

**Weather Forecast**

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 28 °C L 23 °C	H 33 °C L 26 °C	H 37 °C L 26 °C

# Those Involved in Illegal Constructions Should Withdraw Voluntarily

- ✦ Illegal structures must be demolished, says the CM
- ✦ Government is ready to fight in court if necessary.

- ✦ Double-bedroom houses for 11,000 poor families in the Musi catchment area.
- ✦ Sensational comments at the Telangana Police Academy Passing Out Parade.

**TPN, Telangana:** Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy declared that illegal constructions will not be tolerated under any circumstances and that demolitions are inevitable. He alleged that farmhouses are being built near key projects and improperly connecting drainage to Gandipet Lake. The CM stated that it would be honorable for those involved in illegal constructions to withdraw themselves voluntarily. He emphasized that buildings erected in violation of regulations will not be spared, and the government is ready to fight in court if necessary.

Speaking at the passing out parade held at the Telangana Police Academy on Wednesday, CM Revanth Reddy highlighted that encroachments on canals have caused flooding, affecting the homes of the poor. He explained that HYDRA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency) was established to remove encroachments from ponds and canals, and the government is determined to restore these water bodies to their former state. He also announced plans to remove encroachments and develop the Musi riverfront. Additionally, Revanth Reddy promised to build double-bedroom houses for 11,000 poor families in the Musi catchment area.

### "We've Already Provided 30,000 Jobs"

The CM reassured the public about the transparency of the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC), addressing concerns of the unemployed. He explained that the commission is functioning transparently, issuing frequent notifications and completing appointments without controversy. Revanth Reddy added that 30,000 jobs have already been provided, and the recruitment process for another 35,000 positions is currently underway.



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## 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.

## Another Key Responsibility for 'Hydra'!

- ✦ Hydra is constantly active in the city with widespread demolitions.
- ✦ A plan to involve Hydra in the building permit process granted by the government.
- ✦ Government moves towards a new rule requiring NOC from Hydra for house constructions.

**TPN, Telangana:** Chief Minister Revanth Reddy introduced HYDRA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency) to tackle encroachments on government lands and protect ponds. Currently, Hydra is frequently in the news for its relentless demolitions of illegal constructions across the city.

It is now reported that the Telangana government has made another significant decision in this regard. It has been decided to involve Hydra in the process of issuing building permits. The government is planning to introduce a new rule that will require obtaining a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Hydra as part of the permission process for constructing houses in the city.

Additionally, it has been informed that if anyone undertakes illegal constructions within buffer zones or Full Tank Levels

(FTL) without Hydra's approval, their house number, electricity, and water connections will be disconnected.

This decision is said to be taken to ensure that the poor and middle-class people do not face undue hardship. An official announcement regarding this new regulation is expected soon.

### Hydra Statement on the Demolition of Illegal Structures

HYDRA has announced the demolition of numerous illegal structures built in Full Tank Level (FTL) and buffer zones around ponds. The agency revealed that 262 structures have been demolished across 23 areas under the jurisdiction of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), with 111.72 acres of land reclaimed in the process.



The Revanth Reddy government established HYDRA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency) to protect ponds and other natural resources. The agency is led by IPS officer Ranganath as its commissioner. HYDRA's demolition activities have sparked widespread discussion in various areas under GHMC's jurisdiction. Notably, several structures, including the N Convention Centre owned by film actor Nagarjuna, have been demolished.



## Another Accused Granted Bail in Delhi Liquor Scam Case

- ✦ Arun Ramachandran Pillai, an accused in the Delhi liquor scam
- ✦ Pillai is known to have close ties with BRS MLC Kavitha
- ✦ Pillai was arrested shortly before Kavitha's arrest last year

**TPN, New Delhi:** Another accused has been granted bail in the Delhi Liquor Scam case, which caused a major sensation. It is known that BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha was recently granted bail, and now the Delhi High Court has granted bail to Arun Ramachandran Pillai.

Pillai was granted bail in a case filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on charges of money laundering related to the Delhi liquor scam. A businessman from Hyderabad, Pillai is accused of working in the interests of BRS MLC Kavitha in the liquor scam.





## Another Accused Granted Bail in Delhi Liquor Scam Case

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The primary charge against Pillai is that he allegedly accepted bribes from Indo spirit Liquor Company MD Sameer Mahendru and distributed those bribes to other accused in the case.

The ED further alleged that Pillai provided false statements during the investigation and played a role in destroying evidence. He was arrested by the ED in March last year, and it is noteworthy that Kavitha was arrested a few days after Pillai's arrest.

# Revanth Reddy Can't Do It... If BJP Wins, We'll Take Action Against KCR

**TPN, Telangana:** Union Home Minister and BJP MP Bandi Sanjay made noteworthy comments, stating that he initially thought Telangana CM Revanth Reddy could bring KCR to justice, but now believes it's beyond Revanth's capability to put KCR in jail. Speaking at a BJP membership registration program in Serilingampally, Bandi Sanjay emphasized that if the BJP were to come to power in Telangana, they would have taken decisive action against KCR and his family.

Sanjay drew a comparison to the movie *\*Ankusham\**, saying that KCR's family would have been held accountable if the BJP had control, but claimed that Revanth Reddy is failing to take necessary action. He remarked that KCR is adept at navigating tricky situations, knowing exactly whom to target and how to escape accountability.

He criticized KCR for conducting *\*Navagraha\** rituals, likening him to a "tenth planet" in Telangana. Sanjay also accused KCR of having filed non-bailable and rowdy sheet cases against him in the past. Amid the ongoing floods in Telangana, Bandi Sanjay questioned why KCR is focusing on rituals for a political "re-entry" instead of addressing the pressing issues caused by the floods. He alleged that KCR is avoiding public appearances and not responding to critical concerns, particularly HYDRA's activities.

