

# Sins of Past Rulers Are Curse for Us: Chandrababu



YCP's negligence of Budameru canal is the reason for Vijayawada's flooding. He accused YCP of allowing illegal constructions, worsening the flood impact. YCP-owned boats were left to damage the Prakasam Barrage and used for sand smuggling.

ababu Naidu has accused the previous YCP govern argued that the negligence of the government has the boats. ment of committing "sins" that have now turned into curses for the people of Andhra Pradesh. He stated that the careless attitude of the former government towards Budameru has posed a serious threat to Vijayawada. He criticized the YCP government for not dredging the Budameru river or filling the ditches even once in five years. Chandrababu commented that the heavy rains have led to severe flooding in Vijayawada.

He further explained that the previous government

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Chief Minister Chandr responsible for the torrential rains and floods, he added that authorities are still working to remove worsened the impact of the floods.

#### Those Boats Belong to YCP

Chandrababu also made serious accusations against YCP leaders, alleging that they are taking revenge on the people who defeated them in the elections. He claimed that the four boats left in the Krishna River belonged to YCP and were deliberately placed there to damage the Prakasam Barrage. He pointed out that the boats were had encouraged illegal activities in the Budameru – painted in YCP colors and explained that they were – who cause harm to the common man. river basin and granted permissions for illegal chained together and left in the river, causing constructions. While climate change may be them to collide with the walls of the barrage. He

He also alleged that these boats were used for smuggling sand and accused YCP leader Jagan of falsely claiming that the boats belonged to TDP. Chandrababu expressed his anger over the alleged conspiracy to destroy the Prakasam Barrage. He emphasized that if there were no political ties involved, he would have acted decisively against the accused. Chandrababu reminded the public that he has always taken a tough stance against bullies and goons, and has never tolerated those

#### INSIDE ... AP Deputy CM Meets Telangana CM Nandigam Suresh's Wife Baby Latha Challenges AP Home Minister Anita Over Arrest Causes of Budameru Canal Irregularities Rahul Gandhi vs Kiren Rijiju Over Democracy, China PM Modi Emphasizes Supply Chain Resilience, Semiconductor Push at SEMICON 2024 Three Terrorists Killed in Kathua District Operation; BSF Soldier Injured in Akhnoor ED Attaches ₹29.75 Crore in Assets Linked to Nirav Modi's PNB Fraud Case Pakistan Must Stop Blaming Others for Its Balochistan Crisis Fugitive Penguin Penchan Found Safe After Miraculous Sea Adventure India Crushes Malaysia 8-1 to Reach ACT Semifinals Sharwanand's 37th Project with Director Ram Abbaraju

# Jagan Defends TDP office attack after meeting Nandigam Suresh in Jail

Jagan accused Chandrababu Naidu of failing to prevent the storm, resulting in 60 deaths and flooding in Vijayawada.

He claimed Nandigam Suresh was wrongfully arrested to distract from the government's failures.

Jagan said maintaining a "red book" was not an accomplishment.



Andhra Pradesh: Former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy made sensational comments, questioning whether there is a functioning government in Andhra Pradesh. He criticized Chandrababu Naidu for failing to take action in the face of an impending storm, resulting in the loss of 60 lives. Jagan accused Naidu of allowing Vijayawada to flood in order to protect his own home and questioned whether Chandrababu is engaging in "boat politics." At the same time, Jagan issued a stern warning to the coalition government.

During a visit to Nandigam Suresh at Guntur Jail, Jagan claimed that despite warnings about the storm, Chandrababu failed to take preventive measures, leading to widespread destruction and loss of life. He alleged that the failure to manage the floods has caused mmense suffering. Jagan pointed out that if proper flood management had been prioritized, the extent of the damage would have been significantly reduced. He further suggested that former MP Nandigam Suresh, who had no involvement in the attack on the TDP office four years ago, was arrested to distract from the government's failure in handling the floods.

Jagan recalled an incident in which TDP leader Pattabhi insulted him at the TDP office,

leading his supporters to enter the office. He questioned whether such behavior was justified and noted that 41A notices had been issued against those involved, who then appeared in court. Jagan questioned Nandigam Suresh's involvement in the case and warned that maintaining a "red book" was not an accomplishment. He cautioned that if this tradition of wrongful arrests continues, the same individuals may find themselves in jail in the future.

# Inspector and Sub-**Inspector Suspended** on Jitwani's Complaint



Actress Kadambari Jitwani alleges she was kidnapped and tortured by Andhra Pradesh Police under false charges.

Multiple IPS officers, including Kranti Rana Tata and Vishal Gunni, ordered Jitwani's illegal detention, leading to suspensions.

A special investigation is probing deeper involvement, including links to businessman Jindal and potential bribes exchanged.

V.V.S. Madhu Babu: Mumbai actress Kadambari Jitwani has alleged that she was kidnapped by the Andhra Pradesh Police, who falsely framed her in a case. She claims that the police brought her and her family from Mumbai to Vijayawada, detained them in a guest house and hotel, and subjected her to physical and mental torture. Jitwani has accused former Vijayawada Commissioner Kranti Rana Tata, DCP Vishal Gunni, ADCP Ramana Murthy, and several inspectors of torturing her for two months.

Following Jitwani's statement and a report by investigating officer ACP K. Sravanti Roy, it was revealed that on the orders of IPS officers Kranti Rana Tata, DCP Vishal Gunni, and ADCP Ramana Murthy, a team of CIs (Circle Inspectors) and ASIs (Assistant Sub-Inspectors), including Shivaji, Sridhar Babu, Satyanarayana,





# Inspector and Sub-**Inspector Suspended** on Jitwani's Complaint







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Kashi Viswanadham, Srinivasa Rao, and ASI Sharif, went to Mumbai and illegally brought Kadambari Jitwani and her family to Vijayawada without any prior notice. As a result, these officers have been suspended.

A special investigation team is currently probing the extent of the involvement of other individuals in this case. The investigation also includes tracking the visits of businessman Jindal to Andhra Pradesh and his meetings with Sajjala Rama Krishna Reddy. Phone records of IPS officers Sita Ramanjaneyulu, Kranti Rana Tata, and Vishal Gunni are being examined to establish any connection. There is a possibility that further action may be taken against the IPS officers, depending on the investigation's findings, especially regarding the exchange of money and favors during the case.

# Jagan Defends TDP office attack after meeting Nandigam Suresh in Jail

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Jagan also criticized the government's actions regarding the Budameru River gates, accusing it of politicizing the boats that arrived at the Prakasam Barrage, which he claimed belong to TDP leaders. He argued that these arrests are being made to distort the facts and prevent scrutiny of the government's failures in managing the floods. Jagan vowed to stand by the people, regardless of any harassment by the government, and criticized Chandrababu for failing to fulfill his election promises. Jagan warned that the continued practice of illegal arrests will ultimately harm Chandrababu's party.

# AP Deputy CM Meets Telangana CM

- Pawan Kalyan visited Revanth Reddy's residence in Jubilee Hills on Wednesday morning
- A check of Rs. 1 crore was presented for flood relief efforts
- The leaders briefly discussed the ongoing support measures

**TPN, Hyderabad:** Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister and Janasena Chief Pawan Kalyan met Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Wednesday. Pawan Kalyan visited Revanth Reddy's residence in Jubilee Hills for a cordial meeting. The two leaders discussed the devastating floods that have affected the Telugu states. Pawan Kalyan had previously announced a substantial donation to help the flood victims in both states.

As part of his relief efforts, Pawan Kalyan presented a check of Rs. 1 crore to Telangana CM Revanth Reddy. This donation was given to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to support flood relief measures. Following the

donation, the two leaders briefly discussed the ongoing relief efforts in the flood-affected areas.



# Ex-CM Jagan Gets Relief in High Court



- Court orders issuance of a passport
- Judge extends the validity to five years
- Barriers lifted for Jagan's foreign tour

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh High Court has granted relief to former Chief Minister and YCP Chief Jagan Mohan Reddy in the matter of his passport renewal. The court ruled in favor of Jagan, instructing officials to renew his passport. In a judgment issued on Wednesday, the court extended the passport's validity to five years, allowing Jagan to resume his foreign

After losing power in Andhra Pradesh, Jagan's diplomatic passport was canceled as per regulations. When he applied for a general passport, the CBI court in Hyderabad granted him a five-year general passport. However, the Court of People's Representatives in Vijayawada reduced the validity of his passport to one year and imposed several conditions. Jagan then approached the AP High Court, which ruled in his favor, granting him a passport with a five-year validity period.

### Chandrababu's Key **Announcement on Compensation for Flood Victims**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh government is standing by the flood victims, with Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu making a key announcement regarding compensation. CM Chandrababu emphasized that the government will support everyone who has suffered losses due to the floods. A compensation package will be announced based on the findings of the committee of ministers that was appointed to assess the damage. Recently, Chandrababu gave a crucial assurance to the flood victims.

He revealed that a decision on compensation for the flood victims will be made by the 17th of this month. Many people lost their lives due to the severe floods in Vijayawada, and the government has decided to provide compensation not only for homes that were completely submerged but also for those that were partially damaged. In addition, the AP government is working on compensating people for vehicles and goods lost in the flood. Officials are currently visiting every household in the flood-affected areas to assess the damage. Based on these assessments, the government will calculate the compensation amount.

The situation in Vijayawada is gradually improving. Following this, Chandrababu conducted an aerial survey of the Kolleru flood area and held discussions with local farmers. He announced that the government is considering offering Rs. 25,000 per hectare for rice crops damaged by the floods. He assured the public that the government will support all those affected. He also criticized the previous government, stating that no repairs had been made to river gates, nor had silt been removed from canals over the past five years. He highlighted that illegal encroachments in catchment areas had been identified.

Chandrababu also visited Eluru, where the flood victims explained to him that floods occur every year and requested a permanent solution to the flood threat. He stated that this is not the time for political games but for addressing public concerns, stressing that a war for the public interest is inevitable. He questioned whether the previous government had ever visited the people during floods, further criticizing past administrations. Chandrababu concluded by noting that the recent flood was unexpected, caused by a cloudburst.

# Full Compensation with Damage **Assessment to Support Flood Victims**

RP Sisodia, Special Principal Secretary of the Disaster Management Department, Appeals to the Central Team Central Team Visits as Part of a Two-Day Tour Rapid Flood Relief Measures Led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu Officials Provide Department-Wise Damage Reports to the Central Team



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: RP Sisodia, Special Principal Secretary of the Disaster Management Department for the Andhra Pradesh government, urged the central team to complete the damage assessment and ensure that full compensation is provided to flood victims. A team of central experts, who came to assess the

State Disaster Management Authority on Wednesday morning.

The central team included Union Home Department Joint Secretary Anil Subramaniam, Maharashtra Agriculture Department Director Dr. AL Waghmar, Surface Transport Department Chief Engineer Rakesh Kumar, Finance Department Consultant RB Kaul, Rural Development Department Deputy Secretary Pradeep Kumar, and ISRO scientist Dr. SVSP Sharma. RP Sisodia presented a detailed report on the flood situation and the extent of the damage.

