latest guidelines. The Principal also noted the strong industry demand for their graduates, revealing that 35 leading pharmaceutical companies have already conducted campus placements to recruit GITAM pharmacy students.

## Tragedy Strikes Newlyweds as Road Accident Claims Bride's Life

Aganampudi, May 14 | TPN Bureau

A joyous wedding celebration turned into a profound tragedy when a road accident claimed the life of a newlywed bride near Aganampudi, Visakhapatnam. According to local reports, Narasinga Rao of Wadacheepurupalli and Rameswari of Aganampudi were married on Wednesday night. Following the ceremony at the groom's residence, the couple, along with four relatives, were traveling to Aganampudi in a car on Thursday afternoon. The vehicle reportedly lost control and rammed into a pole near their destination. The bride, Rameswari, died on the spot, while the groom, Narasinga Rao, and the bride's mother Kanaka Mahalakshmi, her sister Varalakshmi, and a young boy named Nanda Kishore sustained injuries.



The victims were rushed to King George Hospital (KGH) for treatment, where the mother's condition remains critical. The sight of the bride passing

away while still adorned in her wedding garlands has left the community in deep sorrow and plunged both families into mourning.

## Person Arrested For Fraud in the Name of Srivari Darshan

Peddakurapadu, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Police have arrested Bodapati Naveen Chowdary, a resident of Lingamgunta in the Peddakurapadu Mandal of Palnadu district, for defrauding devotees by promising to arrange Srivari Darshan tickets in Tirumala. The police stated that he collected money from victims via social media and phone calls, falsely claiming to be an employee of the TTD (Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams). Acting on a complaint filed by a victim, the police registered a case and seized cash and a mobile phone from the accused. The police further revealed that the accused has several previous cheating cases registered against him.



## Food Safety Officials Raid Fruit Market

Chirala, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Acting on complaints regarding the use of hazardous chemicals for artificial ripening, Food Safety Officials conducted surprise raids on wholesale and retail fruit shops at the vegetable market center in Chirala town of Bapatla district on Thursday. Bapatla District Food Safety Officer Praneeth Kumar thoroughly inspected multiple shops and assessed the quality of various fruits, including bananas, mangoes, papayas, pomegranates, and apples, before collecting samples for testing. He revealed that authorities received

credible information about traders using banned substances like carbide to accelerate the ripening process. Praneeth Kumar stated that the collected samples will be sent to a government laboratory for detailed analysis. Issuing a stern warning, he cautioned that strict legal action, including the immediate cancellation of trade licenses, will be taken against vendors found violating food safety regulations. He emphasized that consuming chemically ripened fruits poses severe health risks and strongly commended traders for jeopardizing public health purely for the sake of profit.



## High Tension Grips Kurnool as TDP and YSRCP Stage Fierce Protests

Kurnool, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Kurnool witnessed high tension as TDP and YSRCP cadres staged fierce counter-protests, prompting heavy police deployment. TDP leaders protested at the Collectorate, condemning an alleged knife attack by YSRCP members on their leader, Sunil. During the agitation, TDP's Nagaraju Yadav sustained injuries while crossing police barricades. They also demanded strict ac-

tion against YSRCP leaders for making derogatory remarks against Minister T.G. Bharath Gupta. In retaliation, YSRCP staged a massive counter-protest demanding an immediate end to alleged police harassment of their workers. Addressing the rally, Byreddy Sidharth Reddy sensationally accused Minister Bharath of receiving Rs. 45 crore in pharmaceutical kickbacks, warning of severe consequences if police intimidation persists.



## Make Constituency Mahanadu a Grand Success: MLA Gurajala Jagan Mohan

Chittoor, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Chittoor MLA Gurajala Jagan Mohan urged Telugu Desam Party members to ensure the success of the constituency-level Mahanadu program, scheduled for 10 AM on Friday at the GJM Sukhibhava Kalyana Mandapam in Santhapeta. During a preparatory meeting on Thursday with senior leaders, including District President Shan-

mugam Reddy and General Secretary Sunil Chowdhury, the MLA finalized key resolutions and assigned specific committee responsibilities. He emphasized the need for massive participation from cadres across Gudipala, Chittoor Rural, and Urban areas. Various committee members and division in-charges attended the meeting to streamline the event's overall arrangements.

## Heavy Gales Claim One Life and Kill 20 Sheep

Bommanahal, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Tragedy struck Mailapuram village in Bommanahal mandal as heavy gales caused a wall collapse, killing 55-year-old Venkatesulu and leaving two others severely injured. The storm also resulted in the death of 20 sheep and widespread property damage. In

Untakallu, solar panels and iron sheets were blown away, while uprooted trees and broken electric poles disrupted power supply and blocked the R&B road at Untakallu Cross. Authorities are working to clear debris and restore essential services following the devastation caused by the intense winds.

# Balancing Self-Reliance with Global Ambition

Economic Caution and Collective Responsibility in Uncertain Times

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to conserve fuel, reduce travel, avoid gold purchases for a year, and adopt work-from-home practices amid the Middle East crisis marks a moment where governance meets citizen behaviour. It reflects the seriousness of a potential global energy disruption. By urging restraint, the Prime Minister signals that India may be entering a phase of economic caution.

This concern is reinforced by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, who warned that if the West Asia crisis continues, rising petrol and diesel prices are inevitable. His remarks highlight the risk of inflation and pressure on household budgets and industries, indicating an approaching economic strain.

In this context, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal's description of the situation as a "wake-up call" gains importance. His push to reduce import dependency, improve productivity, and strengthen supply chains complements Modi's message. Together, they underline the need for self-reliance without compromising global

competitiveness. History supports this approach. From the 1991 economic crisis to COVID-19 disruptions, India has faced challenges linked to external dependence. The current situation again highlights the need to strengthen domestic manufacturing and supply chains as a safeguard against global shocks.

However, the opposition has raised concerns. Critics argue that calls for conservation may precede fuel price hikes, shifting the burden onto citizens. They also point to issues like unemployment and limited MSME support, questioning whether self-reliance efforts have delivered results.

The government maintains that its strategy is balanced. It argues that boosting domestic production is not isolationism but a way to strengthen India's role in global value chains, focusing on resilience rather than retreat.

Setting an example, Prime Minister Modi reduced his official convoy by nearly 50% to conserve fuel. Union Ministers, including Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh, followed suit. Andhra Pradesh-based Union Ministers Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu and Dr.

Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani also aligned with this approach.

In Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu reduced his convoy during district visits. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan also cut convoy movement, while HRD and IT Minister Nara Lokesh limited his convoy to a single vehicle during a Cabinet meeting, reflecting adherence to the Prime Minister's call.

Public response has been mixed. Increased fuel purchases suggest anxiety over possible price hikes, while industry leaders continue to seek policy clarity and support to manage potential disruptions.

Ultimately, this moment demands shared responsibility. Citizens must conserve resources and avoid unnecessary consumption. Businesses must focus on efficiency and innovation, while policymakers must ensure transparency and consistent reforms.

India's challenge is not choosing between economic nationalism and globalization, but balancing both. The signals are clear; the real test lies in how effectively the country responds.

True Point Team



## Rising Demand for Verification of SC Hindu Status in Government Employment

Divergent opinions are emerging within sections of the Scheduled Caste (SC) Hindu community, with some groups and leaders, including members of the BJP's SC Morcha, demanding stricter action against individuals who continue to claim SC reservation benefits after allegedly converting to Christianity. They argue that such practices undermine constitutional safeguards and deprive genuinely eligible beneficiaries of their rightful opportunities. At the same time, others call for a cautious and lawful approach, stressing that any action must be based on verified records and due process rather than assumptions.

The reservation system for Scheduled Castes under the Constitution was created to ensure social justice and uplift historically disadvantaged communities. These safeguards are meant only for genuinely eligible persons. However, concerns are being raised over the continued use of "SC Hindu" status by certain government employees even after allegedly adopting Christianity and following its religious practices.

In some instances, individuals reportedly secured government employment by declaring themselves as "SC Hindu" at the time of appointment. Later, they are alleged to have solemnised Christian marriages and followed Christian customs without officially disclosing

these facts to authorities. It is also alleged that some fail to submit clear declarations about changes in religious practices, thereby suppressing material facts related to their eligibility. In certain cases, even when authorities are aware, due consideration is allegedly not given during appointments, promotions, or extension of reservation benefits.

The Andhra Pradesh High Court, in its April 30, 2025 judgment in Akkala Rami Reddy vs State of Andhra Pradesh, relating to a pastor from Bapatla district, observed that a person who had converted to Christianity and functioned as a pastor could not continue to claim protections under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Justice Harinath N. noted that once a person openly professes Christianity and serves as a pastor, continuation of SC status becomes legally untenable.

Adding to the debate, Andhra Pradesh Deputy Speaker Raghurama Raju raised concerns over alleged misuse of SC status after religious conversion. He called for strict verification in government employment and greater administrative accountability. Similarly, MRPS leader Manda Krishna Madiga strongly objected to such practices, stating that wrongful claims deprive genuine SC communities of opportunities and demanding stringent scrutiny.

This issue is not merely about personal faith; it concerns the proper implementation of constitutional safeguards and administrative responsibility. Authorities responsible for appointments and promotions must carefully examine official records, marriage registrations, and declarations before extending reservation benefits. Failure to verify such matters raises serious concerns about accountability and adherence to constitutional principles.

If any government employee is found to have wrongly availed reservation benefits after becoming ineligible, appropriate action must follow as per service rules and constitutional provisions. Likewise, if authorities knowingly ignore such facts or fail to verify them, questions of administrative negligence arise.

At the same time, the issue must be handled with fairness and sensitivity. No individual should be targeted based on assumptions or beliefs. Any action must rely strictly on documentary evidence and due legal process.

Protecting the integrity of the reservation system is essential to ensure benefits reach the truly eligible sections. Transparent verification mechanisms and responsible administrative scrutiny are therefore necessary in matters relating to SC status in government service.

True Point Team

## War's Hidden Toll: Hunger on the Frontlines

War does not only devastate civilian lives and infrastructure; it also creates silent crises that often remain unseen, among them, the struggle for basic necessities like food and water. The ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, now stretching into its fifth year, has exposed yet another grim reality: even soldiers on the frontlines are not immune to hunger and deprivation.

Recent reports from Ukraine's northeastern Kupiansk region have brought disturbing accounts of severe food shortages among frontline troops. Soldiers stationed near the Oskil River reportedly went for days, sometimes over two weeks, without adequate food supplies. Accounts of drastic weight loss, exhaustion, and even fainting due to hunger paint a troubling picture of conditions on the battlefield. Some soldiers were forced to rely on rainwater or melted snow for survival, underlining the desperation they faced.