Sanjay claimed that HYDRA is being used as a diversionary tactic to shift public attention away from the "six guarantees." He criticized the demolition of illegal structures and demanded that action be taken against those who granted the permits for these constructions in the first place.



## Telangana High Court Sets Three-Month Deadline for BC Census



**TPN, Hyderabad:** In a significant ruling, the Telangana High Court has directed the state government to complete the process of identifying politically backward classes and enumerating backward-class voters in all local bodies within three months. This directive is based on the Supreme Court's ruling in the *\*Vikas Kishanrao Gawali vs. State of Maharashtra\** case.

A Division Bench, led by Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice J. Sreenivas

Rao, instructed the Advocate General of Telangana, A. Sudershan Reddy, to follow the Supreme Court's guidelines as mentioned in Paragraph 13 of the judgment. The ruling comes in response to petitions filed by the Telangana State Backward Classes Welfare Association, along with individuals Jajula Srinivas Goud and Dasoju Sravan Kumar, who have challenged the ongoing local body election process without fresh identification of politically backward classes, as previously mandated by the apex court.

The petitions, filed in 2018, 2019, and 2020, argue that the identification process is crucial for ensuring proper representation and reservation for backward classes in local elections, as per the *\*K. Krishnamurthy vs. Union of India\** case. The petitioners pointed out that the Supreme Court had reaffirmed the "triple test" criteria for OBC reservations in 2021, and they requested the High Court to ensure the proper implementation of this order.

## Deputy CM Reviews Yadadri Thermal Power Plant Progress in Nalgonda

**TPN, Telangana:** Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, along with ministers Komati Reddy Venkata Reddy, Uttamkumar Reddy, and local MLA Bathula Lakshmareddy, visited the Yadadri Thermal Power Plant in Veerlapalem, Nalgonda district. Their visit included a significant milestone, as they initiated the trial run of the second unit at the plant, which is part of Telangana's key energy infrastructure project.

Following the trial run, the ministers held a comprehensive review meeting with officials from TG Genco and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to discuss the plant's progress and its roadmap towards achieving full operational capacity.

During the review, Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka highlighted several critical issues concerning the project and its impact on the local community. He emphasized the importance of respecting and compensating those who lost their land for the project, acknowledging their sacrifice for the greater public good. "Those who gave up their land did so with a higher ambition for the future," the

Deputy CM remarked, urging the authorities to ensure that these individuals are provided with prompt compensation and ample opportunities for employment.

In line with his focus on community welfare, Bhatti Vikramarka called for training and job opportunities for eligible individuals from displaced families, ensuring that the project benefits those directly affected by its development. He also stressed the need for timely completion of the project, setting a clear target for the plant to reach its 4000 MW power generation capacity by March 2025.

One of the key aspects of the review was the discussion on infrastructure improvements, particularly the need for the construction of special roads for coal transportation. Bhatti Vikramarka urged officials to expedite the construction of four dedicated road lines that would facilitate smooth coal transportation from the power plant to Damaracharla and other necessary destinations, ensuring the plant's efficiency and operational readiness.

## Minister Tummala Inspects Godavari River at Bhadrachalam

**TPN, Telangana:** Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has issued instructions to authorities to take special measures as the Godavari River is flowing beyond 50 feet at Bhadrachalam. A second emergency alert is currently in effect at Bhadrachalam. The Minister inspected the rising flood levels and oversaw the drainage of sewage at Vista Complex, flood relief efforts at the embankment, and the construction of a new embankment.

Following this, a review meeting was held with officials from the Water Drainage, Panchayat Raj, Roads and Buildings, Agriculture, Electricity, and Medical Departments at the RDO office. On this occasion, Minister Tummala emphasized that issues arising from the floods should be addressed immediately. He directed that the downed electricity poles and damaged roads be repaired without delay.

Meanwhile, the water level of the Godavari at Ramannagudem Pushkar Ghat is gradually rising. A first danger warning has been issued, with the current water level recorded at 15.80 meters. A second danger warning will be issued at 15.83 meters. The Chhattisgarh-Telangana highway has been closed due to the heavy flooding of the Godavari.



## 10-Month-Old Mauled to Death by Stray Dogs in Telangana

**TPN, Nizamabad:** In a heartbreaking incident, a 10-month-old boy was mauled to death by stray dogs in the Bodhan constituency of Nizamabad, Telangana, on Monday. The tragedy occurred when the child's mother left him near a bus stand to use the washroom. Upon her return, she found the infant missing and immediately filed a missing person report with the police.

Following an extensive search, authorities discovered the remains of the boy, confirming that stray dogs had eaten parts of his body. The body parts were sent to a hospital for postmortem examination to determine further details about the horrific attack.

This incident has drawn parallels to a similar case in the past when a newborn was mauled to death by dogs inside the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Warangal. The baby, estimated to be two days old, was found under distressing circumstances, raising concerns about public safety and the growing threat of stray animals in the region.

## Telangana Police Make a Significant Donation to the CM Relief Fund



**TPN, Telangana:** In the wake of heavy rains and flooding in Telangana, many celebrities and public figures are stepping forward to assist the victims. Responding to the government's call, individuals from the film industry, politics, and various other sectors have been making generous donations to the CM Relief Fund.

Joining the effort, the Telangana Police donated their one-day salary to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. A check amounting to Rs. 11,06,83,571 was handed over to CM Revanth Reddy by senior police officials. DGP Jitender presented the check on behalf of the Telangana Police during the SC Passing Out Parade program held at the Telangana Police Academy on Wednesday.

