



Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
H 38 °C L 28 °C	H 41 °C L 28 °C	H 41 °C L 26 °C

Telangana to Fill 35,000 Vacancies and Revamp Education Sector: CM



TPN, Hyderabad: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy unveiled a major initiative on Monday aimed at bolstering job creation and improving the state's education system. The Telangana government plans to fill 35,000 additional vacancies across various departments, a move that underscores the administration's commitment to addressing unemployment and streamlining state operations. The Chief Minister confirmed that notifications for these new positions have already been issued, marking a significant step in the state's effort to enhance workforce stability and public service efficiency.

In a related development, Chief Minister Reddy also detailed the government's plans to address the gaps in the education sector. Within the next 15 days, the government intends to appoint vice-chancellors, professors, and both assistant and associate professors in all state universities. This swift action aims to address the shortages in academic staff and improve the quality of higher education in Telangana.

Reddy criticized the previous BRS government for its inadequate attention to the education sector. He emphasized that the Congress government is committed to significant reforms, including the construction of integrated residential schools in every Assembly constituency. This ambitious project is supported by a substantial budget allocation of ₹5,000 crore, reflecting the government's dedication to enhancing educational infrastructure and access.

The Chief Minister also expressed concerns about the current education system, highlighting its focus on certification rather than practical skills. He pointed out that many engineering graduates lack the competencies required by modern industries, creating a disconnect between educational outcomes and employment needs. To bridge this gap, the state has launched the Young India Skill University, which aims to provide targeted training to 2,000 students this year. The university's capacity is expected to expand to 20,000 students in the next academic year, marking a

significant investment in skill development and workforce readiness.

Despite the state's progress in various sectors, Reddy noted that Telangana lags behind states like Bihar and Rajasthan in terms of the number of candidates qualifying for civil service exams. To support civil service aspirants, the government will provide an additional ₹1 lakh to those who successfully clear the Mains exam. This financial incentive is designed to encourage and support candidates in their pursuit of public service careers.

Reddy assured the public that any civil service aspirants encountering difficulties in the selection process should not hesitate to reach out to him or the relevant ministers. He committed to addressing their concerns promptly, underscoring the government's dedication to supporting individuals in their career aspirations.

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Bandi Sanjay's Jibe at Congress and BRS Over Kavitha's Bail



TPN, Telangana: Amid the recent bail granted to BRS MLC K. Kavitha in the Delhi liquor scam case, BJP leader and Union Minister Bandi Sanjay took a sharp dig at both Congress and the BRS. Sanjay sarcastically congratulated the Congress party and its legal team for their tireless efforts, which he claims ultimately led to Kavitha's bail.

In a pointed remark, Bandi Sanjay emphasized that the bail victory was a shared success for both the Congress and the BRS, stating that the BRS leader secured her release, while Congress got its man into the Rajya Sabha. He highlighted

how Congress, despite being an opposition party, unanimously sent the lawyer who fought for Kavitha's bail to the Rajya Sabha.

Sanjay further commented on Telangana Chief Minister KCR's political acumen, praising his strategic maneuver of supporting a Congress candidate for the Rajya Sabha. His statement accused both parties of being complicit, dubbing them "partners in crime" for their alleged involvement in the liquor scam.

His closing words, "congratulations to the partners in the wine & dine crime," were a direct attack on the perceived political alliance between the Congress and the BRS, as well as their shared interests in the scandal.

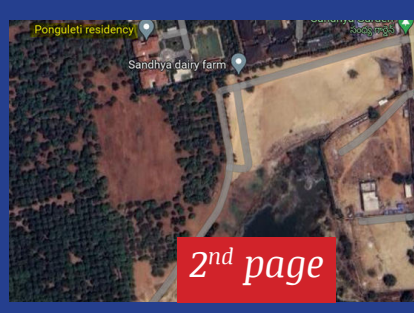
KTR Responds to Bandi Sanjay's Comments

Former Minister K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) has responded sharply to Bandi Sanjay's recent comments through a tweet. KTR took a firm stance, countering Bandi Sanjay's statements regarding the Supreme Court's decision, pointing out that Sanjay's remarks were inappropriate for someone holding the position of Union Minister of

State for Home Affairs.

KTR expressed that questioning the Supreme Court's judgment, especially by someone in such a responsible position, is highly unbecoming. He further urged the Chief Justice of India and the honorable Supreme Court to take note of these comments and consider initiating contempt of court proceedings against Bandi Sanjay.

BJP Issues Challenge to CM Revanth Over Owaisi's Salkam Lake Encroachment



Supreme Court Grants Bail to BRS MLC Kavitha in Delhi Liquor Policy Case

TPN, Telangana: BRS MLC K. Kavitha has been granted bail by the Supreme Court in the Delhi Liquor Policy case, providing her with significant relief after five months in Tihar Jail. The decision came after an hour and a half of arguments, during which a bench comprising Justice BR Gavai and Justice Viswanathan heard the case.

The court noted that the final charge sheet had already been filed and commented that there was no need for Kavitha to remain in jail. The bench also considered the fact that Kavitha is a woman when granting the bail. Both the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had previously granted bail to her in related cases.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi represented Kavitha, while the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) argued on behalf of the ED.

The bench also considered that Kavitha, who has been in Tihar Jail for almost five months, is a woman, making her eligible for bail under Section 45. The court overruled the Delhi High Court's previous verdict, allowing Kavitha to be released on bail upon submitting a surety bond of Rs. 10 lakh.



The Supreme Court also issued several conditions with the bail order:

- r Kavitha must surrender her passport to the Magistrate.
- r She is required to cooperate in the trial of the case.
- r Court permission must be obtained for any international travel.
- r She must cooperate with investigating agencies during inquiry adjournments.

BJP Issues Challenge to CM Revanth Over Owaisi's Salkam Lake Encroachment



TPN, Telangana: The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring and Protection Agency (HYDRAA), recently launched by the Telangana government, has been making waves with its aggressive crackdown on illegal constructions encroaching on lakes. The agency gained significant attention after demolishing actor Nagarjuna's N-Convention Centre in Madhapur, and in recent weeks, it has also targeted illegal structures owned by several prominent politicians.

In response, the opposition BJP has thrown down the gauntlet, issuing three major challenges to the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government. The BJP is demanding immediate action against alleged encroachments by leaders from various political parties, including Congress itself.

The BJP's challenges focus on the demolition of three key properties: AIMIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi's educational institute, which encroaches on Salkam Lake; BRS working president KT Rama Rao's controversial Janwada farmhouse; and other properties belonging to BRS and Congress leaders that are reportedly built on encroached lake lands. Akbaruddin Owaisi's Fatima Owaisi College, in particular, is alleged to have been constructed on the land of Salkam Cheruvu in Bandlaguda.

This morning, Akbaruddin Owaisi made a strong statement regarding the controversy surrounding his college, declaring that while the government could "shoot him," it should not destroy the positive work he has accomplished. The BJP's challenges have escalated the political tension, putting pressure on the Revanth government to address these allegations of selective enforcement and to take action against all illegal encroachments, regardless of political affiliation.

Expand HYDRA across Telangana, protect people's rights: FFGG to CM

TPN, Telangana: The Forum for Good Governance (FFGG) has urged the Telangana government, led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, to expand the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring Agency (HYDRA) to cover the entire state. The FFGG's proposal, articulated in a recent letter to the Chief Minister, aims to create a new body called the Telangana Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (TGDRAA) through legislative action to ensure its legal authority.

The Forum acknowledged the positive impact of HYDRA's efforts in safeguarding government assets and water bodies around Hyderabad. However, FFGG pointed out issues faced by residents, particularly those who have purchased flats built in Full Tank Level (FTL) or Buffer Zones. Many of these buyers, often from lower or middle-income backgrounds, have

been misled by builders. When HYDRA demolishes these unauthorized structures, FFGG advocates for holding builders accountable and seizing their assets. The Forum also suggests compensating affected individuals, providing alternative land, or offering financial assistance to rebuild homes.

Since its inception, HYDRA has reclaimed 43.94 acres of encroached land within the Outer Ring Road (ORR) limits over a span of three months. HYDRA Commissioner AV Ranganath reported that the agency's enforcement teams have demolished 18 properties, including those linked to political and business figures. Among the demolished properties was an illegal structure associated with Pallam Anand, the brother of Congress leader Pallam Raju, located in the ORR Sports Complex.

CM Revanth Reddy Announces Rebuilding of Osmania General Hospital

TPN, Telangana: On August 27, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy outlined a comprehensive plan for the redevelopment of the Osmania General Hospital, emphasizing the need for a forward-thinking approach that will serve the community for the next 50 years. During a SPEED (Smart Proactive Efficient and Effective Delivery) review meeting, Reddy highlighted the importance of constructing a new hospital facility in Goshamahal while preserving the historical essence of the existing structure.



The Chief Minister's remarks came in response to a query from All India Majlis e Ittehad ul Muslimeen (AIMIM) floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi regarding the future of the hospital buildings. The previous BRS government, under K. Chandrashekhara Rao, had proposed demolishing the old Osmania General Hospital to construct a modern facility with 1,812 beds. This proposal faced backlash from heritage activists who were concerned about the loss of historical architecture.

Reddy called for the urgent completion of the land transfer necessary for the new hospital's construction. He underscored the need for meticulous planning to ensure that future problems are avoided and stressed the importance of integrating effective road connectivity to prevent traffic congestion around the new facility.

following a prior announcement by the Telangana government, which includes the preservation of the old heritage building. The foundation stone for the new hospital will be laid on the land previously occupied by police quarters, marking a significant step in the redevelopment process.

In contrast, the current administration is focusing on a balanced approach that combines modern healthcare infrastructure with the preservation of the historic building. The new hospital aims to address both contemporary medical needs and the community's desire to maintain its historical heritage. By relocating the facility to Goshamahal and ensuring careful planning and execution, Chief Minister Reddy seeks to provide a state-of-the-art healthcare solution while respecting the rich history of the Osmania General Hospital.

The new Osmania General Hospital is set to be constructed on a 30-acre site in Goshamahal. This decision was made

Ministers Outline Plans for Ganesh Utsav Celebrations

TPN, Telangana: Ministers Sridhar Babu and Ponnam Prabhakar recently concluded a pivotal meeting to finalize preparations for the upcoming Ganesh Utsav. The meeting involved officials from all relevant departments and focused on ensuring a smooth and trouble-free celebration.

Minister Sridhar Babu emphasized the festival's significance and reviewed the previous year's arrangements. He assured that this year's events would be meticulously organized to avoid any inconvenience to devotees. Improvements have been planned to address issues encountered last year, with particular attention given to traffic management and other logistical challenges. As part of the effort to promote environmental sustainability, awareness campaigns will be conducted to encourage the use of eco-friendly

Matti Ganesha idols. This will be achieved through posters and advertisements in collaboration with the PCB and GHMC.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar discussed the government's strategy for enhancing the scale of the celebrations. He called for public cooperation and assured that all necessary arrangements are being made, including providing additional bus and metro services. To meet the needs of the attendees, visible mobile toilets will be installed at key locations.

Ponnam Prabhakar also addressed potential disturbances, stating that strict action would be taken against any false propaganda spread by insurgent forces. He encouraged festival organizers to share their suggestions positively, highlighting the importance of field-level officers



in implementing effective solutions.

Additionally, the government plans to establish local ponds for the immersion of smaller Ganesh idols within Rangareddy and Medchal districts. This initiative aims to manage the immersion process efficiently and minimize

environmental impact.

Both ministers urged the public to cooperate in making this year's Ganesh Utsav a success. Their joint efforts demonstrate a commitment to addressing past issues and enhancing overall arrangements for a celebratory and respectful festival.

Kaleshwaram Commission Continues Open Court Inquiry

TPN, Telangana: The Kaleshwaram Commission's open court inquiry resumed with the attendance of both current and former Chief Design Officer (CDO) engineers. Five executive engineers, both former and current, appeared before the Commission to answer questions regarding the design and approval process of the project's barrages.

The Commission, led by Justice P.C. Ghosh, raised concerns about potential changes to the barrage designs after their approval. They questioned whether all the required regulations and guidelines were followed before and after the design approvals. Specifically, the Commission inquired whether the engineers adhered to the High Power Committee's criteria.

Further questions were directed at whether any changes were made

to the barrage locations after the designs were approved. The engineers provided evasive answers, prompting Justice Chandra Ghosh, the Commission's chief, to express serious concerns about their responses. Many of the answers lacked coherence with the questions asked.

