

# PEN POWER

POWER OF JOURNALISM

ENGLISH MORNING DAILY

**Sri Geetaansha Digitals**  
 Hyderabad | Visakhapatnam | Kakinada | Vijayawada | Ongole

Compactible Pigment Inks Available at Low Cost  
 News Print Rolls Available at Reasonable cost

For More Details: 93948 55244, 9059465965

Volume : 1 No. 203 VISAKHAPATNAM Saturday, May 30, 2026 Editor: GANTYADA APPARAO Pages : 4 Rs: 5-00

## MGL Gas Pipeline Leak Triggers Alert In Dadar; No Injuries Reported, Area Cordoned Off



**Mumbai:** A gas pipeline leak in Mumbai's busy Dadar area triggered a precautionary emergency response on Friday evening, prompting authorities to cordon off the surrounding area. No fire or injuries were reported in the incident, officials said. The leakage was reported at around 6.01 pm from a Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) pipeline near Anugraha Hotel on Gokhale Road at Sakharan Krushna Marg, opposite Amar Hind Mandal in Dadar (West). According to civic officials, gas was seen spraying out from the damaged pipeline, raising concerns due to the densely populated nature of the locality.

Soon after the incident was reported, teams from the Mumbai Fire Brigade,

Mumbai Police and Mahanagar Gas Limited rushed to the spot. As a safety measure, authorities immediately restricted access to the area and kept people away from the leak site to prevent any untoward incident. According to Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL), the gas pipeline was damaged on Friday evening after being hit by a JCB machine during excavation work being carried out by a third party near Mehwani Restaurant on Gokhale Road in Dadar (West). As a precautionary measure, MGL temporarily suspended gas supply in the affected vicinity to facilitate repair work. The company said impacted consumers are being informed about the temporary disruption and expressed regret for the incon-

venience caused. "There was a gas leak from the pipeline, but no fire broke out and no one was injured," a civic official said. Officials added that emergency teams were working to control the leakage and ensure public safety.

The incident caused brief concern among local residents and commuters, as Dadar is one of Mumbai's busiest commercial and residential hubs. However, the swift response by emergency agencies helped prevent the situation from escalating. Authorities are expected to examine the cause of the leakage once the situation is fully brought under control. Meanwhile, officials have urged citizens to avoid the immediate area until repair work is completed and normalcy is restored.

## BJP To Launch Massive Gujarat Campaign To Mark PM Modi's 12-Year Term

**New Delhi:** The BJP is gearing up for a massive public outreach campaign in Gujarat to mark the completion of twelve successful years of Narendra Modi as prime minister. Announcing the plan, Gujarat BJP Chief Spokesperson Dr Anil Patel said that a series of developmental and welfare programs will be organised across the state from June 5 to June 21. The state-wide campaign will be anchored by the core slogan of twelve years of continuous development, trust, and public

welfare. Dr Anil Patel said that the party will approach the citizens by adhering to the direct report card culture established by PM Modi himself. Under this approach, party workers and leaders will go directly to the public to present a transparent account and detailed information on the various historic achievements and developmental works executed by the central government over the past decade.

The public contact drive is scheduled to kick off on

June 5, which coincides with World Environment Day, and will culminate on June 21, observed globally as the International Day of Yoga. Throughout this fortnightly period, the ruling party will execute multi-faceted initiatives, including cleanliness drives, specialised public welfare camps, and structured conferences under the Viksit Bharat initiative. Party representatives will also actively connect with prominent and influential citizens from various



walks of life to gather feedback and build broader community consensus. Environmental sustainability and rural development will remain central themes during this grand celebration.

## Hormuz Is Shut, Indian Ships Still Passing. Centre Shares 'Secret' Strategy

**Hormuz:** Since Iran entered the war on February 28, the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil routes, has effectively been under blockade. The narrow passage between Iran and Oman carries nearly 20 per cent of global oil and natural gas supplies, and the disruption has rattled energy markets, pushed up fuel prices, and raised fears of wider economic instability across Asia and beyond. Even after the April 9 ceasefire

halted active fighting, the Strait itself remained largely shut, with maritime movement still heavily affected by the conflict. Yet amid the uncertainty, several Indian-linked ships have continued to pass through the risky stretch, helping India maintain energy supplies despite severe disruptions in the region. The movement is significant because Iran holds a major geographical advantage over the Strait and has repeatedly targeted vessels in retaliation for the

US-Israeli strikes on February 28 that triggered the war. **Behind-The-Scenes Coordination** Speaking at an inter-ministerial briefing on Friday, officials from the shipping ministry shed some light on how India has been managing ship movements through the tense waterway, though they did not reveal operational details. "In terms of how we coordinate with India, Iran, how do we decide the priority, I would not like to, you know, tell you how we coor-



minate for obvious reasons. So we coordinate through MEA, and that is where we are," said Opesh Kumar Sharma, director of shipping at the Ministry of Ports. He said vessel priority is worked out jointly with key ministries handling energy and essential supplies.