During the passing out parade of Sub-Inspectors (SIs) and Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) at the Telangana Police Academy, senior officials, including Home Secretary Ravi Gupta, DGP Jitender, and Intelligence Chief B. Shivdhar Reddy, along with representatives from the Police Officers' Association, presented the donation check to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy.

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## CM Revanth Reddy's Delhi Visit

**Cabinet Expansion and Flood Relief on the Agenda**

**TPN, Telangana:** Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accompanied by PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, is on a key visit to Delhi, sparking speculation within Congress circles about an impending cabinet expansion. The visit comes at a critical time, as the Congress leadership is reportedly focused on expanding the state cabinet, filling nominated posts, and addressing flood relief efforts. While the official agenda centers on discussing flood damage with central authorities, insider reports suggest that cabinet expansion is also a priority.



complete, with six key ministerial positions still vacant. Currently, only 11 ministers, including Revanth Reddy, have been sworn in, leaving important portfolios such as Home, Municipal, Education, and Mining under the direct oversight of the Chief Minister.

Revanth Reddy has sought appointments with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and several Union Ministers to report on the extensive flood damage in Telangana and request financial assistance for recovery efforts. The state has been severely affected by recent floods, and the Telangana government is eager to secure central support for rehabilitation.

The timing of this visit has raised questions about the long-awaited cabinet expansion. Ten months have passed since the Congress government took power in Telangana, yet the cabinet remains in-

complete, with six key ministerial positions still vacant. Currently, only 11 ministers, including Revanth Reddy, have been sworn in, leaving important portfolios such as Home, Municipal, Education, and Mining under the direct oversight of the Chief Minister.

Revanth Reddy is expected to discuss the cabinet expansion with the Congress high command during his visit. Several senior Congress leaders, including Gaddam Vivek, Prem Sagar Rao, Sudarshan Reddy, and Mal Reddy Rangareddy, are considered potential candidates for the vacant positions. Additionally, minority leaders like Shabbir Ali and Azharuddin are also being considered for ministerial roles.

Aside from cabinet expansion, Revanth Reddy's agenda includes a crucial meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, where he is expected to present a detailed report on flood damage and formally request central assistance. With Telangana's flood recovery efforts in urgent need of funding, this visit could significantly impact both the state's political landscape and its developmental progress.

## Telangana Congress Used Karnataka Valmiki Scam Money: KTR



**TPN, Telangana:** BRS Working President KTR accused the Telangana Congress Party of using funds from the Valmiki scam, which became a sensation in Karnataka, for the recently held Lok Sabha elections. KTR stated that the allegations regarding this matter are true. He addressed the issue via X (Twitter), demanding that Congress leaders be held accountable for misusing money intended for the welfare of tribals in Karnataka for their election campaign.

KTR pointed out that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) confirmed in its charge sheet that Congress leader and former Karnataka minister B. Nagendra was the key mastermind behind the scam. He alleged that Rs 187 crore was diverted through a Congress minister and used by the party for the May 14 Lok Sabha elections in Telangana.

He further claimed that Satyanarayana Verma, the main accused in the Valmiki scam, is a well-known builder from Hyderabad. KTR alleged that Verma has close ties with two prominent Congress leaders from Telangana and even suggested that these leaders might be partners in Verma's

business. He emphasized that it is evident that many Congress leaders are involved and demanded that investigating agencies expose the truth behind the scam and ensure the culprits are severely punished.

KTR also claimed that the Congress government in Telangana is involved in another scam. He said there is information about a recent agreement to hand over development works on 2,000 acres of the Muchharla area, under Ranga Reddy and Mahabubnagar districts, to Emaar Builders in Dubai. He highlighted that this agreement includes a condition to settle the Boulder Hills project case, which has been ongoing for 11 years, in favor of the Telangana government.

It is significant to note that the Boulder Hills project scam was a controversial deal between the then Congress government and Emaar MGF. KTR reacted to reports of a new agreement between the Congress government in Telangana and Emaar Builders, suggesting that another scandal may be in the making under Congress rule.

said that he was disturbed after reading about the tragic incident and pointed out that the government's indifference to such cases is unacceptable.

He noted that dog attacks on children have become a recurring problem in the state, with incidents of children being mauled by stray dogs and deaths from dog bites becoming alarmingly common. According to data, over 60,000 dog bite cases have been reported in the state this year alone, attributed to the government's negligence. Tragically, several lives have been lost, and Harish Rao criticized the government for its failure to provide sufficient anti-rabies injections in hospitals.

- **Former minister criticizes the government for not taking steps to control dog attacks**
- **Expresses grief over the rising incidents of dog bites and fatalities**
- **Calls for immediate action as dog bites and related deaths become frequent**

**TPN, Telangana:** Former Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao expressed his deep sorrow over the incident in Bodhan town, Nizamabad district, where a young boy was mauled by stray dogs. He lamented that the incident left him shaken and accused the government of failing to take necessary measures to control the increasing stray dog attacks. Harish Rao

Harish Rao also highlighted that sanitation management in villages and towns has deteriorated, leading to the accumulation of garbage and a subsequent increase in stray dog populations. He argued that the municipal administration department has failed to control the stray dog menace, leaving the public at risk. He pointed out that there are over 20 lakh stray dogs in the state, with more than 10 lakh under the jurisdiction of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). Despite the extreme dog menace, the government has not allocated funds for sterilization programs.