This crisis is not merely a consequence of war's chaos but also highlights deeper logistical and operational challenges. Supply routes to these forward positions have been repeatedly disrupted due to relentless Russian drone surveillance and attacks. Damaged infrastructure, including destroyed bridges, has further isolated units, making traditional resupply missions nearly impossible. In such high-risk zones, even delivering food becomes a life-threatening op-



eration, often dependent on drones that cannot consistently meet the needs of entire units.

Equally concerning are the systemic issues within military management. Reports suggest that some troops remained

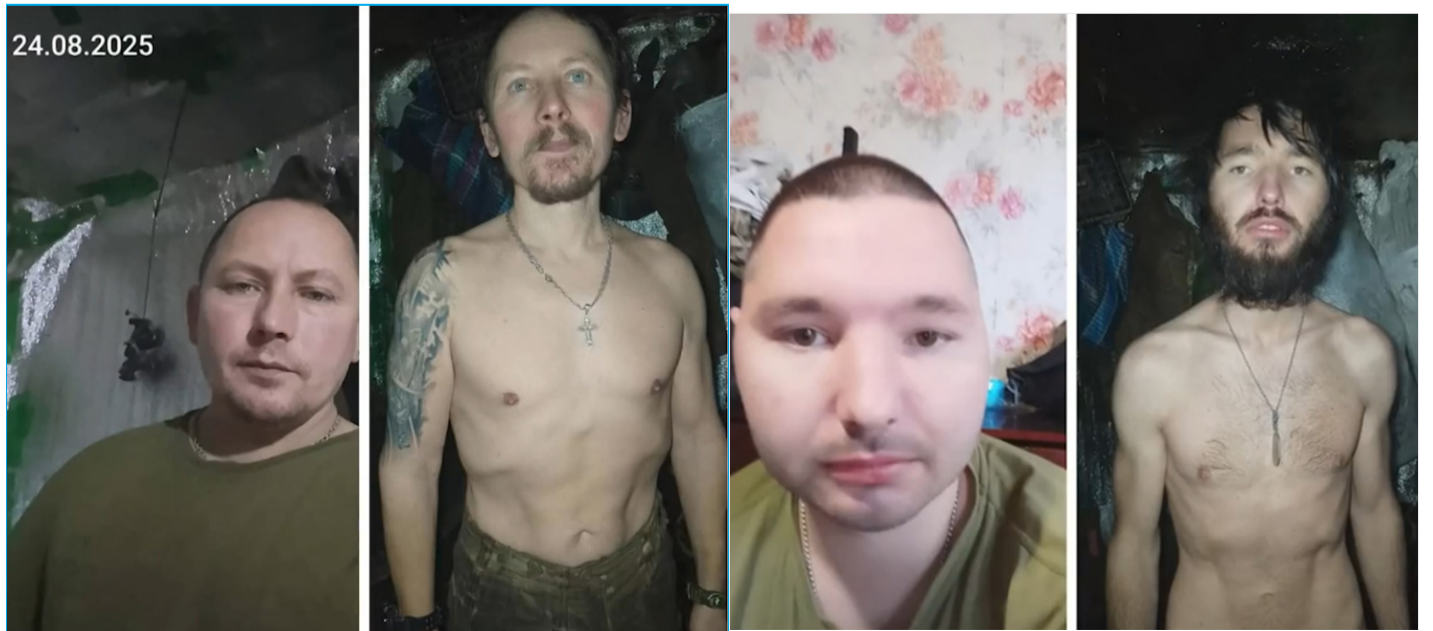
deployed in these harsh conditions for months without rotation, exacerbating both physical and mental strain. The removal of senior commanders following public outcry, sparked by images and testimonies shared by soldiers' fami-

lies, indicates an acknowledgment of failure at certain levels of leadership. However, corrective action after exposure raises questions about whether sufficient preventive measures were in place.

The human cost of such failures is profound. Soldiers, who are expected to defend their nation under extreme conditions, should not have to fight hunger alongside the enemy. Their plight reflects not just operational lapses but also the urgent need to prioritise welfare systems within military structures. Adequate nutrition is not a luxury in war; it is fundamental to survival, morale, and combat effectiveness.

At a broader level, this episode serves as a stark reminder of the prolonged strain modern warfare places on nations. As conflicts drag on, maintaining supply chains, infrastructure, and personnel welfare becomes increasingly difficult. The situation in Ukraine underscores how quickly cracks can appear, even in well-supported defence systems, when war becomes a long-term reality.

Ultimately, the images of emaciated soldiers are more than just a momentary scandal, they are a call to action. Governments and military institutions must ensure that the basic needs of those on the frontlines are never compromised. War may demand sacrifice, but it must not strip individuals of their dignity or their right to basic sustenance.



24.08.2025

# Election Commission Announces SIR Expansion Across 16 States And Union Territories

The Election Commission of India has announced a major expansion of its Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise across 16 states and Union Territories, aiming to update and verify electoral rolls ahead of upcoming elections.

The move is part of the Commission's broader effort to improve the accuracy of voter lists by identifying duplicate entries, removing ineligible names, and ensuring that all eligible citizens are properly registered. Officials said the revision process would involve large-scale verification of voter details at the ground level.

According to the Election Commission, booth-level officers will conduct door-to-door verification and interact directly with voters during the exercise. Citizens may also be asked to confirm personal details such as address, age, and identity documents wherever required.



The Commission stated that the initiative is intended to strengthen the integrity and transparency of the electoral process. Officials stressed that maintaining clean and updated voter rolls is essential for conducting free and fair elections

across the country.

The SIR exercise will reportedly cover several major states and Union Territories where electoral roll updates are considered necessary before future Assembly and local body elections. Authorities said the

process would be carried out in phases over the coming months.

The announcement has already triggered political debate, with opposition parties raising concerns about possible voter exclusions and procedural transparency. Some leaders questioned whether the revision could unintentionally affect migrant workers, elderly citizens, and economically weaker groups who may face difficulties during verification.

However, the Election Commission rejected fears of unfair deletions and clarified that strict procedures would be followed before removing any voter from the rolls. Officials said multiple opportunities would be provided for citizens to respond or correct records if discrepancies are found.

Political analysts believe the large-scale revision exercise could become a major issue

ahead of upcoming elections, especially in states where electoral margins are traditionally very close. Voter list accuracy has often been a contentious subject during Indian elections, with parties regularly accusing each other of manipulation or irregularities.

The Commission also urged citizens to actively participate in the process by checking their voter information and cooperating with verification teams. Authorities encouraged voters to use online platforms and election offices to update details if needed.

The latest move reflects the Election Commission's increasing focus on digitisation, data verification, and electoral transparency as India prepares for another cycle of major elections in the coming years. Officials maintain that accurate voter rolls remain one of the most important foundations of a strong democratic system.

# Iran FM Visits Delhi As India-Bound LPG Tankers Cross Strait Of Hormuz

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi arrived in New Delhi for the BRICS foreign ministers' meeting at a time when two India-bound LPG tankers successfully crossed the sensitive Strait of Hormuz, offering relief to India amid ongoing tensions in West Asia.

The two LPG carriers, carrying fuel supplies from Qatar and the UAE, managed to pass through the strategic maritime chokepoint after nearly two weeks without any India-bound energy tanker movement in the region. Both vessels are reportedly headed towards Gujarat's Kandla port.

The development is being viewed as a significant diplomatic and strategic moment because the Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world's most sensitive shipping routes during the ongoing Iran-related conflict in the region. The narrow waterway is crucial for global oil and gas transportation, especially for India, which depends heavily on energy imports from West Asia.

Reports indicate that India has been actively engaging with Iran through diplomatic channels to ensure the safe movement of Indian and India-bound ships carrying critical energy supplies. Indian officials have reportedly prioritised LPG shipments because of the country's heavy dependence on imported cooking gas from the Gulf region.

The latest tanker crossings came shortly before the BRICS meeting in Delhi attended by Araghchi, adding further geopolitical significance to the timing. The successful passage has raised hopes that more Indian-bound energy shipments may soon resume through the troubled route.

The Strait of Hormuz has witnessed severe disruption in recent months due to military tensions, naval blockades, and attacks involving Iran, the United States, and allied forces. Shipping traffic through the route had reduced sharply after multiple incidents involving commercial vessels.



According to maritime tracking data, several ships crossing the region have started switching off location transponders or using special identification broadcasts while navigating the strait to reduce security risks. Such tactics have reportedly become common among vessels attempting to pass through the conflict zone.

India remains particularly vulnerable to any prolonged disruption in Hormuz because a major share of its crude oil, LNG, and LPG imports passes through the route. Experts say LPG supplies are especially critical because a large percentage of India's domestic cooking gas demand depends on imports from West Asia.

The successful tanker movement is therefore being viewed as both a diplomatic achievement and an important development for India's energy security. Analysts believe New Delhi's balanced foreign policy and continued engagement with all sides in the region may have helped maintain communication channels during the crisis.

The situation, however, remains fragile. Several Indian and foreign-flagged ships carrying cargo for India are still believed to be stranded in the Persian Gulf region as authorities continue monitoring security conditions closely.

The latest developments highlight how global geopolitical tensions can directly affect India's energy supply chains and underline the growing importance of maritime diplomacy in protecting the country's economic interests.

# Mamata Banerjee Questions Lawyer's Black Gown During Court Hearing

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee sparked fresh political and legal debate after questioning a lawyer's black gown during proceedings related to a post-poll violence case in the Calcutta High Court.

The incident reportedly took place while the court was hearing matters connected to political violence that occurred after elections in West Bengal. During the proceedings, Mamata Banerjee raised objections regarding the lawyer's attire, asking why the advocate was wearing a black gown under the circumstances.

Her remarks quickly drew attention inside and outside the courtroom, triggering sharp reactions from legal circles, opposition parties, and political observers. Many lawyers viewed the comments as unusual because the black gown is considered a traditional and symbolic part of legal dress in Indian courts.

The issue soon became a major talking point in political discussions and social media debates. Critics accused the Chief Minister of making inappropriate remarks about courtroom procedures and legal traditions, while supporters argued that her comments were being interpreted too aggressively.

Opposition parties used the controversy to attack the Trinamool Congress government, claiming the remarks reflected a lack of respect for judicial institutions. BJP leaders and several opposition figures criticised the incident and demanded that constitutional norms be maintained during legal proceedings.

Meanwhile, some Trinamool Congress leaders defended Mamata Banerjee, saying her remarks were informal observations that were being unnecessarily politicised. They argued that the controversy was being amplified for political reasons rather than legal concerns.