The engineers confirmed that CDO officials were part of the High Power Committee. They also stated that site visits were not mandatory before preparing the designs. Regarding specific barrages, the engineers confirmed that the locations for Annaram and Sundilla were changed, while the Medigadda barrage location remained the same.

They also revealed that designs were prepared separately by the CDO and L&T, but final approvals were consolidated at one stage. The

engineers maintained that there were no issues with the designs for the three barrages and that they were made in accordance with the regulations.

Regarding the Medigadda project, the engineers attributed its failure to various issues beneath the raft foundation. Engineer Satyanarayana Reddy stated that deviations in second files and allotments contributed to the problem. Additionally, an engineer admitted that the Annaram barrage design was modified after approval. Engineer Dayakar Reddy gave unclear responses about the environmental clearance for Ramagundam.

The engineers claimed that the changes in the locations of the Annaram and Sundilla barrages were made based on recommendations from the High Power Committee.

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CM Revanth Reddy Assures Committee Formation on SC Classification

TPN, Telangana: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has assured that a committee will be appointed to address the issue of Scheduled Caste (SC) classification, with the aim of ensuring that justice is done for all communities involved. This assurance came during a meeting at the Ambedkar State Secretariat, where representatives of the Mala community and leaders of Mala Mahanadu expressed their concerns.

The delegation, which included MLAs Vivek Venkataswamy, Matta Ragamai, Sikudu Vamsikrishna, KR Nagaraju, and MP Gaddam Vamsikrishna, along with Mala Mahanadu leaders Chennaiah and others, urged the Chief Minister to ensure that the classification process follows the Supreme Court's guidelines. They emphasized the need to prevent any injustice against the Malas in the SC classification.

CM Revanth Reddy responded positively to their requests, committing to the formation of a committee that will thoroughly examine the issue. He assured the delegation that the government would take the committee's findings into account to ensure fair treatment for both the Malas and Madigalas, in line with the Supreme Court's directives.



MLC Mahender Reddy Addresses Property Concerns Amid Gandipet Lake Dispute



TPN, Telangana: At his residence in Banjara Hills, MLC Mahender Reddy addressed concerns regarding his property near Gandipet Lake, clarifying his adherence to regulations. Reddy stated that in 1999, he purchased 14.14 guntas of land in Kotwal Guda, located above Gandipet Lake, which is registered under his son Rinesh's name. The land has been used for cultivating mango orchards and paddy fields, and a modest house was constructed on the property.

Reddy emphasized that the construction was carried out strictly according to the guidelines provided by irrigation officials and the district collector. He assured that if the construction is found to be in violation of any rules, he is prepared to demolish the structure himself. He also clarified that he has not encroached on any part of Gandipet Lake and has not built any compound walls over the lake area.

Reddy further noted that he has not received any official notices regarding the issue. He mentioned that, under GO 111, which governs construction in the area, buildings can be constructed on up to 10% of agricultural land. He believes his construction complies with these guidelines and was done within the specified buffer zone limits. Reddy suggested that K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) might not be fully aware of the adherence to rules in his case but reiterated his willingness to demolish the structure if any violations are found and notices are issued.

Harish Rao Criticizes Telangana Government for Medicine Shortages

TPN, Telangana: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA T. Harish Rao has criticized the Telangana government for the ongoing shortage of medicines in government hospitals, accusing it of negligence and favoritism toward private hospitals. Speaking on August 27, Rao highlighted severe issues at the MGM Hospital in Warangal, asserting that patients are being compelled to seek treatment in private facilities and bear additional expenses for medicines.

Rao, a former health minister, expressed frustration over the government's inaction, questioning why the situation has persisted for the past three months without resolution.



He emphasized that the shortage is not confined to MGM Hospital alone but affects

nearly all government hospitals.

Rao suggested that the government should stock enough medicines to last at least three months, accusing it of deliberately withholding supplies to benefit private hospitals financially. He also questioned the role of the Telangana State Medical Services Infrastructure Development Corporation (TSMSIDC) in addressing the supply issues.

The Siddipet MLA called on the government to ensure that all necessary medicines are available in public hospitals to alleviate the financial burden on patients.

BJP OBC Morcha State Executive Meeting Held in Hyderabad

TPN, Hyderabad: At the BJP Hyderabad Central District office, a significant meeting of the BJP OBC Morcha state executive took place with BJP OBC Morcha National President and Rajya Sabha MP Laxman as the chief guest.

In his address, MP Laxman praised the central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi for its efforts in the development of BC communities over the past decade. He criticized the Congress party for opposing BC reservations from Nehru's era to Rajiv Gandhi's tenure, contrasting this with Rahul Gandhi's recent expressions of support for BCs.

Laxman mocked Rahul Gandhi's

focus on counting the number of BCs and SCs among sports personalities and Miss Universe winners, suggesting that Gandhi's newfound concern for BCs is insincere. He accused Rahul Gandhi of being out of touch with the realities faced by BCs, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir, where the first elections with reservations are taking place.

Laxman emphasized that under Modi's leadership, BCs have seen substantial progress, citing Modi's third term as Prime Minister supported by BC communities. He criticized the Congress party for celebrating its defeat in the Lok Sabha elections and failing to secure even 100



seats, highlighting that Rahul Gandhi's leadership led to a third consecutive loss for Congress.

In response to promises made by Revanth Reddy regarding increasing BC reservations in local body elections from 23% to 42% under the Kamarreddy Declaration, Laxman accused Reddy of renegeing on his promises and misleading BC communities. He

asserted the necessity of uniting BCs and stressed that achieving a BC Chief Minister in Telangana is only possible with the BJP.

The meeting underscored the BJP's commitment to advancing the interests of BC communities and criticized both the Congress party and local leaders for their alleged failures and broken promises.

Prashant Reddy Criticizes Remarks on Kavitha's Bail

TPN, Telangana: In Delhi, former Minister Prashant Reddy has strongly condemned the comments made by Congress MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud regarding the recent Supreme Court decision on Kavitha's bail. Reddy described Kavitha's release as a significant relief, emphasizing that she had endured undue hardship in jail for the past five months. He argued that her imprisonment was an act of injustice and noted that the public shares this sentiment.

Reddy criticized Goud's statements as malicious and politically motivated. He

accused Goud of belittling the Supreme Court's judgment and undermining the judiciary by making disparaging remarks. According to Reddy, such comments diminish the integrity of the judicial system and should be noted by the courts.

Reddy also mentioned that Goud's comments on the Supreme Court's decision were intended to mislead and derail the discussion around Kavitha's bail. He stressed that there would be legal action against Goud for his remarks, which he believes distort the true nature of the judicial process.

Furthermore, Reddy pointed out that the arguments presented in court were transparent and witnessed by the public. He highlighted that the ongoing investigations by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) are well within the scope of legal oversight, and their conduct is known to the nation.

In the courtroom, ED's advocate S.V. Raju argued against granting bail, but Reddy noted that these proceedings were part of a broader legal process and should not be used to make political points.

Charlapally Jail.

The recent HYDRA demolition drives, initiated under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's leadership, have targeted multiple illegal structures associated with BRS party leaders, raising questions about the future of KTR's Janwada Farmhouse.



Irrigation Department Inspects KTR's Janwada Farmhouse Amid HYDRA Demolition Speculations

TPN, Telangana: Telangana state irrigation department officers recently inspected the boundaries and surroundings of the Janwada Farmhouse, allegedly owned by former state IT minister and BRS working committee chairman KT Rama Rao (KTR). This inspection has fueled speculation that the ongoing demolition drives led by the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Monitoring and Protection Agency (HYDRA) might soon target the controversial farmhouse.

The Janwada Farmhouse became a focal point of Telangana politics in 2020 when Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, then Malkajgiri MP, accused KTR of proxy ownership and illegal construction, including encroachment on a nearby waterbody, Firangi Nala. Revanth's attempt to enter the farmhouse in March 2020 led to a dramatic political confrontation, resulting in his arrest and subsequent detention in

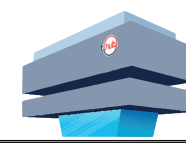
Rift Between Mayor and Deputy Mayor in Karimnagar's BRS Party

TPN, Telangana: A significant conflict has emerged within the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) party in Karimnagar, as tensions between Mayor Sunil Rao and Deputy Mayor Swaroopa Mandipattu have come to light. The disagreement reportedly started when Mayor Sunil Rao, currently on a trip to America, did not assign in-charge responsibilities to Deputy Mayor Swarooparani during his absence.

In a public display of frustration, Deputy Mayor Swaroopa Mandipattu openly criticized Mayor Sunil Rao in front of the media, accusing him of showing upper-caste arrogance and undermining her. She expressed anger over being insulted despite working together in the same party for several years. Swaroopa further alleged that Sunil Rao had betrayed senior leader Vinod Kumar, who had played a key role in making him the mayor.

Additionally, Swaroopa has lodged a complaint with the district collector, urging action against Mayor Sunil Rao for leaving the country without seeking the required permissions from the local administration.

The internal conflict has raised concerns about divisions within the BRS party in Karimnagar, potentially impacting party dynamics in the region.



83 kg of Cannabis Caught at Sangareddy, Hidden Under Car Seats



TPN, Telangana: A ganja smuggler from Chittoor district was apprehended at the Kankol check post in Sangareddy district while attempting to transport a large quantity of cannabis to Maharashtra. Inspired by tactics seen in movies, the smuggler had made secret arrangements under the car seats to conceal the illegal cargo.

During routine vehicle checks early Tuesday morning, police at the Kankol check post received a tip-off about a car transporting cannabis. Upon stopping and inspecting the vehicle, they discovered a specially constructed box hidden beneath the seats, where 83.4 kg of ganja was found. The estimated value of the seized cannabis is around ₹33.50 lakhs.

The police immediately arrested the driver and seized both the car and the contraband. The authorities revealed that the accused was transporting the ganja from the Andhra-Odisha Border (AOB) to Maharashtra. Further investigations are underway to uncover the smuggling network involved.

Kachiguda Police Quickly Solve Kidnap Case, Rescue One-Year-Old

TPN Hyderabad: In a swift and decisive operation, the Kachiguda police have successfully resolved the kidnapping of a one-year-old girl within 12 hours of the crime being reported. The child, identified as Rani, was rescued unharmed, and a woman suspect has been arrested.



The suspect, D Manjula, 29, a rag picker from Kamareddy district, was apprehended on Tuesday. The incident occurred on Monday at around 11:30 p.m., when Manjula allegedly abducted Rani while the child was sleeping beside her mother, Mamatha, on a pavement near Kacheguda railway station.

Following the report of the kidnapping, the Kachiguda police promptly formed six special teams to tackle the case. They meticulously examined footage from 60 surveillance cameras covering the area between Kacheguda and Dabeerpura railway stations. This extensive

investigation led to the identification of the suspect. According to police, after kidnapping the child, Manjula traveled to Dabeerpura railway station in an auto-rickshaw. She intended to transport Rani to Kamareddy and cause harm to her as part of a vendetta related to a past grievance with Mamatha.

The quick response and thorough investigation by the Kachiguda police ensured the safe return of Rani and led to the arrest of Manjula. The case highlights the efficiency of the police in addressing serious crimes and safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable individuals.

Rajiv Gandhi International Airport Enhances Security Against Touting

TPN Hyderabad: Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) has strengthened its efforts to combat unauthorized touting with the deployment of over 31 security personnel across key touchpoints on the landside. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to maintain order and convenience for passengers.

In partnership with the Telangana Police, RGIA has also established a special patrol team to prevent unauthorized operators from disrupting passenger services. From January 1 to August 26, a total of 346 touting cases were reported to RGIA Police Stations and RGIA Interception units.

The airport has ensured that a wide range of authorized transport options are available around the clock for passengers. These include radio taxis like Meru and Skycabs, app-based

services such as Ola and Uber, prepaid taxis, car rentals, electric vehicles (EVs), and Pushpak buses. Real-time availability of cabs is displayed at the baggage claim area, and information boards with transport details are strategically placed throughout the airport.

Passenger Service Associates are stationed at cab zones to assist with transport-related inquiries, and regular announcements are made to guide passengers toward authorized services only. A dedicated help desk near Aeroplaza provides additional support and information for passengers.

