

BUZZ POINTS



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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. Analysts believe the outcome could influence border management, regional diplomacy, and India's engagement with its eastern neighbours. 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.

Neighbouring Bangladesh adds an important dimension to the discussion. Long-pending issues such as Teesta river water sharing, migration concerns, and trade connectivity depend on coordination between New Delhi, Dhaka, and



Kolkata. With a new government in place, there is cautious optimism that some of these matters may gain momentum, though outcomes will rely on broader diplomatic engagement. China's strategic interest in 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. Speculation about Pakistan's

interests in Bengal's political outcomes is largely viewed as conjecture. While the state's border sensitivity is acknowledged, experts stress that India's national security policies remain consistent regardless of state-level political changes. Economically, West Bengal continues to face significant challenges. Once a major industrial hub, the state has experienced slower growth compared to the national average, along with unemployment and industrial decline. The new government will need to prioritize infrastructure develop-

ment, investment attraction, and administrative reforms. The incoming leadership faces a demanding task, balancing development, governance, and social cohesion. The mandate for change is clear, but delivering tangible results will require sustained effort. Ultimately, the Bengal verdict extends beyond state politics. While not a direct geopolitical upheaval, it has the potential to influence regional dynamics, underscoring how political changes in key border states can shape wider South Asian narratives.

ISRO's YUVIKA 2026 Inspires Young Minds in Space Science

Nellore, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched the sixth edition of its prestigious Young Scientist Programme, YUVIKA-2026, with the objective of encouraging school students to develop an early interest in space science and technology. The two-week residential initiative is designed for students who have successfully completed Class 9 and aims to provide them with practical exposure to India's growing space sector.

The programme was inaugurated on May 11 in Bengaluru by ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan. Out of more than 1.06 lakh applications received from across 28 states and eight Union Territories, 456 meritorious students were selected to participate in this year's edition. The programme will continue until May 22.

Training sessions and activities are being conducted at nine major ISRO centres, including SDSC-SHAR Sri-

harikota, NRSC Hyderabad, VSSC Thiruvananthapuram, SAC Ahmedabad, URSC Bengaluru, IIRS Dehradun, IPRC Mahendragiri, NE-SAC Shillong, and RRSC West Jodhpur.

Addressing the participants, the ISRO Chairman highlighted India's achievements in space exploration and spoke about future missions such as Gaganyaan and the Bharatiya Antariksh Station. He expressed confidence that today's students would play a major role in realizing the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047."

The selected students are being given hands-on learning opportunities through interactions with scientists and Gaganyaan, model rocket assembly demonstrations, Chandrayaan-3 activities, and live RH200 rocket launch experiences. Alongside academics, students are also participating in yoga, sports, cultural events, and local tours to ensure a well-rounded educational experience.



BJP Appeals to Citizens to Follow PM Modi's National Directives

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

At the BJP State Office in Hyderabad, Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao unveiled a poster featuring ten key suggestions recently proposed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the welfare and preparedness of the nation. He appealed to citizens to adopt these recommendations in their daily lives, stating that such measures would strengthen both the country's economy and national stability.

Addressing the media, Ramchander Rao said the Prime Minister's recent speech in Hyderabad focused largely on economic preparedness and responsible public participation during uncertain global conditions. He noted that many countries across the world are

currently facing economic challenges, making it essential for India to act cautiously and responsibly.

The BJP leader stated that Prime Minister Modi's suggestions were aimed at helping citizens prepare for potential future crises while reducing unnecessary expenditure and conserving national resources. He emphasized that the Prime Minister himself has begun implementing these practices personally. As an example, he mentioned that the Prime Minister had reportedly reduced the size of his official convoy, encouraging ministers and chief ministers to follow similar measures.

Ramchander Rao also highlighted the importance of adopting sustainable and

BCI Seeks Report on Mamata Banerjee's Advocate Status

New Delhi, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Bar Council of India has directed the Bar Council of West Bengal to submit a detailed report within 48 hours regarding the enrollment and legal practice status of former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

The development comes after Mamata Banerjee appeared before the Calcutta High Court earlier on Thursday, dressed in legal attire, to participate in proceedings related to alleged post-election violence and attacks on political party offices.



According to established legal practice, individuals occupying constitutional or sala-

ried public offices are generally required to suspend their legal practice licenses during their

tenure. In order to resume legal practice after leaving office, the suspended enrollment or license must be formally restored in accordance with Bar Council regulations.

In an official communication issued by BCI Principal Secretary Sriramanto Sen, the West Bengal Bar Council was instructed to provide complete records, if available, concerning Banerjee's enrollment as an advocate, details of her legal practice, suspension status during her tenure as Chief Minister from 2011 to 2026, and any subsequent revival of her right to practice law. The BCI stated that it had

taken note of several media reports showing Mamata Banerjee appearing in court wearing a lawyer's gown and advocate bands. The Council clarified that it was not expressing any opinion at this stage regarding the legality or permissibility of her court appearance, but emphasized the need to verify all factual details from official records.

The issue has drawn significant attention within legal and political circles, with discussions centering on professional ethics, bar regulations, and the procedural requirements governing advocates who hold public office.

Centre Prohibits Sugar Exports Until September 2026

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Central Government has announced an immediate ban on sugar exports, with the restriction set to remain in force until September 30, 2026, or until further orders are issued. The decision was communicated through a notification released by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), which revised the export status of sugar from "Restricted" to "Prohibited."

According to the notification, the export prohibition has been introduced as part of measures aimed at regulating domestic availability and maintaining stability in the country's sugar supply. However, the government has provided exemptions for specific categories of exports.

The restriction will not apply to sugar shipments destined for the European Union and the United States under the CXL and Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) arrangements. Exports permitted under these quota systems will continue as per the procedures outlined in the respective public notices issued earlier.

In addition, sugar exports carried out under the Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) will remain operational under the existing provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023 and the Handbook of Procedures 2023. The Centre has also clarified that government-to-government exports intended to



address food security requirements in other nations will not be affected by the prohibition.

The notification further stated that consignments already in the physical export pipeline prior to the announcement will be exempted from the ban. This provision is expected to provide relief to exporters whose shipments had already reached ports or were undergoing final export procedures.

Officials noted that the new order has come into effect immediately. The government also clarified that the transitional arrangement provisions available under the Foreign Trade Policy 2023 would not apply in this case, making the prohibition enforceable without any relaxation period.

The move is likely to have a significant impact on the sugar export sector, while also influencing domestic market dynamics and pricing in the coming months.

ACB Court Issues Summons in Formula E Case

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Formula E Race case, which has sparked major political debate in Telangana, reached a significant stage after the ACB Court accepted the chargesheet filed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau and issued summons to the accused individuals. Former minister K. T. Rama Rao, senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar, and BLN Reddy have been directed to appear before the court on July 31.

The case relates to financial transactions connected with the Formula E car race conducted in Hyderabad in 2023. According to the investigation, nearly 55 crore was allegedly transferred from HMDA accounts to Formula E Operations (FEO), a foreign organization associated with the



event. The ACB alleged that the transfer of funds took place without following required government approvals and procedural norms. In the chargesheet, KTR has been named as Accused No. 1, Arvind Kumar as A2, BLN Reddy as A3, sports consultant Kiran Malleshwar Rao as A4, and FEO as A5. The Anti-Corruption Bureau stated that the investigation focused on

whether official rules and financial regulations were violated during the organization of the international racing event. As part of the inquiry, ACB officials questioned several individuals, including KTR, Arvind Kumar, BLN Reddy, and representatives linked to FEO. Statements from various officials were also reportedly recorded before the chargesheet was submitted to the court.

The Formula E case has now become a politically sensitive issue in Telangana, leading to sharp exchanges between the ruling Congress party and the opposition BRS. While BRS leaders describe the case as politically motivated, Congress leaders maintain that the investigation concerns alleged misuse of public funds.

