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BANJARA HILLS:

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Ph: 9848910502/23550896SCAN FOR
E-PAPEROM NAMO
VENKATESAYA28-05-2026
Total pilgrims : 74,569
Tonsures : 46,292
Hundi kavalady : 3,80 CR
Laddu sale : 4.15 Lac
Annaspradams : 2.70 Lac
Medical treatment : 3,592Approx. Darsan Time for Saravardhanam
(with out SSD Tokens) : 15-20 H

Bengaluru police ban public celebrations for IPL final

Bengaluru, May 29 : Bengaluru City Police on Friday issued a public advisory ahead of the Tata IPL 2026 final scheduled to be held on May 31, urging citizens and cricket fans to maintain law and order and avoid public celebrations after the match. With Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) reaching the final of the Tata IPL 2026 tournament, the police said strict safety measures and restrictions would be enforced across the city to prevent untoward incidents and ensure public safety. In the advisory, Bengaluru City Police directed the public not to engage in any kind of celebrations in public places after the announcement of the final match result. The police also stated that LED walls facing roads should not be installed without prior permission from the concerned authorities. Existing LED walls must not be used to screen the match publicly. Authorities further prohibited the installation of screens outside malls, pubs, and other commercial establishments, visible to the public, for watching the final match. The advisory also banned the bursting of crackers and the use of dangerous materials during celebrations. Citizens were asked to maintain peace and discipline, especially in crowded areas.

6 labourers buried alive in bridge collapse due to thunderstorm

Hamirpur (UP), May 29 (UNI) At least 6 labourers were buried alive, and 3 others were critically injured when a portion of an under-construction bridge over the Betwa River collapsed early on Friday. However, unofficial sources claimed that the death toll has touched 8. The incident occurred amid heavy rains and a thunderstorm that lashed the area at around 0300 AM. It also raises questions about the adequacy of safety measures at the construction site. The bridge stretches from Morkandar Parsani in Kurara to Naithi village. All the victims were reportedly sleeping on this section of the bridge at the time of the incident. Police said relief and rescue operations have begun. The bridge, approved through the efforts of Rajya Sabha member Baburam Nishad, was being constructed near his native village, Morkandar Parsani.

AP to Launch “AP Cyber Guard” to Curb Cyber Crimes

CM Chandrababu Reviews Cyber Crime Prevention Measures

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES,
VISAKHAPATNAM :

N. Chandrababu Naidu has directed officials to implement a Zero FIR system to effectively tackle cyber crimes in Andhra Pradesh. During a high-level review meeting held at the Secretariat on Thursday, the Chief Minister said complaints related to cyber fraud should be registered immediately through the Cyber War Room so that banks can be alerted within the “golden hour” to prevent money transfers from victims’ accounts. The Chief Minister emphasized the need for continuous public awareness campaigns and cyber patrolling on the lines of regular police patrolling. He instructed officials to focus particularly on retired employees and vulnerable sections who are increasingly becoming targets of cyber fraudsters. Stressing strict action



against criminals involved in “digital arrest” scams, Chandrababu said those making such fraudulent calls must be tracked and arrested without delay.

During the presentation, Harish Kumar Gupta explained that the state government is establishing a comprehensive cyber security system named “AP Cyber Guard” based on a six-pillar response framework. The system will include a Cyber War Room, 1930 Helpline Dashboard, Technology & AI integration, Capacity Building, a Three-Tier Cyber Architecture, and Public Awareness initiatives. A

state-level Cyber War Room is being set up at Prabhala Tech Park in Mangalagiri and is expected to become operational within 30 days. The facility will house 11 specialized divisions, including emergency response, cyber threat intelligence, cyber security operations, cyber training, legal and policy coordination, and district coordination units.

The DGP said the government plans to strengthen the existing 1930 cyber helpline and integrate it with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) through a unified dashboard. A mechanism is also being

developed to contact banks within 10 minutes of receiving a complaint and freeze suspicious accounts immediately. As part of the initiative, the state will establish cyber units in all 28 districts along with four regional cyber hubs. Around 500 police officers will receive specialized cyber crime training within a year. The government also plans to organize nearly 3,000 awareness programmes across the state to educate the public on cyber fraud prevention.

The Chief Minister stated that Andhra Pradesh should emerge as a cyber crime-free state and serve as a model for the rest of the country. He warned cyber criminals that cheating people in Andhra Pradesh would not go unpunished and called for strong coordination between banks, police, AP Technology Services, and financial departments to combat cyber threats effectively.

India targets \$120–150 billion semiconductor value chain by 2035: NITI Aayog

NEW DELHI (TSIT).

India should target developing a USD 120-150 billion semiconductor value chain by 2035 by prioritising leadership and purpose over mere participation, according to a report released by NITI Aayog on Friday. The report, Future of India's Semiconductor Industry, recommends that the Centre commit at least one-third of the required investment to de-risk projects and instill long-term investor confidence.

The report emphasises building a distinct and strategically self-reliant pathway rather than chasing the global wafer race. It estimates that cumulative semiconductor investments of USD 135-180 billion over the next decade will be required across design, fabrication, advanced packaging, materials, and



supporting infrastructure. Public funding should prioritise fabs, advanced packaging, compound semiconductors, and critical design infrastructure, complemented by predictable incentives and coordinated execution.

Despite rising domestic demand, 90-95% of India's semiconductor needs are currently met through imports, creating strategic vulnerability and foreign exchange outflows. By 2035, the country's semiconductor market is projected to reach USD

200 billion.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw highlighted that semiconductors form the critical infrastructure of the 21st century, powering AI, defence, electric mobility, and digital public infrastructure. The roadmap focuses on advanced packaging, compound semiconductors, wide-bandgap materials, and AI-native chip design, aiming to position India as a trusted global partner in the semiconductor ecosystem.

India, Canada push stronger trade ties, set year-end CEPA goal

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

India and Canada reaffirmed their shared commitment for strengthening bilateral trade and investment ties to deliver tangible outcomes supporting economic growth and increased commercial opportunities for businesses in both countries, said Canada-India joint statement released here on Friday.

Building on the momentum generated through recent ministerial engagement,

Minister Sidhu underscored opportunities to deepen cooperation across sectors like clean energy, critical minerals, agri-food, advanced manufacturing, digital technologies and skill development. Both sides reiterated their commitment to advancing an ambitious and mutually beneficial Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and affirmed their shared objectives of concluding negotiations by the end of this year.

Top Congress leaders hold talks on Karnataka govt formation

NEW DELHI (TSIT):

Top Congress leaders were engaged in hectic deliberations on Friday over the new government formation in Karnataka on a day Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot formally accepted the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and dissolved the cabinet.

The Congress Legislature Party



(CLP) in Karnataka will meet on Saturday at 4 pm in the conference hall in Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru, to elect their new leader

in the state. The meeting will be chaired by Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar is set to be elected as the new leader.

A day after resigning from the top post, Siddaramaiah, accompanied by his son Yathindra, met the Congress brass including Rahul Gandhi and party president Mallikarjun Kharge in the national capital.

‘Law and Order missing in TN’: Udhayanidhi attacks CM Vijay

CHENNAI (TSIT)

The brutal murder of a young woman, believed to be around 25 years old, in Cuddalore has sparked political criticism. Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin on Friday launched a blistering attack on the Tamil Nadu government, headed by Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay over the state's law and order situation.

In a statement issued on Friday, Udhayanidhi described the incident as “deeply shocking” and said the repeated occurrence of murders, robberies, and sexual violence across



Tamil Nadu has left people questioning whether law and order still exists in the state. Targeting the ruling dispensation in the state, he alleged that since the “#SofaModelGovernment” came to power, “hardly a day has passed without incidents of murder, robbery, or sexual violence being reported.” The Opposition leader also took a swipe at Chief Minister Vijay, accusing him of failing to deliver on promises made during the election campaign.



Telangana government's Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) has provided employment opportunities to 16 transgenders.....

CM Revanth calls for Congress mobilisation on voter roll revision

HYDERABAD TSIT BUREAU:

Chief Minister and Telangana Congress leader A. Revanth Reddy on Friday urged party leaders and cadres to launch an intensive grassroots campaign to safeguard the voting rights of people during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Addressing a meeting at Gandhi Bhavan, Revanth Reddy said the SIR process could create challenges for vulnerable sections such as tribal communities, Lambadas, migrant workers, women, Dalits and minorities if adequate awareness and support were not provided.

He emphasized that Congress leaders must thoroughly understand the voter list revision process and work proactively to ensure that no eligible voter loses their right to vote. “If constituency in-charges function effectively, not a single vote should be deleted,” he said. Drawing parallels with the party's successful digital membership drive, the Chief Minister recalled that Congress enrolled 45 lakh members within 90 days through a strong network of booth enrollers. He suggested utilizing the same experienced



cadre for the SIR exercise and strengthening booth-level coordination.

Revanth Reddy proposed appointing dedicated in-charges for all 119 Assembly constituencies and 17 Lok Sabha constituencies to monitor the voter roll revision process. He instructed Assembly in-charges to remain active in their constituencies and maintain continuous engagement with party workers and voters. The Chief Minister also directed ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs and corporation chairpersons to actively participate in party programmes and spend more time in the field. He said in-charge ministers should dedicate one full day every ten days exclusively for party activities

and grassroots outreach. Announcing his own participation in the organisational drive, Revanth Reddy said he would personally meet party workers at regular intervals and allocate three days every month for party affairs. He stressed the need for unity and coordination among Congress leaders and called for taking suggestions from former PCC presidents. He noted that the party now has a strong network of elected local representatives, including sarpanches, municipal chairpersons and councillors, who should be effectively mobilised.

For Hyderabad, the Chief Minister suggested assigning responsibilities to Rajya Sabha MPs and MLCs and conducting constituency-wise meetings on SIR across all 15 Assembly segments. He also asked the Mahila Congress to organise cluster-level awareness programmes to address concerns related to voter registration and verification.

Revanth Reddy said the Congress organisation must remain vigilant and people-centric to ensure that every eligible citizen's democratic right is protected and no genuine voter is left out of the electoral rolls.

Trump says Iran deal awaits final decision

WASHINGTON (TSIT):

US President Donald Trump said Friday that he was preparing to make a final decision on a potential agreement with Iran, outlining terms that include a commitment by Tehran never to acquire a nuclear weapon and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. In a post on social media, Trump said Iran must accept a permanent ban on nuclear weapons as part of the proposed arrangement. “Iran must agree that they will never have a Nuclear Weapon or



Bomb,” he wrote.

Trump said the Strait of Hormuz, a vital shipping route for global energy supplies, should be reopened immedi-

ately. “The Hormuz Strait must be immediately open, no tolls, for unrestricted shipping traffic, in both directions,” he said.

The President also claimed that mines in the waterway were being removed and that shipping disrupted by a U.S. naval blockade would soon resume. “Ships caught in the Strait due to our amazing and unprecedented Naval Blockade, which will now be lifted, may start the process of ‘heading home!’” Trump wrote. He said US forces had already removed numerous mines and that Iran would complete the removal or detonation of any

remaining devices.

Trump's statement also addressed Iran's nuclear programme. He claimed that enriched nuclear material buried deep underground following a US military strike nearly a year ago would be recovered and destroyed. “The enriched material, sometimes referred to as ‘Nuclear Dust,’ which is buried deep underground with virtually collapsed mountains, caused by our powerful B2 Bomber attack 11 months ago, sitting on top of it, will be unearthed by the United States,” he wrote.