The episode once again highlighted how even brief courtroom remarks involving prominent political figures can quickly escalate into national controversies, especially in politically charged environments like West Bengal.



The case itself relates to allegations of violence and unrest that followed elections in West Bengal, an issue that has remained politically sensitive for years. The matter has frequently led to confrontations between the ruling Trinamool Congress and opposition parties, especially the BJP.

Legal experts noted that courtroom attire carries deep professional significance in India's judicial system. Black gowns and white bands are part of the official dress code for advocates and symbolise discipline, neutrality, and respect for the legal process.

Despite the growing debate, proceedings in the post-poll violence case continued, with the court focusing on the legal aspects of the matter. However, the comments made during the hearing overshadowed the actual case and dominated public discussion.

The controversy also reignited debate over the relationship between politics and the judiciary in high-profile cases involving political leaders. Observers pointed out that courtroom exchanges involving senior politicians often attract widespread attention because of their broader political implications.

spent years preparing for the highly competitive examination. Congress leaders alleged that the leak exposed serious failures in the examination system and questioned why authorities failed to act earlier despite warning signs. Student groups and parents also expressed anger online, arguing that the cancellation has caused enormous emotional stress and uncertainty for lakhs of aspirants. Many students said they were devastated after months of intense preparation and demanded stricter safeguards to prevent future leaks. Meanwhile, investigators have reportedly uncovered a sophisticated network involving leaked question papers distributed through coaching centres, couriers, WhatsApp groups, and middlemen. According to reports, students allegedly paid huge



suggesting a large-scale paper leak network operating across multiple states. The issue has become one of the biggest education scandals in recent years, with investigations now being handled by central agencies. Opposition parties strongly criticised Dilawar's comments, accusing the government of being insensitive toward students who

# Congress Names VD Satheesan As Kerala Chief Minister, Ends Leadership Speculation

The Congress party has officially announced senior leader VD Satheesan as the next Chief Minister of Kerala, bringing an end to weeks of political speculation and internal discussions over the leadership decision.

The announcement came after a series of meetings involving top Congress leadership and party legislators following the alliance's strong electoral performance in the state. Satheesan, who previously served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, emerged as the consensus choice for the top post.

Party leaders said Satheesan's organisational experience, public image, and strong communication skills played a major role in the decision. The Congress leadership reportedly viewed him as a leader capable of uniting different factions within the party while also presenting a strong administrative face.

Supporters of Satheesan celebrated the announcement across Kerala, with party workers gathering outside Congress offices and distributing sweets after the official confirmation. Many leaders

described the decision as a fresh beginning for the party in the state.

VD Satheesan has been one of the most prominent Congress leaders in Kerala over the past few years. Known for his aggressive speeches against the ruling Left government and his active role in Assembly debates, he gained visibility as a strong opposition voice on issues ranging from corruption allegations to governance and public welfare.

The leadership announcement had attracted major attention because several senior Congress leaders were reportedly being considered for the chief ministerial role. Internal discussions and speculation over possible power-sharing arrangements had intensified in recent days before the party finally settled on Satheesan.

Political observers believe the decision signals the Congress party's attempt to project a younger and more energetic leadership image in Kerala. Many analysts also view Satheesan as someone capable of strengthening the party's position among youth and middle-class voters.

Following the announce-

ment, Satheesan thanked the Congress leadership, alliance partners, and party workers for their trust. He reportedly said his government would focus on development, transparency, employment generation, and strengthening public services in the state.

The new leadership is expected to face significant challenges, including economic pressures, unemployment concerns, and political competition from both the Left Democratic Front and the BJP. Analysts believe Satheesan's performance during the initial months of governance will be closely watched.

The decision has already triggered strong political reactions across Kerala, with supporters praising the leadership choice while opponents questioned how effectively the Congress-led government would handle administrative responsibilities. With the suspense finally ending, the focus now shifts toward cabinet formation, allocation of key ministries, and the new government's first policy decisions as Kerala prepares for a fresh political chapter under VD Satheesan's leadership.



# Rajasthan Minister's 'Not A Big Deal' Remark On NEET Leak Sparks Outrage

Rajasthan Education Minister Madan Dilawar has sparked major controversy after describing the cancellation of the NEET-UG 2026 examination over alleged paper leak irregularities as "not a big deal." His remarks triggered strong reactions from students, opposition parties, and education activists across the country. Dilawar made the statement while responding to questions about the nationwide controversy surrounding the medical entrance exam. He said that if irregularities had occurred, cancelling the examination was necessary to maintain fairness and transparency in the process. However, his choice of words quickly became a political flashpoint.

The NEET-UG 2026 examination, attended by nearly 23 lakh students, was cancelled after investigators uncovered evidence



sums to gain access to leaked material before the exam. The controversy has also reignited wider concerns about recurring paper leak scandals in India. Over the past few years, several competitive exams and recruitment tests have faced allegations of malpractice, leading to growing public distrust in examination systems. Despite the criticism, Dilawar defended the cancellation decision, saying action would be taken against anyone found guilty in the leak case. He insisted that protecting the integrity of the examination system was more important than avoiding temporary disruption. Education experts noted that repeated examination leaks are damaging the morale of students and creating doubts about merit-based selection processes. Many called for stronger anti-cheating laws, bet-

ter digital security, tighter monitoring of exam centres, and harsher punishment for those involved in organised cheating networks. The issue has now become a major national debate, with political parties demanding accountability from authorities responsible for conducting the examination. Several student organisations have also staged protests demanding transparency in the investigation and clarity regarding the rescheduled exam.

As the probe continues, millions of students remain uncertain about their academic future and are waiting for official announcements regarding the new examination schedule. The controversy has once again highlighted the urgent need for reforms to restore public confidence in India's competitive examination system.

Meteorological experts said there is currently a high probability that El Niño conditions will emerge strongly during the middle of the year and remain active through late 2026. Climate models indicate that the warming trend in the equatorial Pacific Ocean has been steadily increasing over recent months.

However, weather officials clarified that El Niño does not automatically guarantee a drought or severe monsoon failure in India. The actual impact depends on multiple factors, including conditions in the Indian Ocean, local atmospheric circulation, and regional weather systems.

India has experienced both weak and normal monsoons

during previous El Niño years. Still, experts say the risk of below-average rainfall generally increases when the phenomenon becomes stronger and lasts longer.

Agriculture experts are closely monitoring the forecasts because millions of farmers depend heavily on timely monsoon rains for sowing crops such as rice, pulses, sugarcane, cotton, and soybean. Poor rainfall could affect rural incomes and food production across several states.

The possibility of a prolonged El Niño has also raised concerns over rising temperatures and heatwaves. Scientists warn that the combination of global warming and El Niño conditions could push temperatures higher in many countries, increasing pressure on water resources and electricity demand.

Climate researchers noted that recent years have already witnessed record-breaking temperatures and extreme weather events worldwide. A long-lasting El Niño phase could further intensify weather-related disruptions, including droughts in some regions and heavy rainfall or flooding in others.

Indian weather agencies are expected to closely track oceanic and atmospheric changes over the coming months before issuing detailed monsoon forecasts. Policymakers and agricultural authorities may also prepare contingency plans to reduce the impact of possible rainfall shortages.

The latest forecasts have sparked widespread discussion among economists, climate scientists, and farming communities, as the monsoon remains one of the most critical factors influencing India's economy and food security every year.

# El Niño Likely To Continue Till End Of 2026, Could Impact India's Monsoon

Weather experts have warned that El Niño conditions developing during May and June are likely to continue until the end of 2026, raising concerns about the possible impact on India's monsoon rainfall and global weather patterns.

According to forecasts by international climate agencies, warming sea surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean are strengthening the chances of a prolonged El Niño phase. Scientists believe the phenomenon could influence rainfall distribution, temperatures, and agricultural output across several parts of the world.

For India, the development is especially important because El Niño is often associated with weaker monsoon rainfall. The southwest monsoon plays a crucial role in the country's agriculture, water supply, power generation, and overall economy. Any significant reduction in rainfall can affect crop production and food prices.

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# Xi Warns Trump Over Taiwan, Says Missteps Could Trigger Conflict

Chinese President Xi Jinping issued a strong warning to US President Donald Trump during high-level talks in Beijing, saying mishandling the Taiwan issue could push relations between the two global powers toward “clashes and even conflicts.” The remarks came during a crucial summit focused on trade, geopolitical tensions, and global security.

According to reports, Xi described Taiwan as the most sensitive issue in US-China relations and stressed that maintaining stability in the Taiwan Strait was essential for peace between the two countries. Chinese state media quoted Xi as saying that if the Taiwan issue is handled properly, relations could remain stable, but if not, the consequences could become extremely dangerous.

The warning came during

Trump’s first official visit to China since returning to office. The summit between the two leaders was seen as highly significant because it took place amid rising tensions over trade disputes, artificial intelligence, military rivalry, and the ongoing Iran conflict.

Taiwan has long remained one of the biggest flashpoints between Washington and Beijing. China considers Taiwan part of its territory and has repeatedly opposed US arms sales and diplomatic support for the self-governing island. The United States, meanwhile, continues to maintain unofficial relations with Taiwan and supports its defensive capabilities.

Despite the sharp warning, both leaders also attempted to present a more cooperative tone publicly. Xi reportedly praised what he called a “new positioning” in US-China relations and

spoke about building a more stable long-term relationship. Trump, on the other hand, described the summit as potentially one of the most important meetings between the two countries in recent years.

The discussions reportedly covered several major international issues, including trade agreements, artificial intelligence, energy security, and tensions in the Middle East. However, Taiwan remained the most sensitive topic throughout the meeting.

The summit also triggered intense global discussion, with geopolitical observers closely analysing Xi’s comments. Many experts believe the exchange highlighted the fragile nature of US-China relations, where cooperation on economic and global matters continues alongside deep strategic rivalry.

Analysts have repeatedly

warned that Taiwan remains the single biggest risk factor capable of triggering a major confrontation between the world’s two largest powers. Rising military activity around the Taiwan Strait in recent years has further increased international concern over regional stability.

The latest remarks from Xi are being viewed as a clear message that China considers Taiwan a non-negotiable issue in its relationship with the United States. At the same time, the meeting showed that both countries are still attempting to maintain diplomatic engagement despite growing competition and mistrust.

With tensions continuing over trade, technology, and military influence in Asia, the future of US-China relations is expected to remain one of the most closely watched geopolitical issues in the world.



