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**ENGLISH NEWS DAILY** 

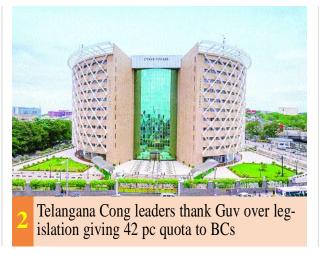
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NEW ERA BEGINS FROM AP, TELANGANA TO AMERICA

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Gujarat and Maharashtra Formation Day celebrated at Raj Bhavan







Trump signs executive order directing federal funding cuts to PBS and NPR

#### IN BRIEF



PM Modi commissions Vizhinjam International Seaport

Thiruvananthap uram: Prime Mini ster Narendra Mo di on Friday officially commissio ned the Vizhinjam International Sea port, here, which was completed at an estimated cost of Rs 8,867 crore. The PM arrived at the port area by helicopter from .... ....(Cont.on P2)



#### Will PM deliver on promise of special status for Andhra: Jairam Ramesh

New Delhi: With Prime Minister Na rendra Modi visiting Amravati, the Congress on Fri day took a swipe at him and asked whether he would deliver on the long-awaited promise of special category status for Andhra Pradesh. The opposition party's (Cont. on P2)



# 3,60,119 applications received for AP EAP CET: Chairman

Kakinada, May 2: JNTUK Vice chan cellor and Chairm an of AP EAP Cet-2025 Prof CS RK Prasad has said that the deadline for filing of applications for appearing for the EAP CET with Rs.1,000 penalty was over by Thur sday and a total of 3,60,119 students had (Cont.on P3)







Central support development

stone, calls Amaravati as central to vision of Vikasit Bharat

K Varaprasada Rao

Amaravati, May 2: Prime Minist er Narendra Modi on Thursday rea ffirmed the Centre's commitment to the rapid construction of Amara vati, hailing the city as a symbol of progress and a driving force behind Andhra Pradesh's transformation into a modern, developed state. He described Amaravati as central to the vision of a "Vikasita Bharat" (Developed India). Addre ssing a massive public gathering after laying the foundation stone f or Amaravati's (Cont.on P5)

# Naidu vows to build Amaravati as capital of pride

- CM outlines Rs 57,962-cr project vision
- Says decentralised growth across all 26 districts is top priority



The Capital News Amaravati, May 2: Chief Minister N. Cha ndrababu Naidu on Th ursday pledged to deve lop Amaravati into a ca pital city that every citizen of Andhra Prades h can proudly call "My

Capital," with full support from the Centre. He reiterated his government's commitmen t to decentralised devel opment across all 26 districts of the State. "Not just the capital, every region will be de veloped," Naidu said, addressing a massive public meeting after Pr ime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Amarava ti's redevelopment. He asserted that the new capital would reflect th e hopes and aspiration s of the(Cont.on P5)

#### No relief for Suresh Productions in SC over Vizag land dispute



New Delhi, May 2: The Supreme Court on Friday declined to grant interim relief to Suresh Productions in connection with the Visakhapatnam Ramanaidu Studio land dispute, advising the petitioner to approach the appropriate forum for redressal.....
...(Cont.on P3)

SOM RASHIII

issues notice to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul in National Herald case New Delhi, May 2: A Delhi court on

**Delhi** court

Herald case
New Delhi, May 2:
A Delhi court on
Friday issued notices
to Congress leaders
Sonia Gandhi and
Rahul Gandhi in the
National Herald
money laundering
case.Special judge
Vishal Gogne said
their "right to be
heard" was available
at the time of cognisance(Cont.on P3)

# India's first quantum tech park coming up in Amaravati

• CM Naidu inks pact with IBM, TCS, L&T



The Capital News
Amaravati, May 2:
Chief Minister N
Chandrababu Naidu
on Friday announced
that the State will

launch full-scale qua ntum computing acti vities in Amara vati from January 1, 2026, marking a significant leap in the country's technology landscape. The government signed a Mem orandum of Und erstanding (MoU) with IBM, Tata

Consultancy Services (TCS), and Larsen & Toubro (L&T) at Naidu's Undavalli residence to this effect.As part of this partnership, Amara vati will become home to India's first and most advanced Quantum Valley Tech Park. Notably, IBM will establish the country's largest quantum computer, the 'Quan tum System Two' equi pped with a 156-qubit Heron(Cont.on P3)



#### interim protection to Jagan's former aides in liquor case

Amaravati, May 2: The Andhra Pradesh High Court on Friday refused to grant interim protection from arrest to former Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's secretary K Dhananjaya Reddy, personal assi stant P Krishna mohan Reddy, and Balaji Govindappa in the ongoing AP liquor scam case.The trio (Cont.on P3)

# Six Lane Krishna River Bridge Now Open



(The Capital News)
Amaravati, May 2:
In a major boost for travellers to Amara vati, a new six-lane bridge spanning 3.11 kilometres across the Krishna River is now open, significantly cutting down travel time and easing traffic congestion. The bridge, part of the western bypass, allo ws commuters to

avoid the usual bottleneck in Vijayawa da.Inaugurated during the Prime Minister's visit and amid renewed construction activity in Amaravati, the bridge offers a direct route from Hyderabad via Gollapudi to Venka tapalem in just five minutes. Similarly, those coming from the....(Cont.on P3)

# TTD launches WhatsApp-based feedback system for pilgrims



(The Capital News) Tirupati, May 2: Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), the official custodian of Lord Venkateswara Swamy temple here, on Friday launched a WhatsApp-based feedback system for pilgrims. Using this

platform, devotees can share feedback on temple services and facilities such as anna prasadam (free food for devotees), cleanliness, laddu prasadam (consecrated sweet), luggage rooms, overall experience and ....(Cont.on P3)



## ANDHRA PRADESH - TELANGANA

#### THE CAPITAL • VIJAYAWADA • FRIDAY • 2 MAY 202

# PM Modi commissions

(From Page 1) Thiruvananthapura m city at 10.15 am and walked around the transshipment hub wearing a hard hat, taking stock of the facilities here. Subsequently, at 11.33 am, he formally commissioned the first phase of the facility in the presence of Kerala Governor Rajendra Arlekar, Minister Chief Pinarayi Vijayan, Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani and Thiruvananth apuram Congress MP Shashi Tharoor. Located in Thiruva nanthapuram district, the port is expected to transform India's role in international trade and shipping. The deep-water port has been developed by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ), India's largest port developer and part of the Adani Group, under a public-private partnership. Following a successful trial run, the port received its commercial commissioning certificate on December 4 last year.