Coalition Government Steps Up for Price Stabilisation Ahead of Kharif Season



AP AIMS TO BECOME GLOBAL HUB FOR GREEN ENERGY AND CYBER SECURITY: CM NAIDU

[illegible]

Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corporation (AP Transco) had earlier signed an agreement with the World Economic Forum for the establishment of the C4IR centre. The centre will focus on key sectors such as green energy, energy transition, and cyber resilience. During the meeting, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized the need to transform Andhra Pradesh into a world-class hub for green energy, digital transformation, and cyber security.

1. Doc. No. 3522. Date: 23-09-2004, Y. Bharathi, Patamata (SRO), 2). Doc. No. 653. Date: 01-03-2017, Y. Bharathi, Kankipadu (SRO), 3). Doc. No. 2491. Date: 07-07-2010, Y. Bharathi, Patamata (SRO), 4). Doc. No. 7622. Date: 19-08-2019, Y. Bharathi, Vijayawada (SRO), 5). Doc. No. 3759. Date: 08-04-2015, Y. Bharathi, Vijayawada (SRO), 6). Doc. No. 3760. Date: 08-04-2015, Y. Bharathi, Vijayawada (SRO), 7). Doc. No. 7454. Date: 08-04-2015, Y. Bharathi, Vijayawada (SRO), 8). Doc. No. 8941. Date: 13-10-2017, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Gudunadi (SRO), 9). Doc. No. 2426. Date: 07-20-2010, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Patamata (SRO), 9). Doc. No. 8941. Date: 13-10-2017, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Mangalagiri (SRO), 10). Doc. No. 5055. Date: 08-04-2015, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Gudunadi (SRO), 11). Doc. No. 7529. Date: 08-2019, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Patamata (SRO), 12). Doc. No. 4285. Date: 19-11-2001, Yalamanchili Krishna Rao, Ibrahimpatnam (SRO), 13). Promissory Note Executed by U. Srikanth (14). Agreement between U. Srikanth and Y. Bharathi (15). Some other Documents and promissory notes which details not in my knowledge.

DEVARAM SRIHARI, Advocate
3rd lane end, Gowthami Nagar,
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Cell: 9440119775

Visakhapatnam (TSIT) : The Andhra Pradesh coalition government has intensified efforts to ensure essential commodities remain available to the public at affordable prices, with continuous monitoring of open market trends and coordinated action between departments ahead of the Kharif-2026 season. At the 8th meeting of the ministerial committee on price stabilisation held at the Secretariat on Friday, Civil Supplies Minister Nandella Manohar said officials had been directed to conduct regular reviews of market prices and take immediate corrective measures whenever necessary. The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav and Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaaidu. Speaking after the review, Manohar said the government examined the demand and retail-wholesale price trends of essential commodities including pulses, rice, edible oils, tomatoes and onions. He noted that although global war-like conditions had triggered



price increases in some sectors, the state government was fully prepared to keep inflation under control. The minister particularly highlighted the rise in edible oil prices across the country and assured that measures would be taken to ensure supplies remain accessible to consumers in Andhra Pradesh at reasonable rates. The ministers stated that the Agriculture and Civil Supplies departments were jointly preparing advance plans for the upcoming Kharif season. Awareness programmes would be conducted to encourage farmers to cultivate priority paddy varieties.

ies that are in greater market demand. They observed that farmers cultivating low-demand paddy varieties often face difficulties during procurement. Varieties such as 1010 and PR-126 reportedly yield a higher percentage of broken rice, making them less suitable for consumption and resulting in financial losses to farmers. The ministers said field-level officials had been instructed to create awareness among farmers regarding suitable crop varieties and market preferences. JClear guidelines have also been issued to departments to keep prices under control over

the next three months through proactive monitoring and timely intervention. The ministers reiterated that the coalition government was committed to protecting consumers from price shocks while also safeguarding farmers' interests through coordinated policy measures and market analysis. Ex-Officio Special Chief Secretary Budhithi Rajasekhara, Civil Supplies Commissioner K. Kanna Babu, Civil Supplies Corporation Managing Director S. Dilli Rao, Oil Fed Managing Director Balaji Nayak and other senior officials participated in the meeting.

Seed Balls Can Help Drive Away Climate Disasters: Eluru DFO

The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : Eluru District Forest Officer P. V. Sandeep Reddy has called upon people to join hands in combating climate change through the preparation of seed balls and to make the vision of Andhra Pradesh Forest Minister Pawan Kalyan a grand success. An awareness programme on seed ball preparation was organized on Friday morning at the Tadikilapudi Central Nursery in Eluru district under the chairmanship of District Forest Officer.



Officer P. V. Sandeep Reddy and under the leadership of Green Climate Team NGO Founder Secretary J. V. Ratnam. Addressing the gathering, Sandeep Reddy urged officials and volunteers to take the lead in achieving the target of producing 2.5 crore seed balls across the state. He explained that each seed ball should be prepared using 70 percent cow dung, 30 percent soil, and three seeds of indigenous wild species to promote the growth of social forests. He stressed that Eluru district should remain at the forefront of the massive seed ball production drive being undertaken by the Forest Department. Comparing the mission to a battlefield effort, he called upon everyone to work like soldiers in the fight against climate disasters. Speaking on the occasion, Social Forestry Department DFO C.H. Suryanarayana emphasized the importance of including grass seeds along with tree seeds. He said every seed must be protected and effectively utilized. Expanding forests through seed balls, he noted, would help provide food and shelter for animals and birds in forest areas. Green Climate Team NGO Founder Secretary J.V. Ratnam created awareness among participants on the scientific preparation of seed balls.

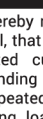
Grand Farewell to Additional Director P. Kiran Kumar



The South India Times, Visakhapatnam : P. Kiran Kumar, who is retiring from service after serving as Additional Director (AD) in the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, was accorded a warm farewell by the CR Media Academy on Friday. CR Media Academy Manager M. Bhaskar Narayana and staff members met him at the Directorate office and conveyed their retirement greetings. Speaking on the occasion, the participants praised P. Kiran Kumar for rendering distinguished services in the Information Department while handling several key responsibilities during his tenure. They stated that his

vast experience and dedicated service in the fields of media and public relations would remain an inspiration to young officers and staff. His contribution towards strengthening the department was also appreciated. Addressing the gathering, P. Kiran Kumar expressed gratitude to the officers and staff who had supported him throughout his service career. He said that he considered it an honour to serve in the government sector and credited the cooperation of colleagues for helping him discharge his duties effectively. CR Media Academy Junior Assistant Lavaraju, PS Srinivasa Jeevan, staff members Aditya, J. Reddy and others participated in the programme.


THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES
 www.thesouthindiatimes.com



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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL"), as the auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **30.06.2026 from 10 AM** at the following district Centre **Jayawadala-Eluru Road G - #44-1, 1st Floor, Opp: Post Office, Eluru Road, Gunadala, NTR, Jayawadala - 520004, (AP).** Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned hereon the auction is not yet completed on the same day IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C Nos: GL35929492, GL38812586, GL39471319, GL39465407, GL39977379, GL36470140, GL34436109, GL34560553, GL33804117, GL36658240, GL36643818, GL38455511, GL36962490, GL37902531, GL37879387, GL35522702, GL35532917, GL35518179, GL36888148, GL37756474, GL37721653, GL34003407, GL34019669, GL37749053, GL39120280, GL37472152, GL39122870, GL39365279, GL39390461, GL38824234, GL34917438, GL34908608, GL36888948, GL37033942, GL39053341, GL39823825, GL34955475, GL34933979, GL38907479, GL36634016, GL37091440, GL34149193, GL32047101, GL32033315, GL39615730, GL48070266, GL39584863, GL38258994, GL36768929, GL36757554, GL38267813, GL38950110, GL38969137, GL38755504, GL35668316, GL36263825, GL36245263, GL36825724, GL39407900, GL39429089, GL39319685, GL39351484, GL41138303, GL40447347, GL37716009, GL37311288, GL36990312, GL46211928, GL39310455, GL39288891, GL36810599, GL41311102, GL36793124, GL39431044, GL39410410, GL45654400, GL37226056, GL37786748, GL38752739, GL34148793, GL38618570, GL38031720, GL39244502, GL44077382, GL39227392, GL39309484, GL39299983, GL38856211, GL35511793, GL34481369, GL37685131, GL37709796, GL36531620, GL381891135, GL39549275, GL45818998, GL39665902, GL39560648, GL46859194, GL37251221, GL37268245, GL42763543, GL37389987, GL31488166, GL35126411, GL35125331, GL36628698, GL39186961, GL36603427, GL36735598, GL36282133, GL37716387, GL36415274, GL36421597, GL39394843, GL34510685, GL35004049, GL35025308, GL38786561, GL37202099, GL40964044, GL36281760, GL36756294, GL38351651, GL35350375, GL35315075, GL38069215, GL39122982, GL47601222, GL39146905, GL37385078, GL38948964, GL47291495, GL38969047, GL37967795, GL36810058, GL36792310, GL39336692, GL41470125, GL36998018, GL39395491, GL45220086, GL38226693.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regards quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch/office of IIFL Finance Limited.



Sd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Date: 30.05.2026
Place: KRISHNA



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FINANCE

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 E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeat ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **30.01.2021** Centre **Anantapur-Ramachandra Nagar, D. No. 13-2-13, Ramchandranagar, Near 515001, (AP)**. Any change in venue or date of if any will be displayed at the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned hereinafter the auction does not get cancelled. The right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with or without is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to new.

Gold Loan A/C No.:	GL36143354,	GL36148534,	GL38751579,	GL41438524,
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GL39158945,	GL39256761,	GL39491784,	GL39514750,	GL37883677,
GL35876236,	GL38207229,	GL38708174,	GL38125683,	GL39036000,
GL47224348,	GL39439893,	GL48110664,	GL39844831,	GL39071182,
GL47224348,	GL39335491,	GL39354395,	GL4747286,	GL39053016,
GL39411640,	GL39025736,	GL39529891,	GL39323414,	GL39351925,
GL35789978,	GL40451692,	GL35678201,	GL35458056,	GL35656480,
GL38045579,	GL34816711,	GL3483		

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE							
ICIICI Finance Finance		Registered Office: ICIICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051					
Corporate Office: Door No. 23-8-156/A, 1st Floor, R. R. Enclave, New Balaji Colony, A.I.R. Bypass Road, Above ICIICI Bank, Tirupati - 517502							
Whereas							
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICIICI Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.							
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on her/him by the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICIICI Finance Company Limited.							
The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.							
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/Amount/ Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch			
1.	Venkatesh Gopalreddy (Borrower), Chandran G (Co-Borrower), D No 11/148/5/1 Muthu Nagar Tiruchopur, Navjeevan Hospital, Tirupathi Andhra Pradesh- 517501, LHTRU00001284139.	Plot No. 10, D. No. 13-178, Mundlapudi Village Near. Vinayak Temple Tirupathi- 517503. Bounded By- North By : House Beerung D. No. 3-177, South By : Site Bearing Plot No.9, East By : 20 Wide Road, West By : Land Belongs to P.K. Mani./ Date of Possession 25-May-2026	01-01-2026 Rs. 25,53,518/-	Tirupati			