# UAE Denies Reports Of Netanyahu’s ‘Secret Visit’ During Iran Conflict

The United Arab Emirates has officially denied reports claiming that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu secretly visited the country during the recent Iran conflict, rejecting statements made earlier by Netanyahu’s office.

The controversy began after the Israeli Prime Minister’s Office claimed that Netanyahu had made a confidential wartime visit to the UAE and met President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during the height of tensions involving Iran. According to the Israeli statement, the visit represented a major diplomatic development in relations between the two countries.



However, the UAE’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs quickly dismissed the reports as “entirely unfounded.” In an official statement, the UAE denied receiving Netanyahu or any Israeli military delegation during the conflict period. Emirati authorities stressed that the country’s ties with Israel are public and transparent, not based on secret or unofficial arrangements.

The issue gained further attention because the claims surfaced amid growing regional tensions following the recent conflict involving Iran. Reports had also suggested that Israeli defence systems, including Iron Dome technology, may have been discussed or linked to regional security cooperation during the crisis.

Iran reacted sharply to the reports, warning regional countries against what it described as cooperation with Israel. Iranian officials have repeatedly accused Gulf nations

of supporting Israel and the United States during periods of regional conflict and military escalation.

The UAE and Israel normalised diplomatic relations in 2020 under the Abraham Accords, leading to expanding cooperation in trade, technology, defence, tourism, and investment. However, the latest controversy highlights the sensitive political environment in the Middle East as regional tensions continue to rise.

The reports also sparked intense debate online, with observers questioning why Israel publicly disclosed the alleged visit if it was intended to remain confidential. Others viewed the conflicting statements as part of broader diplomatic messaging aimed at different regional audiences.

Despite the denial, analysts believe the incident reflects the increasingly complex relationships developing between Gulf countries, Israel, the United

States, and Iran. The Middle East continues to experience shifting alliances as countries attempt to balance security concerns, economic interests, and regional stability.

Experts noted that Gulf nations are trying to maintain strategic partnerships with Western allies while also avoiding direct confrontation with Iran. This balancing act has become more difficult as military tensions and geopolitical rivalries continue to intensify across the region.

The episode has once again drawn international attention to the fragile geopolitical situation in the Gulf, where diplomatic statements, military cooperation, and regional rivalries are closely monitored by governments worldwide. Many analysts believe such controversies could further complicate efforts to maintain stability in the Middle East during a period of rising uncertainty.

# Cuba Runs Out Of Fuel Amid Hormuz Crisis, Faces Massive Power Cuts

Cuba is facing one of its worst energy crises in decades after the country’s Energy Minister confirmed that the island has completely run out of diesel and fuel oil. The shortage has triggered widespread blackouts, transport disruption, and growing public unrest across the country.



Energy Minister Vicente de la O Levy said Cuba currently has “no fuel, no diesel,” leaving the national power grid in a critical state. The government is now relying mainly on domestic crude oil, natural gas, and renewable energy sources to keep limited electricity supplies running. However, officials admitted that the system remains highly unstable.

The crisis has worsened amid rising global oil prices and disruption linked to tensions around the Strait of Hormuz during the ongoing US-Iran conflict. Cuban authorities said importing fuel has become increasingly difficult because of soaring transportation costs and international supply uncertainty.

At the same time, Cuba blamed the United States for tightening restrictions on fuel shipments to the island. Reports suggest that new American measures introduced earlier this year discouraged countries and companies from supplying oil to Cuba, sharply reducing imports from traditional partners such as Venezuela and Mexico.

The impact on daily life has been severe. Many areas in Havana and other cities are reportedly facing power cuts lasting

up to 20 or even 22 hours a day. Public transportation has slowed dramatically, garbage collection has collapsed in some regions, and food storage problems caused by prolonged blackouts have increased frustration among residents.

The worsening situation has also sparked protests in Havana, where hundreds of people gathered in several neighbourhoods demanding electricity and better living conditions. Videos shared online showed residents blocking roads and chanting slogans during the demonstrations.

Cuba has attempted to reduce

dependence on imported fuel by expanding solar energy projects. Officials said the country installed significant solar power capacity in recent years. However, authorities admitted that grid instability and outdated infrastructure have limited the effectiveness of renewable energy systems.

The crisis has also affected tourism and aviation. Several airlines reportedly reduced or suspended services to Cuba earlier this year because of jet fuel shortages, adding further pressure to the country’s struggling economy. Experts warn that unless fuel imports resume

soon, Cuba could face an even deeper humanitarian and economic crisis in the coming months. Electricity shortages are expected to impact hospitals, food distribution, businesses, and other essential services across the island.

The situation has once again highlighted Cuba’s long-standing economic vulnerabilities and dependence on imported energy supplies. With global geopolitical tensions continuing to affect oil markets, the country now faces growing uncertainty over how quickly it can restore stable fuel supplies and normal daily life for its citizens.

# King Charles Unveils UK Government Agenda Amid Pressure On PM Keir Starmer

King Charles III formally presented the British government’s legislative agenda during the State Opening of Parliament, but the ceremony was overshadowed by growing political uncertainty surrounding Prime Minister Keir Starmer and his leadership of the Labour Party.

During the traditional King’s Speech at the Palace of Westminster, the monarch outlined the government’s plans for the coming year, including reforms focused on the economy, healthcare, immigration, housing, defence, and public services. The speech is written by the government and read by the King as part of Britain’s constitutional process.

However, much of the attention shifted away from the ceremonial event and toward the deepening political tensions within Labour. Starmer is facing mounting pressure after the party suffered major setbacks in recent local elections, leading to growing criticism from within his own ranks.

Reports from British media suggest that several Labour MPs are unhappy with the government’s direction and leadership style. Speculation has intensified over the possibility



of a leadership challenge, with Health Secretary Wes Streeting being mentioned as a potential contender.

Despite the turmoil, Starmer has publicly insisted that he has no intention of resigning. He reportedly told ministers and party members that stepping down would create instability and damage the government during a critical period for the UK economy and public services.

The King’s Speech included several major policy proposals expected to shape the government’s agenda in the months ahead. These reportedly include reforms to the National

Health Service, changes to immigration laws, investment in clean energy projects, and efforts to strengthen economic growth and innovation.

Observers noted that the ceremony carried an unusual political atmosphere because of the uncertainty surrounding Starmer’s future. While King Charles maintained his traditional neutral role, discussions about Labour’s internal crisis dominated headlines across the country.

Political analysts believe the situation reflects broader frustration among some Labour lawmakers over falling public support and concerns about

the government’s ability to maintain momentum after coming to power. The leadership uncertainty has also raised questions about long-term political stability in the UK.

At the same time, Starmer still retains support from several senior ministers and party members who argue that replacing another prime minister would further damage public confidence in British politics. Many supporters have urged Labour to avoid internal conflict and focus on governing.

The developments have sparked intense debate across British media and social media platforms, with commentators closely watching whether a formal leadership challenge will emerge in the coming days.

The latest political drama comes during a period when the UK is already facing economic pressures, global geopolitical tensions, and growing public concern over healthcare, inflation, and immigration.

As a result, the stability of Starmer’s government is now being closely monitored both inside Britain and internationally.

# Viral Video Of Brigitte Macron Pushing French President Sparks Online Frenzy

French President Emmanuel Macron and First Lady Brigitte Macron found themselves at the centre of global social media attention after a video appearing to show Brigitte lightly pushing the President at Hanoi airport went viral online.

The incident took place during the couple’s arrival in Vietnam as part of Macron’s Southeast Asia diplomatic tour. In the widely circulated clip, Brigitte Macron appeared to place her hands on the President’s face or shoulder area while they were descending from the aircraft staircase. The brief interaction immediately triggered intense speculation and online debate.

Social media users across different platforms shared multiple interpretations of the moment, with some joking about the interaction while others questioned whether the couple had been involved in an argument before landing. The video quickly became one of the most discussed international political clips online.

The French presidency later attempted to calm speculation surrounding the footage. Officials reportedly described the moment as a playful exchange between the couple and dismissed claims of any serious disagreement. Sources close to Macron also said the viral reaction was exaggerated and tak-



en out of context.

Despite the clarification, the clip continued spreading widely, with many users analysing the body language and expressions shown in the video frame by frame. Memes and parody posts flooded social media, turning the moment into a trending international topic.

The incident also led to renewed public discussion about the personal lives of world leaders and how even small gestures can become major online controversies in the age of viral videos and constant digital scrutiny.

At the same time, online discussions unexpectedly linked the airport moment to separate rumours involving French-Iranian actress Golshifteh Farahani and alleged text messages circulating on social media. However, no verified evidence emerged connecting the access to the viral airport incident, and many reports dismissed the speculation as baseless online gossip.

Political commentators noted that such viral moments often distract attention from the actual purpose of diplomatic visits. Macron’s trip to Vietnam was intended to focus on strengthening economic cooperation, regional partnerships, and France’s strategic presence in Southeast Asia.

Observers also pointed out that public fascination with the Macrons’ relationship has remained unusually intense for years, largely because of their unconventional personal story and the significant age difference between the couple. As a result, even minor public interactions between them frequently attract disproportionate media attention.

While the controversy largely remained limited to online discussions and memes, the incident once again demonstrated how quickly personal moments involving global leaders can dominate international headlines and social media conversations within hours.

# Sensex Gains Over 789 Points, Nifty Crosses 23,689 On Strong Buying

Indian stock markets witnessed a strong rebound as the Sensex surged more than 789 points while the Nifty crossed the 23,550 mark during trading. The rally was driven mainly by value buying, positive global cues, and renewed investor confidence after recent market volatility.

Market experts said investors returned to buying quality stocks after several sessions of correction, especially in banking, IT, auto, and metal sectors. Analysts described the rise as a value-buying rally, where investors took advantage of lower stock prices to re-enter the market. The BSE Sensex climbed sharply during the session, while the NSE Nifty

managed to stay above key technical support levels. Broader markets also participated in the rally, with mid-cap and small-cap stocks witnessing fresh buying interest. Banking and financial stocks played a major role in lifting the indices. Heavyweight companies from the private banking sector saw strong gains, helping improve overall market sentiment. IT shares also recovered following positive signals from global technology markets.

Experts pointed out that easing concerns around global interest rates and improving foreign investor activity supported the market recovery. Foreign institutional investors reportedly returned as net buyers

after recent selling pressure, boosting confidence among domestic investors.

Another key factor behind the rally was optimism surrounding India's economic growth outlook. Investors continued to show confidence in strong domestic demand, government infrastructure spending, and corporate earnings stability despite global uncertainties.

