

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

MSME Parks with the Participation of Farmers



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu emphasized that the government will prioritize the development of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), which are essential for generating employment, and will provide full support to them. He expressed confidence that the sector can achieve significant results if given proper government encouragement. CM Chandrababu conducted a review of the Micro, Small and Medium Industries Department and the Food Processing Industries Department at the Secretariat.

Chandrababu stated that despite facing many challenges, the MSME sector will be revived through new policies. He assured that the pending MSME parks in the state will be completed soon, with necessary facilities provided to accelerate the establishment of industries. The CM also emphasized the importance of setting up MSME parks in partnership with farmers in the respective areas.

The Chief Minister proposed that MSME parks should be established with the collaboration of farmers who own land and the private sector. He pointed to the success of similar partnerships in the capital region, stating that a similar approach should be adopted for MSME parks. Officials noted that this type of policy has been successfully implemented in places like Pune, and Chandrababu recommended studying these policies to adopt the best practices for the state.

The CM directed that the government should remove unnecessary regulations to simplify the process of setting up industries and provide easy approvals. He also suggested implementing an automatic permission system. Additionally, he highlighted the importance of offering packing, digital commerce, and marketing facilities, which would create demand for the products of small industries. He proposed linking initiatives like Dwakra

Sanghas with MSMEs to strengthen this connection.

The CM emphasized the need to complete the seven MSME clusters currently under construction and to modernize Autonagars, enhancing the skills needed to service electric vehicles. He also announced a credit guarantee of Rs. 100 crore for MSMEs. Chandrababu encouraged the use of central government schemes like Vishwakarma to provide loans, incentives, and training for traders.

The CM also reviewed the food processing industry in the state, noting that there are immense opportunities in this sector. He stated that with the right policies, the food processing industry could greatly benefit horticulture and aquaculture industries, leading to increased incomes. The CM proposed introducing policies that would allow farmers to add value to the crops they grow, thereby encouraging the food processing sector within MSMEs in rural areas.

Jagan's Latest Offer to Balineni - "Mega" Twist, What's Next..!!



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Balineni affair has become a sensation in the YSRCP. Speculation is rampant that former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy might leave the party. At this critical juncture, Balineni met with CM Jagan Mohan Reddy to discuss the political situation in the Prakasam district,

during which he raised concerns about his struggles over issues related to EVMs and the lack of party support.

During the meeting, Jagan reportedly made a fresh offer to Balineni, aiming to resolve the issues. In turn, Balineni clarified his position, though tensions remain within the

YSRCP in Prakasam district. Sources say Balineni has been unhappy ever since the party decided to remove him from his ministerial post while retaining Suresh during YCP's tenure. Although Jagan has often stepped in to calm tensions, Balineni is now fighting a legal battle over suspicions related to recent election results, specifically concerning EVMs.

Balineni openly expressed his frustration with the party's lack of support in this matter. Rumors have swirled that he might leave the party and join Janasena, though Balineni has denied these claims multiple times. However, he has also voiced his displeasure with party leaders on various occasions, most recently when the name of Chevireddy Bhaskar

Reddy surfaced for the post of district president. Balineni demanded that the position be given to a leader from the district itself.

In response, Jagan reportedly offered Balineni the position of district president, asking him to take charge of the responsibilities and strengthen the party. However, it is said that Balineni declined this offer. Meanwhile, rumors persist that he is in touch with leaders from Janasena and the BJP, with reports suggesting that he has had conversations with Mega Brother Nagababu. As a result, speculation is rife that a clear decision regarding Balineni's future in the YSRCP and a potential shift to Janasena might emerge in the next few days.

Communist Legend Sitaram Yechury Passes Away at 72



TPN, New Delhi: Veteran left-wing leader and CPM National General Secretary Sitaram Yechury (72) passed away today. He had been suffering from respiratory issues for some time and breathed his last while undergoing treatment at AIIMS in Delhi.

Sitaram Yechury was admitted to AIIMS on August 19 due to a respiratory infection. His condition had worsened over the past few days, and AIIMS doctors were treating him with the aid of a ventilator.

Born on August 12, 1952, in Chennai, Sitaram Yechury's parents, Kalpakam and Sarveshwara Somayazulu, hailed from Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh. Yechury grew up in Chennai and Hyderabad before pursuing his BA in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi.

Yechury was an active participant in the 1969 Telangana movement, representing it on the Delhi platform. He joined the Student Federation of India (SFI) in 1974 and became a member of the CPI (Marxist) party the following year. He was a student at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) during the Emergency in 1975 and was arrested for his activism at that time.

Regarding his personal life, Sitaram Yechury was first married to Indrani Mazumdar, the daughter of eminent educationist, left-wing activist, and feminist Veena Mazumdar. Later, he married renowned journalist Seema Chisti. Yechury has three children; his daughter is a professor at the University of Edinburgh, one son is a journalist, and the details of the other son are not widely known. Additionally, Mohan Kanda, the former Chief Secretary of united Andhra Pradesh, is Yechury's uncle.

Key Post for Union Minister Rammohan Naidu

✦ Rammohan Naidu elected as Chairman of Asia Pacific Member States.

✦ Second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference held in Delhi.

✦ Singapore proposed Rammohan Naidu's name, supported by Bhutan.

✦ Rammohan Naidu expresses joy over this rare honor.



TPN, New Delhi: Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram mohan Naidu has been appointed to a significant position. He was elected as the Chairman of the Asia

Pacific Member States, a role he was unanimously chosen for on Wednesday during the second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference held in Delhi.

Singapore proposed Rammohan Naidu's name, and Bhutan seconded it, leading to his unanimous election with the full approval of the other member states. Rammohan Naidu expressed great joy at receiving this rare honor on behalf of the country.

He stated that he views this honor as a responsibility and pledged to work toward making the aviation sector more accessible to the common people, while also enhancing travel between the member countries.



Central Team Meets CM Naidu, Discusses Flood Relief Measures



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: A central team, tasked with assessing flood damage in Andhra Pradesh, met Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu at the Secretariat following their visit to the flood-affected areas. During the meeting, the CM emphasized that the recent record-breaking rains and flash floods should not be viewed as a routine calamity, given the extensive disruption caused to people's lives.

Naidu urged the central team to recognize the severity of the situation, highlighting the plight of flood victims and farmers who have lost everything. He stressed the need for a substantial relief package to help them recover.

The central team officials assured the CM that they would present the state's concerns to the central government and strive to secure the necessary assistance.

Telangana Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy Meets AP CM Chandrababu

TPN, New Delhi: Telangana Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu today in a cordial meeting. Uttam Kumar Reddy arrived in the AP capital, Amaravati, and was warmly welcomed by Chandrababu Naidu. The two leaders discussed various issues during the meeting.

Uttam Kumar Reddy commented on the meeting, stating that he, along with his wife, Kodada MLA Padmavathi, had a friendly and polite discussion with Chandrababu. He revealed that he congratulated Chandrababu Naidu on his recent victory in the AP assembly elections and for becoming the Chief Minister for the fourth time.



Andhra Pradesh to Boost MSMEs with New Initiatives and Funding



TPN, Vijayawada: In a recent announcement, Small and Medium Enterprises Minister Kondapalli Srinivas outlined a series of new measures aimed at revitalizing and expanding the MSME sector in Andhra Pradesh. Under the guidance of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, the state government is embarking on several initiatives to support and encourage small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Minister Srinivas highlighted plans to establish common facility centers for various products and reform District Industries Centres (DICs) to provide detailed information on industry-specific opportunities in each district. Additionally, the government aims to develop 50 MSME parks and set up an MSME Development Corporation.

Key components of the strategy include the creation of skill centers aligned with market needs and the implementation of the Raising and Accelerating MSME Program (RAMP), which will receive a central funding allocation of Rs. 100 crores. The minister also noted that the previous government's hold on Rs. 1500 crores in MSME incentives has been addressed, with the Chief Minister directing the Finance Department to release these funds.