#### Telangana govt releases Heatwave Action Plan for summer

Hyderabad, May 2 Telangana government on Friday released a Heat wave Action Plan (HAP) to deal with the severe heat conditions which are likely to prevail in the state up to June.State Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, who released the HAP, said a nodal officer has been appointed for each district.Reddy, who held a meeting with officials, said 588 of the total 612 mandals in the state have been identified as heatwavehit mandals.He said the government had on April 15 designated heatwave and sunstroke as "State-Specific Disasters" and that the ex-gratia for deaths due to heatwave had been increased from Rs 50,000 to Rs four lakh.The minister asked officials to make arrangements to distribute butter milk and ORS packets along with drinking water in 'chalivendram' (water kiosks). The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds of corporate companies can be tapped for the purpose, he said.He asked the officials to publicise the precautions to be taken in summer through public announcements and LED screens in bus

stations, markets.

# Gujarat and Maharashtra Formation Day celebrated at Raj Bhavan



(The Capital News) Vijayawada, May 2: Governor of Andhra Pradesh Sri S. Abdul Nazeer has participated as Chief Guest at the Gujarat and Maharashtra Forma tion Day celebrations held in Durbar Hall at Raj Bhavan here on Friday, under 'Ek Bharat Shresth Bha rat' programme. Spe aking on the occasion, Governor Sri Abdul Nazeer said the people of Gujarat actively participated in the country's freedom movement and made significant contribution to India's freedom struggle. He said that Maharashtra gave us many prominent freedom fighters and social reformers like Vinoba Bhave, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Mahatma **Jyotiba** 

Phule, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Nanaji Desh mukh and others. After formation of separate States, both Gujarat and Maha rashtra have prospered immensely and achieved tremendous progress, while contributing to the country's economic development to a large extent, said the Governor. He said the 'Ek Bharat Shresth Bharat' programme aims to enhance interaction and promote mutual understanding between people of different states and Union Territories through the concept of 'One Nation One People.'Earlier, video messages of Sri Acharya Devvrat, Governor of Gujarat and Sri C.P. Radha krishnan, Governor

of Maharashtra were played. Dr. J.M. Bhagwat of School of Planning Architecture, Sri Desai, Deepak President of Sri Vijayawada Gujarat Samaj and Ms. N. Tanisha Vijayawada Maratha Mandal spoke on the occasion, followed by a patriotic song sung by Sri Navin Patel and a Garba dance performance by Smt. Hansaben Patel and group. Dr. M. Hari Jawaharlal, Secretary to Governor and officers and staff members of Raj Bhavan, students of Gujarat Maharashtra studying in various educational institutions in and around Vijayawada attended the programme.

# MP Kalisetty Rides Bicycle to Mark Resumption of Amaravati Construction The Capital News

Amaravati, May 2: In a symbolic gesture celebrating the revi val of Amaravati's development, MP Kalisetty Appala naidu rode a bicycle to Velagapudi to attend the official event marking the resumption of construction in the capital region. Before beginning his journey, the MP sought blessings at the Kanaka Durga temple, underscoring the spiritual and cultural significance of the moment.Speaking at the event, Appalan aidu expressed optimism about Amara vati's future, declaring, "The aspirations of farmers who gave lands Amaravati are finally



being fulfilled." He affirmed that under the leadership of the Chief Minister and the coalition government, Amaravati will become the permanent capital of Pradesh. Andhra "Amaravati is poised to play a key role on the global stage," the MP said, adding that the state will also emerge as a frontrunner in artificial intelligence and modern

He technology. emphasized that the capital's development is not just a regional ambition but a national milestone in innovation and governance. The MP's bicycle ride symbolized a return to purpose and progress, resonating with the hopes of thousands who have long awaited the revival of Amaravati's develop-

# Couple held for cheating 41 investors of Rs nine crore in Telangana

Hyderabad, May 2 (The Capital News): A couple was arrested by Cyberabad Police for allegedly cheating 41 people across Telangana of Rs nine crore after collecting investments from them promising high monthly returns in their dairy farm business. The officials of the Economic Offence Wing (EOW) busted the racket and arrested the accused on May 1, a police official said on Friday.The accused couple and another person gave advertisements in Telugu and English newspapers in June-2022 under the caption "Business Offer", seeking investment for their dairy farm situated in Ranga Reddy district, claiming monthly guaranteed income over 16 years and gave a mobile number, a release from Cyberabad Police said. When interested people contacted the number, the accused spoke with them in an inducing manner by exploring high



about their dairy farm business and lured them with the promise of monthly returns between Rs 2 and Rs 5 lakh, police said.Later, the potential investors were taken to the farm where the accused showed them a cattle shed, dairy cattle, and milk processing units, police said. The accused collected money from the people, but closed the dairy business in March this year after being unable to generate enough income and abscon ded.Based on the complaint by the victims, a case under relevant sections of BNS was registered at EOW Police Station and during the course of the investigation, the couple were arrested on Thursday, the official said.

# Scrap Art steals the spotlight at Amaravati capital works relaunch venue

A series of striking scrap iron sculptures at the Amaravati capital works relaunched venue have emerged as a major highlight of the event. These unique installations crafted from discarded nuts, bolts, and iron pieces—have captivated attendees, including the Prime Minister himself. Created by renowned Tenali-based artist Katuri Venkateswara Rao and his team, the sculptures blend creativity with symbolism.Featured works include a figure of Prime Minister Modi, a statue of former Chief Minister Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao (N.T.R), a model of the Telugu Desam Party's cycle symbol, a sculpture of Buddha representing Amaravati, a Dharma

**The Capital News** 



Chakra, and the lion emblem of the 'Make in India' initiative. The phrase "Ama ravati Re-Constru ction 2-5-2025" has also been artistically shaped from iron scrap. Stainless steel portraits of PM Modi and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu add to the visual appeal. Venkateswara Rao shared that the

sculptures were created to reflect the aspirations of the people and honor the occasion. "We wanted to present a unique art installation to mark this historic event," he said, noting that scrap materials were sourced from cities including Guntur, Hyderabad, Visakh apatnam, and Chenn ai.The art display has

drawn large crowds, including local farmers and visitors, many of whom expressed deep admiration for the work. Venkates wara Rao added that the team plans to propose the permanent installation of these sculptures at key locations across Amaravati as symbols of the city's rebirth.

