

BUZZ POINTS



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Arvind's Remarks Stir Political Heat in Telangana

Hyderabad/Nizamabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

BJP MP Dharmapuri Arvind ignited intense political debate in Telangana after making controversial remarks suggesting that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy could eventually join the Bharatiya Janata Party.

While speaking to the media, Arvind referred to Prime Minister Modi's recent visit to Hyderabad, during which the Prime Minister made a remark directed at Revanth Reddy at a programme held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre (HICC).

The BJP MP strongly criticized the Congress leadership for choosing Revanth Reddy as Chief Minister despite his earlier political shifts between parties.



Arvind speaking at a podium

In this context, Arvind mentioned senior Congress leaders such as Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Duddilla Sridhar Babu. He said leaders like them had stood firmly with the Congress party for decades and deserved greater importance and recognition within the organization.

Drawing parallels with political developments in West Bengal, Arvind referred to Suwendu Adhikari, who left the Trinamool Congress before the 2021 Assembly elections and later emerged as a key BJP leader in the state.

The BJP MP also reacted sharply to Revanth Reddy's recent comments stating that he intended to continue as Chief Minister until 2034 before entering national politics to support Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in becoming Prime Minister.

Arvind further alleged that the Congress government in Telangana was neglecting Nizamabad district and failing to release adequate development funds for the region.

Arvind also targeted TPCC president and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, questioning his visits to Nizamabad district and alleging that he had failed to secure sufficient development assistance for the region.

ture projects, including the proposed Outer Ring Road for Nizamabad.

The BJP leader claimed that repeated promises made to the people of the district had not been fulfilled and warned that residents of the Indur region would hold political leaders accountable if commitments continued to remain unimplemented.

Arvind also targeted TPCC president and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, questioning his visits to Nizamabad district and alleging that he had failed to secure sufficient development assistance for the region.

The BJP MP's remarks have now intensified political discussion in Telangana, with leaders from different parties reacting strongly to his statements concerning Revanth Reddy, the Congress leadership, and the possible future political landscape of the state.

The controversy has also fueled speculation regarding future political alliances and strategies ahead of upcoming elections, as parties continue to position themselves aggressively in Telangana's evolving political environment.



Revanth Reddy Voices Confidence in Rahul Gandhi's Leadership

Thiruvananthapuram, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed strong belief that senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi would one day become the Prime Minister of India.

Reflecting on the event, Revanth Reddy described the gathering as more than a formal political function, calling it an emotional reunion of long-time colleagues, friends, and Congress leaders from different parts of the country.

He stated that the atmosphere at the ceremony reflected renewed optimism, unity, and enthusiasm within the Congress party. The Telangana Chief Minister attended the programme along with several prominent Congress leaders, including Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar, and Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka.

grow stronger in the years ahead. Revanth Reddy expressed confidence that the combined efforts of senior leaders, party workers, and supporters would help the Congress party regain political strength across the country.

The Chief Minister further stated that the Congress leadership remains committed to democratic principles, inclusive governance, welfare-oriented administration, and social justice.

Political observers view Revanth Reddy's remarks as a reflection of the Congress party's renewed confidence ahead of future national political contests. His statements also highlight the importance the party leadership is placing on organizational unity and cooperation among Congress-ruled states.

Telangana Student Killed in US Road Mishap

Nalgonda/Chicago, May 18 | TPN Bureau

A tragic road accident in the United States claimed the life of a young student from Telangana, leaving her family and residents of her native village devastated.



Based on preliminary findings released by the Indiana State Police, the incident occurred around 11:15 pm on Interstate 65 near Crown Point.

the highway reportedly developed a technical problem.

Investigators said the driver of a speeding vehicle approaching from behind failed to notice that the minivan was moving slowly. Although the driver allegedly attempted to avoid a direct collision by swerving at the final moment, the car crashed forcefully into the side of the minivan.

The severe impact caused the vehicle to lose balance, veer off the highway, and fall into a roadside ditch. Several passengers sustained serious injuries and were initially shifted to nearby hospitals before being transferred to medical facilities in the Chicago region for advanced treatment.

During the early stages of the investigation, police reportedly uncovered troubling

details about the conditions inside the minivan. Authorities found that the vehicle had only two standard front seats, while the remaining passengers, including Navya, were seated in the rear section on boxes of mangoes without wearing seat belts.

The sudden death of Navya has cast a pall of grief over Cheruvugattu village in Nalgonda district. Family members, relatives, friends, and villagers mourned the untimely loss of the young student, who had travelled abroad with dreams of securing a bright future through higher education.

Telangana Minister Komati

reddy Venkat Reddy expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy and conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family. He stated that the state government was coordinating with senior officials and Telugu associations in the United States, including the Telugu Association of North America and the American Telugu Association, to speed up the process of bringing Navya's mortal remains back to Telangana.

Authorities in the United States have registered a case and launched a detailed investigation into the accident. Meanwhile, arrangements are being made to transport Navya's body to her hometown, where her family awaits her final journey with profound grief and disbelief over the heartbreaking loss.

One Law for the Powerful, Another for the Common Man?

Ravi Podili

The Bandi Bhagirath POC- SO case has triggered widespread debate across Telangana, raising serious questions about equal justice, police functioning, and the conduct of political leaders and institutions.

Serious Questions Raised Over Delay in Arrest of Bandi Bhagirath POC- SO Case

in action by the Telangana police. Despite a formal complaint being lodged, the accused was not arrested for several days, prompting criticism from various sections of society including opposition party BRS key leaders like K Tarakarama Rao (KTR).

ly given such latitude in similar cases. The controversy has deepened further over the appointment of a Special Officer, a step rarely seen in previous POC- SO investigations.

ing. Public criticism has not been limited to the police alone. Political circles believe the controversy has also dented the image of both Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Bandi Sanjay. Allegations that authorities delayed action until public outrage peaked have further intensified the backlash.



Telangana Plans 5 Crore Boost for SIHM Zaheerabad

Zaheerabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Tourism, Culture and Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao announced that the Telangana government is preparing to allocate 5 crore for the expansion and modernization of the State Institute of Hospitality Management (SIHM) in Zaheerabad. The initiative aims to transform the institute into a high-standard hospitality training centre on par with corporate institutions.

The Minister attended Tourism Week celebrations organised at SIHM under the "Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranalika" programme on Monday. The event focused on tourism education, skill enhancement, and employment generation for youth interested in the hospitality industry.

As part of the programme, Krishna Rao inaugurated newly introduced Bakery and Confectionery courses that were launched with assistance from the SC Corporation. He also formally opened admissions for BBA and MBA programmes at the National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (NITHM) for the present academic year. In addition, the Minister released a



"Tourist Guide" poster developed by the Tourism Department to create awareness about tourism services and opportunities in the sector.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister said SIHM had remained inactive for several years but is now being revived

through the government's renewed focus on skill development and employment opportunities. He stated that the institute was originally established to provide professional training and encourage self-employment, especially among youth belonging to SC, ST, and

BC communities. Krishna Rao assured that the government is committed to supporting students from economically weaker backgrounds. He said steps are being taken to provide stipends to deserving students enrolling in hospitality-related courses

so that financial difficulties do not affect their education and career growth.

The Minister highlighted the growing importance of the tourism and hospitality sector, noting that it offers extensive employment opportunities in both domestic and international markets. He encouraged students to improve communication abilities and learn foreign languages to increase their competitiveness and career prospects globally.

He further directed NITHM Director Venkata Ramana to introduce innovative and industry-focused courses that meet current market demands and emerging trends in the tourism and hospitality sectors. According to him, modern training programmes are essential to equip students with practical skills required by employers.

Several public representatives and senior officials participated in the programme. Among those present were Zaheerabad MP Suresh Shetkar, MLC Anji Reddy, Tourism Department Special Chief Secretary Vani Prasad, Sangareddy District Collector Prateek Jain, Superintendent of Police Paritosh Pankaj, and other dignitaries.



Karimnagar Speeds Up Paddy and Maize Procurement

Karimnagar, May 18 | TPN Bureau

A high-level review meeting on paddy and maize procurement was conducted at the Karimnagar District Collectorate under the chairmanship of Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar to address challenges being faced at procurement centres across the district.

The meeting was attended by M L A S K a v v a m p a l l y Satyanarayana and Medipally Satyam, District Collector Chitra Mishra, Police Commissioner Ghouse Alam, officials from various departments, and representatives of rice millers and lorry owners' associations.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar said the government machinery was fully engaged in ensuring smooth procurement operations and preventing inconvenience to farmers. He stated that Karimnagar district had targeted procurement of around 3 lakh metric tonnes of grain, with the same quantity already arriving at 314 procurement centres established across the district.

According to the minister, nearly 1.58 lakh metric tonnes

have already been procured, while payments worth 237.39 crore have been credited to farmers' bank accounts, covering about 63 percent of the procured stock.

The minister instructed rice millers, transport operators, and officials to work in close coordination to complete the remaining procurement on a war footing within a week. He stressed the need to increase the number of lorries and ensure adequate availability of hamalis at procurement centres and rice mills to avoid delays.

Ponnampati Prabhakar also directed officials to utilize local laborers in villages instead of depending heavily on workers from other states. He emphasized that Panchayat, Revenue, Civil Supplies, Police, Transport, Cooperative, and DRDA departments must coordinate at every level for smooth grain movement and procurement operations.

The minister further encouraged farmers to increase fine-grain paddy cultivation to match district demand and reduce dependence on procurement from other regions.

New Pension Schemes to Begin From June 2: Vivek

Miryalaguda, May 18 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Vivek Venkata Swamy announced that the Telangana government will roll out new pension schemes starting June 2 this year. He questioned the previous BRS government, asking why no new pensions were sanctioned during its ten-year tenure.

The Minister visited Miryalaguda on Sunday and participated in several public programmes. He also attended the final rites of senior Congress leader Kodi Rekka Shouri and paid his respects. Later, he addressed a press conference at the local MLA camp office. Government Whip Vemula Veeresham, MLAs Bathula Lakshma Reddy, and MLC Shankar Naik were present on the occasion.

Speaking to the media, Vivek Venkata Swamy said the government is committed to ensuring transparency in grain procurement operations. He added that special attention is being given to streamline procurement processes and support farmers effectively. He also highlighted that welfare schemes such as the Indiramma housing programme are being implemented to support economically weaker sections through timely delivery of benefits.

The Minister further announced that Advanced Technology Centres will soon be established in Miryalaguda and Nakirekal. These centres, he said, are aimed at improving skill development opportunities for youth and providing modern technical training to enhance employability. He added that preparatory work for these centres will begin shortly.

Vivek Venkata Swamy also emphasized the government's

focus on industrial safety and worker welfare. He said regu-



lar inspections are being conducted in factories and industrial units to ensure compliance with safety standards and to protect workers from accidents.

Referring specifically to the pharmaceutical sector, the Minister stated that the government is planning to introduce new safety protocols and updated guidelines. These measures aim to prevent industrial mishaps and strengthen overall workplace safety across hazardous industries.

He reiterated that the Telangana government is working with a strong focus on welfare, development, and employment generation. According to him, the administration is also committed to improving transparency, accountability, and efficiency in governance to ensure that public welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries without delay.

Youth Should Shine in Sports: Minister Vakiti Srihari

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Vakiti Srihari called upon youngsters to actively participate in sports and bring recognition to Telangana at the national and international levels. He said the "Youth and Sports Week" celebrations being organized under the "Praja Palana Pragathi Plan" are creating fresh enthusiasm among youth across the state.

The minister attended the Sports and Youth Week programme as chief guest and addressed participants during the statewide celebrations being held from May 18 to May 23.

Speaking on the occasion, Vakiti Srihari said the strength of

the youth forms the foundation of the nation's future. He emphasized that sports not only improve physical fitness but also help develop discipline, leadership qualities, mental resilience, and team spirit. The minister urged young people to stay away from substance abuse and spend more time on sports grounds. He noted that many students are falling into depression and taking extreme steps over minor setbacks, adding that sports teach individuals how to overcome failures and move forward with confidence.

Vakiti Srihari stressed that youth should dedicate at least two hours daily to sports activities and cultivate discipline to achieve success. He expressed

concern that despite India's huge population, the country is not winning enough Olympic medals, while smaller nations are performing exceptionally well on the global stage.

He said the Telangana government is giving special importance to sports development and talent identification from the rural level. Referring to initiatives such as the CM Cup, he stated that the government is creating opportunities for rural athletes to compete nationally and internationally.

The programme was attended by Jitender Reddy, SATS Chairman Shivsen Reddy, SATS MD Sonybala Devi, officials, athletes, and youth representatives.



Telangana DGP Reviews Anti-Maoist Operations

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Telangana Director General of Police C.V. Anand on Monday reviewed the Maoist situation in the state and assessed the ongoing anti-extremist operations being carried out by the Special Intelligence Branch (SIB). The review focused on intelligence-driven strategies, rehabilitation efforts, and the overall impact of anti-Maoist measures in Telangana.

During his visit to the SIB headquarters, the DGP appreciated the dedication of intelligence officers and staff for their continued efforts in curbing Left-Wing Extremism and encouraging underground CPI (Maoist) cadres to surrender. He noted that sustained intelligence operations combined with rehabilitation initiatives have significantly weakened extremist networks in the state.

According to official data shared during the review, a total of 820 Maoists surrendered to Telangana Police between 2024 and 2026. This includes four Central Committee Members and 22 State Committee Members, marking a significant development in the state's anti-Maoist operations.

Authorities further reported that surrendered cadres also deposited a large cache of weapons, including 58 AK-47 rifles, 48 INSAS rifles, 50 SLRs, six Light Machine Guns (LMGs), and several other sophisticated arms. Officials said this large-scale surrender of arms reflects the declining operational strength of Maoist

groups in the region.

The DGP praised the SIB for its intelligence-led approach, confidence-building measures, and rehabilitation programmes, stating that these efforts have played a crucial role in reducing Maoist influence. He particularly commended officers who have worked to persuade underground cadres to give up violence and return to mainstream society.

C.V. Anand also reviewed the rehabilitation and reintegration process being extended to surrendered Maoists. He instructed officials to ensure continued support through structured programmes, including skill development, vocational training, employment opportunities, and social reintegration initiatives.

He emphasized the need for close monitoring of surrendered individuals to ensure successful rehabilitation and long-term stability. At the same time, he stressed the importance of strengthening institutional support systems to help them rebuild their lives.

Highlighting the evolving security landscape, the DGP stated that as Maoist influence declines after decades, intelligence agencies must adapt to new challenges. He urged the SIB to broaden its focus to emerging issues such as social media influence, youth-related concerns, and other factors affecting public order and internal security.

Additional DGP (Intelligence) Vijay Kumar and IGP Kartikeya were also present during the review meeting.

New National School Mental Health Policy to Transform Student Support

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

A comprehensive National School Mental Health Policy, expected to be launched by the Union Ministry of Education on June 1, is set to bring major changes to student wellness systems in schools across India, including Telangana. The policy aims to shift focus from reacting to mental health crises to building preventive and continuous emotional support systems for students.

The upcoming policy, framed following directions from the Supreme Court, will make mental wellness protocols mandatory for all government, aided, and private schools from the new academic year. Educational institutions will now be required to treat psychological well-being with the same importance as physical health.

One of the key provisions mandates a minimum counselor-to-student ratio of 1:500 in schools. The policy also sepa-

rates the roles of mental health counselors and academic or career counselors to ensure specialized support for students facing emotional stress, anxiety, trauma, or academic pressure.

To address staff shortages in government schools, the policy introduces a "Hub and Spoke" model. Under this system, large urban schools will function as "Wellness Hubs" and provide counseling support and mental health resources to

smaller schools in rural and semi-urban regions.