Global market trends also contributed to the positive momentum. Asian markets traded mostly higher, while Wall Street's previous session ended on a firm note, encouraging buying in Indian equities.

Analysts noted that crude oil prices remaining relatively

stable also helped improve sentiment. Since India imports a large share of its energy requirements, any moderation in oil prices is generally viewed positively by equity markets.

Apart from large-cap stocks, broader market participation indicated improving risk appetite among retail investors. Several sectors including automobiles, capital goods, and real estate witnessed buying support during the session.

Technical analysts said the Nifty moving above the 23,600 level could strengthen bullish momentum in the short term. However, they also cautioned investors about possible volatility due to global geopolitical tensions, inflation concerns,

and upcoming economic data releases. Market participants are now closely watching future signals from global central banks, foreign investment trends, and corporate earnings announcements for further direction. Investors are also expected to monitor developments related to crude oil prices and international geopolitical tensions, which continue to influence market sentiment globally. Despite ongoing uncertainty in global markets, the latest rally reflected strong resilience in Indian equities and renewed optimism among investors about the country's medium-term economic growth prospects.



## IT Stocks Extend Fall For Fourth Straight Session Amid Weak Global Tech Sentiment

Indian IT stocks remained under pressure for the fourth consecutive trading session as weak global technology sentiment and concerns surrounding artificial intelligence-related business disruptions weighed heavily on investor confidence.

Major IT companies including Persistent Systems, HCLTech, Infosys, Wipro, and Tech Mahindra witnessed notable declines during trading. Persistent Systems and HCLTech were among the worst hit, with shares falling up to 5 percent as selling pressure intensified across the sector.

Market analysts said investor sentiment weakened after growing concerns about the impact of large-scale AI deployment and automation on traditional IT services businesses. The recent developments involving OpenAI and rapid advancements in generative AI technologies have triggered fears that global clients may reduce spending on conventional outsourcing and software service models.

The uncertainty has particularly affected Indian IT companies that derive a major portion of their revenue from overseas markets, especially the United States and Europe. Investors are increasingly worried that AI-driven transformation could alter long-established business models in the global technology services industry.

Analysts noted that clients are now focusing more aggressively on automation, productivity enhancement, and cost optimisation through AI tools. This has raised concerns that some traditional revenue streams for IT service providers



may come under pressure in the coming years.

Weak global cues also contributed to the decline. Technology stocks in international markets have recently witnessed volatility as investors reassessed growth expectations and the long-term impact of artificial intelligence on the broader software industry.

Apart from AI concerns, rising uncertainty over global economic growth and possible slowdown in discretionary technology spending have further affected sentiment in the IT sector. Experts said companies dependent on large enterprise contracts could face delayed decision-making from clients amid cautious business conditions. Despite the recent fall, several brokerage firms continue to maintain a positive long-term outlook on Indian IT companies. Analysts believe the sector still benefits from strong digital transformation demand, cloud adoption, cybersecurity services, and enterprise technology modernisation. However, market experts cautioned that near-term volatility may continue until there

is greater clarity on how AI technologies will reshape global outsourcing and software services. Investors are expected to closely monitor future earnings guidance and management commentary from major IT firms.

The correction in IT shares also impacted broader market sentiment because technology stocks hold significant weightage in benchmark indices. However, buying in banking, auto, and energy stocks helped limit deeper losses in the overall market.

Experts believe the ongoing AI revolution is creating both risks and opportunities for Indian IT companies. While automation may disrupt some existing business areas, firms that successfully adapt to AI-driven services and innovation could benefit significantly in the long term.

For now, investors remain cautious as markets continue evaluating how quickly artificial intelligence could transform the global technology landscape and affect the future growth prospects of India's IT sector

## TVS Motor Shares Fall After Q4 Results Amid Concerns Over Slower Growth

TVS Motor Company shares slipped nearly 2 percent after the company announced its fourth-quarter earnings, despite reporting strong profit growth and healthy revenue performance. Investors turned cautious after the company flagged concerns about slower sales growth due to rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

The two-wheeler manufacturer posted a strong financial performance for the March quarter, supported by robust domestic demand, export growth, and improved operational efficiency. The company reported higher revenue and profit compared to the same period last year, while operating margins also improved.

However, market sentiment weakened after TVS management warned that ongoing tensions in West Asia and disruptions around key global shipping routes could impact future growth momentum. The company highlighted concerns over higher freight costs, supply chain disruptions, and volatility in raw material prices.

Industry experts noted that rising geopolitical tensions have increased uncertainty across global markets, particularly in sectors dependent on imports, exports, and international logistics. Higher crude oil prices and shipping expenses are expected to affect the automobile industry's cost structure in the coming months.



TVS Motor also indicated that export demand could face pressure if geopolitical instability continues. The company has a strong international presence, and any disruption in overseas markets or transportation networks could affect sales growth.

Despite the near-term concerns, analysts continue to remain positive about the company's long-term prospects. Many brokerage firms highlighted TVS Motor's strong product portfolio, growing premium motorcycle segment, and expanding electric vehicle business as key strengths.

The company has been aggressively investing in electric mobility and premium two-wheelers to strengthen its posi-

tion in both domestic and global markets. Its EV segment has shown steady growth, helping the company compete more strongly in India's fast-growing electric vehicle market.

Market experts said the decline in the stock price was also influenced by profit booking after recent gains. Investors often react cautiously when companies issue conservative growth guidance despite posting strong quarterly numbers.

The broader automobile sector has also witnessed volatility in recent weeks because of concerns over global economic growth, rising input costs, and geopolitical uncertainty. Investors are closely tracking how manufacturers manage costs

and maintain demand momentum in a challenging environment.

TVS Motor's management nevertheless expressed confidence about the long-term outlook for the Indian two-wheeler market. The company expects demand to remain healthy across premium motorcycles, scooters, and electric vehicles despite temporary headwinds.

Analysts believe the company remains well-positioned because of its strong brand presence, diversified product range, export network, and focus on innovation. However, they cautioned that global geopolitical developments and rising operational costs may continue to impact investor sentiment in the short term.

## JSW Steel Reports Massive Profit Jump Driven By One-Time Gain, Announces Dividend

JSW Steel reported a sharp surge in its fourth-quarter net profit, which rose to 19,243 crore, largely driven by a one-time exceptional gain. The company also declared a dividend of 7.1 per share for its shareholders.

The significant jump in profit was not purely due to operational performance. A major contribution came from a one-time accounting gain related to the restructuring and sale of a stake in one of its steel operations. This boosted the bottom line substantially compared to the same quarter last year.

Revenue for the quarter also showed steady growth, rising in double digits year-on-year, supported by healthy steel demand and improved pricing conditions. The company benefited from stronger sales volumes and better realisations in both domestic and export markets.

JSW Steel's operational performance remained stable, with continued focus on capacity expansion, efficiency improvements, and cost management. However, analysts noted that the headline profit figure may not fully reflect underlying business profitability due



to the exceptional gain.

The board's decision to announce a dividend of 7.1 per share signals confidence in the company's financial position and cash flow strength. It also reflects JSW Steel's continued commitment to rewarding shareholders even during periods of market volatility.

Despite strong quarterly numbers, the steel sector continues to face uncertainty due to fluctuating global demand, input cost pressures, and geopolitical tensions affecting supply chains and shipping routes. However, domestic infrastructure demand in India has provided a strong support base for steel consumption.

Market experts said investors are likely to focus more on sustainable earnings rather

than one-time gains when assessing the company's long-term outlook. The quality of earnings and future demand trends will be key factors in determining stock performance going forward.

JSW Steel remains one of India's largest steel producers and continues to expand its capacity to meet rising domestic and international demand. The company is also investing in efficiency upgrades and long-term growth projects to strengthen its market position.

Overall, the results highlight a strong financial headline performance, but with underlying earnings that require a closer look beyond the exceptional items that boosted profits this quarter.

## Cipla Shares Jump 8% To Lead Nifty Gainers As Brokerages Turn Positive After Q4 Results

Cipla shares surged around 8 percent in intraday trade, making it the top gainer on the Nifty index after the company's latest quarterly results. The sharp rally came even though the pharma major reported a decline in profit, as investors focused on strong brokerages' outlook and future growth expectations.

The stock witnessed strong buying interest across the session, helping it outperform the broader market. Pharma stocks overall also saw renewed investor interest, contributing to the sector's positive momentum.

Market analysts said the rally was driven largely by optimistic commentary from several brokerage firms, which maintained or upgraded their ratings on Cipla after reviewing its Q4 performance. Despite short-term earnings pressure, many brokerages highlighted improving demand outlook, strong India business growth, and expected recovery in key export markets as positive triggers.

Cipla's quarterly results showed weakness in net profit compared to the previous year, mainly due to margin pressure and higher costs. However, investors appeared to look past the short-term decline and instead focused on management guidance and long-term pipeline strength.

Experts noted that the pharmaceutical sector has recently



been attracting defensive buying due to global uncertainty and volatility in other sectors like IT. This shift in investor preference also supported Cipla's upward movement.

The stock's sharp rise also made it one of the biggest contributors to gains in the Nifty index during the trading session. Broader sentiment in the market remained positive, with banking and select pharma stocks driving the rally.

Brokerage houses reportedly pointed to Cipla's strong domestic formulations business and steady growth in key international markets as key reasons for their bullish stance. Some analysts also expect improved earnings visibility in the coming quarters as operational efficiencies strengthen.

However, market experts cautioned that volatility may continue in the near term as investors digest quarterly

earnings across sectors. They advised that while Cipla's long-term outlook remains stable, short-term stock movements may remain influenced by global cues and sector rotation.

Despite mixed financial results, Cipla's strong price reaction highlights how market sentiment is increasingly being shaped by forward-looking expectations rather than past performance alone.

# Viral Video on Marriage Pressure Sparks Debate on Women's Choices

A viral Instagram video featuring a 25-year-old woman being pressured by her family to get married has sparked widespread discussion on social media about societal expectations, women's independence, and traditional mindsets in India. The clip, shared by content creator Rashmi Raj, captures a family conversation in which relatives repeatedly advise her to marry before it is "too late."

In the video, family members warn the young woman that her "glow" would fade with age and that delaying marriage might create difficulties in finding a suitable partner or having children in the future. According to the woman, the discussion reflects the reality many young Indian women face once they enter their mid-twenties.

The video also includes the caption, "4 people including my mom vs me," highlighting how isolated she felt during the conversation. In the post accompanying the clip, Rashmi explained that relatives often visit her home to lecture her about marriage, while nobody encourages her to focus on building a career or achieving personal goals. She expressed disappointment that people around her appeared more concerned about her age and appearance than her ambitions or financial independence.