## High Alert Over Tiger Movement Near Polavaram Forests; Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan Issues Key Directives



**Amaravati, May 29:** The Andhra Pradesh government has gone on high alert following reports of tiger movement in the Polavaram forest region. Forest officials have detected the big cat's presence within the Thimmapuram Reserve Forest area and indicated that it has been moving towards nearby villages. In response, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan conducted a high-level review meeting and directed officials to continuously monitor the tiger's movements. He also instructed authorities to deploy special Hanuman teams if required to ensure public safety. According to officials, the tiger attacked a cattle shed in the Chikilinta Gram Panchayat area, killing nine calves. Another attack on livestock was reported in an oil palm plantation located about 300 meters from the forest boundary. Pawan Kalyan directed the Forest Department to strengthen surveillance using advanced technology and maintain round-the-clock vigilance in villages located along the forest fringe. He emphasized the need to keep residents informed about the tiger's movements and ensure that pre-

ventive measures are taken promptly. The Deputy Chief Minister instructed officials to take all necessary steps

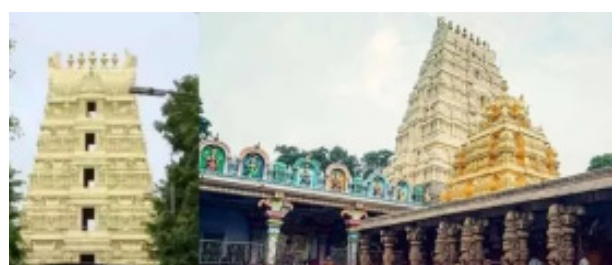


to prevent harm to both people and livestock. He also suggested deploying additional Hanuman teams if the situation warrants it. Further, he directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) to personally oversee the operation and stated that a senior officer from the department's headquarters could be de-

puted to the site if necessary. He stressed that all actions must be carried out in accordance with wildlife conservation regulations.

Pawan Kalyan also ordered a awareness programmes to be conducted in affected villages, advising residents not to venture into forest areas unnecessarily. Farmers were urged not to tether livestock near forest boundaries to reduce the risk of attacks. The Deputy Chief Minister said that immediate compensation had already been provided to the affected farmers and assured that full compensation would be disbursed shortly.

## Srisaillam Temple Suspends Sparsha Darshan for Four Days Amid Expected Rush



**Nandyal, May 29:** In a key decision aimed at managing the anticipated influx of devotees, Srisaillam Devasthanam Executive Officer Srinivasa Rao has announced the temporary suspension of Sparsha Darshan services from Friday through Monday. The EO stated that devotees will be allowed only Alankara Darshan (viewing of the deity in adorned form) during this period. However, devotees who have already secured Sparsha Darshan tickets through the online booking

system will be permitted to avail themselves of the service as scheduled. According to temple authorities, the decision was taken as a precautionary measure in view of the expected heavy pilgrim turnout over the coming days. Officials have advised devotees planning to visit the temple during this period to take note of the revised darshan arrangements and cooperate with temple administration for the smooth conduct of services and crowd management.

## How Did Crores of Rupees Reach a Personal Assistant's Account? Questions Pattabhi

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, May 29:** Swachh Andhra Corporation Chairman K. Pattabhiram on Friday alleged that leaders of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) had siphoned off crores of rupees through the alleged liquor scam and claimed that the investigation was pointing towards key figures associated with the previous administration. Addressing the media in Amaravati, Pattabhiram criticized the YSRCP and sarcastically remarked that the party had its own "P4 model"—Power, Property, Paise (Money), and Partnership. He alleged that the objective of this model was to misuse political power

for personal enrichment. Pattabhiram further alleged that between 2019 and 2024, nearly Rs.20 crore was deposited into the bank account of the wife of K. Nageswar Reddy (KNR), who served as the personal assistant to former Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Questioning the source of the funds, he asked how a personal assistant could accumulate such large sums of money and acquire properties in multiple locations, including Bengaluru. He also claimed that KNR owned assets across three states and called for a thorough probe into the matter. Meanwhile, Special Investigation Team (SIT) of-



officials continued their inquiry into the alleged liquor scam, which has generated significant political attention in Andhra Pradesh. KNR was questioned by SIT officials for a second consecutive day, with Thursday's interrogation reportedly continuing

from 11 a.m. until late in the evening. According to reports, investigators examined details related to his assets and call records as part of the ongoing probe. Officials are said to be looking into the growth of his assets during the 2019-2024 period. The al-

legations made by Pattabhiram and the findings of the investigation are currently under examination by the SIT. The matter remains under investigation, and the individuals concerned have not publicly responded to the latest allegations.

## 120-Year-Old Land Dispute Resolved; Relief for 515 Families Following Minister's Intervention

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, May 29:** A long-pending land issue affecting residents of Vatticherukuru village in Guntur district has finally been resolved, bringing major relief to 515 families. The breakthrough came following the intervention of Andhra Pradesh Revenue, Registration and Stamps Minister Anagani Satya Prasad. Acting on the directions of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, officials conducted a comprehensive review of the issue and initiated steps to remove the village from the prohibited list under Section 22-A, where it had remained for over a century. According to official records, Vatticherukuru has existed since 1134 AD and has functioned as a gram panchayat since 1931. Although residents had been paying taxes for decades,

an error during the Record Settlement Register (RSR) entry process in 2006 mistakenly classified the vil-



lage as a "forefront village tank." Subsequently, in 2008, the entire village was included in the prohibited properties list under Section 22-A(1)(b) of the Registration Act. As a result, villagers faced severe hardships for years, as they were unable to buy, sell, or register their properties. After the coalition govern-

ment assumed office, residents brought the matter to the attention of Minister Anagani Satya Prasad, who directed officials to conduct a detailed inquiry. The investigation confirmed that the village had been wrongly recorded as a water body and that no such water source currently existed in the area. Based on the findings, the Revenue Department issued orders declaring 25.37 acres within the village limits as residential village land (Gramakantham) and removing it from the prohibited list. The decision has been welcomed by villagers, who described it as the end of a decades-long ordeal. Speaking on the occasion, Minister Anagani Satya Prasad said the government was systematically resolving long-pending revenue-related issues and reaffirmed that ensuring justice for the people remains its primary objective.