India Hosts Key BRICS Foreign Ministers' Conclave

New Delhi, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday welcomed senior diplomats and foreign ministers from BRICS member nations as India commenced a crucial two-day meeting of the influential international bloc in New Delhi.

The visiting delegation jointly called on the Prime Minister ahead of the formal discussions. Among those present were Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, Brazil's Mauro Vieira, Indonesia's



Sugiono, and South African Foreign Minister Ronald Lamola.

The high-level conclave assumes special importance amid growing global economic uncertainty, particularly due

to the ongoing crisis in West Asia, disruptions in energy supplies, and evolving trade and tariff policies of the United States. Diplomatic observers view the meeting as a significant platform for

ECI to Launch Phase-III Electoral Roll Revision Across 19 Regions

New Delhi, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Election Commission of India has announced that Phase III of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls will begin from May 30 across 16 states and three Union Territories. The exercise will be carried out in a phased manner to update voter lists and ensure greater accuracy in electoral records.

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar formally launched the programme on Thursday and emphasized that the revision process is aimed at ensuring that only eligible citizens are included in the voter rolls while preventing the inclusion of ineligible names.

Appealing to voters to actively participate, Kumar urged electors to cooperate with officials and complete their Enumeration Forms during the revision process. He stated that the initiative was being con-



ducted with transparency and public participation at its core. According to the Election Commission, the schedule for Phase III has been designed keeping in mind the availability of field-level staff who are simultaneously involved in the ongoing Census house-listing exercise.

The states and Union Territories where the revision will be undertaken include

BJP Appeals to Citizens to Follow PM Modi's National Directives

continued

economical lifestyles. He encouraged people to make greater use of public transportation, reduce fuel consumption, and support environmentally friendly alternatives such as electric vehicles. Stressing the benefits of shared transportation, he said car-pooling can significantly reduce traffic congestion, fuel usage, and pollution.

The BJP state president announced that he would personally travel by Hyderabad Metro to attend an upcoming meeting in the city, setting an example for others to follow. He also expressed his intention to purchase an electric vehicle in the near future.

He urged media representa-

tives and panelists to use their platforms responsibly by informing citizens about both global developments and national issues. According to him, public awareness and responsible behavior are essential during challenging economic times.

Referring to similar appeals made in earlier years by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Ramchander Rao said national responsibility goes beyond politics and requires collective participation from every citizen. He concluded by stating that even small lifestyle changes by individuals can contribute significantly to protecting the nation and supporting economic stability.

ECI to Launch Phase-III Electoral Roll Revision Across 19 Regions

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Delhi, Odisha, Mizoram, Sikkim, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Telangana, Punjab, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Tripura and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

The Election Commission clarified that schedules for Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh would be announced later due to weather conditions and

snow-bound regions.

During Phase III, over 3.94 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will conduct house-to-house visits covering nearly 36.73 crore electors. They will be assisted by approximately 3.42 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties.

The Election Commission stated that the revision exercise is participatory in nature and called upon all political parties to appoint BLAs at every polling booth to ensure transparency and smooth implementation of the process.

India Hosts Key BRICS Foreign Ministers' Conclave

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emerging economies to coordinate responses to global geopolitical and economic challenges.

India, which currently holds the BRICS chairmanship, is organizing the ministerial meeting in preparation for the annual BRICS Summit scheduled to take place in September this year. The discussions are expected to focus on strengthening economic cooperation, trade partnerships, energy security, multilateral reforms, and global financial stability.

The BRICS grouping origi-

nally consisted of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. In 2024, the alliance expanded to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates, while Indonesia formally joined the bloc in 2025.

With 11 member nations, BRICS now represents nearly half of the world's population, around 40 percent of global GDP, and roughly one-fourth of international trade, making it one of the most influential coalitions of emerging economies.

The ministerial sessions are being chaired by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.



BIACH Launches Advanced Digital Pathology System

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute has introduced India's first Roche Ventana DP 600 Digital Pathology System featuring a high-capacity 240-slide scanner, marking a significant step forward in cancer diagnosis and precision healthcare. The advanced facility, established with the support of the ICICI Foundation, was inaugurated on Thursday by actor and hospital chairman Nandamuri Balakrishna.

According to hospital authorities, the newly installed digital pathology platform is expected to considerably enhance the speed, accuracy, and efficiency of cancer diagnostics. The technology enables blood and tissue sample slides to be scanned digitally and shared instantly with specialists in high-resolution format

for detailed analysis and consultation.

Dr. Sushila Kodandapani, Head of the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, stated that the system allows scanned slides to be examined at nearly 80X magnification, enabling pathologists to study tissue samples with exceptional clarity and precision. She explained that the advanced imaging capability would help doctors detect abnormalities more accurately and deliver faster diagnoses, thereby improving treatment planning and patient care outcomes.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by trust board members Dr. Nori Dattatreyyudu and J.S.R. Prasad, along with Medical Director Dr. T.S. Rao, Medical Superintendent Dr. Phani Koteswara Rao, and Associate Director (Academics) Dr. Kalpana Raghunath.

Awareness Meet Held for Toddy Musical Festival

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

An awareness programme regarding the upcoming "Toddy Musical Festival Experience" scheduled for May 24 was organized at the Somajiguda Press Club in Hyderabad. Telangana Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar participated in the event and unveiled bottles of Palm Neera as part of the promotional campaign.

The programme was attended by former minister Srinivas Goud, MLC Goreti Venkanna, former MP Boora Narsaiah Goud, and several other dignitaries.

Speaking at the event, Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar said that entrepreneur Ramdev has developed an Experium Park spread across 150 acres near the Chilkur Balaji route with an investment of 500 crore. He stated that around 500 palm trees imported from different countries at a cost of 10 crore are being installed at the venue



ahead of the festival.

The minister said the event is being organized under the guidance of Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao to promote awareness about toddy and traditional palm-based livelihoods. He described toddy as a natural beverage with health benefits and said discussions would be held within the

government regarding the proposal to recognize palm toddy as Telangana's official drink.

Ponnamp Prabhakar also emphasized the importance of preserving the traditional occupation of toddy tappers and promoting the cultivation of palmyra and date palm trees across villages under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Ministers Review Paddy Procurement in Khammam

Khammam | TPN Bureau

Telangana Revenue, Housing, and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy assured farmers that the state government would procure every grain of produce at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He made these remarks during a review meeting on grain procurement held at the Khammam IDOC along with Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy.

Addressing officials, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the government is committed to protecting farmers' interests and is additionally providing a 500 bonus over the MSP to support cultivators. He instructed procurement officials to ensure that farmers do not face losses due to unnecessary deductions related to impurities or weight discrepancies at procurement centres.

The minister warned that strict action would be taken against anyone violating procurement norms or troubling



farmers during the purchasing process. He urged farmers not to worry and assured them that the government is closely monitoring procurement operations. He further stated that the state government would procure not only paddy but also maize to provide better market support to farmers. The meet-

ing reviewed procurement arrangements, transportation, and storage facilities across the combined Khammam district.

Collectors Divakara T.S. and Ankit, MLAs Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao and Ramdas Naik, along with senior officials, attended the review meeting.

Vivek Venkatswamy Assures Revival of Singareni

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Labour, Employment, Mines and Geology Minister G. Vivek Venkatswamy stated that the Praja Palana government is determined to restore the former strength and reputation of Singareni by launching new mining projects and generating large-scale employment opportunities for workers and local youth.

On Thursday, the Minister visited the underground section of the KK-V mine in the Mandamarri area of Singareni and descended into the mine along with workers to inspect operations firsthand. During the visit, he reviewed working conditions inside the underground unit and interacted directly with employees to understand their concerns and workplace challenges.