IIFL
FINANCE

CIN: 67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23,
 Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • **Fax:** (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • **Website:** www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **30.06.2026 from 10 AM** at following district Centre **Cuddahp-Trunk Road - #13/174, 1st Floor, Trunk Road, Opp: Bombay Ladage, YSR Kadapa - 516001, (AP)**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned hereinor the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No.	CIN: GL34056371, GL34080678, GL39242859, GL39215984, GL39459934, GL48218406, GL39312162, GL39306150, GL46035770, GL44040912, GL36704622, GL39181014, GL39210430, GL39537759, GL39560134, GL47187692, GL48358858, GL43471271, GL45166911, GL46942448, GL45899770, GL37639510, GL37789866, GL39362789, GL37230665, GL33651540, GL36847483, GL38414008, GL39077305, GL36975070, GL41620921, GL39202168, GL46230981, GL44345474, GL39281538, GL42701734, GL44347748, GL39259589, GL39429754, GL39515882, GL41458326, GL34044653, GL34035243, GL34465100, GL38996047, GL39488299, GL39582632, GL39514267, GL45979321, GL39347472, GL39350271, GL38479550, GL3636130, GL39363985, GL39431256, GL39398952, GL33859493, GL38382284, GL48322515, GL39040503, GL39035549, GL39443320, GL35698373, GL39244839, GL39229572, GL39103431, GL37499252, GL38892853, GL39355500, GL39326280, GL39312896, GL39249509, GL40172174, GL38974877, GL38928865, GL36945369, GL39391530, GL39367258, GL42398845, GL44057968, GL45820276, GL44679645, GL44145798, GL44380968, GL42550271, GL42899363, GL42468550, GL43094668, GL43599532, GL41880676, GL42217422, GL41991237, GL39195420, GL39212093, GL45514567, GL46877415, GL43585043, GL44244607, GL42546682, GL39405438, GL47222166, GL43026815, GL42439305, GL44231721, GL42927988, GL39438417, GL38932374, GL38049422, GL47928410, GL46194508, GL38484784, GL37033585, GL44788465, GL39309097, GL43533309, GL39429866, GL34781727, GL3775964, GL39502059, GL39048789, GL39137059, GL38377577, GL39435675, GL39069675, GL43668121, GL42453234, GL48462178, GL39579938, GL39612271, GL48599594, GL39021605, GL39029930, GL45403620, GL39092577, GL394154828, GL34048658, GL34143582, GL41484410, GL39783200, GL39243269, GL44343661, GL41997929, GL39217325, GL43895825, GL42437304, GL42844720, GL39187363, GL39122334, GL39054351, GL37132338, GL37387741, GL37954507, GL38374410, GL37149263, GL36182658, GL36197281, GL37670637, GL37884442, GL36520744, GL36762377, GL37884062, GL36541931, GL32947050, GL37385696, GL373325647, GL37107451, GL39500503, GL44174116, GL3731518, GL35338259, GL35580899, GL36917085, GL39596108, GL37208792, GL37221618, GL38934448, GL37250649, GL38647612, GL39171118, GL39008654, GL38891224, GL39674459, GL45682844, GL39595911, GL39617024, GL39335690, GL39354467, GL37986923, GL39241681, GL39215524, GL39088903, GL32780896, GL39513480, GL47452137, GL39490592, GL39312378, GL39229270, GL36413391, GL36419402, GL37510118, GL38740612, GL35751456, GL38412036, GL36421098, GL36414891, GL36092523, GL32963574, GL38817200, GL36951227, GL37574462, GL40124282, GL40174215, GL36697360, GL35105844, GL35096188, GL39390473, GL39365246, GL39324132, GL39355475, GL32812427, GL363134809, GL36146865, GL39616666, GL39586334, GL38088191, GL36893877, GL38979708, GL42726602, GL48376386, GL39282372, GL39263647, GL42482880, GL34504534, GL32765077, GL44224024, GL33750804, GL42166682, GL41813007, GL39682327, GL37082438, GL37605878, GL39065858, GL36193510, GL36179801, GL42962479, GL39350023, GL39330037, GL37909262, GL38878996, GL39465954, GL42935903, GL39471504, GL39429361, GL39408127, GL34124844, GL36691888, GL39232910, GL39312507, GL38780419, GL39594865, GL39616528, GL39154119, GL37197286, GL37061332, GL42399353, GL39430748, GL46413018, GL40355882, GL45046599, GL39748924, GL39792959, GL39701730, GL35219956, GL39219465, GL39234473, GL34485836, GL48012766, GL39398519, GL29027193, GL39200521, GL38945471, GL39403744, GL39343732, GL36744079, GL37113691, GL35511263, GL35523573, GL36533316, GL38126007, GL38749887, GL39651033, GL39286124, GL39309134, GL39537274, GL38295750, GL39118467, GL38858454, GL35859890, GL39302332, GL38000944, GL38069142, GL38344408, GL35302963, GL40309283, GL41942685, GL39429962, GL39421747.
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For Detailed Information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.



www.thesouthindiatimes.com

Free Mega Medical Camp on May 31

Khammam(TSIT):A free mega medical camp will be organized on May 31 under the auspices of Kamma Mahajana Sangham to mark the 103rd birth anniversary of former Chief Minister and Telugu icon N. T. Rama Rao, said Sangham president Kollu Raghu Satyanarayana and secretary Chava Ramu. The camp will be held at Swarna Bharathi Kalyana Mandapam in Khammam from 8.30 am to 1 pm. Telangana Agriculture Minister Tummalala Nageswara Rao will attend as the chief guest. Specialist doctors from various departments, including General Medicine, Orthopaedics,

Ophthalmology, Dermatology, ENT, Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Urology, Neurology and Psychiatry, will provide consultations. Free diagnostic services such as blood tests, blood sugar screening, blood pressure checks, ECG, X-ray and mam-mography will also be offered. The organisers appealed to the public to make use of the camp and avail themselves of expert medical advice and diagnostic services free of cost. They urged people to participate in large numbers and benefit from the healthcare services being provided as part of the organisation's community welfare initiatives.

IIFL FINANCE
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL39389474, GL39363468, GL37903077, GL37198330, GL39128339, GL39360804, GL37422451, GL39360591, GL37227006, GL39198675, GL37988473, GL37703622, GL36569542, GL36549024, GL41187925, GL39683389, GL47467173, GL43223242, GL39559503, GL39525496, GL37226602, GL38166743, GL38134148, GL37028191, GL38820502, GL37915627, GL36033787, GL38862683, GL37163861, GL36365847, GL38351141, GL34824026, GL39299182, GL39308875, GL34281577, GL18649798, GL36531412, GL39094935, GL38779035, GL36657727, GL36640947, GL38817029, GL37764148, GL46525878, GL44651974, GL39155624, GL47277153, GL39175816, GL42738322, GL46133030, GL42857133, GL42501143, GL48270290, GL41913258, GL38920333, GL41224124, GL40193102, GL40038580, GL39294593, GL41772872, GL41901631, GL39479885, GL39313011, GL39485967, GL39518725, GL44991338, GL47403804, GL46505085, GL39313011, GL47023028, GL444774730, GL46403321, GL42149567, GL45796444, GL40294854, GL46142541, GL41997614, GL44441692, GL37370759, GL39117835, GL36392538, GL36991098, GL37139191, GL36961793, GL34920301, GL34904277, GL37014212, GL38945269, GL39073695, GL35675022, GL37832640, GL38373462, GL38742055, GL37274077, GL38222291, GL37124406, GL34482281, GL35283123, GL35307785, GL39728214, GL39727387, GL37268830, GL37261227, GL39014110, GL36485932, GL36502568, GL36567286, GL36243031, GL36232869, GL39688126, GL39517324, GL39484363, GL38174056, GL38784356, GL18385333, GL38773845, GL39123468, GL39312844, GL39294232, GL39137382, GL39216616, GL39243012, GL37868916, GL390170603, GL39275040, GL39163201, GL37815502.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
Place: PRAKASAMSd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL47863653, GL39334622, GL39353736, GL3633784, GL37697930, GL39073868, GL39152831, GL39471745, GL39466910, GL39211557, GL39190163, GL38308554, GL39186794, GL39469838, GL38740896, GL39461608, GL39482330, GL39276208, GL38787271, GL39243896, GL39223381, GL38996464, GL45816762, GL46503158, GL43014440, GL39351691, GL42437358, GL39343680, GL44730549, GL43821023, GL48267051, GL38155647, GL39139924, GL41672344, GL36495317, GL38918194, GL36806693, GL39401555, GL39554221, GL39562808, GL36082390, GL37136272, GL36069312, GL38966889, GL38966955, GL37125412, GL38141453, GL35929438, GL39242563, GL39214646, GL39417421, GL44817182, GL39435742, GL37080435, GL37065073, GL39397104, GL39399256, GL38321573, GL35951395, GL37061585, GL38766251, GL38454990, GL38467531, GL38787852, GL37868891, GL3646038, GL3629389, GL39387757, GL39372262, GL45145099, GL39282051, GL39261630, GL36268205, GL38929317, GL37489094, GL45597804, GL43211870, GL39241064, GL39277804, GL38752392, GL38954394, GL34365465, GL46442252, GL39280550, GL39106677, GL38125348, GL35846427, GL35828789, GL39256942, GL36894415, GL39244828, GL39229237, GL44996021, GL33297823, GL36711452, GL37953912, GL37995888, GL39173982, GL39063783, GL39471727, GL39467205, GL42284846, GL47309244, GL39306572, GL39215252, GL29996543, GL38930394, GL39294006, GL39312811, GL44036506, GL48003918, GL46769063, GL39023364, GL39026335, GL39311989, GL39306029, GL38930147, GL38341428, GL44330989, GL44330027, GL38323659, GL38321482, GL38341635, GL38910553, GL39015867, GL38516917, GL47125862, GL36935561, GL38018752, GL38098022, GL38913781, GL35961344, GL35979626.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
Place: NELLORESd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITEDPMJ robbery case mastermind
Subhodh Singh arrested

Karimnagar, May 29, T S I T : P o l i c e Commissioner Goush Alam said Karimnagar police arrested Subhodh Singh, the alleged mastermind behind the sensational PMJ Jewellery robbery case, from Purnia Jail in Bihar on a PT warrant.

The accused is alleged to have been involved in the robbery and shooting incident targeting PMJ Jewellery employees in Karimnagar town on May

3, 2026. The Commissioner stated that Subhodh Singh is also facing multiple cases in various courts. After obtaining PT warrants from six courts, the police took him into custody and shifted him to Karimnagar.

A special police team brought the accused to Karimnagar on Thursday night and produced him before the magistrate at midnight. The court later remanded him to judicial custody.

Teenmaar Mallanna meets
Telangana diaspora in US

Jogulamba Gadwal, May 29, TSIT:As part of his United States tour, Telangana Rajyadhikara Party founder and MLC Teenmaar Mallanna participated in a grand "Meet & Greet" programme organized by the Telugu Telangana Global Association (TTGA) in Harmony District on Thursday. The event saw a large turnout of Telangana natives and NRI representatives.

During the interaction, Mallanna discussed press-

ing issues affecting Telangana, highlighting the political backwardness of Backward Classes and criticizing exploitative policies of dominant upper-caste groups. He elaborated on the objectives of the Telangana Rajyadhikara Party, emphasizing BC political empowerment and social justice. He also stressed the need for policies safeguarding the welfare and interests of NRIs, particularly those from Telangana.

Deputy Collectors Association Seeks Special Pay for EROs
and AEROs Engaged in Electoral Roll Revision

H y d e r a b a d TSIT:Telangana Deputy Collectors Association has urged the State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) to grant one month's special pay to Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) engaged in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

A delegation led by Association President V. Lachhi Reddy, along with leaders of the Telangana Tahsildars Association (TGTA), met Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy on Friday and discussed the implementation of revised



remuneration and honorarium rates for Booth Level Officers (BLOs), Supervisors, EROs, and AEROs as proposed by the Election Commission of India. Delegation requested that EROs and AEROs involved in the Special Intensive Revision process

yet been released in Telangana.They urged the government to implement the revised rates recommended by the Election Commission, including Rs. 12,000 for BLOs, Rs. 18,000for BLO Supervisors, Rs. 25,000 for EROs, and Rs. 30,000 for AEROs.