The state is also preparing to leverage the Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs, with the state government contributing Rs. 100 crores and the central government committing Rs. 5000 crores. An action plan and a new website, MSME-1, will be launched to facilitate industry establishment and access to these schemes.

These efforts are part of a broader policy to foster entrepreneurship and industrial growth among the youth, setting the stage for a more vibrant MSME sector in Andhra Pradesh.

World Suicide Prevention Day Observed at Guntur General Hospital

TPN, Guntur: The Department of Psychiatry at Government General Hospital (GGH), Guntur, observed World Suicide Prevention Day with the theme "Changing the Narrative on Suicide." The event, chaired by Professor Dr. N. Uma Jyothi, HOD of Psychiatry and Deputy Superintendent of GGH, aimed to raise awareness about suicide prevention.

Dr. Uma Jyothi shared her experiences in treating patients with suicidal thoughts and emphasized the importance of timely intervention and counseling to help individuals regain a normal life. She highlighted the need for continuous mental health support to prevent suicides.

Dr. V. Venkata Kiran, Associate Professor and Aarogyasri Chief MEDCO, spoke about reducing the stigma surrounding suicide, stressing the importance of open discussions to tackle this complex issue.

A. Vijaya Lakshmi, Legal Advisor for the SAKHI-One Stop Centre for women and child welfare, shared her experiences working with teenagers dealing with relationship and family conflicts, as well as substance abuse. She emphasized that regular counseling plays a key role in resolving such cases.

Siddhartha, founder of Seven Green Charitable Trust, contributed to the cause by donating chairs worth ₹25,000 to the department. He acknowledged the vital role psychiatrists play in addressing mental health issues and emphasized that mental health is just as important as physical health.

The program was organized under the guidance of Dr. K. Ratna Kishore, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, and was attended by faculty members, postgraduates, and staff from the Psychiatry Department.



Bengaluru Police Files Chargesheet Against Actress Hema

TPN, Hyderabad: The Bengaluru police have filed a chargesheet against actress Hema, who tested positive for drugs following a raid by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) at a farmhouse near Electronics City on May 15. Hema, along with 88 others, has been named in the chargesheet.

The forensic science laboratory confirmed the presence of MDMA in Hema's system. The party, held at GR Farms in Singena Agrahara, was organized by Vasu L, who is also named in the chargesheet. It was a birthday celebration and the anniversary of his event management company.

Following the raid, Hema denied attending the party. In a video, she claimed she was in Hyderabad at the time and expressed frustration, stating, "All your news is wrong. I have been brought here just now. They have collected samples of my hair, nails, urine, and blood. It is not known whether the report will be positive or negative. Whatever is being shown against me is wrong. This is the work you do."

Despite her claims, the police confirmed her presence at the farmhouse. Hema, along with 78 others, has been charged under Section 27(b) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. She was arrested but is currently out on conditional bail.

The police also seized MDMA pills, crystals, 6 grams of hydro cannabis, 5 grams of cocaine, a Rs 500 note laced with cocaine, 6 kilograms of hydro ganja, 5 mobile phones, 2 luxury cars, and DJ equipment.

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CM CHANDRABABU NAIDU TO FLY TO DELHI TO PAY RESPECTS TO LATE CPM LEADER SITARAM YECHURY

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is scheduled to travel to Delhi via a special flight from Gannavaram Airport at 7:50 PM. The purpose of his visit is to pay respects to the late CPM leader Sitaram Yechury, whose mortal remains will be in Delhi.

Chandrababu Naidu, who has been a prominent figure in Andhra Pradesh politics, is expected to be among the dignitaries offering their tributes to the respected Communist leader. Sitaram Yechury, a key figure in Indian politics and a veteran leader of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), held a significant role in shaping the political landscape of the country over the years. His contributions to the political and social fabric of India have been widely recognized across party lines.

The Chief Minister's visit reflects the political fraternity's respect for the late leader, whose work and ideology had a far-reaching impact on Indian politics. Yechury's demise has left a void in the left-wing political sphere, and his passing has been mourned by leaders and cit-



izens alike. Chandrababu Naidu's trip underscores the importance of Yechury's legacy in Indian political history. The Chief Minister

is expected to attend the final rites and pay his respects in Delhi, joining several other leaders from across the country who will gather to honor Yechury.

Destruction that took place was the result of Jagan's five-year rule



TPN, Andhra Pradesh : Deveneni Umamaheswara Rao, State General Secretary of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and former minister, launched a scathing attack on the current Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress (YCP) government led by Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy. Speaking in Velagaluru of NTR District, Rao criticized the government's handling of infrastructure projects and response to recent flooding in Vijayawada.

Rao highlighted that Chandrababu Naidu, the TDP leader, had invested ₹464 crores in various projects, including ₹150 crores for bridge construction. However, he claimed that the YCP government failed to build necessary approach roads, leading to severe flooding in Vijayawada. He alleged that YCP's negligence over the past five years had caused immense suffering for over 7 lakh residents due to the flooding of Budameru.

Rao took aim at Jaganmohan Reddy for his perceived inaction, saying, "Jaganmohan Reddy, who has been inactive for five years, is now discussing reservoirs and dam projects. Where was he when the Annamayi Dam and the Pincha Reservoir were washed away? It took four years to complete the gates of Pulichintala." He accused the current administration of wasting ₹20,000 crores on ineffective contracts and failing to maintain critical infrastructure.

Rao also criticized the cancellation of ongoing projects, such as the construction of a new barrage at Vaikunthapuram, for which Naidu had allocated ₹3500 crores. He argued that the YCP government's actions have led to the collapse of systems that were previously managed effectively.

In contrast, Rao praised Naidu's dedication during crises, recounting how he worked tirelessly for 22 hours a day during challenging times. "People have limited you to 11 seats, and yet you haven't lost your arrogance," Rao said, emphasizing Naidu's commitment to managing infrastructure and disaster response effectively.

Rao's comments come as the state continues to grapple with the aftermath of recent floods, further highlighting the ongoing political tensions and criticisms surrounding the management of infrastructure and disaster preparedness.

Health Minister Sathya Kumar Yadav Stresses Urgent Need for Improvement in AP Government Hospitals



TPN, Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Health Minister Sathya Kumar Yadav stated that significant changes have begun in the functioning of government hospitals across the state, but much more needs to be done to improve medical services. During a detailed review at the AP Secretariat, the minister stressed the urgency of further reforms in healthcare delivery. Minister Yadav made it clear that negligence in patient care will not be tolerated under any circumstances. "There is a pressing need for a transformation in the way medical services are provided. The government is committed to ensuring that patients receive the best possible care, and any laxity in this regard will be dealt with strictly," he asserted.

As part of the review, Krishna Babu, Principal Secretary of the Medical and Health Department, presented an overview of the actions taken over the past month to enhance the performance of government hospitals. The measures included improvements in hospital infrastructure, better availability of medicines, and steps to address staff shortages.

Minister Yadav praised these efforts but reiterated that more needs to be done to achieve the desired results. He called for continuous monitoring and evaluation of hospital services to ensure that the public has access to quality healthcare.

The government is focusing on streamlining services and addressing issues that have long plagued the healthcare system. Yadav emphasized that his ministry is working diligently to bring about a meaningful change in public health facilities and ensure that all citizens receive timely and effective medical attention.

The review meeting ended with a call for intensified efforts to transform healthcare delivery in the state, with Minister Yadav urging all concerned officials to prioritize patient care and efficiency in hospital management.