# Telangana Cong leaders thank Guv over legislation giving 42 pc quota to BCs

The Capital News Hyderabad, May 2: May 2:Ruling Congress leaders in Telangana on Friday thanked Governor Jishnu Dev Varma for forwarding the legislation that increases reservation to backward classes to 42 per cent for Presidential assent.The Legislative Assembly in March this year passed two bills to increase the reservation to backward classes to 42 per cent in educational institutions, employment,



a "role model" in the and local body posts. Speaking to reporters country.Congress leaders, belonging to after meeting the Governor, backward classes, state Backward Classes thanked the Governor for sending the legis-Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar to lation President.Saying that said the legislation providing 42 per cent Telangana took the quota, preceded by a initiative in conductcaste survey, stood as ing caste survey, he

welcomed Centre's decision to include caste enumeration in the general census. State Congress president B Mahesh Kumar Goud said the decision to provide 42 per cent reservation for BCs is historic. The credit for the Centre's decision to include caste enumeration in census goes to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi who was the "first national leader" to raise the issue of caste survey, Goud said.

# SIT takes liquor scam accused Raj Kesireddy into custody

The Capital News Vijayawada, May 2: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Friday took liquor scam prime accused Raj Kesireddy into custody for interrogation, following court orders permitting a week-long custodial remand.SIT officials arrived at Vijayawada district jail early in the morning and escorted Kesireddy to Government General Hospital for mandatory medical



tests. After the examination, he was shifted to the SIT office for questioning. As per the court's directive issued on Thursday, Kesireddy will be in SIT custody from 8 am to 6 pm daily for one week, after which he will be returned to jail each evening. The

SIT is expected to press him for details related to the alleged commission network and political links in the scam. This development comes a day after SIT officers apprehended Kesireddy's personal assistant, Dileep, at Chennai airport while allegedly attempting to flee to Dubai. Dileep is believed to have acted as a liaison between distillery owners Kesireddy. His call data and statements

are said to have provided vital leads for the next phase of the probe.Officials said the week-long custodial interrogation of Kesireddy will focus on tracing the flow of illicit commissions, identifying key players involved, and uncovering the command chain behind the Investigators hopeful that crossquestioning based on Dileep's disclosures will yield critical

breakthroughs.

# Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif's YouTube channel blocked in India

New Delhi, May 2 (The Capital News) Pakistan Prime Mini ster Shehbaz Sharif's YouTube channel was blocked in India on Friday amid ongoing tension between the two countries following the deadly terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Paha lgam."The content is currently unavailable in this country because of an order from the government

related to national security or public order. For more details about government removal reque sts, please visit the Google Transp arency Report," read a message on the blocked channel.The government had earlier this week blocked 16 Pakistani YouTube channels for allegedly disseminating "false, provocative and communally sensitive

content" about India and has also strongly objected to the BBC's reportage on the Pahalgam attack.The government's move follows recommendations from the Mini stry of Home Affairs in the wake of the April 22 terror attack in the upper reaches of the Kashmir resort town in which 26 people, mostly touri sts, were killed. Besi des, the Ministry of

External Affairs will be monitoring the reporting of the BBC, which termed terrorists as militants, officials had said.The YouTube channels blocked are Dawn News, Irshad Bhatti, SAMAA TV, ARY NEWS, BOL NEWS, Raftar, The Pakistan Reference, Geo New s, Samaa Sports, GNN, Uzair Cricket, Umar Cheema Exclu

THE CAPITAL • VIJAYAWADA • FRIDAY •

# Well-being of senior citizens essential for guiding families, society: Murmu

New Delhi, May 2 (The Capital News): Emphasising the role of senior citizens as pillars of wisdom and tradition, President Droupadi Murmu on Friday called for collective responsibility to ensure the dignity, happiness, and wellbeing of India's elderly population. Speaking at the 'Ageing with Dignity' programme hosted at the Rash trapati Bhavan here, Murmu underscored the invaluable contribution of senior citizens in shaping society and guiding future generations. "Senior citizens are a vital link

to our past and guides to our future," she said, urging all citizens to remain committed to their welfare and learn from their vast experiences."Our senior citizens represent wisdom, prudence, and tradition. We must ensure that their dignity and health are a shared duty," she said. She appealed to citizens to "honour their presence, value their guidance, and cherish their companionship." Lauding the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) for initiating measures aimed at ensuring dig-



nity in the lives of the elderly, she appreciated the launch of a dedicated portal for senior citizens, describing it as a "one-stop digital platform" to support their needs. The presi-

dent pointed to cultural values that uphold respect for elders, saying, "Respect for parents and elders is embedded in our traditions. In many households, children are

grandparents. Often, what children won't accept from their parents, they gladly accept when told by a grandparent."She also acknowledged emotional and psychological support that elderly family members offer."When elders see their families thriving, their physical and mental well-being also improves. They are emotional pillars for their families," she said.However, Murmu expressed concern over the evolving challenges faced by the elderly."With economic growth and modernisation, young people often migrate for jobs, leaving behind elders who crave love and respect. Someti mes, even when parents live with their children, they don't receive the affection and dignity they deserve. Sadly, some people even consider the elderly a burden," she said. Calling them a "storehouse of knowledge," she highlighted their potential to guide the youth and strengthen the nation's progress."Our senior citizens can lead society and the country towards greater prosperity," she said.