## Forest Minister Konda Surekha Pays Tribute to Forest Martyrs

**TPN, Telangana:** On National Forest Martyrs' Day, Telangana's Forest and Environment Minister, Konda Surekha, honored the sacrifices of forest department personnel who have lost their lives protecting the nation's natural resources. In her statement, she compared the dedication of forest employees to that of soldiers guarding the country's borders, noting that both groups make tremendous sacrifices for the nation's safety and well-being.

Minister Surekha expressed sorrow over the loss of 22 forest personnel who died in the line of duty, recognizing their bravery and commitment. "It is heartbreaking that these individuals gave their lives while protecting our forests," she said, highlighting the importance of their work in preserving the environment.

She also discussed the state's ongoing efforts to increase forest cover from 24% to 33% through programs like \*Vana Mahotsavam\*. The Minister described this initiative as a "Maha Yajna" (great sacrifice) for forest wealth, commending the relentless work of forest department employees in achieving this goal. Their dedication, she said, is crucial to ensuring a greener future for the state.

Looking ahead, Minister Surekha announced the government's plans to recruit additional staff for the forest department. This recruitment drive is aimed at strengthening the department and enhancing its ability to protect forests and tackle environmental challenges. "We are working to fill necessary vacancies and provide support to the forest department," she assured.

## DK ARUNA FIRE ON Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy

**TPN, Telangana:** Recent political developments in Telangana have drawn sharp criticism towards prominent Congress leaders, particularly Rahul Gandhi and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Dr. Aruna, a political figure from Zahirabad, voiced strong opinions on both leaders, questioning their approach to leadership and governance.

Dr. Aruna's criticism of Rahul Gandhi revolves around his speeches, particularly one delivered in the U.S. She expressed concerns over his lack of maturity, noting that his remarks made her question his understanding of India's political landscape. "Listening to Rahul Gandhi's speech in the U.S. makes us doubt whether he is an Indian," she remarked. She challenged his views on India's democracy, asking how Congress could win in Telangana, Karnataka, and other regions if the country were not free for elections. This suggests a belief that Gandhi's rhetoric undermines India's democratic achievements. Dr. Aruna further argued that in the Lok Sabha, politicians must be

responsible and sober in their statements, implying that Rahul Gandhi's speeches often lack the necessary decorum for national leadership. She acknowledged that criticisms are common in politics but insisted that Gandhi's approach damages the country's reputation.

Shifting focus to Hyderabad, Dr. Aruna also commented on the ongoing demolitions under the Hydra initiative, which has targeted illegal structures, particularly those built on encroached ponds. She alleged that these actions were politically motivated, accusing Revanth Reddy of using demolitions to settle scores rather than following legal procedures. "It is not an excuse to do such demolitions to take revenge on someone," she stated, questioning whether proper grounds for the demolitions existed. Dr. Aruna suggested that Hydra was introduced as a means to divert attention from the unfulfilled promises of the current government, insinuating that the initiative might be a tool for political vendettas rather than a genuine effort to enforce regulations.

## "Walk in Public Without This Sari and Bangles," Says BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy

**TPN, Telangana:** Legislator from the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), Padi Kaushik Reddy, made strong criticisms targeting members of his own party who have joined the ruling Congress in the state, particularly under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He criticized their style of functioning and questioned their political loyalty.



The BRS has been consistently demanding the disqualification of these defectors. On this note, party MLAs Padi Kaushik Reddy and KP Vivekananda met Assembly Secretary Narasimhacharya this morning and submitted a petition urging immediate enforcement

of the High Court's judgment on their case against the MLAs who switched parties.

During a press conference held at the BRS central office, Padi Kaushik Reddy made sharp comments about the defected MLAs. He mockingly sent sarees and glasses to them, challenging them to walk through their constituencies without using the items he sent, insinuating they lack dignity. He described Kadiyam Srihari as a "swindler" and Danam Nagender as a "beggar," accusing Nagender of having defected between multiple parties over the years. "There is no bigger cheater than Danam Nagender in Hyderabad," Reddy remarked, predicting that Nagender will soon be relegated to a "former MLA" status.

## Harish Rao Reacts to Tragic Dog Attack Incident on Child

- **Former minister criticizes the government for not taking steps to control dog attacks**
- **Expresses grief over the rising incidents of dog bites and fatalities**
- **Calls for immediate action as dog bites and related deaths become frequent**

**TPN, Telangana:** Former Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao expressed his deep sorrow over the incident in Bodhan town, Nizamabad district, where a young boy was mauled by stray dogs. He lamented that the incident left him shaken and accused the government of failing to take necessary measures to control the increasing stray dog attacks. Harish Rao



## RERA orders prosecution of Sahiti Infratech for TPDFE violation



**TPN, Hyderabad:** The Telangana Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TGRERA) has ordered the prosecution of Sahiti Infratech Ventures for violations under the Telangana Protection of Depositors from Financial Establishments (TPDFE) Act. The order was issued following complaints from homebuyers and alleged delays in the Sahiti Shista Abode residential project in Kompally.

The Central Crime Station's Economic Offences Wing has attached the land related to the project under the TPDFE Act. TGRERA, led by chairperson N. Satyanarayana and members K. Srinivasa Rao and Laxmi Naryana Jannu, authorized the prosecution under Section 80 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act. The case will now be taken to the concerned metropolitan magistrate for further legal proceedings.

The issue dates back to January 2020, when Sahiti Infratech entered into a development agreement with SVNR Infra to construct a multi-storied residential apartment complex spanning 1.25 lakh square feet. However, complaints regarding delays and irregularities began surfacing, leading to legal action. Despite notices, Sahiti Infratech failed to appear before TGRERA during the hearings, which began in August 2023.