APCC Chief YS Sharmila Reddy Demands Compensation for Flood-Hit Farmers in Kandrukota Village



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) chief YS Sharmila Reddy visited the flood-affected crop fields in Kandrukota village, where thousands of acres of farmland have been submerged due to the flooding of the Eleru river. Speaking to the farmers, she demanded immediate compensation of at least ₹25,000 per acre, far above the ₹10,000 announced by the state government.

Addressing the media, YS Sharmila Reddy criticized both former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and the current Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for their neglect of the modernization of the Eleru project. She accused both leaders of lacking the sincerity and commitment that her father, YS Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR), had shown towards the project. "During YSR's tenure, ₹135 crores were sanctioned, and modernization work on Eleru began. But after his death, no one has taken any interest in completing the project," she said.

Sharmila Reddy blamed the state government's negligence for the current plight of the farmers, who have lost their investments due to the flooding. "Each farmer has lost up to ₹30,000 in investment, and the government must answer for this loss," she stated. She pointed out that neither Chandrababu nor Jagan had made any efforts in the past decade to complete the modernization of the Eleru project, which could have prevented the floods.

She also criticized the inadequate compensation promised by the government. "Chandrababu announced ₹10,000 per acre, but this amount is far from sufficient. We demand a minimum of ₹25,000 per acre. During Jagan's regime, he cheated farmers with a meager ₹4,000 per acre. This fraud should not happen again," Sharmila added.

The APCC chief urged the NDA government to provide immediate relief and compensation for the affected farmers, accusing them of being shortsighted and neglecting the state's needs. "Someone from the government should visit the farmers and stand by them during these hardships," she demanded, calling for swift action to address the farmers' losses and restore their livelihoods.

Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu Inspects Strengthening Works of Budameru Embankment

TPN, Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu inspected the ongoing works to strengthen the embankment of the Budameru river. The minister emphasized the importance of reinforcing the bund to prevent future flooding and water seepage in the region, which has historically faced significant flood-related challenges.



During the inspection, Minister Ramanaidu assured that the government is taking all necessary steps to ensure the safety of the region. "We are working on strengthening the bund to avoid floods and water seepage in the future. In the coming days, we will build a retaining wall and reinforce the dykes to safely handle water flow up to 35,000 cusecs," he stated.

The minister also highlighted the government's commitment to safeguarding the area from future calamities. He mentioned that "Operation Budameru" is being undertaken with the goal of eliminating the region's reputation as "Bejawada Duhkhadayani," a name historically associated with the floods and sufferings of the area. Minister Ramanaidu further explained to

the central team the extent of the damage caused by past floods to Budameru. The inspection was part of a larger effort by the government to ensure that such devastation is not repeated in the future. The central team was briefed on the measures being taken to strengthen the river's embankments and improve flood management.

The government's plan includes not only immediate repair and reinforcement but also long-term solutions to mitigate flood risks and ensure the safety of residents in the region. The minister's inspection marked a significant step in the government's efforts to prevent future disasters and protect the livelihoods of people living along the Budameru river.

Urbanization Push in Visakhapatnam: Proposal to Merge 64 Panchayats into GVMC

TPN, Visakhapatnam :

The urbanization of Visakhapatnam is set to accelerate as discussions are underway to merge 64 Panchayats from Anandapuram, Padmanabham, and Bhimili mandals into the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC). This development follows the earlier merging of some villages under Bhimili into GVMC during the 2014-2019 period, contributing to the city's growing urban landscape.



Bhogapuram, a crucial area in this region, is poised to become a significant hub for Visakhapatnam, particularly with the upcoming Bhogapuram Airport. The proposal to merge additional Panchayats has been met with full support from Padmanabham mandal, while Anandapuram and Bhimili mandals have also expressed their willingness to join the urbanization effort. Municipal Minister Narayana has been involved in discussions on this matter, which aim to strengthen Visakhapatnam's infrastructure and boost its urban growth.

The leaders from these areas have also called for specific measures to facilitate this transition. Among the requests made is a relaxation in taxes for 10 years, along with a waiver of NRGS works. Additionally, there were earlier proposals for road expansions in Bhimili, but these were delayed due to changes in the state government. Under the current coalition government, there is renewed commitment to develop the area, with instructions given to officials to prioritize proposals for widening key roads, including Bhimili Beach Road, Bhimili Main Road, and Narsimha Swamy Road.

Plans are also underway to transform Tagarapavalasa and Bhimili into twin cities, with infrastructure improvements aligned with the construction of Bhogapuram Airport. These efforts, including widening roads and constructing overbridges, are intended to alleviate traffic issues and ensure smooth transportation. Full support has been promised by the central government, particularly in light of one of the two industrial corridors allocated to Andhra Pradesh.

As Visakhapatnam continues to expand, these efforts aim to reshape its landscape and enhance its standing as a major urban center.



Pawan Kalyan Opts for Mangalagiri Residence as Camp Office

TPN, Mangalagiri: State Deputy Chief Minister Shri Pawan Kalyan has announced that he will utilize his Mangalagiri residence as his official camp office. This decision follows a formal letter to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, in which Pawan Kalyan expressed gratitude for the government's allocation of the Irrigation Building in Vijayawada but requested its return, along with the associated furniture.

The move comes amidst controversy and criticism from the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress



Party (YSRCP) regarding government expenditures, including the Rs. 82.14 lakhs allocated for housekeeping and security at the Vijayawada camp office. Pawan Kalyan's decision is seen as a strategic response to these criticisms, signaling a shift in his administrative preferences.

By opting for his residence as the new camp office, Pawan Kalyan aims to streamline his operations and address the ongoing debate surrounding the use of government resources. The decision marks a significant adjustment in the Deputy Chief Minister's approach to managing his official duties.

IT IS UNNECESSARY TO MENTION THEIR NAMES : BALAKRISHNA



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: It is well-known that Tollywood has been actively supporting the flood victims in Andhra Pradesh. Several film celebrities have made significant donations to the AP CM Relief Fund for the victims in Vijayawada. Nandamuri Balakrishna donated Rs. 50 lakhs, Sidhu Jonnalagadda Rs. 15 lakhs, and Vishwakshen Rs. 5 lakhs.

Today, Balakrishna, Sidhu Jonnalagadda, and Vishwakshen traveled from Hyderabad to Vijayawada to personally present their donation checks. When greeted by the media at Gannavaram Airport, Balakrishna made some noteworthy comments.

He remarked on the absurdity of claims that the AP floods were a creation of the government, calling it "ridiculous." He added that there had been much unnecessary fuss about the floods, but said it was unnecessary to mention specific names, leaving it at that. Balakrishna shared that they were deeply shocked by the plight of the flood victims in AP, which led them to make their donations. He praised the young actors, like Sidhu Jonnalagadda and Vishwakshen, for stepping forward with contributions, describing their actions as commendable.

Balakrishna also reminisced about Nandamuri Tarak Rama Rao's (NTR) legacy, recalling how NTR stood by the people during past natural calamities. He explained that whenever a disaster struck part of the state, NTR would unite the people to offer help.

Minister Narayana Oversees Flood Relief Efforts in Vijayawada

TPN, Vijayawada : Municipal Minister Ponguru Narayana, accompanied by MLAs Bonda Uma and Kolikapudi, conducted a comprehensive tour of flood-affected areas in Vijayawada, including Payakapuram, Uda Colony, Journalist Colony, Kandrika, and Ampapuram. The visit aimed to assess the damage and coordinate relief efforts following recent severe flooding.

During the tour, Minister Narayana directed authorities to expedite the removal of minor floodwaters from various locations. Special attention was given to the flow path of Budameru, with instructions to ensure that water accumulated in spaces between houses is efficiently directed to the Budameru river as soon as possible.

Addressing the media, Minister Narayana provided an update on the situation across Vijayawada. He reported that water levels have significantly receded in all 32 divisions, with only a small amount of floodwater remaining in one or two areas. To address this, roadways are being excavated where necessary to facilitate water pumping operations.