Lachhi Reddy stated that while the Election Commission had enhanced remuneration for BLOs and Supervisors engaged in election-related and electoral roll activities, it had also proposed increased honorariums for EROs and AEROs. He requested the allocation of adequate budgetary support for implementing the revised payments.

The Association also pointed out that remuneration due to BLOs and Supervisors for the financial year 2025-26 has not

Consult Doctors Immediately if You Experience
Breathing Difficulties: Dr. Venkat Raman Kola.

Mancherial, May 29, TSIT: People experiencing breathing difficulties should seek immediate medical attention, advised Dr. Venkat Raman Kola, Clinical Director of Critical Care at Yashoda Hospitals. Speaking to the media in Mancherial on Friday, Dr. Kola said that Yashoda Hospitals has been awarded the prestigious international "Platinum" recognition for excellence in providing advanced life-support treatment to critically ill patients. He stated that the award reflects the hospital's commitment to patient safety, clinical excellence, and adherence to international healthcare standards. Yashoda Hospitals is the only medical institution in the country to



receive this distinguished recognition, he added. Dr. Kola highlighted that the hospital offers state-of-the-art emergency medical services, organ transplantation facilities, dedicated air ambulance services, and expert multidisciplinary medical teams. These facilities enable Yashoda Hospitals to provide world-class healthcare services to patients from across India and abroad.

NTR Legendary Awards
Presented in Grand Ceremony
at Film Nagar Club

Hyderabad: The prestigious NTR Legendary Awards ceremony was held with great enthusiasm and grandeur on Thursday at the Film Nagar Club. The event honoured the legacy of Vishwa Vikhyatha Natasaravabhooma, late Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (NTR), the legendary actor and former Chief Minister of united Andhra Pradesh.

Telangana State Kamma Corporation Chairman Bandi Ramesh attended the event as the chief guest. He personally presented the NTR Legacy Awards to several veteran artists who have made significant contributions to

the film industry. The programme began with a heartfelt tribute to NTR. Bandi Ramesh, along with film personalities, garlanded the portrait of the legendary leader and paid rich floral tributes.Speaking on the occasion, Bandi Ramesh congratulated the awardees, describing them as the "beloved children of Mother Art" (Kala Mathalli Muddu Biddalu) and appreciated their outstanding contributions to cinema.The event celebrated the enduring legacy of NTR and recognised the exemplary talent and service of senior artists in the Telugu film industry.

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL36907320, GL36043718, GL36057775, GL35697346, GL39349799, GL39343864, GL39108202, GL38098537, GL39281210, GL39275862, GL37158305, GL39141283, GL41491456, GL38259604, GL36214178, GL37768160, GL39145855, GL37882069, GL37100354, GL44720058, GL38555784, GL38553992, GL38810100, GL39693524, GL39450584, GL37170312, GL37323053, GL37444229, GL37328376, GL39321195, GL38809365, GL39352517, GL39708531, GL42163267, GL36010260, GL38039986, GL39859464, GL38754272, GL38856961, GL39408163, GL39429359, GL36736333, GL39370585, GL39393392, GL38147083, GL39497991, GL48391864, GL39519776, GL45007129, GL43615134, GL39392295, GL39684660, GL39163261, GL38112565, GL404848902, GL35592152, GL35576022, GL36523434, GL25420313, GL38171118, GL39169661, GL34751998, GL37544437, GL37093005, GL37111066, GL38970187, GL48161007, GL38959371, GL39083985, GL39142189, GL39102251.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same.Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
Place: VIZIANAGARAMSd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL37165907, GL40349346, GL41246664, GL41303726, GL41541041, GL41292843, GL42260596, GL42246685, GL42590024, GL39468898, GL39458893, GL45171617, GL45317278, GL45475970, GL42286704, GL45358418, GL35273934, GL34361924, GL37109950, GL41352783, GL37084408, GL39308903, GL43749721, GL43851441, GL43981485, GL43934741, GL39285255, GL34843652, GL34865254, GL36351888, GL36373196, GL34718897, GL38334361, GL38342504, GL38961955, GL44723143, GL46712797, GL38970483, GL47367450, GL36676791, GL42571602, GL45514174, GL43547217, GL39335116, GL38883048, GL39599046, GL35937100, GL33596254, GL38236238, GL37252856, GL39449202, GL39470880, GL38164851, GL36948595, GL39693212, GL39206717, GL33875500.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 30.05.2026
Place: WEST GODAVARISd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

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Gold Loan A/C No.: GL39381450, GL39392922, GL38237419, GL38300801, GL35354803, GL35362582, GL38166218, GL48635790, GL39534142, GL39557245, GL39752526, GL35869818, GL37524713, GL42121908, GL39386765, GL39382682, GL43891013, GL46524891, GL37272729, GL39407804, GL39429017, GL38944935, GL39097058, GL37272729, GL39134446, GL37721091, GL37406971, GL40677195, GL34709380, GL37099196, GL37117011, GL39097041, GL37798094, GL36122726, GL36103943, GL37735101, GL37142141, GL39897842, GL44196199, GL39350644, GL39330810, GL44598184, GL39279489, GL39270396, GL43913347, GL39678674, GL37447874, GL43428334, GL39342915, GL39351065, GL37762903, GL37923971, GL39231534, GL39508734, GL45518502, GL39517400, GL38861571, GL38436041, GL35716976, GL39273624, GL38930820, GL36823510, GL40024193.

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Date: 30.05.2026
Place: EAST GODAVARISd/-
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

EDITORIAL

How Looting Became Embedded in Israeli Military Operations

Looting has accompanied wars and violent conflicts throughout human history and was therefore explicitly prohibited under Articles 28 and 47 of the 1907 Hague Regulations concerning the Laws and Customs of War on Land, and under Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949).

While looting shares common characteristics across conflicts, every place in which it occurs has its own particular circumstances. Understanding those circumstances is essential if the phenomenon is to be reduced, even if it can never be entirely eradicated.

In the Israeli context, one could argue that looting is rooted in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in 1948, the apartheid regime and the settlement project established in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967. Yet while the phenomenon has always existed within the Israeli military, its scale has fluctuated over the years.

In *The Lions' Gate*, former Israeli Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur's account of the 1967 battle for Jerusalem through the experiences of paratroopers, looting by both soldiers and Israeli civilians is discussed openly. The book describes how Israeli civilians followed behind the advancing paratroopers, looting whatever they could carry from the Palestinian neighbourhoods that had been captured. The looters reportedly risked their lives, transporting stolen property through minefields separating East and West Jerusalem. One conclusion raised in the book is that the looting of 1967 was a direct consequence of the failure to address similar acts in 1948.

Many Palestinian families in the West Bank live in a cash-based economy. It is not uncommon for soldiers conducting searches of Palestinian homes or vehicles at checkpoints to steal cash. If a Palestinian chooses to file a complaint with the Israeli authorities, it is exceedingly difficult to prove the theft unless a soldier confesses.

In one such case, a civil lawsuit I filed on behalf of a Palestinian driver was dismissed. The driver alleged that he saw a commanding officer in an Israeli military unit steal 10,000 shekels from the glove compartment of his car during a search. During questioning, the officer acknowledged that the driver had immediately accused him of theft upon returning to the vehicle, but insisted the accusation was false. Although comprehensive studies have yet to be published – and it will likely be impossible to determine the full extent of looting carried out by Israeli soldiers in Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank since the outbreak of the war on Oct. 7, 2023, particularly because many homes have been completely destroyed and many of their owners killed – the images soldiers themselves have circulated on social media, together with the steady stream of testimonies reaching journalists, organisations and human rights lawyers, suggest a massive wave of looting unprecedented in recent decades.

Why did this happen? Two central explanations stand out. The Israeli military has no official order authorising looting, but senior commanders have long been aware of the phenomenon. As early as December 2023, then-chief of staff Herzi Halevi circulated a letter to soldiers following the spread of social media footage documenting looting. “We must preserve our humanity,” he wrote.

Under Modi, India's Democracy IS A WORK OF FICTION

Truth is immutable. Fictional script can be altered at will. An economic boom can be transformed into an economic nightmare overnight. The prime minister, who painted rosy pictures in election campaigns, all of a sudden screamed exceptional crisis. A sinister delimitation bill is packaged in the lofty ideal of women's empowerment. A trade deal insidious to Indian interest is portrayed as a boom for the nation. Consequences of flawed economic and foreign policies are presented as an unavoidable impact of war. A sinister sectarian agenda is couched in a noble narrative of sabka-saath-sabka-vikas – ‘with all, progress for all’. It will not be fallacious to presume that Narendra Modi is fictionalising Indian democracy.

The plot turns on situational logic, with the power of propaganda constructing a convincing pivot for the convenience of hawking the fiction.

While the desperation to control the narrative is the primary force behind this deceptive ploy, Modi also exploits this trick for refurbishing his own fading image. He chairs a routine meeting of the Council of Ministers and twists the messaging to link it to the larger goal of Viksit Bharat. His post on X gives some insight into how he conducted the meeting. The photograph he shared with the public separates him from the rest of the ministerial crowd and elevates him to a position distinct from the other members of the cabinet. It serves as a reminder that he does not hold the position of “first among equals,” a term used to describe the role of a prime minister in a parliamentary democracy. He also asks his colleagues to search for sources of alternative energy. Does the optics not undermine the constitutional arrangement of collective responsibility? Do they not transform the cabinet into merely a group of advisers? Is this not a declaration that he alone makes decisions? Institutions continue to exist but without their constitutionally assigned roles. The much-hyped “Melodi” drama in Rome also presents another dimension of the fictionalisation



of democracy, where common diplomatic gestures are made to appear as unique events intended not only to redeem his image but to divert attention from the true purpose of his visit. The gesture was loud and frivolous. The drama indeed brought a brief pause to the austerity shows in which ministers were travelling by bus and the chief minister was flying economy class.

The manner in which austerity measures were announced also points towards fictionalisation of the real discourse. Amidst striking extravagance as manifested in his craze for self-publicity and ostentatious foreign trips, a purely economic necessity was given a touch of patriotism. Buying costlier petrol, eating less oil and avoiding gold purchase become a response to call of nationalism. That's fiction bearing down facts. His appeal must have touched the core of the Indian ethos, aparigraha or non-possessiveness. The opposition's demand for answers was bound to go in vain. Democracy gets hurt, but without any noise.

The first step towards the fictionalisation of democracy was the mystification of the Israel-US war on Iran. The prime minister likens the crisis to the COVID pandemic, and the war takes on the character of a natural calamity. The mystification effectively

absolves Modi of charges of pursuing a flawed foreign policy, for no human being can be held responsible for a natural calamity. The narrative presents him as an innocent bystander who is ignorant of developments in West Asia and visits Israel without any awareness of escalating tensions. It renders irrelevant debates over Modi succumbing to US pressure and stopping the purchase of oil from Iran and Russia. The mystification also prevents questions from being raised about Modi's recent visit to the pro-Israel UAE when foreign ministers from BRICS countries were in Delhi to discuss the crisis. In an opaque democracy with little or almost no access to information on security, finance, or deteriorating living conditions, there is no avenue for people to know about the manipulations occurring behind the scenes. This makes the task easier for the rulers. However, in this case, some pointed to the corporate connections behind Modi's foreign policy. Speculation appeared suggesting that his tours of the Nordic countries and Italy might have been aligned with the interests of a major Indian corporate group.