## Vaishnaw pitches for shared standards, clear rules for ethical use of AI

Mumbai, May 2 (The Capital News) Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday made a strong pitch for joint funds for new technologies, shared standards and clear rules for ethical use of artificial intelligence. Addressing the Global Media Dialogue at the World Audio, Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) here, he said tie-ups between government, industry and creators had become indispensable as there was greater focus on local stories. The I&B Minister said the global media dialogue was anchored in creativity, culture and collaboration."As a government, we must provide a fair chance for everyone to showcase their story to the world. We must incentivise local content promotion and enforce IP framework among other things," Vaishnaw said, addressing the Dialogue, attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Minister of State for I&B L Murugan, and representatives for several countries. Vaishnaw also said that governments must support policies that preserve and promote all cultural forms as they connect people across borders."Focus is shifting towards local stories. We aim to build people-to-people and country-tocountry exchanges," he said. "Tie-ups with government, industry and creators have, therefore, become indispensable. Practical steps include co-production treaties to ease licences and talent movement. We need joint funds for new tech, shared standards, and clear rules for ethical AI,"

# SC refuses to entertain fresh plea challenging Waqf (Amendment) Act

New Delhi, May 2 (The Capital News) The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a fresh plea challenging constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.A bench comprising Chief Jus tice Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K V Viswanathan is sche duled to hear petitions on the issue on May 5. The bench, which had earlier made it clear it will hear only five of the over 70 litigants, today again said that no more fresh pleas will be entertained on the issue."If you have some additional grou nds, you can file an intervention application," the CJI told the

counsel for petitioner

WAQE Mohammad

Sultan.On April 29, the bench refused to entertain 13 petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Act."We are not going to increase the number of petitions now... This will keep on piling and would become difficult to handle," it said.On April 17, the bench decided to hear only five of the pleas before it and titled the case: "In Re: Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025". The Centre then assured the

bench it will neither denotify waqf properties, including "waqf by user", nor make any appointments to the central waqf council and boards till May 5.About 72 petitions were filed against the law. They included those by AIMIM leader Asa duddin Owaisi, All India Muslim Perso nal Law Board (AIM-PLB), Jamiat Ulamai-Hind, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and Congress MPs Imran Pratap garhi and Mohammad

Jawed.While appointing three lawyers as nodal counsel, the bench asked the advocates to decide among themselves who was going to argue."We clarify that the next hearing (May 5) will be for the preliminary objections and for an interim order," the bench said. The Centre rece ntly notified the Act, which got President Droupadi Murmu's as sent on April 5, after its passage in Par liament following heated debates in both houses.The bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha with 128 members voting in favour and 95 opposing it. It was cleared by the Lok Sabha with 288 members supporting it and 232 against it.

# Delhi CM carries out inspection of waterlogged roads in Delhi after heavy rains

New Delhi, May 2 (The Capital News) Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday visited the Majnu Ka Tila area following heavy rainfall in the city and directed officials to begin repair work on potholes and sewers to help prevent waterlogging during the upcoming monsoon season."Waterlogging remains a concern in several parts of Delhi due to clogged drains and damaged roads, "Gupta said. "Official s have been instructed to promptly identify all vulnerable spots and begin necessary work, such as desilting drains and repairing or constructing roads, to avoid such issues during the monsoon," she told PTI Video. She also



said all BJP MLAs are inspecting their respective constituencies to assess and address waterlogging problems.Delhi PWD Parvesh Sahib Singh also inspected the Minto Bridge area and shared a video of the

site. "Due to unseasonal, record rainfall, water accumulated at several locations. All four pumps at Minto Bridge were operational. A burst pipe was also found and will be repaired," he said. He added that drain cleaning work

is being carried out by various civic agencies, including the PWD, MCD, DJB, NDMC, and IFC. Heavy rain, accompanied by a dust storm and strong winds, swept through Delhi early Friday morning. The downpour led to waterlogging in many areas, uprooted trees, delayed flights, and caused traffic disruptions across the city. The India Meteoro logical Department (IMD) had issued a red alert for the city as the city saw rainfall, strong winds and dust storm.Three flights were diverted and over 200 flights were delayed at the Delhi airport as thunderstorms and gusty winds disrupted oper-

#### Six Lane Krishna River..(From P1)

Godavari districts and coastal Andhra can bypass Vijayawada by joining the route near Chinna Avutapalli, reaching Amaravati in under 30 minutes. Designed for efficiency and safety, the bridge features separate lanes, dividers, signage, and lighting systems. It also facilitates the movement of heavy vehicles and construction materials vital to Amaravati's ongoing development.Locals and commuters have welcomed the infrastructure upgrade, citing its importance for daily travel and government access. For those heading to the Secretariat, High Court, and other key offices, the new bridge is expected to be a game-changer.

Will PM deliver on promise of...(From P1)
jibe came ahead of Prime Minister Modi's programme in Amravati to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for projects worth Rs 58,000 crore, including resuming the construction of the greenfield capital city. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh asked that since he has started implementing the vision of the Congress' Nyay Patra with the announcement of the caste census, will he also deliver on the long-awaited promise of Special Category Status for Andhra Pradesh."He had promised the same in the holy city of Tirupati in March 2014," Ramesh said." Additionally, several other commitments made in the AP Reorganisation Act remain unfulfilled - including the Kadapa Steel Plant, Duggirajupatnam Port, the Kakinada Petro complex, and an Agricultural University for the state," the Congress leader said in a post on X."He has dragged his feet on these for ten years - will he finally deliver on them?" Ramesh said. The Centre on Wednesday announced that caste enumeration will be part of the next population census, with the inclusion of caste details for the first time since Independence. The Congress has said that the pressure it put on the government for the caste cen-

India's first quantum tech park...(From P1)

processor, in Amaravati, a first-of-its-kind deployment in India. Calling it a "historic day not only for Andhra Pradesh but for the entire nation," the Chief Minister said the initiative will place the State at the forefront of the emerging quantum revolution. "Just as we led India's IT revolution in the 1990s, we now aim to lead the quantum revolution. Amaravati will be our Quantum Valley," Naidu declared. He emphasized that future innovations in artificial intelligence, biology, material sciences, and cryptography will be rooted in quantum computing and called on IBM and TCS to model Amaravati after Silicon Valley in the U.S.The government has already allocated land to L&T, and two special committees will be formed, one to oversee infrastructure progress and the other to guide system development. Naidu also stated that the project details would soon be presented to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.TCS CTO Dr. Harik Win described the MoU as a landmark moment for hybrid computing, with quantum-classical integration poised to deliver breakthroughs in diverse fields ranging from pharmaceuticals to encryption.