## OPS Likely for 11,000 Teachers in Andhra Pradesh

**Amaravati, May 28:** The Andhra Pradesh coalition government is set to take a significant decision that could benefit nearly 11,000 teachers by extending the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) to those recruited through the 2002 and 2003 teacher recruitment notifications but appointed after 2004. The government has initiated steps to implement OPS for these teachers following repeated representations from 2003 DSC (District Selection Committee) recruits. The relevant file has reportedly been forwarded to the Chief Minister's Office, marking the beginning of the formal approval process. Official orders are expected to be issued in the coming days. The Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) came into effect in Andhra Pradesh on September 1, 2004. Employees appointed before that date are covered under the Old Pension Scheme, while those who joined service afterward fall under CPS. For several years, employees and teachers have been demanding the abolition of CPS. Among them are around 11,000 teachers selected through the 2002 and 2003 recruitment notifications who, due to administrative and procedural delays, joined service only after 2004 and were consequently brought under the CPS framework. These teachers have consistently argued that since their recruitment notifications were issued before the introduction of CPS, they should be eligible for OPS benefits. Taking this aspect into consideration, the coalition government has reportedly made a preliminary decision to extend the Old Pension Scheme to them. If implemented, the move would provide substantial relief to thousands of teachers who have long sought pension parity based on the timing of their recruitment process rather than their date of joining service. An official announcement is expected after the completion of the necessary administrative formalities.

## EDITORIAL

## Tug of war in Trinamool

Usually, the main reasons for the defeat of any ruling party in elections are anti-people sentiment, failure to deliver on promises, and internal differences within the party. The main reasons for the defeat of the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal are more than anti-people sentiment, but internal differences within the party, especially the policies of the Indian Political Strategy Action Committee (IPAC) led by election strategist Prashant Kishor, which party leaders are now accusing each other of. Now, the old generation of leaders who have worked with the party since the beginning are moving away, which is causing turmoil in the party. Recently, senior leader and former Rajya Sabha member Dr. Shantanu Sen resigned as the party's national spokesperson. Shantanu Sen said that he took this decision after being deeply hurt by the 2024 Ajikar murder case and the continuous allegations of corruption against the party. She said that she did not agree with the party's decisions at various times and openly questioned them on many controversial issues. Senior party MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar not only resigned from all key posts in the party, but also made serious allegations against fellow MP Kalyan Banerjee. She has been serving as the national president of the Trinamool Women's Wing till now. She wrote a letter to the party's state unit president Subrata Bakshi on Wednesday, demanding her removal from all posts including that post. She criticized the high leadership for not paying attention to the allegations of corruption against the party, saying that the way the party led in the RJKar Hospital incident was also frowned upon by the people, and that now that AIPAC has gained control over the party, Mamata Banerjee has no control at all. Despite leaving her posts, she did not resign from her Lok Sabha membership. The party high command recently removed Kakolighosh, a four-time MP from Barasat constituency, from the post of Chief Whip of the Trinamool Parliamentary Party. Kalyan Banerjee has been given the responsibility again. Kalyan Banerjee has also been directly criticizing AIPAC's excessive interference in the party's affairs. It is known that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew and Lok Sabha MP Abhishek Banerjee runs the AIPAC system. MPs Kalyan Banerjee and Kakolighosh accuse AIPAC of sidelining senior leaders and activists who have been working in the party since its inception. They are claiming that AIPAC is acting alone, away from the people. The older generation of leaders in the party are not fond of AIPAC's methods. That is why internal conflicts in the party are increasing day by day. Three weeks after the assembly election results were announced, many people are leaving the party, dissatisfied with AIPAC's methods. A political consultant dismissed the criticism that AIPAC is working parallel to the Trinamool Congress about AIPAC's methods. He said that instead of staying local and permanent like the police, it works like an army that comes, wins and returns to its bases.

But senior Trinamool Congress leaders are criticizing AIPAC for excluding old leaders and treating them as criminals. They are accusing AIPAC leaders of speaking rudely and without proper manners. They are criticizing that they are not paying salaries to the workers who have been working in the party since the beginning, that they are working out of admiration for the party and Mamata Banerjee, and that AIPAC has become accustomed to showing indifference towards such people. Mamata Banerjee first founded the All India Trinamool Congress on January 1, 1998, during the dominance of the Left Front, which once ruled West Bengal politics unilaterally. She worked tirelessly to bring the Trinamool Congress to power in the 2011 assembly elections. However, in the last few years, especially since 2021, AIPAC's influence in Trinamool has increased. Instead of working hard to build relationships with leaders and activists from the grassroots level in the party and garnering support, there has been an increase in the use of private political consultants like AIPAC to get the job done easily. The differences between Mamata Banerjee's experience in the party and Abhishek Banerjee's youth leadership representation have increased. Senior party leaders are opposing measures like proposing to bring a specific age limit in the party and trying to give a big seat to the youth. The power struggle between the senior class and the youth leadership is often a topic of discussion. Group politics is increasing between party workers and local leaders in various districts of the state. In addition, as serious allegations like coal scam and money laundering have been made against Abhishek Banerjee, his family members and close associates and investigations have been launched against them, Mamata Banerjee is staying away from AIPAC and acting neutrally. The inability to recognize their shortcomings unless they finally face defeat at the hands of the people indicates a failure of leadership.