Workers raised issues related to income tax deductions on PRC arrears and also appealed to the government for assistance in fulfilling their long-pending dream of owning houses. Responding to their concerns, the Minister assured them that the government was taking steps to address these matters.

Speaking during the interaction, Vivek Venkatswamy criticized the previous BRS administration, alleging that Singareni had been neglected during its tenure. He stated that while the corporation's resources were heavily utilized, no major new mining projects were initiated during that period.

The Minister urged workers



to focus on maintaining high-quality coal production while strictly adhering to safety standards in mining operations. Later, he attended a felicitation ceremony organized at the KK-V mine for Shram Shakti Award recipient Yedukola Pawan Kumar.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister said the Kaka family has maintained a long-standing association with Singareni workers and emphasized the importance of cooperation between employees and officials for the organization's growth. Recalling the contributions of former Union Minister Kaka Venkatswamy, he noted that the late leader had secured nearly 400 crore for Singareni and safeguarded

around one lakh jobs.

Vivek Venkatswamy also revealed that the Telangana government is ensuring Singareni's participation in coal block tenders under Central government policies. He said the issue of income tax on PRC arrears has already been brought to the attention of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. The Minister further announced that the proposed RKP Opencast Phase-2 project is expected to create employment for nearly 5,000 people once forest clearances are obtained. He also assured that the government would soon address the demand for increased minimum wages for contract workers under the leadership of the Chief Minister.

CRPF Reviews Border Road Project

Warangal, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Central Reserve Police Force Additional Director General (Southern Zone) Ravdeep Singh Sethi stated that the ongoing road construction project in the Karreguttalu region of Mulugu district would greatly enhance connectivity and improve living conditions for tribal communities residing in remote forest areas.

On Thursday, accompanied by Superintendent of Police Sudheer Ramnath Kekani, the senior CRPF official inspected the progress of road works being carried out in the dense forest stretches along the Telangana-Chhattisgarh border. Officials explained that despite challenging geographical conditions and difficult terrain, the construction work had successfully advanced up to the Tadpala hill region and was approaching completion.

The road project is designed to connect Morumuru with Pamunuru and further extend through Jella and Doli villages up to the Tadpala hill ranges. Authorities believe the improved road network will significantly benefit isolated tribal habitations by providing easier access to transportation

facilities and essential public services.

Speaking during the inspection, Sethi said the project would help improve access to healthcare, education, emergency response services, and communication facilities for people living in interior forest regions. He emphasized that better infrastructure would also contribute to faster development and improved coordination between government agencies operating in remote areas.

Later, a high-level security review meeting was conducted at the Pamunuru CRPF camp. Discussions focused on strengthening coordination among security forces, enhancing border security measures, and intensifying anti-Maoist operations in the region. Officials also reviewed the progress of various developmental initiatives being undertaken in the border areas.

Among those present during the visit and review meeting were Hyderabad Range DIG Anil Minj, 81 Battalion Commandant Mukesh Kumar Singh, officers from the 39 Battalion, and Venkatapuram Circle Inspector Muthyam Ramesh.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Reviews Massive Paddy Procurement Drive

Nalgonda/Khammam, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy assured farmers that the state government would procure every grain of paddy during the ongoing Rabi (Yasangi) 2025-26 season and directed officials to speed up transportation and procurement operations across the state.

During inspections at paddy procurement centres and rice mills in the erstwhile Nalgonda and Khammam districts, the minister reviewed ground-level arrangements and interacted with farmers, labourers, and officials. He stated that Telangana is witnessing one of its biggest paddy production and procurement seasons and emphasized that no farmer should suffer due to delays in lifting produce.

At the Chetla Chennaram procurement centre in Kanagal mandal, Uttam Kumar Reddy interacted with hamalis who had come from West Bengal for loading work and instructed officials to provide them with

better facilities. He later inspected milling and storage operations at Balaji Rice Mill.

The minister also visited Nayakangudem procurement centre in Khammam district and directed district collectors to arrange all available transport vehicles, including lorries and DCMs, for shifting paddy from procurement centres to mills and storage locations. He stressed close coordination between transport, police, and civil supplies departments to ensure smooth logistics.

Warning against irregularities at rice mills, the minister said strict action would be taken against anyone attempting to cheat farmers. He also instructed officials to resolve transportation and labour-related issues immediately.

The state has established a record 8,575 procurement centres this season with an allocation of 22,000 crore. Paddy cultivation covers more than 65 lakh acres, and production is expected to cross 141 lakh metric tonnes, with the government targeting procurement of 90 lakh metric tonnes.

Praja Darbar Brings Governance Closer to Villages

Warangal, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Panchayat Raj Minister Seethakka on Thursday reaffirmed the State Government's commitment to resolving public grievances directly at the grassroots level while participating in a "Praja Darbar" programme held in Laxmipuram village of Kannagudem mandal in Mulugu district.

The public interaction programme was conducted as part of the government's 99-day "Praja Palana" initiative. Residents from nearly ten villages, including Tupakulagudem, Laxmipuram, Rajannapet, and Muppanapalli, attended the event and submitted petitions relating to civic amenities, welfare schemes, infrastructure, and local development works.

The Minister, accompanied by ITDA Project Officer Lenin Vatsal Toppo, ASP Manan, and Additional Collector Ch. Mahendar ji, personally received representations from villagers and assured them that their concerns would be addressed promptly.

Speaking on the occasion, Seethakka said the programme was receiving a strong response from rural communities because it was taking administration directly to the people instead of forcing villagers to visit government offices repeatedly. She noted that conducting such outreach initiatives in remote and underdeveloped mandals like Kann-



aigudem reflected the government's focus on inclusive and people-centric governance.

The Minister explained that while several complaints were being resolved immediately, cases involving technical or administrative procedures would be addressed within a fixed timeframe to ensure transparency and accountability. She stressed that public representatives and officials must work together harmoniously for the overall development of villages.

During the visit, Seethakka also inaugurated and laid foundation stones for development projects worth around 3.4 crore in the mandal. These included the construction of a Gram Panchayat building at Laxmipuram, internal CC roads, drainage systems, and a road connecting Boregudem to the ST Colony at an estimated cost of 1.45 crore to improve connectivity in tribal areas.

The Minister directed officials to give priority to petitions submitted during the Praja Darbar and keep applicants informed about the progress of their requests.

CSIR Showcases Electric Tractor and Tiller for Farmers

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

In line with the global transition toward environmentally friendly transportation and sustainable farming solutions, the CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-CMERI) has developed two electric-powered agricultural vehicles — an e-tractor and an e-tiller — aimed at reducing farmers' dependence on expensive diesel fuel.

The innovative machines were showcased during a nationwide technology roadshow organized by the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI) on the occasion of National Technology Day. The event, held on May 11 in Hyderabad, featured demonstrations of the PRIMA-ET-11 e-tractor and the compact electric tiller. The roadshow began at CSIR-IIIM Jammu and will next move to CSIR-NIIST Thiruvananthapuram.

Officials noted that CSIR-CMERI has a long-standing history in agricultural innovation and had earlier developed India's first indigenous tractor, Swaraj, in 1974. The newly developed electric tractor can achieve a top speed of 25 kmph and generates a peak power output of 26 horsepower. Equipped with a lifting capacity of 500 kilograms and a 72-volt, 200 ampere-hour battery

system, the vehicle is expected to reduce operating expenses by nearly 60 percent compared to conventional diesel tractors. The e-tiller, designed as a lightweight and compact farming machine, features electronic controls and clutch-free operation. According to developers, it can deliver nearly 85 percent savings in operational costs. Both machines are capable of being charged through solar energy or regular grid power, making them suitable for rural agricultural use.