The policy further makes anti-bullying and cyber safety mechanisms compulsory. Schools must establish confidential systems allowing students to report online harassment or bullying without fear of humiliation or retaliation.

Teachers and non-teaching staff will also undergo mandatory psychological first-responder training twice every year to help identify early

warning signs of emotional distress, behavioral withdrawal, or self-harm tendencies among students.

In addition, parent-teacher meetings are expected to move beyond academic scores and focus more on the holistic development and emotional well-being of children. Early mental health screening and timely intervention will become a key part of the education system under the new framework.



Sai Kumar Fires Back at MP Arvind

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Metu Sai Kumar launched a sharp attack on Dharmapuri Arvind, accusing the BJP leader of making misleading statements and targeting the Congress government for political attention.

Responding to recent remarks made by Arvind, Sai Kumar alleged that the BJP lacks organizational strength in Telangana and claimed the party does not even have candidates in nearly half of the state's 119 Assembly constituencies. He mocked the BJP's prospects in Telangana politics, stating that expecting the party to come to power was unrealistic.

Sai Kumar also criticized Arvind personally, alleging that the MP had won elections only due to favorable political circumstances rather than individual capability. He claimed that internal divisions continue to weaken the BJP in Telangana despite the party having

only a small number of MLAs in the Assembly.

The Fisheries Chairman further stated that the BJP remains deeply divided with multiple factions operating within the party. He described Arvind as politically inexperienced and accused him of making unnecessary comments against the Congress leadership.

Defending the Congress government and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Sai Kumar warned BJP leaders against what he termed baseless criticism. He asserted that Congress workers would strongly counter any attempts to defame the party or its leadership.

The remarks have intensified the ongoing political war of words between Congress and BJP leaders in Telangana ahead of upcoming political campaigns and public outreach programmes.

Thummala Criticizes Centre's Farm Policies

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

State Agriculture Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao strongly criticized the Central Government's agricultural policies, alleging that they are creating serious hardships for farmers instead of providing them financial security and stability.

Responding to statements made by BJP leaders and Union Ministers, Thummala said farmers should be treated as the backbone of the nation's economy rather than merely as a vote bank. He argued that the Centre's approach toward crop procurement, support prices, import regulations, and fertilizer pricing lacks a comprehensive vision to safeguard farmers' interests.

The minister stated that the Centre's repeated claims that it alone procures grain and bears the entire financial burden are misleading. He pointed out that the Telangana government is providing an additional 500 bonus per quintal over the Minimum Support Price announced for paddy procurement, which he said directly benefits farmers.

Thummala emphasized that Telangana farmers cultivate several crops besides paddy, including maize, cotton, soybean, sunflower, red gram, and green gram. However, he alleged that Central procurement restrictions and lack of support for crops such as maize and sor-



ghum are forcing farmers into losses despite MSP announcements.

The minister also questioned whether the MSP calculations truly follow the Swaminathan Committee's recommended "C2 + 50 percent" formula. He argued that cultivation costs have sharply increased over the last five years due to rising fertilizer, diesel, seed, and labor expenses, while support prices have not increased proportionately.

Criticizing import policies, he warned that lowering import duties on agricultural commodities could severely impact Indian farmers by flooding domestic markets

with cheaper foreign produce. He cited cotton and oil palm farmers as examples of those already suffering due to reduced import duties and falling market prices.

Thummala further expressed concern over fertilizer subsidy policies, stating that excessive dependence on subsidized urea is damaging soil health and reducing balanced fertilizer usage. He urged the Centre to adopt farmer-friendly policies similar to those followed in countries such as the United States, Japan, and several European nations, where farmers receive stronger financial protection and government support.



BJP Accuses BRS of Running Defamation Campaign Out of Political Fear

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao alleged that the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) has been carrying out a politically motivated campaign against the Bharatiya Janata Party due to fear over ongoing investigations and the BJP's increasing strength in the state. He claimed that the opposition party was attempting to divert public attention from controversies and issues linked to its previous tenure in power.

Speaking at a preparatory meeting held at the BJP state headquarters in Hyderabad, Ramchander Rao reviewed upcoming party programmes and advised party workers on strengthening organizational activities, expanding outreach at the grassroots level, and addressing public grievances. Several senior BJP leaders and party cadres attended the meeting.

During his address, Rao said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiatives have always focused on national development and public welfare. Referring to the "Mera Bharat - Mera Yogdaan" campaign, he explained that the programme encourages citizens to actively contribute toward the country's progress through responsible and sustainable practices.

He pointed out that Prime Minister Modi is nearing completion of 12 years in office and stated that the BJP would organize awareness campaigns across the country in connection with World Environment Day and energy conservation efforts. He urged party workers to take these campaigns to the public and encourage participation at all levels.

Highlighting concerns over rising fuel prices and global oil shortages, Rao said international developments such as

the Russia-Ukraine conflict and tensions in West Asia could worsen the energy crisis in the future. He stated that despite global challenges, the Central government has worked to protect citizens from additional financial burdens. At the same time, he stressed the importance of conserving fuel and adopting environmentally friendly practices.

Rao encouraged people to use public transport, metro services, RTC buses, electric vehicles, and carpooling facilities wherever possible. He also suggested promoting work-from-home models to reduce fuel consumption. Mentioning his own example, he said he had traveled to the BJP office in an electric vehicle to spread awareness about sustainable living and environmental responsibility.

The BJP leader further appealed to citizens to support the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative by planting trees and contributing to environmental protection. He emphasized the importance of encouraging local products and strengthening the vision of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and "Viksit Bharat."

Launching a sharp criticism against the BRS, Ramchander Rao alleged that the party was using social media campaigns, personal attacks, and publicity strategies to target BJP leaders and their families. He accused BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao of leading efforts to politically malign the BJP.

Rao also referred to alleged irregularities in projects such as Kaleshwaram and the Formula E-Race issue, claiming that the BRS was attempting to shift public focus away from corruption allegations. He asserted that the people of Telangana had already rejected the BRS and said the party was now acting out of political insecurity and fear of investigations.

Raja Singh Demands Action Over Alleged Illegal Cattle Transport

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

BJP MLA T. Raja Singh has written an open letter to the Telangana Director General of Police demanding strict action against those allegedly involved in illegal cattle transportation in the state. Referring to an incident that reportedly took place on Saturday night, Raja Singh stated that activists belonging to a Gau Raksha Dal intercepted a lorry allegedly transporting cattle illegally. He questioned the role of Majid Hussain, alleging that the MLA reached the spot and facilitated the movement of the vehicle from the location. In his letter, Raja Singh asserted that the law should apply equally to everyone irrespective of political affiliation or religion. He



urged the police department to register criminal cases against individuals allegedly involved in illegal cattle transportation and called upon authorities to act without political interference.

The BJP legislator claimed that selective action against only certain groups could create doubts and dissatisfaction among the public. He also questioned why the government, which claims commitment toward cow protection, has allegedly failed to curb illegal cattle trafficking activities. Raja Singh further emphasized that strict legal action should be taken against anyone found violating the law. He appealed to the Telangana DGP to issue a clear statement on the matter and ensure an impartial investigation into the incident. The issue has sparked political debate, with demands for transparent inquiry and equal enforcement of the law from various quarters.

Determination Can Help Differently-abled Students Achieve Success

Sangareddy, May 18 | TPN Bureau

TGIC Chairperson Nirmala Jaggareddy emphasized that persons with disabilities can achieve remarkable success in life through self-confidence, determination, and education. She said many differently-abled individuals have overcome challenges and emerged as inspiring examples for society through their hard work and perseverance.

She was speaking as the chief guest at a programme organized at the Government Primary School in Sanjeev Nagar, Sangareddy town, under the joint initiative of the Education Department's Samagra Shiksha programme and ALIMCO. During the event, hearing aids and wheelchairs were distributed to students with disabilities to support their education and mobility.

Addressing the gathering, Nirmala Jaggareddy encouraged students to pursue education with confidence and strong determination. She advised them not to feel discouraged by physical limitations and instead focus on building their skills and abilities to achieve higher positions in life. According to her, education combined with self-belief can help individuals overcome barriers and fulfill their dreams.



She also highlighted the efforts being made by the government for the welfare and empowerment of persons with disabilities. Various schemes and support programmes are being implemented to provide educational assistance, healthcare facilities, and better opportunities for differently-abled individuals, she said. She urged students and their families to make full use of these

welfare initiatives for their development and future progress.

Nirmala Jaggareddy further appealed to parents to continuously encourage and support their children. She stressed that family encouragement plays a crucial role in boosting the confidence of children with disabilities and helping them succeed academically and socially. The programme

witnessed participation from several public representatives and officials. Sangareddy Municipal Chairperson Koonu Vanitha Santhosh, TPCC General Secretary Topaji Ananth Kishan, Congress Party Sangareddy Town President Kiran Goud, councilors Sangeetha Mahesh and Yashoda, along with officials from the Education Department and local leaders, attended the event.

TPCC Leader Slams Dharmapuri Arvind Over Remarks

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

TPCC official spokesperson Medi Ravichandra launched a sharp attack on BJP MP Dharmapuri Arvind over his recent comments against Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud. Addressing the media, Ravichandra accused the BJP leader of making irresponsible and offensive statements for political attention and demanded an immediate public apology.

Ravichandra alleged that Dharmapuri Arvind was speaking in a provocative and disrespectful manner after witnessing the developmental activities being undertaken by the Congress government in Telangana. According to him, the BJP MP was deliberately attempting to tarnish the image of the state government and create unnecessary political controversy.

He strongly condemned what he described as "personal attacks" against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stating that criticism of government policies may be part of political debate, but personal insults against elected leaders were unacceptable. Ravichandra demanded that Arvind apologize not only to the Chief Minister but also to TPCC president and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud for the remarks made against them.



The Congress spokesperson warned BJP leaders against engaging in personal abuse for political mileage and said that if they had genuine political issues to raise, they should confront the Congress government democratically rather than resorting to inflammatory language. Ravichandra also accused BJP leaders of trying to gain popularity within their party by making sensational statements against the Congress government. He claimed that internal rivalries within the BJP were driving leaders to make controversial comments in an attempt to remain politically relevant.

Referring indirectly to certain BJP leaders who were previously active in Telangana politics, Ravichandra remarked that some politicians who once believed they could gain fame by continuously attacking the Congress party had gradually lost public importance. He suggested that the BJP was now attempting to create another such political narrative through Dharmapuri

Arvind. The TPCC spokesperson asserted that the Congress government under Revanth Reddy's leadership would continue its governance and development agenda despite criticism from opposition parties. He expressed confidence that the Congress party would remain politically strong in Telangana and claimed that Revanth Reddy would continue to play a major leadership role in the state in the coming years.

Ravichandra further warned BJP leaders to maintain restraint in their public statements and avoid crossing political limits through personal remarks. He reiterated that the Congress party would strongly oppose attempts to insult its leadership for political gain.

The exchange of sharp comments between Congress and BJP leaders has intensified political tensions in Telangana, with both parties increasingly engaging in aggressive verbal attacks ahead of future political contests in the state.

Officials Warn Public Against Fake Ward Reservation Lists

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Authorities have cautioned the public against believing or circulating false information related to ward reservations for upcoming GHMC, MMC, and CMC elections that is currently being shared on social media and certain websites.

was clarified that neither the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation nor the Telangana State Election Commission has issued any official notification or finalized list regarding ward reservations so far. Citizens have been urged not to trust rumors or forward unconfirmed information available on social media platforms, messaging applications, or unofficial websites. Authorities stressed that spreading false information can create unnecessary confusion among the public and political circles.

Officials advised people to rely only on official announcements released by the Telangana State Election Commission for accurate updates related to municipal election reservations and other election-related matters. The public was also encouraged to act responsibly by verifying information before sharing it with others. Authorities reiterated that awareness and caution are essential to prevent the spread of misinformation during the election period.

Telangana Strengthens Disaster Response System

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

State Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy stated that the Telangana government is focusing on protecting human lives and minimizing property damage during natural disasters by strengthening disaster management systems with advanced global technology. The minister inaugurated a large-scale disaster management mock drill at the HMDA Grounds on Necklace Road in Hyderabad on Monday. Following the exercise, he chaired a review meeting with senior officials at the Integrated Command and Control Center to assess disaster preparedness across the state.

Speaking at the event, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said the government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, is adopting best practices from across India and other countries to modernize Telangana's disaster response network. He instructed officials to prepare proposals for acquiring advanced rescue technology and state-of-the-art equipment to tackle floods, fires, industrial accidents, and other emergencies more effectively. The minister stressed that the first hour after a disaster, often referred to as the "Golden Hour," is extremely critical for saving lives. He called for seamless coordination among departments and urged officials to respond immediately to emergency calls without delay. During the mock drill, specialized rescue teams demonstrated flood rescue techniques, inflatable lifeboat operations, evacuation procedures, and emergency response strategies. The live demonstrations drew significant attention from officials and the public alike.

Recalling the devastating Musi floods of 1908 and recent flooding incidents in the Godavari and Krishna rivers, the minister emphasized the need for constant vigilance and preparedness. He also raised concerns over increasing urban fire accidents and stressed the importance of trained rescue personnel and modern equipment. Senior officials from NDM, NDRF, SDRF, Fire Services, Police, GHMC, Health, Revenue, and other departments participated in the large-scale preparedness exercise.

BJP Launches 'Mera Bharat, Mera Yogdan' Campaign

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao participated in the nationwide "Mera Bharat, Mera Yogdan" campaign by travelling in an electric vehicle to the party's state office in Hyderabad. The initiative was launched in response to the seven appeals recently made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to encourage greater public participation in nation-building and sustainable living.



Through his participation, Ramchander Rao highlighted the importance of adopting environmentally responsible habits and reducing dependence on conventional fuel sources. He urged citizens, BJP leaders, and party workers to actively contribute towards protecting natural resources by minimizing the use of petrol, diesel, and cooking gas in their daily lives.

would strengthen domestic industries, create employment opportunities, and contribute to economic self-reliance.

As part of the campaign's broader message, he called upon citizens to avoid unnecessary foreign travel and adopt financially disciplined practices that would support national economic growth. He also appealed to people to refrain from purchasing gold for one year and instead focus on investments and spending habits that contribute to the country's long-term economic stability. The BJP leader further emphasized the importance of promoting natural and organic farming methods. He stated that environmentally sustainable agricultural practices would help improve soil health, reduce chemical dependency, and ensure healthier food production while also protecting the ecosystem for future generations. Ramchander Rao said the spirit behind the "Mera Bharat, Mera Yogdan" campaign lies in encouraging every citizen to make meaningful contributions toward the country's progress. He noted that even small changes in daily habits could collectively create a significant positive impact on the nation's development and environmental conservation efforts. He announced that Telangana BJP leaders and cadres would carry the campaign message to every booth, village, town, and household across the state. Party workers have been instructed to create awareness among the public regarding sustainable living, self-reliance, and responsible citizenship. According to BJP leaders, the campaign aims to inspire citizens to actively participate in India's growth journey through practical lifestyle changes and community involvement. They stated that the initiative reflects a broader vision of building a stronger, self-sufficient, and environmentally conscious nation through collective public participation.

Addressing party workers and supporters, the Telangana BJP chief encouraged people to increasingly rely on public transportation systems, adopt carpooling practices whenever possible, and promote the use of electric and other eco-friendly vehicles. He said such efforts would not only help conserve energy but also reduce pollution and strengthen the country's commitment to sustainable development.