The minister assured that efforts are underway to pump out all remaining water by tomorrow



evening and to complete sanitation work across all divisions. He expressed confidence that these measures will restore normalcy to the affected areas and alleviate the challenges faced by residents. The ongoing relief operations reflect the city's commitment to managing the aftermath of the floods and ensuring a swift return to normal conditions.

CENTRAL TEAM ASSESSES DAMAGE IN VIJAYAWADA



TPN, Vijayawada : In a recent visit to Vijayawada's flood-affected areas, a six-member central team led by Union Home Secretary Anil Subrahmanyam split into two groups to thoroughly assess the situation in NTR's district. The team's itinerary included a crucial visit to Shantinagar and Kavulur in the Kondapalli Municipality.

Accompanied by local leaders including Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, former Minister Devineni Umamaheswara Rao, and MLA Vasantha Krishna Prasad, the central team inspected the damage at Budameru. During their visit, officials and public representatives provided detailed briefings on the extent of the flood damage, supplemented by a photo presentation from the water resources department. In response to the flooding, the central team has outlined a plan to address the situation. Measures include the construction of a new retaining wall and the reinforcement of embankments to manage the flow of 35,000 cusecs of water. This initiative, named Operation Budameru, aims to mitigate future risks and restore stability to the region. Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu emphasized the importance of these measures, stating that they are part of a broader effort to address the challenges faced by the community. He assured that the government is committed to making significant improvements to ensure the safety and well-being of residents in Vijayawada.

As the plan moves forward, local officials and residents await further developments and implementation of the proposed solutions to alleviate the impact of the floods.

Retired IPS Officer Vijay Pal Absconding as Anticipatory Bail Plea Faces High Court Scrutiny

TPN , Amaravathi : In a dramatic turn of events, retired IPS officer Vijay Pal has gone missing, leaving his residence locked as authorities attempt to deliver notices related to his ongoing legal troubles. Pal, who has been embroiled in a high-profile case involving allegations of corruption, is currently seeking anticipatory bail from the High Court.

The hearing, which took place recently, saw intense arguments from both sides. Senior advocate Siddhartha Luthra, representing the government, contended that individuals who evade cooperation with investigations should not be granted anticipatory bail. This position was underscored by Pal's absence, which has raised concerns about his willingness to participate in the legal process.

In a related development, Raghuramakrishna Raju, who has filed a petition to be recognized as a victim in the case, was granted permission by the High Court to join the proceedings. Raju's petition to be impleaded has added another layer of complexity to the ongoing legal battle.

The court has allowed Raghuramaraj's attorney additional time to prepare arguments, leading to an adjournment of the hearing for one week. The situation remains fluid, with Vijay Pal's next steps and his cooperation with the investigation remaining under close scrutiny.

Central Team Assesses Flood Damage in Andhra Pradesh

TPN, Vijayawada: On the second day of their visit, a central team led by Union Home Secretary Anil Subrahmanyam conducted a comprehensive assessment of the flood-affected areas in Andhra Pradesh. The team's itinerary included a tour of the severely impacted regions, including Krishna and Bapatla districts, where they evaluated the extent of the damage.



In addition to their field visit, the central team is scheduled to view a photo exhibition documenting the flood's impact, organized at the Vijayawada Collectorate office. This exhibition aims to provide a detailed visual account of the devastation caused by the recent floods.

The team also examined the Prakasam Bay Regi, which suffered significant damage. Their visit underscores the government's commitment to understanding the full scope of the disaster and ensuring that affected communities receive the support they need.

The central team engaged in discussions with local officials to review the situation and coordinate relief efforts. In response to the extensive damage, the Andhra Pradesh government is working on announcing a comprehensive financial package to aid every household impacted by the floods.

The state government remains in close contact with central authorities to expedite the relief process and address the urgent needs of the flood-affected populations.

Tensions Escalate in Palnadu District After Knife Attack

TPN, Palnadu: In a disturbing incident in the Vaddavalli area of Sattenapalli, Palnadu district, a violent altercation involving local youths has led to significant unrest. The situation intensified when a group of youths, armed with knives, attacked three individuals, leaving Venkatesh and Pawan critically injured. One of the victims has been rushed to the hospital in critical condition.



The attack has sparked outrage among the victims' relatives, who are demanding justice and expressing their anger through confrontational means. In the wake of the attack, tensions flared as the victims' associates attempted to retaliate by targeting the homes of the attackers. The police intervened to prevent further escalation and maintain order.

During the ensuing conflict, the relatives of the accused engaged in violent confrontations with law enforcement, including pelting stones at the attackers' homes and police vehicles. The situation further deteriorated when the relatives set a bike on fire in protest.

The police have since seized the knife used in the attack and have set up a picket arrangement in the area to control the situation. Authorities are working to de-escalate the violence and ensure the safety of all involved parties.

As the community remains on edge, the relatives of both the victims and the accused continue to demand swift and fair justice. The police are actively investigating the incident and working to address the grievances of the affected parties.

Controversy Erupts as YSP Leader Urinates on Jana Sena Flag

TPN, Vijayawada : In a provocative incident that has stirred political tensions, a Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSP) leader was caught on video urinating on a Jana Sena Party (JSP) flag. The act, which has been widely condemned, led to a swift response from Jana Sena supporters.

Adding to the controversy, a call recording has recently gone viral, revealing attempts by a Jana Sena district leader to defend or protect the YSP leader involved. The recording has intensified the debate, with many questioning the motives and implications of the district leader's actions.

The incident and subsequent viral recording have fueled animosity between the rival parties, highlighting the fraught political climate. As the situation unfolds, both parties are grappling with the repercussions and public reactions to the provocative act and the ongoing controversy.

Telangana Praja Palana Dinotsavam to be Celebrated in Hyderabad on September 17

The Telangana state government is preparing to hold the 'Telangana Praja Palana Dinotsavam' on September 17, an event previously known as 'Hyderabad Liberation Day' and 'National Integration Day.' Telangana Chief Secretary A Santhi Kumari, during a review meeting held on September 12, discussed the arrangements for the event, which commemorates the historical annexation of the Hyderabad state to India in 1948 through Operation Polo.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will hoist the national flag at Public Gardens, Nampally, and pay tribute to the martyrs at the Telangana Martyr's Memorial (Amaraveerula Stupam) at Gun Park, Hyderabad, on the day. Santhi Kumari directed various government departments to coordinate efforts for the smooth organization of the event.

In addition to flag hoisting and tributes, several key government buildings, including Raj Bhavan, the Secretariat, the Assembly, and the High Court, will be illuminated to mark the occasion. Municipal authorities have been tasked with ensuring the cleanliness and decoration of the venues, while the energy and water departments were directed to maintain uninterrupted power and water supplies. The police have been assigned traffic duties and security arrangements, while the fire and safety department will station response vehicles at various locations.

The Evolution of September 17

Historically, the day marks the end of the Nizam's rule in Hyderabad and its



integration into India through a military offensive known as Operation Polo, also referred to as Police Action. The event has been a topic of political discourse, especially after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) began observing it as 'Hyderabad Liberation Day,' emphasizing the military operation as a decisive victory for the Indian state.

However, Telangana's previous government under the Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) referred to it as 'National Integration Day,' highlighting the integration of Hyderabad into the

Indian Union. The day has gained further political importance in recent years, with the BJP pushing for its recognition in Telangana's political narrative.

Historical Context of Operation Polo

Operation Polo, carried out by the Indian Army between September 13 and 17, 1948, resulted in the annexation of the princely state of Hyderabad, which included Telangana and parts of present-day Maharashtra and Karnataka. The operation followed the breakdown of negotiations between

the Indian government and the Nizam of Hyderabad, Osman Ali Khan, after India's independence in 1947.