Through a power point presentation, it was explained that the preliminary estimates

flood situation firsthand, visited the showed a loss of Rs. 6,882 crores, which is expected to increase further. He estimated that Rs. 750 crores will be required for rehabilitation efforts. The Roads and Buildings Department suffered the highest loss, amounting to Rs. 2,165 crores, followed by the Irrigation Department at Rs. 1,569 crores, and the Urban Development and Panchayat Raj Departments at Rs. 1,160 crores. Other losses included Rs. 12 crores for the Animal Husbandry Department, Rs. 158 crores for the Fisheries Department, Rs. 301 crores for the Agriculture Department, Rs. 40 crores for the Horticulture Department, Rs. 481 crores for the Energy Sector, Rs. 76 crores for the Rural Irrigation Department, and Rs. 168 crores for Panchayat Raj roads. The fire department also reported a loss of Rs. 2 crores.

# Central Award for AP Police Department

- Recognized for best practices in controlling online crimes against women and children

**Home Minister Amit Shah** 

of Recognition'

TPN, New Delhi: The Andhra Pradesh Police Department has been awarded a Central Award for its exemplary efforts in controlling online crimes against women and children. The Central Government recognized the department's outstanding performance in this area.

- Award presented by Union AP CID Head Ravi Shankar Ayyannar and CID Women Welfare SP KGV Sarita received the award from Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a program held at Delhi's Vigyan Bhawan. - Honored with a 'Certificate The 'Certificate of Recognition' was presented to the AP Police Department as part of the foundation day celebrations of the Indian Cyber Coordination Centre.



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## YCP Leader Arrested in Connection with Attack on Chandrababu's Residence

- Attack on Chandrababu's
- residence on September 17, 2021 Police had been searching for **Durga Prasad for some time**
- Durga Prasad Arrested in Guntupalli

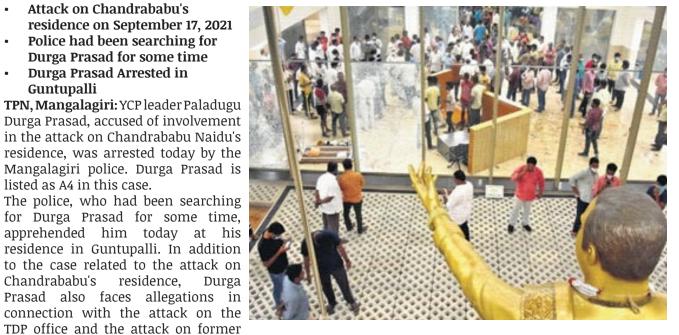
TPN, Mangalagiri: YCP leader Paladugu Durga Prasad, accused of involvement in the attack on Chandrababu Naidu's residence, was arrested today by the Mangalagiri police. Durga Prasad is

listed as A4 in this case. The police, who had been searching for Durga Prasad for some time, apprehended him today at his residence in Guntupalli. In addition to the case related to the attack on Chandrababu's residence, Durga Prasad also faces allegations in

minister Devineni Umamaheswara Rao. It is known that on September 17, 2021, YCP leader Jogi Ramesh, along with his followers, surrounded Chandrababu's residence in Undavalli. The police

registered cases against both parties involved in the incidents that occurred on that day, including an SC/ST atrocity case filed against TDP leaders.

Jogi Ramesh Approaches **Supreme Court for Anticipatory** Bail



Former minister Jogi Ramesh, who is accused in the case of the attack on Chandrababu Naidu's residence, is making efforts to secure anticipatory bail. Ramesh

recently approached the Supreme Court, challenging the decision of the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

A petition was filed in the Supreme Court after the AP High Court rejected his request for anticipatory bail. The Supreme Court is expected to hear Jogi Ramesh's petition today (September 12).

# Release of Salary Stopped for Seven Months

- **Problem resolved promptly** after being brought to the attention of the Deputy Chief Minister
- Rs. 30 crore in salary arrears released
- Issue resolved for 536 workers in the Sri Sathya Sai Water **Supply Scheme**

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Sri Sathya Sai Water Supply Project Board, which supplies drinking water to rural areas in the joint Anantapur district, had 536 workers who had not received their salaries for seven months. The issue came to the attention of Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, who acted swiftly to resolve the problem. The workers had been on strike for two days.

Pawan Kalyan spoke to the Finance Department officials regarding the release of the salary arrears for the 536 workers. Following his intervention, the Finance Department approved a budget release of Rs. 30 crore. The Secretary of the Finance Department issued a Budget Release Order (B.R.O.), and the Chief Secretary of the Panchayat Raj Department promptly released the Government Order (G.O.).

Through this scheme, drinking water is supplied to about 20 lakh people in 1,341



villages in the joint Anantapur district. Since February of this year, the salaries of the 536 workers managing the scheme had been withheld, amounting to Rs. 30 crore in pending wages. The workers had stopped reporting for duty until the issue was addressed.

Upon learning about the situation, Pawan Kalyan inquired with officials from the Rural Drinking Water Supply Department and coordinated with the Finance Department. As a result, the necessary funds for the workers' salaries were released.

# **Today One Criminal Met Another:** Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu

**TPN,Andhra Pradesh:** The coalition ministers have expressed extreme concern over Jagan's meeting with Nandigam Suresh, who is currently in Guntur Jail. Recently, Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu also responded to

In a satirical comment, he remarked, "Today, one criminal met another, and they dared each other." He criticized the current government, claiming that it doesn't even devote the minimum time necessary to address the problems of the people. Ramanaidu expressed anger over Jagan's visit to meet the accused in jail, and further criticized him for spreading lies after his release.

He accused Jagan of misleading the public with falsehoods, just as he allegedly looted the wealth of Andhra Pradesh for five years, making people believe that their day-to-day survival was the only concern.

Ramanaidu directly confronted Jagan, asking, "Isn't Budameru, which drowned Vijayawada, your responsibility?" He mentioned that there is a diversion channel spanning 11 kilometers from Velagaleru head regulator to the Krishna

"In 2014, Chandrababu Naidu invited tenders to expand and line the diversion channel, increasing its capacity from 5,000 cusecs to 37,500 cusecs. The works were planned at a cost of Rs. 464 crores, and Rs. 206 crores were allocated to complete the remaining work," Ramanaidu pointed out.

He questioned Jagan's government, asking,



"After coming to power in 2019, why didn't you spend even a single rupee on the Budameru diversion channel? Why wasn't even a single pad of soil laid during your five-year tenure? If you didn't want to bring in new funds, why couldn't you finish the

remaining work? Chandrababu completed 80 percent of the Budameru Diversion Channel. If the remaining works, particularly the lining, had been completed during your five years, Budameru wouldn't have caused the problems it did today! Vijayawada wouldn't have been submerged today! Isn't it your fault that you allowed Vijayawada to sink with your inaction? And yet, you still have the audacity to talk about Budameru today?

## Nandigam Suresh is No Freedom Fighter... It's Shameful that Jagan Came for Paramarsha

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: It is known that YCP president Jagan Mohan Reddy visited former MP Nandigam Suresh, who is currently in Guntur Jail, having been arrested in connection with the attack on the TDP headquarters. Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy harshly criticized this visit.

He sarcastically referred to Nandigam Suresh as a "freedom fighter" and called it shameful that Jagan came to visit him. He accused Jagan of ignoring the people suffering from floods, yet choosing to visit someone accused

in two separate incidents. The Minister expressed outrage, accusing the government of "exploding" in its failure to address real issues. Mandipalli also pointed out that despite possessing wealth amounting to thousands of crores, Jagan has not given a single rupee to help the flood victims. Instead, he visited an accused individual, which the Minister claimed is an example of how the YCP government is failing. He further expressed his frustration, alleging that the visit came as part of an attempt to tarnish the "Super Six" schemes.

The Minister went on to allege that Nandigam Suresh's life is filled with criminal activities and that he played a significant role in the attack on the TDP central office. Mandipalli also linked Nandigam to the incident involving the



collision of boats with the Prakasam Barrage

"The construction of the Prakasam Barrage is the result of the sacrifices of many great people. Yet, YCP leaders have conspired to destroy the barrage, which irrigates 20 lakh acres and provides drinking water to lakhs of people," he

Mandipalli further criticized Jagan, saying, "Ja-

gan Reddy has no shame... Millions of people are struggling, and instead of addressing their needs, he shamelessly comes back from Bengaluru without any concern for their hunger." "If Jagan truly cared about the people, he would have at least donated a single rupee. Many organizations, including Chandrababu's family trust, have contributed crores for the flood victims," concluded Mandipalli.

# **Minister Satya Prasad Accuses EX CM Jagan of Falsehoods and Neglect**

TPN, Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Minister Agani Satya Prasad launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of spreading lies throughout his tenure. In his latest statement, Satya Prasad claimed that no other leader who has served as Chief Minister in India has lied as frequently as Jagan. He further alleged that Jagan spends his days from morning to night deceiving the public. Satya Prasad went on to criticize Jagan's approach to governing, claiming that the people of Andhra Pradesh are increasingly frustrat-

ed with the former CM's constant blame-shifting for personal gain. "Where are Budameru, the diversion canal, or the regulator? When did the dam fall?" Satya Prasad questioned, accusing Jagan of making baseless claims without understanding how the Krishna River flows.

The minister also condemned Jagan's repeated attempts to push false narratives, claiming that Jagan was trying to mislead the people of Andhra Pradesh by repeating lies. Satya Prasad expressed concern over the suffering of flood victims in Vijayawada and other districts, where heavy rains have



caused widespread damage. He criticized Jagan for visiting jailed YCP MP Nandigam Suresh instead of addressing the pressing issues of flood relief.

According to Satya Prasad, Jagan's government has failed to address the real needs of the people during his time in power. He alleged that Jagan's focus has been on political maneuvering rather than solving the people's problems. The minister warned that the public, frustrated by Jagan's alleged falsehoods and neglect, would not support him in the next election, predicting a significant loss of seats for his party.

#### Nandigam Suresh's Wife Baby Latha **Challenges AP Home Minister Anita Over Arrest**

TPN,Andhra Pradesh : Baby Latha, wife of former MP Nandigam Suresh, has launched a fierce attack on Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anita, accusing her of fabricating charges that led to her husband's arrest. Baby Latha expressed outrage over what she called false

accusations, challenging the Home Minister to provide any evidence that Nandigam Suresh was involved in the attack on the TDP office.

Targeting Anita, Baby Latha claimed the minister was making baseless allegations to protect her political position, insisting that her husband was wrongfully targeted to trouble YSR Congress Party (YCP) leaders. She dismissed claims that boats belonging to Suresh's followers were involved in damaging the Prakasam Barrage, a charge that has stirred significant controversy.

In a bold challenge, Baby Latha asked Anita to prove her claims, stating she would swear on her children that her husband



had no involvement. "If you come with your children, I will come with mine. Are you ready to swear on your children?" Latha asked, urging the Home Minister to accept her challenge.

Latha accused Anita of disrespecting the former MP and described her husband's arrest as a conspiracy aimed at discrediting YCP leaders. She demanded that the Home Minister provide solid evidence instead of making false accusations, vowing to stand by her husband's innocence.

The accusations and challenge have heightened tensions between YCP and TDP leaders as political confrontations escalate.





Who Altered the Natural Flow of the Stream, Canal, and Pond?

Who Turned the People of Their Own Town into Strangers?

Do Authorities Have the Right to Change the Natural Water Flow?

Politicians and Officials Responsible for Budameru Canal Flooding

The Estimated Loss is Over ₹6,000 Crores

Is This Flood the Result of Irregularities by Powerful Leaders in Budameru?