We also find elements of fiction in Modi's choice of a public rally to announce austerity measures. He does this to make his communication with the public appear infor-

mal. The tactic forms an essential part of his governance. His Mann ki Baat is the best example of informal yet unilateral communication. In announcing austerity measures, he discards all available channels, including Parliament, state-run television channels, and even party platforms, in order to make the communication appear even more informal than before. He does not discuss the matter in the cabinet either. At a time when institutions are divorced from their constitutional roles, even the small gesture of consulting others might instil some confidence in democratic institutions. However, he deliberately chooses to eliminate such a possibility. He repeats the tactic in The Hague for the same purpose and announces the possible rise in poverty at a community gathering of immigrant Indians. How can the prime minister of a democracy reveal such vital information to an informal gathering outside the country? People may wonder why Modi fictionalises democracy at a time when he is in full command of every major institution and has achieved an unexpected victory in West Bengal. The conquest of West Bengal has demonstrated that little can prevent him from winning elections. The victory has decisively altered the nature of elections by introducing new ele-

ments into the electoral system – the SIR, a category of “logical discrepancies”, tribunals to scrutinise voters' eligibility, a large deployment of central forces, counting personnel from the Union government, and so on. However, absolute control hardly guarantees immunity from instability. The narrative of ghush-paithiyas (infiltrators) cannot legitimise control over West Bengal. Discontent arising from disenfranchisement and the suppression of minorities and the opposition may lead to destabilisation. Modi may therefore be looking towards the fictionalisation of democracy as a diversionary tool. However, the project of fictionalisation primarily depends on communal narratives, the time-tested tool of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and the BJP. Analysts failed to pay attention to a recent event at Somnath. Within a week of the conquest of West Bengal, Modi organised an Amrut Mahotsava (75th anniversary) to commemorate the inauguration of the new temple at Somnath. One rarely hears of celebrations marking the inauguration day of a place of worship. Moreover, neither the RSS nor the BJP was associated with the construction of the new temple at Somnath. Sardar Patel conceived the idea, while Congress leaders K. M. Munshi and N. V. Gadgil executed it. Rajendra Prasad, another Congress stalwart, inaugurated it. Prime Minister Nehru wanted the Indian state to maintain distance from the affair, and Prasad did the same by inaugurating the temple in his private capacity. He had reiterated his government's commitment to the ideals of secularism. “It is very necessary that each one of us should realise that the best course is to act with a sense of respect and equality towards every community and creed. In it lies the welfare of our nation and country and of every one of us. This faith and conviction has impelled India to adopt the policy of secularism and to give an assurance that there shall be no discrimination on grounds of religion. Everyone would be provided equal opportunities,” he had said.

How Civil Society Reads India-Pakistan Signals Amid the West Asia War

What do civil society peace activists, especially the cross border 'people to people' dialogue enthusiasts say about the growing buzz around a senior political ideologue, and a former army chief signalling the possibility of India's reset in the confrontational face-off in the India-Pakistan bilateral relations? The media discourse has been heavy with mixed reactions of the political class and even some encouragement from realist strategists, but what about the cross border civil society networks – the track two, and particularly the people-to-people track – that supposedly are meant to break the deadlock in the zero-sum paradigm of the two nuclear armed neighbours?

Movements such as the three decades old Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy (PIPPFD) have not simply been idle, or waiting for government approvals or the commendation of fundamentalists. On April 18-19, PIPFPD shook off the constraining burden of anti-national labelling, surveillance and militarised nationalist propaganda, and re-energised the Pakistan-India people-to-people commitment to reject the logic of war, politics of hatred and silencing.

After eight years, the urgency of the political moment – of deepening militarisation, authoritarian megalomania and shrinking democratic spaces – drove the convening of the National Convention of PIPFPD, India chapter in Delhi. The thematic call of Ishq, Siyasat, Awam: Why Peace Matters, returned the enthusiastic inter-genera-



tional assembly once again to a shared historical responsibility as we invoked the memory and spirit of Faiz Ahmed Faiz, Sahir Ludhianvi and Avtar Singh Pash – poets who refused the violence of borders, who spoke against hollow nationalism, and who placed love, dissent, and people at the centre of politics. It was a continuation of the tradition of celebrating voices such as Fahmida Riaz and Amrita Pritam who insisted that the subcontinent's history cannot be reduced to division, nor its future to hostility. For the hundreds who came – voicing the diverse struggles of farmers, fisherfolk, forest dwellers, workers, artists, academics and lawyers, across fault lines in Manipur, securitised and militarised regions of Chhattisgarh and Kashmir, displaced communities and students – peace was not a slogan. It was a political demand rooted in democracy, human rights and justice. Pakistani colleagues disabled from join-

ing by hostile visa regimes, were present in supportive video cameos, excited at the prospect of the return of the multitudinous PIPFPD joint conventions which, since the 1990s, had enabled ordinary Indians and Pakistanis to travel to each other's countries and pull down the walls of otherness that divided them. These multifarious contacts were ruptured by the sterile policy of “terror and talks don't go together” which broke off road, rail and air links, trade and medical tourism, divided families, and stripped diplomatic contacts to bare bones. Toxic propaganda and militarised nationalism triggered escalating military action culminating in Operation Sindoor and the May 2025 India-Pakistan military confrontation, presently ‘paused’.

The PIPFPD National Convention preceded this recent signalling of support for India-Pakistan people-to-people contacts. According to

M. Vijayan, general secretary of PIPFPD, “PIPPFD is a people to people membership based Forum and does not look at relations from the statist positions of governments, but rather from the prism of people – of fishers who are jailed; of divided peoples of undivided Jammu & Kashmir who have borne the brunt of the violent conflict and wars, of the traders and common people who would stand to gain by opening of borders for travel and trade”. Within weeks of the PIPFPD assembly's affirmation of a vision for the future of South Asia that rests on ordinary and diverse people standing at the centre of peace and democracy, there came a surprising convergent call. In an interview to PTI, Dattaraj Hosbale, the RSS General Secretary exhorted the resumption of people to people contacts, trade and commerce, and issuance of visas and thereby the renewal of diplomatic relations.

Despite Growing Revolt In Trinamool , No Sign of Introspection by Mamata Banerjee

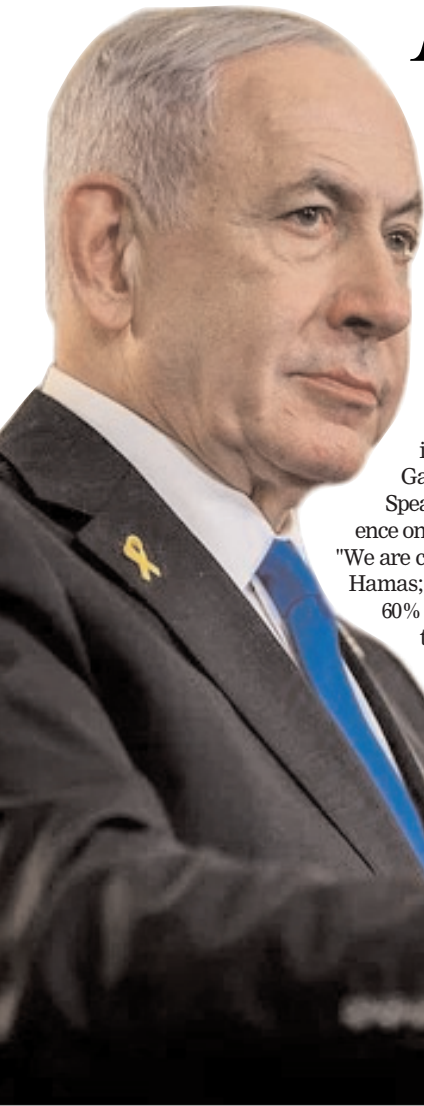
The election results were declared on May 4. Today is May 28. That means nearly twenty-four days have already passed since the results came out, almost a full month. Yet during this entire period, one after another, Trinamool Congress leaders have publicly revolted against the party leadership. Many have resigned from party posts openly. Interestingly, most of them do not even directly say that they want to join the BJP. Their rebellion is not necessarily ideological migration; it is more a reflection of anger, frustration, and alienation within the party structure itself. The situation has become so serious that even the BJP's state leadership has publicly stated that, for the next three months, they are not interested in inducting defectors immediately. The BJP leadership has reportedly said that only after things settle down and the distinction between "good Trinamool" and "bad Trinamool" members becomes clearer, will decisions be taken regarding inductions. At the same time, several councillors of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, former MLAs, and even elected representatives have started openly criticising the Trinamool Congress leadership. The central complaints being raised are becoming increasingly repetitive and consistent. Many leaders allege that the party has become excessively corporatised. Others claim that access to the leadership has become restricted. There are also accusations that Abhishek Banerjee remained



politically unavailable during crucial periods. Alongside this, criticism surrounding the growing influence of I-PAC and professional political management structures has intensified. But beyond all these allegations, the bigger question is this: where is the introspection within the party leadership? In politics, no party wins forever, and no party remains undefeated permanently. Every major political force, after suffering setbacks, usually goes through a phase of internal reflection. History offers many examples. When the CPI(M) transitioned from the Jyoti Basu era to Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee's leadership, serious internal discussions began within the Communist Party as well. Veteran Communist leader Abdullah Rasul, who stayed at the Park Circus party commune, had openly warned the party leadership at the time. He argued that the party leadership was increasingly slip-

ping into the hands of urban middle-class elites who had gradually become disconnected from workers and peasants, the very social base that once formed the backbone of the Communist movement. Abdullah Rasul was not alone. Similar concerns started emerging from senior Communist leaders across districts. Eventually, the party was compelled to undertake a phase of introspection. Senior CPI(M) leader Shyamal Chakraborty even initiated a programme called Atmashuddhi, meaning self-purification or self-correction. The BJP too has experienced moments of introspection. There was a time when almost everyone believed Atal Bihari Vajpayee would return to power for a second consecutive term. The BJP campaign projected the slogan that Vajpayee represented “magic, not arithmetic”. Much of the Indian media also assumed that the NDA would comfort-

ably return to power. But when Manmohan Singh unexpectedly became Prime Minister, the BJP too began questioning itself internally. It started examining where the disconnect had emerged. Over time, BJP leaders themselves acknowledged that while the party was growing quantitatively, questions remained about qualitative growth. The Communist movement had debated something similar long ago. During organisational discussions, debates often emerged around “quantity versus quality”. A party could expand numerically while simultaneously becoming hollow internally. The conflict between quantity and quality has emerged from the age of the Bolsheviks and Mensheviks. Within Left circles, there used to be a phrase for such a phenomenon: “anaemic growth”. A body may appear swollen externally, but internally it suffers from a lack of blood and strength. Many political observers now feel a similar situation may be developing inside the Trinamool Congress. Yet what is striking is that the party leadership still appears unwilling to publicly acknowledge any mistakes. Neither Mamata Banerjee nor Abhishek Banerjee has openly admitted that strategic or organisational errors may have contributed to the electoral setback. Recently, Arup Chakraborty, a Trinamool spokesperson, resigned from a committee chairmanship and openly stated that these internal issues were among the reasons behind the party's poor performance.