While the operation successfully brought Hyderabad into the Indian Union, the aftermath remains a painful chapter for many, particularly for the region's Muslim community. Thousands of Muslims were killed in communal violence following the annexation, as documented by the Sunderlal Committee, which was established by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to investigate the atrocities.

Political Significance in Telangana

After Telangana's formation as a separate state in 2014, the anniversary of Hyderabad's integration became a politically charged issue. The BJP has long pushed for the day to be celebrated as 'Hyderabad Liberation Day,' while the BRS, sensitive to the historical nuances and the pain associated with the post-annexation violence, chose to frame it as 'National Integration Day.'

This year, the event will be held under the banner of 'Telangana Praja Palana Dinotsavam,' as part of the state government's efforts to focus on unity and governance. The day serves as a reminder of Telangana's complex history, one shaped by the forces of feudalism, rebellion, and integration into modern India.

While the event is a day of celebration for many, it also sparks reflection on the region's political history, including the role of the Communist Party of India (CPI) during the Telangana Armed Rebellion. The CPI had led a peasant uprising against feudal landlords, and the Indian Army remained in Telangana until 1951 to quell the communist resistance. The armed struggle ultimately ended after the CPI agreed to contest the first general elections in 1951.

With the BJP-run central government marking the day as 'Hyderabad Liberation Day' last year and the CPI(M) also acknowledging the historical events, the legacy of September 17 continues to be a subject of political debate in Telangana.

Telangana State to Conduct Mega Caste Census; Exercise Begins

In a significant move, the Telangana government has initiated preparations for a mega caste census across the state. The newly formed four-member Backward Classes (BC) Commission, led by G. Niranjan, wasted no time and commenced the groundwork for the extensive census soon after taking charge. The commission has planned a rapid tour across Telangana to expedite the process, aiming to complete it as swiftly as possible.

This development comes after the widely discussed **Samagra Kutumba Survey (SKS)**, conducted in 2014 under the leadership of former Chief Minister and Bharat Rashttra Samithi (BRS) leader K. Chandrasekhar Rao, was declared obsolete. Sources reveal that the SKS report, which cost the government Rs 33.94 crore to execute, became irrelevant as it was not implemented within the mandated three months. The survey, conducted on a single day—August 19, 2014—had garnered immense public attention, as citizens were instructed to stay home to participate and secure their eligibility for various government benefits.

Many people, including some residing abroad, rushed back to their native places to ensure they did not miss the survey, one of the most high-profile exercises in the state's history. Approximately 4 lakh government employees, including police personnel, were deployed to collect household data. While the SKS report concluded that Backward Classes (BCs) constituted 51% of the state's population, it was never made public due to legal challenges. However, KCR's government used the survey's findings to formulate policies and allocate welfare schemes to BCs, SCs, STs, and other marginalized communities. The report also played a significant role in the political strategies of the BRS.

Fresh Census to Replace SKS

With the SKS report rendered ineffective, the Telangana government is pushing forward with a new, comprehensive caste census. The survey aims to assess the socio-economic status, educational needs, and employment opportunities of various communities, including Backward Classes (BCs), Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and other weaker sections. This initiative is expected to have far-reaching



implications for resource distribution, welfare schemes, and political decisions in the state.

The newly announced census follows Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's consistent advocacy for caste censuses across India, particularly in Congress-ruled states. Telangana Congress chief A. Revanth Reddy took this opportunity to support the initiative and promised that the caste census would be carried out in Telangana.

Recently, the Telangana State Assembly unanimously passed a resolution calling for a comprehensive household caste survey to ensure equitable opportunities for marginalized communities. The resolution was moved by Backward Classes Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar and adopted after thorough debate. "This is an unforgettable day for the weaker sections," Prabhakar remarked, adding that while caste censuses traditionally fall under the jurisdiction of the central government, Telangana is taking the lead to address the specific needs of its population.

The census also aligns with the Telangana cabinet's earlier decision, made on February 4, to conduct a state-wide caste enumeration survey. This comprehensive exercise aims to ensure justice and fairness in the allocation of government resources and opportunities for SCs, STs, BCs, and other vulnerable communities.

High Court Mandate for BC Census

Adding legal weight to the caste census initiative, the Telangana High Court has directed the state government to conduct a BC caste census within three months and present the findings in court. This directive follows a writ petition filed by Backward Classes Welfare Association President Satyanarayana, who has been advocating for accurate data to address the needs of BC communities in Telangana.

Lessons from Bihar and Andhra Pradesh

Telangana is not the first state to embark on a caste census. Bihar was the pioneer in in-

dependent India, successfully completing a caste-based survey that found Other Backward Classes (OBCs) comprised 63.13% of the state's population, followed by Scheduled Castes at 19.65%, Scheduled Tribes at 1.68%, and upper castes at 15.52%. Bihar's caste census has had a profound impact, leading to increased reservations for OBCs in government jobs and education. However, the survey also faced legal challenges, with cases filed in the Supreme Court.

Following Bihar's lead, the Andhra Pradesh government began a similar exercise on January 19, aiming to create a detailed database of individuals across various castes. This initiative is intended to better allocate resources, adjust reservation quotas for SCs, STs, BCs, and minorities, and provide critical data for future political and welfare decisions.

Political and Social Implications

The Telangana caste census is expected to have significant political and social implications. It will provide a clearer picture of the population distribution among various castes and communities, allowing the government to design more targeted and effective welfare programs. The survey will also play a pivotal role in shaping the state's political landscape by providing data that can influence electoral strategies and policy decisions.

The demand for caste-based surveys reflects growing calls for social justice, as communities seek equitable representation in employment, education, and political spheres. As Telangana moves forward with this comprehensive census, it is set to become the third state in India, after Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, to hold such an extensive headcount, potentially setting a precedent for other states in the country.

Conclusion

The Telangana government's decision to conduct a mega caste census is a critical step toward addressing the needs of marginalized communities. With the support of political leaders and a directive from the High Court, the state is poised to implement a detailed survey that will impact welfare schemes, resource allocation, and political dynamics for years to come.

Air Taxis a Reality Soon? PM Modi Highlights India's Aviation Growth at Asia Pacific Conference

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday emphasized the immense growth potential of India's aviation sector, stating that air travel has become more inclusive and affordable, especially with the success of the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme. Speaking at the second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation, attended by 300 representatives from 29 countries, the prime minister outlined the future of air travel and the steps being taken to make India a global aviation hub.

PM Modi highlighted that the civil aviation sector plays a key role in driving economic growth and creating jobs. He urged efforts to keep the skies open for all, ensuring that air travel remains accessible and affordable. He noted that the growing middle class is a significant force behind the sector's growth, as regional connectivity has brought air travel within reach for millions from smaller cities.

The prime minister underscored the success of the UDAN scheme, which has allowed 14 million people to fly, many for the first time. This has made air travel more inclusive, enabling the lower-middle class to experience flying. PM Modi further stated that the aim is to make air travel "safe, affordable, and accessible to all."

Addressing the gathering, he suggested



the creation of an international Buddhist circuit through air connectivity, a move that could benefit countries across Asia. He also called for a "network of opportunities" in the Asia Pacific region, which would drive economic growth, encourage innovation, and enhance peace and prosperity.

PM Modi noted the importance of innovation and sustainable growth in aviation and highlighted India's

achievements, such as women leading the aviation workforce, with 15% of Indian pilots being women, compared to the global average of 5%. He also pointed to the rising demand for advanced air mobility, saying, "The day is not far when travel by air taxi will be a reality."

The prime minister concluded by proclaiming the Delhi Declaration, aiming to shape the future of aviation in the region.

Prashant Kishor Demands Clarity from Rahul Gandhi on Reservation Issue

Prashant Kishor, leader of the Jan Suraj campaign, has sharply criticized Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, over what Kishor described as Gandhi's inconsistent statements on reservation policies. Kishor urged Gandhi to provide clear and consistent views on the reservation issue and broader social justice policies.