Additionally, the TGSRTC Pushpak boarding point has been moved to pick-up point D to make it more accessible for bus passengers. The airport also utilizes social media platforms to

raise awareness and inform travelers about the importance of using only authorized transport services.

Airport authorities have engaged with local police to address the touting issue effectively, reinforcing their commitment to passenger safety and convenience.



"Hyderabad Dengue Surge: 731 Cases in 10 Days"



TPN Hyderabad: The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) is witnessing a troubling rise in dengue cases, with over 50 new cases reported daily at recent health camps. From August 5 to August 15, the GHMC,

in collaboration with the medical and health department, identified 108 wards as high-risk areas for mosquito-borne diseases. During this period, the city recorded a total of 731 dengue cases, with daily figures peaking at 142 on August 5 and declining to 51 by August 14.

Despite this surge, officials report a decrease in overall dengue cases compared to the previous year. Between January 1 and August 26, 2023, GHMC documented 1,825 dengue cases. In the same timeframe for 2024, the number of cases fell to 1,143.

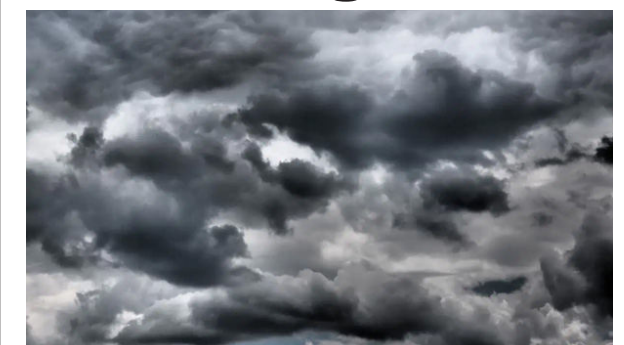
To address the spread of dengue and other vector-borne diseases, the GHMC has initiated several preventive measures. Weekly awareness programs are held every Saturday at schools and colleges, reaching 3,045 schools and 427 colleges so far. Additionally, special

drives in high-risk areas focus on anti-larval treatments and fogging to control mosquito populations.

The GHMC has also launched a student-led initiative to enhance public awareness. A total of 2,751 student volunteers have been trained to educate the community and promote preventive measures against dengue. Intensive entomological activities are underway in hostels and educational institutions, with 554 hostels already covered.

These efforts form part of a comprehensive campaign by the GHMC to mitigate the spread of dengue in Hyderabad, aiming to reduce the incidence of this mosquito-borne disease through sustained public education and proactive control measures.

IMD Hyderabad Issues Orange Alert for Heavy Rains in Telangana



TPN Hyderabad: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Hyderabad has issued a warning for very heavy rains in Telangana on Saturday. For Friday, the weather department has already issued a heavy rainfall warning for various districts across the state.

In preparation for the anticipated heavy rains, the IMD has issued an orange alert for Saturday. This alert specifically targets Nizamabad, Nirmal, Adilabad, Kumaram Bheem, Mancherial, J. Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Mahabubabad, B. Kothagudem, and Khammam districts. A yellow alert has been issued for Friday, covering all districts of Telangana.

The yellow alert for Friday will be in effect across the entire state, while the orange alert on Saturday will be in place for the aforementioned districts. For the remaining districts of Telangana, the IMD has also issued a yellow alert for Saturday.

As of the current Southwest monsoon season, Telangana has received an average rainfall of 625 mm, surpassing the normal of 545.6 mm by 15 percent. Hyderabad, in particular, has recorded 511.1 mm of rainfall, compared to the normal 437.1 mm, marking a 17 percent deviation.

Among Hyderabad's areas, Nampally has experienced the highest deviation with 592.5 mm of rainfall against a normal of 433.6 mm, representing a 37 percent deviation.

The IMD Hyderabad's predictions of heavy rains for Friday and Saturday are expected to further increase the total rainfall in Hyderabad and other districts of Telangana during the ongoing Southwest monsoon.

AIG Hospitals Removes Brain Tumor Without Skull Opening



TPN Hyderabad: The neurosurgical team at Asian Institute of Gastroenterology (AIG) Hospitals has achieved a groundbreaking medical milestone by successfully removing a complex brain tumor without the need for traditional skull opening. This innovative procedure was performed on a 54-year-old woman using a technique known as the "Endoscopic Lateral Transorbital Approach."

Instead of making large incisions, the surgeons utilized a small, precisely crafted path around the eye to insert a neuro-endoscope. This minimally invasive method allowed them to access and remove the tumor, which was situated in a challenging area at the base of the skull. Specifically, the tumor was located where the sphenoid bone,

eye socket, and cavernous sinus converge. Dr. Abhirama Chandra Gabbita, Senior Neurosurgeon at AIG Hospitals, explained the significance of this approach: "After thorough discussions with our neurosurgical and ophthalmology teams, we determined that this novel technique would be ideal for excising the tumor without leaving visible marks on the patient's face or skull. We are proud to have successfully conducted this operation, setting a new precedent in neurosurgery."

Dr. Subodh Raju, Director of Neurosurgery, emphasized the benefits of the endoscopic method: "This approach allows us to access the tumor through a small incision, reducing trauma to surrounding tissues and facilitating a quicker recovery process."

The success of this procedure not only highlights AIG Hospitals' commitment to advancing medical techniques but also represents a significant leap forward in the field of neurosurgery, offering patients less invasive options for complex conditions.

Mahindra University International Computational Intelligence Conference in Hyderabad



TPN Hyderabad: Mahindra University in Hyderabad recently hosted the fourth International Conference on Emerging Techniques in Computational Intelligence 2024. This prestigious event gathered prominent experts and researchers from around the world to exchange knowledge, foster innovation, and explore collaborations in the field of computational intelligence.

Over the course of three days, the conference featured a diverse range of activities, including tutorials, keynote lectures, a research colloquium, and technical paper presentations.

These sessions provided valuable insights into the latest advancements and applications of computational intelligence, highlighting emerging technologies that are shaping the future of the field.

The event served as a significant platform for discussing new ideas and methodologies, reflecting the rapid growth and evolving nature of computational intelligence. Attendees had the opportunity to engage with leading scholars and practitioners, gaining a deeper understanding of the current trends and future directions in the discipline.



The Farakka Barrage and Bangladesh Floods

The Farakka Barrage and Bangladesh Floods



Bangladesh is currently grappling with devastating floods caused by relentless monsoon rains and overflowing rivers, affecting millions across the country. As of now, the death toll has risen to 23, with over 1.24 million families stranded in 11 districts. Approximately 5.7 million people are in urgent need of food, clean water, medicine, and dry clothes. Amid this crisis, reports have surfaced in Bangladesh, suggesting that the flooding is exacerbated by the opening of the Farakka Barrage in West Bengal, India. These claims have prompted a fact-check by the Government of India, which has categorically rejected the allegations as "fake news."

The Farakka Barrage and the Indian Government's Response

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India, through its spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, dismissed the reports linking the Farakka Barrage to the floods in Bangladesh as misinformation. "We have seen fake videos, rumors, and fear-mongering intended to create misunderstanding. This should be firmly countered with facts," Jaiswal stated. He further clarified that relevant data regarding water flow and management is regularly shared with the Joint River Commission (JRC) officials in Bangladesh in a timely manner, as it was during this period.

Jaiswal elaborated that the opening of the Farakka Barrage gates is a seasonal occurrence driven by increased inflow due to heavy rainfall in the Ganga river basin upstream. "Farakka is only a barrage, not a dam. When the water level reaches the pond level, any inflow simply passes through. It's a structure designed to divert 40,000 cusecs of water into the Farakka canal using a system of gates on the main Ganga/Padma river, while the remaining water continues its natural course into Bangladesh," he explained.

Understanding the Farakka Barrage

The Farakka Barrage is located on the Ganga River in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, approximately 18 kilometers from the Bangladesh border. Construction of the barrage began in 1962 and was completed in 1970 at an estimated cost of nearly \$1 billion. The barrage officially commenced operations on April 21, 1975.

The primary purpose of the Farakka Barrage is to divert 40,000 cusecs of water into the Farakka canal, which is crucial for maintaining the navigability of the Bhagirathi-Hooghly River and ensuring the smooth operation of the Kolkata port. The barrage operates by using a series of gates to carefully manage the water flow, allowing the remaining water to continue flowing into the main river, which eventually reaches Bangladesh.

Historical Context: The Farakka Barrage Agreement and the Ganga Water Treaty

The Ganga River, which flows from India into Bangladesh, becomes the Padma River in Bangladesh and ultimately drains into the Bay of Bengal after merging with the Meghna River. The establishment of the Farakka Barrage by India was primarily to address the issue of silt deposition in the Bhagirathi-Hooghly River, crucial for the Kolkata port's operation. Bangladesh, however, has maintained that the Ganga is an international river, and its waters should be managed through mutual agreements.

In 1972, India and Bangladesh established the Joint River Commission (JRC) to negotiate water-sharing terms. Despite differences, a bilateral agreement was signed in November 1977 during the visit of then-Deputy Prime Minister of India, Babu Jagjivan Ram, to Bangladesh. This agreement aimed to address the concerns surrounding the Farakka Barrage.

In 1996, the Ganga Water Treaty was signed between India and Bangladesh under the leadership of Bangladesh's Awami League government. This treaty formalized the sharing of surface waters at the Farakka Barrage, ensuring that both nations cooperatively manage the river's resources.

The Larger Picture: Climate Change and Flooding in Bangladesh

Flooding in Bangladesh is not a new phenomenon. A 2015 analysis by the World Bank Institute estimated that 3.5 million people in Bangladesh, one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world, are at risk of annual river flooding. Scientists widely attribute the increasing frequency and severity of such catastrophic events to climate change, which has intensified monsoon rains and altered river flow patterns.

In this context, it's crucial to understand that while infrastructure like the Farakka Barrage plays a role in managing river flows, the broader issue of flooding in Bangladesh is deeply intertwined with global climate dynamics. The floods currently affecting Bangladesh are likely a result of a combination of natural monsoon patterns, climate change, and local factors, rather than being solely attributed to the operation of the Farakka Barrage.

Conclusion

As Bangladesh faces yet another devastating flood, it is imperative to base discussions and decisions on accurate information and a clear understanding of the factors at play. The Indian government's rejection of the claims linking the Farakka Barrage to the floods underscores the need for cooperation and transparency in managing shared water resources. Moving forward, both India and Bangladesh must continue to engage in constructive dialogue through mechanisms like the Joint River Commission to address the challenges posed by shared rivers in a changing climate.

Why BJP Seeks Polling Date Change in Haryana ?

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Haryana has recently requested the Election Commission of India (ECI) to reconsider the polling date for the upcoming state elections, citing concerns that a long weekend could negatively impact voter turnout. This move has sparked controversy, with the Congress accusing the BJP of trying to delay the election out of fear of losing. Despite these accusations, the BJP has asserted its readiness to contest the elections on any date. The Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) has also voiced support for the BJP's request.

The Core of the Issue

Haryana is currently scheduled to vote on October 1, a Tuesday, coinciding with the third and final phase of voting in Jammu and Kashmir. However, the BJP's concern stems from the fact that the polling day falls within a potential six-day long weekend. September 28-29 are weekend days, followed by holidays on October 2 (Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti) and October 3 (Maharaja Agrasen Jayanti). If voters take a leave on September 30, they could enjoy an extended break, which the BJP fears might lead to lower voter turnout, particularly in urban areas.

Haryana's urbanization level was recorded at 28.9% according to the 2011 census, and this figure has likely increased with the expansion of the National Capital Region (NCR). Fourteen districts in Haryana, including key urban centers like Gurugram, Faridabad, Rohtak, Sonapat, and Bhiwani, are part of the NCR. The BJP traditionally performs well in these urban areas, where a significant portion of the population consists of migrants. There is concern that many urban voters might use the extended weekend to visit their hometowns, thus skipping the polls.

Historically, rural voter turnout in general elections has been higher than in urban areas. In the 2024 general elections, for example, rural turnout was 67.9% compared to 57.9% in urban regions. The BJP acknowledges that a lower voter turnout in the 2024 elections negatively impacted its performance, contributing to the party falling short of securing a majority.

The BJP's Perspective

High voter turnout has historically been crucial for the BJP's electoral success. From 1996 to 2019, the party formed the central government five times, with increased voter turnout in four of these instances. Despite having a vast network of panna pramukhs (party workers responsible for managing a small number of voters), the BJP is concerned that if some of its urban voter base opts for a vacation instead of voting, its electoral advantage could be diminished.