During an interactive panel discussion, several farmers expressed concerns regarding the affordability of such technology for small-scale cultivators. In response, representatives from CSIR-CMERI stated that efforts are underway to encourage government subsidies for electric agricultural equipment. They also revealed plans to further enhance the horsepower capacity of the machines.

The discussion panel included Dr Srinivas Reddy, Dr Prakash Kumar, Dr Naresh Chandra Murmu, and Sudha Reddy.

Speaking on the importance of innovation, Dr Prakash Kumar emphasized that technological growth depends heavily on the availability of resources and sustained investment in research and development.

TPCC Leader Targets KTR and Harish Rao

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

At Gandhi Bhavan, TPCC General Secretary Gajjala Kantham launched a sharp attack on BRS leaders K. T. Rama Rao and T. Harish Rao, accusing them of spreading false propaganda against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy through social media campaigns.

Kantham alleged that the BRS leadership was attempting to mislead the public by claiming that the Chief Minister was supporting Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar in the ongoing controversy surrounding his son. He stated that the government had already directed officials to conduct a thorough inquiry into the allegations against Bhagirath and assured that strict legal action would follow if guilt

is established.

The Congress leader further accused the previous BRS government of corruption and misuse of power during its ten-year rule. He alleged that large-scale financial irregularities and political intimidation took place under their administration. Kantham also claimed that the law would take its course irrespective of political status and emphasized that no individual would receive special treatment. Defending the current government, he stated that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is committed to ensuring the safety and dignity of women in Telangana. He added that the state government would act firmly in cases involving crimes against women and uphold justice without discrimination.

Pre-SIR Voter Mapping Gains Pace in Hyderabad

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Election officials in Hyderabad have completed nearly 41 percent of the voter mapping process as part of the pre-Special Intensive Revision (pre-SIR) exercise aimed at verifying electoral records before the official revision begins. Despite the significance of the exercise, major political parties, except the All India Majlis Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), have shown limited participation through booth-level agents.

The Congress party, which has strongly criticized the SIR process and accused the BJP of attempting to remove minority voters from electoral rolls, has yet to submit a complete list of polling booth agents to the Election Commission. The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) is also reported to have delayed appointing booth-level representatives. In contrast, AIMIM has launched an extensive awareness campaign across Hyderabad, especially in the Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency, encouraging voters to actively participate in the verification process.

A senior AIMIM leader alleged that minority communities had previously faced difficulties during similar exercises in other states and stressed the need for vigilance in Telangana. Election officials, however, clarified that the exercise is intended to identify duplicate, deceased, and ineligible voters while ensuring accurate voter records.

According to officials, the ongoing mapping process compares the electoral rolls of January 1, 2025, with records from 2002, when the last intensive revision was conducted. Voters whose names are not found in earlier rolls are being linked through their parents' records for verification.

Additional Commissioner of GHMC and election in-charge K. Chandrakala stated that voters above 40 years generally faced fewer verification issues, while younger voters registered after 2002 are being verified through family records. She emphasized that the process is routine and aimed at improving transparency in electoral rolls.

Although only 21 percent of voters had been covered a month ago, officials said the exercise accelerated significantly after administrative changes. Authorities expect another 20 percent of the electorate to be mapped before the official SIR process begins on June 25.



Revanth Reddy Criticizes Centre Over NEET-UG Cancellation

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy strongly criticized the Central Government over the cancellation of NEET-UG 2026, describing the move as irresponsible and harmful to the future of students across the country. He alleged that repeated examination paper leaks during the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have created uncertainty and anxiety among millions of aspirants. The Chief Minister stated that repeated failures in conducting national-level examinations have severely affected students and their families, many of whom spend years preparing for competitive tests under financial and emotional pressure. He remarked that parents often incur debts and make major sacrifices to support their children's education, making such cancellations deeply distressing.

Revanth Reddy alleged that examination paper leaks have become frequent over the past decade and claimed that several BJP-ruled states have witnessed major irregularities in recruitment and entrance examinations. Referring to re-



ports cited by the Congress party in a document titled "The Paper Leak Decade," he stated that numerous incidents involving leaked examination papers have affected millions of students nationwide.

He compared the NEET cancellation to the disruption caused by demonetization, saying both decisions created widespread confusion and hardship among the public. The Chief Minister also questioned why stronger account-

ability measures had not been taken against those responsible for repeated paper leaks.

At the same time, Revanth Reddy assured students and parents in Telangana that the state government would stand firmly with them during the uncertainty surrounding NEET. He appealed to students not to lose confidence and promised continued support from the Telangana government for their academic future and career aspirations.

MLA Demands Probe Into Private Hospitals

Karimnagar, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Choppadandi MLA and District Congress Committee president Medipally Satyam has called for a thorough investigation into the functioning of private hospitals in Karimnagar, alleging that several institutions are operating without adequate infrastructure and qualified medical personnel.

In a letter addressed to District Collector Chitra Mishra on Thursday, the MLA expressed concern over patient safety and accused certain hospitals of prioritizing profits over proper healthcare services. He stated that the poor and middle-class sections were being adversely affected by irregularities in the private medical sector.

The demand for an inquiry comes in the wake of an incident that occurred on Wednesday night at a private hospital in Karimnagar, where Telangana Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar was reportedly trapped for a brief period after a lift malfunctioned. Following the incident, the Minister instructed the District Medical and Health Officer to review the hospital's permissions and initiate necessary action.

Referring to the episode, Medipally Satyam alleged that many hospitals lack essential facilities such as properly functioning lifts, wheelchairs, hygienic wards, and emergency support systems. He further claimed that some medical establishments were being managed by individuals without

proper medical expertise and were employing unqualified staff to provide treatment.

The MLA also accused certain hospitals of prescribing unnecessary diagnostic tests and imposing excessive medical charges on patients. He urged the district administration to take strict action against hospitals violating safety and healthcare norms.

Satyam requested the formation of a special inspection committee to conduct surprise checks at private hospitals across Karimnagar district. He further demanded that licenses of institutions found violating regulations be cancelled immediately and that only qualified professionals be allowed to practice in healthcare facilities.

BRS Demands Transparent Probe in POCSO Case

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

At a press conference held at Telangana Bhavan, BRS General Secretary R. S. Praveen Kumar demanded a transparent and impartial investigation into the POCSO case registered at Pet Basheerabad Police Station. He stated that public pressure and collective protests played a major role in bringing the issue into the spotlight.

Praveen Kumar alleged that the police failed to follow proper legal procedures while handling aspects of the case and questioned why no official media briefing had been conducted

regarding the investigation. He further accused authorities of showing leniency toward the accused and claimed there were attempts to weaken the case.

The BRS leader said he had spoken to the victim's mother, who allegedly expressed concern over the circulation of photographs and defamatory content related to the victim on social media platforms. He demanded immediate steps to remove such content and urged the government to ensure the victim's privacy and safety.

Praveen Kumar also criticized political leaders across parties for making statements

that could influence the investigation or create confusion over the case. He called upon women ministers and senior officials to intervene and ensure justice is delivered without delay.

He further alleged that counter-cases and social media campaigns were being used to intimidate the victim and her family. Stressing that the law should apply equally to all, he demanded strict action against those responsible for spreading offensive material online.

The press conference was attended by BRS leaders Bommera Ramamurthy and Fayaz, among others.

Revanth Reddy Congratulates V.D. Satheesan

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy extended his congratulations and best wishes to V. D. Satheesan following his selection as the Chief Minister of Kerala.

In a statement issued to the media on Thursday, Revanth Reddy described Satheesan's elevation as recognition for his decades of public service and commitment to value-based politics. He stated that the people of Kerala had placed their trust in the Congress-led United Democratic Front after its campaign focusing on democracy, social justice, and inclusive development.