# Causes of Budameru **Canal Irregularities**

TPN, V.V.S. Madhu Babu: There are allegations that some officials of the Irrigation Department were involved in the illegal occupation of Budameru during the previous YCP government. These officials are believed to have allowed encroachers to alter Budameru's path, particularly along the main road, to exploit the area for their own gains. Despite thousands of vehicles passing by daily, no action has been taken, raising suspicions of corruption. The canal, which used to overflow during rains and flood the city of Vijayawada, has shrunk due to illegal encroachments. The flooding that occurred on the night of August 30 is a prime example of the consequences.

The source of the Budameru canal is located in the hills of Khammam district. When over 300 mm of rain fell in that area, the excess water flowed into the Budameru canal, causing significant flooding. However, the Veligeru Regulator and the Budameru Diversion Canals, designed to control such floods, failed to function. As a result, 80% of Vijayawada was submerged due to both the unexpected flooding and the improper management of Budameru's water flow.

#### Irregularities in Rajarajeshwari Peta and Ambapuram

Real estate brokers in Rajarajeshwari Peta and Ambapuram are reportedly continuing the illegal sale and registration of Budameru canal lands using falsified survey numbers. Adapa Kishore, another individual implicated in the illegal encroachments, used a smartphone to block and seize YV Rao's estate and occupied around 5 acres of Budameru canal land. Consequences and Accountability: Analysts point to these illegal activities and encroachments as key factors in the Budameru canal flooding. The question remains: can the damage caused by these irregularities, estimated at over ₹6,000 crores, ever be fully addressed? The involvement of local politicians, officials, and real estate brokers in altering the natural flow of Budameru for personal gain has led to catastrophic flooding, leaving the citizens of Vijayawada vulnerable. This calls for an urgent investigation and strict action to prevent further illegal encroachments and to ensure the safety of the region's natural water bodies.



Adapa Kishore



Jala Sutram Srinivas

#### Illegal Occupation in Ajit Singh Nagar's Sun City Colony:

A case involving MLC followers and local leaders further highlights the illegal encroachments around the Budameru canal. Starting in 2012, evidence of encroachments began to surface, with local figures like Chandrasekhar Sharma, Kamodu Suri Babu, and their associates occupying thousands of yards of irrigation land. They developed a real estate venture, Sun City, and encroached on 15 acres of Budameru canal land. These leaders created fake wills and changed survey numbers to sell off the encroached lands. This illegal occupation was ignored by the town planning authorities, who allowed the construction of buildings without proper permits. By 2018, construction activity had intensified, despite opposition from a few officials. Local politician Maganti Babu is alleged to have occupied 5 acres of Budameru canal land using political influence. Others, including Jala Sutram Srinivas and his brother-in-law, are reported to have occupied 6 acres, selling off the land illegally.

#### **Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan** Reviews Eleru Flood Situation with Kakinada **District Collector**



On Wednesday morning, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan held a crucial discussion with the Kakinada District Collector regarding the ongoing flood situation caused by the Eleru flood. The meeting focused on the latest updates and relief efforts in the affected areas.

According to the District Collector, approximately 62,000 acres across Kakinada district have been inundated due to heavy rains in the upper reaches of the Eleru and Tandava reservoirs. The flood has severely impacted transportation, with the national highway near Gollaprolu being particularly affected, leading to vehicle diversions. Relief operations are underway, with boats and support teams working at full capacity.

The Collector reported that the flood levels in the Eleru reservoir are gradually decreasing. As of 8 a.m. today, the reservoir was receiving 12,567 cusecs of inflow, against its full capacity of 24.11 TMC. The current water level stands at 22.16 TMC, and four gates have been opened to manage the flow.

Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan emphasized the need for vigilance and directed the deployment of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams for relief operations. He also called for the inclusion of army personnel in the efforts.

Kalyan instructed officials to ensure adequate provision of food, water, and milk to residents in flood-affected areas. Additionally, he urged authorities to support farmers who have lost crops due to the flooding and to offer them encouragement and assistance.

The Deputy Chief Minister's directives aim to enhance the effectiveness of ongoing relief efforts and support those impacted by the severe flooding.



# **Announces Sanitation and Recovery Plan** In Vijayawada, Municipal Minister Ponguru Narayana, accompanied by his daughter Sind-

Minister Narayana Inspects Flood Areas,

hura, conducted an inspection of flood-affected areas in Vidyadharapuram, Jakkampudi, and Kunda Vari Khandrika. The minister's visit aimed to assess the damage and oversee the recovery efforts in these regions. During the inspection, Narayana focused on the flow path of Buda Meru and its impact on local areas, including Jakkampudi and YSR Colony. He directed officials to ensure that sanitation services are fully restored by the evening in areas where floodwaters have receded. The minister highlighted the need to address obstacles affecting the flow of Buda Meru and emphasized the importance of returning to normalcy as quickly as possible. "For the past 10 days, the Chief Minister, along with ministers and officials, have been working diligently to restore normalcy in the flooded areas. While the floodwaters have receded in most places, a few areas still need attention, Narayana stated.

#### IAS Officer G Ganesh **Kumar Praised for Outstanding Flood Relief Efforts**

TPN, Vijayawada: In the aftermath of the recent floods in Vijayawada, each division was assigned a government official to address the flood victims' needs, as per the orders of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. IAS officer G Ganesh Kumar, Commissioner of the Skill Development Department, was given responsibility for the 43rd

division and has been widely praised for his dedicated efforts in alleviating the flood crisis. Residents of the 43rd division have lauded Ganesh Kumar's commitment, highlighting



his selfless service regardless of location or nature of work. As a result, he was honored by the community, who credited him for winning their hearts through his exemplary public



#### Police Investigate Baby Swap Allegation at GGH Amid Tragic **Circumstances**

TPN,Guntur: A troubling case involving a baby swap has emerged at the Government General Hospital (GGH) in Bhattiprolu. Mirabi, a local woman who had come to the hospital for delivery, gave birth to a stillborn baby and was deeply distressed by the loss. In a tragic turn of events, Lakshmi from Chinaganjam, who was admitted to GGH in a sick condition, passed away while undergoing treatment.

Following Lakshmi's death, Prabhavati, a friend of Mirabi, observed that Lakshmi had a surviving baby. In an effort to alleviate Mirabi's grief, Prabhavati requested Subramaniam, Lakshmi's husband, to give the baby to Mirabi. Subramaniam agreed and took 1.90 lakhs for the transaction, eventually handing the baby over to Prabhavati. Prabhavati returned to GGH with the baby, prompting hospital authorities to become suspicious and report the incident to the police. The police have since registered a case and transferred it to Chinaganjam for further investigation. Authorities are currently probing the circumstances surrounding the baby swap and the involvement of Subramaniam. The case has raised serious ethical and legal questions regarding the handling of newborns and the tragic situations surrounding their families.

#### A lady constable working in Jail taken selfie with Jagan along with her daughter



TPN, Guntur: During Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's recent visit to the Guntur District prison, an unusual display of enthusiasm from the prison staff captured public attention. The Chief Minister's visit, aimed at engaging with the prisons department, saw a notable interaction involving Ayoshaban, a constable at the facility.

Ayoshaban's behavior was particularly striking. At a media conference held outside the jail, Ayoshaban approached Jagan with evident excitement and humor, declaring, "I am your fan." The constable's spirited approach didn't stop there; he also requested and received an autograph from the Chief Minister, further highlighting his admiration.



#### CPM Leads Relief Efforts with Food Distribution and Medical Camps in Flood-Hit Areas

TPN, Vijayawada: As government-led food distribution has stalled in many areas, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPM) has stepped up to provide vital support to flood victims across the Budameru flood-hit regions. Under CPM leadership, eight food distribution centers have been operating for the past six days, providing hot meals to both flood victims and officials working in the affected areas.

On Wednesday, two new centers were opened in Paikapuram and Radhanagar, adding to the ongoing efforts. In the last six days, CPM has served over 55,000 meals, with 15,000 meals arranged in just one day across all eight centers.

The meals, freshly cooked and served both in the afternoon and evening, have provided much-needed relief to displaced residents. The distribution centers in Pipula Road, Vambe Colony, Ajit Singh Nagar, Rajiv Nagar, Radhanagar, and Bhavanipuram Urmila Nagar, have been run by 250 volunteers, including student leaders, youth, labor activists, and members of public organizations. In addition to food relief, CPM has been running a medical camp in Vambe Colony for the last five days. Led by Dr. Makineni Kiran and his team, the camp has provided medical services to around 2,500 people, with medicines worth over one lakh rupees distributed to those in need.

# Rahul Gandhi vs Kiren Rijiju Over Democracy, China

A fresh war of words has erupted between Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju over India's democracy and border issues with China. The exchange followed Mr. Gandhi's remarks during his visit to the United States, where he expressed concerns about India's democratic fabric, claiming it was "under attack."

Speaking at the National Press Club in Washington DC, Mr. Gandhi highlighted what he perceived as threats to India's democracy and raised alarms about China's occupation of territory in Ladakh. "Chinese troops are occupying land the size of Delhi in Ladakh, which is a disaster," Mr. Gandhi said, drawing attention to the ongoing border tensions with China.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju swiftly countered these remarks, dismissing the claims and reminding Mr. Gandhi of India's historical context. "Yes, democracy was under attack, but that was in 1975 during the Emergency. Since then, democracy has never been under attack.

That dark chapter will never return," Mr. Rijiju said, referring to the Emergency period under Indira Gandhi's government, which saw a suspension of elections and curtailment of civil liberties.

Mr. Rijiju also rebuked Mr. Gandhi for raising such concerns on foreign soil, especially regarding China. "He should not make any such statements outside India. Before 1962 there was no demarcation, and if something is happening, that doesn't mean any such land has been taken," the Union Minister remarked. He further accused Mr. Gandhi of trying to "demean India" by aligning with "anti-India elements."

The controversy did not end there. BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia also launched a scathing attack on Mr. Gandhi, accusing him of undermining Indian democracy by making such statements abroad. "Rahul Gandhi is a black spot in Indian democracy," Mr. Bhatia said, alleging that the Congress leader's comments were damaging India's global image.



# G20 or COP29: Will Politics Continue to Overshadow Climate Action?

As climate activists gear up for November's key global events, the 29th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan (from November 11 to 22), and the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (on November 18 and 19), the question looms large: will real climate action take a backseat to political maneuvering? Both events promise to focus on sustainable development and climate change, yet there's a growing sense of skepticism about the West's commitment to meaningful action.

In 2021, ahead of COP26 in Glasgow, the G20 summit in Italy pushed for a unified goal of "Net Zero by 2050." Despite resistance, both China and India eventually signed onto the Net Zero pledge, although with delayed timelines—China by 2060 and India by 2070. This underscored the political pressure on developing nations while wealthy countries were seen as less willing to assume full responsibility for climate financing and emissions cuts.

#### Brazil's Push for Climate Leadership

Brazil, hosting the G20 summit in 2025, has made climate action one of its top priorities for its presidency. A major focus at COP29 will be the establishment of a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate financing. The NCQG is meant to replace the previous \$100 billion-a-year pledge made at the 2009 Copenhagen summit, a target that was only met in 2022, 13 years later. For developing countries, the stakes are high, and they are calling for more substantial commitments. India, for example, has

called for \$1 trillion per year, while Azerbaijan has proposed a \$6 trillion fund by 2030.

However, developed countries are unlikely to shoulder this burden alone. They are pressuring large developing economies like India and China to contribute to climate financing. With the U.S. presidential elections on November 5, and the possibility of Donald Trump returning to office—a leader known for withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Agreement—the future of American climate commitments remains uncertain. Even if Biden wins, his influence will be limited as he transitions into a caretaker role until January 2025.