In light of this, the BJP has requested the ECI to either change the polling date or extend the polling period. However, with October 2 and 3 being holidays and October 4 reserved for the announcement of results, there is limited scope for postponing the polls. Any change might require advancing the date, which could pose additional challenges.

Political Reactions

The Congress has dismissed the BJP's concerns as a sign of nervousness. Deepender Hooda, a prominent Congress leader, took to social media to accuse the BJP of making excuses to delay the elections, suggesting that the party lacks substantive issues, achievements, or strong candidates for all 90 assembly seats.

The upcoming election is expected to be highly polarized, with the Jat community, a dominant social group in Haryana, largely supporting the Congress, while non-Jats are expected to back the BJP. In the 2024 general elections, the BJP won all five Lok Sabha seats in non-Jat dominated areas and remains strong in urban regions like Faridabad, Ambala, and Gurugram, where it won 22 out of 40 seats in the 2019 Vidhan Sabha elections.

However, the BJP's concern is that some urban voters might use the extended weekend for vacations, reducing turnout. This highlights a growing disparity between urban and rural voters, with urban voters more likely to afford vacations compared to their rural counterparts.

The Road Ahead

The BJP's request to the ECI underscores the party's awareness of the potential impact of voter turnout on the election's outcome. As the party faces ten years of incumbency, it is keen to address all potential challenges, including the polling date, to secure a favorable result.

Whether the ECI will accommodate the BJP's request remains to be seen. The election, already shaping up to be a highly competitive and polarized contest, will be a critical test for all major political players in the state.





Kolkata Police Clash with Protestors During 'Nabanna Abhijan' March

On Tuesday, Kolkata police deployed water cannons, lathi charges, and tear gas to disperse protestors during the 'Nabanna Abhijan' march at Santragachi in Howrah. The protest, which was sparked by the ongoing controversy surrounding the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, saw thousands of students courageously facing off against the heavy-handed tactics of the West Bengal government. The demonstration began with

protestors gathering at Santragachi before marching from College Square in Kolkata towards the state secretariat, Nabanna. As protestors attempted to breach police barricades, a violent confrontation ensued, with protestors dragging away barricades and clashing with police officers. In response, the police intensified their efforts, employing water cannons, lathi charges, and tear gas to control the situation.

The rally was organized in the wake of

shocking revelations involving Sanjoy Roy, the accused in the rape and murder case. Reports have emerged that Roy, a civic volunteer with Kolkata Police, was using a bike registered under the name of Kolkata's Commissioner of Police. The bike was allegedly used to visit red-light areas in north Kolkata on the day of the crime, raising further questions about the conduct and oversight within the police force. Kolkata Police clarified that all government vehicles belonging to the department are registered under

the Commissioner of Police before being assigned to various units.

The protestors, unarmed but determined, braved the oppressive measures on the Howrah Bridge, demanding justice for the slain trainee doctor and accountability for those involved in the crime. The heavy-handed response from the police has drawn widespread criticism, with many accusing the Mamata Banerjee-led government of fascism in its crackdown on peaceful demonstrators.

BJP Announces 29 More Candidates for Jammu and Kashmir Elections

In a significant move, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday named 29 additional candidates for the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir elections, which mark the region's first electoral exercise in a decade. This brings the total number of candidates announced by the party to 45.

Earlier, on Monday, the BJP had released a list of 44 candidates but swiftly retracted it. Hours later, a revised list featuring only 15 names for the first phase of the election was issued, followed by another list with a single name.

The latest list includes 10 candidates for the second phase and 19 for the third phase of the polls. Notably, the BJP has made one change from the rescinded list, naming Baldev Raj Sharma as the candidate for the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi constituency instead of Rohit Dubey. Among the prominent names, Devender Singh Rana has been fielded from Nagrota, and Satish Sharma is the candidate for Billawar, a seat previously held by former deputy chief minister Nirmal Singh in the 2014 elections.

Interestingly, the BJP has yet to announce candidates for two key constituencies: Nowshera, previously represented by current state BJP president Ravinder



Raina, and Gandhinagar, which was held by senior leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta.

Meanwhile, the Congress and the National Conference (NC) have finalized a seat-sharing agreement, with NC contesting 51 seats and Congress 32.

The elections for Jammu and Kashmir's 90-member assembly will be held in

three phases from September 18 to October 1, with vote counting set for October 4. This election comes after the BJP withdrew from its coalition with the People's Democratic Party (PDP) in 2018, leading to the assembly's dissolution. The region has been without local lawmakers since its partial autonomy was revoked in 2019.



NDA Reaches Majority in Rajya Sabha as BJP Secures Key Wins in By-Polls

The ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) reached a significant milestone in the Rajya Sabha today, securing the majority mark after nine BJP members and two from its allies were elected unopposed in by-polls for the upper house. With these new additions, the BJP's strength in the Rajya Sabha has risen to 96, bringing the total for the NDA to 112 seats.

The newly elected BJP members include Mission Ranjan Dass and Rameshwar Teli from Assam, Manan Kumar Mishra from Bihar, Kiran Chadhary from Haryana, George Kurien from Madhya Pradesh, Dhira Sheel Patil from Maharashtra, Mamata Mohanta from Odisha, Ravneet Singh Bittu from Rajasthan, and Rajeev Bhattacharjee from Tripura.

In addition to the BJP members, three others were elected unopposed: Abhishek Manu Singhvi of the Congress from Telangana, Nitin Patil from the Ajit Pawar-led faction of the NCP from Maharashtra, and Upendra Kushwaha of the Rashtriya Lok Manch (RLM) from Bihar. With Singhvi's election, the opposition's numbers in the Rajya Sabha now stand at 85. Currently, the Rajya Sabha has 245 seats, though there are eight vacancies, including four from Jammu and Kashmir and four nominated seats. With the current strength of 237 members, the majority mark is 119.



Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma Sparks Controversy with Remarks on Bengali-Speaking Muslims

the targeting of Bengali Muslims in the Sivasagar district of Upper Assam. Mr. Sarma's remarks have been widely criticized as communal, with the Congress staging a walkout from the assembly in protest.

Mr. Sarma, dismissing any interest in courting minority votes, said, "Let them [the Opposition] compete for minority votes. I am not in the competition." The term 'Miya' refers to Muslims of Bengali origin, who are often accused of being illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

During his address, the Chief Minister responded to concerns raised by Opposition leaders Rafikul Sahab and Debabrata Saikia, who suggested that people might migrate from Lower Assam to Upper Assam. Mr. Sarma questioned why such a migration would happen, rhetorically asking, "You Miya Muslims will take the entire Lower Assam? We will not let

you all take Lower Assam, no never."

These comments come on the heels of claims by Opposition MLA Akhil Gogoi that the BJP is attempting to replicate the 2002 Gujarat riots in Assam. Mr. Gogoi's remarks were in response to reports that certain organizations have allegedly been threatening Muslims in Upper Assam, demanding they leave the area.

The All-India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) has since written to Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya, calling for action against the groups allegedly issuing threats to the Muslim community in Upper Assam. Opposition leader Debabrata Saikia, speaking to reporters after the assembly session, criticized the Chief Minister's remarks. He highlighted the rising incidents of lawlessness in Assam, stating that there have been more than 20 cases of murder and arson in just seven days in June alone.

JJP and Azad Samaj Party Forge Alliance for Haryana Assembly Elections

In a significant political development ahead of the Haryana Assembly elections, Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) and Chandra Shekhar Azad's Azad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) have formed a pre-poll alliance. The two parties announced their partnership on Tuesday, with plans to contest all 90 Assembly seats in the state, which goes to the polls on October 1.

Under the terms of the alliance, Dushyant Chautala's JJP, an offshoot of the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), will field candidates in 70 constituencies, while the Azad Samaj Party will contest the remaining 20 seats. The announcement was made in Delhi by Dushyant Chautala, who emphasized the coalition's commitment to fighting for the rights and welfare of farmers and establishing a "government of the youth."

This alliance comes at a challenging time for the JJP, which has recently faced internal turmoil. On Saturday, four JJP legislators—Anoop Dhanak, Devender Babli, Ram Karan Kala, and Ishwar Singh—resigned from their party positions and primary memberships, citing personal reasons. This marks the departure of six out of the party's ten MLAs, leaving the JJP with only three sitting legislators: Naina Chautala (Dushyant's mother), Dushyant Chautala, and Amarjeet



Dhanda. The party's dwindling numbers could pose a significant challenge in the upcoming elections.

Former state Home Minister Anil Vij, a senior BJP leader, downplayed the significance of the regional parties, claiming that the upcoming contest will be primarily between the BJP and the Congress. "Regional parties are now finished," Vij stated, expressing confidence in the BJP's ability to secure a third consecutive term in Haryana.

The BJP, which has governed Haryana since 2014, initially formed an alliance with the JJP after the 2019 elections to secure a majority. However, in March, the BJP severed its ties with the JJP, leading to the formation of a new government under Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini.



US Diplomats' Kashmir Visit Sparks Debate Amid Rising Tensions

The recent visit of a three-member delegation of US diplomats to Srinagar has sparked controversy, with some netizens and political commentators criticizing what they perceive as undue interference in India's internal affairs. The visit, which took place ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, marked the first time in a decade that US diplomats have visited the region.

The delegation, which included Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs Graham Mayer, First Secretary Gary Applegarth, and Political Counselor Abhiram, met with local political leaders, including former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and former Srinagar Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu. According to a senior government official, the visit falls "well within the boundaries of diplomatic outreach" and is part of the US State Department's standard procedures.

However, the presence of CIA station head Graham Mayer in Srinagar has raised concerns about US involvement in the region, particularly in light of its interests in Pakistan and recent developments in Ladakh. The visit coincided with an increase in terror attacks in the Valley, with India repeatedly pointing to Pakistan as the source of exported terrorism and smuggled weapons bearing US markings.

National Conference Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq confirmed that the delegation's discussions covered a broad range of issues related to Jammu and Kashmir and the wider region. Omar Abdullah also brought up the recent US travel advisory, which warned American citizens against traveling to Manipur, Jammu and Kashmir, and other parts of India where security concerns are heightened. The visit has sparked a debate about the implications of US diplomatic activity in sensitive areas like Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the context of ongoing regional tensions.

Sheikh Hasina Faces 71st Case Amid Ongoing Violence in Bangladesh



In a dramatic escalation of legal and political turmoil in Bangladesh, five new murder cases have been filed against the deposed former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, raising the total number of legal actions against her to 71. The cases, which involve several former ministers and police officials, have been lodged in both Dhaka and Rajshahi.

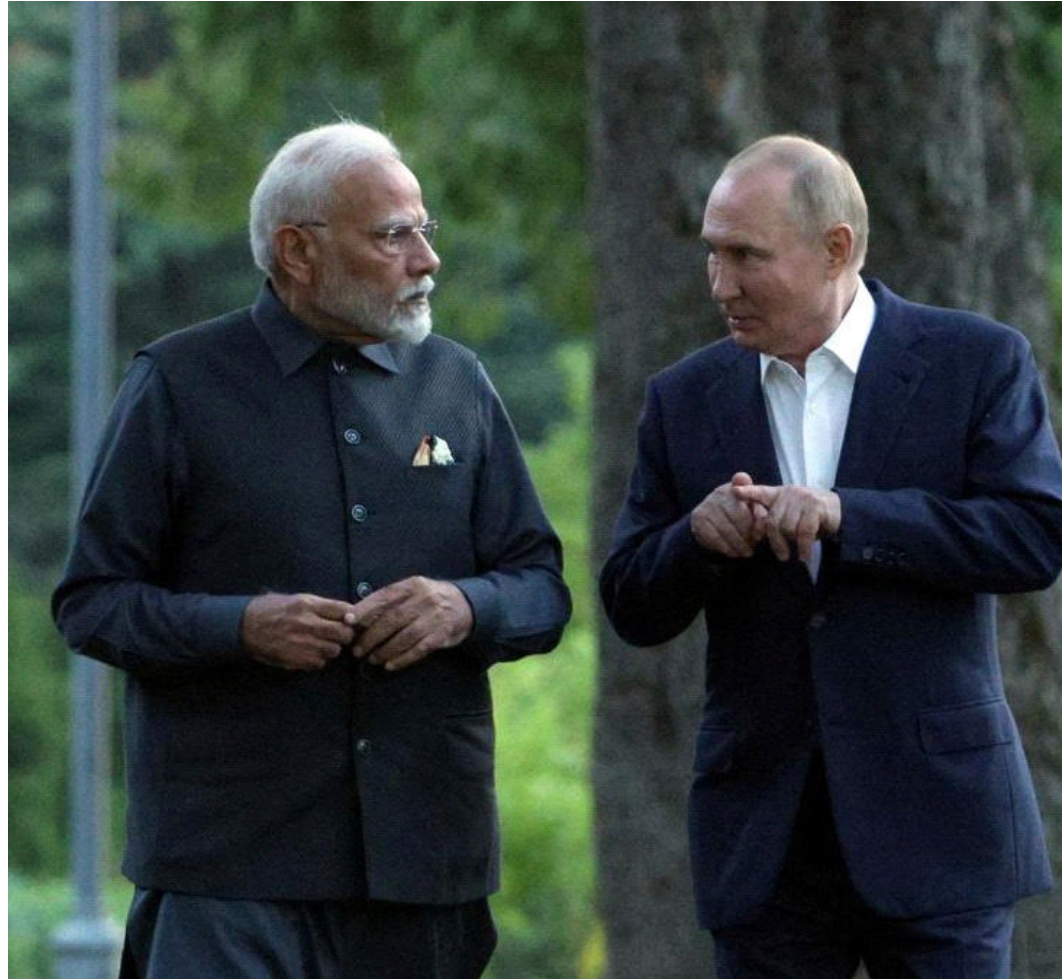
According to The Daily Star, four of the new cases were filed in Dhaka, while one was lodged in Rajshahi. The accusations include charges related to the deaths of multiple individuals during recent mass protests.