The Telangana Chief Minister praised Kerala for setting an example in sectors such as education, healthcare, and literacy. He expressed confidence that the state would witness further progress and development under Satheesan's leadership.

Revanth Reddy also stated that the Telangana government is willing to work closely with the Kerala government in areas including investment promotion, tourism, skill development, and inter-state cooperation. He conveyed his hope that Kerala would continue advancing towards greater prosperity and all-round growth in the coming years.

Telangana Minister Criticizes Centre Over MSP Hikes

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao strongly criticized the Central Government over the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) announced for the 2026-27 Kharif season, alleging that the revised rates fail to provide meaningful relief to farmers facing rising cultivation costs. In a press statement, the minister accused the Centre of neglecting the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission, which proposed fixing MSP at least 50 percent above the comprehensive cost of production. He argued that the recently announced MSP increases were too small to offset the rising expenses of fertilizers, labour, seeds, diesel, and electricity.

Thummala Nageswara Rao pointed out that the MSP for common paddy was increased by only 72 per quintal, while maize received an increase of just 10. He said such hikes were inadequate and did not

reflect the financial burden currently faced by farmers. He also expressed dissatisfaction over the MSPs announced for cotton, soybean, groundnut, and red gram, stating that farmers continue to struggle with higher input costs and market uncertainties.

The minister alleged that the Centre focuses more on publicity surrounding MSP announcements rather than ensuring real financial security for cultivators. He stressed that genuine farmer welfare depends not only on declaring MSPs but also on guaranteeing procurement at those prices.

He demanded that the Centre procure at least 75 percent of farmers' produce and immediately include maize and sorghum under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). Highlighting Telangana's role, he said the state government has been procuring crops such as maize and sorghum to protect farmers, despite the additional financial burden on the state exchequer.

Opposition Targets Telangana Government Over Economic Management

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

An open letter addressed to Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has sharply criticized the state government's economic policies, alleging financial mismanagement, rising debt, and misleading claims regarding Telangana's growth. Referring to the latest Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report for 2025-26, the letter questioned the government's slogans such as "Telangana Rising" and the target of building a "3 trillion economy."

The letter claimed that the state failed to meet major revenue targets across several sectors. It alleged that against the projected revenue of over 2.29 lakh crore, actual collections stood significantly lower at around 1.81 lakh crore. Concerns were also raised over declining land revenue, reduced non-tax income, and lower-than-expected collections from property registrations.

The criticism further extended to the Excise Department, where questions were raised over the gap between projected and actual liquor rev-

enue collections. The letter alleged irregularities and demanded transparency regarding revenue losses.

The government was also accused of increasing debt beyond approved borrowing limits. According to the claims made in the letter, borrowings exceeded the amount authorized by the Legislative Assembly, raising concerns over the state's fiscal stability and future liabilities.

The letter additionally criticized the state government's relations with the Centre, alleging that despite repeated visits to Delhi and praise for the "Gujarat Model," Telangana failed to secure expected grants from the Union government.

It further claimed that the state, which had projected a revenue surplus, ultimately recorded a deficit, reflecting what the author described as poor financial planning and unrealistic budget estimates. The letter concluded by accusing the government of pushing Telangana into economic uncertainty through excessive borrowing and administrative inefficiency.

VHP Warns of Expanded Cow Protection Drives

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) Joint General Secretary Dr. Surendra Kumar Jain stated that the organization would intensify the formation of "Go Rakshak Dals" across Telangana if the government failed to take strict action against illegal cow slaughter, especially during the Bakrid season in Hyderabad.

Addressing a press conference in Hyderabad, Dr. Jain alleged that the Telangana Prohibition of Cow Slaughter Act of 1977 had failed to deliver effective results. He claimed that despite the law being in force for several decades, there had been very few convictions related to cow slaughter cases.



According to him, cases were often registered against cow protection activists, while seized cattle allegedly ended up back in the hands of smugglers. He also criticized the

lack of strict penalties against offenders.

The VHP leader announced that the organization had established a dedicated legal cell to seek stronger amendments

to the existing legislation and ensure stricter implementation of laws related to cattle protection. He urged the state government to take immediate measures to curb illegal activities linked to cow slaughter.

Dr. Jain also voiced concern over remarks made by certain political leaders regarding Sanatana Dharma and religious slogans such as "Jai Shri Ram." He said the VHP would continue to defend Hindu cultural and religious values through democratic and legal means.

The organization further demanded greater autonomy for temple administration, stating that temple revenues should be utilized exclusively for Hindu religious and social activities rather than government

control.

Additionally, Dr. Jain announced that the VHP would launch a nationwide awareness campaign against religious conversions allegedly carried out through inducement or fraud. He said model anti-conversion legislation would be submitted to various state governments for consideration.

He also cautioned against the possible misuse of the proposed Telangana Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Act, 2026, warning that the organization would stage protests if the law was used to target Hindu groups or suppress religious expression.

VHP state leaders and representatives were also present at the press conference.



Ponnam Prabhakar Greets Hanumantha Rao

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar congratulated V. Hanumantha Rao on assuming charge as Advisor to the BC Welfare Department at the Secretariat.

The Minister described Hanumantha Rao as a leader who has long worked for the upliftment of weaker sections and extended his best wishes on the

new responsibility. He stated that the government would seek his guidance and suggestions in implementing welfare measures aimed at ensuring justice and equal opportunities for backward and weaker communities. Ponnam Prabhakar emphasized that all stakeholders would work together to safeguard the rights and welfare of weaker sections across the state.



BC Students Honoured with Pratibha Puraskar Awards

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The BC Welfare Department organized the Pratibha Puraskar Awards ceremony at Komaram Bheem Bhavan in Banjara Hills to felicitate meritorious students from BC Gurukulas and welfare hostels. Telangana Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Vakiti Srihari attended the event as chief guests.

Several prominent leaders and officials participated in the programme, including V. Hanumantha Rao, BC Commission Chairman Niranjan, Rajya Sabha member Anil Kumar Yadav, and senior BC Welfare Department officials.

Addressing the students, Minister Vakiti Srihari stressed the importance of education, discipline, and deter-

mination in achieving success. Referring to the Sanskrit saying "Vidya Dadati Vinayam," he said education builds humility and shapes responsible citizens. He also cited leaders like Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, highlighting education as a tool for empowerment and social transformation.

The minister encouraged students to aim for excellence and actively contribute to the development of Telangana. He said the state government, under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is prioritizing educational reforms and providing better facilities in Gurukul institutions to support students' growth and future leadership aspirations.

TGBIE Revises Marks Pattern for Intermediate Courses

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) has introduced significant changes to the marks allocation pattern for intermediate courses, particularly in Science, Mathematics, Humanities, and Language subjects.

Under the revised system, Science practical examinations—which were previously conducted for 30 marks only in the second year—will now be divided equally between first and second year students. Physics, Chemistry, Botany, and Zoology practicals will carry 15 marks each per year, while the theory examinations in these subjects will continue to be held for 60 marks.

For Mathematics students, the board has introduced Activity-Based Learning (ABL) internal assessments. Students will receive 15 marks each in both first and second years through internal evaluation. Consequently, the theory ex-

aminations for Maths-A and Maths-B will now be conducted for 60 marks instead of the earlier 75 marks.

Major revisions have also been implemented for Humanities subjects such as Commerce, Accountancy, Economics, Political Science, History, Geography, and Public Administration. These subjects will now have theory examinations for 80 marks, while the remaining 20 marks will be awarded through ABL-based internal assessments.

Similar modifications have been extended to language and modern language subjects as well. In another important academic reform, TGBIE has introduced a new ACE group comprising Accountancy, Commerce, and Economics.

Additionally, students in the MEC stream will now write Mathematics theory examinations for 80 marks, accompanied by 20 marks allotted for internal assessment activities.