In a statement on Thursday, Kishor accused Gandhi of creating confusion with his shifting stance. "I suggest that Rahul Gandhi should clear up the confusion on the reservation issue," Kishor said. "His changing statements create uncertainty about his party's position on reservation and social justice."

The controversy stems from Gandhi's recent remarks during a talk at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he suggested that reservations might be "reconsidered" only when equal opportunities are guaranteed to everyone in India—a situation he believes is not currently the case. Kishor pointed out that Gandhi had previously advocated for increasing the 50 percent reservation



cap and emphasized the need for a caste census during the Lok Sabha election campaigns. "Now, he has gone to the US and withdrawn his own statement," Kishor remarked.

Kishor also criticized Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for his alliance with the

BJP, particularly on contentious issues such as the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC). Kishor accused Kumar of prioritizing political survival over the interests of the Muslim community, which largely opposes these laws. "I was expelled from JD-U for opposing the CAA and NRC. Nitish Kumar is more interested in maintaining his alliance with the BJP than taking a principled stand," Kishor claimed.

Furthermore, Kishor took issue with Muslim leaders within the JD-U for supporting a party backing laws like the CAA and NRC, which have caused significant discomfort within the Muslim community. "Nitish Kumar's alliance with the BJP, which passed the CAA and NRC, and the JD-U's symbolic gestures, do not address the real issues affecting the community," Kishor added.

The remarks underscore ongoing political tensions and highlight Kishor's concerns about the clarity and consistency of political leaders' positions on key issues affecting marginalized communities.

Mayawati Blames Akhilesh Yadav for 2019 Alliance Break-Up in New Booklet

In a new booklet circulated among Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) workers, party chief Mayawati has accused Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Akhilesh Yadav of sabotaging their 2019 electoral alliance. The booklet, which is part of BSP's effort to reconnect with its cadre following a series of electoral losses, claims that Yadav stopped taking Mayawati's calls after their alliance's poor performance in the general elections.

The 2019 Lok Sabha elections saw the BJP and its allies securing 64 out of 80 seats in Uttar Pradesh, while the BSP-SP alliance managed only 15 seats. In contrast, the Congress won just one seat. Mayawati's booklet alleges that Yadav's refusal to communicate led to the dissolution of the alliance, stating, "The SP-BSP pact was meant to prevent BJP's dominance. However, Yadav's disinterest after the disappointing results forced a decision to end the ties while maintaining dignity."

In response, Akhilesh Yadav criticized the booklet's claims. At a press conference in Lucknow, Yadav asserted that the breakdown of the alliance was unexpected and that he had tried to reach out to Mayawati to understand the situation. "During the breakdown, I was addressing a rally in Azamgarh with both SP and BSP members present. No one



knew the alliance was collapsing. I called Mayawati seeking an explanation," Yadav said, adding that such claims are often made to divert public attention.

The booklet was first distributed at the BSP's national executive meeting on August 27, where Mayawati was re-elected

as party chief for a sixth consecutive term. It also revisits the 1995 "guest house" incident, where Mayawati was attacked, and criticizes the then-SP leadership.

BSP's state chief Vishwanath Pal stated that the booklet aims to clarify the party's stance and policies to its supporters.

Nitin Gadkari Urges Devendra Fadnavis to Address Irrigation Backlog in Washim District



Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has raised concerns about the severe irrigation backlog in Maharashtra's Washim district, which has exacerbated the challenges faced by local farmers. In a letter dated September 9, Gadkari urged Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, who also oversees the Water Resources portfolio, to prioritize resolving the irrigation issues in Washim.

Gadkari highlighted the dire situation in his letter, stating that inadequate irrigation has made farming increasingly difficult in Washim, leading to a distressing number of farmer suicides. He emphasized that the state government needs to act urgently by preparing a technical report and approving the release of at least 200 million cubic meters of water from the Upper Painganga dam to alleviate the water scarcity in the district.

This letter marks Gadkari's second communication to Fadnavis on this issue, following his previous letter dated November 11, 2023. Washim, listed as an aspirational district, suffers from insufficient water availability due to its location on the watershed of the Tapi and Godavari basins. The district's reliance on rainfall for agriculture has been severely impacted by changing climate patterns, worsening the situation for farmers.

Gadkari pointed out that the Painganga River, adjacent to Washim, has abundant water downstream of the Upper Painganga dam. He suggested that since the government has already approved the pumping of 680 million cubic meters of water into the Upper Painganga dam from downstream sources, at least 200 million cubic meters of this water should be allocated to Washim. This measure, he said, could help address some of the district's pressing irrigation issues.

To facilitate this, Gadkari called for a comprehensive plan to construct reservoirs, embankments, and canals. Meanwhile, water rights activist Sachin Kulkarni proposed converting a Kolhapur-type embankment into an irrigation project and constructing mini-projects and ponds across all six talukas of Washim to meet the irrigation backlog and improve water availability.

Gadkari's appeal underscores the urgent need for effective water management strategies to support the agricultural sector and improve the livelihoods of farmers in Washim.

Mamata Banerjee Offers to Resign Amid Stand-Off with Doctors, Urges Return to Duty

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, amid an ongoing stand-off with protesting doctors, made an emotional offer to resign during a press conference on Thursday. Frustrated by the lack of progress in resolving the crisis, Banerjee expressed her willingness to step down from the post in "the interest of the people" if that would help ease the situation.

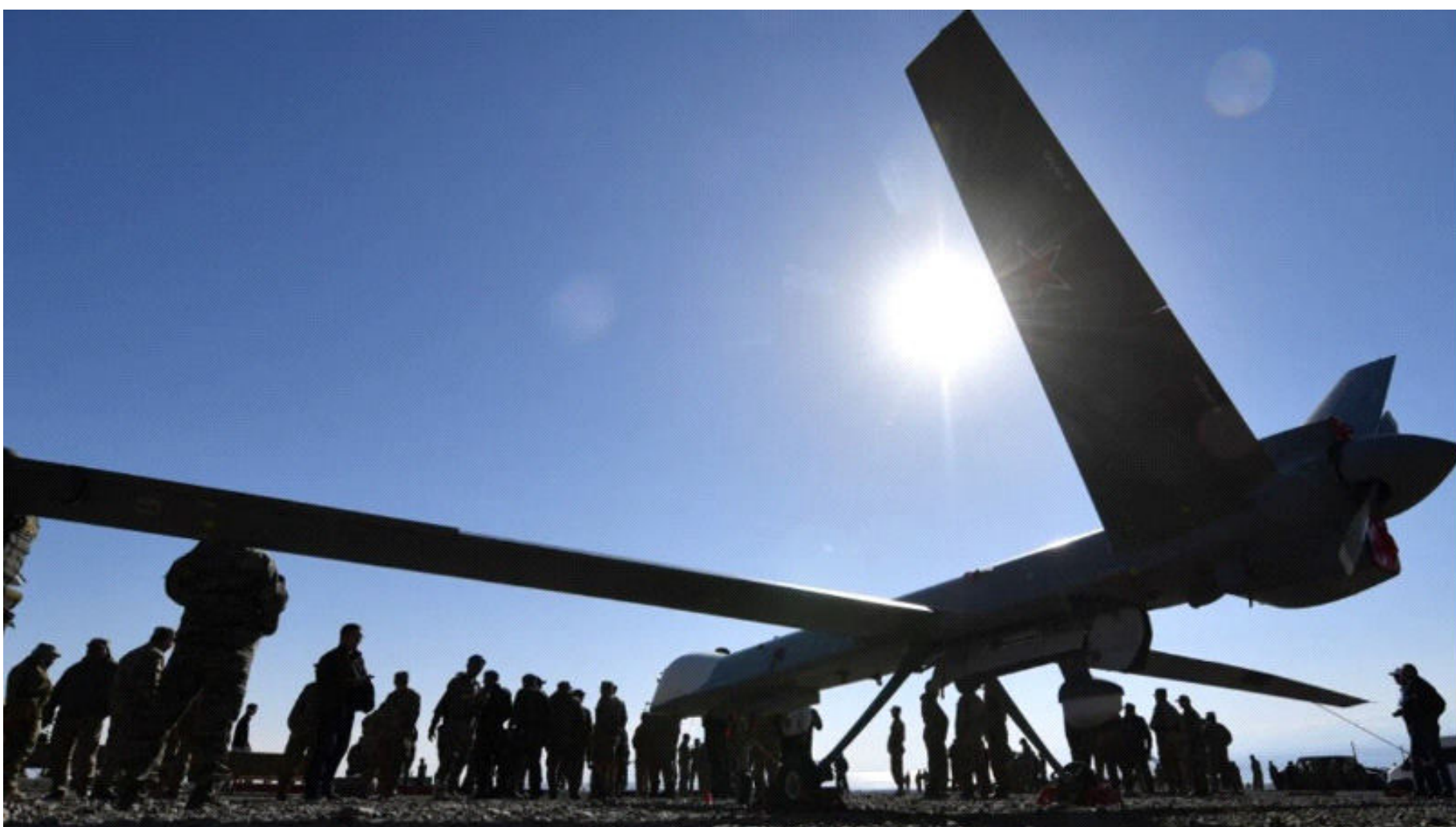
"I do not want the post of Chief Minister. I want justice for Tilotama, and I want common people to receive medical treatment," she said, referencing the ongoing protests triggered by the rape and murder of a junior doctor at RG Kar Medical College on August 9. The incident has sparked widespread anger among the medical community, leading to a month-long impasse with the state government.