Ramchander Rao also appealed to the public to support the "Vocal for Local" movement by prioritizing the purchase and use of products manufactured within the country. According to him, encouraging locally made goods

BRS Stages Protest Over Water Scarcity



Supreme Court Stays Tree Felling Near KBR Park

New Delhi, May 18 | TPN Bureau

The Supreme Court has issued an interim order halting the cutting of trees in the vicinity of Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park, popularly known as KBR Park, while hearing a petition concerning environmental protection around the park's Eco-Sensitive Zone. The decision is expected to temporarily impact several ongoing infrastructure projects in Hyderabad, particularly flyover works under the Strategic Road Development Plan (SRDP).

mental activist Kajal Maheshwari filed a petition challenging tree-cutting activities connected to flyover construction projects near the park. The petitioner argued that KBR Park serves as one of Hyderabad's key ecological spaces and plays a crucial role in maintaining environmental balance and air quality in the city.

may adversely affect the ecosystem.

A bench comprising Justice B. V. Nagarathna and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan directed that no trees located within the Eco-Sensitive Zone surrounding KBR Park should be felled until further orders are issued. The protected buffer zone around the park reportedly extends approximately 25 to 35 meters and has become the focus of growing environmental concerns linked to urban infrastructure expansion. The case reached the Supreme Court after environmental

According to the petition, a notification issued on October 27, 2020 allegedly reduced the extent of the Eco-Sensitive Zone without conducting a proper public consultation process. The plea further claimed that authorities overlooked objections submitted by nearly 19,000 citizens who opposed the reduction of the protected area around the national park. The petitioner also alleged that misleading information was provided regarding the conduct of public hearings before the notification was issued. Environmental groups argued that weakening protections around the park could pave the way for large-scale developmental activities that

Senior advocate K. Vivek Reddy, appearing on behalf of the environmental activists, argued before the court that the Eco-Sensitive Zone must function as a protective ecological buffer, or "shock absorber," safeguarding the park from the impact of rapid urban development and traffic expansion projects. After hearing the submissions, the Supreme Court directed authorities to maintain the Eco-Sensitive Zone and stayed all tree-felling activities in the area until the next hearing. The apex court posted the matter for further hearing on July 27.

The interim order is likely to slow down ongoing SRDP works around KBR Junction and nearby stretches where flyover construction activities were progressing. Environmental activists welcomed the court's intervention, stating that preserving green spaces such as KBR Park is essential for Hyderabad's environmental sustainability amid increasing urbanization.

University of Hyderabad Named Lead Knowledge Institution

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) has been appointed as the Lead Knowledge Institution (LKI) for the Telangana government under the State Support Mission (SSM) launched by NITI Aayog. The designation was formally communicated by the State Planning Department, acknowledging the university's strong academic foundation, multidisciplinary research capabilities, and expertise in policy studies. According to an official press release, the University of Hyderabad will assist the Telangana government in strengthening evidence-based governance and improving policy planning across multiple sectors. The collaboration is aimed at integrating academic research with administrative decision-making to

support the state's long-term development priorities. As part of its responsibilities under the State Support Mission, the university will provide research-oriented policy recommendations, technical expertise, data analysis support, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. It will also contribute to institutional capacity-building efforts designed to improve governance systems and administrative efficiency. Officials stated that the university will work closely with the State Planning Department and various government agencies to develop practical policy strategies and thematic action plans aligned with Telangana's developmental objectives. The initiative seeks to ensure that policymaking is supported by scientific analysis, data-driven insights, and sector-specific research.

The role of the University of Hyderabad under the programme will extend across a wide range of strategic sectors. These include economics and finance, agriculture and allied sectors, industrial development, infrastructure planning, healthcare, education, urban development, entrepreneurship, technology, and human resource development. In addition, the university is expected to assist in designing analytical tools and governance models that can improve monitoring systems and support more efficient implementation of government schemes and welfare programmes. Authorities believe the partnership will strengthen institutional coordination and enhance the quality of public policy execution in the state.

bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical governance by utilizing the expertise available within higher educational institutions. By involving universities in policymaking and governance support, the government hopes to encourage innovative solutions to administrative and developmental challenges. The appointment of the University of Hyderabad as the Lead Knowledge Institution is being viewed as an important step toward promoting research-based governance and strengthening collaboration between academia and the government sector. Observers believe the initiative could help Telangana improve policy implementation, institutional planning, and long-term developmental strategies through greater reliance on data, research, and technical expertise.

Sabitha Indra Reddy Slams Government Over Farmers' Distress

Kodangal, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Former minister Sabitha Indra Reddy strongly criticized the state government over the worsening difficulties faced by farmers across Telangana during a press conference held in Doulthabad under Kodangal constituency. She accused the administration of failing to provide confidence and timely assistance to cultivators during a crucial agricultural period.

Addressing the media, Sabitha Indra Reddy said farmers throughout the state were struggling with multiple problems, leading to frustration and distress in rural areas. She alleged that shortages of urea, inadequate supply of gunny bags, and delays in setting up procurement centres had severely affected farmers at



tempting to sell their produce. She expressed concern that many cultivators were being forced to spend long hours at

procurement yards and drying centres under difficult conditions. According to her, several farmers were collapsing from

exhaustion and anxiety after waiting endlessly to dispose of their harvested crops.

The former minister also attacked the government's management of procurement operations. She alleged that the Chief Minister had failed to conduct proper review meetings on paddy and maize procurement. Further criticizing the administration, she claimed that officials lacked accurate information regarding the total cultivated land and estimated crop yield, which she described as evidence of poor planning.

Sabitha stated that procurement centres should be established according to the expected production levels in each region to reduce inconvenience for farmers. Referring to Kodangal, represented by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, she described the prevailing

conditions as alarming and questioned how the government could ignore the suffering of farmers in the constituency. She warned that if procurement activities moved forward only after opposition intervention, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi would continue visiting affected areas and intensify protests until the government responded effectively. She also urged farmers in Kodangal to approach the Chief Minister's camp office and demand immediate action. Calling for urgent measures, Sabitha demanded immediate supply of urea and improved procurement management. She further remarked that harvested grain lying unattended along roadsides from Parigi to Doulthabad reflected the administration's failure in handling farmer welfare and crop procurement efficiently.



BJP Leaders Pay Tribute to Veteran Leader G.R. Karunakar

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Senior leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party mourned the sudden demise of veteran BJP leader G.R. Karunakar, describing his death as a significant loss to the party and its cadre across Telangana. Several leaders recalled his decades-long contribution to strengthening the BJP organization and guiding party workers with dedication and discipline. In a condolence message issued in Hyderabad, Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao expressed deep shock and sorrow over Karunakar's passing. He said the late leader had been associated with the BJP since its early years and had rendered valuable service in multiple key organizational positions.

According to Ramchander Rao, G.R. Karunakar worked tirelessly for the party at different levels, serving as convener of the Malakpet Assembly constituency, Hyderabad City General Secretary, City President, and later as State Secretary in the undivided Andhra Pradesh BJP unit. He stated that Karunakar played a major role in building the party structure in Hyderabad and inspiring party cadres through his disciplined leadership.

The BJP state president described Karunakar as not only a senior colleague but also a close personal friend with whom he shared a long political journey. He noted that

many BJP leaders and activists grew within the organization under Karunakar's guidance and mentorship. Ramchander Rao said the veteran leader's absence would be deeply felt within the party.

Paying his final respects, the Telangana BJP chief conveyed condolences to the bereaved family on behalf of the entire BJP family in the state. He prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to the family members during the difficult time.

Senior BJP leader and Member of Parliament K. Laxman also expressed grief over Karunakar's death. Recalling his association with the veteran leader, K. Laxman said he had worked closely with him during the period when Karunakar served as Hyderabad City BJP President.

He praised Karunakar's contribution to expanding the BJP's presence across Hyderabad and said the leader was always at the forefront of public movements, protests, and organizational activities. According to him, Karunakar consistently stood for public causes and worked tirelessly to address people's issues.

Leaders and party workers across Telangana remembered G.R. Karunakar as a disciplined, committed, and influential leader whose efforts greatly contributed to the growth and strengthening of the BJP in the state over several decades.

Debt Dispute Leads to Forced Marriage Allegations

Jangaon, May 18 | TPN Bureau

A shocking incident reported from Bachannapeta in Jangaon district has triggered widespread criticism after allegations surfaced that an 18-year-old woman was forced into marrying a 45-year-old man as part of a financial settlement tied to an unpaid debt. The case has drawn sharp reactions from women's rights groups and social activists across Telangana. According to local reports, Prashanth Reddy, recently elected as a ward member, had allegedly lent nearly 20 lakh to a couple from the same village. When the family reportedly failed to repay the amount, he is accused of pressuring them to arrange the marriage of their daughter to him instead. Sources connected to the inquiry alleged that financial incentives and advance cash payments were also offered to finalize the arrangement. The young woman's stepmother and stepfather are accused of forcing her to agree to the marriage despite her objections. Reports indicate that the woman had already been in a relationship with another young man and had opposed the marriage from the beginning. However, due to family pressure and financial difficulties, the wedding was allegedly conducted against her wishes. The situation took a dramatic turn shortly after the marriage ceremony. According to reports, the woman escaped with the help of friends and re-

nited with the man she loved. She later approached the Telangana State Women's Commission in Hyderabad seeking protection and legal support.

Following the complaint, the Women's Commission reportedly directed district authorities and police officials to conduct a detailed investigation into the allegations. Instructions were said to have been issued to the District Collector and Superintendent of Police to thoroughly examine the case and initiate appropriate legal action. Police are reportedly preparing to register a case based on the woman's complaint and statements gathered during the preliminary inquiry. Authorities are also examining allegations of coercion, unlawful pressure, and financial exploitation linked to the marriage arrangement.

The incident has sparked intense public debate, with many comparing it to outdated practices where women were treated as tools for settling financial disputes. Activists expressed concern that such cases continue to emerge in financially vulnerable households, where young women are often denied the freedom to make personal decisions about their lives.

The case has once again highlighted the growing need for stronger awareness, legal safeguards, and social intervention to prevent forced marriages and protect women from exploitation.

Andhra Pradesh Positioned for Global Investments in Clean Energy and Technology Sectors

Amaravati, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Rajya Sabha Member Sana Satish Babu stated that the initiatives being taken by the state government to position Andhra Pradesh as a reliable global partner in the nuclear energy are highly commendable. He noted that it is a proud moment for the state that Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics Nara Lokesh attended the "US Executive Nuclear Mission to India" conference as a guest. The high-profile event was jointly organized by

the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). Satish Babu remarked that the statements made by Minister Nara Lokesh on this occasion serve as a definitive roadmap for the state's future development. He highlighted the significance of the Minister's assertion that the state is fully prepared to collaborate with global nuclear energy partners and intends to develop Andhra Pradesh into a pivotal stakeholder in the emerging nuclear energy.

Grand Felicitation for Bomma Sriram Chakravarthy

Karimnagar District, May 18 | TPN Bureau

A grand felicitation programme was organized at Indira Gardens in Karimnagar to celebrate the appointment of Bomma Sriram Chakravarthy as Chairman of the State Munnuru Kapu Corporation. The event witnessed the participation of ministers, MLAs, senior Congress leaders, local body representatives, and a large gathering of party workers.

Among those present were Ministers Ponnampalapati Prabhakar and Adluri Laxman Kumar, Government Whip Adi Srinivas, and several MLAs and district leaders. The leaders congratulated Bomma Sriram

Chakravarthy and expressed confidence in his ability to work for the welfare and development of the Munnuru Kapu community.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Ponnampalapati Prabhakar said the Congress government remains committed to uplifting weaker sections through welfare and employment initiatives. He stated that the welfare sector, which had weakened over the past decade, was now being strengthened under the leadership of the Chief Minister through timely financial support and improved administration.

The minister announced that new employment-oriented training programmes would

soon be launched under the BC Welfare Department. He also emphasized the importance of improving education in government schools and ensuring better opportunities for marginalized communities.

Ponnampalapati Prabhakar urged Congress workers to strengthen the party from the grassroots level and actively spread awareness about welfare schemes such as Indiramma housing, free electricity, gas subsidy support, and new ration cards. He expressed hope that Bomma Sriram Chakravarthy would play a key role in the social and economic progress of the Munnuru Kapu community.



Warangal Police Conduct Public March Against Rowdy Sheeters

Warangal, May 18 | TPN Bureau

In a stern move aimed at curbing criminal activities, Warangal police organized a public march involving rowdy sheeters under the limits of the Ajam Jahi Mills Colony police station. The initiative was carried out from the police station area to Shivnagar near the Khila Warangal Tahsildar Office as part of an intensified law enforcement drive against habitual offenders.

Led by Ramesh along with several Sub-Inspectors, the rowdy sheeters were made to walk through the streets under heavy police supervision despite the intense summer heat. Officials stated that the exercise was intended to send a strong message to individuals involved in repeated criminal activities and to deter anti-social behaviour in the city.

After the march, the rowdy sheeters were produced before Iqbal and bound over as part of preventive policing measures. Authorities said the action was undertaken to ensure close monitoring of repeat offenders and maintain law and order in the

region.

The unusual public procession attracted considerable attention from local residents. Police personnel led the march from the front while police vehicles followed behind, with the rowdy sheeters walking in between under strict surveillance. The display was widely viewed as a symbolic warning against criminal conduct.

Officials believe the operation would help instill fear among habitual offenders while simultaneously boosting public confidence in the police department's commitment to maintaining peace and security. Residents reportedly observed the march closely, with many viewing it as a strong message that authorities are taking firm action against criminal elements. The Warangal police have recently intensified surveillance and preventive measures in an effort to control anti-social activities and improve public safety. Senior officers indicated that similar operations may continue in the future as part of broader efforts to strengthen policing and discourage criminal behaviour across the city.

Police Uncover Chilling Double Murder Plot

Hyderabad, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Cyberabad police have exposed a shocking murder conspiracy linked to the Moinabad double murder case, in which a debt-ridden couple and their relative allegedly plotted to eliminate multiple women moneylenders in an attempt to escape heavy financial liabilities. Investigators revealed that two women were brutally murdered as part of the scheme, while six others narrowly escaped a similar fate. The victims were identified

as Abeda Begum and Mahboob Bee, both residents of Tandur in Vikarabad district. According to police officials, the women had lent large sums of money to the accused and had been repeatedly demanding repayment of the dues.

Police identified the accused as Karima Begum, her husband Abdul Rehman, and their relative Nayeem. Investigators alleged that the trio carefully planned the murders by inviting the victims to a remote area near a farmhouse in Tol-katta village, Moinabad, under the pretext of settling pending

financial transactions.

According to the investigation, Mahboob Bee was the first victim to be called to the isolated location. Police suspect that she was murdered and secretly buried there. Investigators later found evidence suggesting that the accused repeated the same method in the killing of Abeda Begum at the very same location. The crime came to light after family members filed missing complaints regarding the women, prompting an intensive investigation by police. A special police team led by

Praveen Kumar Reddy traced the suspects and subjected them to interrogation. During excavation work carried out near the farmhouse, police recovered skeletal remains believed to belong to Mahboob Bee, along with the body of Abeda Begum. During questioning, the accused allegedly admitted that they had planned to lure six more female moneylenders to the location and kill them in a similar manner. However, police said the remaining women survived only because they never arrived at the farmhouse as planned. The

revelations have created widespread fear and shock in the region. Following the disclosures, the six surviving women reportedly approached the police requesting protection, fearing threats to their safety. Police are continuing further investigation into the case, including examining financial transactions, phone records, and the possibility of additional criminal involvement. The gruesome nature of the incident has sparked public outrage and raised concerns over rising financial disputes leading to violent crimes.



Who will tie the Bell?

Just 0.4 % of global GDP can preserve the 6 % of humanity in desperate.