The first case, filed by victim Dulal alias Selim's brother Mostafa Kamal, alleges that Hasina and 48 others were involved in the death of Selim during protests in Dhaka's Jatrabari area on August 3. The second case involves the killing of Mansur Miah, a machine operator from Basila, on July 19, with Hasina and 21 others named as defendants.

In a third case, Hasina and 91 others are accused of responsibility for the death of Miraz Hossain in Dhaka's Demra area on August 5. The fourth Dhaka case involves the death of 21-year-old Nahidul Islam at Mirpur-10 on July 19, with Hasina and 40 others facing charges. Victim's brother Md Sabuj filed this case. In Rajshahi, a case has been filed by SM Salahuddin Ahmmed Shamim Sarkar against Hasina, former state minister for foreign affairs Shahriar Alam, and 52 others. This case was filed with the Bagha police station.

The escalation of legal proceedings comes after Sheikh Hasina's resignation and subsequent flight to India on August 5, following widespread anti-government protests led by students. These protests, sparked by controversy over a job quota system, resulted in significant violence, with over 230 reported dead in the aftermath and the total death toll exceeding 600 since mid-July.

Prime Minister Modi Discusses Ukraine Conflict and Bilateral Ties with Putin



In recent diplomatic engagements, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been active in addressing the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and strengthening bilateral relations with both nations. Following his recent visit to Ukraine, where he met with President Volodymyr Zelensky, PM Modi held a conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin to discuss the evolving geopolitical landscape and reaffirm the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia.

On August 27, 2024, PM Modi shared insights from his Ukraine visit during his discussion with President Putin. The Indian Prime Minister emphasized India's commitment to a peaceful and enduring resolution of the conflict, stressing the importance of dialogue, diplomacy, and sincere engagement among all stakeholders. Modi's office highlighted the mutual agreement on the necessity for closer bilateral dialogue to uphold international law principles, including the UN Charter's respect for territorial integrity and state sovereignty. In their recent conversation, the two leaders reviewed progress on various bilateral issues, building on discussions from the 22nd India-Russia Bilateral Summit held in July 2024. This summit, which took place in Russia, had laid the groundwork for enhanced cooperation between the two nations.



Ukraine's Kursk Attack Escalates Tensions as Russia Warns of Broader Conflict

Ukraine launched a significant assault on Russia's western Kursk region, marking the largest foreign attack on Russian soil since World War Two. The attack has intensified the ongoing conflict and spurred severe reactions from Russian officials, with President Vladimir Putin and key diplomats warning of the potential for broader, more dangerous confrontations.

In response to the assault, which has reportedly resulted in Ukraine seizing a slice of territory in Kursk, Putin vowed a substantial retaliation. The attack has heightened fears of escalating tensions between Russia and the West, particularly as discussions about the use of Western-supplied weaponry by Ukraine continue.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov criticized Western nations for allegedly exacerbating the conflict by considering the easing of restrictions on Ukrainian use of foreign weapons. Lavrov described these moves as "playing with fire" and warned that such actions could provoke a much wider conflict involving nuclear powers. He further criticized the Western notion that any potential Third World War would be confined to Europe, asserting that such a scenario would have global implications. Lavrov's remarks echoed long-standing warnings from President Putin about the dangers of a broader war involving major nuclear powers. Despite Russia's reluctance for direct conflict with NATO, the Kremlin's recent statements underscore the increasing volatility of the situation.

Violence Marks Final Day of Notting Hill Carnival, Five Stabbed as Police Make Hundreds of Arrests



In a troubling end to the Notting Hill Carnival, one of the world's largest street festivals, five individuals were stabbed on the final day of the three-day celebration, according to the Metropolitan Police. This follows a weekend marred by violence, with a total of eight stabbings and hundreds of arrests reported.

The violence escalated on Monday, with five additional stabbing incidents occurring. The Met Police reported that three of the stabbing victims were in a life-threatening condition. Over the course of the event, officers made at least 230 arrests on Monday, including 49 for possession of an offensive weapon. This followed a significant number of arrests the previous day.

In addition to the stabbings, three firearms were seized, and 35 officers sustained injuries. The event, which attracts approximately one million people each year during the August bank holiday weekend, saw policing numbers and violence levels similar to last year, when there were 10 stabbings and around 300 arrests.

Despite the violence, the Notting Hill Carnival, celebrated for its vibrant display of British Afro-Caribbean culture, was once again a focal point of color, music, and dance. Feathered dancers, steel bands, and booming sound systems contributed to the festive atmosphere, which attracts large crowds to the streets of west London.

Metropolitan Police's Deputy Assistant Commissioner Ade Adekan expressed frustration with the recurring violence, noting that a woman attending the carnival with her child was among those injured. "We only very narrowly avoided a fatality," Adekan said, urging attendees to report any crimes they witness.

Canadian Immigration Policy Sparks Protests Among Indian Student Graduates



Hundreds of Indian student graduates in Canada are protesting new federal immigration policies that threaten their future in the country. The Canadian government has announced a reduction in permanent residency nominations by 25% and a restriction on study permits, affecting over 70,000 international students.

Protests have erupted in several provinces, including Prince Edward Island, Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia. Graduates argue that the policy changes jeopardize their ability to remain in Canada and risk deportation when their work permits expire at the end of the year. Student advocacy groups, such as the Naujawan Support Network, have raised concerns about the impact on these students' futures.

Mehakdeep Singh, a former international student facing deportation, expressed frustration, stating, "I spent the most crucial six years of my life taking many risks to come to Canada. I studied, worked, paid taxes, and earned enough CRS (Comprehensive Ranking System) points, but the government has just taken advantage of us." Many students invested their family savings into education with hopes of gaining permanent residency.



Domestic Markets End Flat Amid Caution as Indices Approach Highs; Select Sectors Shine

Domestic stock market indices ended flat on Tuesday. Moved within the range bound. Investors acted cautiously as indices reached highs. No purchases were made. With this, Nifty 99 and Sensex moved in the range of 318 points. Shares of Infi, LT and ICICI Bank stopped the indices from falling. 11 out of 20 sectoral indices on BSE rose. Market breadth is in favor of buyers. 2154 stocks advanced while 1803 lost. The rupee weakened by 2 paise to settle at 83.92 against the dollar.



The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,698 in the previous session, opened at 81,815 today. It touched an intraday low of 81,600. The index closed 13 points higher at 81,711 after hitting an intraday high of 81,919. The NSE Nifty opened at 25,024 and touched a low of 24,973 and a high of 25,073. It eventually jumped 7 points to close at 25,017. Nifty Bank gained 130 points to settle at 51,278.

In Nifty50, 18 companies gained while 31 lost. Shares of Bajaj Finserv, SBI Life, Maruti, HDFC Life and LT were the top gainers. Shares of JSW Steel, Titan, Hindustan Unilever, Grasim and Coal India were the biggest losers. Auto, FMCG, Metal and Consumer Durables indexes lost today. Bank, finance, IT, media, pharma, PSU bank, private bank, realty and healthcare indices soared.

Nifty support is at 24,950 and resistance is at 25,100. Investors can buy Chola Fin, SBI Life, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank and Infi shares in short term.

The board has approved raising Rs.200 crore under the Paras Defense QIP scheme. Shares of Zee Entertainment jumped 14% after settlement of merger disputes with Sony. Citibank settles Rs 40 lakh dispute with SEBI Concorde Enviro Systems has filed IPO draft papers. The US FDA has approved Shilpa Medicare Injection for the treatment of blood cell cancer. Premier Energies IPO was fully subscribed on the first day. Airtel signs deal with Apple for Apple TVPlus India. RVNL became the lowest bidder for the Southern Railway project. Shares of Ashok Leyland hit fresh highs. Bondada shares hit upper circuit.



Chola Finance :

Chola Finance has shown strong performance with a significant increase in assets under management (AUM). The company is well-positioned to sustain its growth momentum, with expectations of a 26% CAGR in AUM growth over the coming years. Backed by stable credit costs and improving margins, Chola Finance is expected to continue its strong performance. It is a good pick for both short-term gains and long-term investment.

SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd.

SBI Life has maintained a strong presence in the insurance sector with consistent premium growth. The company's robust distribution network and strategic tie-ups have supported its steady performance. With the increasing penetration of insurance products in India and SBI Life's focus on expanding its product portfolio, the stock is expected to perform well in the medium to long term.

Bharti Airtel Ltd.

Bharti Airtel has shown impressive subscriber growth and increased ARPU (Average Revenue Per User) due to recent tariff hikes. The company continues to expand its 4G network and enterprise services, positioning itself as a leader in both consumer and business segments. With its strong margins and continued investment in network expansion, Bharti Airtel is likely to maintain its upward

trajectory. The stock is recommended for both short-term trading and long-term investment.

ICICI Bank Ltd.

ICICI Bank continues to demonstrate strong financial performance, driven by healthy credit and deposit growth. The bank's asset quality remains stable, and it is expected to maintain a strong Return on Assets (RoA) and Return on Equity (RoE). ICICI Bank remains a top pick among banking stocks due to its consistent performance and strong capital base. It is well-positioned for both short-term gains and long-term growth

Infosys Ltd.

Infosys has maintained its leadership position in the IT services sector with strong revenue growth driven by digital transformation projects. The company has a robust order pipeline and continues to benefit from its focus on cloud and AI services. With a positive growth outlook and strong client relationships, Infosys is expected to continue its upward momentum. The stock is a strong buy for both short-term and long-term investors looking for exposure to the technology sector.

These stocks are well-positioned to perform in the current market environment, making them suitable for a range of investment strategies. Be sure to monitor market conditions and news updates before making any trading decisions.

RBI to Launch Unified Lending Interface (ULI) for Seamless Credit Access

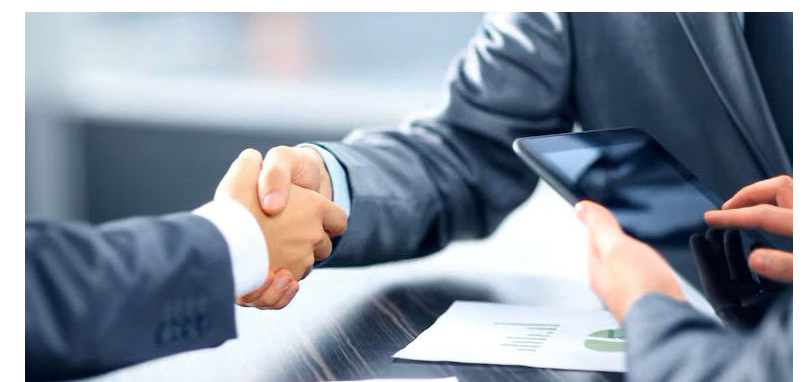
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to launch the "Unified Lending Interface" (ULI), RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced on Monday. Following a successful pilot project last year, ULI aims to revolutionize India's lending landscape by enabling a seamless, consent-based flow of digital information. This new platform is designed to streamline the lending process, cut costs, expedite disbursement, and enhance scalability. It will facilitate a frictionless credit experience by integrating digital data, including land records from multiple states, thus significantly reducing the time needed for credit appraisal, especially for small and rural borrowers.