Illegal Liquor Shops Raise Concern

Quthbullapur, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Residents of Balayya Basti near Mahadevapuram in Gajularamaram have raised serious concerns over the increasing number of illegal liquor outlets, commonly known as belt shops, operating openly in the locality. Locals allege that unauthorized liquor sales continue unchecked despite repeated complaints and earlier media reports highlighting the issue.

According to residents, excise authorities conducted limited raids in the past and registered a few cases, but no lasting action was taken. They claim the illegal outlets resumed business almost immediately, leading to frustration among families in the area. Many people accuse officials of failing to curb the activity effectively.

Residents say several belt shops function from early morning until late night, resulting in frequent disturbances. Incidents involving drunk-



en quarrels, public nuisance, and harassment of women are reportedly becoming common. Parents fear the growing influence of liquor availability is negatively affecting the youth in the locality.

Women and youth from the basti recently approached the local police station seeking stricter action. However, locals

claim the situation remains unchanged. They are now demanding permanent measures from the Excise Department, including the complete removal of illegal liquor sales from residential areas and stronger protection for women and children.

Police Bust Interstate Ganja Smuggling Racket

Quthbullapur, May 14 | TPN Bureau

In a major crackdown on narcotics trafficking, police from the Dundigal Police Station under the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate, along with the Quthbullapur Zone Special Operations Team (SOT), arrested three interstate smugglers and seized more than 63 kilograms of ganja during a joint operation.

According to police officials, the accused were identified as Ravindra Ankush Kevate, Manoj San Power, and Chaitanya Mahendra Kute, all residents of Maharashtra. The trio was allegedly transporting ganja from Odisha's Sukma region to Pune through the Hyderabad Outer Ring Road and Nanded route.

Acting on specific intelligence, police teams carried out a coordinated raid and intercepted an Innova vehicle along with a Baleno car that was reportedly being used as an escort vehicle. During the inspection, officers recovered around



63.07 kilograms of ganja packed in 26 packets. Police also seized four mobile phones and two vehicle number plates from the accused.

The operation was conducted under the supervision of senior officials, including SOT DCP P. Shoban, Additional DCP A. Vishwaprasad, and Medchal Division ACP C. Shankar Reddy. Teams led by

SOT Quthbullapur Inspector Shyam Sundar Reddy, Dundigal Inspector P. Satish, Detective Inspector M. Bal Reddy, and SOT SI K. Rajesh participated in the raid and subsequent arrests.

Police officials appreciated the efforts of the team and announced rewards for their role in preventing interstate drug trafficking.

Extensive Arrangements Planned for Fish Prasadam Distribution

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

A high-level review meeting regarding the annual Fish Prasadam distribution program scheduled for June 8 at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds was held at the Hyderabad District Collectorate under the leadership of Telangana Minister Ponnam Prabhakar. Ministers Vakiti Srihari and Mohammed Azharuddin, Rajya Sabha member Anil Kumar Yadav, Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Sai Kumar, District Collector Priyanka Ala, and senior officials from multiple departments attended the meeting.

During the review, Minister Ponnam Prabhakar stated that the Fish Prasadam distribu-

tion, organized traditionally by the Bathini family during the Mrugasira Karte season, attracts devotees from across Telangana, other Indian states, and even foreign countries every year. He instructed all government departments to work in close coordination to ensure the smooth conduct of the event.

The minister directed departments including Police, Traffic, GHMC, Revenue, and Roads & Buildings to make comprehensive arrangements related to sanitation, barricading, uninterrupted electricity supply, drinking water, crowd management, and traffic regulation. He also stressed the need for proper queue management to avoid overcrowding and ensure public safety.

Officials were instructed to arrange special RTC buses and Metro services from key transportation hubs. Medical camps, CCTV surveillance, adequate lighting, fire safety measures, and emergency services were also discussed during the meeting. Authorities plan to establish around 35 counters for distribution this year.

The Fisheries Department was asked to maintain an additional reserve of fish fry beyond the 1.25 lakh kept last year to meet the anticipated rush. The minister also appreciated the continued support extended by organizations such as Agarwal Samaj, Jaiswal Samaj, and Bathini Trusts in providing food and assistance to visiting devotees.



Student Groups Protest at OU Over POCSO Case

Osmania University, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Tension prevailed at Osmania University after members of the Unemployed JAC and several student organizations staged a protest demanding the immediate arrest of Bandi Bhagirath, who has been accused in a POCSO case involving a minor girl. Protesters also called for the dismissal of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay, alleging that instead of supporting a transparent investigation, attempts were being made to intimidate victims and those seeking justice.

During the protest, student leaders questioned the silence of the Central government on the matter, stating that strong action should be taken in cases involving crimes against women and minors. They criticized both the Centre and the State government, alleging political

interference and lack of seriousness in ensuring justice for the victim.

The protesters claimed that merely forming a Special Investigation Team without arresting the accused weakens the investigation. They also accused the police of showing bias and failing to act impartially. Demonstrators alleged that influential individuals were receiving preferential treatment, while ordinary citizens would face immediate action under similar circumstances.

The protesters warned that if authorities fail to take swift action, they would intensify their agitation and organize a "Chalo BJP Office" protest in the coming days. Several student leaders and representatives from social organizations participated in the demonstration.

Traffic Police Intensify Checks

Tarnaka, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Officials of the Hyderabad Traffic Police conducted a surprise traffic inspection drive at Tarnaka Junction under the limits of the Osmania University Traffic Police Station on Wednesday.

The inspection was led by Secunderabad Traffic DCP Avinash Kumar, accompanied by Traffic ACP Srinivas and OU Traffic CI Satyanarayana. During the drive, officials focused on enforcing road safety regulations and creating awareness among motorists about responsible driving practices.

Addressing the public, DCP Avinash Kumar strongly advised motorists not to drive after consuming alcohol. He stated that accidents caused by drunk driving can have devastat-

ing consequences for entire families and urged citizens to act responsibly while on the road. He also warned two-wheeler riders against violations such as triple riding and other unsafe practices.

As part of the inspection, traffic police registered several cases against motorists found violating traffic rules. Officials stated that three cases were booked against two-wheelers, while separate cases were registered against a four-wheeler and a six-wheeler vehicle during the enforcement drive.

Several traffic personnel, including Sub-Inspectors and constables, participated in the operation. Police officials said such inspection drives would continue regularly to improve road safety and reduce traffic violations across the city.



GHMC Promotes Rainwater Harvesting in Schools

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

As part of the "99 Days of Public Administration - Progress Plan (PP-PP)" initiative, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation completed 70 days of activities, marking the successful conclusion of the programme's 10th week.

Focusing on water conservation and sustainable groundwater management, GHMC organized a special drive for the construction of Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) pits in schools and public institutions. Around five rainwater harvesting structures were established across various educational institutions within GHMC limits.

The initiative aimed to create awareness among students, teachers, staff members, and local residents about the importance of rainwater conser-

vation and environmentally sustainable practices. Officials highlighted that RWH systems help recharge groundwater levels and reduce urban water runoff during heavy rains.

In the Mettuguda Circle, special awareness activities were conducted in government schools and Anganwadi centres, where participants were educated about the long-term environmental and water-management benefits of rainwater harvesting.

The programme received positive support from educational institutions, sanitation workers, and members of the public. GHMC officials reiterated their commitment to promoting environmental sustainability and appealed to citizens and institutions to actively participate in water conservation efforts for a greener and water-secure Hyderabad.