The global landscape of humanitarian organisations has changed drastically since 1971, expanding from a few specialised legacy entities into a massive ecosystem. It all happened when a group of French doctors decided to end the rigidity of Red Cross bureaucratic operations.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) was founded in Paris in 1971 in the aftermath of the Biafran Nigerian civil war. A group of French doctors who had volunteered with the Red Cross during the conflict became deeply frustrated with the structural limitations imposed on them.

Their core dispute centered around advocacy vs. silence. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) operates on an orthodox model of strict neutrality. Their mandate requires them to negotiate directly with belligerent states to improve the conduct of warfare and secure civilian protection. To maintain this fragile access, they generally practice quiet diplomacy and refrain from speaking out publicly against atrocities. This, in fact, favours the dictators more than the victims. In most cases, victims are the common public, who are not party to either.

The volunteering doctors felt that by staying silent amid unimaginable suffering and hunger, they were becoming a "fig leaf" for state propaganda. During the Cold War, governments routinely categorised people into "good" and "bad" victims based on political alignments. These doctors, alongside journalists and psychologists, decided that a new framework was needed, one that positioned the victim's rights at the absolute center, not a mediator. They established the "principle of témoignage" (eye-witness account), choosing to openly speak out about the atrocities they witnessed on the front lines. The phrase "Without Borders" (Sans Frontières) was chosen explicitly to declare that government edicts closing lines of transit would not block the universal right to medical assistance.

Following Médecins Sans Frontières, the humanitarian sector is now a highly competitive and crowded marketplace consisting of thousands of individual non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Most of them come out of UN agencies and the Red Cross/Red Crescent, seeing the limitations in unquestioned med-



Stephan Cornish

ical or life support to the dying victims.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), founded in 1971 following the Biafran war, remains a defiant "irritant" within the humanitarian system. In a discussion with my friend Dr Mukesh Kapila, a former UN peacekeeping diplomat and a ferocious critic of the UN, Stephen Cornish, operations director of MSF explains that the organisation's "Without Borders" ethos asserts that the right to medical and humanitarian assistance has no borders, rejecting the notion

of "good" or "bad" victims in favour of universal victim rights. MSF's operations are its fierce financial independence. By relying on over 7 million individual supporters rather than government grants that account for less than 1% of the MSF budget, they maintain the freedom to operate in conflict zones. This independence facilitates eye-witness accounts and provides the moral obligation to "bear witness" and speak out against atrocities, even when doing so risks expulsion or retaliatory attacks, as seen during the chemical attacks in Syria. MSF also challenges medical orthodoxy through field-based innovation. Prioritize the poor at the "front of the queue" for science, pioneering antiretroviral treatments for mobile populations and developing new protocols for tuberculosis and Ebola. Furthermore, Stephan Cornish emphasises that MSF now recognises climate change as a human health crisis, adapting logistics to reduce carbon footprints while trialling novel genetic interventions for diseases like Dengue.

In contemporary crises like Gaza, MSF staff continue to provide care with "dignity



and humanity" despite immense personal loss. This persistent action is characterised as humanitarianism as an act of resistance, defying inhumanity through the sheer practice of empathy.

System-wide, the UN spends roughly \$65 to \$70 billion annually across all four of its major operational functions. Development assistance generally accounts for about 30% of total system expenditures, but humanitari-

an assistance (which targets emergency poverty relief) accounts for roughly 45% to 46%. In this, a net 15% goes purely on administrative expenses as per the record. If there is a fair system to mobilise just 0.4 per cent of global GDP to preserve the 6 per cent of humanity in desperate humanitarian need is eminently feasible.

Tail piece
This 6% of humanity also has the right to peace and

prosperity, if the world of power-hungry politics and religious atrocities can be curbed. But who is there to tie the bell? The UN should be sanitised, and numerous regional agencies formed by professionals like MSF should take the roles without bowing their heads to power.



Ram Kamal

Social Engineer

SYMPTOMS

- Persistent Diarrhoea
- Abdominal Pain
- Blood in Stool
- Urgency to Defecate
- Fatigue & Weight Loss

HEALTHY HABITS

- Eat more Fruits, Vegetables & Fibre
- Drink Plenty of Water
- Stay Active & Manage Stress
- Limit Alcohol, Avoid Smoking & Processed Foods

NO BORDERS • ACCESS TO CARE • BETTER OUTCOMES

ULCERATIVE COLITIS **CROHN'S DISEASE**

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE HAS NO BORDERS: ACCESS TO CARE

IBD has No Borders: Access to Care

(On the occasion of "World Inflammatory Bowel Disease Day" on 19 May)

Inflammatory Bowel Diseases comprise ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease, which are two different diseases that are difficult to distinguish. There has been an increasing trend of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases in the Indian subcontinent, and the financial burden it causes due to long-term treatment and constant monitoring. In-

flammatory Bowel Diseases are increasing globally, higher in Western countries, but are now being observed in Asian countries as well. Inflammatory Bowel Diseases have no age restrictions.

Theme of World Inflammatory Bowel Disease Day-2026: To promote awareness of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, World Inflammatory Bowel Disease Day is observed annually on May 19. On this day, various global and local or-

ganisations step forward together to support a crore of people globally who suffer from Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. The theme of World Inflammatory Bowel Disease Day-2026 is "Inflammatory Bowel Disease has No Borders: Access to Care", to focus and strive to shatter the silence and stigma surrounding Inflammatory Bowel Diseases by encouraging open talks about the condition, particularly taboos associat-

ed with discussing bowel movements. The early diagnosis, patient care, and society's understanding of persons living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Reasons for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases:

The diet and alterations in the composition of intestinal microbiota may interact with the immune system and lead to immune dysregulation in the gut, causing Inflammatory Bowel Disorder. The diet

high in fat and sugars, along with low fibre and vegetables, can inflame the gut. Refined carbohydrates and sweetened beverages, more animal protein intake, and food additives also increase the risk of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases.

Symptoms of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: The symptoms of Ulcerative Colitis are ulcers in the colon, bloody diarrhoea, abdominal pain, and urgency to defecate. Similarly, the

Crohn's disease symptoms are inflammation in the intestine, persistent diarrhoea, abdominal pain, weight loss, and fatigue. It is better to take a diet rich in fresh fruits, vegetables, prunes, and caffeinated beverages to increase stool production. Reducing the consumption of intense sweets, increasing water intake, and reducing alcohol consumption may help alleviate Inflammatory Bowel Diseases.



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India, Sweden Upgrade Ties to Strategic Partnership During PM Modi's Visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced that India and Sweden have decided to elevate their bilateral relationship to the level of a Strategic Partnership, marking a significant step in cooperation between the two democratic nations. Speaking in Gothenburg during his visit to Sweden, Modi emphasized that the partnership would focus on emerging technologies, green transition, defence cooperation, and stronger people-to-people ties.

Addressing a joint gathering alongside Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, Modi described India-Sweden relations as being rooted in democratic values, innovation, sustainability, and rule

of law. He also thanked Sweden for conferring upon him the Royal Order of the Polar Star, one of the country's highest honours, calling it a tribute to the people of India and to the long-standing friendship between the two countries.

The Prime Minister said both nations see tremendous potential for cooperation in high-technology sectors including artificial intelligence, health-tech, and green mobility. He announced that India and Sweden would work on concrete initiatives to strengthen the "Sweden-India Technology and AI Corridor." To boost collaboration between startups and research institutions, the two countries will also establish an India-Sweden Science and

Technology Centre.

Climate change and sustainability emerged as key themes during the discussions. Modi highlighted the joint global initiative LeadIT, focused on low-carbon industrial transformation, and said both countries had agreed to move forward with its third phase. He noted that India's large-scale efforts in green hydrogen, circular economy projects, and sustainable infrastructure could combine effectively with Swedish technology to create global climate solutions.

The Prime Minister also pointed to the growing defence partnership between the two countries, stating that Swedish companies establishing manufacturing facilities in India reflected a transition

from a buyer-seller relationship to long-term industrial collaboration.

Modi further underlined the importance of India's partnership with the European Union, particularly in areas such as trade, clean energy, semiconductors, digital technology, and resilient supply chains. Referring to the proposed India-EU Free Trade Agreement, he said it would create major opportunities for industries, investors, and innovators on both sides.

On global security, Modi reiterated that India and Sweden both view terrorism as a serious threat to humanity and stressed the need for democracies to work together through dialogue and diplomacy to ensure global peace, stability, and prosperity.



V. D. Satheesan Takes Oath as Kerala CM, UDF Returns to Power

The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) has officially returned to power in Kerala after a decade, with senior Congress leader V. D. Satheesan taking oath as the state's new Chief Minister. Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar administered the oath of office and secrecy during a grand swearing-in ceremony held at the Central Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday.



The UDF registered a sweeping victory in the 2026 Kerala Assembly elections, winning 102 seats in the 140-member Assembly. The ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF), led by former Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, was reduced to 35 seats, while the BJP secured three constituencies. The verdict marked a significant political shift in Kerala, where power traditionally alternates between the UDF and the LDF.

Along with Satheesan, a 20-member Cabinet was sworn in. Prominent leaders including Ramesh Chennithala and P. K. Kunhalikutty were among those inducted as ministers. The Cabinet reflects a blend of experienced politicians and fresh faces, with reports indi-

cating that nearly two-thirds of the ministers are first-time entrants to the ministry. Political observers see this as an attempt by the Congress to project generational change and administrative renewal.

Several senior Congress leaders attended the ceremony, including Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and Mallikarjun Kharge. Chief Ministers from Congress-ruled states also participated in the event, highlighting the political significance of the UDF's victory. Former Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and representatives from other political parties were also present.

Before the swearing-in, Satheesan emphasized that social and regional balance had

been carefully considered while finalising the Cabinet. Though many senior leaders reportedly expected ministerial berths, the Congress leadership prioritized representation and generational transition.

The new government now faces the challenge of meeting the high public expectations that accompanied the UDF's emphatic victory. During the campaign, the alliance strongly criticized the LDF government over governance, unemployment, and economic management. Satheesan has promised transparent administration, improved public services, and a development-oriented approach as his government begins its tenure in Kerala.

ED Arrests AAP Leader Deepak Singla After Raids in Delhi, Goa

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday arrested Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Deepak Singla following a series of raids conducted in Delhi and Goa in connection with an alleged money laundering and bank fraud case. The searches were carried out at multiple premises linked to Singla and several others as part of an ongoing investigation into suspected financial irregularities. According to officials, the ED launched coordinated searches early in the morning at locations associated with the AAP leader. One of the locations reportedly included a flat in North Goa where members of AAP's organisational team were staying. Authorities stated that the raids were linked to a bank loan fraud case that is currently under investigation under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Deepak Singla had earlier contested the Delhi Assembly elections from the Vishwas Nagar constituency on an AAP ticket in both 2020 and 2025. This is not the first



time he has come under the scanner of central agencies. In 2024, the ED had also searched premises connected to him in relation to another money laundering probe linked to alleged bank fraud. The action triggered a sharp political response from the Aam Aadmi Party. Senior AAP leader Atishi accused the BJP-led Centre of misusing central agencies to target opposition leaders and intimidate party workers. She alleged that the raids were po-

litically motivated and aimed at accessing the party's organisational data in Goa, where AAP is trying to strengthen its presence ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled next year. AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal also defended Singla, claiming that the arrest was politically driven rather than based on wrongdoing. Party leaders argued that the BJP was attempting to weaken opposition parties by using investigative agencies as politi-

cally motivated and aimed at accessing the party's organisational data in Goa, where AAP is trying to strengthen its presence ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled next year. AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal also defended Singla, claiming that the arrest was politically driven rather than based on wrongdoing. Party leaders argued that the BJP was attempting to weaken opposition parties by using investigative agencies as politi-



CBI Recovers 'Chemistry Questions Bank' in Expanding NEET-UG Paper Leak Probe

The investigation into the alleged NEET-UG 2026 paper leak has intensified, with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) recovering a "chemistry questions bank" during searches conducted at premises linked to Maharashtra-based coaching institute operator Shivraj Motegaonkar in Latur. The development is being viewed as a major breakthrough in the high-profile probe surrounding the cancellation of the national medical entrance examination. According to officials, the CBI carried out extensive searches at the offices and residence of Motegaonkar, founder of Renukai Chemistry Classes (RCC), after allegations surfaced that several questions appearing in the NEET-UG examination closely matched mock test papers circulated by the institute before the exam. Investigators reportedly seized electronic devices, documents, and question banks that are now being examined for links to the leaked paper network. The CBI has described Motegaonkar as an "active member" of the alleged network involved in leaking and circulating NEET-UG question papers before the examination. Reports suggest that investigators found evidence indicating that a chemistry-related question bank stored on electronic devices may have contained material substantially

similar to the actual examination paper. The case first drew attention after a parent filed a complaint alleging that over 40 questions from a mock test conducted by the coaching institute matched those in the NEET-UG exam held on May 3. The complaint triggered a wider investigation into possible links between coaching institutes, paper setters, and intermediaries involved in the alleged leak. The probe has already led to multiple arrests, including that of retired chemistry professor P. V. Kulkarni, who allegedly had connections with the National Testing Agency's examination process. Investigators suspect that the leaked paper may have been circulated through a network involving coaching operators, middlemen, and candidates willing to pay large sums for advance access to questions. The NEET-UG 2026 examination was cancelled by the National Testing Agency following nationwide outrage over allegations of widespread malpractice. The controversy has sparked protests from students and parents across the country, raising serious concerns over the integrity of India's highly competitive entrance examination system. Authorities have announced that a fresh examination will be conducted later this year under enhanced security measures.

DMK Leader Predicts Short Lifespan for Vijay-Led TVK Government

Senior DMK leader and Tiruchendur MLA Anitha Radhakrishnan has launched a sharp political attack on the newly formed Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) government led by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay, predicting that the administration may not survive beyond six months. His remarks have intensified the political confrontation in Tamil Nadu following the dramatic rise of actor-turned-politician Vijay and the formation of the TVK government.

Speaking to reporters, Radhakrishnan questioned the stability of the new government and claimed that internal contradictions and political arrangements supporting the administration would eventually lead to its collapse. He alleged



that the TVK government lacked long-term political strength and suggested that the coalition backing Vijay could face serious challenges in the coming months.

The DMK leader also raised questions about the absence of

Vijay's wife and children during his swearing-in ceremony, making controversial remarks that quickly triggered reactions across political circles and social media platforms. He further criticized some of the celebrations surrounding Vi-

jay's electoral victory, claiming that emotional political waves alone cannot ensure administrative stability.

The comments come at a time when the TVK government is facing continuous attacks from opposition parties despite recently proving its majority in the Assembly. Vijay had successfully cleared a crucial floor test with the support of alliance partners and backing from several legislators outside his party, helping the government secure its position in the Assembly.

Political tensions in Tamil Nadu have increased after the Assembly election results produced a major shift in the state's political landscape. TVK emerged as the single-largest party but required post-

poll support to form the government. Since then, leaders from the DMK and other opposition parties have repeatedly questioned the durability of the new administration.

Meanwhile, TVK leaders have dismissed the criticism and accused opposition parties of attempting to create instability soon after the government's formation. Supporters of Vijay argue that the government has received a strong public mandate for political change and remains focused on governance and welfare measures.

The latest remarks by Anitha Radhakrishnan are expected to further sharpen the political battle between the ruling TVK and the opposition DMK in the coming weeks.

Monsoon Advances as IMD Warns of Heavy Rain in South, Severe Heatwave in North India

With the southwest monsoon steadily advancing towards mainland India, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued heavy rainfall warnings for several southern states while alerting northern and central India about continuing heatwave conditions. The weather department said monsoon activity has intensified over southern coastal regions, with Kerala expected to receive the monsoon around May 26, earlier than the normal onset date of June 1.