#### Climate Financing and the Roadblocks Ahead

The unresolved issues surrounding the NCQG, particularly regarding who contributes and how much, continue to stall progress. At the 2015 Paris Agreement, there was a pledge to establish this collective financing goal, but eight years later, it remains elusive. While developed countries argue for a shared responsibility, developing nations emphasize the historical and capacity-driven accountability of wealthier nations. China, which has become a focal point in this debate, may face increased pressure to step up its contributions, given its economic standing.

Meanwhile, Europe, which once led global climate action, is now wavering. The Ukraine-Russia conflict and its economic fallout have pushed Europe to scale back on its own domestic climate initiatives. At the same time, the European Union's carbon border adjustment mechanism is drawing criticism from developing nations, who see it as punitive for exports that exceed predetermined carbon limits. This strategy, along with reduced ambitions for domestic climate action, has raised concerns that the EU, alongside the U.S., is shifting the burden of climate responsibility onto emerging economies.

#### Political Games at G20 and COP29

Climate discussions at the G20 are inseparable from broader political tensions. The Russia-Ukraine conflict, which dominated recent G20 declarations in Bali and New Delhi, will likely cast a shadow over the Rio summit as well. Russian President Vladimir Putin, who skipped both Bali and New Delhi, has been publicly urged by Brazil to attend the Rio

meeting. Meanwhile, U.S. President Joe Biden's attendance is uncertain due to the political situation at home, with his focus likely to remain on Ukraine.

Brazil will attempt to juggle its domestic, regional, and global interests at the summit. Given the geopolitical climate, it will be no easy task for Brazil to navigate competing priorities. In Copenhagen in 2009, former President Barack Obama sidestepped the issue of a \$30 billion-peryear climate finance goal by stating that such decisions were

Congress's domain. The U.S. delegation in Baku may very well adopt a similar strategy, leaving many questions about its financial commitments to global climate action unanswered.

#### Climate vs. Politics: The Eternal Tug of War

As the world looks toward COP29 and the G20 summit, one thing is clear—politics and climate action are tightly intertwined. While the goals of sustainable development and energy transitions are central to both summits, they are likely to be overshadowed by ongoing political conflicts, including those surrounding Russia and Ukraine, and the uncertainty surrounding the U.S. elections. For all the high hopes and ambitious goals, the world is left wondering whether the West will continue to prioritize its political interests over meaningful climate action.

Will the developing countries finally secure the financial and infrastructural support they need to combat climate change, or will the summit result in vague promises and delayed action once again? As November approaches, the world will watch closely to see whether the G20 and COP29 will deliver real change or if politics will trump climate action once

#### Agriculture in Punjab & Haryana: Understanding the Differences and Haryana's Diversified Approach

Both Punjab and Haryana played pivotal roles in the Green Revolution, contributing significantly to India's self-sufficiency in food production. However, the cropping patterns and agricultural models in these two states have evolved differently over time, leading to a more diversified cropping profile in Haryana compared to Punjab.

#### The Impact of the Green Revolution

The Green Revolution brought tremendous agricultural advancements to both Punjab and Haryana. Mono-cropping of rice during the kharif season and wheat during the rabi season became the norm, making India self-sufficient in food grains. However, this success has brought challenges:

**1 Surplus Production:** Mass cultivation of rice and wheat has led to a surplus, causing market prices to fall and creating financial strain for farmers.

**2 Environmental Concerns:** The heavy use of water for rice cultivation, especially in water-scarce areas, has led to significant groundwater depletion in both states.

#### Why Diversification Is Important

Diversifying crops is critical for addressing both economic and environmental challenges. By growing a variety of crops, farmers can reduce their reliance on water-intensive crops like rice, improve soil health, and stabilize their incomes by making their produce more competitive in the market.

#### Punjab's Monoculture: A Rice-Wheat Cycle

Punjab, despite its significant contribution to India's food security, largely follows a monoculture pattern. Farmers grow rice during the kharif season and wheat during the rabi season. Here are some key statistics:

- 86.8%\*\* of Punjab's total land area is under rice cultivation (5-year average).

- 97.9%\*\* of the total land area is under wheat cultivation.

This heavy reliance on rice and wheat leads to surplus production, lower market prices, and environmental degradation, particularly groundwater depletion due to unsustainable irrigation practices.

#### Haryana's Diversification: A Balanced Cropping Profile

In contrast, Haryana has adopted a more diversified cropping model:

- Less than \*\*50%\*\* of Haryana's land is under rice cultivation.
- \*\*75%\*\* of the land is under wheat cultivation.

Haryana's diversified agricultural model is evident in its rice cultivation. \*\*56.2%\*\* of the land under rice cultivation is devoted to Basmati rice, which is sold at premium prices and is largely export-oriented, thus avoiding the surplus issue seen with regular rice varieties.

Additionally, Haryana accounts for \*\*16.5%\*\* of Basmati cultivation, compared to Punjab's limited adoption of this high-value crop. Basmati rice is also more environmentally sustainable, as it is transplanted in July with monsoon rains, reducing the strain on groundwater.

#### Haryana's Policy Support: Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana

A key factor behind Haryana's agricultural success is its \*\*Bhavantar Bharpai Yojana\*\*, which offers financial support to farmers affected by market price fluctuations. Compensates farmers when market prices fall below the fixed protected price set by the state. Provides financial assistance for the gap between the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the price offered by private buyers. This additional safety net, along with the diversified cropping patterns, has made Haryana's agriculture more resilient and sustainable compared to Punjab.

While both Punjab and Haryana have contributed immensely to India's food security, Haryana's diversified approach offers valuable lessons. By reducing dependence on water-intensive crops and encouraging the cultivation of high-value crops like Basmati rice, along with innovative financial support schemes, Haryana has created a more sustainable and competitive agricultural model. Punjab, on the other hand, faces challenges due to its heavy reliance on rice and wheat, making crop diversification the need of the hour.





## PM Modi Emphasizes Supply Chain Resilience, Semiconductor Push at SEMICON 2024

Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the critical role of resilient supply chains in bolstering the economy, while calling for increased investment in domestic semiconductor manufacturing. Speaking at the SEMICON 2024 conference near the national capital, PM Modi underscored the importance of semiconductors, which are the backbone of everything from smartphones to electric vehicles (EVs) and artificial intelligence (AI).

Reflecting on the lessons from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister highlighted how global supply chains were severely disrupted, particularly due to stringent measures in China. This disruption had a profound impact on industries that rely on imports, especially in the semiconductor sector, which is crucial for modern electronics.

"Resilience of the supply chain is very important," PM Modi said. "India is working to create the same in different sectors of the economy." He reiterated India's commitment to ensuring that its



economy is better equipped to handle any future disruptions.

In his address, the Prime Minister presented India's reformist policies, stable governance, and rapidly growing technology market as key factors that make the country an attractive destination for semiconductor investments. He expressed the government's aspiration to have Indian-made chips powering devices around the world, stating, "It is our dream to have an Indian-made chip in every device."

PM Modi highlighted the significant progress India has made in boosting the semiconductor industry, announcing that investments totaling over ₹1.5 lakh crore have already been committed. Many projects are in the pipeline as India positions itself as a major player in the global semiconductor ecosystem.

The Prime Minister assured that his government would continue taking all necessary steps to transform India into a global semiconductor powerhouse, leveraging its "Three-D Power" of reformist governance, a growing manufacturing base, and an aspirational market.

## BJP-Backed Sikh Group Protests Rahul Gandhi's Remarks, Seeks Apology



A BJP-backed Sikh group is holding a protest march to the residence of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, demanding an apology from Rahul Gandhi over his recent remarks on religious freedom during his visit to the United States. The group contends that Sikhs feel more secure under the BJP government than they did during Congress rule.

During his three-day visit to the US, Rahul Gandhi had addressed an audience member and raised concerns about religious freedom in India, saying, "The fight is about whether he, as a Sikh, is going to be allowed to wear a turban in India; or whether he will be allowed to wear a kada; or whether he can go to a Gurudwara."

These remarks have sparked controversy back in India, with the BJP accusing Gandhi of making "anti-national" comments abroad, especially in his current role as the Leader of the Opposition. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri called the comments "sinister" and accused Gandhi of spreading "dangerous narratives."

Referring to the 1984 anti-Sikh riots that followed the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Puri said, "The only time Sikhs have felt insecure and threatened was when Rahul Gandhi's family was in power."

While the Congress party has defended its secular stance and commitment to religious freedom, Gandhi's remarks have come at a sensitive time, given the growing anti-India narrative among a section of the Sikh diaspora abroad. The BJP-backed group is now pressing for a public apology from Rahul Gandhi.



#### Delhi Court Extends Judicial Custody of CM Kejriwal in Liquor Policy Scam

A Delhi court on Wednesday extended the judicial custody of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal until September 25 in connection with the alleged liquor policy scam. Kejriwal was presented before the Rouse Avenue Court via video conferencing from Tihar Jail as his previous judicial custody expired.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) assured the court that it would provide the soft copy of the charge sheet to the accused, with the hard copy to follow within 3-4 days. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja had previously issued a production warrant for Kejriwal following the CBI's supplementary charge sheet in the case.

Kejriwal's plea for bail is still pending before the Supreme Court, which is yet to pronounce its verdict. On September 5, the apex court reserved its decision after hearing arguments from senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, representing the Delhi Chief Minister, and Additional Solicitor General (ASG) SV Raju for the

Singhvi contended that Kejriwal's arrest came abruptly after two years of investigation, while the CBI argued that releasing Kejriwal could turn witnesses hostile. The CBI urged the court to dismiss the bail plea, stating that Kejriwal was politically sensationalizing the matter.

#### Victim's Father Disputes Mamata Banerjee's Denial of Compensation Offer, Backs Doctors' Protest



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee faced fresh criticism on Wednesday as the father of the RG Kar Medical College doctor, who was allegedly raped and murdered, disputed her denial of offering compensation to the family. Speaking to PTI, the father claimed that during Banerjee's visit to their house after the incident, she had offered money, later publicly announcing ₹10 lakh in compensation to build something in memory of their daughter. "I leave it to the people to judge whether the Chief Minister is telling the truth," the victim's father said. He reiterated that Banerjee had offered compensation during her visit and later made a public announcement of the same at a party program.

Banerjee, in contrast, had dismissed these allegations on Monday, stating, "I had never offered money to the doctor's family... this is nothing but slander." She added that any compensation suggestion came from a doctors' forum, not her government.

The victim's father also expressed support for the junior doctors' 33-day protest, which has disrupted healthcare services. "We understand the pain of the patients, but the doctors are fighting for a bigger cause. We wholeheartedly support them," he said. He remains confident that the CBI, which is investigating the case following a Calcutta High Court order, will uncover the truth, suggesting the involvement of hospital insiders in his daughter's death.

#### Baramulla MP Engineer Rashid Released on Interim Bail Ahead of J&K Polls



Baramulla MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, walked out of Tihar Jail on Wednesday after being granted interim bail until October 2 in a terror funding case. Rashid, who has been incarcerated since 2019, was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in connection with a 2017 terror funding case.

Speaking to reporters after his release at 4:15 pm, Rashid expressed his commitment to continue fighting for his people. "I was in jail for five-and-a-half years. I am coming back to unite people, not divide them," he said. Rashid also vowed to work for lasting peace in Kashmir and oppose the prime minister's "Naya Kashmir" narrative, asserting that Kashmiris would not compromise on their political rights.