Veteran Telugu Writer Sharada Ashokavardhan Passes Away

Hyderabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Renowned Telugu writer and literary personality Sharada Ashokavardhan passed away on Wednesday night at her daughter's residence in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. She was 87 years old. She is survived by her four daughters, including a noted journalist, author, and television anchor. Her final rites are scheduled to take place on Friday at 10:30 a.m. Sharada Ashokavardhan made a remarkable contribution to Telugu literature through more than 90 publications spanning novels, poetry, dramas, essays, songs, children's literature, and newspaper writings. She also earned admiration for her work with All India Radio, where her voice and literary presentations gained wide recognition.

Among her memorable creations, the lyrical composition "Manasaayera Madhava" received immense appreciation from audiences. Her "Ganapati Suprabatham," sung by the legendary Dr. Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna, continues to remain popular among devotees and music lovers. Several of her songs were also composed by noted music director Palagummi Viswanadham. Her literary works were translated into Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi, expanding her reach beyond Telugu readers. Apart from literature, she served in the State Information Department as Joint Director and later as Director of Jawahar Bal Bhavan. She was honored with three Nandi Awards and several prestigious recognitions during her distinguished career.



Collector Calls for Better Attendance in Government Schools

Adilabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Rajarshi Shah stated that improving the quality of education in government schools remains a top priority of the Telangana government. He was speaking during the Education Week celebrations held under the "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranali" initiative at the PM-SHRI ZP High School in Indravelli mandal. He Collector attended the "Professor Jayashankar Badi Bata" programme as chief guest and inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Praising the school's academic achievements, he noted that 270 out of 271 students passed the Class 10 examinations last year and congratulated the teachers, students, and parents for the

outstanding result. He urged school authorities and local representatives to increase student attendance from the current 64 percent to at least 75 percent from the beginning of the academic year. Rajarshi Shah stressed that students should attend school regularly regardless of weather conditions and called for stronger coordination between teachers and parents. The Collector also emphasized the importance of English communication skills for students aspiring to secure higher positions in competitive fields such as Civil Services. He encouraged students to improve their language skills by reading English newspapers daily. Later, meritorious students and their parents were felicitated during the programme.

Police Intensify Measures Against Crime and Illegal Activities

Adilabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Adilabad District Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan directed police officials to take strict action against fake seed suppliers, banned herbicide dealers, and narcotics-related crimes during the district-level monthly crime review meeting held at the Police AR Headquarters conference hall. During the meeting, the SP reviewed the progress of criminal investigations, court trials, staff performance, and law-and-order measures across the district. He instructed officials to ensure speedy and transparent investigations so that justice is delivered effectively to the public.

Akhil Mahajan emphasized the need to strengthen implementation of the "Verticals" system in all police stations. The system includes Beat Policing, Investigation, Court Liaison, Section In-Charge duties, Records Management, QR Code systems, and Reception management. He directed officers to monitor these departments regularly for improved efficiency. The SP ordered strict vigilance at district checkpoints ahead of Bakrid celebrations and stressed the importance of preventing illegal transportation of banned substances and suspicious activities. He also instructed police teams to intensify efforts to eradicate marijuana cultivation and narcotics trafficking. Officials were directed to maintain constant surveillance on rowdy sheeters and suspect sheeters while strengthening night patrols to prevent gambling, anti-social activities, and economic offenses. The SP also called for timely updating of systems such as CCTNS, Dial-100, Blue Colts, and station records. To improve public safety, he encouraged awareness campaigns promoting the installation of CCTV cameras in villages and urban areas. Senior officers, including Additional SP B. Surender Rao, Utnoor ASP Ruthwik Sai Kotte, probationary IPS officer Rahul Kant, DSPs, Circle Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, and district police staff attended the meeting.

Special Coaching Camps Launched for SSC Supplementary Students

Kumaram Bheem Asifabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

The District Education Department has launched special coaching camps to help students who failed the Class 10 examinations prepare for the Advanced Supplementary Exams. The initiative aims to improve pass percentages and support students in successfully clearing their exams. Officials stated that the special classes began on May 12 and will continue until June 3 at four designated centres across the district. Around 300 students from PM-SHRI government schools and local body institutions who did not

pass the SSC examinations are attending these camps. The district recently achieved a 94.16 percent pass rate in the SSC results and secured the 28th rank in the state. District Education Officer Lalitha said the department has taken focused steps to provide additional academic support to unsuccessful students through intensive coaching sessions. Two centres have been established in the Asifabad division at ZPHS Girls Asifabad and PM Shri ZPHS Sirpur (U), while two more centres are functioning in the Kagaznagar division at PM Shri ZPHS Panchikalpet and PM Shri ZPHS Old Kagaznagar. Students from various

mandals have been grouped according to nearby centres for convenience. Classes are being conducted from morning till evening with special attention on key subjects. To encourage attendance, students are being provided breakfast along with transport assistance. Officials said each student will receive financial support for travel and study materials, including books and stationery. Bejjur MEO Sunitha stated that headmasters and teachers have been instructed to ensure regular attendance and proper monitoring of all students attending the camps.



Thummala Offers Prayers at Temple

Bhadradi Kothagudem, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao visited the famous Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy Temple in Bhadrachalam on Thursday and offered special prayers to Lord Rama. Temple priests welcomed the minister with traditional temple honours and a ceremonial Purna Kumbham reception upon his arrival. Thummala participated in special rituals at the temple and sought the blessings of Sri Seetha Ramachandra Swamy. The visit also marked a significant milestone in the minister's political career, as May 14 completed forty years since he first took oath as a minister in the cabinet of former

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. T. Rama Rao in 1986. Speaking to the media after the darshan, Thummala recalled the historic association of Bhakta Ramadasu with the Bhadrachalam temple and praised the spiritual significance of the shrine. He stated that he had the opportunity to contribute to the temple's development during the NTR administration. The minister also mentioned that Chief Minister Revanath Reddy recently laid the foundation stone for redevelopment works at the temple estimated at 351 crore. Thummala said the blessings of Lord Rama had guided him throughout his four-decade political journey, which began in the Bhadrachalam region.

Telangana Targets Record Paddy Procurement

Nalgonda/Khammam, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that the state is witnessing a historic Rabi season with an estimated paddy production of 141 lakh metric tonnes, marking an all-time record in both grain output and procurement operations. During his visit to procurement centres and rice mills in Nalgonda and Khammam districts, the minister assured farmers that the government would purchase every grain produced at support prices. He said the state government has allocated 22,000 crore for procurement activities and set a target to procure 90 lakh met-

ric tonnes of paddy this season. Uttam Kumar Reddy warned that strict action would be taken against anyone attempting to cheat farmers during procurement. He directed officials to speed up transportation of procured grain and instructed district administrations to utilize all available lorries and transport vehicles to move stocks to mills and storage centres without delay. He also clarified that even paddy damaged by untimely rains would be purchased. At the procurement centre in Chetla Chennaram of Kanagal mandal, the minister interacted with hamalis from West Bengal and appreciated their role in handling large-scale

grain movement. He instructed officials to provide them with improved accommodation and welfare facilities. The minister later reviewed milling and storage operations at Balaji Rice Mill and inspected procurement arrangements at Nayakgudem in Khammam district. He emphasized coordination among police, transport, and civil supplies departments to ensure uninterrupted logistics. According to officials, Telangana has established a record 8,575 procurement centres this season. Over 18.67 crore gunny bags have been arranged, while more than 1,800 rice millers are participating in procurement and milling operations statewide.

"Police for You" Program Creates Awareness in Village

Adilabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

A public awareness programme titled "Police for You" was organized by local police in Varthamannur village of Bazar Hathnoor mandal in Adilabad district to strengthen community relations and promote public safety. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from villagers, youth, and women. During the programme, police officials educated residents on important issues such as traffic regulations, cybercrime prevention, women's safety, and child protection. Citizens were advised to make use of the Dial 100 emergency service during emergencies and to promptly report suspicious activities to the police. Officials also warned villag-



ers about increasing cyber frauds, including fake phone calls, OTP scams, and social media-related crimes. People were urged to stay alert while sharing personal information online or over the phone. Police representatives emphasized that maintaining law and order requires cooperation between the police and the public. They assured residents that police departments are committed to responding quickly to public grievances and ensuring safety within villages. Village elders appreciated the initiative, stating that the programme helped create greater legal awareness among residents and strengthened public confidence in the police system. The awareness drive received a positive response from the local community.