## DK Shivakumar's Agenda: Cabinet Picks, Power Play And Managing Siddaramaiah

With DK Shivakumar, the quintessential organisational man, mostly likely to take over as the new chief minister of Karnataka, the question uppermost on everyone's mind is: can he lift a fatigued Congress government out of its stupor and give it a second wind in time for the next assembly elections in 2028? Or, will his immediate predecessor Siddaramaiah's sense of bitterness arising out of being "let down" by the party high command create impediments in Shivakumar's path to bring about drastic changes? The Congress's history in Karnataka is replete with instances of top-level rivalry resulting in muddled politics that took the party downhill to the advantage of the opposition. The events of 1990s serve as a timely reminder: a seasoned leader, Veerendra Patil's unfortunate exit due to a sudden medical condition resulted in the high command taking one bad decision after another in bad timing S Bangarappa and Veerappa Moily on the chief minister's chair, ignoring several veterans, which included SM Krishna, Mallikarjun Kharge and Dharam Singh. The Congress paid a heavy price as it was banished from power for a decade thereafter. But, this time, a quick and decisive manner in which the transition from Siddaramaiah to Shivakumar was effected, suggests that the Congress high command has learnt its lessons and begun to operate the levers of power at a different level.

**A Well-Choreographed Act**  
In this era of 24x7 television coverage, Rahul Gandhi's mandarins left nothing to chance. Apparently, tough messages had been delivered to both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar's camps, with every move neatly scripted and choreographed: Siddaramaiah

holding a breakfast meeting with his cabinet colleagues where he announced his decision to resign; Shivakumar on entering Siddaramaiah's house, touching his feet and being blessed by the senior man. Despite the absence of the governor, Siddaramaiah, accompanied by Shivakumar and other senior ministers, went to the Lok Bhavan and gave his resignation to the governor's secretary; later, Siddaramaiah held a press conference to formally disclose his resignation and deliver a farewell speech. The optics and messaging couldn't have been planned better. After the successes in Kerala and Tamil Nadu - in the latter's case, taking a bold decision to ditch a long-time ally and becoming part of the government in the state after nearly six decades, the "management" of Karnataka's power shift once again reveals the mindset of a new, ruthless high command which is not averse to taking high risks.

**Young And New Faces**

As Shivakumar prepares to take charge as chief minister in a day or two, the immediate task before the high command will be to try and fill the new cabinet with a lot of fresh and young faces. There are reports suggesting that Rahul Gandhi has instructed Shivakumar to ensure broader representation to Dalits, OBCs and minorities, especially "young and new faces" under the age of 60. Sources say that several long-term associates of Siddaramaiah like HC Mahadevappa, Ramalinga Reddy and Dinesh Gundu Rao may face the axe, while Shivakumar is likely to reward his loyalists including HC Balakrishna, NA Haris, Shivaganga Basavaraj and Lakshmi Hebbalkar, the last named getting an important

portfolio.

In the minorities' category, KJ George, a staunch supporter of Siddaramaiah, may be retained as he has maintained good relations with 10, Janpath, but Zameer Ahmed and Rahim Khan may have to make way for Saleem Ahmed and Rizan Arshad, two 'moderate' youth from the Muslim community. Siddaramaiah's son, Yathindra, entering the cabinet for the first time also appears a certainty. Just as a matter of reminder, one of the first things Siddaramaiah did on laying down office was to fly to Delhi with his son, go straight to 10, Janpath on Friday morning to 'introduce' Yathindra to Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi and get their blessings.

**Race For Deputy Chief Minister Post**

There is a possibility of intense competition for the deputy chief minister's posts. Though there is a demand for four deputy chief ministers, sources say it could be limited to just two. Parameshwara, a senior leader and former Karnataka Congress president, is a frontrunner who will have the backing of Siddaramaiah. But Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is reportedly pushing his son Priyank Kharge's name. Between Parameshwara and Priyank, only one can get in as both belong to the Scheduled Castes category. Satish Jarkiholi, a powerful Scheduled Tribes (ST) leader, is tipped to be the Karnataka Congress chief replacing Shivakumar, but he is also lobbying for a deputy chief minister's post, pointing to the dual role played by Shivakumar until now. As Shivakumar happens to be a Vokkaliga, there is a possibility of bringing in a Lingayat as deputy chief minister, possibly MB Patil, in order to ensure



'parity'. Given the fragile financial position of Karnataka, severely drained by the "five guarantees", people of the state would thank the Vajpayee government for bringing in the 91st Constitution Amendment Act in 2002 which limits the number of ministers to 15 per cent of the strength of the state legislature. In Karnataka's case, the maximum limit is 34.

There have been times when it crossed 50, like during SM Krishna government's last few months due to political pressure. Such excesses are always punished by the electorate as shown by the fact that as many as 31 ministers were trounced in the 2004 assembly polls. So, that should act as a hard lesson for Shivakumar and his mentors in the party high command as they embark on rebuilding the image of the government in Karnataka. It is on the administrative side that Shivakumar's performance will be keenly watched. As deputy chief minister in charge

of Bengaluru, he initiated a number of mega infrastructure projects but they are all crying for funds. The 40-km tunnel project in the heart of Bengaluru, supposed to decongest the city, needs Rs 42,500 crore, the peripheral ring road project meant to develop 'Bengaluru Business Corridor' is projected to cost Rs 21,000 crore, the elevated express corridor is pegged at Rs 15,000 crore and the Bidadi 'AI City Project' slated to feature an international corporate complex, is planned with an investment of Rs 9,000. He has also worked hard to get the approval of the Centre for an ambitious Mekedatu balancing reservoir and drinking water project across river Cauvery which is likely to cost Rs 14,000 or more. Neighbouring Tamil Nadu has opposed this project fearing depletion in the river flow to its agricultural fields, but with the Supreme Court recently rejecting its appeal, Shivakumar is keen to go ahead with it at full speed.