According to the IMD, heavy rainfall is likely over Kerala, Mahe, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, and coastal Karnataka until Thursday. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds are also expected in several districts. During the past 24 hours,



many areas in Kerala recorded significant rainfall, indicating strengthening pre-monsoon activity across the southern

peninsula.

The IMD said the monsoon has already advanced further into parts of the southeast Ara-

bian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Weather conditions are considered favourable for further advancement over the coming days. Authorities have also warned fishermen against venturing into the Gulf of Mannar, south Bay of Bengal, Andaman Sea, and coastal regions of Kerala and Karnataka because of strong winds and rough sea conditions.

At the same time, large parts of northwestern and central India continue to battle intense heatwave conditions. The IMD has forecast heatwave to severe heatwave conditions over Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh until May 23. Temperatures in several regions are expected to remain 3 to 5 degrees Celsius

above normal.

Delhi is likely to witness temperatures touching 43 to 45 degrees Celsius in some areas over the next few days, with the IMD issuing yellow alerts for heatwave conditions. Uttar Pradesh is expected to face particularly severe heat stress, prompting health advisories for vulnerable groups including children, elderly citizens, and outdoor workers.

Weather experts say the early progress of the monsoon could benefit agricultural activity, especially kharif crop sowing in southern states. However, the IMD has also forecast below-normal monsoon rainfall for the 2026 season overall, raising concerns over water availability and agricultural productivity later in the year.

Kim Jong Un Turns North Korea's Border Into A Massive Fortress Amid Rising Tensions

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has reportedly intensified efforts to transform the country's border with South Korea into a heavily fortified military zone, further escalating tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Recent satellite images and intelligence assessments suggest Pyongyang is aggressively strengthening defenses near the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), one of the most heavily guarded borders in the world.

According to reports, North Korea has been constructing anti-tank barriers, reinforcing fences, laying new landmines, and building additional military infrastructure along key sections of the border. Analysts believe the developments signal Kim Jong Un's growing focus on tightening national security and preparing for possi-

ble future confrontations. The move comes amid deteriorating relations between North and South Korea. In recent months, both nations have increased hostile rhetoric, military drills, and border activities, raising international concerns about regional stability.

Experts say North Korea's latest actions appear aimed at physically and symbolically cutting itself off from the South. Reports indicate that some roads and railway links connecting the two countries have also been damaged or dismantled, reversing years of limited cooperation efforts.

Kim Jong Un has recently taken a much harder stance toward South Korea, reportedly describing it as a hostile state rather than a partner for reunification. Political ob-

servers believe this marks a major shift in North Korea's long-standing policy narrative. Satellite imagery reportedly shows military personnel working continuously on construction activities near the border areas. The new defensive structures are believed to include concrete barriers, trench systems, observation posts, and fortified positions designed to slow down any military movement across the border.

South Korean officials have been closely monitoring the developments and have expressed concern over the increased militarization. Seoul has also strengthened surveillance operations and maintained high military readiness in response to North Korea's actions.

The Korean border has re-

mained heavily armed since the Korean War ended in 1953 with an armistice rather than a formal peace treaty. Although there have been occasional diplomatic efforts and summits over the years, relations between the two nations continue to swing between dialogue and confrontation.

Analysts suggest the latest border fortification project may also serve domestic political purposes for Kim Jong Un. By emphasizing external threats and military preparedness, the North Korean leadership can reinforce internal unity and strengthen control over the population.

International observers fear that continued escalation could further reduce opportunities for diplomatic engagement in the region. Many experts believe the growing hostility between the two Ko-



As construction activities continue, the situation is being watched closely by neighboring countries and global powers, all concerned about the possibility of rising instability on the Korean Peninsula.

India Raises Concern Over UAE Nuclear Plant Drone Strike Amid Rising West Asia Tensions

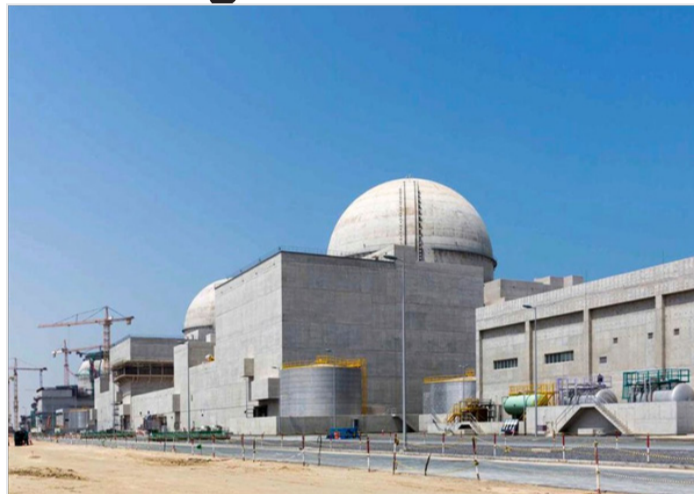
India has expressed serious concern over reports of a drone strike near a nuclear facility in the United Arab Emirates, describing the incident as a "dangerous escalation" amid rapidly rising tensions in West Asia. The development has triggered international alarm due to fears that attacks involving sensitive nuclear infrastructure could lead to wider regional instability.

According to reports, the strike targeted an area connected to the Barakah nuclear power plant in the UAE. While authorities reportedly stated that the facility itself remained safe and operational, the incident has intensified concerns about the growing use of drones and missile technology in regional conflicts.

India's response highlighted the risks associated with military actions near critical civilian infrastructure, especially nuclear installations. Officials reportedly stressed the importance of restraint and dialogue to prevent the situation from spiraling into a broader confrontation.

The incident comes during a period of heightened tensions involving several countries in West Asia, with ongoing fears of retaliation, military escalation, and disruption to global trade and energy routes. Analysts warn that attacks near nuclear facilities carry particularly serious consequences because even limited damage or panic could create widespread international concern.

The Barakah plant is considered one of the most strategically important infrastructure projects in the UAE and plays a



major role in the country's energy plans. Any threat to such facilities is viewed as highly sensitive by governments and global security experts.

India, which maintains strong diplomatic and economic ties with countries across the Gulf region, has been closely monitoring developments. Millions of Indians live and work in West Asia, making regional stability a matter of significant importance for New Delhi.

Experts believe India's statement reflects broader international anxiety about the increasing militarization of the region. Several countries have already urged restraint and called for diplomatic engagement to avoid further escalation.

The use of drones in modern conflicts has become a growing challenge for governments worldwide. Compared to traditional military systems, drones are relatively inexpensive, difficult to detect, and capable of targeting strategic sites from

long distances. Security analysts say this has dramatically changed the nature of regional warfare.

Meanwhile, global markets and energy observers are also watching developments carefully. Any prolonged instability in West Asia could potentially affect oil supplies, shipping routes, and international trade flows, particularly through critical maritime corridors in the Gulf region.

Social media reactions to the incident have been mixed, with some users expressing concern over the possibility of wider conflict while others called for stronger international intervention to protect sensitive infrastructure.

As tensions continue to rise, the drone strike has become another reminder of how fragile the security situation remains in West Asia. Observers believe diplomatic efforts in the coming days will be crucial in preventing further escalation and maintaining stability in the region.

Iranian State TV Airs Rifle Training Segments Amid Rising West Asia Tensions

Amid escalating tensions in West Asia, Iranian state television has sparked global attention after broadcasting unusual segments showing news presenters and civilians handling rifles and discussing combat preparedness. The broadcasts reportedly suggested that ordinary citizens and media personnel would be ready to participate in the conflict "if necessary."

The televised segments featured anchors and guests demonstrating the use of firearms while discussing national defense and resistance. The unusual programming comes at a time of heightened tensions involving Iran, Israel, and Western powers, raising concerns about the possibility of a wider regional conflict.

According to reports, the broadcasts are part of a broader effort by Iranian authorities to emphasize national unity and readiness during a period of growing geopolitical uncertainty. Iranian media outlets have increasingly focused on military preparedness, patriotic messaging, and public defense awareness in recent



weeks. The televised rifle-handling sessions quickly went viral online, with clips circulating widely across social media platforms. Many viewers were surprised to see state TV presenters participating in weapon demonstrations rather than regular news programming.

The developments come amid rising military tensions across the Middle East. Reports indicate that regional hostilities, military deployments, and threats of retaliation have increased significantly in recent months, keeping global powers on alert.

Analysts believe the broadcasts are aimed at sending both a domestic and international message. Domestically, the programming may be intended to strengthen public morale and project readiness in the face of external threats. Internationally, it could serve as a symbolic warning that Iran is prepared for prolonged confrontation if tensions continue escalating.

Experts also note that Iranian state media has historically

played a major role during periods of crisis, often broadcasting content designed to promote resilience, military strength, and national solidarity. Meanwhile, concerns continue to grow over the possibility of broader instability in the region. Several countries have reportedly increased security measures, while governments worldwide are closely monitoring developments due to fears of disruption to global energy supplies and international trade routes. Social media reactions to the broadcasts have been sharply divided. Some users viewed the segments as patriotic and symbolic, while others criticized them as propaganda designed to intensify public fear and nationalism.

As tensions remain high, the unusual television broadcasts have become another sign of how rapidly the political and military atmosphere in West Asia is evolving. Observers say the coming weeks could prove crucial in determining whether diplomatic efforts can prevent the situation from escalating further.

Three Suspects Taken Into Custody After Shooting Spree In Austin, Texas

Authorities in Austin, Texas, have taken three suspects into custody following a series of shootings that spread fear across multiple neighborhoods over the weekend. Police say the incidents involved at least 12 separate shootings that left four people injured and triggered temporary shelter-in-place orders in parts of the city. According to officials, the shootings appeared to be random and took place across South and East Austin over a 24-hour period. Several locations, including homes, apartment complexes, businesses, and even fire stations, were struck by gunfire during the spree. Austin Police Chief Lisa Davis confirmed that two juvenile suspects, aged 15 and 17, were initially arrested. A third suspect, who reportedly fled during a police stop in the nearby Manor area, was later located and detained by authorities. Police stated that there is currently no ongoing threat to the public.

Officials revealed that at least four people were injured during the shootings. One victim suffered critical injuries but is now reportedly in stable condition, while the remaining



victims sustained non-life-threatening injuries. Investigators believe the suspects used stolen firearms and multiple stolen vehicles during the attacks. Authorities said the suspects allegedly switched between several vehicles, including sedans and compact cars, while carrying out the shootings across different areas of the city. The violence caused widespread panic among residents and led police to issue shelter-in-place warnings in parts of South Austin and Manor as officers searched for the suspects. The restrictions were later lifted after authorities gained control of the situation.

Police said the motive behind the shootings remains unclear. Austin Mayor Kirk Wat-

son described the attacks as "senseless" and urged the public to remain vigilant while the investigation continues.

Surveillance footage from some incidents reportedly showed suspects firing from moving vehicles at random targets. In one case, a woman standing outside a store was struck by gunfire. Authorities also confirmed that two Austin Fire Department stations were hit during the attacks, though no firefighters were injured.

Law enforcement agencies continue to investigate the shootings and are reviewing evidence, surveillance footage, and witness statements. Officials have urged anyone with information related to the incidents to contact police or local crime-stopper programs.

Russia And Ukraine Exchange Massive Drone Attacks As Tensions Intensify

Russia and Ukraine have launched massive drone attacks against each other in one of the largest aerial escalations seen in recent months, further intensifying the ongoing conflict between the two countries. The overnight strikes reportedly targeted military facilities, infrastructure, and strategic locations on both sides, causing damage and raising concerns about a new phase of the war.

According to reports, Russia launched a large-scale drone and missile assault on multiple Ukrainian cities, triggering air raid sirens across several regions. Ukrainian authorities claimed their air defense systems intercepted many of the incoming drones, though some strikes reportedly damaged energy facilities, residential areas, and transport infrastructure.

At the same time, Ukraine carried out major drone attacks deep inside Russian territory. Russian officials said several drones were intercepted near key regions, including areas close to Moscow and other strategic zones. Airports in some locations reportedly faced temporary disruptions as authorities responded to the aerial threat.

The exchange marks one of the most intense waves of drone warfare since the conflict began. Both countries have increasingly relied on drones as cost-effective and high-impact weapons capable of targeting critical infrastructure far from the frontlines.

Ukrainian officials accused Russia of deliberately targeting civilian infrastructure and attempting to weaken public



morale through continuous aerial bombardment. Meanwhile, Russian authorities claimed Ukraine's strikes were aimed at destabilizing security within Russian territory.

International analysts say the growing use of drones has significantly changed the nature of the conflict. Unlike traditional battlefield engagements, drone warfare allows both sides to strike targets hundreds of kilometers away with relatively low operational costs. Experts believe this strategy has become central to both Russian and Ukrainian military planning.

The recent attacks also come amid heightened diplomatic tensions and ongoing fighting across eastern and southern

Ukraine. Reports indicate that both armies are continuing operations along multiple frontline sectors while simultaneously expanding long-range strike capabilities.

International observers have expressed concern that the escalating drone exchanges could further complicate efforts toward diplomacy or ceasefire negotiations. Several countries have already urged restraint and warned that continued escalation may increase instability across the region.

The attacks once again highlighted the pressure on air defense systems in both countries. Authorities on both sides claimed to have intercepted large numbers of drones overnight, though independent ver-

ification of battlefield claims remains difficult.

Social media platforms were flooded with videos showing explosions, anti-aircraft fire, and damaged buildings following the strikes. Many civilians described another night of fear and uncertainty as sirens and explosions echoed across cities.

As the conflict continues with no immediate resolution in sight, the latest wave of drone warfare demonstrates how rapidly military tactics are evolving in the Russia-Ukraine war. Analysts warn that the increasing scale and frequency of such attacks could lead to even greater risks for civilians and critical infrastructure in the months ahead.

Sensex, Nifty See Wild Swings As Crude Oil Surge And Global Tensions Shake Markets

Indian stock markets witnessed a highly volatile trading session on Monday as investors reacted nervously to rising crude oil prices, global geopolitical tensions, and weak international cues. Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty opened sharply lower after GIFT Nifty signaled a weak start, with fears surrounding West Asia tensions weighing heavily on investor sentiment.

Early in the session, the Sensex plunged more than 1,000 points while the Nifty slipped below the 23,350 mark as panic selling hit several sectors, especially consumer durables, PSU banks, media, and realty stocks. Analysts attributed the sharp fall largely

to the sudden spike in crude oil prices, which crossed the \$111 per barrel mark amid growing uncertainty around the Strait of Hormuz and fears of supply disruptions.

Investor concerns were further amplified by the continued weakness of the Indian rupee, which recently touched record lows against the US dollar. Rising global bond yields and weak Asian market trends also contributed to the negative mood on Dalal Street.

However, markets staged a strong intraday recovery later in the session, helped largely by gains in information technology stocks. The Nifty IT index emerged as the top-performing sector, with

major companies such as Tech Mahindra, Infosys, TCS, HCL Tech, and Wipro witnessing buying interest. Tech Mahindra reportedly surged more than 4 percent during the rebound phase.

By the closing bell, benchmark indices managed to recover most of their losses despite extreme volatility throughout the day. The Sensex eventually ended marginally higher by around 77 points at 75,315, while the Nifty closed slightly above the 23,649 mark. The late recovery prevented what initially appeared to be another major market crash.

Despite the rebound in headline indices, broader market sentiment remained

weak. Midcap and smallcap stocks continued to face heavy selling pressure, with market breadth staying sharply negative through most of the session. Reports indicated that nearly three times as many stocks declined compared to advances on the exchanges.