In addition to ordering prosecution, TGRERA directed Sahiti Infratech to refund payments made by the complainants, along with interest at the rate of 10.85% per annum. The developer has also been barred from advertising, marketing, booking, or selling any apartments in the Sahiti Shista Abode project.

The project, currently unregistered, has seen minimal progress, with excavation and limited basement work in only one block ('H' block) while no substantial work has been done in other blocks. TGRERA further ordered the developer to cease entering into any new development agreements and posted Sahiti Infratech's promoters, Boodati Laxminarayana and Boodati Parvathi, on its defaulters' list. Their photographs will also be displayed on the TGRERA website.

## GHMC Commissioner Inspects New Flyover Projects in Hyderabad

**TPN Hyderabad :** On September 11, 2024, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner Amrapali Kata conducted an inspection of ongoing infrastructure projects, focusing on new flyovers in LB Nagar. This review included sites at Alkapuri Junction, the stretch from TKR Junction to Gayatri Nagar, and construction at Manda Mallamma Junction.

Accompanied by project chief engineer Devanand, superintending engineer Rohini, and other senior engineers, Commissioner Kata assessed the progress and strategic alignment of these key projects. During the inspection, she highlighted the need for effective



coordination with Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) officials to ensure the flyovers align properly with existing and planned metro routes.

Kata stressed the importance of thorough inspections at the LB Nagar junction and called for close collaboration with town planning and traffic officials to facilitate necessary land acquisitions for smoother traffic flow, including the provision for a free left turn. Additionally, she reviewed the Bairamalguda RHS loop project, urging engineers to accelerate asset acquisition processes in conjunction with town planning authorities to ensure the project's timely completion.

**TPN Hyderabad :** The District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission-II in Hyderabad has mandated IndiGo Airlines to compensate a passenger with over Rs 5 lakhs for the inconvenience caused by a last-minute flight rescheduling. The order requires the airline to refund Rs 4.14 lakhs for the original tickets and an additional Rs 1.47 lakhs to cover extra expenses incurred due to the rescheduling.

The case originated on February 28, 2023, when P. Navaratan booked 50 tickets with IndiGo Airlines for travel from Chennai to Ahmedabad and then from Ahmedabad to Indore on June 11, 2023, for his daughter's wedding. The total cost of the tickets was Rs 4,14,150. However, on May 27, 2023, Navaratan's travel agent informed him of a delay exceeding three hours. Despite his attempts to resolve the issue with the airline, including requesting an alternative flight, his

efforts were unsuccessful.

As the wedding approached and no satisfactory solution was provided by IndiGo, Navaratan was forced to purchase 50 new tickets at a cost of Rs 5.61 lakhs. He subsequently filed a complaint with the commission.

IndiGo claimed that it had informed Navaratan of the delay via email on May 10 and via SMS on May 11, offering him the option to either choose another flight or cancel for a full refund. The airline argued that Navaratan did not respond until May 30.

Upon review, the commission found IndiGo responsible for failing to refund the original ticket amount and ordered the airline to not only reimburse the cost of the initial tickets and the additional expenses but also to pay Rs 30,000 in compensation and costs.

## RTC MD Congratulates Staff for Saving Student's Life During Heart Attack on Bus

**TPN, Telangana:** RTC staff provided crucial medical assistance to a student who experienced heart pain while traveling on the bus. The TSRTC management recognized and congratulated the staff for their quick response. Conductor G. Gangadhar from Bainsa Depot and contract bus driver B. Gangadhar were honored with cash prizes by the company's Managing Director, VC Sajjanar, at a ceremony held at Hyderabad Bus Bhavan on Wednesday.

The incident involved a 12-year-old student named Kiran, who suddenly developed heart pain during the bus journey. Conductor G. Gangadhar noticed the situation and immediately stopped the bus. Along with



driver B. Gangadhar, they administered first aid to the student. As Kiran's condition worsened, they quickly transported him to the nearby Narsapur Primary Health Centre (PHC) in the bus. Doctors confirmed that Kiran's life was saved because he was brought to the

hospital in time.

TSRTC MD VC Sajjanar praised both the conductor and driver for their timely actions that saved the student's life. He emphasized that the RTC staff's commitment to serving passengers in emergencies is commendable. Sajjanar added that it is remarkable that, in addition to safely transporting passengers, RTC employees are also stepping up in critical situations.

Company CEO Dr. Ravinder, Joint Director Apurva Rao, Executive Director Munishekar, Finance Advisor Vijayapushpa, and Chief Traffic Manager Sridevi were also present at the event.

## Hyderabad Steps Up Drug Prevention in Jails with Sniffer Dogs



**TPN Hyderabad :** Hyderabad is intensifying efforts to curb drug use in its prisons by deploying sniffer dogs for regular inspections. DG Soumya Mishra introduced these measures at a 'Drugs, Drug Abuse and Prevention' program held at the Jails Department office in Chanchalguda on Tuesday. She announced the creation of a specialized dog squad aimed at maintaining drug-free prisons. Additionally, inmates struggling with addiction are receiving treatment at the Erragadda Mental Hospital.

Director of TG NAB, Sandeep Sandilya, stressed the need for a collaborative approach involving officers, staff, and the police department to effectively tackle drug abuse in correctional facilities. Following the program, DG Mishra also launched training classes for prison officers and staff to familiarize them with new criminal laws and drug prevention techniques. The event was attended by senior officials including Prisons Department IGS Rajesh, Murali Babu, DIG Dr. Srinivas, Sampath, and Jail Superintendents.

These enhanced measures underscore Hyderabad's commitment to improving prison security and supporting inmates' rehabilitation through comprehensive drug prevention strategies.