#### TTD launches WhatsApp-based.. (From Page 1)

others."TTD has introduced a new WhatsApp system to streamline and enhance the process of collecting feedback from pilgrims visiting Tirumala and Tirupati. This initiative aims to improve transparency, service quality, and devotee satisfaction," said the temple body in a release. Pilgrims can share their feedback by scanning QR codes placed at various locations across Tirumala and Tirupati. Upon scanning, they will be directed to a WhatsApp interface where they can submit their feedback in a few simple steps. Feedback can be shared in text format or video uploads, offering ratings such as good, average or not good, along with the opportunity to post additional comments and videos."TTD management will thoroughly review all feedback received and take necessary actions to address concerns and improve services," the release said. This digital initiative is part of TTD's continued commitment to providing a spiritually enriching and comfortable experience to all devotees, the temple body

# **HC** denies interim protection

**to...**(From Page 1)

had filed anticipatory bail petitions fearing arrest after their names reportedly surfaced during the interrogation of other accused already in custody. However, the prosecution sought more time to present detailed records before the court. Considering the prosecution's request, the High Court made it clear that no interim orders, including protection from arrest, could be passed at this stage. The bench adjourned the matter to next Wednesday (May 7) for further hearing. The court also noted that anticipatory bail could not be considered prematurely and advised the petitioners to wait until the prosecution places its submissions on record. Government counsel informed the court that legal instructions were awaited from the State administration. The developments come amid intensified investigation by the SIT, which recently arrested Raj Kesireddy, a key accused in the case, along with his personal assistant, Dileep. Both are believed to be central to the alleged network involving illicit commissions in the liquor trade.

#### **Delhi court issues notice to....** (From Page 1)

of the chargesheet."Right to be heard at any stage breaths life into fair trial," the judge said, posting the matter on May 8. The ED, which filed its chargesheet recently, began its probe in 2021 after a magistrate court took cognisance of a private complaint filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy on June 26, 2014. The complaint, the ED said, highlighted a "criminal conspiracy" by several prominent political figures, including the first family of the Congress party led by Sonia, her MP son Rahul, late Congress leaders Motilal Vora and Oscar Fernandes aside from Dubey, Pitroda and a private company Young Indian for their alleged involvement in money laundering in relation to the fraudulent takeover of properties valued over Rs 2,000 crore belonging to the Associated Journals Limited (AJL). Congress leaders Sonia and Rahul are majority shareholders of Young Indian with 38 per cent shares held by each one of them. They were questioned for hours by the ED in this case a few years

#### 3,60,119 applications received .... (From Page 1)

applied till now. While for engineering stream 2,78,896 applications received, for agriculture and pharmacy stream 80,313 had applied and for both the streams 910 students applied. Those yet to apply, they can apply online with Rs2,000 penalty up to May 7, with Rs.4,000 penalty up to May 12 and finally with Rs. 10,000 penalty up to May 16' he added. EAP CET convenor Prof VV Subbarao said that the EAP CET online exam would be conducted in 46 centers in Andhra Pradesh and in two regional centers in Hyderabad—thus in a total of 48 centers. He advised the students if by mistake any wrong information was given in the application, they could get it corrected by contacting the EAP CET help line center. He made it clear that those opted Urdu medium, they would be allowed to write the exam only in Kurnool regional center .Prof Subbarao further advised the students to down load their hall tickets from May 12 through the APEAP CET website or through the `Mana Mithra ' whatsap governance introduced by state government .If the students have any doubts they could contact either by dialing 0884-2359599, 0884-2342499 landline numbers or e-mail id ` helpdeskapeapcet@apsche.org, he added.EOM

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### **PHOTO FEATURE**

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The scenes at Amaravati capital works relaunch venue







Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu inks an MoU with IBM, TCS, L&T as part of quantum valley at AP Secretariat on Friday

Photos: Y. Daya Anand, Sr. Photo Journalist

#### THE CAPITAL • VIJAYAWADA • FRIDAY • 2 MAY 2025

















Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, governor Abdul Nazeer and several ministers, MLAs leaders welcoming Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Gannavaram Airport and also Helipad at Velagapudi in Amaravati on Friday













The scenes at Amaravati capital works relaunch venue. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Nara Lokesh and several officials discussing at the venue







The farmers of Amaravati celebrating Amaravati capital construction works relaunch with rally in advance to PM Modi's visit

THE CAPITAL • VIJAYAWADA • FRIDAY • 2 MAY 2025

# Trump signs executive order directing federal funding cuts to PBS and NPR

Washington, May 2 (The Capital News) President Donald Trump on Thursday signed an executive order aiming to slash public subsidies to PBS and NPR as he alleged "bias" in the broadcasters' reporting. The order instructs the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and other federal agencies "to cease Federal funding for NPR and PBS" and further requires that that they work to root out indirect sources of public financing for the news organisations. White House, in a social media posting announcing the signing, said the outlets "receive millions from taxpayers to spread radical, woke propaganda disguised as 'news.""It's the latest

his administration to utilize federal powers to control or hamstring institutions whose actions or viewpoints he disagrees with. Since taking office, Trump has ousted leaders, placed staff on administrative leave and cut off hundreds of millions of dollars in funding to artists, libraries, museums, theatres and others, through takeovers of the John F. Kennedy Centre for Performing Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities. Trump has also pushed to withhold federal research and education funds from universities and punish law firms unless they agreed to eliminate diversity programs and other

move by Trump and



measures Trump has found objectionable. The broadcasters get roughly half a billion dollars in public money through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, have been preparing for the possibility of stiff cuts since Trump's election, Republicans have long complained about them.Paula Kerger, PBS' CEO and president, said in a statement last month that the Trump administration's effort to rescind funding for public media would "disrupt the essential service PBS and local member stations provide to the American people." "There's nothing more American than PBS, and our work is only possible because of the bipartisan support we have always received

from Congress," she said. "This public-private partnership allows us to help prepare millions of children for success in school and in life and also supports enriching and inspiring programs of the highest quality." The Corporation for Public Broadcasting sued Trump earlier this week over his move to fire three members of its five-person board, contending that the president was exceeding his authority and that the move would deprive the board of a quorum needed to conduct business. Just two weeks ago, the White House said it would be asking Congress to rescind funding for the CPB as part of a \$9.1 billion package of cuts. That package, however, which budg-

et director Russell Vought said would likely be the first of several, has not yet been sent to Capitol Hill. The move against PBS and NPR comes as his administration has been working to dismantle the U.S. Agency for Global Media, including Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, which were designed to model independent news gathering globally in societies that restrict the press. Those efforts have faced pushback from federal courts, who have ruled in some cases that the Trump administration may have overstepped its authority in holding back funds appropriated to the outlets by Congress.