Collector Reviews Development Works in Pittabongaram Village

Adilabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Rajarshi Shah visited Pittabongaram village in Indravelli mandal on Thursday and reviewed the progress of various development and welfare activities being implemented in the area. During the visit, the Collector first inspected the Primary Health Centre in the village and examined the medical services being provided to patients. He reviewed medicine stocks, staff attendance, and healthcare facilities available at the centre. Rajarshi Shah instructed medical officials to remain alert to seasonal diseases, particularly in tribal regions, and ensure better healthcare services for villagers. The Collector later inspected the construction works of the new Gram Panchayat building being developed in the village. He directed engineering officials to maintain quali-



ty standards and complete the project at the earliest so that it can be utilized effectively for village administration and public services. As part of the tour, Rajarshi Shah also visited houses being constructed under the Indiramma housing scheme. He interacted directly with beneficiaries and gathered details regarding construction progress, government payments, and other implementation-related issues. Officials were instructed to ensure timely release of financial assistance to poor families building their homes. The Collector additionally reviewed drinking water supply arrangements in the village and warned officials against negligence in providing essential infrastructure facilities. He emphasized that basic civic amenities must be delivered efficiently in rural and tribal areas. Medical Officer Vasantharao, MRO Praveen, Sarpanch Madhavi Indradev, Panchayat Secretary Lakshmi, and other officials accompanied the Collector during the inspection.

Urban Residential School Conducts Badi Bata Awareness Drive

Adilabad, May 14 | TPN Bureau

As part of the Professor Jayashankar Badi Bata initiative, the staff of the Urban Residential School in Adilabad organized an awareness outreach program in Mukra (B) village to encourage student admissions and promote educational opportunities. During the campaign, school representatives interacted with parents and students, explaining the facilities available at the institution, including quality education, hostel accommodation, and a disciplined academic environment. CRT Ravikanth Reddy stated that the school aims to provide holistic development and better learning opportunities for underprivileged children. He particularly encouraged

orphans, semi-orphans, school dropouts, children from nomadic communities, and students belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families to take advantage of the government-supported educational facilities. Parents were urged to prioritize their children's future by enrolling them in the residential school. Officials informed villagers that the institution offers both academic guidance and residential support to help students continue their education without interruption. Those interested in admissions can contact 8500023457 or 9705108585 for further details. The Urban Residential School is currently functioning from the Old Kendriya Vidyalaya Building in Adilabad.

MP Vamsi Krishna Appreciates Elderly Tea Vendor

Peddapalli, May 14 | TPN Bureau

Gaddam Vamsi Krishna visited a small tea stall in Peddapalli town and honoured an elderly woman running the shop independently. The MP praised her determination, self-reliance, and eco-friendly approach to running her business. He appreciated the woman for using an electric stove instead of traditional firewood or LPG-based cooking methods, noting that such practices help reduce pollution and promote environmental protection. Amid ongoing LPG shortages, he described her initiative as a practical and progressive example for society. Vamsi Krishna felicitated the woman with a shawl and



later shared tea prepared at her stall. He also took a selfie with her, highlighting her as an inspiration, especially for people in rural areas. The MP stated that adopting technology and modern methods, regardless of age, reflects a positive mindset and should be encouraged. He emphasized the importance of supporting self-employed individuals and promoting sustainable practices at the grassroots level.

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

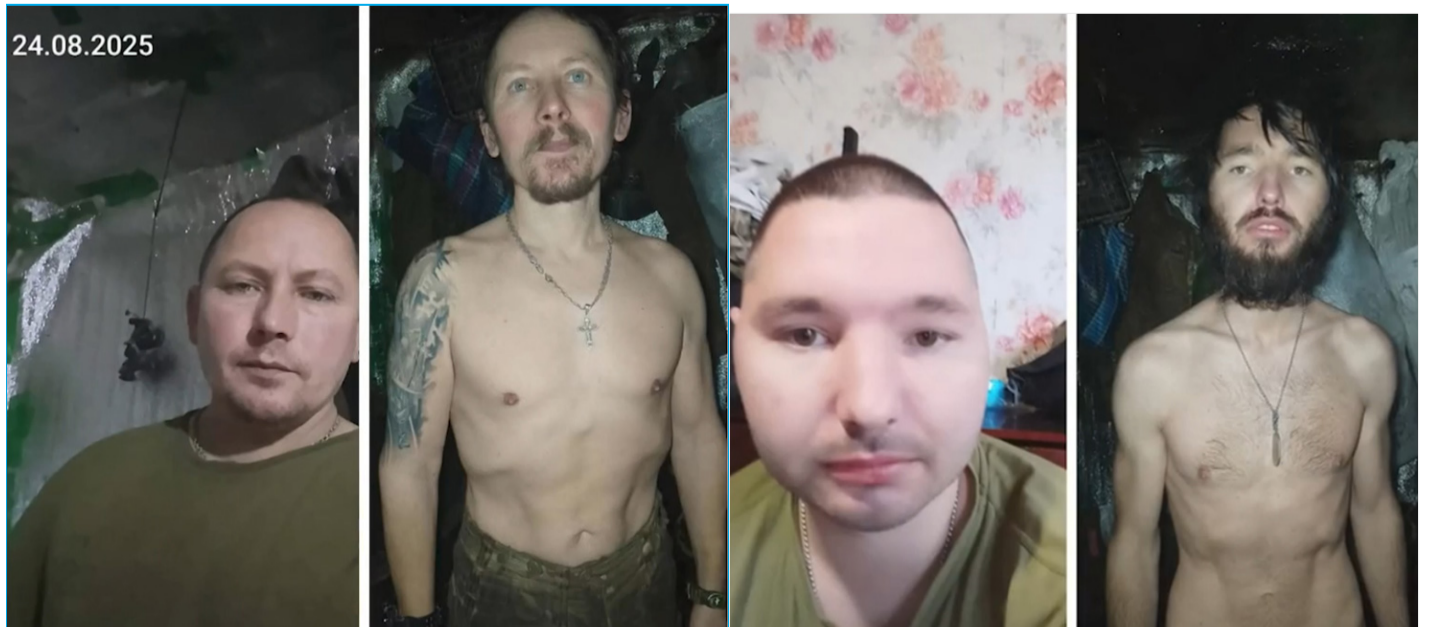
deployed in these harsh conditions for months without rotation, exacerbating both physical and mental strain. The removal of senior commanders following public outcry, sparked by images and testimonies shared by soldiers' fami-

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.



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.

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.

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 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.

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-



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



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

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

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.

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, drought conditions, 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.

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.

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.

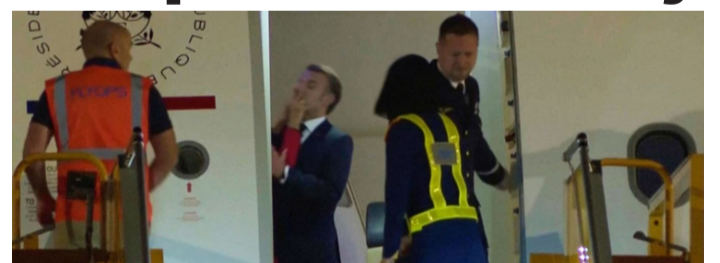
Viral Video Of Brigitte Macron Pushing French President Sparks Online Frenzy

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.

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.

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 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