## Rave Party of Techies in Gachibowli Busted, Intoxicated with Ganja

**TPN, Hyderabad:** The rave party culture continues to spread in metropolitan cities, despite being illegal and leading to numerous arrests in several cases. Recently, the SOT (Special Operations Team) police raided and broke up a rave party in Gachibowli, Hyderabad.

A group of techies organized a rave party under the guise of birthday celebrations at a guest house in TNGO Colony, under the jurisdiction of Gachibowli Police Station. After receiving a tip-off, the SOT police intervened and arrested the boys and girls involved in the party. A total of 20 individuals were detained—12 young men and 8 young women.

According to the police, most of those present were software employees. The SOT police seized ganja packets, cigarettes, and liquor from the scene. The Madhapur SOT police handed over the arrested individuals to the Gachibowli police for further investigation. A case has been registered, and the investigation is ongoing. However, reports indicate that no students were involved in the party.

Gachibowli Police Station CI Anjaneyulu revealed that three participants tested positive for drugs, and two junior artistes were among those arrested. The rave party was reportedly organized as a birthday celebration for a young man named Sai Aditya. The two girls caught at the party were identified as junior artistes.

Additionally, CI Anjaneyulu disclosed that two of the young men detained were railway contract employees, while the others were working for a private software company. The police issued notices to the individuals who organized the party at the guest house. Amidst the Telangana government's special focus on cracking down on drug-related activities, the discovery of ganja at this rave party has sparked widespread discussion.

## Hyderabad Commission Orders IndiGo Airlines to Pay Over Rs 5 Lakhs to Passenger





# 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-per-year 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 more.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 CBI.

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.

## 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

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.



## 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.

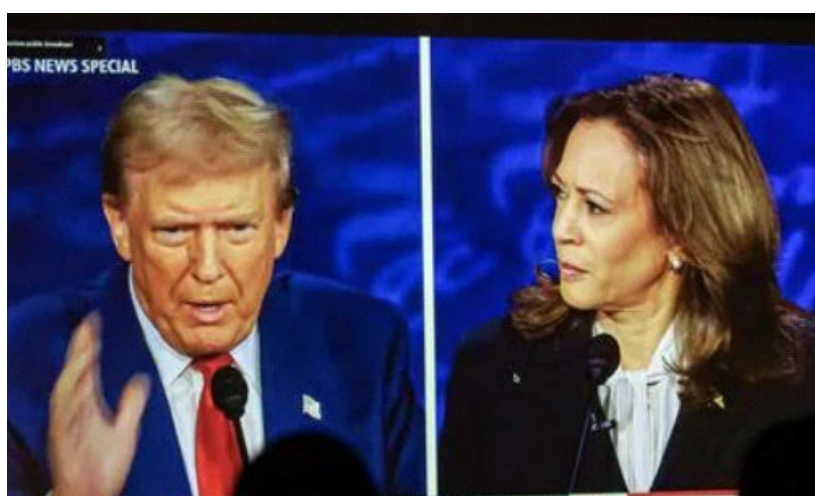
Amidst these geopolitical maneuvers, Starmer's Labour government has also taken a more critical stance on Israel compared to its Conservative predecessors, announcing restrictions on some arms shipments to Israel and dropping plans to challenge the International Criminal Court's pursuit of Israeli Prime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

## Trump vs. Kamala Harris: Key Moments from the Heated Presidential Debate

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."



## 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.

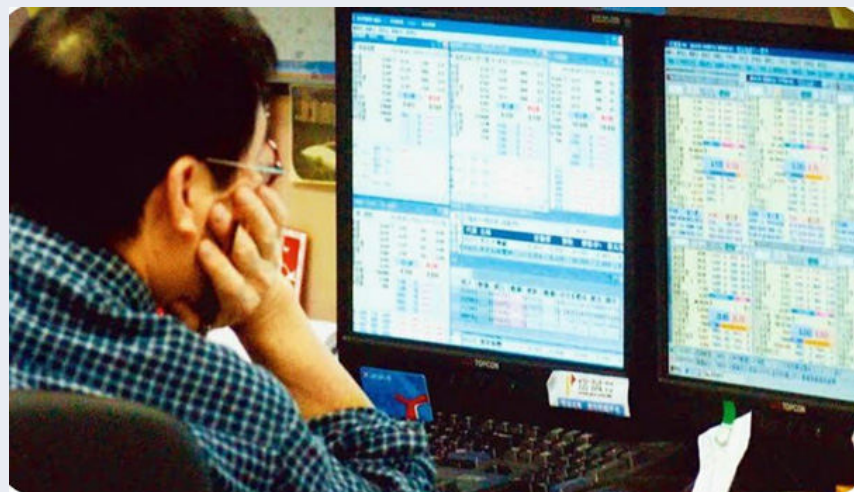
BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla also weighed in, criticizing Gandhi for meeting Omar, who has introduced anti-India resolutions in Congress and visited Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Poonawalla questioned Gandhi's choice to engage with what he described as radical figures.

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.





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



A two-day streak of gains has ended. Domestic stock market indices turned red again. Due to mixed signals coming from the international markets, US CPI data and weakening of the Chinese economy, investors were alert. Profits are taken as soon as indices 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, Havells in short term.

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

tions. Adani Ports will develop a multipurpose berth at Kandla Port in Gujarat. Bharat Electronics has received orders worth Rs 1155 crore from Cochin Shipyard for multi-function radar. It is noteworthy that Tata Motors has lost 9 sessions in a row for the first time in 16 years. JSW Infra clarified 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. Aurobindo Pharma anesthetic drug gets approval. Shares of Ramco Systems hit 32-month high on aviation software launch. Shares of Jubilant Formova hit a lifetime high after the US FDA gave the Washington facility a VAI.