The video quickly gained attention online, attracting millions of views and thousands of comments from users who related to her experience. Many women shared similar stories of being pressured into

marriage despite wanting to prioritise education, careers, or personal growth. Several users criticised society's obsession with getting women married before the age of 30.

One social media user commented that families often rush women into marriage before they become fully independent and confident enough to make their own decisions. Another remarked that many Indian families remain excessively focused on marriage rather than personal achievement. Others encouraged the woman to stay strong, become financially independent, and live life according to her own choices.

The viral clip has once again reignited debate about the pressures faced by young women in Indian society. While

some people continue to view early marriage as an important social tradition, many others believe women should have the freedom to decide their own timelines for marriage, careers, and personal goals without constant interference or pressure from family and society.

The discussion surrounding the video reflects a larger generational shift in attitudes toward marriage and independence. Increasingly, young women are choosing to focus on education, careers, travel, and self-growth before settling down. However, traditional expectations continue to create tension within many families, making the balance between personal choice and societal pressure an ongoing challenge for women across the country.



## Indian Woman In US Shocked By 21,000 Charge For Minor Plumbing Repair

An Indian woman living in the United States has gone viral after sharing her surprise over the high cost of a simple home repair job. In a video posted on social media, she revealed that she was charged around 250 US dollars — nearly 21,000 — to fix a minor water leak in her apartment, sparking widespread discussion online about the cost of services abroad.



The woman explained that the issue involved a small leak under the kitchen sink, which she initially believed would require only a quick and inexpensive repair. However, after contacting a plumber, she was stunned by the final bill. According to her, the repair itself took only a short amount of time, making the high service charge even more surprising for her.

In the viral clip, she compared the expense to repair costs in India, where similar plumbing work would typically cost only a few hundred rupees. She expressed disbelief over how expensive even basic household services can be in the US, especially for immigrants and international students who are still adjusting to the country's living expenses.

The woman also pointed out that labour costs in the United States are significantly higher because workers are paid according to hourly rates and professional service standards. She admitted that although she had heard people talk about the high cost of living abroad, personally experiencing such a large bill for a small repair came as a shock.

The video quickly gained traction online, with social media users sharing mixed reactions. Some viewers sympathised with her frustration and agreed that service charges in countries like the US, Canada, and the UK can feel overwhelming for people coming from India. Others explained that such pricing is normal because skilled labour, insurance, transportation, licensing, and emergency service costs are built into repair charges.

Several users living abroad shared their own experiences of paying large amounts for routine services such as plumbing, electrical repairs, appliance installation, and medical care. Many pointed out that while salaries may be higher in Western countries,

day-to-day expenses are also considerably more expensive compared to India.

Some commenters advised people living overseas to learn basic home maintenance tasks to avoid spending heavily on minor repairs. Others suggested that tenants should check whether certain repair costs are covered by landlords or apartment management before hiring private technicians.

The viral post has once again highlighted the cultural and financial adjustments many Indians face after moving abroad. While higher incomes may attract people to countries like the United States, the cost of labour and essential services often becomes one of the biggest surprises for newcomers adapting to life overseas.

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## Pune Woman Alleges Restaurant Staff Misused QR Menu Data To Send Late-Night Messages

A woman from Pune has sparked widespread discussion online after alleging that a restaurant employee misused her personal information obtained through a QR-code menu system. The incident has raised fresh concerns about customer privacy, digital safety, and how personal data collected by restaurants is handled.

The woman, identified as Rishika Dutta, shared her experience on Instagram earlier this week. According to her account, she had visited a popular restaurant on Pune's FC Road on April 28. Like many customers today, she scanned a QR code placed on the table to access the digital menu, place her order, and complete the dining process.

However, later that night, she allegedly began receiving unexpected messages from an unknown number. Initially, she assumed it was a wrong message and replied casually. But the situation became uncomfortable when the sender identified himself as an employee of the same restaurant she had visited earlier that day.

Rishika claimed she had never directly shared her phone number with the employee, leading her to suspect that her contact details had been accessed through the restaurant's QR-based ordering system. Screenshots shared on social media appeared to show the man attempting to start a personal conversation, asking questions about her age and trying to befriend her.

The woman described the incident as deeply unsettling and questioned how easily customer information could be accessed by staff members. She also expressed concern over



what could happen if more sensitive details, such as home addresses or additional personal information, were exposed through similar systems.

After the incident, Rishika reportedly contacted the restaurant management and demanded action. According to her, the restaurant informed her that the employee involved had been terminated from the franchise. However, she alleged that no written confirmation or formal apology was provided by the management.

The viral post quickly trig-

gered strong reactions online, with many users calling the incident a serious violation of privacy and customer trust. Several women shared similar experiences involving misuse of personal information through delivery apps, cab services, and other digital platforms. The controversy has once again highlighted growing concerns surrounding digital privacy in everyday services. QR-code menus and online ordering systems have become increasingly common in restaurants across India, especial-

ly after the pandemic. While these systems offer convenience, the incident has prompted many people to question whether businesses are doing enough to protect customer data. Many social media users urged restaurants to strengthen internal data protection measures and limit employee access to customer information. Others advised customers to remain cautious while sharing personal details online, even during routine activities like ordering food or making payments.

## Indian Woman's 'Traumatising' Laos Airport Experience Sparks Debate Online

An Indian solo traveller has gone viral after sharing what she described as a humiliating and traumatic experience at an airport in Laos. The woman, identified as Annapurna, claimed she was denied boarding on a flight from Laos to Cambodia because she could not show 400 US dollars in physical cash, despite having sufficient funds in her bank account and presenting digital proof of finances.



According to Annapurna, the incident took place at Luang Prabang airport while she was preparing to board a Vietnam Airlines flight to Cambodia. She said airline staff insisted that she carry cash to prove she had enough money to travel, even though she showed her bank statements, previous travel history, and evidence of financial stability. She alleged that none of the digital documents were accepted.

The traveller shared her experience through a video posted on Instagram, where she described the incident as one of the worst experiences she had faced during her travels. In the video, she advised Indian tourists travelling across Southeast Asia to carry physical cash because some officials and airline staff may refuse to accept digital proof of funds. She said the situation felt insulting and made her feel as though she was being treated with suspicion simply because she was an Indian traveller.

Annapurna also claimed that she had entered Cambodia from Bangkok just two weeks earlier without any issues. During that trip, she was reportedly allowed to pay for her visa on arrival using a card. However, while attempting to re-enter Cambodia from Laos, she said authorities suddenly demanded proof of cash holdings instead of accepting online banking records or cards.

In another allegation, the traveller stated that airline staff failed to provide any official documentation explaining the rule when she requested clarification. She claimed the only "proof" shown to her was a Messenger group chat discussing passenger information. The viral video triggered strong reactions online, with many users sharing similar experiences while travelling in Southeast Asia. Several people said Indian passport holders often face extra scrutiny at airports and border crossings. Others advised travellers to

carry some amount of US currency while travelling internationally to avoid complications, even in countries where digital payments are widely accepted.

The incident has reignited conversations on social media about inconsistent travel regulations, treatment of Indian travellers abroad, and the challenges solo travellers can sometimes face while crossing international borders. Many users also questioned why international travellers are sometimes expected to carry large amounts of physical cash in an increasingly digital world.

The debate further highlighted the importance of understanding visa and immigration rules before travelling abroad. Travel experts online suggested that tourists should verify entry requirements directly from embassy websites and airlines in advance to avoid unexpected problems during transit or immigration checks.

## Indian Weddings Now Feature 'Click Buddy' Teams For Instagram-Worthy Guest Photos

Indian weddings are becoming increasingly focused on social media, and a new trend called "Click Buddy" services is taking the internet by storm. These specialised teams are hired not to photograph the bride and groom, but to ensure wedding guests receive perfectly edited, Instagram-ready pictures during the celebrations.

Traditionally, wedding photography revolved around capturing key moments of the couple and family rituals. However, with the rise of Instagram culture and influencer-style content, guests attending weddings now also expect high-quality photographs of themselves. To meet this demand, many wedding planners and families are introducing dedicated photography teams for guests.

The concept of "Click Buddies" involves photographers and content creators moving around the venue, approaching guests, suggesting poses, and instantly clicking aesthetically pleasing pictures and videos. In some cases, guests even receive edited photos within hours of the event so they can upload them on social media



immediately.

According to reports, these teams focus heavily on creating trendy and glamorous content. From cinematic slow-motion videos to candid portraits and fashionable reels, the service is designed to make every guest feel like a celebrity at the wedding.

The trend reflects how Indian weddings are evolving into highly curated social events. Weddings are no longer viewed only as family functions but also as opportunities to create digital memories and online content. Lavish décor, themed outfits, personalised hashtags,

and social media booths have already become common features at modern weddings, and "Click Buddy" teams appear to be the latest addition to that list.

The idea has sparked mixed reactions online. Many people found the concept exciting and said it adds fun to weddings by making guests feel valued and included. Some social media users joked that people now attend weddings more for content creation than for the ceremonies themselves.

Others, however, criticised the trend for making weddings overly performative and social-

media-driven. Some users argued that constant photography and content creation can distract people from genuinely enjoying the celebrations and spending time with loved ones. A few also questioned whether weddings are becoming more about online appearances than meaningful traditions.

Despite the debate, the trend appears to be growing rapidly, especially in urban India where destination weddings and luxury celebrations are increasingly common. Event management companies are now offering customised content-creation packages that include instant reels, drone shots, candid interviews, and influencer-style edits for guests.

Industry experts believe the popularity of such services reflects changing lifestyle preferences among younger generations who place strong importance on digital presence and visual storytelling. As weddings continue to blend tradition with modern technology, trends like "Click Buddy" services are likely to become a regular part of high-end Indian celebrations in the future.

## Tilak Varma's Blitz Seals Thrilling Win for Mumbai Over Punjab

Mumbai Indians clinched a thrilling six-wicket victory over Punjab Kings in a high-scoring encounter, successfully chasing down a daunting 201-run target with just one ball to spare. The win keeps Mumbai's campaign alive, while Punjab slumped to their fifth consecutive defeat, leaving their playoff hopes hanging by a thread.

Chasing 201, Mumbai Indians rode on a sensational unbeaten knock from Tilak Varma, who smashed 75 off just 33 balls, laced with six fours and six towering

sixes. His fearless strokeplay under pressure proved decisive in the final stages of the match, guiding Mumbai home in 19.5 overs with four wickets in hand.