Experts believe the market will likely remain highly sensitive to developments in global crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions in the coming days. Any further escalation in West Asia could continue to impact inflation expectations, currency stability, and investor confidence across global financial markets.



Bharti Airtel Surpasses HDFC Bank To Become India's Second Most Valuable Company

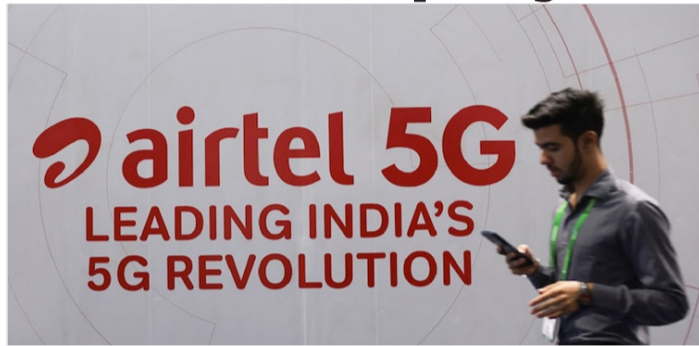
Bharti Airtel has achieved a major milestone by overtaking HDFC Bank to become the second most valued company in India by market capitalization. The telecom giant's strong rally on the stock market reflects growing investor confidence in the company's financial performance, subscriber growth, and long-term business prospects.

Shares of Bharti Airtel witnessed strong buying interest during recent trading sessions, helping the company's market value surge past that of HDFC Bank. The development marks a significant shift in India's corporate rankings, especially considering the dominance traditionally held by banking and financial institutions.

Reliance Industries continues to hold the top position as India's most valuable company, while Airtel's latest rise has highlighted the growing importance of the telecommunications and digital services sector in the country's economy.

Market analysts believe several factors have contributed to Airtel's impressive rise. Strong average revenue per user (ARPU), expanding 5G services, stable subscriber additions, and improving profitability have all strengthened investor sentiment toward the company.

The telecom sector has undergone major transformation in recent years, with data consumption increasing rapidly across India. Bharti Airtel has emerged as one of the biggest



beneficiaries of the digital boom, driven by rising smartphone penetration, online streaming, digital payments, and internet usage.

Experts also point to Airtel's aggressive expansion in broadband, enterprise services, and digital platforms as important reasons behind its growing valuation. The company has continued investing heavily in network infrastructure and next-generation technology to strengthen its market position.

Meanwhile, HDFC Bank has faced pressure in recent months due to concerns surrounding deposit growth, margins, and broader banking sector challenges. Although the bank remains one of India's strongest financial institutions, Airtel's rapid stock market gains helped it move ahead in terms of market capitalization.

Investors have also shown optimism regarding the future earnings potential of telecom companies as India continues its transition toward a digital-first economy. Analysts believe telecom operators with strong

infrastructure and customer bases are likely to benefit significantly over the next few years.

The achievement has generated widespread discussion in financial markets, with many experts calling it a symbolic moment that reflects changing investor preferences and the increasing value of digital connectivity businesses.

Bharti Airtel's rise has also been supported by positive global investor sentiment toward technology and communication-related companies. Strong institutional participation and consistent operational performance have further strengthened the stock's momentum.

As competition in India's telecom sector continues to evolve, Airtel's latest milestone reinforces its position as one of the country's most influential and financially powerful corporate giants. Investors will now closely watch whether the company can maintain its growth trajectory and continue narrowing the gap with Reliance Industries at the top of the valuation rankings.

Gland Pharma Shares Surge 15% To Hit 52-Week High After Strong Q4 Performance

Gland Pharma witnessed a massive rally in its share price after the company reported strong financial results for the fourth quarter, boosting investor confidence and driving the stock to a new 52-week high. Shares of the pharmaceutical company surged nearly 15 percent during trading as markets reacted positively to the earnings announcement.

The sharp rise came after Gland Pharma posted impressive growth in revenue and profit for the quarter, exceeding market expectations. Strong operational performance, healthy demand across key markets, and improved margins contributed to the company's better-than-expected results.

Investors responded enthusiastically to the earnings report, with heavy buying seen throughout the trading session. The rally pushed the stock to its highest level in the past year and made it one of the top gainers in the pharmaceutical sector.

Analysts noted that the company benefited from robust growth in its injectable business, which remains one of Gland Pharma's core strengths. Increased exports and improved performance in international markets also played an important role in the strong quarterly numbers.

The company reportedly delivered better profitability due to improved operational efficiency and favorable product mix. Market experts believe the results indicate that Gland Pharma is successfully recovering from earlier challenges faced by the pharmaceutical sector, including pricing pressure and regulatory concerns.



The pharmaceutical industry has remained in focus among investors due to stable global demand and continued growth opportunities in healthcare and generic medicines. Companies with strong export businesses and specialized manufacturing capabilities have attracted significant market attention in recent months. Brokerages and market analysts reacted positively to Gland Pharma's performance, with several firms expressing optimism regarding the company's future growth outlook. Some experts also highlighted the company's

strong balance sheet and expanding global presence as additional positives. The rally in Gland Pharma shares also boosted sentiment across the broader pharma sector, with investors showing renewed interest in healthcare-related stocks following the earnings announcement. Market participants believe the company's performance demonstrates resilience despite global economic uncertainties and ongoing competition in the pharmaceutical industry. Continued focus on high-value products and international expansion could further support growth in the

coming quarters. Social media and investor forums were filled with discussions about the stock's sharp rise, with many retail investors celebrating the strong comeback in the company's share price after a challenging phase over the past year. As attention now shifts toward future guidance and upcoming quarters, investors will closely monitor whether Gland Pharma can sustain its growth momentum and continue delivering strong financial performance in an increasingly competitive global pharma market.

TVS Venu To Acquire Stake In Jana Small Finance Bank; TVS Motor Shares Decline

TVS Motor Company Managing Director Sudarshan Venu is set to acquire a 5.64 percent stake in Jana Small Finance Bank in a deal valued at around Rs 317 crore. The development comes alongside a separate proposal by TVS Motor Company to purchase an additional 4.9 percent stake in the lender, signaling growing interest from the TVS Group in the financial services sector.

Following the announcement, shares of TVS Motor Company witnessed a decline of nearly 5 percent during trading, as investors reacted cautiously to the proposed investment plans.

According to reports, Sudarshan Venu will make the investment in his personal capacity, while TVS Motor's proposed acquisition would be carried out through the company itself. The combined transactions are expected to strengthen the relationship between the TVS Group and Jana Small Finance Bank. Market experts believe the move reflects the increasing trend of industrial groups expanding into financial services and fintech-related businesses. Analysts say small finance banks continue to attract investor interest due to their growing presence in retail lending, microfinance, and



underserved banking segments.

Jana Small Finance Bank has built a strong presence in microfinance and small-ticket lending operations over the years. The bank primarily focuses on providing banking services to individuals and small businesses that traditionally have limited access to mainstream financial institutions. The proposed investment is expected to support Jana SFB's growth plans as competition in India's financial services sector continues to intensify. Small finance banks have been steadily expanding their digital operations and customer base in recent years.

However, investor sentiment toward TVS Motor appeared cautious after the announcement. Some analysts believe shareholders may be concerned about the company allocating capital toward non-core investments outside its primary automobile business.

Others, however, see the move as part of a long-term diversification strategy by the TVS Group, which has steadily expanded into multiple sectors beyond automotive manufacturing. Supporters of the investment argue that financial services offer strong long-term growth potential in India's rapidly evolving economy.

The market reaction also reflects broader investor sensitivity toward capital allocation decisions, especially when major listed companies enter sectors unrelated to their core operations. Meanwhile, Jana Small Finance Bank continues to strengthen its position in India's banking ecosystem amid increasing demand for retail credit and financial inclusion services. Industry experts believe strategic investments from large business groups could help smaller banks improve technology, expand operations, and strengthen financial stability.

Government Explores Fresh Strategies To Revive IDBI Bank Privatization Process

The Indian government is reportedly evaluating new options to revive the long-delayed privatization process of IDBI Bank after earlier efforts failed to attract a successful conclusion. Officials are said to be reviewing multiple strategies aimed at making the proposed stake sale more attractive to investors and speeding up the disinvestment plan.

The privatization of IDBI Bank has been under discussion for several years as part of the government's broader agenda to reduce its presence in the banking sector and encourage private participation. However, the process has faced repeated delays due to regulatory challenges, market conditions, and concerns among potential bidders.

According to reports, authorities are now considering structural and policy-level changes that could improve investor interest in the bank. Discussions are believed to include possible revisions in shareholding structures, operational flexibility, and regulatory clarity for prospective buyers.

At present, both the Government of India and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) jointly hold a majority stake in IDBI Bank. The pro-



posed privatization plan involves selling a significant portion of these holdings to strategic investors.

Analysts believe the government remains committed to completing the transaction because IDBI Bank's privatization is considered one of the most important banking-sector reforms currently underway. A successful sale would also send a strong signal regarding India's broader disinvestment and economic reform agenda.

One of the key challenges in the process has been finding investors willing to take con-

trol of a large public-sector bank while dealing with regulatory and operational complexities. Experts say potential bidders often seek greater clarity regarding governance, management control, and long-term policy stability before making major investments.

Over the past few years, IDBI Bank has shown improvement in its financial performance, including better asset quality, stronger profitability, and reduced bad loans. These improvements have raised hopes that the bank may now appear more attractive to investors

compared to earlier stages of the privatization effort.

The government has consistently emphasized that privatization can help improve operational efficiency, strengthen competitiveness, and reduce the financial burden on the state. Supporters of the move argue that private ownership could allow the bank to operate with greater flexibility and faster decision-making.

However, the proposal has also faced criticism from employee unions and some political groups, who argue that privatizing public-sector banks could affect job security and weaken government control over strategic financial institutions.

Market experts believe the timing of the sale will be crucial. Global economic conditions, domestic market sentiment, and investor appetite for large banking assets are expected to play a major role in determining the success of the transaction.

As discussions continue, the future of IDBI Bank's privatization remains closely watched by investors, policymakers, and the banking industry. Any breakthrough in the process could become a major milestone in India's ongoing financial-sector reforms.

“Goodie Bag Instead of a Raise?” Employee’s Viral Post Sparks Outrage Online

A frustrated employee has gone viral after revealing what their company allegedly handed out instead of annual salary raises — a small “goodie bag” containing inexpensive everyday items. The post triggered widespread criticism online and reignited conversations about employee appreciation, corporate culture, and rising living costs.

The employee shared a photograph of the bag’s contents along with the caption: “Instead of a raise, the company gave out ‘goodie bags.’ Yes, this is all that came in it.” According to the image, the package included a water bottle, a pen, a single piece of candy, a packet of crackers, and a small round object that some users guessed was ei-

ther a toy or a measuring tape.

While the company involved was not identified, the post quickly attracted thousands of reactions across social media. Many users expressed disbelief that employees received inexpensive trinkets at a time when inflation and living expenses continue to rise globally.

The comment section soon became a space for workers to vent about similar workplace experiences. One user wrote that it would have been “less offensive to give nothing at all,” while another joked that the bag looked like “half of a kindergarten’s snacks and some office supplies.” Others encouraged the employee to search for a better job.

Several commenters also

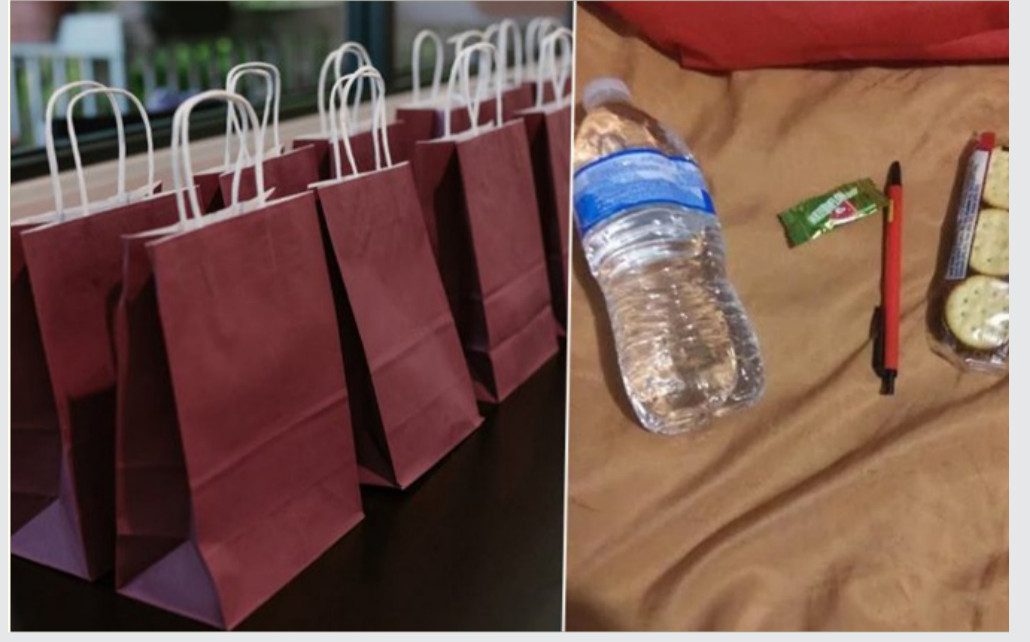
shared personal stories about disappointing rewards from employers. One particularly viral response described a company where executives reportedly received massive bonuses while employees were handed a single chocolate chip cookie as appreciation. The story resonated strongly with readers who felt many companies prioritize executives over regular workers.

The incident has also drawn comparisons to earlier viral stories involving employees receiving minimal rewards after years of service. In another widely discussed case, a fast-food employee who completed nearly three decades at the company received only a modest goodie bag instead of a major reward. Public sympathy later

helped raise thousands of dollars for him through crowdfunding campaigns.

The latest viral post has once again highlighted growing dissatisfaction among employees who feel symbolic gestures cannot replace fair pay, recognition, and meaningful workplace appreciation. Many social media users argued that while small tokens of gratitude may be acceptable as additional perks, they should never be used as substitutes for deserved salary increases.

As discussions continue online, the story reflects a larger workplace debate about how companies value employees in an era marked by economic uncertainty and increasing financial pressure on workers.



NRI Woman’s Comparison Of Indian And US Work Culture Sparks Online Debate

An Indian woman living in the United States has sparked a major discussion online after sharing what she believes are the biggest differences between corporate work culture in India and America. Her video, posted on social media, quickly went viral and drew strong reactions from professionals across both countries.

The woman, identified as Sarika Yadav, explained that the most noticeable difference she experienced in the US workplace is flexibility. According to her, employees in American companies are generally trusted to manage their schedules and personal responsibilities without constant supervision.

In the video, she described how workers in the US often block time on their office calendars for activities such as dropping children to school, attending medical appointments, or handling personal errands. Colleagues usually respect those time slots and avoid scheduling meetings during those hours. She added that employees are not expected to justify every personal commitment to their managers. Comparing this with her experience in India, she said Indian corporate culture can sometimes be more rigid. According to her, employees are often expected to remain physically present in the office during working hours, even when personal tasks arise. She recalled instances where workers had



to explain minor personal errands in detail before stepping away from work.

Her comments resonated with many social media users, especially Indians working abroad. Several people agreed that work-life balance is taken more seriously in many Western countries. Others argued that Indian workplaces still equate long office hours with productivity and dedication.

At the same time, not everyone agreed with the comparison. Some users pointed out that work culture varies from company to company and cannot be generalized based on geography alone. A few also said Indian offices often foster stronger personal relationships

and team bonding compared to the more formal and individualistic culture seen in some American workplaces.