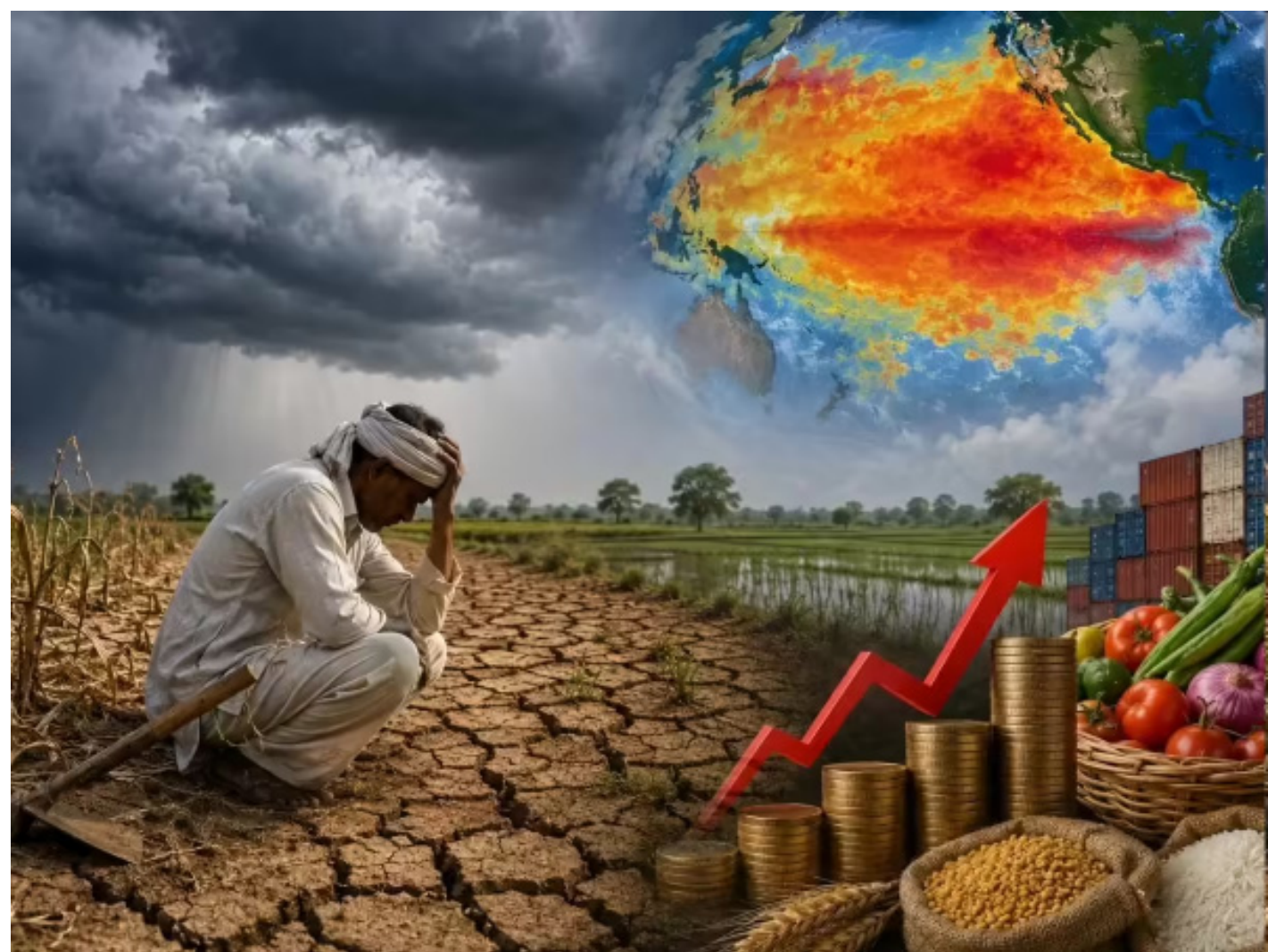
## Fuel Crisis, Inflationary Pressure On Economy, And Now A Deficit Monsoon

The last three months of 2026 have seen considerable inflationary pressure on Indian economy on account of fuel crisis triggered by the Iran war. All sectors of economy are reeling under the pressure. Unemployment is rising, real wages have declined, and living cost is rising fast. Now, there is an additional concern of a deficit monsoon in 2026 after three years. It is a matter of great concern because Indian agriculture depends for 70 per cent of water on monsoon. The monsoon rainfall is also the chief source of groundwater and the waterbodies on the surface.

Currently, neutral El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) conditions are transitioning towards El Nino conditions over the equatorial Pacific region. The latest climate model forecasts, says India Meteorological Department (IMD) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, indicate that El Nino conditions are likely to develop during the southwest monsoon season.

Based on this, in an updated second long-range forecast on May 29, 2026 for the forthcoming southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall during June-September, the IMD has projected 90 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of  $\pm 4\%$ , indicating that below normal rainfall is most likely over the country as a whole.

On April 13, the IMD had issued the first-stage forecast consisting of quantitative and probabilistic forecasts for the country as a whole, and the spatial distribution of probabilistic forecasts for the tercile categories (above normal, normal, and below normal) of the seasonal rainfall. At that time IMD had projected a normal



monsoon to be 92 per cent with a model error of  $\pm 5\%$ . IMD had expected a weak La Nina-like conditions transitioning to neutral ENSO conditions.