Mumbai got off to a flying start thanks to Ryan Rickelton, who hammered 48 off 23 deliveries. The opener set the tone early with an aggressive display, striking four boundaries and four sixes to put Punjab's bowlers on the back foot. Despite losing wickets at regular intervals in the middle overs, Mumbai maintained the required run rate.

With the match going

down to the wire, Will Jacks provided the finishing flourish, remaining unbeaten on 25 off just 10 balls. His late assault, which included two fours and two sixes, complemented Tilak's brilliance and ensured Mumbai crossed the line in dramatic fashion.

On the bowling front, Punjab Kings struggled to contain the flow of runs. Azmatullah Omarzai picked up two wickets, while Marco Jansen and Yuzvendra Chahal chipped in with one wicket each. However, their efforts were not enough to stop Mum-

bai's relentless chase. The defeat marks Punjab's fifth straight loss, significantly denting their chances of making it to the playoffs. They now face a must-win situation in their remaining two league matches against Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Lucknow Super Giants. Only victories in both games can keep their playoff hopes alive.

For Mumbai Indians, this win not only boosts their morale but also strengthens their position in the points table as the league stage approaches its climax.



## Virat Kohli's Record-Breaking 105 Creates History In IPL 2026

Virat Kohli once again proved why he remains one of the biggest stars in T20 cricket after smashing an unbeaten 105 against Kolkata Knight Riders in IPL 2026. The Royal Challengers Bengaluru batter not only guided his team to a memorable six-wicket victory but also scripted multiple records with his sensational knock.

Kohli's innings came at a crucial stage of the tournament and marked a strong comeback after two disappointing outings. Chasing a target of 193, the RCB opener played a masterclass innings filled with elegant boundaries, controlled aggression, and smart strike rotation. He remained unbeaten on 105 off 60 deliveries, hitting 11 fours and three sixes while maintaining a strike rate of 175.

With this century, Kohli became the first Indian batter to score 10 centuries in T20 cricket. He also joined an elite global list of players with double-digit T20 hundreds, alongside legends like Chris Gayle, Babar Azam, and David Warner.

The innings also helped Kohli achieve another massive milestone as he became the fastest batter in the world to complete 14,000 runs in T20 cricket in terms of innings played. He reached the landmark in just 409 innings, surpassing Chris Gayle's previous record of 423 innings. Kohli is also the first Indian cricketer to cross the 14,000-run mark in T20s.



The century was Kohli's ninth hundred in IPL history, extending his own record for the most IPL centuries by any batter. His latest knock also highlighted his reputation as one of the finest chasers in the game. It was his third IPL century while batting second, equalling Jos Buttler's record for most centuries in successful IPL run chases.

Kohli's brilliance powered RCB back to the top of the IPL 2026 points table and strengthened their chances of finishing strongly in the league stage. The veteran batter was named Player of the Match for his outstanding performance.

After the match, Kohli reflected calmly on the achievement and said he continues to play because of his love for cricket and the challenge of performing under pressure. Despite breaking several re-

records, his celebration remained subdued, showing his focus on contributing to the team rather than individual milestones.

Fans and cricket experts flooded social media with praise for the former India captain, calling the innings one of the finest knocks of the IPL season. Many admired not only the quality of his batting but also his consistency and hunger to perform even after more than a decade at the highest level.

The knock once again underlined Kohli's status as one of the greatest T20 batters of all time. His ability to combine aggression with control, anchor a chase under pressure, and deliver in big matches continues to make him one of the most dependable players in world cricket.

## CSK Suffer Major Blow As Jamie Overton Returns Home Mid-Season

Chennai Super Kings have suffered a significant setback in their IPL 2026 campaign after England all-rounder Jamie Overton returned to the United Kingdom due to a right thigh injury. The development comes at a crucial stage of the tournament when CSK's playoff hopes had started to improve after a strong turnaround in form. The franchise confirmed that Overton would travel back to the UK for further assessment and treatment of the injury. While CSK did not specify how long he would remain unavailable, his absence could seriously affect the team's balance during the final phase of the league stage.

Overton had emerged as one of Chennai's most important performers this season. In 10 matches, the 32-year-old contributed valuable runs and picked up crucial wickets, playing a key role with both bat and ball. His ability to provide breakthroughs and contribute lower-order runs made him one of CSK's most dependable all-rounders in IPL 2026.

The timing of the injury is particularly concerning for Chennai because the team had recently revived its playoff hopes with a string of strong performances. Overton was especially impressive in CSK's recent matches, where he delivered impactful spells and helped the team continue its late surge in the tournament.

CSK's campaign this season has been heavily affected by injuries and player unavailability. The franchise has already



dealt with multiple setbacks involving key players, which has disrupted team combinations and forced constant changes to the playing XI. Injuries to overseas players have further weakened the squad depth during the competition.

To address some of the concerns, CSK recently signed replacement players to strengthen the squad. However, replacing an experienced international all-rounder like Overton remains a difficult challenge for the five-time champions.

Fans reacted with disappointment on social media after the announcement, with many expressing concern over how injuries have disrupted Chennai's campaign this year. Several supporters praised Overton for his commitment and contributions, especially during crucial matches when the team needed strong performances.

Despite the setbacks, CSK supporters remain hopeful that the team can continue its resurgence and stay alive in the playoff race. The franchise

has a reputation for fighting back under pressure, and fans believe the experienced core of the squad can still deliver during the closing stages of the season. The latest injury blow now places additional pressure on the remaining squad members as Chennai attempt to maintain momentum during the most important stage of IPL 2026. With every match becoming crucial in the playoff battle, CSK will need other players to step up quickly and fill the gap left by Overton's absence.

## Virender Sehwag's 'Chumrah' Slip-Up Sparks Anger Among Jasprit Bumrah Fans

Former India cricketer Virender Sehwag found himself at the centre of controversy after mistakenly referring to star pacer Jasprit Bumrah as "Chumrah" during a cricket discussion ahead of an IPL 2026 match. The clip quickly went viral on social media, triggering strong reactions from Bumrah's fans.

The incident occurred during a panel discussion where Sehwag was analysing Mumbai Indians' bowling attack before their clash against Punjab Kings. While speaking about the team's key bowlers, Sehwag accidentally used the wrong name for Bumrah. Although he corrected himself almost immediately, the brief slip-up was enough to spark widespread criticism online.

Many fans expressed anger on social media, with several users accusing Sehwag of being disrespectful towards one of India's finest fast bowlers. Some users questioned whether the mistake was intentional, while others defended the former opener by calling it a simple tongue-slip during a live discussion.

The video spread rapidly across platforms like X and Instagram, where cricket fans debated the incident. One viral post questioned why Sehwag appeared to disrespect Bumrah, while others criticised people for overreacting to what they believed was an honest mistake made during live



commentary.

Despite the controversy, Bumrah himself remained focused on cricket. The Mumbai Indians pacer continues to dominate world cricket and remains one of the most feared bowlers across formats. His consistent performances and ability to deliver under pressure have strengthened his reputation as one of the best fast bowlers of the modern era.

Sehwag, known for his outspoken style and humorous commentary, has often been involved in lively cricket debates and viral moments. However, this latest incident once again highlighted how quickly social media reacts to even minor moments involving popular cricketers.

The controversy also reflected the intense emotional connection fans have with players like Bumrah, who is widely admired for his match-winning performances and calm personality. Supporters rushed to defend the Indian pacer, turning

the accidental comment into one of the most discussed cricket moments online.

Several users on social media pointed out that live television discussions often involve fast-paced conversations where commentators can make occasional verbal errors. Others argued that former cricketers should still be more careful while referring to active players, especially those with massive fan followings.

The debate continued online for hours, with hashtags related to Bumrah and Sehwag trending across social media platforms. While some fans demanded an apology, others believed the issue was being exaggerated unnecessarily.

The incident ultimately became another example of how even small moments in cricket discussions can quickly turn into major online controversies in the age of social media, where fans closely monitor every statement made about their favourite stars.

## Devdutt Padikkal Hails Virat Kohli's Record Ton, Calls It 'Watching Greatness'

Royal Challengers Bengaluru batter Devdutt Padikkal showered praise on Virat Kohli after the star batter's record-breaking century in IPL 2026. Kohli's unbeaten 105 helped RCB chase down a challenging target and return to winning form in spectacular fashion.

Padikkal described Kohli's innings as "watching greatness from close quarters" and said there are hardly any words left to explain the former RCB captain's consistency and hunger for runs. He added that Kohli has repeatedly shown why he remains one of the finest batters in world cricket.

Kohli's century came at an important moment for RCB, especially after the veteran batter had gone through a rare rough patch that included two consecutive ducks. However, the 37-year-old responded in typical fashion by producing a composed and dominant knock under pressure.

The RCB opener remained unbeaten on 105 off 60 deliveries, smashing boundaries and sixes while guiding his team through the chase with calmness and authority. During the innings, Kohli also became the fastest batter in T20 history to complete 14,000 runs and extended his record for the most IPL centuries.

Padikkal, who shared an important partnership with Kohli



during the innings, said the dressing room never doubted the senior batter despite his recent failures. According to him, Kohli has always found ways to bounce back strongly after setbacks and perform when the team needs him the most.

The left-handed batter also praised the overall performance of the RCB side, saying different players have stepped up at crucial moments throughout the tournament. He expressed confidence that the team can maintain its momentum heading into the final phase of the league stage.

Kohli's innings not only strengthened RCB's position in

the points table but also once again reminded fans of his unmatched consistency in T20 cricket. Social media was flooded with praise for the veteran batter, with many calling the knock another example of his greatness in pressure situations.

Several former cricketers and experts admired the way Kohli paced his innings. They pointed out how he balanced aggression with control, accelerated at the right moments, and kept the chase under control from start to finish. Many also praised his fitness and intensity despite playing at the highest level for more than a decade.

After the match, Kohli explained why he celebrated the century calmly, saying the team's performance and winning important matches mattered more than personal milestones. He also repeated his famous statement that "pressure is a privilege," highlighting the mindset that has defined his career for years.

The innings further strengthened Kohli's reputation as one of the greatest T20 batters of all time. Even after achieving countless milestones, the former India captain continues to inspire teammates and fans with his passion, discipline, and relentless drive for excellence.

# 'Raaka' Copyright Buzz Around Allu Arjun's Mannerisms Sparks Debate

A fresh debate has erupted in the Telugu film industry after reports claimed that the makers of Allu Arjun's upcoming film Raaka are planning to legally protect the actor's signature dialogues, gestures, and mannerisms from commercial misuse. The discussions have quickly gone viral online, with fans and industry observers divided over the idea.