## China says assessing US proposals for talks to reduce tariffs

Beijing, May 2 (The Capital News) China on Friday said it is assessing whether to start trade talks with the US on tariff reductions following recent approaches by Washington.China is making assessments as the United States has recently reached out to convey messages to China through relevant parties many times, expressing hope to engage in talks with Beijing over tariff issues, the Chinese Commerce Ministry said in a statement here. The tariff and trade wars were unilaterally initiated by the United States. If the US wants to negotiate, it must demonstrate sincerity, and make preparations and take concrete actions on issues such as correcting its erroneous



practices and lifting the unilateral tariffs, the statement by its spokesperson said. US President Donald Trump slapped 145 per cent tariffs on Chinese exports. Later the White House said Tariffs on Chinese goods amou nted to 245 per cent.Beijing retaliated by imposing 125 per cent levies on US exports.China has been denying any talks with the US on tariffs while Trump said talks were on and Chinese Presi dent Xi Jinping spoke to him. The Chinese Foreign Ministry denied any such talks between the two Presidents.

# **US** hopes Pakistan cooperates with India against terrorists: Vance on Pahalgam attack

New York, May 2 (The Capital News) Vice President JD Vance has said that US hopes that India will respond to the Paha lgam terrorist attack in a way that does not lead to a "broader regional conflict" and expects Pakistan to "cooperate" with New Delhi to "hunt down" militants sometimes operating from their soil. Vance made these remarks on Thursday in an interview with Fox News. Vance and his family were in India on a fourday visit when the attack - the worst since the Pulwama strike in 2019 - took place."Our hope here is that India responds to this terrorist attack in a way that doesn't lead to a broad-



er regional conflict, Vance said on Fox News's 'Special Report '.After being asked, "You worried about India and Pakistan? ""Well, sure, I'm worried about any time you see a hot spot breaking out, especially between two nuclear powers," Vance said. "We've obviously been in close contact with our friends in India and Pakistan. Our hope here is that India responds to this terrorist attack in a way that does not lead to a broader regional conthe Vice-

that they're responsible, cooperates with India to make sure that the terrorists sometimes operating in their territory are hunted down and dealt with. That's how we hope this unfolds, we're obviously in close contact. We'll see what happens," Vance said. Remarks by Vance assume significance amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan in the aftermath of the Pahalgam attack, in which 26 people were killed. Vance, who was in India last month, had then condemned the attack and expressed solidarity with the victims and President said."And we their families in a post

hope, frankly, that on X.The Pahalgam ter-Pakistan, to the extent ror attack on April 22, which claimed 26 lives, drew swift and widespread condemnation from global leaders, who expressed solidarity with India and denounced terrorism. The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy of the banned Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility for the attack. Follo wing the Pahalgam attack, the deadliest in the Valley since the Pulwama strike in 2019, India downgraded diplomatic ties with Pakistan and announ ced a raft of measures, including suspension of the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 and immediate shutting down of the Attari land-transit post.

# **Trump Admin Urges Supreme Court to End Protections for 350,000 Venezuelans**

(The Capital News) The Trump administration on Thursday asked the Supreme Court to strip temporary legal protections from 350,000 Venezuelans, potentially exposing them to being deported.The Justice Depart ment asked the high court to put on hold a ruling from a federal judge in San Francisco that kept in place is granted in 18-month Status for have otherwise expired same day a federal last month.The status allows people already in the United States to live and work legally because their native countries are deemed unsafe for return due to

Washington, May 2 strife. A federal appeals court had earlier rejected the administration's request.President Donald Trump's administration has moved aggressively to withdraw various protections that have allowed immigrants to remain in the country, including ending TPS for a total of Venezuelans 500,000 Haitians. TPS Temporary Protected increments. The emerthe gency appeal to the Venezuelans that would high court came the judge in Texas ruled disrupt the lives of hunillegal the administration's efforts to deport Venezuelans under an 18th-century wartime law. The cases are not related.The protections natural disaster or civil had been set to expire President



April 7, but US District Judge Edward Chen ordered a pause on those plans. He found that the expiration threatened to severely dreds of thousands of people and could cost billions in lost economic activity.Chen, who was appointed to the bench by Democratic

Obama, found the government hadn't shown any harm caused by keeping the program alive.But Solicitor General D. John Sauer wrote on behalf of the administration Chen's order impermissibly interferes with the administration's power over immigration and foreign affairs.In addition, Sauer told the justices, people affected by ending the protected status might have other legal options to try to remain in the country because the "decision to terminate TPS is not equivalent to a final removal order." Cong ress created TPS in 1990 to prevent deportations to countries suffering from natural disasters or civil strife.