Das highlighted that ULI is poised to address the considerable unmet demand for credit in various sectors, particularly agriculture and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). He compared its transformative potential to that of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in the payments ecosystem, suggesting that ULI will similarly innovate the lending sector. The platform will feature common, standardized APIs designed for a 'plug and play' approach, allowing for easier digital access to information from diverse sources. This will minimize the complexity associated with multiple technical integrations and provide lenders with comprehensive financial and non-financial data.

Das described ULI as a key component of India's evolving digital infrastructure, alongside UPI and the JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, and Mobile) initiative, collectively referred to as the "new trinity." The RBI Governor emphasized the institution's commitment to strengthening the financial system by implementing policies that enhance its robustness, agility, and customer orientation. The launch of ULI is expected to further secure and modernize India's financial landscape, supporting its broader goals of financial inclusion and efficient credit distribution.



India and Oman Near Agreement on Free Trade Pact



Discussions between India and Oman regarding a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) are progressing swiftly, with hopes to finalize the deal soon, Indian Ambassador to Oman Amit Narang announced on August 27.

The agreement, officially termed the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), is poised to significantly enhance trade and investment relations between the two nations. The pact aims to remove tariffs on a range of products, including petroleum, textiles, electronics, pharmaceuticals, machinery, and iron and steel, thereby boosting Indian exports to Oman.

Ambassador Narang emphasized the positive impact of the agreement, stating, "The discussions for a bilateral CEPA with Oman are at an advanced stage. We anticipate concluding these discussions soon, which will greatly benefit not only trade but also investment ties between our countries."

The CEPA is expected to facilitate smoother and more efficient trade by eliminating import duties, making Indian goods more competitive in the Omani market. This move aligns with both countries' goals of deepening economic cooperation and expanding their bilateral economic footprint. The finalization of the CEPA will mark a significant milestone in the strengthening of economic relations between India and Oman, paving the way for increased trade volumes and investment flows. As negotiations approach completion, both sides are optimistic about the agreement's potential to bolster their economic partnership and foster mutual growth.

India Sees Surge in LNG Imports Driven by Domestic Demand and Power Sector Growth

India experienced a significant increase in liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports during the first four months of the current financial year (FY25), marking a double-digit growth. This rise in imports is attributed to robust domestic demand and favorable conditions in the international market, where LNG is available at reasonable prices. The increase in LNG imports comes alongside a boost in domestic natural gas production.

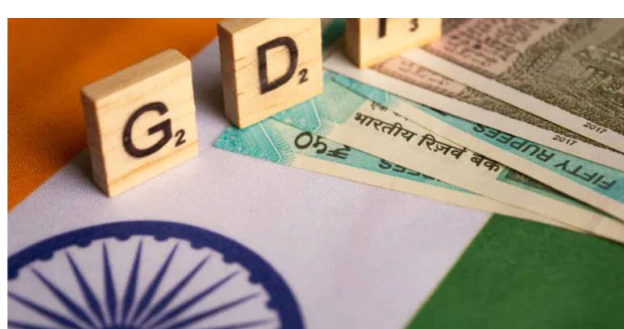
The primary driver behind the growth in LNG consumption has been the power sector. The government's push to enhance power production to meet high summer demand resulted in increased electricity generation from gas-based power units. This heightened energy production capacity has contributed to the growing need for LNG, which has been essential in ensuring adequate power supply during peak periods.



The surge in LNG imports reflects both a strategic response to meet the energy needs of the country and an indication of the expanding role of natural gas in India's energy mix. The ample availability of LNG internationally and the competitive pricing have made it a viable option for supporting the country's energy requirements. As India continues to balance its energy needs

with production capabilities, the reliance on LNG is expected to play a crucial role in bridging the gap between supply and demand, particularly in the power sector. The ongoing growth in both domestic gas production and LNG imports underscores the evolving landscape of India's energy strategy as it adapts to changing market conditions and domestic consumption patterns.

India's Q1 FY2025 GDP Growth Expected to Dip to 6%



India's GDP data for Q1 FY2025 is scheduled for release at the end of August 2024. According to ICRA, the GDP growth rate is anticipated to slow to a six-quarter low of 6 percent, down from 7.8 percent in Q4 FY2024. This forecast is notably below the Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC) projection of 7.1 percent for the quarter. Despite this decline, ICRA does not view it as a significant concern. They attribute the slowdown to temporary and technical factors and expect growth to rebound above 7 percent in the latter half of FY2025.

The expected deceleration in GDP growth for Q1 FY2025, compared to Q4 FY2024, is largely due to technical reasons. Specifically, it relates to the narrowing gap between GDP and Gross Value Added (GVA) growth rates. This gap, defined as net indirect taxes (i.e., indirect taxes minus subsidies), experienced a significant YoY decrease in subsidies in H2 FY2024. As a result, the GDP-GVA growth gap widened to 178 basis points (bps) in Q3 FY2024 and 148 bps in Q4 FY2024.



Pavel Durov: The “Russian Zuckerberg” in a Clash with France



Pavel Durov, the enigmatic co-founder and CEO of Telegram Messenger Inc., has recently found himself at the center of a growing controversy with French authorities. Often referred to as the “Russian Zuckerberg,” Durov has built a reputation as a staunch defender of user privacy, which has brought him into conflict with several governments over the years. Now, France has turned its attention to Telegram, citing concerns over encryption and content moderation.

Who is Pavel Durov?

Born in Russia and having spent much of his childhood in Italy, Pavel Durov is a global citizen with passports from Russia, France, the Caribbean island nation of St. Kitts and Nevis, and the United Arab Emirates. He first made his mark in the tech world as the co-founder of VKontakte (VK), Russia's largest social networking site, which has often been compared to Facebook. Durov's success with VK earned him the nickname “Russian Zuckerberg.”



In 2013, after a series of clashes with the Russian government over privacy concerns, Durov, along with his brother Nikolai, launched Telegram. Nikolai designed the app's encryption system, which has since become one of its most lauded features.

Why Did the French Authorities Arrest Him?

The tensions between Durov and French authorities have escalated over Telegram's strict privacy policies, particularly its refusal to share user data. Telegram offers end-to-end encryption for messages, meaning that only the users involved in the communication can access the information. This level of privacy has made Telegram a last resort for those seeking secure communication, especially in an era where digital privacy is increasingly under threat.

French authorities have accused Durov of facilitating illegal activities by not cooperating in their demands for access to encrypted user data. They argue that Telegram's encryption makes it difficult to prevent and investigate crimes like drug trafficking, cyberbullying, and the spread of child sexual abuse material. As a result, French officials have taken a hard stance, leading to Durov's arrest on charges related to content moderation practices and the platform's role in criminal activities.

Why Does France Want to Ban Telegram?

France's push to ban Telegram is rooted in concerns over national security and public safety. The French government contends that Telegram's encryption and refusal to share user data hinder their ability to combat serious crimes. By not cooperating, they argue, Telegram has become a haven for illegal activities that are difficult to monitor or stop.

France's demand for user data is not unprecedented. Similar requests have been made by other governments, including Russia, where Durov famously refused to grant security agents access to encrypted messages. His steadfast commitment to user privacy ultimately led him to leave Russia and adopt citizenship in multiple countries.



Why is Telegram So Popular?



Despite—or perhaps because of—its controversial stance on privacy, Telegram has grown to become one of the most popular messaging apps globally. Several key features give Telegram an edge over competitors like WhatsApp:

End-to-End Encryption : Telegram's secret chats offer end-to-end encryption, ensuring that only the communicating parties can access the messages.

Self-Destructing Messages : Users can send messages that automatically delete after a set period, further enhancing privacy.

Cloud Storage : Telegram offers cloud storage without requiring phone numbers, allowing users to access their messages across multiple devices.

Open-Source Code : Telegram's open-source code is a major draw for developers and privacy advocates alike.

No Data Sharing with Third Parties : Unlike WhatsApp, Telegram does not share user data with third parties for advertising purposes.

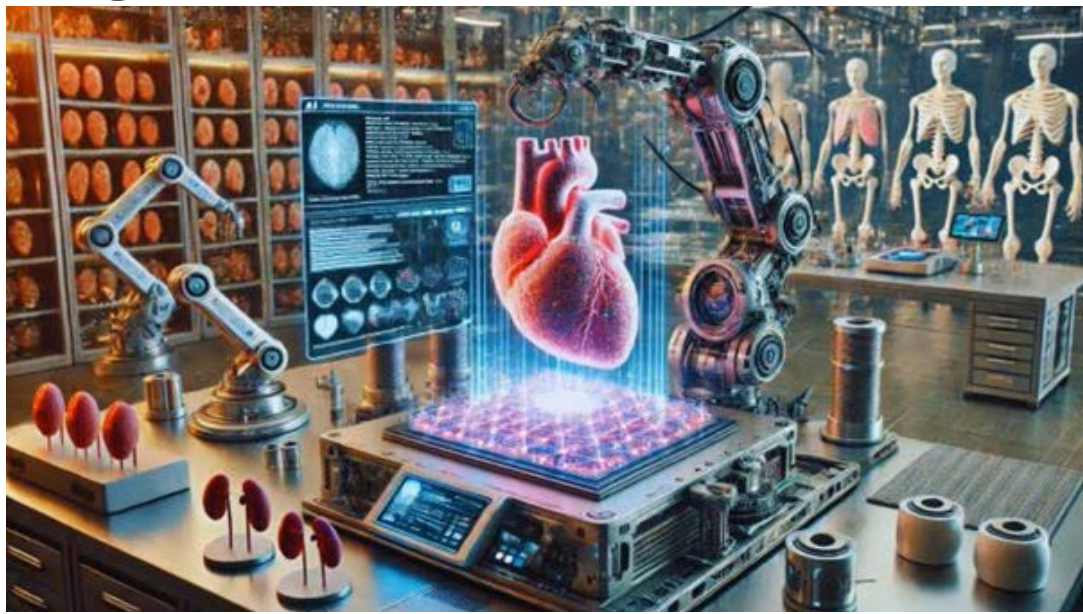
These features have made Telegram particularly popular among users who prioritize privacy and security, setting it apart from other messaging platforms.

Conclusion

Pavel Durov's commitment to safeguarding user privacy has made him both a hero to privacy advocates and a target for governments concerned about the implications of encrypted communication. As the French authorities push for more control over digital platforms, the outcome of their clash with Durov and Telegram could have far-reaching implications for the future of privacy and freedom of speech on the internet.



AI Boosts 3D Printing for Human Organs and Complex Structures



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing numerous fields, from boosting workplace productivity to aiding in early cancer detection. One of the most exciting frontiers of AI research is its potential application in 3D printing, specifically for creating lifelike human organs. Researchers at Washington State University have recently made significant advancements in this area using a technique known as Bayesian Optimization.

Published in *Advanced Materials Technologies*, the study highlights how Bayesian Optimization, an AI-driven approach, can drastically improve the efficiency and speed of 3D printing processes. This breakthrough could transform the way we approach the creation of complex structures, extending beyond human organs to include intricate electronic components and advanced wearable biosensors.

Bayesian Optimization is a method used

to fine-tune complex systems by making predictions and iteratively improving based on results. In the context of 3D printing, this AI technique enhances the accuracy and functionality of printed objects by optimizing the design parameters and printing conditions. This allows for more detailed and precise construction of structures that were previously challenging to achieve.

The primary advantage of this AI algorithm is its ability to handle and improve upon highly complex designs. For example, creating artificial organs requires extremely detailed and accurate 3D models to mimic human tissues and functions closely. Traditional 3D printing methods often struggle with such complexity, but the integration of Bayesian Optimization can streamline the process, making it more feasible to produce functional, life-like organs.

Online Games Enhance Social Skills in People with Autism, Study Show

A recent study from the University of Plymouth, UK, suggests that online games can significantly enhance the social skills of individuals with autism. Published in the journal *Autism*, the research focused on a small group of eight people with autism who participated in the role-playing game *Dungeons and Dragons*, both in-person and online.