However, things changed fast. Quantitatively, for India as a whole, IMD has now predicted lower by 2 per cent and also reduced error level by  $\pm 1\%$ . The current prediction of 90 per cent rainfall with probable error of  $\pm 4\%$  is a matter of serious concern because normal rainfall in India is in the range of 96-104 per cent of the 50-year average of 87 cm during the monsoon season of four

months between June and September. This means India is starting at drought, as the IMD projection indicates, but does not say in words. Since 2016, that is under Modi Raj, the IMD has officially decided to stop using the term "drought" in its reports and forecasts, and replaced the term with two different terms "deficient" (rainfall deficiency  $< 10\%$  and covering 20-40% of the country) or "largely deficient" (deficiency  $> 40\%$  and covering over 40% of the area). Thereafter, the responsibility of declaration of a "drought" is on the state gov-

ernments, based on agriculture and hydrological factors.

Despite the changes in definition and responsibility of the state, PM Narendra Modi government will have to take the prediction seriously, because it may impact the general life conditions of the people of the country on account of food security, and also the adverse impact on the economy that the deficient rainfall is likely to cause. The government has to take actions quickly from now, since June, the first month of the monsoon, is also projected to be below normal, which will

be likely less than 92 per cent.

Earlier, the Southwest monsoon was expected to come by May 26 on the Indian land, but it is still in the sea. IMD now expects that it will come over parts of the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal in the next seven days in the first week of June. Monsoon is delayed in India this year, and El Nino conditions, has weakened the monsoon. It should also be noted that India has historically witnessed deficient rainfall during several El Nino years, at times leading to drought conditions in the country.

## Collector Joins Jaladhara Works with Labourers



**VIJAYAWADA, May 29:** on Friday participated in Jaladhara-Jalaharathi restoration works at Jodichintala Cheruvu in Mulapadu village of and joined MGNREGS workers in desilting activities. The Collector said the district administration is implementing a special plan to restore 445 tanks across the district to improve groundwater levels, water storage capacity, and environmental balance. Works worth ₹87 crore have been identified under the Jaladhara programme through convergence with the employment guarantee scheme. He stated that feeder channels, bund strengthening, and tank restoration works are progressing rapidly to ensure full storage capacity before the next monsoon season. Officials from DWMA, Irrigation, Forest, and Groundwater departments participated in the inspection.

## CCTV Cameras in Hostels for Student Safety: Minister Dola



**VIJAYAWADA, May 29:** said the State government is giving top priority to the welfare and education of SC, ST and BC students by improving infrastructure in social welfare hostels and residential schools. Addressing a felicitation programme organised at on Friday, the Minister said CCTV cameras are being installed in hostels for student safety, along with improved sanitation, quality food, healthcare services and AI-based monitoring systems.

He said the government has sanctioned hundreds of crores for hostel repairs, additional toilets and new buildings. The Minister also stated that IIT and NEET coaching centres have been increased to 10 and excellence centres were newly established. Students, principals, teachers and staff who secured top ranks in SSC and Intermediate examinations for 2025-26 were honoured during the programme.

## 100 Days Employment for Every Job Card Holder: Collector



**Rampachodavaram, May 29:** K. Denesh kumar directed officials to ensure 100 days of employment for every MGNREGS job card holder in Polavaram district. During a review meeting with APOs, Junior Engineers and Technical Assistants of all 12 mandals, the Collector instructed officials to complete all sanctioned works on time and warned of departmental action against those showing poor progress. He also ordered speedy completion of Jaladhara and Jala Harathi works by June 30. The Collector said works worth Rs.190 crore have been sanctioned across the district and stressed that every eligible family should receive employment benefits of up to Rs.30,000 annually through the scheme.

## FOCUS ON STRENGTHENING HEALTHCARE IN TRIBAL AREAS: MINISTER SATYA KUMAR YADAV



**Paderu, May 29:** Andhra Pradesh Health Minister said the government is focused on improving medical infrastructure and healthcare services in tribal areas. Speaking at a review meeting in Paderu on Thursday, the minister said patient footfall in government hospitals has increased significantly and referrals to Visakhapatnam have reduced. He stated that the government aims to provide advanced treatment locally so that tribal patients need not travel outside the district. He also announced expansion of the Paderu Medical College, establishment of Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, strengthening of digital health services, and advanced cancer treatment facilities in the state.

### COLLECTOR RECEIVES PUBLIC GRIEVANCES UNDER "ONE MONTH-ONE VILLAGE-FOUR VISITS" PROGRAMME

**Kakinada, May 29:** Kakinada District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad received 104 public petitions during the "One Month-One Village-Four Visits" programme held at the Tuni MPDO office on Friday. Along with Joint Collector Apoorva Bharat and other officials, the Collector heard grievances related to pensions, house sites, land records, crop losses, roads, drainage, sanitation, and electricity issues. He directed officials to resolve all petitions within the stipulated time and stressed speedy and transparent redressal of public problems at the village level.

## Jagan's PA Allegedly Built Vast Wealth Under Political Patronage, SIT Probe Intensifies

**Amaravati, May 28:** A Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe into the alleged liquor scam in Andhra Pradesh has reportedly uncovered extensive assets linked to K. Nageswara Reddy (KNR), the former personal assistant to ex-Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Investigators are examining allegations that KNR amassed properties worth hundreds

of crores during the YSRCP government's tenure. According to the report, KNR, who was once employed in the private sector with a modest salary, allegedly accumulated substantial wealth after joining Jagan Mohan Reddy's office as a personal assistant. SIT officials have reportedly been scrutinizing his financial transactions, property acquisitions, and alleged links



to individuals connected to the liquor scam investigation. As part of the ongoing inquiry, SIT teams conducted searches at KNR's residence in Machavaram, Vijayawada, and reportedly seized key documents. Authorities are also investigating alleged financial links involving YSRCP spokesperson Shivashankar Reddy and business entities said to have had dealings with KNR.