Naidu vows to build Amaravati....

it is the emotional and aspirational identity of five crore people. It stands for self-respe ct and self-confiden ce," he said. "In 2015, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone. That dream was disrupted. Today, work resumes through his hands again. Tomorrow, we hope he will also inaugurate the completed Amaravati." Naidu said the State government, with the blessings of the Prime Minister, had cleared legal and political hurdles in just 10 months to restart capital development. He noted that 29,000 farmers had voluntarily contributed 34,000 acres of land under pooling, calling it an unprecedented act of public participation. He also recalled the resistance by farmers, labourers, and women to the previous regime's attempt to stall the capital project, and credited the judiciary with keeping the idea of Amaravati alive. Naidu outlined a futuristic vision for Amaravati, to be developed as a "Blue-Green" city with 30 percent of its area reserved for green and water spaces. Planned infrastructure includes townships, a greenfield airport, inland waterways, and viaduct-based utility corridors. The city will be developed as a hub for education and healthcare, and will adopt Miyawaki-style afforestation, as suggested by PM Modi. Drawing inspiration from the National Quantum Mission, the CM unveiled plans to develop Amaravati as a "Quantum Valley", akin to Silicon Valley, in partnership with tech giants like TCS, IBM, and L&T. Reiterating balanced development as a core ideology, Naidu said the government was committed to progress in all regions. He highlighted key projects launched or revived across various districts: Visakhapatnam: Resumption of Bhogapuram Airport, Rs 11,440 crore revival package for Vizag Steel Plant, investments by Google and TCS, and a Rs 1.43 lakh crore steel plant by ArcelorMittal. Rayalaseema: Proposals for defence institutions and a High Court bench in Kurnool, development of aerospace, automotive, and green energy hubs in the Lepakshi-Orvakal Corridor. Tirupati and Kadapa: Expansion of Tirupati as a major spiritual destination and establishment of a steel plant in Kadapa. Kopparthi & Orvakal: Industrial nodes being developed with central assistance. Ramayapatnam: Upcoming BPCL refinery. "With your support, we will realise the dream of Swarnandhra (Golden Andhra)," Naidu told the Prime Minister. "You laid the foundation for NTPC projects in Visakhapatnam, restarted Amaravati today, and tomorrow, we request you to inaugurate Rayalaseema projects as well." Naidu also welcomed the Union Cabinet's decision to conduct a caste census and gather socio-economic data, calling it a "game-changer" for inclusive empowerment. Extending a warm welcome to Prime Minister Modi, Naidu said, "Modi ji, hum aap ke saath hain," he said, holding the national flag and leading chants of Vande Mataram and Bharat Mata Ki Jai, in which PM Modi also joined.

## No relief for Suresh **Productions in....**

(From Page 1)

A bench comprising Justice Abhay S Oka heard the petition filed by Suresh Productions challenging a show cause notice issued by the Andhra Pradesh government. The notice sought an explanation for why the previous government's decision, allowing the Film City land to be repurposed, should not be revoked. During the hearing, Justice Oka clarified that the court would not intervene at this stage, observing that the petitioner was essentially seeking interim relief against a show cause notice. "Such relief is not appropriate at this juncture," the bench noted, suggesting that the petitioner should take the matter before a relevant legal forum. Following the court's observation, Suresh Productions opted to withdraw its petition, which the bench permitted. The controversy stems from a decision taken by the previous YSRCP government, which had allowed Suresh Productions to use land allocated for the proposed Film City in Visakha patnam for other purposes. The current Telugu Desam Party-led alliance government, upon reviewing the matter, raised concerns that real estate activity was being carried out in violation of the original land allocation terms. The government subsequently issued a show cause notice, initiating steps to potentially reclaim the land. Suresh Productions moved the Supreme Court against the notice, but will now have to pursue its challenge in a lower court or tribunal.

Modi pledges full Central support.. (From Page 1)

re-development, the Prime Minister declared, "Amaravati is not just a city, it is a power. It is the dream of the people of Andhra Pradesh, and it will soon become a glorious reality." Modi began his address in Telugu, calling Amaravati a sacred confluence of cultural heritage and futuristic ambition."In this land of Durga Bhavani and Buddhist legacy, a new Amaravati and a new Andhra Pradesh are taking shape," he said. "This is not merely a foundation ceremony but a historic step towards building Swarnandhra Pradesh."The Prime Minister said projects worth Rs 60,000 crore were being launched, encompassing infrastructure for governance, education, clean energy, and healthcare. The Centre, he assured, would fully support construction of key administrative structures including the Secretariat, Assembly, and High Court.Modi lauded Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu for his determination to complete Amaravati within three years, calling him "the only leader in the country who can take up such massive projects and complete them swiftly." He also credited Naidu's early vision in adopting IT policies in Hyderabad, stating he had studied Naidu's model when he was CM of Gujarat. Reiterating the Centre's longstanding support, Modi recalled laying Amaravati's original foundation stone in 2015 and said the capital city would now emerge as a hub for IT, AI, green energy, education, and innovation, fulfilling the aspirations of Andhra Pradesh's youth. He also invoked the legacy of former CM N T Rama Rao, urging all citizens to work towards realizing his vision of a developed Andhra Pradesh. "AP must become the growth engine of a developed India," he said. Highlighting infrastructure initiatives, Modi announced Rs 1,000 crore for rail and road connectivity in AP and revealed that the State alone received Rs 9,000 crore in railway allocations this year, ten times more than a decade ago. Over 750 railway bridges and underpasses have been constructed in the past ten years, and over 70 stations are being modernized under the Amrit Bharat scheme. The Prime Minister also announced that he will participate in International Yoga Day celebrations on June 21 in Visakhapatnam. He called on Andhra Pradesh to lead the global effort in promoting Yoga, urging people to create a record-breaking participation over the next 50 days."The name Amaravati itself is divine, the capital of Indraloka. Let this Amaravati become the capital where Andhra Pradesh's dreams come true," he said.

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# Rough start for Rayhan Thomas at Tulum Golf Championship

(Mexico), Tulum May 2 (The Capital News) It was another rough start for India's Rayhan Thomas, who carded a five-over 77 and was in danger of missing the cut at the Tulum Championship at the PGA Riviera Maya here.He was lying tied 124th after the opening round on Thursday.In nine sta rts prior to this week, Thomas has made four cuts with a best tied seventh in Bahamas Great Aba co Classic. Mitch ell Meissner opened with a six-under 66 to lead the field



by one. He had seven birdies and bogey. He has three top-10 finishes in nine starts this season, including a tied seventh last week's Veritex

Bank Champi onship. Zach Bauch ou is second at five-under, while rookie Kensei Hirata, a six-time winner on Japan Tour, carded a four-under to be third. Runcha

napong Youpr ayong (three-under), a winner on the All Thailand Golf Tour, recorded a three under 69 and was tied fourth in a group of nine players.