The discussion has once again highlighted the growing conversation around employee well-being, workplace trust, and burnout in modern corporate life. Many professionals online said companies should focus more on productivity and results rather than measuring commitment through long hours at the office. As debates continue online, the viral video has become another example of how global work experiences are reshaping expectations around flexibility, mental health, and work-life balance among young professionals.

Indian Woman In US Shares Why Florida Feels Like Home

An Indian woman living in the United States has gone viral after sharing an emotional video explaining why she never wants to leave Florida after spending several years there. Her heartfelt reflections about lifestyle, weather, peace, and quality of life resonated with thousands of social media users and sparked discussions about life abroad.

In the video, the woman described Florida as a place that gave her a sense of comfort and belonging unlike anywhere else she had lived before. She explained that after years of adjusting to life in the US, Florida eventually began to feel more like home than a temporary destination.

One of the biggest reasons she mentioned was the warm and sunny weather. According to her, Florida’s climate reminded her of India and made it easier to adapt emotionally and physically. She said the bright sunshine, beaches, palm trees, and outdoor lifestyle created a relaxing environment that positively affected her mental well-being.

The woman also praised the slower and calmer pace of life compared to crowded cities. She shared that daily life in Florida feels less stressful, allowing people to spend more time outdoors, with family, or pursuing hobbies. She explained that the peaceful atmosphere helped her feel happier and more balanced.



Another factor she highlighted was the multicultural environment. She said Florida has a diverse population with people from different countries and backgrounds, making it easier for immigrants to feel accepted. She added that Indian communities, restaurants, grocery stores, and cultural events also helped reduce feelings of homesickness.

The viral video quickly attracted reactions from people who related to her experience of finding emotional comfort in a foreign country. Many users commented that certain

places abroad can unexpectedly start feeling more familiar and welcoming over time.

Some social media users agreed that Florida offers a unique mix of warm weather, relaxed living, and cultural diversity. Others shared their own experiences of becoming deeply attached to cities or countries they initially moved to only for work or studies.

However, a few users also pointed out that every place has its challenges, including rising living costs, hurricanes, and healthcare expenses in the US. Still, many appreciated the

woman’s honest and emotional perspective on building a life far from home.

The video has become another example of how migration experiences are deeply personal and emotional. For many immigrants, “home” eventually becomes less about birthplace and more about where they feel peace, stability, and belonging. As the clip continues to circulate online, it has sparked conversations about identity, adaptation, and the emotional connection people develop with places that shape their lives over time.

Man Paying \$697 Rent Climbs 134 Steps To Reach “Smallest Apartment” In Paris

A video showing a man’s extremely tiny apartment in Paris has gone viral on social media, leaving viewers shocked by the realities of housing in one of Europe’s most expensive cities. The clip features the tenant climbing 134 narrow steps to reach what many online users are calling the “smallest apartment in Paris.”

The man revealed that he pays around 7 euros per night — approximately \$697 — to stay in the compact space located at the top of an old Parisian building. Despite the low cost compared to standard Paris rents, the apartment’s tiny size quickly became the main talking point online.

The video begins with the tenant climbing several flights of steep spiral stairs before finally arriving at a small attic-style room tucked under the roof. Once inside, viewers were stunned to see how little space was available. The apartment reportedly contains just enough room for a bed, a small sink, a compact cooking area, and minimal storage. The cramped layout sparked mixed reactions online. Some users found the apartment fascinating and appreciated the creative use of limited space, while others questioned how anyone could comfortably live there for an extended period.

Many social media users joked that the apartment looked more like a storage closet



than a home. Others compared it to famous “micro apartments” often seen in cities such as Tokyo, Hong Kong, and New York, where sky-high housing prices force residents to adapt to tiny living spaces.

Despite the limited room, several people praised the apartment’s cozy appearance and the tenant’s positive attitude. Some commenters argued that affordable accommodation in central Paris is extremely difficult to find, making even a tiny room valuable for students, tourists, or short-term workers. The viral clip also reignited discussions about the growing housing crisis in major global cities. Rising rent prices and limited housing availability have pushed many people, especially young professionals and students, toward increasingly smaller living arrangements.

Paris, known for its historic architecture and high living costs, has long faced criticism over expensive rental markets and tiny apartments. In recent years, authorities in France have introduced stricter housing regulations to address concerns about unsafe or excessively small rental properties.

Still, the unusual apartment managed to capture the internet’s attention because of its combination of low rent, exhausting stair climb, and surprisingly compact design. Many viewers admitted they were both horrified and impressed by how efficiently the tiny space had been arranged.

As the video continues circulating online, it has become another reminder of the extremes people are willing to accept in order to live affordably in some of the world’s most desirable cities.

Rare Buffalo In Bangladesh Goes Viral For Looking “Exactly Like Donald Trump”

A rare albino buffalo in Bangladesh has become an internet sensation after people claimed it bears a striking resemblance to former US President Donald Trump. The unusual animal has attracted huge crowds and sparked thousands of reactions on social media ahead of Eid al-Adha celebrations. The buffalo, which weighs nearly 700 kilograms, is being raised at a farm in Narayanganj, near Bangladesh’s capital Dhaka. What caught everyone’s attention is the animal’s pale pink skin and golden-colored tuft of hair, which many people say looks remarkably similar to Donald Trump’s famous hairstyle.

Locals soon began calling the buffalo “Donald Trump,” and videos of the animal quickly spread online. Curious visitors have been flocking to the farm daily to take selfies, record videos, and see the now-famous buffalo in person.

According to the buffalo’s owner, the nickname began as a joke after his younger brother noticed the animal’s hair and facial appearance. However, the comparison soon became popular across social media platforms, turning the buffalo into a viral celebrity.

Interestingly, despite its powerful size and intimidating appearance, the buffalo is reportedly calm and gentle in nature. Several visitors joked online



that the animal may resemble Trump physically, but its quiet personality is completely different. The viral fame of the buffalo has also brought attention to another albino buffalo at the same farm. This second buffalo, weighing over 750 kilograms, has been nicknamed “Benjamin Netanyahu” because of its reportedly aggressive and unpredictable behavior. Farm workers say the animal often snorts loudly and charges at handlers, making it much harder to manage.

As Eid al-Adha approaches,

the two buffaloes have become major attractions in the area. Large crowds continue visiting the farm every day, with many people amused by the unusual comparisons to world leaders. Social media users have also flooded comment sections with memes and humorous reactions, further boosting the animals’ popularity online. The owner revealed that the “Donald Trump” buffalo was purchased from a cattle market about ten months ago and has been given special care and nutrition to maintain its impres-

sive size and health. Reports suggest the buffalo has already been sold ahead of Eid festivities. Albino buffaloes are considered rare in South Asia, making the animals even more fascinating to visitors. Their unusual appearance, combined with the humorous nicknames, has transformed the farm into an unexpected tourist attraction. As the videos continue circulating online, the story has become another example of how quirky moments from everyday life can quickly turn into global internet sensations.

CIC Rules BCCI Is Not Under RTI Act, Reversing Landmark 2018 Decision

In a major development for Indian cricket administration, the Central Information Commission (CIC) has ruled that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) does not fall under the ambit of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The decision effectively reverses the landmark 2018 ruling that had declared the cricket board a "public authority" under the transparency law. The latest ruling has sparked widespread discussion among legal experts, sports administrators, and transparency activists, as it significantly impacts public access to information related to the functioning of India's richest cricket body.



The 2018 decision had argued that the BCCI performs public functions connected to cricket administration in India and therefore should be subject to public scrutiny under the RTI Act. That ruling was considered a major moment in efforts to increase transparency and accountability within Indian cricket governance.

However, the CIC's latest order reportedly concluded that the earlier judgment was not fully implemented and that the BCCI cannot currently be treated as a public authority under RTI provisions. The commission is said to have observed that the required legal and administrative conditions for bringing the board under RTI were not fulfilled.

The ruling means the BCCI will not be legally obligated to provide information sought by citizens through RTI applications, at least for now. The decision is expected to reignite debate over whether sports bodies that exercise signifi-

cant influence and enjoy public importance should be subjected to greater transparency requirements. The BCCI remains one of the most powerful and financially influential cricket organizations in the world. It governs cricket operations in India, organizes the Indian Premier League (IPL), controls media rights, and plays a major role in global cricket administration through the International Cricket Council (ICC). Supporters of bringing the BCCI under RTI have long argued that the board enjoys indirect public support, uses public infrastructure such as stadiums and security arrangements, and performs functions that affect millions of cricket fans across the country. They believe transparency is essential given the board's enormous financial and administrative power. On the other hand, critics of RTI intervention argue that the BCCI is a private au-

tonomous body registered under a society framework and should not be treated like a government institution. They claim excessive external interference could affect the board's independence and operational flexibility. The latest ruling has already generated mixed reactions online. Transparency advocates expressed disappointment, while some sports administrators welcomed the move, calling it necessary to protect the board's autonomy.

Legal experts believe the issue may continue to face challenges in courts or through future policy discussions. The debate over balancing transparency and institutional independence in sports governance is likely to remain active in the coming years. For now, the CIC's ruling marks a significant shift in the long-running discussion surrounding accountability, governance, and public access to information in Indian cricket.

Sunrisers Storm Into Playoffs, Halt CSK's Charge At Chepauk

Sunrisers Hyderabad sealed a spot in the IPL 2026 playoffs with a clinical five-wicket victory over Chennai Super Kings at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Monday. A brilliant middle-order show from Ishan Kishan (70 off 47) and Heinrich Klaasen (47 off 26) steered the visitors to a chase-completing win with one over to spare, while Pat Cummins' incisive new-ball bowling put the brakes on Chennai's innings.

Chennai, winning the toss and opting to bat, posted a competitive 180 for 7 in their 20 overs. Sanju Samson provided an early spark with a brisk 27 off 13, and contributions from Dewald Brevis (44 off 27) and Kartik Sharma (32 off 19) helped Chennai recover after early losses. The Super Kings looked set to post a higher total before Cummins produced a match-turning spell, returning figures of 4-28 with three key wickets. Shakib Hossain sup-



ported well with two breakthroughs.

Chasing 181, Hyderabad stumbled early as Travis Head (6) and Abhishek Sharma (26) fell cheaply. The contest turned when Kishan and Klaasen combined for a decisive 75-run partnership for the third wicket. Kishan's patient, punishing innings included seven fours and three sixes, while Klaasen accelerated with six fours and two maximums. The duo wrestled momentum away from the

pitch and the crowd, setting up the finish. Contributions from Nitish Reddy (11) and Salil Aro- ra (10 not out) closed out the chase in the 19th over.

The result moves Sunrisers to 16 points from 13 matches, consolidating third place on the table and confirming their playoff berth. The victory also had a knock-on effect elsewhere: Gujarat Titans, who also sit on 16 points with eight wins from 13 matches, have likewise cemented a playoff

spot following today's outcome. For Chennai, the defeat complicates their path to the post-season. The Super Kings remain on 12 points from 13 games and now face a precarious final league match — they must win and hope other results fall in their favour, making qualification far from straightforward.

Key performers

Sunrisers Hyderabad: Ishan Kishan 70 (47), Heinrich Klaasen 47 (26), Pat Cummins 3-28.

Chennai Super Kings: Dewald Brevis 44 (27), Kartik Sharma 32 (19).

With momentum on their side and a balanced combination of power hitting and pace bowling, Sunrisers Hyderabad head into the business end of the tournament as genuine contenders. Chennai, meanwhile, must regroup quickly and rely on a favourable set of results to keep their IPL campaign alive.

Andhra Archers Shine in Asian Games, World Cup Trials

Vijayawada, May 18 | TPN Bureau

Archers from Andhra Pradesh delivered an impressive performance at the final selection trials for the 2026 Asian Games and World Cup Stages 3 and 4, held from May 15 to 18 at the Sports Authority of India facility in Sonapat, Haryana. Organised under the Archery Association of India, the trials witnessed strong participation from across the country. In the recurve category, Bommadevara Dhiraj, a trainee of the Late Cherukuri Lenin from the Cherukuri Volga Archery Academy, secured first place with 15.5 points. In



the compound category, T. Ganesh Maniratnam from Naidupeta in Tirupati district clinched third position with

10.75 points. Both archers have been selected to represent India at the 2026 Asian Games and World Cup Stages 3 and 4.

In the women's recurve category, Kondapavuluri Yuktasari, also from the same academy, secured eighth place with 5.75 points, showcasing promising talent. Officials of the Andhra Pradesh Archery Association, including President Nandamuri Tejaswini, Chairman Cherukuri Satyanarayana, and General Secretary B.V. Ramana, congratulated the selected archers. They also lauded the efforts of coaches and parents in nurturing talent.

The 2026 Asian Games are scheduled to be held in Japan from September 25 to October 3, while the World Cup Stages 3 and 4 will take place in June and July.

JyothiSurekhaVennam Set For Fourth Asian Games Appearance

Renowned Indian archer JyothiSurekhaVennam has once again made the nation proud with her remarkable consistency and excellence on the international stage. The star compound archer has officially been selected to represent India at the 2026 Asian Games, marking her fourth consecutive appearance at the prestigious continental event after competing in the 2014, 2018, and 2022 editions.



Over the years, Jyothi has established herself as one of India's finest archers and a dependable performer in major international tournaments. Her journey at the Asian Games has been particularly outstanding, as she has already won an impressive tally of 3 gold medals, 1 silver medal, and 1 bronze medal across her previous appearances.

With these achievements, JyothiSurekhaVennam now stands as the second-highest medal-winning Indian woman in Asian Games history, behind only legendary athlete P. T. Usha. Her accomplishments have not only elevated Indian archery on the global stage but have also inspired countless young athletes across the country.

Known for her calm temper-

ament, precision, and consistency under pressure, Jyothi has played a crucial role in India's rise in compound archery over the past decade. She has delivered several memorable performances in both individual and team events, earning recognition as one of the world's leading compound archers. Her qualification for the 2026 Asian Games reflects her sustained dominance and dedication to the sport. Despite intense competition and the emergence of several young talents, Jyothi has continued to maintain elite standards through hard work and discipline.

Indian sports fans and fellow athletes have widely congratulated her on the latest achieve-

ment, with many praising her commitment and longevity in the sport. Social media platforms were flooded with celebratory messages recognizing her contribution to Indian archery and women's sports.

As preparations begin for the 2026 Asian Games, expectations will once again be high from the experienced archer. Fans will be hoping she can add more medals to her already glittering collection and further strengthen her legacy in Indian sporting history.

JyothiSurekhaVennam's journey continues to be a story of perseverance, excellence, and national pride, and her fourth Asian Games appearance is yet another milestone in an extraordinary career.

Kumar Sangakkara Heaps Massive Praise On Teen Sensation VaibhavSooryavanshi

Young Rajasthan Royals batter VaibhavSooryavanshi continues to impress the cricketing world with his fearless batting in IPL 2026, and now he has received one of the biggest compliments of his career from Sri Lankan legend Kumar Sangakkara.

The Rajasthan Royals head coach showered praise on the teenage sensation while speaking about his remarkable approach to batting and maturity at such a young age. Sangakkara even went on to say that Sooryavanshi is "a much better player" than he himself ever was, a statement that quickly grabbed the attention of cricket fans across social media.

VaibhavSooryavanshi has emerged as one of the breakout stars of the IPL season with his aggressive batting at the top of the order. Despite being only 15 years old, the youngster has consistently provided explosive starts for Rajasthan Royals and has become a key player in the team's batting lineup.

Sangakkara praised the youngster's natural understanding of the game and said



what stands out most is his love for batting. According to the former Sri Lankan captain, Sooryavanshi plays with the freedom and joy that most young cricketers dream of having, while also showing surprising game awareness and clarity in different match situations.