Netanyahu says he has directed IDF to increase control of Gaza to 70%

AGENCY Tel Aviv: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says that he directed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to increase control of Gaza to 70%. Speaking at a conference on Thursday, he said: "We are currently squeezing Hamas; we now control 60% of the territory of the Strip - you know this. We were at 50, we moved to 60. My directive is to move to," he said

before pausing as someone in the crowd said, "100". "Let's go step by step. First of all, 70. Let's start with that. We're pressing them from all sides, we'll deal with the remnants." The expansion in control by Israel would contradict the terms of the Donald Trump-led ceasefire Israel and Hamas agreed to in October 2025. Netanyahu's statement comes as Israel continues strikes on Gaza despite the ceasefire, and as Israel and Hamas remain deadlocked in indirect, US-brokered talks to advance Trump's peace plan. At least

738 Palestinians have been killed since the ceasefire came into effect in October, according to the Hamas-run health ministry, whose figures the UN considers reliable. Netanyahu has

Hamas disarm and Israeli troops withdraw, but indirect talks between Israel and the Palestinian armed group have stalled. On Wednesday, Israeli Defence Minister

Israel Katz wrote on X that his country had "pledged to eliminate every one who led the

October 7 massacre" in 2023. "We pledged that Hamas will not rule Gaza civilly or militarily," he said. He also said that what he called the "plan for voluntary emigration from Gaza" would be implemented "at the proper time and in the proper manner". Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir and far-right Finance Minister Bezalel

Smotrich have previously publicly defended what they describe as the "voluntary migration" of Palestinians from Gaza - which could amount to the forced displacement of civilians, a war crime - and resettling it with Jews. This week has also seen several strikes in Gaza. At least 10 people, including five children, were killed in an Israeli strike on a building in Gaza City late on Wednesday, according to local hospitals. The Israeli military has released a short statement saying it struck "two central Hamas terrorists in the northern Gaza Strip", without disclosing their identities. The target of the attack appeared to have been Hamas battalion commander Imad Asleem, who was killed alongside his teenage daughter Israa. The Gaza City attack came a day after the newly chosen head of the Hamas military wing, Mohammed Odeh, was killed along with his wife and two sons in an Israeli strike.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says that he directed the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to increase control of Gaza to 70%. Speaking at a conference on Thursday, he said: "We are currently squeezing Hamas; we now control 60% of the territory of the Strip - you know this."

made several public remarks confirming that the IDF controls more than 60% of the Strip, up from the 53% agreed in October. Under the ceasefire agreement, the IDF withdrew to a demarcation line, known as the "yellow line". The next steps in the 20-point peace proposal would see

Italy restores lucky testicles on bull mosaic worn down by tourists



AGENCY Italy: A famous bull mosaic in one of Italy's grand arcades is getting some much-needed care after being worn down by tourists honouring a tradition involving its delicate body parts.

As the legend goes, tourists in Milan who grind their heels on the bull's testicles and spin in place three times are guaranteed good fortune and are destined to return. Visitors twirling clockwise for luck have left a small crater on the bull's "lucky spot". "Thousands of people every day have performed the famous

heel-spinning gesture," city councillors said. "The pink tiles that make up its testicles are being worn away." The beige and blue mosaic of a prancing bull surrounded by a coat of arms is located in the city's historic 19th-Century Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II arcade. It is representative of the city of Turin, which was the first capital of Italy. Restoration began this week, with a small construction site erected around the mosaic and a restorer working to return the artwork to its former glory, Milan's city council said in a statement.

US and Iran 'very close' to deal but 'not there yet', Vance says



AGENCY Washington: The US and Iran still need to work out several sticking points before an agreement on the war can be reached, Vice-President JD Vance has said. Asked by the BBC if President Donald Trump was close to signing a deal, Vance said it was too early to say "when or if" the two sides would finalise an agreement. Earlier on Thursday, US officials told the two countries had agreed a framework of a deal - known as a memorandum of understanding - pending the approval of Trump and Iran's leadership. It would reportedly extend the ceasefire for 60 days and launch talks on the future of Iran's nuclear programme. Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency reported it had not been finalised or confirmed. According to reports, the framework could allow "unrestricted" passage through the Strait of Hormuz and give Iran 30 days to remove mines from the narrow shipping passageway. The US would also lift its blockade, and issue

sanction waivers to allow Iran to resume selling oil. Axios, which first reported a tentative agreement between the US and Iran on Thursday, said Trump had been briefed on the proposal but did not immediately sign off on it and would take a couple of days to consider it. One-fifth of the world's liquefied natural gas and oil normally pass through the Strait of Hormuz, and its closure has impacted global fuel trade. Speaking on Thursday evening, Vance said negotiators were "going back and forth on a couple of language points", which include the "question of enrichment". "We're not there yet, but we're very close and we're going to keep on working at it," he told reporters. The US has long demanded that Iran stop producing highly enriched uranium and dispose of its existing stockpile, which in theory could be used to create nuclear weapons. Iran insists its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful and denies it is seeking to develop nuclear weapons.

PORTUGAL BREAKS HOTTEST MAY DAY RECORD AS EUROPE SWELTERS IN HEATWAVE



AGENCY Portugal: has recorded a new highest temperature for May of 40.3C as countries in Western Europe grapple with sweltering-hot weather. The temperature recorded in the central town of Mora on Wednesday bests Portugal's previous record of 40C set in May 2001. Ministers in France are meeting to assess the country's preparedness for heat-

waves, while tennis number one Jannik Sinner bowed out of the French Open after suffering from the heat. Meanwhile, Italian authorities issued a red heatwave alert for the capital, Rome, where it topped out at 32C on Thursday. The heatwave is forecast to continue into the weekend, with Germany, Spain and Switzerland having also faced unusually hot conditions.

Nato criticises Russia's 'reckless behaviour' after drone hits Romanian apartments, injuring two

AGENCY Moscow: Away from comments being made by Romania's president, Vladimir Putin is said to be "aware" of the drone incident in Romania, Russian state media reports the president's spokesperson Dmitry Peskov as saying. TASS also reports that Russia's foreign ministry will "respond soon" to Romania's decision to declare the Russian consul "persona non grata" in response to the crash. Romanian President Nicusor Dan says his administration will expel the Russian consul in the south-eastern city of Constanta and shut down the consulate, Reuters reports. According to news agency AFP, the Russian consul has been declared "persona non grata". Romanian President Nicusor Dan is currently making a



statement after meeting with the Supreme Defence Council and summoning Russia's ambassador. BBC Romanian are listening in and we will bring you the latest lines as soon as we can. One Gala?i resident tells the BBC that he continues to feel safe in the city, despite the drone crash. "We are part of Nato and there is, so to say, the necessary infrastructure in place to respond quickly [to such inci-

dent building. The President of Romania Nicusor Dan has summoned a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council, which is happening now. And the Russian ambassador has been summoned. He's been summoned before. He usually gets a slap on the wrist. I think there is some talk unofficially in Romania this time of needing a much stronger response, perhaps even the expulsion of the Russian ambassador from Bucharest. But I think that's a move that Romania would not take on its own - there have been obviously strong consultations this morning between Romania and Nato and EU allies. The drone crash in the south-east of Romania has left many in the country demanding a stronger response from Nato and the Romanian authorities.

Eight students arrested in Kenya after suspected deadly school arson attack

AGENCY Kenya: Eight students alleged to have been involved in a suspected arson attack at a Kenyan girls' school that killed 16 pupils have been arrested, police say. The fire in the early hours of Thursday morning at the Utumishi Girls Academy in Gilgil, about 120km (77 miles) north-west of capital city Nairobi, tore through the upper floor of a dormitory which had 135 bunk beds. After interviews with students and staff and a forensic review of CCTV footage, eight pupils at the school were identified as "persons of interest in connection with the planning and execution" of the fire, the National Police



Service said in a statement. Investigations are continuing into the exact cause of the blaze. Police said the students were detained for questioning after being traced to their homes and brought back to the school, while others who had remained in the area were also tracked down and

detained. The eight were among 30 students who were initially recalled to the school by detectives investigating the deadly fire. Regarding the aftermath of the fire, Education Minister Julius Ogamba said preliminary findings indicated that there had been multiple breaches of

safety measures at the school, including overcrowding in dormitories and a locked exit door. "In particular, there was congestion in the dormitory and one exit door was locked, contrary to the prescribed safety requirements," he said. He dissolved the school's board of management and ordered action against the headteacher. The minister said appropriate disciplinary and legal steps would be taken against anyone found to have failed in their duties. As investigators continue their work, sorrowful scenes unfolded at the school as parents and relatives broke down while waiting for updates about their loved ones.

MOTHER-IN-LAW OF INDIAN BRIDE WHOSE DEATH SET OFF MEDIA FRENZY ARRESTED

AGENCY New Delhi: India's top anti-crime agency has arrested the mother-in-law of an Indian woman whose death has sparked conflicting claims of murder and suicide. Twisha Sharma's parents and siblings have alleged that she was tortured by her lawyer husband, Samarth Singh, and his mother - retired judge Giribala Singh - over dowry demands and that she was murdered, allegations they have denied. The 33-year-old model and actor had been married for just five months when she was found dead in her matrimonial home in Madhya Pradesh state's Bhopal city on 12 May. On Thursday, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested Giribala Singh after questioning her for several



hours. The Madhya Pradesh High Court had earlier cancelled her anticipatory bail, finding that a trial court had ignored key evidence and witness testimony. Following Twisha's death, the police had registered a case of dowry death against the Singhs. Earlier this week, the investigation was taken over by the CBI. Twisha's death has made national headlines and has once again brought the issue of dowry deaths into the spotlight.

Man jailed for 15 years over plot to attack Taylor Swift concert in Vienna



AGENCY Cranberry: A 21-year-old Austrian man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for planning a jihadist attack on a Taylor Swift concert in Vienna during the US singer's Eras tour in August 2024. The man, named only as Beran A in line with Austrian privacy laws, was also found guilty of a string of other terrorism-related offences. He was arrested after a tip-off from the CIA just before the first of three sold-out Taylor Swift concerts was due to take place in Vienna's Ernst Happel stadium. All three Austrian shows were immediately cancelled, to the dismay of almost 200,000 fans and the singer herself. Swift previously described how her record-breaking Eras Tour had narrowly "dodged a massacre situation". A tour documentary revealed the US singer had learned about the bomb plot while travelling to Austria. Prosecutors said Beran A had become radicalised and had sworn allegiance to jihadist group Islamic State (IS). They said he tried but had not succeeded in buy-

ing weapons illegally, including a machine gun and a hand grenade. Court psychiatrist Peter Hoffmann said Beran A showed no signs of mental illness, adding that there was "no psychiatric explanation" for his radicalisation. He was on trial in Wiener Neustadt, a city south of Vienna, with another 21-year-old man named as Arda K from Slovakia, accused of being part of a cell with jihadist group Islamic State (IS). Arda K - who was not involved in the plot against the concert - was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Beran A told the court earlier on Thursday that he was sorry, before the jury retired for several hours to consider its verdicts. Shortly after the foiled attack, Taylor Swift said it had filled her with "a new sense of fear" - and that the cancellations left her with a "tremendous amount of guilt". But the US mega-star added on Instagram: "I was also so grateful to the authorities because thanks to them, we were grieving concerts and not lives."



Blue Origin's rocket exploded during a test in Florida

Suspense Ends On Lionel Messi As Argentina Announce FIFA World Cup 2026 Squad

AGENCY
Argentina : Lionel Messi will captain Argentina at the World Cup, national coach Lionel Scaloni announced Thursday as he unveiled his 26-man squad. Messi, 38, had not previously confirmed he would play in what will be a record-breaking sixth tournament for the Argentine superstar. But it had been widely assumed the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner would again lead Argentina, four years after lifting the trophy in Qatar. As well as confirming Messi's presence, Thursday's announcement notably excluded Real Madrid's Franco Mastantuono from the Argentina squad. 18-year-old Mastantuono is considered one of the brightest prospects in Argentine football. The largest ever World Cup, co-hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico, kicks off June 11. Argentina's first match will be five days later against

Algeria in Kansas City. Messi has been at the heart of an injury scare in recent days, with his club side Inter Miami this week saying medical tests diagnosed him with muscle fatigue in his left hamstring. The Major League Soccer club had provided no clear timetable for Messi's return after his abrupt exit from Miami's 6-4 victory over Philadelphia in the 73rd minute on Sunday. But Scaloni had played down the seriousness of the injury this week.