## Aditya Students Participate in RUDA Internship Programme



**Gandepalli, May 29:** Students of Aditya College of Engineering and Technology, Surampalem, participated in an internship programme conducted under the Rajamahendravaram Urban Development Authority (RUDA), Principal Dr. Adireddy Ramesh said. The programme was inaugurated by RUDA Chairman Boddu Venkata Ramana Chowdary. As part of the internship, students will work on LRS application reports, study land

registration documents and prepare layout drawings using AutoCAD software as per approved guidelines. The layouts will later be mapped with the Rajamahendravaram Master Plan and submitted to planning authorities. A total of 34 Civil and ECE students from Aditya University and Aditya College participated in the programme. The students will receive a monthly stipend of Rs.15,000, the Principal said.

## COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN SOUGHT FOR VISAKHA ECONOMIC REGION PROJECTS

**Visakhapatnam, May 29:** Visakhapatnam District Collector M. Abhishek Kishore directed officials to prepare a comprehensive action plan for implementing 49 proposed projects under the Visakha Economic Region (VER). Chairing a preparatory meeting ahead of Chief Minister's review on June 2, the Collector asked VMRDA to act as the nodal agency and coordinate with GVMC, tourism, revenue, and other departments. Discussions focused on infrastructure development, IT and data centers, adventure theme parks, road connectivity, airport connectivity, housing layouts, and land identification for future needs.



## Infrastructure Push to Boost Industrial Growth in Visakhapatnam

**Visakhapatnam, May 29:** District Collector M. Abhishek Kishore directed officials to prioritize infrastructure development to accelerate industrial growth in the district. Chairing the District Industries Export Promotion Committee (DIEPC) meeting at the Collectorate, he stressed improving roads, power supply, drinking water, and street lighting in industrial parks. The Collector instructed officials to speed up industrial clearances through the Single Window system and resolve pending approvals and land allotments promptly. He also reviewed the progress of PMEGP and PM Vishwakarma self-employment schemes and asked banks and departments to expedite loan sanctions and awareness programs for beneficiaries. Special focus was laid on infrastructure works in Pedagantyada, Autonagar, and Nano Park areas. The Collector also directed officials to arrange RTC electric bus services for employees working in industrial and IT parks and to improve water supply facilities in Autonagar Industrial Park.



## Special Intensive Revision of Voter List in Polavaram District

**RAMPACHODAVARAM, May 29:** On Friday held a meeting with representatives of various political parties on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR-2026) of electoral rolls at the ITDA office conference hall. The Collector said house-to-house verification would be conducted by 399 Booth Level Officers across 399 polling stations in Rampachodavaram Assembly constituency. The revision process includes enrolment of new voters, deletion of deceased voters, correction of entries, address changes and photo updates. He urged eligible youth above 18 years to register as voters and asked the public to cooperate with officials. The draft electoral roll will be published on July 21, while the final voter list will be released on September 22, 2026. The district currently has 2,78,443 voters, including 1,46,132 women and 1,32,293 men, the Collector said.



## FOOLPROOF ARRANGEMENTS FOR CM CHANDRABABU'S DISTRICT TOUR

**Kakinada, May 29:** District Collector M.N. Harendhira Prasad directed officials to make foolproof arrangements for Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's June 1 visit to Chamavaram village in Tuni constituency. The CM will participate in the "Praja Vedika" programme, distribute NTR Bharosa pensions, interact with beneficiaries, and attend a party cadre meeting. Officials were instructed to ensure tight security, helipad and stage arrangements, medical camps, drinking water, sanitation, uninterrupted power supply, and media coordination for the successful conduct of the tour.



## Sriharipuram Branch Conducts Awareness Meet on ECLGS Scheme

**Visakhapatnam, May 29:** An awareness meeting on the ECLGS scheme was organized by the Sriharipuram Branch in Visakhapatnam. Around 20 customers participated and learned about the benefits, eligibility and special features of the scheme. Officials including Birendra Bisht from Naval Base, Ganesh Varma from Malkapuram and RBO officer Himanshu attended the programme. Customer queries were clarified during the session. Branch officials said details of interested customers were collected and follow-up support for business expansion would continue. Representatives from Sriharipuram, Malkapuram, Naval Base, Hindustan Shipyard, HPCL, Gangavaram Port and Pedagantyada participated in the event.



## Janhvi Kapoor Ditches Traditional Pallu For Cape-Style Drape In Ivory Saree For Peddi Promotions



Bollywood star Janhvi Kapoor is currently on a serious fashion streak with the promotions of her upcoming film Peddi. After serving regal glamour in a purple lehenga and turning heads in a dreamy blue chiffon saree, the actress is back with yet another stunning ethnic moment. This time, Janhvi brought modern royalty energy in an ivory saree look that beautifully blended traditional craftsmanship with contemporary drama. For the latest promotional event, Janhvi stepped away from the classic saree drape and embraced a more experimental silhouette in a custom creation by ace designer Anamika Khanna. The actress looked ethereal in an ivory six-yard that blended timeless Indian craftsmanship with modern couture drama. The saree featured intricate embroidery delicately spread across layers of sheer ivory fabric, giving the outfit a soft, romantic appeal. She styled it with a matching blouse, featuring a sweetheart neckline and fitted silhouette. The real showstopper was the unconventional cape-inspired pallu that flowed dramatically from one side of her shoulder. With it the entire look felt regal yet fresh, proving once again why cape drapes are slowly becoming Bollywood's newest saree obsession. Styled by Meagan Concesso and Anshita Jadhvani, Janhvi kept the accessories statement-worthy without taking attention away from the outfit. She paired the saree with oversized jhumkas, statement kadas and a giant ring that added a slightly vintage touch to the dreamy aesthetic. For beauty, the actress opted for soft glam makeup with glowing skin, feathered brows, subtle smoky eyes and flushed cheeks paired with a nude pink lip. Her long hair was left open in soft waves with a centre parting, adding apsara-like vibe to the entire look.