The study aimed to determine if engaging in a social environment where participants felt comfortable could improve their social interactions. "There are many myths about autism, including the notion that those with it lack social motivation or imagination. *Dungeons and Dragons* challenges these misconceptions by emphasizing teamwork and creativity in a completely fictional setting," said Dr. Gray Atherton, the lead author and Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Plymouth.



Plymouth.

Participants were introduced to the game and spent six weeks playing in small groups under the guidance of a game master. Afterward, the researchers conducted interviews to assess how the experience affected the participants and their perceptions of autism.

The study found that players often concealed their autism symptoms, but the game provided a supportive environment where they felt a natural connection with others. Many participants reported that the experience allowed them to embrace a new persona, which positively impacted their self-perception.

OpenAI Supports California Bill for AI Content Transparency

OpenAI is backing a California bill, AB 3211, which seeks to mandate the labeling of AI-generated content. This bill aims to address concerns over misleading information, ranging from innocuous memes to deceptive deepfakes targeting political figures. The push for transparency comes amid heightened scrutiny of AI technologies, especially during election years.



AB 3211, introduced by California State Assembly member Buffy Wicks, has garnered attention as a crucial measure for enhancing content clarity. While the bill has not been as prominent as another California AI bill, SB 1047—which requires AI developers to conduct safety tests on their models—AB 3211 focuses on ensuring that AI-generated content is properly identified to prevent misinformation.

The tech industry, including OpenAI, has expressed support for AB 3211, emphasizing the importance of transparency and provenance. OpenAI's Chief Strategy Officer, Jason Kwon, highlighted the need for standards that help distinguish between human-generated and AI-generated content, particularly as global elections approach. The potential im-

act of AI-generated content on elections, as seen in places like Indonesia, underscores the urgency of such measures.

The bill has already passed the California State Assembly with unanimous support and recently cleared the senate appropriations committee. It is now set for a vote by the full state Senate. If approved by August 31, it will be sent to Governor Gavin Newsom for final approval or veto by September 30. This legislative move reflects growing concerns about AI's role in media and its influence on public perception.

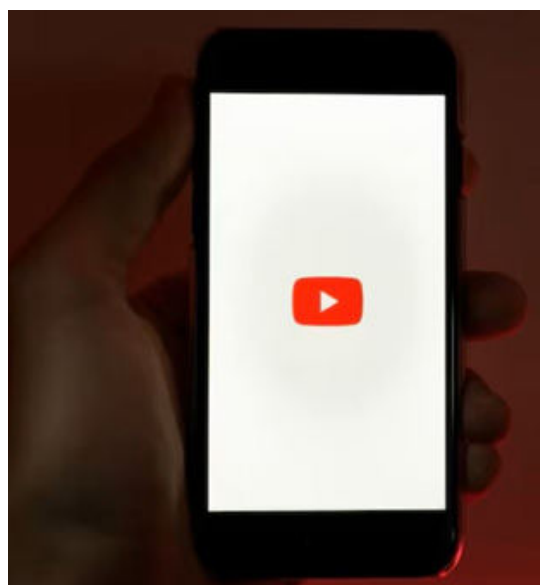
YouTube Premium Announces Price Increase in India

YouTube Premium, the ad-free subscription service from Google, has announced a price hike in India, impacting all subscription plans, including individual, family, and student options. While some plans have experienced only a minor increase, others have seen more substantial changes in their prices. It remains unclear whether existing subscribers will receive a grace period before the new rates apply.

YouTube Premium offers several benefits, including ad-free streaming of videos, background play, picture-in-picture (PiP) mode, and enhanced high-definition video streaming. These features make it a popular choice for users seeking an uninterrupted viewing and listening experience.

The updated pricing is now reflected on YouTube's website and affects both pre-paid and recurring subscription plans. The recurring Individual plan, which provides ad-free access to YouTube content for a single user, has increased from Rs. 129 to Rs. 149 per month.

For users with the Family plan, which allows up to five members to enjoy You-



Tube Premium, the new price is Rs. 299 per month, up from the previous rate of Rs. 189. This represents a significant increase for those who share their subscription with family members.

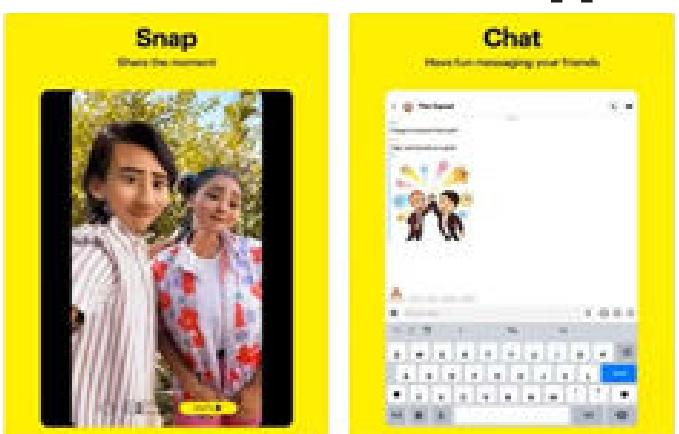
Despite the price adjustments, the Student plan remains the most affordable option for ad-free content. However, this plan has also seen a small increase, rising from Rs. 79 per month to Rs. 89 per month.

Snapchat Expands to iPad with Native Support

Snapchat has finally rolled out a highly anticipated update for iPad users, making the app natively compatible with Apple's tablet. Until now, iPad users had to rely on the iPhone version of the app, which resulted in a less-than-optimal experience with black borders around the display. The new update, Snapchat 13.4.0.41, marks a significant improvement by offering "native support for iPad," as noted in the App Store's changelog.

With this update, Snapchat users on iPads will benefit from a larger canvas when capturing photo or video snaps, enhancing their overall experience. Additionally, the app will now allow users to view more friends on the second and fourth tabs, making it easier to stay connected with a broader network.

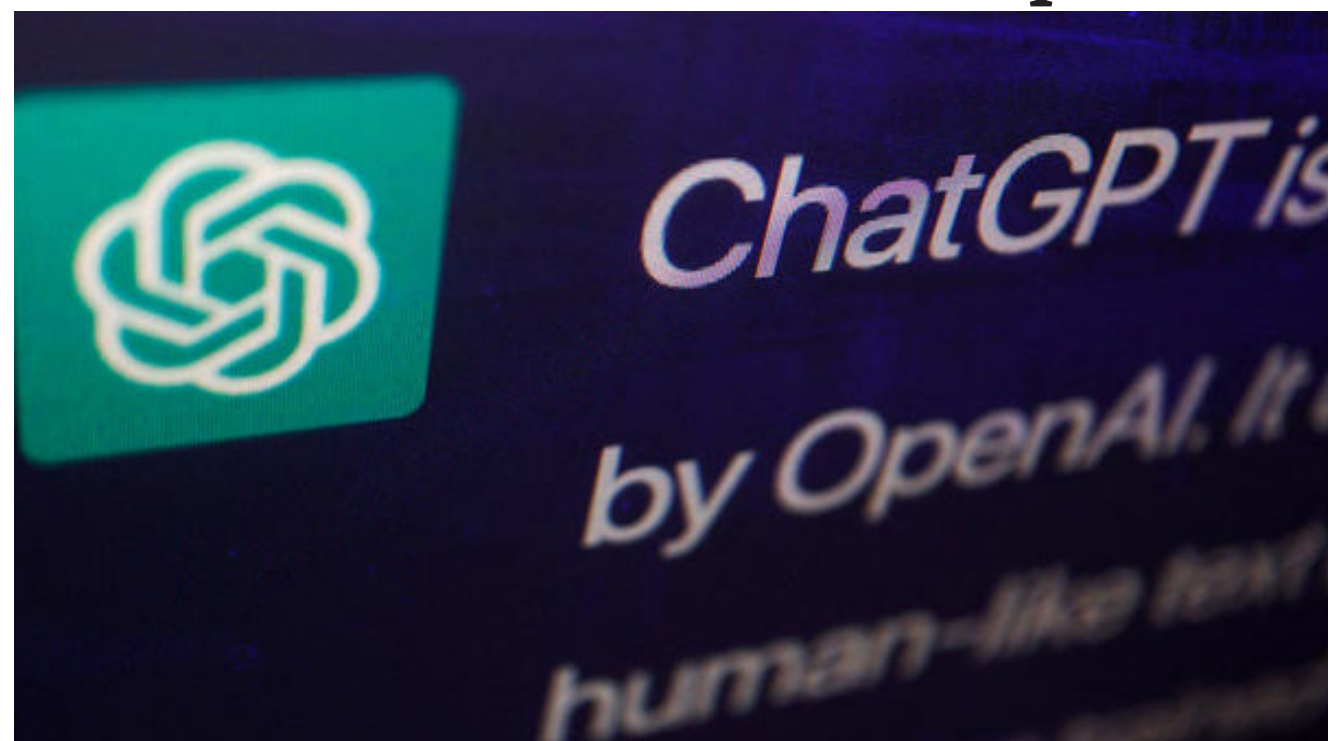
Despite this progress, the app's current iteration is optimized only for portrait mode on the iPad, suggesting that it may not yet



be fully adapted for landscape orientation. This limitation indicates that while Snapchat has made strides in enhancing its iPad functionality, there may still be room for further improvements.

In addition to the iPad update, Snapchat has introduced several new features over the past months. Last year, Snap, the developer behind Snapchat, launched My AI—a chatbot that can engage in conversations, set reminders, and generate images. Some of My AI's features are exclusive to Snapchat+ subscribers.

AI Delivers Brutal Break-Up Letter



Artificial Intelligence is transforming many aspects of our lives, including personal relationships. Recently, a Reddit user tested the limits of ChatGPT by requesting a break-up letter filled with insults and criticisms. The result has been described as "brutal" and "ruthless."

The user prompted ChatGPT to write a break-up letter that was both insulting and dismissive. "Be as petty and mean as possible. Also, insult my looks using the provided picture as reference," the user requested. ChatGPT delivered with a harsh critique of the user's appearance, habits, and hobbies.

The AI began by expressing disbelief at how the relationship had dragged on, questioning the worth of spending time with the user. It mocked the user's midlife crisis, particularly criticizing his attempt to skateboard at 40. "You're one bad fall away from realizing that your youth is long gone," the letter read.

ChatGPT did not spare his looks either. It described his "scruffy beard" as unflattering and his glasses as making him look like he was trying too hard. "You're the epitome of wasted potential," it concluded.

In its final remarks, ChatGPT announced its departure with a dismissive tone, saying it had found something better and was done with the user's "stagnant" interests. The post has since gone viral, garnering various reactions from social media users, with some expressing shock and others noting the harshness of the AI's response.

Reactions have ranged from sympathy for the user to concerns about AI's potential for emotional impact. "I would need therapy after this," one user commented, while another observed, "Asking a computer to insult you while breaking up with you is a cry for help anyway."



BCCI Announces India's Squad For Women's T20 World Cup 2024



The full squad for the Women's T20 World Cup is as follows:

- Harmanpreet Kaur (Captain)
- Smriti Mandhana (Vice-Captain)
- Shafali Verma
- Deepti Sharma
- Jemimah Rodrigues
- Richa Ghosh (Wicketkeeper)
- Yastika Bhatia (Wicketkeeper)*
- Pooja Vastrakar
- Arundhati Reddy
- Renuka Singh Thakur
- Dayalan Hemalatha
- Asha Sobhana
- Radha Yadav
- Shreyanka Patil*
- Sajana Sajeevan

Harmanpreet Kaur will captain the 15-member Indian squad for the Women's T20 World Cup, which begins in the UAE on October 3. The announcement, made on Tuesday, marks a significant moment for Indian cricket as Kaur takes the helm with a squad that includes notable players such as top-order batter Yastika Bhatia and spin all-rounder Shreyanka Patil. Both Bhatia and Patil's inclusion is contingent on their fitness, adding an element of uncertainty as the team prepares for the tournament.

Smriti Mandhana, another key player, has been named Kaur's vice-captain. Mandhana's experience and batting prowess will be crucial as India navigates the challenges of the World

Cup. The tournament has been relocated from Bangladesh to the UAE due to unrest in the South Asian nation, which was sparked by student protests.

India is placed in Group A alongside strong competitors including Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The team will be aiming to secure their first-ever T20 World Cup title. With a blend of experienced leaders and emerging talents, India's squad is poised to make a significant impact in the competition.