Romero returns
Center-back Cristian Romero, who suffered a knee injury last month and has not played since, was also named in the squad. The Tottenham Hotspur captain was ruled out

for the remainder of the Premier League season after he was shoved into his own goalkeeper by Sunderland striker Brian Brobbey. Argentina's roster retains 17 of the 26 players who won the title in Qatar. Young players who received calls include 21-year-olds Nicolas Paz and Valentin Barco. Palmeiras forward Jose Manuel Lopez, who only made his international debut last year, also features. Other notable absentees include Emiliano Buendia - currently in excellent form at Aston Villa - and Roma star Paulo Dybala. The South American giants will journey to the United States for pre-World Cup friendlies against Honduras on June 6 and



Lionel Messi will captain Argentina at the World Cup, national coach Lionel Scaloni announced Thursday as he unveiled his 26-man squad.

Rishabh Pant Resigns As Lucknow Super Giants Skipper After Disappointing IPL 2026 Show

AGENCY
New Delhi: Rishabh Pant stepped down as Lucknow Super Giants captain after the franchise finished last in IPL 2026. The IPL team confirmed on social media that Pant's request to give up the leadership role was accepted by the team management. LSG had a horrible run of form in IPL 2026 as they won just 4 matches and finished last with 8 points from 14 matches. Pant's performance as a batter was also not that impressive as he scored 312 runs in 14 matches at a strike rate of 138.05. He was bought for a record Rs 27 crore in the IPL 2025 auction but since then, LSG have finished seventh and tenth in the last two seasons. "Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) wish to formally announce that Rishabh Pant has requested to be relieved of his captaincy duties with the franchise, and the franchisee has accepted his request with immediate effect," LSG said in a statement on Friday. LSG

Director of Cricket, Tom Moody, described Pant stepping down as 'never easy'. "Rishabh approached the franchise with this request and we have respectfully accepted it. These decisions are never easy," Moody said in a statement released by LSG. "We are grateful for everything Rishabh has brought to this dressing room as captain. Our focus now is on the collective - rebuilding and restructuring to reach the best standards," he added. LSG did not make any announcement regarding who will become the next captain after Pant. "With an eye on making a positive comeback in the upcoming season, the new Lucknow

Super Giants captain will be announced in due course," the official statement from the franchise read.



Korean Golf Players Shine At LIV Golf Korea 2026; Bryson DeChambeau And Charles Howell III Top First Round

AGENCY
Korea: Korean golfers have been putting up a strong fight as their names have slowly begun to make headlines in Korea amidst the presence of global LIV Golf superstars Bryson DeChambeau, Charles Howell III, and Scott Vincent, who ended up tied atop the LIV Golf Korea leaderboard after the opening round. In fact, Korean Golf Club (OKGC) managed to put together one of its best performances of the season at Asiad Country Club in Korea. Korean Golfers Excel in LIV Golf Korea Amidst Bryson DeChambeau-led Leaderboard While the first round of the LIV Golf Korea tournament has showcased many of the best golfers out



there, Korean Golf Club managed to stand out on its own by making a strong play in the competition. Specifically, OKGC member Younghan Song scored a 4-under 68 while Doyeob Mun, playing in his debut match, earned a 4-under 68 as well, resulting in both ending up tied for 11th place overall. Korean fans found it refreshing that the good perform-

ance by their players gave hope amidst a highly stacked field. Among LIV Golf's top stars, who all had matching scores of 5-under 65 after day one to lead the tournament, were Bryson DeChambeau, Charles Howell III, and Scott Vincent, but homegrown golfers made sure there was not all the attention towards world stars. Bryson started brilliantly as he carded six

birdies before bogeying out during the last few holes. Charles Howell got his name on the leaderboard after making an eagle from 108 yards on the par-4 hole's 2nd tee, while Scott Vincent showed the best individual performance by recording a bogey-free round. Strong First Round By OKGC Puts Some Pressure On Crushers GC In Team Championship Race With Crushers GC still ahead of OKGC in the team rankings by five shots, the latter team could provide stiff competition as it played exceptionally well on day one. On the other hand, Crushers GC are still strong without their regular member, Paul Casey, who did not join the event due to an injury and was replaced by Travis Smyth.

Gujarat Titans vs Rajasthan Royals Weather Report: Will Rain Play Spoilsport In IPL 2026 Qualifier 2 Clash?

AGENCY
New Delhi: Rajasthan Royals are set to take on Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2 of IPL 2026 in Mullanpur on Friday. The winner of the game will face Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the summit clash, while the loser will be knocked out. RR have momentum on their side coming into this game. The Riyan Parag-led team has registered four consecutive victories, including its win against Sunrisers Hyderabad in the Eliminator clash. During the game, the focus will be on Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, a 15-year-old wonderkid who has impressed one and all with his terrific batting. Breaking multiple records with his ultra-aggressive style of bat-



ting, Sooryavanshi currently holds the Orange Cap with 680 runs in 15 matches this season. On the other hand, Gujarat Titans will aim to put in an improved show after being outplayed by Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Qualifier 1. Batting first, RCB posted 254

for 5, and the total eventually proved to be too much for the chasing side. GT were bundled out for 162, losing the game by 92 runs. Will rain play spoilsport during GT vs RR IPL 2026 Qualifier 2? As per Google weather forecast, there is a nine per cent chance of precipitation on

matchday. Meanwhile, AccuWeather forecast indicates that rain will not play any role during the game. In case the GT vs RR IPL 2026 Qualifier 2 is washed out due to rain in Mullanpur, Shubman Gill and Co. will advance to the final by virtue of a better finish in the points table. Gujarat Titans finished at the second spot in the table with 18 points to their credit. On the other hand, Rajasthan Royals entered the playoffs with a fourth-place finish, having 16 points to their name. Both RR and GT have won one IPL title each. Rajasthan Royals bagged the glory in the inaugural edition in 2008, while Gujarat Titans won the trophy in 2022, their first season in the tournament.

Suffering was less than my passion for tennis, says Nadal



Rafael Nadal had one of the greatest tennis careers the game has ever seen. He also spent nearly all of it in pain. Between his first French Open win in 2005 and retirement in 2024, the Spaniard won 22 Grand Slam singles titles - the second-highest total of any man. He was part of the 'Big Three' era, where he, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic carved up the sport's biggest prizes and thrilled fans. But a chronic foot injury meant Nadal had to find different

ways just to get through matches, let alone win them. In a new Netflix series, the 39-year-old opens up about the risks he took with his health in order to achieve greatness. "I've had to make decisions about my health, where you are on the borderline between right or wrong," Nadal said. "But if I hadn't explored all that, I probably would have had 10 fewer Grand Slams. I'm not saying one or two, I'm saying 10 or 12. This is the reality."

Mangalore Set For Surfing Showdown As 7th NMPA Indian Open Of Surfing 2026 Begins

AGENCY
Mumbai: Indian surfing arrives at one of the most significant moments in its domestic history this week as the seventh edition of the NMPA Indian Open of Surfing 2026, a key stop on the national surfing circuit, prepares to bring together many of the country's leading surfers at the Blue Bay Tannirbhavi Eco Beach in Mangalore from May 29 to 31. Set against the backdrop of surfing's impending debut at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games later this year, the championship carries significance extending far beyond the pursuit of domestic titles. Featuring competitions in the Men's Open, Women's Open, Under-18 Boys, Under-18 Girls, Under-14 Boys, and Under-14 Girls categories, the event is expected to attract



over 80 athletes from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Goa in what could prove to be a defining week for several of India's top surfers. Organised by the Mantra Surf Club and Surfing Swami Foundation under the aegis of the Surfing

Federation of India (SFI), the Indian Open has evolved steadily into one of the flagship events on the national calendar. The Karnataka Government continues its support for the competition for

a seventh consecutive year, while New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA) returns as title sponsor for the third successive edition alongside Gold Sponsors Cycle Pure Agarbatti and Deconstruct Skincare. Asian Games Spotlight Raises Stakes in Mangalore This year's championship is expected to serve as the final major domestic assessment event before India finalises its squad for the Asian Games, placing unusual weight on performances across the three-day competition.



not looking great for

Axar Patel. With KL Rahul not willing to take a leadership role, Hardik Pandya can be the perfect choice for them to reignite the fire in the side. A potential trade could see Hardik and Axar switch places in a move that will benefit both sides massively.

AGENCY
Mumbai: Mumbai Indians stunned everyone in 2023 as they completed a sensational trade move for Hardik Pandya from Gujarat Titans. While Cameron Green moved to Royal Challengers Bengaluru to make way, it was the perfect homecoming for the star India all-rounder. This was the same franchise where Hardik found superstardom and, after winning the title with Gujarat Titans as captain and finishing runners-up in the next season, it was probably apt that he was going to take over the reins of captaincy from Rohit

Sharma. However, what followed was a bitter episode where fans were not happy with the decisions taken by the team management, and the disappointing show on the field even led to a section of supporters booing Hardik at the Wankhede Stadium. The next two seasons did not improve the situation and, although MI did finish fourth in 2025, the fans were just never convinced. Add the injury problems and off-field chatter around Hardik to an already tense situation, and one had the perfect recipe for disaster. Following a ninth-place fin-

ish in 2026, Mumbai Indians are reportedly going to sack Hardik as captain, and several media outlets reported that the all-rounder will be looking to move to another team after a breakdown in relations with the team management. With the IPL potentially looking at yet another blockbuster trade deal, here's a look at the top destinations for Hardik Pandya in IPL 2027 - Lucknow Super Giants The Rishabh Pant move has not worked for LSG and, if some reports are to be believed, they will most likely have a captaincy vacuum after this

season. Despite commanding a record amount of Rs 27 crore in the auction, Pant has disappointed - both as a batter as well as a captain. In that case, Hardik becomes a lucrative option for the franchise as their new leader. If they decide to release Pant, LSG will have more than enough money in their bank to complete an all-cash move for the all-rounder and, if it comes down to a trade, a combination of Nicholas Pooran and an Indian fast bowler can be considered. Delhi Capitals Another franchise with a captaincy problem, with things

What Happened To QTCinderella? Streamer Threatens DMCA Strikes Against X Clip Accounts For "Hate Farming"



AGENCY
London: Twitch streamer QTCinderella is once again at the center of online discussion after announcing that she plans to issue DMCA strikes against certain clip accounts on X. The streamer, whose real name is Blaire, called out pages that she believes are using her content in a misleading way to push hate and negativity online. The conversation picked up on May 28, 2026, after QTCinderella shared a long message explaining why she had reached her limit. According to her, some accounts were taking harmless clips and turning them into "hate farming" posts designed to create toxic discussions around her. She also revealed that she had been away from the internet recently while grieving the loss of her best friend of 15 years, making the situation even more emotional for her. QTCinderella says she's "done with the abuse" from X clip accounts in her statement, QTCinderella

explained that she no longer wants her content being used by accounts she believes are acting in bad faith. She accused certain pages of intentionally framing innocent moments in ways that encourage harassment and negative comment sections. The streamer said this is the first time she has seriously considered taking legal action through DMCA takedowns. She made it clear that she sees this as setting a personal boundary rather than trying to silence criticism online. QTCinderella also strongly defended herself in the post, saying she would not allow people to profit from content that spreads false narratives about her. She added that she was tired of the kind of online environment these accounts create and claimed many of them exist mainly to stir drama and outrage. The streamer also opened up about grieving a personal loss Part of QTCinderella's message focused on something much more personal.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SANJAY RRAO, HIT & RUN INTENSE FIRST LOOK RELEASED



Suspense and crime thrillers are gaining strong momentum today, and young filmmakers are stepping forward with fresh, daring concepts to keep audiences hooked. Joining this wave is Sanjay RRao, son of star comedian Brahmaji, who plays the lead in an intriguing new thriller titled Hit & Run. The film is written and directed by Sai Krishna Sagar and produced by Satish Reddy Allam and K. Shekar under the Satish Reddy Allam Entertainment banner, with Natasha Singh as the female lead. Marking Sanjay RRao's birthday, the makers unveiled the film's first-look poster. The design carries a dark, gritty mood dominated by

deep red and black tones. Sanjay's face emerges from heavy shadows, marked by wounds and dried blood, hinting at a character who has endured violence and emotional turmoil. The smoky, textured red background further amplifies the tension, promising a story filled with danger, intensity, and raw emotion. The cast also includes Kireeti, Muralidhar Goud, Lirisha Kunapareddy, Ravi Prakash, and Jabardasth Emmanuel in key roles, with the shoot currently underway. On the technical front, music is composed by Prince Henry. Cinematography is handled by Vijay Bhaskar Saddala and L.