## Sandeep Vanga Brings Another Mad Youth Entertainer

Director Sandeep Reddy Vanga, who created sensational blockbusters like Arjun Reddy, Kabir Singh, and Animal, is now presenting an exciting youthful entertainer titled Romanchakam. The film is being produced by Pranay Reddy Vanga under the Bhadrakali Pictures banner. Whenever the Vanga brothers back a project with fresh talent, expectations naturally go high among movie lovers. Continuing the same trend, Romanchakam is arriving with a promising young team and refreshing concept. The film stars Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar in the lead roles, while debutant Venugopal Reddy is directing the movie. The makers unveiled the title poster today, and it instantly grabbed attention with its colorful youthful vibe and emotional touch.



The poster hints that the film will offer a perfect mix of romance, entertainment, fun moments, and thrilling emotions. The tagline "Love, Laughter & Thrills" has added more curiosity around the project. The fresh pairing of Sumanth Prabhas and Ananthika Sanilkumar looks appealing and is expected to bring a new energy to the film. With several talented youngsters working behind the scenes, Romanchakam is shaping up as an interesting entertainer for the youth. The makers are expected to announce more exciting updates soon.

## Nagabandham: Snakes, Adventures!

The mytho-action thriller Nagabandham, starring Virat Karana, and directed by Abhishek Nama, is gathering serious heat as it approaches its July 3rd theatrical release. The team is leaving no stone unturned in promoting the movie, and each content from the movie made strong impression. Meanwhile, the makers released a theatre standee to place across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The poster presents a world filled with legends, hidden treasures, and deadly serpents. A determined Virat stares seriously as if guarding an ancient secret. Around him are warriors, spiritual figures, adventurers, and enemies from different timelines and worlds. Explosions of fire, crashing ocean waves, treasure piles, and giant snakes suggest a thrilling journey filled with danger, and supernatural power. The artwork feels like a mix of mythology, fantasy, and treasure-hunting adventure. The film, made under the NIK Studios banner, features Nabha Natesh, and Ishwarya Menon playing female leads. With shooting wrapped, top-tier Indian VFX studios are weaving together a CG spectacle aimed at giving audiences a big-screen high.



## Samantha Ruth Prabhu Honours Babu Bomma In Red Hand-Painted Kalamkari Saree For New Telugu Film Trailer Launch

There's something magical about the way Samantha Ruth Prabhu is approaching fashion during her latest film Maa Inti Bangaram promotions. Instead of simply dressing up, the actress often turns every appearance into a visual storytelling moment, and her latest look for the trailer launch of the new movie was exactly that. Draped in a stunning hand-painted Kalamkari saree inspired by the iconic "Babu Bomma" aesthetic, Samantha looked like she had stepped straight out of a Telugu painting brought to life.



### Decoding Samantha's artistic saree look

For the event, Samantha draped a custom creation by designer Archana Jaju as part of "The Babu Bomma Series," a collection inspired by legendary artist Babu's timeless illustrations of women. Known for depicting femininity with softness, grace, and quiet strength, Babu's artistic language became the perfect inspiration for Samantha's latest promotional look. Crafted in handwoven soft silk, the saree featured intricate hand-painted Kalamkari artwork that reportedly took nearly 250 hours to complete. The ensemble beautifully blended traditional craftsmanship with cinematic nostalgia. Rich terracotta and clay-red tones dominated the drape, while touches of yellow ochre and muted green added warmth and depth to the overall palette. What truly made the saree stand out, however, was its storytelling. The drape was adorned with delicate motifs inspired by bows, swords, bangles, florals, bindis, and warrior-inspired detailing. Every element seemed intentionally placed to capture the spirit

of a "Veerangana," a woman who embodies both strength and elegance. Samantha paired the statement saree with a contrasting blouse in earthy terracotta hues featuring a bold yellow stripe and artistic detailing. Rather than overpowering the look with heavy styling, she kept the accessories rooted in classic elegance. A traditional choker necklace, delicate earrings, stacked bangles, and a statement ring completed the ensemble beautifully. Her beauty look stayed soft and glowing, allowing the saree to remain the hero. She opted for radiant skin, subtly defined eyes, soft liner, contoured cheeks, and nude lips. Her side-parted open curls and a tiny red bindi rounded off the traditional look with elegance.

## Animal Girl Stuns In Pink Blazer Look

Bollywood actress Tripti Dimri is back with some gorgeous new photos and fans are absolutely loving it! In the pictures, she is wearing a bright pink blazer over a white top with light blue jeans. She is also wearing cool sunglasses and a gold necklace. The background shows palm trees and open sky, giving total beach holiday vibes. She is looking stylish, fresh and full of confidence. Simply stunning!

Tripti always knows how to grab everyone's attention with her fashion choices. This pink and white combination is giving very chic and trendy look. Her wavy hair and casual yet bold outfit is making the photos super eye-catching. Fans on social media are going crazy in the comments, saying she looks like a movie promotion or just a casual outing, this girl never disappoints! Now coming to her biggest upcoming film, Spirit, directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, where Tripti stars opposite Prabhas, marking her first collaboration with the Baahubali superstar. The first look of the film was dropped on New Year's Day 2026 and showed a gritty, intense story of a protagonist who is emotionally scarred and fiercely aggressive. The film is expected to release in late 2026 or 2027 and fans are already very excited to see Tripti shine in this big pan-India project!