Despite assurances from the government that no action would be taken against the protesting doctors, tensions remain high. Banerjee emphasized that the government is ready for dialogue and has already accepted most of the doctors' demands, including expanding the delegation from 15 to 33 members. However, the refusal to allow live transmission of the meeting proceedings, due to an ongoing Supreme Court case, became a sticking point. The doctors, who had arrived at the secretariat for a meeting, refused to enter without this condition being met.

The Chief Minister accused external political forces of influencing the doctors, suggesting that some individuals were giving instructions to avoid negotiations. "I know many in the delegation were interested in talks, but two or three people were giving instructions from outside. We could see that because it was recorded by the press," she claimed.

Banerjee apologized to the people of Bengal for the delay in resolving the crisis, urging doctors to return to work as patients across the state are suffering. She noted that at least 27 people have died due to disrupted healthcare services, a claim denied by the protesting doctors.

The confrontation between the state government and doctors began after the rape-murder of the young doctor and allegations of financial irregularities at the hospital. The doctors have demanded the resignation of Kolkata police chief Vineet Goyal and two senior health department officials. While the case is under investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Supreme Court has directed the state government to handle negotiations with the protesting doctors.



45 Indians Discharged from Russian Army; Efforts Continue to Rescue 50 More

In a major development, the Ministry of External Affairs confirmed today that 45 Indian nationals, who had been illegally inducted into the Russian army and forced to fight in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, have been rescued and discharged. The ministry is now focused on the urgent task of rescuing an additional 50 Indian nationals still trapped on the battlefields. The situation came to light after a series of revelations about a human trafficking network operating from New Delhi to Tamil Nadu. This network deceived individuals with promises

of lucrative jobs or admissions to questionable private universities in Russia. Upon arrival, victims had their passports confiscated, were trained in combat roles, and deployed to the front lines.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the issue with Russian President Vladimir Putin during his recent visit to Moscow. Putin assured Modi that Russia would discharge all Indians misled into joining the Russian army and make efforts to return them home. The Indian government has taken significant

steps to address the situation, including arresting individuals involved in the trafficking network. A viral video earlier this year highlighted the plight of Indian nationals from Punjab and Haryana, who claimed they were tricked into fighting in Ukraine.

Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar has emphasized that the government will take stringent legal action against those responsible for the exploitation. So far, ten Indians have been safely brought back, and efforts are ongoing to secure the release of the remaining individuals.



Pro-Khalistani Elements Attend Rahul Gandhi's US Event Amid Controversy

In a recent gathering in Virginia, U.S., pro-Khalistani elements were reportedly present at an event hosted by Indian Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. According to sources cited by News18, representatives from Baba Makhana Shah Gurdwara in Richmond Hill, known for its involvement in anti-India protests, attended the event. This gurdwara had previously organized protests supporting the repeal of three controversial farm laws and demonstrated against the Indian government's arrest of separatist Amritpal Singh.

During the event, Rahul Gandhi spoke on issues concerning the Sikh community in India. He questioned whether Sikhs would be allowed to wear their traditional turbans and kadas, and access gurdwaras, framing these issues as part of a broader struggle for religious freedom. His remarks have drawn criticism from the BJP, which accused Gandhi of attempting to create a "dangerous narrative" by addressing sensitive issues abroad.

Notably, Khalistani leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun supported Gandhi's statements, describing them as "bold and pioneering." Pannun praised Gandhi's comments on the perceived threats to Sikhs in India and aligned them with the Sikh For Justice's stance advocating for a referendum on Punjab's independence to establish a Sikh homeland, Khalistan.

Ajit Doval Meets Vladimir Putin, Reportedly Carrying Ukraine Peace Proposal

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval met Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the BRICS National Security Advisers' meeting in Russia, reportedly carrying a peace plan from Prime Minister Narendra Modi aimed at resolving the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. The meeting comes weeks after PM Modi's landmark visit to Ukraine, where he urged both Russia and Ukraine to engage in direct peace talks to end the war, with India offering to play an active mediating role.

The Russian Embassy in India shared a picture of the handshake between Doval and Putin on social media platform X, signaling the significance of the interaction. According to sources, Doval's visit was intended to discuss the conflict and explore pathways for peace. The Russian leader expressed his hopes that PM Modi would attend the annual BRICS summit in Kazan next month and also proposed a bilateral meeting with Modi on October 22 to review ongoing joint efforts and future prospects.

"We are waiting for our good friend Modi and best regards to him," Putin reportedly said during the meeting, reflecting the strong ties between the two nations. The Russian Embassy also noted that the leaders would review the implementation of key agreements from Modi's previous visit to Moscow.

Earlier, Doval held comprehensive talks with his Russian counterpart Sergei Shoigu in St Petersburg, where mutual interests and the discussions between Modi and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky from their August 23 meeting were part of the conversation.



Harris and Trump Intensify Campaigns in Crucial Swing States After Heated Debate

Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump are redoubling their efforts in critical battleground states following a fiery first presidential debate that drew 67 million viewers. With less than two months remaining until the election, both candidates are concentrating on swing states that will be pivotal in deciding the November vote. Harris, 59, is leveraging her strong debate performance to bolster her campaign. On Thursday, she will visit North Carolina, where she aims to rally support among Black and young voters. Harris has recently erased a six-point deficit to Trump in the state, and her campaign is focused on energizing these key demographics with rallies in Charlotte and Greensboro.



In contrast, Trump, 78, will focus on economic issues in Tucson, Arizona, a state that was closely contested in the 2020 election. His campaign has faced internal scrutiny over his debate performance, with some allies criticizing his handling of the event. Despite this, Trump remains determined to address economic concerns and appeal to voters in swing states like Arizona and Nevada. Both candidates are also making appearances in Pennsylvania, a crucial swing state. Harris will campaign in Johnstown and Wilkes-Barre

on Friday and attend an awards dinner with Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff on Saturday. Trump is set to address the cost of living in Las Vegas and will hold a press conference in Los Angeles.