The RR coach also revealed that the franchise is being careful not to overload the teenager with too much advice or technical discussion. Sangakkara explained that the team prefers to keep things simple around the youngster and allow him to enjoy his cricket naturally rather than burden

him with expectations.

Reports suggest that Sooryavanshi has already scored heavily during the ongoing IPL season and has become one of Rajasthan Royals' most consistent powerplay performers. His fearless stroke play and attacking mindset have drawn praise from several former cricketers and experts throughout the tournament.

The teenage batter's performances have also sparked comparisons with some of India's greatest young talents. Many fans and analysts believe he could become one of the future stars of Indian cricket if his

development continues in the right direction.

Sangakkara also highlighted that Sooryavanshi reads the game extremely well and is not simply relying on blind aggression. The coach believes the youngster understands match situations better than many players of his age and already shows signs of maturity beyond his years.

Social media platforms were flooded with reactions after Sangakkara's comments surfaced online. Fans described the praise as one of the biggest endorsements possible for a young cricketer, especially coming from a player widely regarded as one of the greatest batters in cricket history.

As IPL 2026 progresses, VaibhavSooryavanshi's rise continues to become one of the most exciting stories of the season. With strong backing from Rajasthan Royals and praise from legends like Kumar Sangakkara, expectations surrounding the teenage sensation are only growing stronger.

Heartbroken Ricky Ponting's Dugout Moment Goes Viral After Punjab Kings' Collapse

Punjab Kings head coach Ricky Ponting was left visibly devastated after his team suffered a crushing defeat against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in IPL 2026, a result that pushed PBKS to the brink of elimination from the playoffs race. The emotional moment quickly went viral after cameras captured Ponting sitting alone in the dugout, staring silently into the distance after the match.

The defeat marked Punjab Kings' sixth consecutive loss of the season, completing a dramatic collapse after the team had once looked like serious contenders for a top-two finish. Fans and cricket experts were quick to react to the now-viral image of Ponting appearing complete-

ly heartbroken in the Dharamshala stadium dugout.

Former India spinner RavichandranAshwin also spoke about the moment during a discussion on his YouTube channel, calling it a "powerful picture." Ashwin said Ponting must have been carrying immense disappointment and pressure after seeing the team's campaign fall apart in the second half of the tournament.

Ashwin further suggested that Punjab Kings may have hurt their own momentum by shifting between multiple home venues during the season. According to him, successful IPL teams usually maintain stability by playing consistently at one home

ground, while Punjab had to adapt between Mullanpur and Dharamshala conditions.

The emotional visual of Ponting alone in the dugout resonated strongly with fans online. Many supporters expressed sympathy for the Australian legend, praising his passion and commitment toward the franchise. Social media platforms were flooded with posts describing the image as one of the defining moments of the IPL season.

Punjab Kings had started the season strongly and were once considered genuine title contenders under captain ShreyasIyer and coach Ricky Ponting. However, the team's form dipped

sharply in the latter stages, with consecutive defeats severely damaging their playoff hopes.

Reports also indicate that concerns over player form and fitness added to the team's struggles. Fast bowler Arshdeep Singh, one of PBKS' key performers, reportedly dealt with physical restrictions that may have impacted his effectiveness during the crucial phase of the tournament. As the playoff race intensifies, Punjab Kings now depend on other results to keep their slim qualification hopes alive. Meanwhile, Ponting's lonely dugout moment has become a powerful symbol of the emotional highs and lows that define the IPL.



Ram Charan Unleashes Intense Avatar In Buchi Babu Sana's Mass Entertainer

The much-awaited trailer of Peddi starring Ram Charan has finally been released, and it has taken social media by storm with its raw action, emotional intensity, and powerful mass moments. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, the film promises a rugged rural drama packed with high-energy action and strong emotional storytelling.

From the very first frame, Ram Charan dominates the screen with a fierce and intense transformation that has left fans thrilled. Sporting a rugged look and commanding screen presence, the actor appears in a completely massy avatar that is vastly different from his recent

performances.

The trailer showcases a story deeply rooted in rural backdrop and emotions, with themes of pride, revenge, family bonds, and power struggles taking center stage. Ram Charan's character is portrayed as a fearless and emotionally driven man who is ready to fight against all odds. Director Buchi Babu Sana appears to have delivered exactly the kind of larger-than-life commercial entertainer fans were expecting. The trailer blends powerful dialogues, emotional sequences, whistle-worthy elevation moments, and visually rich action blocks that instantly grab attention.

One of the major highlights

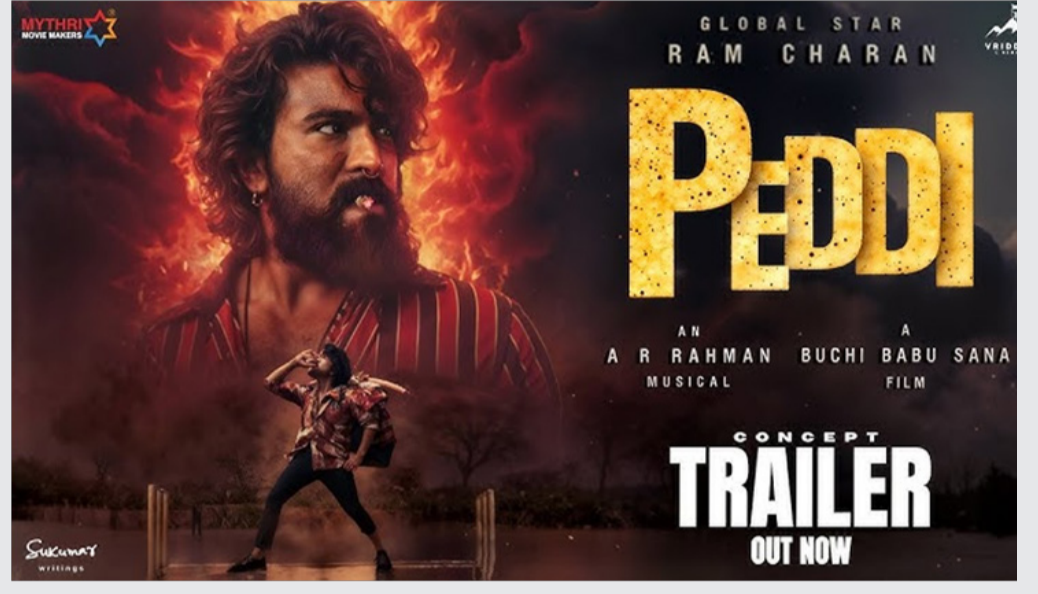
of the trailer is the intense action choreography. Ram Charan is seen performing several hard-hitting fight sequences with raw aggression and energy, giving the film a strong mass appeal. The action visuals, combined with a gripping background score, have further elevated the trailer's impact. The emotional angle also seems to play a crucial role in the narrative. Along with the action-packed moments, the trailer hints at deep emotional conflicts and strong character-driven storytelling, which has become one of Buchi Babu Sana's strengths as a filmmaker.

Fans quickly flooded social media platforms with praise after the trailer launch, with

many calling it one of Ram Charan's most powerful looks in recent years. Several viewers also appreciated the rustic setting, cinematography, and intense characterization presented in the promo.

The film's visuals and production design have also received positive attention. The rural atmosphere, dramatic action setups, and cinematic scale indicate that the makers are aiming for a grand theatrical experience.

Music and background score appear to be another strong pillar of the film. The trailer's energetic soundtrack and emotionally charged score have significantly amplified the intensity of several scenes.



Chiranjeevi Confirms Grand Launch Date For 'Mega 158'

Megastar Chiranjeevi has officially announced the launch date for his highly anticipated film Mega 158, directed by Bobby Kolli. The update has created a wave of excitement among fans who have been eagerly waiting for news about the project for several months.

The veteran actor shared the announcement through his social media platforms while posting an intense workout video, hinting at the physical transformation he is undergoing for the movie. Chiranjeevi revealed that the grand launch ceremony for Mega 158 will take place on May 21, 2026.

The project marks Chiranjeevi's second collaboration with director Bobby Kolli after their earlier successful association generated strong expectations among audiences. Ever since the film was announced, fans have been curious about how Bobby plans to present the megastar on screen this time.

Reports suggest that the movie was initially planned to begin earlier this year, but the launch ceremony was postponed due to production-related delays. With the new official date now locked, excitement surrounding the project has significantly increased.



Industry sources say a special look test for Chiranjeevi has already been completed, and the final appearance for the film has been approved. Director Bobby is reportedly aiming to showcase the actor in a completely fresh and stylish avatar unlike his recent films. The movie is being produced on a lavish scale by KVN Productions, which is making its major entry into Telugu cinema with this prestigious venture. Popular music composer Thaman S has been roped in to compose the soundtrack and background score, while cine-

matographer Nimish Ravi will handle the visuals.

Fans on social media immediately began celebrating the announcement, with many expressing excitement over Chiranjeevi's energetic makeover and fitness preparations. The actor's dedication at this stage of his career has once again impressed audiences and strengthened anticipation for the film.

Meanwhile, Chiranjeevi is already enjoying strong momentum following the success of Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, which performed exceptionally well at the box office earlier this year. Many fans believe Mega 158 could continue the actor's successful run with another mass entertainer.

Although details regarding the cast and storyline are still under wraps, insiders believe the film will feature high-energy action, stylish presentation, and strong commercial elements tailored for mass audiences.

With the official launch now confirmed, fans are eagerly waiting for further updates regarding the title announcement, shooting schedules, and first-look posters from the makers.

Jr NTR's 'Dragon' Glimpse To Arrive With Special Theater Screenings

Jr NTR fans are gearing up for a massive celebration as the makers of his upcoming film Dragon have officially locked the release time for the movie's highly anticipated first glimpse. The announcement has created tremendous excitement among fans, especially with the surprise confirmation that the teaser will also be screened in selected theaters.

The glimpse is scheduled to release at exactly 11:52 PM on May 19, coinciding with Jr NTR's birthday celebrations. According to reports, the teaser has a runtime of nearly four-and-a-half minutes, making it one of the biggest introductory glimpses prepared for a Telugu star film in recent times.

Directed by blockbuster filmmaker Prashanth Neel, the movie has already generated enormous buzz due to the powerful combination of the RRR star and the KGF director. Fans have been eagerly waiting for updates ever since the project was announced, and the latest



reveal has pushed expectations even higher.

What has made the announcement even more special is the decision to screen the glimpse in select theaters alongside its digital release. The makers are expected to unveil the complete list of theaters soon, allowing fans to experience the teaser on the big screen amid midnight celebrations.

Social media platforms quickly exploded with reactions after the release time was announced. Fans began trending hashtags related to the film and predicting that the glimpse would showcase Jr NTR in a fierce and intense avatar designed specifically for mass audiences.

The film, tentatively titled Dragon, is described as a high-octane action entertainer set

against a rugged and violent backdrop. Actress Rukmini Vasanth plays the female lead, while veteran Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor is reportedly essaying a crucial role in the movie.

Adding to the excitement is the involvement of music composer Ravi Basrur, whose background scores in the KGF franchise became hugely popular among action-film fans. Many believe his music will play a major role in elevating the teaser's impact.

The film is jointly produced by Mythri Movie Makers and NTR Arts and is currently being prepared as a multilingual pan-Indian project. Reports suggest the movie is scheduled for a grand worldwide theatrical release on June 11, 2027.

With the countdown officially underway, fans are now eagerly waiting for midnight to witness what could become one of the biggest teaser launches in recent Telugu cinema history.

Sreeleela Breaks Silence On Rumours Linking Her With Cricketer Tilak Varma

Popular actress Sreeleela has finally responded to the ongoing rumours linking her with Indian cricketer Tilak Varma. The speculation had been circulating widely on social media for the past few weeks, with several fan pages and gossip accounts claiming that the two were secretly dating.

Addressing the rumours during a recent interaction, Sreeleela reportedly dismissed the speculation and clarified that there is no truth to the dating buzz. The actress made it clear that the stories being circulated online were baseless and urged people not to believe everything shared on social media.

The rumours initially began after a few social media posts claimed that Sreeleela and Tilak Varma were frequently in touch and spending time together. Soon, fan-made edits and speculative posts started going viral, leading many users to assume there was something happening between the actress and the young cricketer.

However, Sreeleela's latest response appears to have put an end to the gossip. According to reports, the actress stated that she is currently focused entirely on her film career and upcoming projects rather than personal speculation.

The actress has become one of the busiest stars in South Indian cinema over the last few years, with multiple Telugu and Kannada films lined up. Her energetic screen presence, dance performances, and back-to-back commercial

projects have made her one of the most sought-after young actresses in the industry.

Meanwhile, Tilak Varma has also been gaining significant attention in Indian cricket after impressive performances in domestic tournaments and the Indian Premier League. His rapid rise in the sport has earned him a strong fan following among young cricket enthusiasts. As expected, Sreeleela's clarification quickly became a trending topic online. While many fans appreciated her direct response, others continued discussing the rumours across social media platforms. Some users even pointed out how celebrity gossip involving actors and cricketers often spreads rapidly without any official confirmation.

The incident once again highlights how public figures frequently become targets of relationship speculation, especially when they are young, successful, and constantly in the spotlight. In recent years, social media has played a major role in amplifying celebrity rumours, often turning unverified claims into viral discussions within hours.

On the professional front, Sreeleela has several high-profile films in various stages of production, and fans are eagerly waiting to see her in upcoming big-budget projects alongside top Telugu stars.

With her latest statement, the actress appears determined to keep the focus on her work rather than personal gossip, bringing temporary closure to the rumours surrounding her and Tilak Varma.



Ram Charan's Look Test Finalised For Sukumar's Next Big Project



Ram Charan and director Sukumar are all set to reunite after the blockbuster success of Rangasthalam, and the latest update about their upcoming project has already created massive excitement among fans. According to industry buzz, Sukumar has officially locked Ram Charan's look and styling for their much-awaited film after conducting a special test shoot in Mumbai.

Reports suggest that the director recently organized a dedicated makeover and camera test to finalize the actor's appearance for the film. Sources claim Sukumar was extremely impressed with the results and quickly approved the final look. The news has generated huge curiosity among movie lovers eager to see what kind of transformation Ram Charan will undergo this time.

The combination of Ram Charan and Sukumar remains one of the most celebrated actor-director pairings in Telugu cinema. Their previous collaboration, Rangasthalam, became a massive commercial and critical success, with Ram Charan's portrayal of Chitti Babu earning widespread praise and considered one of the finest performances of his career. Currently, Ram Charan is busy wrapping up Peddi, directed by Buchi Babu Sana. The actor has already undergone significant physical transformations for that sports action drama, with reports claiming he will appear in multiple different looks throughout the movie.

Fans believe Sukumar's new project could feature yet another unique make-

over for the star, especially considering the director's reputation for creating strong and unconventional character designs. Social media platforms were flooded with excitement soon after the update surfaced online, with many fans predicting another intense rural or rugged role for Ram Charan.

Though the makers are yet to make an official announcement regarding the title, cast, or storyline, expectations are already sky-high because of the duo's successful track record. Industry insiders suggest the project may officially begin after the release of Peddi.

Meanwhile, Peddi itself has generated huge buzz due to Ram Charan's rugged wrestler-style appearance and physically demanding role. Director Sukumar recently even praised the actor's performance in the film, calling it one of the best of his career.

With Sukumar now reportedly finalizing Ram Charan's look, anticipation surrounding the upcoming collaboration has reached another level. Fans are eagerly waiting for an official announcement and hoping the duo can recreate the magic they elvered with Rangasthalam.



Purwa Suhani
RISING STAR