Rashid's release comes just ahead of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, where his party, Awami Ittehad Party (AIP), is contesting. He had defeated former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in the 2024 Baramulla Lok Sabha election. Critics, including National Conference leader Omar Abdullah, have accused the government of granting bail to Rashid to garner votes in the upcoming elections. People's Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti also suggested that Rashid's party acts as a proxy for the BJP.

#### Siddaramaiah Reaffirms Role as Karnataka CM Amid Leadership Speculations



Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, on Wednesday, firmly asserted that he will continue in his role, dismissing speculation about a possible leadership change. Reacting to statements by other ministers suggesting his replacement, Siddaramaiah clarified that there is no vacancy for the Chief Minister's position, saying, "It is being said by my party leaders that I will continue as the Chief Minister. There is no doubt about me continuing."

Addressing the media in Bengaluru, Siddaramaiah also discussed the ongoing investigations into scams that occurred during the previous BJP government. He mentioned that a cabinet sub-committee, led by Home Minister G. Parameshwara, has been formed to review the progress of investigations, including scams like the PSI scam, the 40 percent commission scam, and the Covid-19 and Bitcoin scams. A report is expected within two months, following which appropriate action will be taken

Siddaramaiah criticized the BJP for accusing his government of engaging in "politics of hatred" by ordering these investigations. He firmly responded, stating, "Our government does not engage in politics of hatred, but action will be taken against those who have committed wrongdoing."

Meanwhile, speculation about a leadership change continues to swirl, with Home Minister Parameshwara's supporters chanting "Parameshwara, future CM" in Bengaluru. Additionally, BJP MLA Vitthal Somanna Halagekar expressed support for Public Works Department Minister Satish Jarkiholi as a potential Chief Ministerial candidate.

Despite these discussions, Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa voiced strong support for Siddaramaiah, emphasizing that it is impossible to replace him and that he will continue to lead the state.



#### AAP Announces 21 More Candidates for Haryana Assembly Elections

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Wednesday released its fourth list of 21 candidates for the upcoming Haryana Assembly elections, scheduled for October 5. This announcement follows the breakdown of seat-sharing talks between AAP and Congress.

Kavita Dalal has been fielded from Julana, where she will go up against the Congress's Vinesh Phogat and the BJP's Yogesh Bairagi. Other prominent names include Raj Kaur Gill, who will contest from Ambala Cantonment, Sunil Bindal from Karnal, and Nishant Anand from Gurugram. This latest list brings AAP's total number of declared candidates to 61. The party released







# Three Terrorists Killed in Kathua District Operation; BSF Soldier Injured in Akhnoor

In a coordinated operation today, the army's special forces and Jammu and Kashmir Police neutralized three terrorists in Kathua district. The operation, involving the army's 1 Para, 22 Garhwal Rifles, and the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, resulted in the death of the three militants. The bodies of two of the terrorists have been recovered, while the operation continues, according to sources.

In a related development, a Border Security Force (BSF) soldier begin in three phases, starting September 18.

was injured earlier today due to unprovoked firing by Pakistani forces in the Akhnoor sector of Jammu and Kashmir. The BSF, responsible for guarding the India-Pakistan international border, has heightened security measures in response. This border spans approximately 3,323 km, featuring various sectors with distinct levels of tension and security concerns.

Voting for local elections in Jammu and Kashmir is scheduled to begin in three phases, starting September 18



In a highly charged presidential debate, U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump went head-to-head for the first time as contenders for the 2024 election. The debate, hosted by ABC News on September 11, 2024, at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, began with a historic handshake between the two, breaking the eight-year tradition of no physical greetings on the debate stage. However, the brief moment of civility quickly dissolved as the candidates clashed on issues ranging from the economy to immigration, abortion, and foreign policy.

Kamala Harris kicked off the debate by attacking Trump's economic record, accusing him of leaving the country with high unemployment and a struggling middle class. She emphasized her plans to support small businesses with a \$50,000 tax deduction and accused Trump of only benefiting billionaires and big corporations during his presidency. Trump countered by criticizing the current state of the U.S. economy, calling it a "disaster" under Harris and President Biden, citing inflation as a major issue that their administration had failed to control. Both candidates attempted to present themselves as advocates for the middle class, while painting the other as out of touch with economic realities.

Abortion quickly emerged as a hot-button issue during the debate. Trump, who has often shifted his stance on abortion, denied supporting a national abortion ban but accused Democrats of advocating for extreme measures, including late-term abortions. Harris forcefully denied these claims, calling Trump's remarks a "bunch of lies" and defending her position on protecting reproductive rights. The exchange underscored the stark contrast between the two candidates on one of the most polarizing issues in American politics.



Trump also revived his longstanding attack on Harris, labeling her a "Marxist" and pointing to her father's background as a Marxist economics professor. Harris laughed off the accusation but seized the moment to highlight Trump's legal troubles, pointing out that the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled earlier this year that Trump could be immune from prosecution if re-elected. She framed Trump as a threat to American democracy and urged voters to prevent his return to the White House. Foreign policy and ongoing global conflicts were also central topics in the debate. Harris reaffirmed Israel's right to defend itself in the face of attacks from Hamas and called for a two-state solution. On the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Harris sharply criticized Trump, accusing him of being soft on authoritarian leaders like Russian President Vladimir Putin. Trump, in response, accused Harris of "hating Israel" and failing to act decisively on global issues.

# I Don't Think Hosts Were Fair To Trump says Elon Musk

Billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk made headlines today with his comments on the first presidential debate between Republican nominee Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Kamala Harris. Taking to his social media platform X, Musk shared his views on the debate, praising Harris for "exceeding expectations" but ultimately endorsing Trump for his potential to "get things done."

In his post, Musk expressed dissatisfaction with the debate hosts' handling of Trump, stating, "While I don't think the debate hosts were fair to [Donald Trump], [Kamala Harris] exceeded most people's expectations tonight." He continued, "When it comes to getting things done, not just saying nice-sounding words, I strongly believe that Trump will do a far better job."

Musk also took aim at the Biden administration, suggesting that Vice President Harris is effectively in charge due to President Biden's frequent absences. "If Kamala can do great things, why hasn't she?" Musk questioned. "Biden rarely shows up for work, so she's basically in charge already." He further argued that current trends would worsen if Harris won, criticizing her stance on government efficiency and suggesting that Trump's proposed government reform would better support ambitious projects like space exploration.

The debate itself saw Trump and Harris clash on several key issues, including the economy, abortion, and foreign policy. Trump criticized the Biden administration's handling of these



matters, while Harris defended their record and attacked Trump's immigration policies and past foreign policy decisions.

Following the debate, pop singer Taylor Swift endorsed Kamala Harris, making headlines with her response to JD Vance's derogatory term "Childless Cat Lady." Swift declared her support for Harris as a "steady-handed, gifted leader" and criticized Trump's divisive rhetoric.

In a provocative response to Swift's endorsement, Musk offered a jest on X, stating, "Fine Taylor ... you win ... I will give you a child and guard your cats with my life."



#### US Considers Lifting Restrictions on Ukraine's Use of Long-Range Missiles as Western Powers Sanction Iran

In response to escalating tensions in Ukraine, President Joe Biden announced that the United States is contemplating lifting restrictions on the use of long-range, US-made missiles by Ukraine against Russia. Biden's comments, made at the White House, come amid heightened concerns over the conflict's impact on European security.

The move follows a coordinated response by Western powers—Britain, France, and Germany—who have imposed new sanctions on Iran. The sanctions target Iran Air and several individuals and companies involved in the supply of short-range missiles to Russia. The E3 powers condemned Iran's actions as a dangerous escalation that threatens European security.

British authorities have already begun terminating all direct air services between the UK and Iran, and Washington has accused Iran Air of facilitating Russian military logistics. The situation has further strained relations, with Iranian officials dismissing the Western accusations as misleading and an attempt to divert attention from US support for Israel in its conflict with Hamas.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, currently on a visit to London, warned that Iranian missiles could be deployed against Ukraine within weeks. Blinken's visit, alongside UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, underscores the strong solidarity between the US and UK as they continue to support Ukraine amidst ongoing Russian aggression.

In a related development, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer is scheduled to visit the White House on Friday, aiming to discuss further support for Ukraine. The UK has pledged additional missile systems to Kyiv and is awaiting a US decision on allowing Ukraine to use long-range Storm Shadow missiles against Russian targets.

Amidst these geopolitical maneuvers, Starmer's Labour government has also taken a more critical stance on Israel compared to its Conservative predecessors, announcing restrictions on some arms shipments to Israel and dropping plans to challenge the International Criminal Court's pursuit of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.



#### BJP Criticizes Rahul Gandhi for Meeting US Congresswoman Ilhan Omar

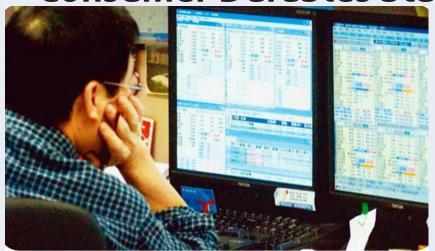
BJP leaders have launched a fierce critique of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi following his recent meeting with US Congresswoman Ilhan Omar during his visit to the United States. Amit Malviya, head of the BJP IT Cell, accused Gandhi of aligning with anti-India elements, describing Omar as a "Pakistan-sponsored anti-India voice" and a "radical Islamist." Malviya's comments on X (formerly Twitter) condemned the Congress for allegedly working against India's interests.

BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla also weighed in, criticizing Gandhi for meeting Omar, who has introduced anti-India resolutions in Congress and visited Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Poonawalla questioned Gandhi's choice to engage with what he described as radical figures.

Gandhi's three-day US visit included meetings with various US lawmakers and officials, including Donald Lu and Pramila Jayapal. Gandhi emphasized his goal of strengthening Indo-US relations and engaging with the Indian community. His visit marks his first international trip since becoming the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

# **ECONOMY**

# Market Declines After Two-Day Rally **Amid Global Concerns; FMCG and Consumer Durables Stay Resilient**



two-day streak of gains **A**has ended. Domestic stock market indices turned red again. Due to mixed signals coming from the international markets, US CPI data and weakening MURTHY NAIDU PAADAM Shipyard for multi-funcof the Chinese economy, investors were alert. Prof-

its are taken as soon as indices 9 sessions in a row for the first reach highs. As a result, market breadth has become favorable for sellers. In BSE, 2345 stocks rose and 1619 lost. The rupee settled at 83.97 against the dollar.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 81,921 in the previous session, opened at 81,928 today. It touched an intraday low of 81,423. It peaked at 82,134. It eventually fell by 398 points to close at 81,523. The NSE Nifty opened at 25,034, touched a low of 25,885 and a high of 25,114. The total fell by 122 points to close at 24,918. Bank Nifty settled down 262 points at 51,010.

In Nifty50, 16 companies gained while 34 lost. Bajaj Auto, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finance, Shriram Finance, Britannia were the top gainers. Tata Motors, ONGC, Wipro, LT, Adani Enterprises are the top losers. Today, except for FMCG and consumer durables, all the sector indices turned red. Oil and gas, realty, PSU Bank, metal and auto indices lost the most.

Nifty support is at 24850 and resistance is at 25100. Investors can buy shares of CG Power, Kalyan Jewellers, Berger Paints, Zomato,

Emphasis Silver Line ties up with Agent Sync for insurance solu-

mand for gold and jewelry, particularly with the festive season ahead. The company has shown consistent performance, bolstered by its large retail network and strong brand presence.The jewelry sector has been resilient, and Kalyan's efforts to expand its presence in tier 2 and 3 cities are driving growth.