### TODAY RECOMMENDATION STOCKS:

#### 1. CG Power :

CG Power has seen steady growth, driven by demand in the industrial and power sectors. The company's strong order book and focus on efficiency improvements have contributed to its recent positive performance. The stock has been gaining attention due to its leadership in the power and industrial equipment space. Recent government initiatives in infrastructure are also expected to support its future growth.



#### 2. Kalyan Jewellers

Kalyan Jewellers has been benefiting from the steady de-



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 coatings industry, benefiting from 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 has seen volatility recently, with concerns 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 volatility remains a concern.



#### 5. Havells India

Havells is a leader in the electrical goods market, and its diversified product portfolio continues to drive growth. The company has been benefiting from the recovery in the real estate and consumer 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.



## 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 terrorist 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.

and bank accounts linked to Modi and his 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.

In addition to Modi, his uncle Mehul

Choksi and others are under investigation 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.

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

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has 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 ₹29.75 crore, comprising land, buildings,

## 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.'



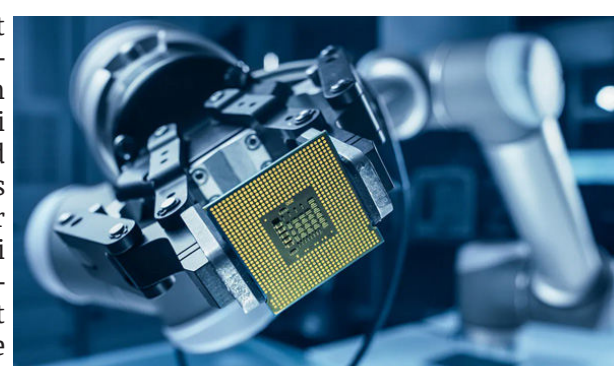
which is against the regulations.

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,

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

Israel 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

Adani Ports and Special Economic 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 expand 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.

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 ₹29.75 crore, comprising land, buildings,







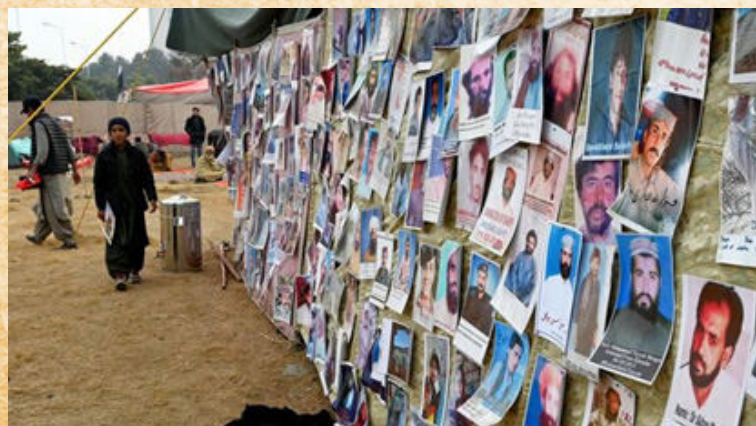
# PAKISTAN MUST STOP BLAMING OTHERS FOR ITS BALOCHISTAN CRISIS



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 primarily responsible for the violence in Balochistan. The military 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 to 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, involving 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.







# 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 code-name "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.



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

The AI model will initially be text-based 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.

Earlier reports suggested that Straw-

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.

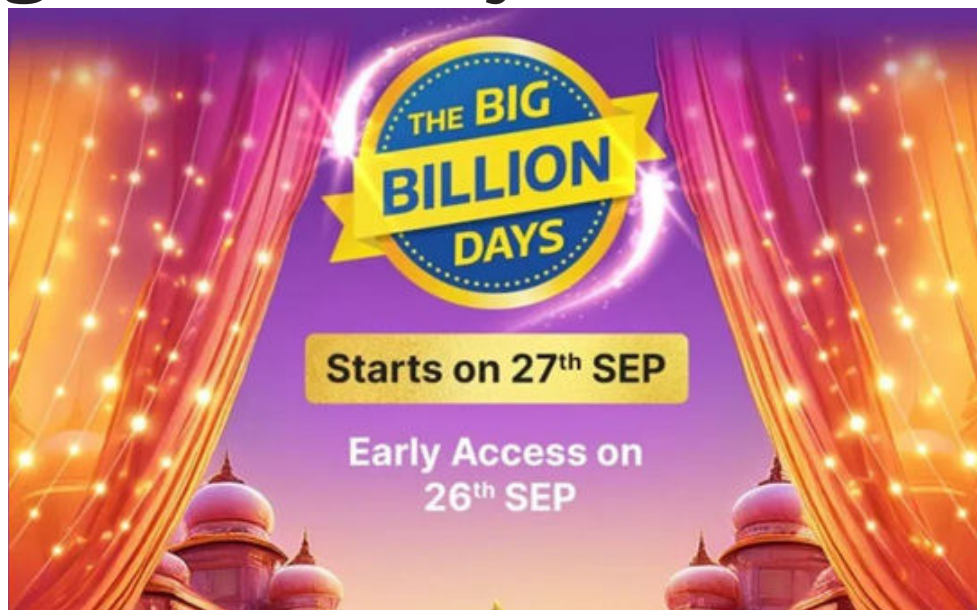
Overall, Strawberry promises to bring a new level of functionality and complexity to AI applications, expanding the capabilities of current generative AI technologies.

# 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



16 series launch, are expected to be discounted. Samsung's Galaxy S24 series and Google's Pixel 9 series phones will also likely have reduced prices. Additionally, popular handsets from 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.