As the squad finalizes its preparation, the focus will be on ensuring all players are fit and ready to compete at the highest level. With a determined leadership under Kaur and a

well-rounded team, India will be looking to make a strong statement in the World Cup.

Cristiano Ronaldo Reveals Retirement Plans Amid Al Nassr Exit Talks

Robert Lewandowski overcame a series of missed chances to secure a 2-1 victory for Barcelona against Athletic Bilbao in La Liga on Saturday. Despite hitting the woodwork twice and squandering several opportunities, the 36-year-old striker managed to find the back of the net with a decisive goal in the 75th minute, clinching the win for Barcelona.

Teenage sensation Lamine Yamal initially put Barcelona ahead with a deflected shot. However, Athletic Bilbao equalized before half-time when Oihan Sancet converted a penalty. The match remained level until Lewandowski's pivotal strike, which delivered Barcelona's second



consecutive victory under new coach Hansi Flick.

Barcelona's win underscores the team's strong start to the season, with Lewandowski playing a crucial role despite his earlier frustrations. The victory solidifies their position in the league and highlights the effectiveness of Flick's tactics early in his tenure.

England Recall Olly Stone to Replace Injured Mark Wood vs Sri Lanka

England has recalled pacer Olly Stone for the second Test against Sri Lanka, marking his return to the squad after a three-year absence. Stone replaces Mark Wood, who has been ruled out for the remainder of the series due to a thigh injury sustained during England's five-wicket victory in the first Test at Old Trafford.

The injury to Wood, who has been a key player in England's recent successes, forced the selectors to make a change. Stone, a right-arm seamer from Nottinghamshire, has been chosen over 20-year-old left-arm paceman Josh Hull, who had also been considered after Wood's injury. Stone's recall is particularly notable as he has had a challenging period with injuries, including a significant anterior cruciate ligament tear sustained while celebrating a wicket.



September 13 to 24.

The 15-player squad includes: Heather Knight (c), Lauren Bell, Maia Bouchier, Alice Capsey, Charlie Dean, Sophia Dunkley, Sophie Ecclestone, Danielle Gibson, Sarah Glenn, Bess Heath, Amy Jones, Freya Kemp, Nat Sciver-Brunt, Linsey Smith, and Danni Wyatt. Twelve of these players were part of England's squad in the 2023 T20 World Cup in South Africa. Lauren Winfield-Hill, Kate Cross, and the retired Katherine Sciver-Brunt are not included in the 2024 squad. Danielle

England Announces T20 World Cup Squad, Welcomes New Faces

England's squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup in the UAE has been revealed, featuring debutants Bess Heath, Freya Kemp, and Danielle Gibson. This marks the first time these players will represent England in a T20 World Cup. Heather Knight will captain the team for the fourth time in this format. The squad closely mirrors the team that faced New Zealand in July's five-match T20I series, with the notable exception of Lauren Filer, who is excluded from the tournament squad but will join the team for their pre-tournament camp in Abu Dhabi from



KL Rahul Likely to Step Down as LSG Captain

KL Rahul is expected to be removed as captain of the Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) for the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 season. Although Rahul will remain with the team as a player, he will step down from his leadership role. The decision comes as Rahul seeks to focus more on his batting performance rather than the pressures of captaincy.

Sources close to the Lucknow franchise revealed that during a recent meeting with CEO Sanjiv Goenka, it was confirmed that Rahul will be retained but will not lead the side. The discussion centered around the future of the team's leadership, and it was decided that Rahul's role as captain would be reassessed. The franchise is now considering Krunal Pandya and Nicholas Pooran as potential

candidates to take over the captaincy.

Rahul's meeting with Goenka, which took place on Monday at the latter's office in Alipore, Kolkata, lasted around four hours. Following the meeting, Rahul traveled to Bengaluru to begin his preparation for the Duleep Trophy, where he will play for Team 'A,' led by Shubman Gill.

Rahul's tenure as captain faced criticism after the Lucknow Super Giants failed to qualify for the playoffs despite being in a strong position. Additionally, Rahul's performance declined after the IPL season, leading to his exclusion from the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, which India won in Barbados. Rahul is now focused on making a return to the Indian T20 squad.



India to Face West Indies, South Africa in T20 World Cup Warm-ups

As preparations for the Women's T20 World Cup intensify, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the schedule for the warm-up matches set to take place in Dubai. India will play two crucial practice games ahead of the tournament, facing West Indies on September 29 and South Africa on October 1.

The warm-up matches are scheduled from September 28 to October 1, offering teams an opportunity to fine-tune their strategies before the tournament kicks off. All ten teams that have qualified for the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 will participate in these warm-up games, with each team playing two matches.

The warm-up fixtures will begin on September 28 with Pakistan taking on Scotland and Sri Lanka facing Bangladesh. The following day, defending champions Australia will

clash with arch-rivals England, while India will face the West Indies.

These warm-up games will be 20 overs per side but will not hold official T20 status, allowing teams to use their entire 15-player squad. Importantly, teams from the same group will not face each other in these practice matches, providing a varied competitive environment for preparation.

The official tournament will see India in Group A alongside defending champions Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Group B will feature England, South Africa, West Indies, Scotland, and Bangladesh.

The warm-up matches are an essential part of the preparation process, giving teams a chance to assess their form and make adjustments before the Women's T20 World Cup commences.

Gibson was a travelling reserve in 2023.

Captain Heather Knight expressed her enthusiasm about leading the squad, stating, "World Cups are always special, and I'm really excited about the squad we've selected. It's an honor to lead the team into another World Cup." Head coach Jon Lewis remarked on the selection process, noting the difficulty in choosing the final squad. He highlighted the balance of experience and youth in the team, which he believes will excel in the UAE conditions.





NTR Jr Reveals 'Faces of Fear' in New Poster for 'Devara: Part 1'



The excitement for *Devara – Part 1* continues to build as the film's makers unveil new posters featuring Jr NTR in strikingly fierce avatars. The latest social media posts, shared on Instagram, include the captivating caption: "The Faces OF Fear!! In a month, his arrival will stir up the world with an unmissable big screen experience. Let's experience his Majestic Madness in theaters on September 27th."

The posters showcase Jr NTR in two intense looks, adding to the growing anticipation for the film. Recently, to celebrate Saif Ali Khan's birthday, the makers revealed a glimpse of his character, Bhaira. Karan Johar, overseeing the film's distribution in northern India, previously teased fans with a photo of Saif's character, creating further buzz.

Now, NTR Arts has officially released a 52-second action-packed video highlighting Saif Ali Khan's role. In the video, Saif's character Bhaira is depicted in a dramatic wrestling match, defeating his opponent and creating a bloody spectacle. The clip also shows Bhaira celebrating with his clan, hinting at his formidable and powerful presence in the film.

The post accompanying the video reads, "His hunt will be legendary. Presenting @saifalikhnpataudiworld as #Bhaira from the world of #Devara."

Saif Ali Khan will take on the role of the lead antagonist, while Janhvi Kapoor will star as the female lead, marking her Tollywood debut alongside Saif's debut. Directed by Koratala Siva and produced by Yuvasudha Arts and NTR Arts, *Devara: Part 1* is set to release on September 27, 2024, promising a major cinematic event.

Chiranjeevi and Aswini Dutt Announce Sequels for Iconic Films



Megastar Chiranjeevi and producer Aswini Dutt have a long history of successful collaborations, with notable hits like *Jagadeka Veerudu Atiloka Sundari* and *Indra*. To celebrate Chiranjeevi's recent birthday, the team re-released *Indra*, which received a warm reception from fans after 22 years. This revival has sparked exciting news about future projects.

During the re-release event, Chiranjeevi honored the key crew members of *Indra*, including music director Mani Sharma. Sharma proposed that Chiranjeevi should consider a sequel to *Indra*, a suggestion that was met with enthusiasm by director B Gopal and others present. Producer Aswini Dutt quickly supported the idea, confirming plans for *Indra 2*.

In the same discussion, Chiranjeevi reminded Dutt of his earlier plans to create a sequel to *Jagadeka Veerudu Atiloka Sundari*. Dutt acknowledged this, stating, "Yes, I am planning the JVAS sequel as well. Given the current trend of sequels in the industry, we should definitely pursue *Indra 2* and *JVAS 2*."

The conversation also included contributions from the Paruchuri Brothers and Chinni Krishna, and a snippet of this discussion was shared on social media by Vyjayanthi Movies.

Fans of these classic films are eagerly anticipating the sequels, with the announcement marking a significant moment in Telugu cinema. The return of these beloved stories promises to rekindle the magic of the original hits and bring new excitement to Chiranjeevi's extensive filmography.

Upcoming Telugu Film *Sundarakanda* Promises Unique Love Story



societal expectations while searching for a suitable life partner. With a checklist of qualities he desires in a partner, the film combines this personal journey with a touch of situational comedy, making it both relatable and entertaining.

The cast includes Sridevi Vijay Kumar and Vriti Vaghani, who play the female leads. Marking the directorial debut of Venkatesh Nimmalapudi, *Sundarakanda* is set to hit theaters on September 6th, coinciding with Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations.

Produced by Santhosh Chinnapolla, Gowtham Reddy, and Rakesh Mahankalli under the banner of Sandeep Picture Palace, the film features Pradeesh M Varma as the cinematographer, Rohan Chillale as the editor, and Leon James as the music director.

With its relatable storyline and blend of comedy and drama, *Sundarakanda* is anticipated to be a refreshing addition to Telugu cinema, offering a new perspective on love and relationships. The film's release during Ganesh Chaturthi adds a festive touch, further heightening anticipation among audiences.

The Telugu film industry is buzzing with excitement over the upcoming release of *Sundarakanda*, starring Nara Rohith in the lead role. The film's title has already generated significant interest, and today, the makers unveiled the teaser, which offers a glimpse into the feel-good drama that awaits audiences.

The film's tagline, "No two love stories are the same," sets the stage for a unique and engaging love drama. *Sundarakanda* explores the theme of marriage through the lens of Nara Rohith's character, who faces the pressures of

Mathu Vadalara 2 Set for September Release



Fans of the 2019 Telugu sleeper hit *Mathu Vadalara* have reason to celebrate as the highly anticipated sequel, *Mathu Vadalara 2*, is scheduled to hit theaters on September 13. Directed by debut filmmaker Ritesh Rana, the original film captivated audiences with its unique crime-comedy blend and unexpected twists.

The sequel promises to continue the thrilling narrative that made the first film a standout. Sree Simha and Satya will return as Babu and Yesu, the comically unlucky delivery agents who found themselves in increasingly bizarre and perilous situations. Faria Abdullah joins the cast as the female lead, adding a fresh dynamic to the story.

Kala Bhairava, who composed the memorable score for the first film, is back to enhance the sequel with his musical talent. Produced by Mythri Movie Makers and Clap Entertainment, *Mathu Vadalara 2* aims to live up to the high bar set by its predecessor. The original movie was celebrated for its inventive script and novel approach to the thriller genre, securing its place as a notable project in Telugu cinema.

With Ritesh Rana returning to direct, expectations are high for the sequel to build on the success of the first film. Fans are eagerly awaiting to see if *Mathu Vadalara 2* can match or even surpass the brilliance of the original.

Mohanlal Resigns as AMMA President Amid Sexual Assault Allegations



Actor Mohanlal has resigned from his position as President of the Association of Malayalam Movie Actors (AMMA), following a wave of serious sexual assault and rape allegations against prominent figures in the Malayalam film industry. This move comes in response to accusations against several high-profile individuals, including veteran actor Siddique and filmmaker Ranjith Balakrishnan.

In addition to Mohanlal, all members of AMMA's executive committee have stepped down. The organization issued a statement saying the executive committee took "moral responsibility" and dissolved itself amid the scandal. A new committee will be elected within the next two months, according to AMMA.

The resignation comes after the release of the Justice Hema Committee report, which includes numerous disturbing allegations of abuse by senior industry figures. Although the report was submitted to the Kerala government in 2019, it was only made public recently after overcoming legal challenges.

Several women have come forward with complaints against prominent Malayalam actors and filmmakers. Notably, actor Baburaj, who was previously AMMA's Joint Secretary, faces accusations of rape by a junior artiste. Baburaj, who has resigned from his position, denies the allegations, claiming they are intended to hinder his potential appointment as General Secretary of AMMA.