#### 3. Berger Paints

Berger Paints has been a strong player in the paints and coatindustry,



rising demand in the housing and infrastructure sectors. The company's focus on innovative products and eco-friendly solutions has also attracted investor attention. The paint sector remains resilient with continued demand from the real estate sector. Berger Paints' strong market share and steady growth make it a favored stock among investors.

#### 4. Zomato

zomato

cerns over profitability and competition in the food delivery space. However, the company's focus on cost control and expanding into new areas like grocery delivery could offer future growth.: Zomato's partnership expansions and initiatives to improve profitability are key to its long-term growth story. However, near-term volatil-

#### 5. Havells India

electrical goods and

focus on efficiency improvements have contributed to its recent posmarket, its diversified **HAVELLS** itive performance. The stock has been gaining attention due to its product portfolio continues to leadership in the power and indrive growth. The company has dustrial equipment space. Recent been benefiting from the recovery government initiatives in infrain the real estate and consumstructure are also expected to super durables sectors. Havells has been focusing on expanding its smart home and energy-efficient product offerings, which align with consumer trends toward

eco-friendly products.

tions. Adani Ports will

develop a multipurpose

berth at Kandla Port in Gu-

jarat. Bharat Electronics

has received orders worth

Rs 1155 crore from Cochin

tion radar. It is noteworthy

that Tata Motors has lost

time in 16 years. JSW Infra clari-

fied the news that the QIP scheme

is costing Rs.5000 crore. She said

that there is no such idea. Shares

of Shoppers Stop jumped 14.51

percent to hit a lifetime high. Au-

robindo Pharma anesthetic drug

gets approval. Shares of Ramco

Systems hit 32-month high on

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TODAY RECOMMENDATION

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STOCKS:

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## **FATF** to Implement New Disclosure Norms for Cross-Border Credit Card Transactions

The Financial Action Task Force ▲ (FATF) is developing new regulations to enhance disclosure requirements for financial institutions, payment aggregators, and fintech companies involved in cross-border credit card transactions. These new norms aim to improve transparency and combat money laundering and ter-

rorist financing but could increase compliance costs for these entities.

Currently, credit card companies record basic information such as the sender and recipient's names and the transaction's country of origin. The proposed changes would require real-time reporting of credit card transactions to law enforcement agencies, once adopted by FATF member countries.

To address industry concerns and discuss the impact of these regulations, FATF will host an international consultative forum in Mumbai in April 2025. The forum will include participants from the Indian industry, private sector, and regulators from other member countries.

India supports increased transparency and disclosure but is cautious about ensuring that the new regulations do not unduly burden the industry. A senior government official emphasized the need to balance regulatory compliance with industry concerns, ensuring that measures do not impede the growth of the fintech sector.

#### **RBI Fines Axis Bank and HDFC Bank** ₹2.91 Crore for Compliance Failures

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed fines totaling ₹2.91 crore on Axis Bank and HDFC Bank for various statutory and regulatory compliance issues. On Tuesday, the RBI announced a ₹1.91 crore penalty on Axis Bank for violating provisions of the Banking Regulation Act and failing to comply with directions regarding 'Interest Rate on Deposits,' 'Know Your Customer (KYC)' norms, and 'Credit Flow to Agriculture-Collateral Free Agricultural Loans.'

The RBI's review of Axis Bank's financial position as of March 31, 2023, and its subsidiary's activities led to the penalty. The RBI found that Axis Bank had opened savings deposit accounts for ineligible entities and assigned multiple customer identification codes rather than a Unique Customer Identification Code (UCIC). Additionally, the bank had obtained collateral for agricultural loans up to ₹1.60 lakh,



which is against the regulations.

HDFC Bank has been fined ₹1 crore for failing to adhere to directions on 'Interest Rate on Deposits,' 'Recovery Agents Engaged by Banks,' and 'Customer Service in Banks.' The penalty follows a statutory inspection of HDFC Bank's financial position as of March 31, 2022. The RBI noted that HDFC Bank provided gifts exceeding ₹250 to depositors and opened savings accounts for ineligible entities. The bank also failed to ensure that customers were not contacted outside permissible hours.

#### **Israel to Invest in India's Semiconductor Sector, Ambassador Reveals**

Tsrael is set to make a significant **■**investment in India's semiconductor industry, according to Reuven Azar, the newly appointed Israeli Ambassador to India. Azar described the upcoming announcement as "big news" and hinted at a major development from a private Israeli company in the semiconductor sector. While specific details were not disclosed, Azar suggested that the investment involves substantial private sector involvement and is expected to

be revealed soon.

Reports indicate that Tower Semiconductor, an Israeli firm specializing in integrated circuits, might be preparing to invest billions in India, although no official confirmation has been made yet. This potential investment aligns with Israel's broader strategy to enhance technological collaboration with India.

In addition to the semiconductor investment, Azar revealed that Israel plans to invest USD 35 billion in infrastructure projects, including a new metro system in Tel Aviv and an airport. He mentioned that Israeli companies are looking to collaborate with Indian infrastructure firms

for these projects.

This announcement comes shortly after India's recent partnership with Singapore in the semiconductor sector, signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit. India launched the India Semiconductor Mission in 2021, backed by a ₹76,000 crore incentive scheme, aiming to boost semiconductor manufacturing in the country.

#### Adani Ports to Develop New Multi-**Purpose Berth at Kandla Port**

dani Ports and Special Eco-Anomic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has announced plans to develop a new multi-purpose berth, Berth No 13, at Kandla Port in Gujarat. The company, India's largest port developer and operator, stated that the berth is expected to be operational by FY27.

Ashwani Gupta, Whole-time Director and CEO of APSEZ, highlighted that Berth No 13 will ex-

pand their capabilities at Deendayal Port by adding the handling of multipurpose clean cargo to their existing dry bulk operations. The new berth, stretching 300 meters, will have an annual capacity of 5.7 million metric tonnes (MMT).

"The berth will enhance our presence on the western coast and improve our service to customers in Gujarat and north India," Gupta said. To manage operations at the new berth, Adani Ports has established a wholly-owned subsidiary, DPA Container and Clean Cargo Terminal Ltd (DPACCCTL).

In July, Adani Ports received a letter of intent (LOI) for the development, operation,



and maintenance of Berth No 13 under a 30-year concession period. The development will follow the DBFOT (design, build, finance, operate, and transfer) model, focusing on multipurpose clean cargo, including containers.

In a recent move to strengthen its global marine operations, Adani Ports also announced the acquisition of an 80 percent stake in Astro Offshore, a global offshore support vessel operator, for \$185 million. This acquisition aims to expand Adani Ports' global marine portfolio and attract new Tier-1 customers, with the transaction expected to be value-accretive from the first year.

### ED Attaches ₹29.75 Crore in Assets Linked to Nirav Modi's PNB Fraud Case

**■** provisionally attached assets worth ₹29.75 crore belonging to fugitive businessman Nirav Modi in connection with the Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud case. This includes immovable properties and bank balances.

The action follows an FIR filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which led to a probe into a massive bank fraud amounting to ₹6,498.20 crore. The ED's investigation revealed that assets totaling

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has and bank accounts linked to Modi and his Choksi and others are under investigation group, were identified and attached under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

> Previously, the ED had attached assets worth approximately ₹2,596 crore, both in India and abroad, related to Modi and his associates. Modi is currently imprisoned in the UK while extradition proceedings are ongoing. Despite multiple attempts, his bail applications have been denied.

₹29.75 crore, comprising land, buildings, In addition to Modi, his uncle Mehul

for alleged money laundering and fraud involving fraudulent Letters of Undertaking (LoUs) issued at the PNB Brady House branch in Mumbai.

Under the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018, assets amounting to ₹692.90 crore have been confiscated from Modi and his associates by a Mumbai special court. Furthermore, assets worth ₹1,052.42 crore have been restored to the victim banks, including PNB and consortium banks.











On August 26, 2023, Balochistan, Pakistan's largest and most troubled province, witnessed one of its deadliest attacks. Over 70 people, including Pakistan Army soldiers, were killed by the separatist group Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA). The attack took place on the 18th death anniversary of Nawab Akbar Bugti, a Baloch nationalist leader who was killed by the Pakistani military in 2006. The BLA's Majeed Brigade, its suicide squad, carried out a coordinated assault on multiple infrastructure targets, including railway tracks and bridges, and the attack resulted in the deaths of migrant laborers from Punjab.

Balochistan's rebellion against the Pakistani state is not a recent development. Its roots can be traced back to the province's annexation by Pakistan in 1948, a move many Baloch believe was forced upon them. The resentment has since evolved into a complex insurgency fueled by historical grievances, economic exploitation, and brutal state repression.

#### The Roots of the Baloch Rebellion





Balochistan's discontent stems from multiple factors, chief among them being political marginalization, economic exploitation, and the province's lack of representation in the central government. While the region is rich in natural re-

sources, the revenue generated from these resources has largely benefited other parts of Pakistan, such as Punjab and Sindh, leaving Balochistan impoverished. Balochistan contributes only 4% to Pakistan's economy, despite its mineral wealth. The province also lags behind in social development indicators, with the highest infant and maternal mortality rates, the lowest literacy rate, and widespread poverty.

The Baloch nationalist movement has been fighting for greater autonomy or outright independence for decades, with uprisings occurring in 1958, 1977, and more recently in the early 2000s. Pakistan's military response to these uprisings has been brutal, involving counter-insurgency operations, enforced disappearances, and extrajudicial killings. The assassination of Nawab Akbar Bugti in 2006, during General Pervez Musharraf's rule, was a significant turning point that further alienated the Baloch people from the Pakistani state.

Malik Siraj Akbar, a Washington D.C.-based political analyst, notes that the Baloch have been alienated since Pakistan's inception, with their disenfranchisement intensifying over the past two decades due to the state's failure to address their grievances. "Enforced disappearances, torture, and killings of Baloch activists have worsened the situation," he says.

#### Pakistan's Military and Intelligence Agencies: The Root of the Problem

While Pakistan presents itself as a democratic state, real power lies with its military and intelligence agencies, which are primariresponsible for the violence in Balochistan. military The has continued its illegal operations in the region, and unless there is accountability for these actions, confidence-building measures and negotiations with the Baloch are unlikely.





Baloch separatists, particularly the BLA, are also opposed to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a major infrastructure project funded by China that passes through Balochistan. They view the project as exploitative, with little benefit for the local population, and have targeted Chinese workers and projects in retaliation. The construction of Gwadar, a Chinese-funded port city, has been a focal point of the current insurgency. The project, announced in 2001, has excluded the Baloch from the development process, further fueling resentment.

The Taliban's return to power in neighboring Afghanistan

has also emboldened separatist groups in Balochistan, as arms and insurgent networks have become more accessible.

# The Blame Game: Pakistan's Default Response

Pakistan has consistently blamed external actors, particularly India, for supporting insurgent groups in Balochistan. Islamabad claims that India provides arms, training, and financial support to these groups, although it has failed to provide concrete evidence to substantiate these claims. India, for its part, has denied any involvement and has instead called on Pakistan to address its internal issues, including its support for terrorism.

In 2016, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks criticizing Pakistan for its repression of the Baloch people sparked outrage in Islamabad. Pakistan's narrative of external interference, however, has not been taken seriously by the international community due to its lack of evidence.