## Solid start for Aditi Ashok in Utah Tourney



News) Indian golfer 69 an early bogey to make round on the back nine, birdies on the fourth, a strong start that placed her tied 29th on the opening day of the Black Desert Champi

on Thursday. Aditi dropped a shot on the 13th and 14.She

Ivins (Utah, USA), Greater Zion, here. with an even-par 36 May 2 (The Capital Aditi shot three-under after dropping a shot on the 16th.On the second Aditi Ashok overcame Having begun her nine, Aditi made and seventh to conthe 11th hole before clude the day with a picking up birdies on total of three-under par. This year, Aditi

three of the four events she has played and stands 102nd in the season's rankings.After the first round, Haeran Ryu of Korea led the field with a score of nine-under par for the day. Haeran played a bogey-free round that was dotted with nine birdies. Starting from the back nine, Haeran made five birdies and added four more on the front-nine. Haeran has so far made the cut in five of the six events she has played this season and stands 25th in the rankings. In the Chevron onship last week in Texas, she posted her best finish of the season onship, presented by closed the first nine has made cuts at so far, ending tied sixth.

# RCB Chase Playoff Edge, CSK Seek Win in Emotional Kohli-Dhoni Clash

Bengaluru, May 2 (The Capital News) Royal Challengers Bengaluru have a provisional playoff berth in sight and Chennai Super Kings need a morale-lifting win. But beyond the team goals, the IPL match here on Saturday offers the opportunity to see icons Virat Kohli and MS Dhoni battling against each other, perhaps, one final time in the league. Before delving into that possibility, a glance of the situation will reveal that RCB can swell their tally to 16 with a win, a position from where they potentially cannot falter in the race to the Qualifiers with three matches still remaining.A victory will instil some belief into an already ousted CSK unit that it can gain some late momentum and finish somewhere midtable, and avoid the ignominy of being the wooden-spoon holders.And each of that objective is closely linked with the form of Kohli and Dhoni, the protagonists of one of the brightest bromance stories in Indian cricket.But at Chinnaswamy



partner Phil Salt, so

that he does not have

to do the heavy-lift-

ing alone. Similarly,

RCB will also be

keen to see skipper

Rajat Patidar regain-

ing his smooth-hitting

form of the earlier part of the IPL, as his substantial innings came seven matches ago. Howe ver, he can look to cash in on the underfiring CSK bowling unit, except pacer Khaleel Ahmed and spinner Noor Ahmad. But the Super Kings batters, who have suffered a collective dip in form this season, will have no such respite as they will be up against Josh Hazlewood, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Krunal Pandya and Suyash Sharma. They have worked well within their limitations, and CSK will hope that their batters such as Ayush Mhatre, Sam Curran, Dewald Brevis and Shivam Dube will fire to give Dhoni the

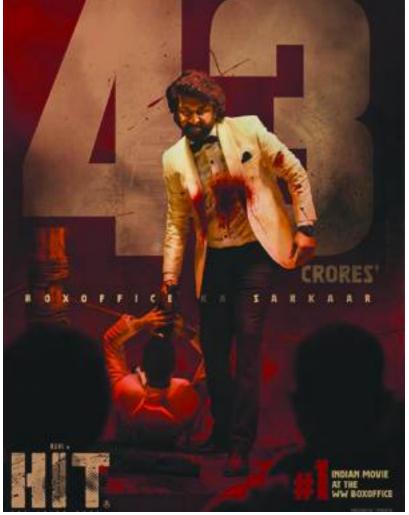
cushion to do his

end of the innings.In the past, Dhoni's quick 30s had transformed CSK's middling totals into competitive ones, but the top-order malfunction has robbed the skipper's cameos of their usual effect this year. But for their legion of fans, the presence of Kohli and Dhoni, who had said his participation in IPL 2026 depends on his body's ability to withstand the demands of the league, will be an endearing reminder to the days when they orchestrated many Indian wins together. Now, they are standing at the opposite spectrum, but the aficionados will dream of them turning back the wheels of time once more to produce a signature classic.

things at the business



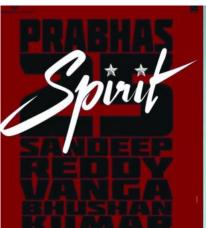
# HIT 3 WW Day 1 Gross – 43+ Crores!



Nani's latest release, Hit 3: The Third Case, stormed the box office yesterday. The makers promoted the film so well and brought all the attention to the movie. The film reportedly grossed 43 crores of rupees worldwide on the first day. The team officially confirmed the same on social media. As per the trade reports, this is a new personal best for Nani in terms of day-one collections. Compared to the earlier prequels, the third part performed exceptionally well at the box office. Nani's star power has contributed to the success, and he has also set new records overseas. Hit 3 entered the prestigious \$1.2 million club on its first day abroad, making it the highest-grossing overseas opening for the actor. Interesting ly, online ticketing platform Book My Show is selling an impressive 2.7 lakh tickets in just 24 hours. Directed by Sailesh Kolanu and produced under the Wall Poster Cinema and Nani **Unanimous Productions banners** by Prashanthi Tipirneni, the film will have a fourth part.

# No Change In Spirit Plan For Prabhas

Toung Rebel Star Prabhas is currently occupied with multiple projects. He is currently filming for Fauzi and is also waiting to kick-start the promotional activities of Raja Saab, directed by Maruthi. On the other hand, there are speculations that Spirit has been sent through the back door. However, the film's producer has officially dropped an update on the movie. Speaking in a recent interview, producer Bhushan Kumar said, "We will be starting Spirit in 2-3 months, and then, we will be moving to the next. It will be dropping in 2027."There have been speculations that Prabhas will work on Prashanth Varma's film first and then collaborate with Sandeep Reddy Vanga. But, there seems to be no change in the plan. Despite Prabhas



having Kalki 2, Salaar 2, and Prashanth Varma's film, he will be focusing on Sandeep Vanga's first.Prabhas will be seen as a powerful police officer in the movie and Sandeep has designed an intense yet powerful role. Already, Nag Ashwin

revealed that he is still unsure of



when Kalki 2 will begin. Meanwhile, Prashanth Neel recently started working on Dragon with NTR and he will not be starting Salaar 2 anytime soon.With Fauzi under the production, Prabhas will have to immediately jump on to Spirit and there won't be any change of plan in the same.