Other product categories, including wearables, speakers, laptops, fashion, and household items, will have similar discounts, and daily flash deals 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



Last Thursday, the Carnival Spirit encountered 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 VIP 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 community.

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

A vintage 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 well-dressed moviegoers lined up for a cinema, but it's a detail in the background that's capturing attention.



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.

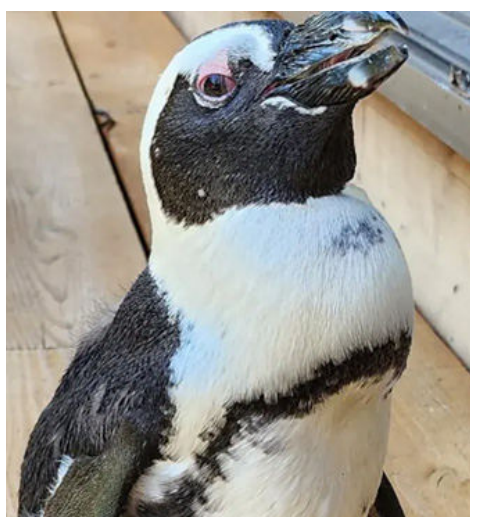
# Fugitive Penguin Pen-chan Found Safe After Miraculous Sea Adventure

Pen-chan, a female Cape penguin 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



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 and unexpected.

# 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. Arajjeet 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.



## 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.

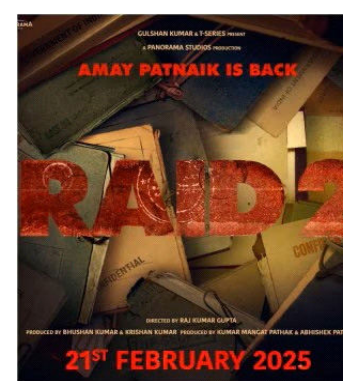
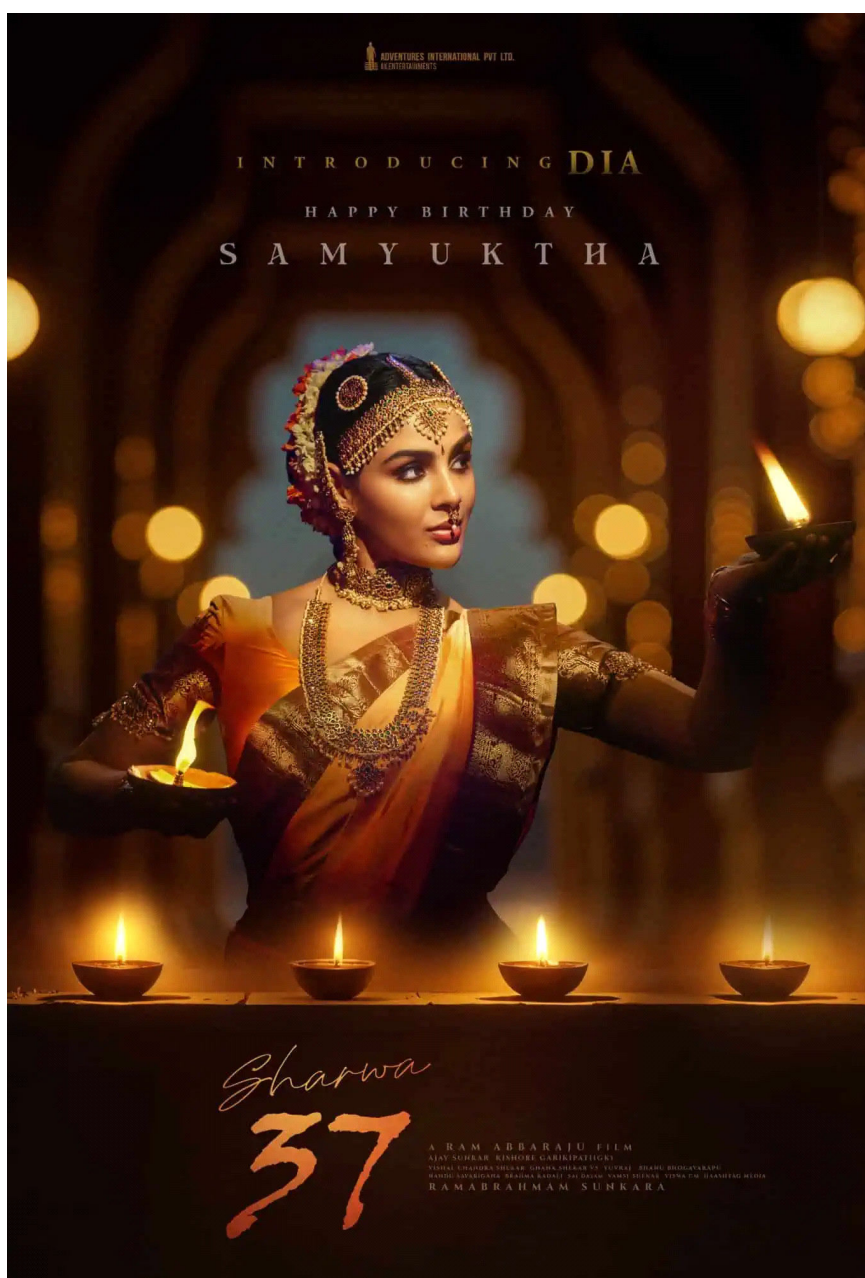


## Sharwanand's 37th Film: Hilarious New Project with Director Ram Abbaraju

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.



## 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.

## 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.