Tilak Devasher, a member of India's National Security Advisory Board, points out that Pakistan has a history of externalizing its internal problems. "Pakistan has mastered the art of blaming others for its self-created issues. Unable to resolve the decades-long insurgency in Balochistan, it intermittently blames India, but without any credible proof," he says.

#### The Way Forward

The ongoing violence in Balochistan, coupled with Pakistan's unwillingness acknowledge its responsibility for the crisis, continues to destabilize the region. The state's reliance on military force and its failure to engage with civil rights movements has further alienated the Baloch population.

Pakistan needs to stop blaming external actors and take responsibility for its actions in Balochistan. Engaging with Baloch civil rights groups, in-





volving the Baloch in the region's development process, and addressing poverty and underdevelopment are crucial steps toward resolving the crisis. Only by building trust and addressing the root causes of the insurgency can Pakistan hope to bring lasting peace to Balochistan.

For now, however, the situation remains volatile, with Pakistan refusing to engage in meaningful dialogue and instead opting for brutal military repression. India, meanwhile, continues to monitor the situation closely, wary of the broader regional implications of the Balochistan crisis.



# OFF BEAT

# OpenAI's Strawberry AI **Expected by End of September**

OpenAI is rumored to be on the verge of launching its new artificial intelligence model, Strawberry, by the end of September. This model, distinguished by its enhanced reasoning and mathematical problem-solving capabilities, is expected to be integrated into ChatGPT and offered as a standalone product. Contrary to speculation, Strawberry is not the next generation of GPT but a distinct model with additional features.

According to The Information, Strawberry is in the final stages of internal testing, a phase typically leading up to a beta or public release. Sources familiar with the model suggest it could be available within the next two weeks, though release schedules are subject to change. The internal codename "Strawberry" may not reflect the final branding upon launch.

Strawberry AI is designed to have advanced cognitive abilities, including a delay in response generation. Unlike previous models, it is reported to take between 10 to 20 seconds to generate an output after receiving a prompt. Earlier reports suggested that Straw-



This feature aims to enhance the depth of reasoning and problem-solv-

The AI model will initially be textbased and available within ChatGPT, as well as through a separate offering for API clients. Specific details on the integration and any potential differences between these versions have not been disclosed.

berry could be released in the fall, but without a precise timeline. It has been confirmed that Strawberry will not be branded as GPT-5, as that iteration of the large language model is still under development.

Overall, Strawberry promises to bring a new level of functionality and complexity to AI applications, expanding the capabilities of current generative AI technologies.

Flipkart's Big Billion Days Sale 2024

Flipkart is gearing up for its Big Billion Days Sale 2024, which promises significant discounts across various product categories, including smartphones, electronics, lifestyle items, groceries, home goods, and furniture. A recent teaser indicates that Flipkart has teamed up with HDFC to offer additional savings for customers using HDFC cards and EMI transactions.

According to a leaked banner shared by tipster Abhishek Yadav on X, the sale is expected to start on September 26 for Flipkart Plus members, with a general launch for all customers on September 27. Flipkart's partnership with HDFC will provide cardholders with instant discounts, while the sale will also feature no-cost EMI options, UPI-based offers, exchange deals, and Pay Later services. Flipkart Plus members will benefit from exclusive SuperCoins offers as well.

During the sale, flagship smartphones from brands such as Apple, Samsung, and Google are anticipated to see price drops. The iPhone 15 and iPhone 14 models, following the recent iPhone



Realme, Xiaomi, Vivo, and Nothing will be offered at attractive discounts, with specific deal prices to be revealed soon. Exclusive launches may also feature during the sale.

discounted. Samsung's Galaxy S24 se- wearables, speakers, laptops, fashion, ries and Google's Pixel 9 series phones and household items, will have simwill also likely have reduced prices. ilar discounts, and daily flash deals Additionally, popular handsets from are expected. This major sale comes as Flipkart's rival, Amazon, prepares for its annual Great Indian Festival sale, with dates to be announced, likely aligning closely with Flipkart's event.

# **Carnival Cruise Ship Hits** Ice in Alaska, Passengers **Compare to Titanic**



ast Thursday, the Carnival Spirit Lencountered a dramatic moment when it struck a chunk of ice while navigating Alaska's Tracy Arm Fjord. Despite the incident sparking dramatic comparisons to the Titanic, a thorough inspection confirmed that the ship sustained no damage and continued its voyage as scheduled.

According to Carnival Cruise Line, the collision occurred when the ship hit a drifting piece of ice. "The ship was struck with an errant piece of drifting ice last Thursday while sailing in Tracy Arm Fjord, Alaska," the company stated. Fortunately, the vessel remained intact and did not experience any delays or operational issues. The Carnival Spirit is expected to arrive in Seattle on September 24, as planned.

The incident drew dramatic reac-

tions from passengers. Cassandra Goskie, one of the travelers on board, shared a video in a private Facebook group for Carnival VIFP Club Members. In the video, she can be heard saying, "If we die, it was damn well worth it. It's a Titanic moment," as the ship made contact with the ice. Another passenger, April Futrell, posted images and an update on social media, mentioning that they were "safe" and had resumed their journey to Skagway after assessing for any damage.

One of the images posted shows a tugboat trailing behind the Carnival Spirit, as it navigates through the icy waters. Despite the dramatic visuals and the initial scare, the ship managed to handle the situation smoothly and complete its 7-day voyage without further incident.



Recent discussions on Reddit have highlighted the risks associated with charging devices at public stations, especially laptops. Users have raised concerns about data security, potential damage to devices, and the implications of using public charging points.

A Reddit post featured an image of a public charging station labeled for phones only, prompting a user to inquire about the consequences of charging a laptop instead. The question, "What will happen if I charge my laptop? Any electrical degree holders? Please explain the logic," sparked a range of responses from the commu-

# **Old Photo Sparks Time Travel Debate Over "iPad" in 1941**

Avintage 1941 photograph taken by Edwin Rosskam in Chicago's South Side has become the center of an online frenzy, with some speculating about time travel. The image shows a group of welldressed movie-

goers lined up for a cinema, but it's a detail in the background that's capturing atten-

In the far right of the photo, a young man is holding a rectangular object that looks surprisingly similar to a modern tablet or iPad. This led some Reddit users to suggest that the boy might be a time traveler who accidentally brought a future device back to the past.

The photo was shared on Reddit's timetravelerscaught community, where one user pointed out, "iPad carrying moviegoer, all the way to the right." Another user agreed, noting that zooming in reveals what seems to be an iconic Apple logo.

However, others believe the object is more likely a book or notepad. One commenter provided historical context, explaining that ushers in the

early days of film often checked for pens and notepads to prevent illegal recordings of movies.

Some users added humorous takes on the situation. One asked, "If I could time travel with an iPad, why would I choose to visit the South Side of Chicago in 1941 just to watch a matinee of 'The Aldrich Family'?"

On a lighter note, many admired the vintage fashion of the era. Comments praised the well-dressed moviegoers, with one user wishing that people still dressed so nicely for everyday outings. Another remarked on the charm of the small men's hats from that period.

A final comment suggested the object might be a Bible, given the formal attire of the moviegoers, adding a touch of historical context to the debate.

## **Fugitive Penguin Pen-chan Found Safe After Miraculous** Sea Adventure

**D**en-chan, a female Cape penguin **P** who escaped captivity and ventured into the open sea, has been found safe and healthy two weeks after her dramatic escape. The penguin, who had never swum in the open sea or fended for herself before, went missing during an event in Japan's central Aichi region on August 25.

Keeper Ryosuke Imai, who described Pen-chan's recovery as a "miracle," and his team immediately launched a search. Their efforts were complicated by a severe typhoon that brought record rains to Japan, which they feared would make Pen-chan's survival unlikely.

Despite concerns about her swimming abilities and survival skills, Pen-chan was spotted on September 8, calmly swimming at a beach 30 miles (45 kilometers) away from where she had escaped. Imai was astonished to find that Pen-chan was in good condition and swimming normally.

"It was beyond my surprise... It's and unexpected.



a miracle," Imai told AFP after the penguin was safely recaptured. He speculated that Pen-chan had been eating fish and crabs during her sea journey and managed to find rest stops along the way.

Although she had lost some weight, Pen-chan was otherwise healthy and doing well. Imai noted that the penguin's ability to adapt and survive in the wild, despite having no prior experience, was remarkable

# **Risks of Charging Laptops** at Public Stations: Reddit **Highlights Concerns**

One user explained that using such a station for a laptop could be harmful due to the mismatch in power requirements. "Do not connect your laptop charger here, not because the train will explode, but because such high DC current is bad for your device," they wrote. Laptops typically require a stable 220V AC power supply, and using an unsuitable charger could damage both the adapter and the laptop battery.

Another user pointed out that laptop chargers are designed for higher voltage inputs. "A laptop charger works on 220V, so it might slow charge or not charge at all," they noted.

Additionally, some users highlighted practical considerations. "Probably because of the limited number of charging ports. Charging mobile is more important than charging a laptop generally speaking," commented another participant.

The thread reflects broader concerns about public charging stations, including the risk of data theft from compromised cables or devices and potential device damage due to unstable power supplies. To mitigate these risks, it's advised to use personal chargers and power banks whenever possible.







# India Crushes Malaysia 8-1 to Reach ACT Semifinals

Defending champions India stormed into the semifinals of the Asian Champions Trophy (ACT) hockey tournament with a commanding 8-1 victory over Malaysia. This win, achieved on September 11, 2024, in Hulunbuir, marked India's third consecutive preliminary round triumph.

The match saw a flurry of goals from the Indian team, with Raj Kumar Pal leading the charge by scoring three times in the 3rd, 25th, and 33rd minutes. Araijeet Singh Hundal added two more goals in the 6th and 39th minutes, while Jugraj Singh, Harmanpreet Singh, and Uttam Singh contributed one goal each, at the 7th, 22nd, and 40th minutes respectively. Malaysia's sole goal was scored by Akhimullah Anuar in the 34th minute. India's dominance in the tournament is reflected in their position at the top of the standings with nine points from their three victories.

The Asian Champions Trophy features six teams competing in a round-robin format, with the top four teams advancing to the semifinals scheduled for September 16, followed by the final on September 17.

India's performance solidifies their status as a strong contender, as they continue their campaign to defend their title in this prestigious hockey tournament



# International Cricket Council

# ICC Announces Women's T20 World Cup 2024

With the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 just around the corner, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has unveiled ticket details and exciting fan initiatives. Match tickets will start at an affordable five dirhams (approximately Rs 114.28), and entry will be free for fans under 18 years old. This move aims to boost attendance and foster a lasting legacy for the tournament, which will be held in the UAE.

The announcement was made with a spectacular laser show on the Burj Khalifa, showcasing the UAE's commitment to celebrating its diverse international community. ICC Chief Executive Geoff Allardice highlighted the event's global significance, noting, "It's a place where the entire world is represented! This means that this is effectively a home World Cup for all 10 teams, and players can enjoy the support of passionate fans."

The tournament will commence on October 3, featuring 10 teams across 23 matches over 18 days. Teams are split into two groups: Group A with Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, and Group B with Bangladesh, England, South Africa, West Indies, and Scotland. The format will be round-robin, with the top two teams from each group advancing to the knockout stages.

The opening match will see Bangladesh face Scotland in Sharjah on October 3. The semi-finals are scheduled for October 17 in Dubai and October 18 in Sharjah, with the final taking place in Dubai on October 20. Prior to the tournament, teams will engage in warm-up matches from September 28 to October 1.