According to reports, the makers are considering copyright or trademark protection for iconic character elements from the film, including specific gestures, body language, and catchphrases associated with Allu Arjun's role. The move is reportedly aimed at preventing brands, advertisers, and commercial campaigns from using the film's content without permission.

The discussion gained attention because of the massive popularity of Allu Arjun's Pushpa franchise. Dialogues and signature gestures from the film became nationwide trends, recreated by cricketers, politicians, celebrities, and millions of social media users. While the viral popularity boosted the film's reach, reports suggest the makers felt that many companies commercially benefited from the craze without official licensing agreements.

Now, with Raaka, the production team is reportedly attempting to avoid a repeat of that situation by retaining tighter control over the film's branding and character identity. Industry insiders believe the makers want to protect the character's image for future merchandising, gaming, brand partnerships, and promotional campaigns.

However, the reported move has triggered mixed reactions online. Some people praised the strategy, saying intellectual property protection is common in Hollywood and could help Indian cinema monetise viral trends more effectively. Supporters argued that creators deserve financial control over content that becomes commercially valuable.

Others, however, criticised the idea as excessive commercialisation. Many social media users pointed out that memes, reels, and fan recreations play a huge role in making films popular organically. They argued that trying to restrict public use of movie mannerisms could reduce audience engagement and negatively affect a film's viral reach.

The debate has also raised questions about how copyright laws would apply to fan-made content, parody videos, and social media trends. Legal experts note that while trademarks for character branding are possible, controlling everyday fan usage could be difficult because of fair-use and parody protections.

Raaka, directed by Atlee and produced by Sun Pictures, is already one of the most anticipated Indian films currently in production. The film's first-look poster featuring Allu Arjun in a fierce new avatar created massive excitement among fans earlier this year. Although there has been no official confirmation yet from the makers regarding the copyright plans, the discussion has already sparked a larger conversation about the future of branding, viral culture, and intellectual property in Indian cinema.

Many industry observers believe this could become a turning point for how Indian filmmakers approach marketing and content ownership in the social media era. As films increasingly rely on viral trends for promotion, balancing fan engagement with commercial rights may become one of the biggest challenges for the entertainment industry in the coming years.



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## Hombale Films Enters Overseas Distribution With Ram Charan's 'Peddi'

Popular production house Hombale Films has officially stepped into the overseas distribution business for the first time, choosing Ram Charan's upcoming pan-India film Peddi as its debut international release venture. The development has created major excitement among fans and trade circles ahead of the film's worldwide release.

Hombale Films, known for blockbuster hits like KGF, Kantara, and Salaar, has built a strong reputation across Indian and global markets over the last few years. After achieving massive success as a production banner, the company is now expanding its presence by entering the international distribution sector.

Industry experts believe Peddi is the perfect project for Hombale's overseas debut because of Ram Charan's huge global popularity and the film's large-scale pan-India appeal. The movie, directed by Buchi Babu Sana, is said to feature a powerful rural backdrop combined with intense action, emotional storytelling, and high production values.

Ram Charan's transformation and rugged look for the film have already become major talking points on social media. Fans have been eagerly discussing the actor's new avatar ever since the teaser and promotional material were released online. The film also stars Janhvi Kapoor in a key role and features music composed by Oscar-winning musician A.R. Rahman, adding further hype to the project.



Trade analysts feel Hombale Films' involvement could significantly strengthen Peddi's international reach, especially in major overseas markets such as North America, Europe, Australia, and the Middle East. The company is expected to plan a massive global release strategy to maximise the film's visibility worldwide.

The film has already shown strong momentum overseas, with reports suggesting impressive advance booking numbers in North America even before release. This early response has further increased expectations surrounding the movie. Fans reacted enthusiastically to the announcement, with many praising the collaboration between Ram Charan and Hombale Films. Social media users described the partnership as a powerful combination capable of delivering one of the biggest Telugu releases in the international market.

The move also highlights how major South Indian production houses are increasingly focusing on expanding their global footprint. With Indian cinema gaining stronger recognition worldwide, overseas distribution has become a crucial factor in a film's commercial success. Peddi is scheduled for a grand worldwide theatrical release in 2026 and is already being viewed as one of the most anticipated Indian films of the year. Expectations are particularly high because the project brings together a star actor, a successful production banner, an acclaimed director, and a globally recognised music composer.

Industry insiders believe the film could play a major role in further strengthening the international market for Telugu cinema. As Indian films continue attracting audiences beyond traditional markets, collaborations like this are being seen as a sign of the industry's growing global ambitions.

The project has generated strong curiosity because Samantha has been highly selective about her films following her health break and limited screen appearances over the past few years. Every update regarding the actress continues to receive massive attention from audiences across South India and beyond.

Industry observers believe Maa Inti Bangaaram could become an important film in Samantha's career, particularly because she is balancing both acting and production responsibilities for the project. Many fans are also eager to see how her creative vision shapes the film behind the scenes. The announcement of the new release date has further intensified anticipation surrounding the movie, with fans expecting more updates, teasers, and promotional content in the coming months. Given Samantha's popularity and the intriguing first-look material, the film is already being viewed as one of the most awaited female-led Telugu projects of 2026.

## Samantha's Maa Inti Bangaaram Gets New Release Date With Powerful Poster

The makers of Samantha Ruth Prabhu's upcoming film Maa Inti Bangaaram have officially announced a new release date along with a striking new poster that has quickly grabbed attention on social media. The announcement has created fresh excitement among fans eagerly waiting for the actress's next big-screen appearance. The newly unveiled poster features Samantha in an intense and commanding avatar, hinting at a strong character-driven story. Dressed in a rugged look with a fierce expression, the actress appears far removed from her glamorous on-screen image, suggesting that the film may showcase her in a bold and emotionally powerful role.

The movie is now scheduled for release on September 27, 2026. The announcement ended speculation surrounding the project's release timeline and immediately became a trending topic among Samantha's fans online. Maa Inti Bangaaram is especially significant because it marks Samantha's debut as a producer under her own banner, Tralala Moving Pictures. The actress had previously announced that the project would reflect her interest in backing fresh and meaningful stories while also experimenting with new creative directions in her career. Directed by newcomer Harish Shankar K, the film is expected to blend emotional drama with intense storytelling. Although the makers have kept most plot details under wraps, the promotional material hints at a rural and rooted backdrop combined with strong emotional themes. Fans praised Samantha's transformation in the latest poster, with many commenting that the actress appears ready to deliver another performance-oriented role after taking on several unconventional characters in recent years. Social media users also appreciated the earthy visual style and raw presentation of the poster.



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## 'Manga Manga' Song From Srinivasa Mangapuram Creates Buzz Among Music Lovers

The newly released song Manga Manga from the upcoming Telugu film Srinivasa Mangapuram is quickly gaining attention on social media for its energetic beats, colourful visuals, and youthful vibe. The peppy track has become one of the latest trending songs among Telugu music fans and movie audiences.

Directed by Ajay Bhupathi, Srinivasa Mangapuram marks the debut of Jayakrishna Ghattamaneni, grandson of legendary actor Krishna and nephew of superstar Mahesh Babu. The film also introduces Rasha Thadani, daughter of Bollywood actress Raveena Tandon, to Telugu cinema.

The song was officially launched by popular director Anil Ravipudi, who praised the track for its catchy composition and vibrant energy. Music for the film has been composed by GV Prakash Kumar, while singer Revanth's energetic vocals have added extra appeal to the track.

Manga Manga showcases the chemistry between Jayakrishna and Rasha Thadani through colourful visuals, lively dance moves, and a playful romantic atmosphere. Fans have especially appreciated the youthful presentation and trendy choreography featured in the song.

Social media users have been actively sharing clips and reels based on the track, helping it gain rapid popularity online. Many viewers praised Jayakrishna's screen presence and dance performance, while others highlighted Rasha Thadani's charming appearance and confident Telugu debut.

The song has also attracted attention because of its catchy lyrics written by Kasarla Shyam. Combined with GV Prakash Kumar's upbeat music, the track has become a favourite among younger audiences within a short time of release.

The film had already generated curiosity through its teaser and first single, Allele Allele, which received a positive response earlier. With Manga Manga now trending online, excitement surrounding the movie has increased further. Apart from the lead pair, the film also features veteran actor Mohan Babu in a key role.



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## Suriya's Karuppu Faces Release Shock As Morning Shows Get Cancelled

Kollywood star Suriya's much-awaited film Karuppu landed in unexpected trouble on its release day after several morning shows were suddenly cancelled across Tamil Nadu and other regions. The last-minute disruption created confusion among fans and sparked uncertainty over the film's theatrical rollout. The action drama, directed by RJ Balaji and starring Trisha alongside Suriya, was originally scheduled for a grand worldwide release with special early morning screenings. Fans had already booked tickets in huge numbers, and theatres were preparing for packed celebrations. However, hours before the first shows, multiple theatres reportedly removed screenings from their schedules. The sudden cancellations left fans shocked, especially because the film had generated massive buzz through its teaser, songs, and aggressive promotions. Social media quickly filled with posts from disappointed moviegoers who claimed their booked tickets were either cancelled or put on hold without clear explanations. Reports suggest that financial and distribution-related issues may have caused the disruption. Industry circles indicated that pending settlements connected to distribution and financing allegedly affected the smooth release of the film. However, the makers initially avoided giving detailed clarification regarding the exact reason behind the situation. Producer S.R. Prabhu later confirmed that the planned 9 AM shows had been cancelled due to "unavoidable reasons" and apologised to audiences for the inconvenience. Despite the setback, the team reportedly continued efforts to resolve the issues and resume screenings later in the day. The uncertainty surrounding Karuppu quickly became one of the biggest talking points on social media. Fans expressed frustration over the handling of the release, particularly because the film marked the reunion of Suriya and Trisha after many years. Many users also pointed out that advance bookings for the movie had been exceptionally strong before the disruption. Director RJ Balaji reportedly became emotional while reacting to the issue and assured fans that the team was trying its best to bring the film to theatres as soon as possible. Supporters flooded social media with messages backing the cast and crew during the unexpected crisis. The controversy has once again highlighted the challenges large-scale film releases sometimes face despite massive hype and audience anticipation. Industry observers noted that even highly awaited projects can run into last-minute hurdles involving finances, distribution rights, and theatre agreements. Despite the confusion, fans remain hopeful that Karuppu will recover quickly and continue its theatrical run successfully. The film carries strong expectations because of Suriya's mass image, RJ Balaji's direction, and the film's action-packed promotional material.



As updates continue to emerge, audiences are closely watching whether the makers can stabilise the release and ensure smooth screenings in the coming days.



RISING STAR  
Preet Dutta