Gangadhar, while editing responsibilities are taken up by D. Venkata Prabhu. The makers will unveil other details later.

Lyca Productions Subaskaran presents Filmmaker Jason Sanjay's Directorial Sundeeep Kishen starrer "Sigma" worldwide release on July 31

Lyca Productions Subaskaran's Sigma, marking the directorial debut of Jason Sanjay and starring Sundeeep Kishen in the lead role, is officially set to hit screens worldwide on July 31. Ever since its announcement, the film has remained one of the most talked-about projects in Tamil cinema, consistently generating strong buzz among audiences and trade circles alike. The excitement surrounding the film soared further with the teaser receiving an overwhelming response and crossing 20 million-plus views, significantly heightening anticipation for the theatrical release. Expressing his excitement on the official release date announcement, G. K. M. Tamil Kumaran, Head of Lyca Productions, said, "We are delighted to officially announce July 31 as the release date of Sigma. The film has shaped up exceptionally well, and we strongly believe audiences are in for a refreshing cinematic experience. Jason Sanjay has approached his debut with remarkable clarity, dedication, and conviction. The entire cast and crew have worked passionately towards bringing this vision alive, and we are excited to present Sigma to audiences worldwide." Sharing his excitement, director Jason Sanjay said, "Sigma has been an incredibly special and enriching journey for me.



I'm deeply grateful to Producer Subaskaran of Lyca Productions for placing their trust in my vision and for constantly supporting me throughout this process. Working with such a committed cast and crew has been truly rewarding, and I sincerely thank every artist and technician who contributed wholeheartedly to this film. We are eagerly looking forward to presenting Sigma to audiences on July 31 and can't wait to share more exciting updates soon." Produced on a grand scale by Lyca Productions, Sigma features Sundeeep Kishen in the lead role, supported by a powerful ensemble cast including Faria Abdullah, Raju Sundaram, Sampath Raj, Shiv Pandit, Anbu Thasan, Yog Japee, and others. The film's technical team includes music composed by Thaman S, cinematography by Krishnan Vasant, editing by Praveen KL, and Hariharasuthan handling VFX supervision.

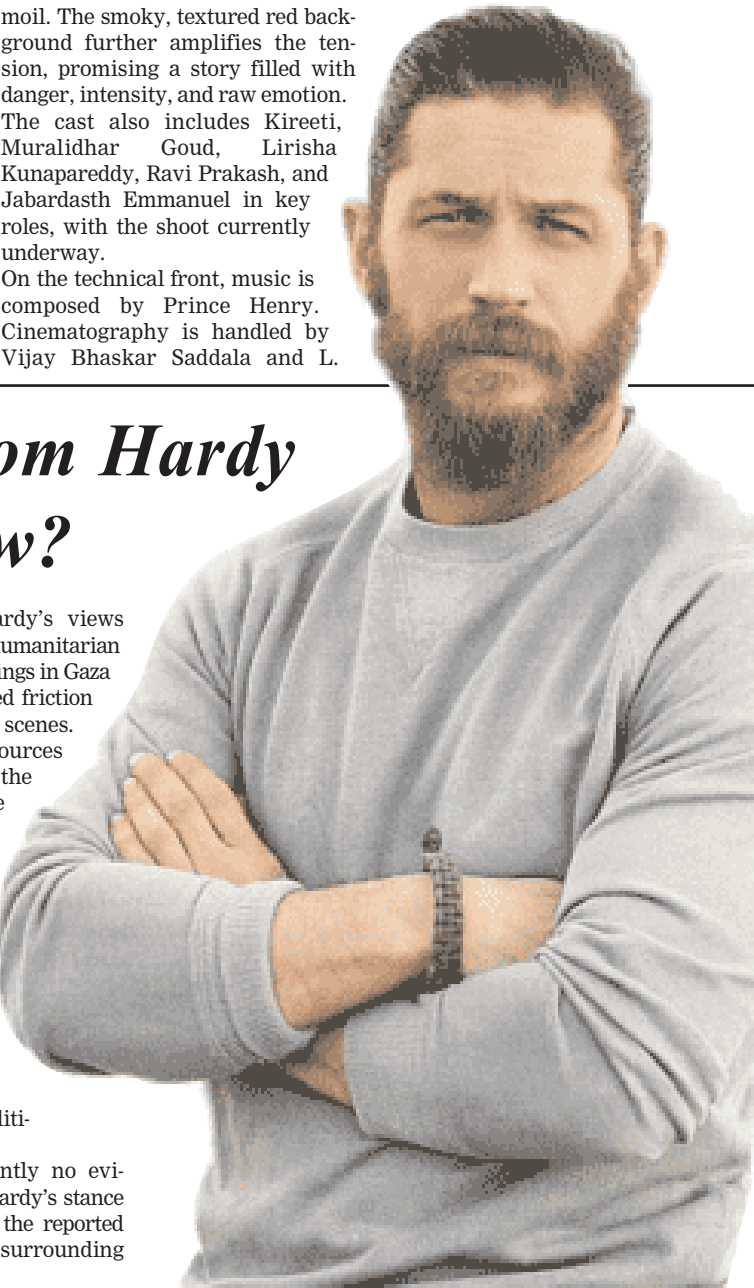
MobLand shocker: Is Tom Hardy really leaving the show?

For days, fans have been asking the same question. Has Tom Hardy been kicked out of MobLand? The rumours exploded online after reports claimed the Hollywood star had clashed with key members of the show's production team. Some fans even linked the controversy to Hardy's public support for humanitarian causes, including his concern over the ongoing conflict and bombings in Gaza, Palestine. Is Tom Hardy Leaving

MobLand Season 3? The answer is no, at least for now. According to fresh reports, Tom Hardy has not been fired from MobLand. Sources close to the production have confirmed that discussions are still ongoing and the door remains open for his return in Season 3. The makers are reportedly working to resolve creative differences and find a way forward.

Why Is Tom Hardy Involved In Controversy? One of the biggest rumours circulating online suggest-

gested that Hardy's views regarding the humanitarian crisis and bombings in Gaza may have caused friction behind the scenes. However, sources familiar with the situation have strongly denied any political fallout involving Hardy and his co-stars. Reports indicate that the tensions were related to production and creative issues rather than political opinions. There is currently no evidence linking Hardy's stance on Palestine to the reported disagreements surrounding the show.



POOJA HEGDE STUNS IN COOL DENIM OUTFIT

Pooja Hegde has faced a tough time at the box office recently with several flops in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. However, her upcoming movie Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, releasing on June 5th, is giving her and her fans a lot of hope and excitement. The film is already creating massive buzz online. The songs and trailer are trending big time, and audiences are loving what they see. It looks like this movie has all the ingredients to become a big hit and bring Pooja back strongly into the spotlight. Meanwhile,

Highlights
■ Pooja Hegde has faced a tough time at the box office recently with several flops in Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi films. However, her upcoming movie Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, releasing on June 5th, is giving her and her fans a lot of hope and excitement.

Pooja is leaving no stone unturned in her promotions. She is stunning everyone with her back-to-back stylish looks. In her latest pictures, she looks absolutely gorgeous in a cool denim outfit, keeping it chic and effortlessly stylish. Fans are rooting hard for her!

SANIA MIRZA PICKS PAKISTANI DESIGNER OUTFIT FOR BAKRID



PEDDI GIRL'S CREAMY TREAT



Janhvi Kapoor is turning heads with her stunning traditional outfits as she promotes her upcoming movie Peddi, set to release on June 4th. The actress has been going all out with her ethnic fashion choices, and fans simply cannot get enough of her gorgeous looks. In her latest pictures, Janhvi looks absolutely breathtaking in a beautiful white embroidered saree. The outfit features intricate lace detailing and a stylish blouse, paired with heavy traditional earrings and a statement waist piece. She kept her long wavy hair open, completing the elegant look perfectly. Her latest pics from the Peddi Delhi pressmeet. Janhvi has been sharing these pictures on social media, and each one is better than the last. Her back-to-back traditional looks for Peddi promotions are creating a lot of buzz online. Fans and fashion lovers are eagerly waiting for the film's release on June 4th!

"Hai Re Strikes a Chord: Anirudh, Thaman & Aniesh Shine in Itlu Arjuna's First Single"

Natural Star Nani Launched Hai Re: A Fresh Breeze Of Music, Voice & Dance. S Thaman's Enchanting Melody, Anirudh Ravichander's Fascinating Vocals & New Guy In Town Aniesh's Elegant Moves Elevate Itlu Arjuna's First Single. Star director Venky Kudumula turns producer for the first time with Itlu Arjuna under his banner What Next Entertainments. The film introduces New Guy in Town Aniesh as the lead, directed by debutant Mahesh Uppala, with Anaswara Rajan as the female lead. From the beginning, the project grabbed attention- the title glimpse caught the attention, while

posters and the special promo Finding Arjuna added extra curiosity. After building anticipation with an announcement video and promo, the makers have now launched the film's first single, kickstarting the musical promotions. The song launched by Natural Star Nani feels warm, catchy, and full of youthful energy. S Thaman composes a lively, fast-paced rhythm number built on a strong, dance-driven electronic and hip-hop beat. The mix of trendy rhythms, mild classical touches, and bright instrumentation makes the track both modern and soulful. Anirudh Ravichander brings spark and charm with his fascinating vocals. His



singing lifts the entire mood, switching smoothly between soft emotion and high-energy hooks. Carnatic-style notes by Sanjana and a short rap segment by Harsha Vardhan

add interesting layers, making the track richer and more vibrant. Lyricist Kalyan Chakravarthy keeps the words simple and heartfelt, capturing the hero's silent

admiration for the girl he follows everywhere but cannot approach. Newcomer Aniesh made a strong impression with his challenging role shown in the promo, and Hai

Re highlights another side of him. This time, he surprises as a dancer. His natural flow, clean moves, and screen presence give the song a fresh visual spark. His hip-hop style and expressive performance make him look like a talent to watch. Anaswara Rajan brings elegance and blends perfectly with the song's mood. With Thaman's energetic composition, Anirudh's magnetic voice, and Aniesh's stylish dance performance, Hai Re becomes an instantly likeable first single- youthful, emotional, and addictive. As Itlu Arjuna gears up for its theatrical release, Hai Re sets the right tone and raises expectations for what's coming next.