# Virat Kohli and Babar Azam Could Team Up in Revived Afro-Asia Cup

The Afro-Asia Cup, a series of charity matches between Asian XI and African XI held in 2005 and 2007, might be making a comeback, sparking excitement about potential star partnerships. According to Forbes, there are discussions about reviving the tournament, which previously featured players like Virender Sehwag, Irfan Pathan, and Inzamam-ul-Haq for Asia, and Shaun Pollock, Jacques Kallis, and Tatenda Taibu for Africa.

Sumod Damodar, the former chair of the African Cricket Association, expressed his disappointment over the tournament's previous halt, noting, "There was not adequate momentum through the ACA, but it is being looked at again." He emphasized that the lack of support from Africa was a key factor, but now there is renewed interest. "Our members are regretting it. It needed to be pushed by Africa."

If the Afro-Asia Cup is revived, cricket fans could see exciting collaborations such as Virat Kohli and Babar Azam playing together or Shaheen Afridi and Jasprit Bumrah bowling in tandem. The potential reunion of these stars could also help bridge political divides, with Damodar suggesting that "cricket can help build the bridges rather than burn it up."

The last bilateral series between India and Pakistan took place in 2012-13, and the two teams haven't played Test matches against each other since 2007. Damodar believes that renewed matches could help mend relations, stating, "I don't personally believe that players are antagonistic against each other, so I'm sure they would be up for it."

In 2022, there was a proposal to restart the Afro-Asia Cup, involving key figures like Jay Shah of the Asian Cricket Council and Mahinda Vallipuram, the ACC head of development. With Vallipuram recently re-elected to the ICC board and Shah leading the ICC, there is optimism about bringing the tournament back.

# Sri Lankan Cricketers Achieve Career-High Rankings After Victory Over England

Following Sri Lanka's historic Test win over England at The Oval, six Sri Lankan players have secured new career-high rankings in the latest ICC Men's Test Rankings. This victory marked Sri Lanka's first Test win over England on their home soil, showcasing standout performances from several key players.

Skipper Dhananjaya de Silva, who scored a crucial 69 in the first innings, has achieved a career-best ranking, moving up three places to 13th among Test batters. He is now the top-ranked Sri Lankan batsman. Kamindu Mendis also reached a new career-high, climbing six spots to 19th after scoring a half-century. Opener Pathum Nissanka made a significant leap of 42 places to 39th, thanks to his impressive innings of 64 and an unbeaten 127.



# ASTRAL PIPES SINGLE SIN

# Rohit Sharma May Depart Mumbai Indians Via Trade

As the IPL 2025 mega auction approaches, speculation is growing about Rohit Sharma's future with the Mumbai Indians. Following his removal as captain at the start of last season, with Hardik Pandya taking over, the relationship between Sharma and the franchise reportedly soured. Former India cricketer Aakash Chopra has suggested that Sharma might be transferred to another team through a trade rather than entering the auction.

In a recent discussion on his YouTube channel, Chopra addressed the uncertainty surrounding Sharma's IPL future. He stated, "Will he stay or will he go? It's a big question. Personally, I feel he will not stay. Typically, if a player is retained, they are expected to stay for a few seasons, except in rare cases like MS Dhoni with Chennai Super Kings. I believe Rohit might either leave on his own or be let go by MI."

Chopra further elaborated, "I don't have specific information, but I think Rohit will be released. It's possible he could be traded to another franchise, bypassing the auction. If a trade doesn't materialize, then he might enter the auction. I believe his time with the Mumbai Indians is coming to an end." Regarding Suryakumar Yadav, who has also been rumored to be moving away from Mumbai Indians, Chopra was more definitive.







#### Bollywood Actor Malaika Arora's Father Dies by Suicide in Mumbai

Bollywood actress Malaika Arora is in mourning after her father, Anil Arora, died by suicide this morning in Mumbai. The 65-year-old reportedly jumped from his apartment building in Bandra around 9 am, according to the police. Authorities are currently investigating the incident, with Anil Arora's body sent for a post-mortem examination.

Malaika Arora, who was born in Thane, Maharashtra, had a challenging childhood following her parents' divorce when she was just 11. She and her younger sister, Amrita Arora, moved to Chembur with their mother, Joyce Polycarp. Joyce is of Malayali Christian descent, while Anil Arora was Punjabi and worked in the Indian Merchant Navy.

In a recent interview, Malaika reflected on her upbringing, describing her childhood as "wonderful" yet "tumultuous," acknowledging the difficulties she faced during that period. Malaika's ex-husband, Arbaaz Khan, and senior police officers have arrived at her residence following the tragic news.

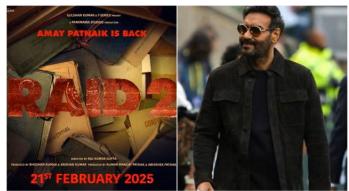
# Kareena Stuns on Bazaar Cover Ahead of 'The Buckingham Murders' Release

Kareena Kapoor Khan is set to dazzle on the big screen with her upcoming film, \*The Buckingham Murders\*, which is scheduled to hit theaters on September 13, 2024. In the lead-up to the film's release, Kareena has made headlines with her breathtaking cover shoot for Bazaar magazine.

The cover shoot features
Kareena in a series of striking
outfits that highlight her
impeccable fashion sense.
With daring thigh slits, heavy
jewelry, and a series of bold,
glamorous looks, she exudes
confidence and elegance.
Each photograph captures her
charisma, leaving fans and
fashion enthusiasts in awe.

As anticipation for \*The Buckingham Murders\* builds, Kareena's fans are eagerly awaiting her performance in the film. Her stunning appearance on the Bazaar cover has only intensified the excitement surrounding the film's release.





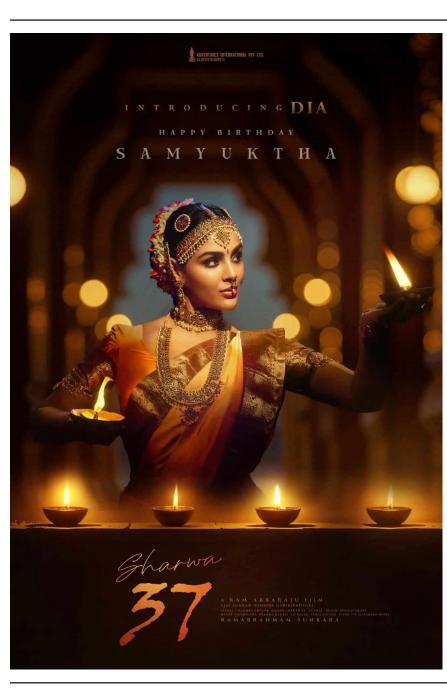
Ajay Devgn's 'Raid 2' Release Date Set for February 2025

Ajay Devgn's highly anticipated film \*Raid 2\* will now hit theaters on February 21, 2025, as announced by the makers on Wednesday. The sequel to the 2018 hit \*Raid\*, where Devgn portrayed IRS officer Amay Patnaik, was initially scheduled for release on November 15 this year.

Bollywood studio T-Series shared the update on Instagram, stating, "Bringing back the action, intensity, and suspense your way! #Raid2 releasing on 21st February 2025!" The film will continue to highlight the work of the Income Tax Department, focusing on a true case from their files. Vaani Kapoor and Rajat Kapoor will join Devgn in significant roles, with Riteish Deshmukh playing the antagonist.

Directed by Raj Kumar Gupta, who also directed the first film, \*Raid 2\* is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, Kumar Mangat Pathak, and Abhishek Pathak under the banners of T-Series and Panorama Studios.

The original \*Raid\*, which starred Saurabh Shukla and Ileana D'Cruz, was inspired by a real-life Income Tax Department raid from the 1980s. Devgn's recent projects include \*Maidaan\*, a period sports drama, and Neeraj Pandey's \*Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha\*. His upcoming film is \*Singham Again\*, directed by Rohit Shetty.



# Sharwanand's 37th Film: Hilarious New Project with Director Ram Abbaraju

Sharwanand is gearing up for his 37th film, collaborating with director Ram Abbaraju, known for the hit \*Samajavaragamana\*. This upcoming film promises to deliver a dose of humor and showcases Sharwanand in a fresh and unique role.

In this exciting project, Sharwanand will be romancing two leading ladies: Samyuktha and Sakshi Vaidya. To celebrate Samyuktha's birthday, her first look from the film has been unveiled. The poster features Samyuktha in a traditional saree, adorned with intricate jewelry. Her character, Dia, is depicted holding diyas, adding a touch of radiance and elegance to the image.

The film, tentatively titled \*Sharwa37\*, is produced by Anil Sunkara under the AK Entertainments banner. The story is crafted by Bhanu Bogavarapu, with Nandu Savirigana penning the dialogues. The music for the film is composed by Vishal Chandra Shekhar, while the cinematography is handled by Gnana Shekar VS.

# Saif Ali Khan Praises Jr NTR Ahead of 'Devara' Release



The highly anticipated film \*Devara: Part 1\*, starring Jr NTR, Janhvi Kapoor, and Saif Ali Khan, is set to hit theaters on September 27. Prior to its release, the film's trailer was launched in Mumbai on Tuesday, where Saif Ali Khan spoke about his experience working with Jr NTR.

At the event, Saif described Jr NTR as a "very easy-going person" who handles his stardom with humility. He shared, "Tarak [Jr NTR] is very friendly and welcoming. We had a great laugh even on the first day. He visited me in my van while I was waiting for a shot, which made me feel very comfortable." Saif also commended Jr NTR for his hospitality, revealing that the actor invited him to his home and offered to cook a meal. He added, "He's one of the most hospitable people I've worked with. He's incredibly down-to-earth."

Discussing Jr NTR's dual persona on and off-screen, Saif noted, "On set, he appears larger-than-life and possesses a great star quality. But off-screen, he's just a normal, fun person. It has been a pleasure working with him."

Jr NTR, enthusiastic about the film's release, teased the film's climax, praising the "last 40 minutes" of \*Devara\*. He hinted that while he can't highlight a specific action sequence, he believes the final half hour will be particularly thrilling. "I'm sure that Anil sir, Apoorva sir, and Karan sir would agree with me," he said.

# Kapil Sharma Announces Premiere Date for 'The Great Indian Kapil Show 2

Kapil Sharma has officially announced the premiere date for the second season of his popular stand-up comedy show, "The Great Indian Kapil Show." In a new promo video, Sharma and his team—Kiku Sharda, Sunil Grover, Krushna Abhishek, Rajiv Thakur, and Archana Puran Singh—revealed that the show will return on September 21.

The promo features a humorous round-table meeting where Sharma, addressing his team, jokingly questions their creativity after a full day of eating dosas. In a playful exchange, Archana Puran Singh suggests that every Saturday should be renamed "Funnyvaar" to reflect the show's comedic essence. Kapil then confirms that the new season will indeed premiere on September 21, making Saturdays a day of laughter and fun.

The official Instagram account for the show highlighted the announcement with a caption: "Fun se aapke Shanivaar



ko Funnyvaar banane hum aa rahe hai 21st September se. Get ready to watch The Great Indian Kapil Show har Shanivaar Funnyvaar sirf Netflix par!" This translates to, "We will fill your Saturdays with fun and laughter from September 21. Get ready to watch The Great Indian Kapil Show every Saturday, only on Netflix."

The new season promises to deliver more of the humor and entertainment that fans loved in the first season.