The debate in Philadelphia was a notable moment for Harris, who has sought to gain momentum following her replacement of the ageing Biden as the Democratic candidate. Despite Harris's recent gains in the polls, the race remains extremely tight, with both candidates vying for every possible vote in the remaining weeks.

Harris's running mate, Tim Walz, will travel to Michigan and Wisconsin as part of the campaign's "New Way Forward" swing state tour, further underscoring the high-stakes nature of the upcoming election.

75% of LAC Disengagement Complete, S Jaishankar Reports Progress Amidst Ongoing Tensions

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar announced significant progress in the disengagement process along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, stating that approximately 75% of the disengagement issues have been resolved. Jaishankar, currently in Geneva for bilateral meetings, highlighted that while substantial progress has been made, further negotiations are necessary to fully resolve remaining issues.

Jaishankar's remarks came ahead of his scheduled meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Switzerland. The minister addressed concerns about the ongoing militarization of the frontier and the broader impact of the 2020 Galwan Valley clashes, which he said had severely affected India-China relations. "One cannot have violence at the border and then say the rest of the relationship is insulated from it," Jaishankar emphasized.

The disengagement process, which began in February 2021, has seen partial withdrawals in areas like Galwan, Hot Springs, and Gogra, with full disengagement from Pangong Lake's north and south banks achieved. However, challenges remain, particularly in the Depsang Plains, where Chinese troops remain entrenched.

Jaishankar criticized China's unilateral changes to the status quo along the LAC, noting that the influx of troops in 2020 violated multiple agreements. The situation was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, making the crisis even more difficult to manage. Despite these challenges, India and China have continued negotiations, with a focus on achieving peace and



stability along the border.

Economic relations between the two nations have also been strained, with India tightening scrutiny on Chinese investments and halting major projects. However, discussions are underway to potentially ease restrictions on Chinese investment and resume direct flights, which had been suspended since the standoff began.

Jaishankar's comments reflect ongoing efforts to address both the military and economic aspects of the India-China relationship, aiming to restore stability and normalcy in bilateral ties.



Markets Surge to Record Highs as Positive Global Cues Drive Rally; Investors Gain ₹7 Lakh Crore



Domestic stock market indices reached new record highs on Thursday, driven by expectations of interest rate cuts from the US Federal Reserve and RBI, lower crude oil prices, positive global cues, and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) purchases. The BSE Sensex surged 1,439 points to close at 82,962, while the NSE Nifty jumped 470 points to end at 25,388. Bank Nifty also saw a rise of 762 points, closing at 51,772.

Investor wealth increased by Rs.7 lakh crore as 2,346 stocks gained while 1,609 declined on the BSE. Notably, 49 of the 50 Nifty companies posted gains, with Hindalco, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, Shriram Finance, and Grasim leading the charge. Nestlé India was the sole loser.

All sector indices, including Banking, Auto, FMCG, IT, and Metals, recorded gains. The India Volatility Index (VIX) fell by 3% to 13.3%, signaling reduced market fear. Nifty's support is set at 24,200, while resistance stands at 25,400, with experts recommending short-term buys in Hindalco, Jindal Steel, M&M, Grasim, and Adani Power.

In corporate news, HPL Electric secured orders worth Rs.144 crore, Kalpataru Projects received a Rs.2,744 crore order, and Bharti Airtel signed a deal for Italy's Blue Raman submarine cable system.



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JBM Auto shares surged after the government's approval of a Rs.10,900 crore EV scheme, and Sriram Finance hit a record high after raising Rs.1,000 crore through NCDs.

TODAYS RECOMMENDATION STOCKS :

1. Hindalco Industries

Hindalco, a leading player in the metals sector, has benefited from rising global aluminum prices and strong demand across its downstream products. The company is poised to benefit from the ongoing global focus on infrastructure development and renewable energy. Hindalco's robust financial performance and expansion into value-added products provide long-term growth potential. The stock has been gaining momentum due to improved demand and favorable global market conditions.



2. Jindal Steel and Power (Jindal Steel)

Jindal Steel has been one of the top performers in the steel sector, driven by strong domestic demand for steel in infrastructure and construction. The company has also focused on reducing debt, which is a positive indicator for future profitability.



ity. The government's focus on infrastructure development and increasing exports of steel products have been key growth drivers for Jindal Steel.

3. Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M)

M&M continues to be a strong player in the automotive sector, particularly in the utility vehicle and tractor segments. The company's performance has been bolstered by strong demand for its SUVs and tractors, as well as its increasing focus on electric vehicles (EVs). M&M's growing EV portfolio and positive outlook for rural demand, particularly in the agricultural sector, position the company well for future growth. The recent increase in production and sales figures further supports a bullish outlook.



4. Grasim Industries

Grasim, part of the Aditya Birla Group, is diversified across cement, textiles, and chemicals. The company has been focusing on its new paints business and is expected to benefit from the growing demand in construction and infrastructure sectors. The paints business, along with steady growth in its other segments, makes Grasim a promising stock for long-term investors. The company's expansion into new segments could provide significant upside.



5. Adani Power

Adani Power has been volatile but continues to benefit from the rising demand for power and the government's focus on renewable energy. The stock has seen significant investor interest, driven by its expansion into renewable energy and increasing capacity. Adani Power's plans to expand its renewable energy portfolio and its strategic initiatives in power generation make it an attractive stock, though it remains volatile due to regulatory and market factors.



Paytm Shares Rise as CEO Announces Plans to Reapply for Payment Aggregator License



Shares of One97 Communications, the parent company of Paytm, experienced a 2% increase during early trading hours following an announcement by CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma about the company's intention to reapply for a payment aggregator (PA) license with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Sharma confirmed, "We will apply for a payment aggregator license to RBI in due course."

Recently, Paytm secured approval from the Ministry of Finance for a downstream investment into its payment services business. This approval allows Paytm Payments Services Limited (PPSL) to resubmit its PA license application. In the interim, PPSL will continue to offer online payment aggregation services to its existing partners.

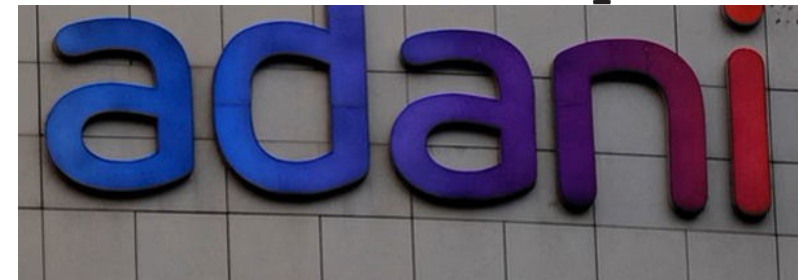
Paytm's previous PA license application was rejected by the RBI in November 2022 due

to non-compliance with Press Note 3, which requires government approval for investments from countries sharing land borders with India.

At Paytm's Annual General Meeting (AGM), Sharma emphasized the company's focus on achieving Profit After Tax (PAT) profitability. He noted India's leadership in digital payments and expressed Paytm's commitment to advancing in AI technology. Sharma highlighted the company's shift in focus from EBITDA to PAT to better reflect financial health and profitability.

Despite these strategic moves, Paytm reported a significant increase in its net loss for the first quarter of FY25, expanding to ₹839 crore from ₹357 crore in the same period last year. The loss was attributed to restrictions imposed by the RBI on its payments bank business.

Bangladesh to Review Indian Power Deals Amid \$800 Million Dispute



As Indian businesses in Bangladesh, including Adani Group, push for the clearance of overdue payments, the interim government led by Muhammad Yunus is preparing to review these contracts. Adani Group has requested that the Bangladesh government expedite the payment of \$800 million owed by the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) for power supply.

According to a report by Indian Express, the interim administration plans to scrutinize the agreements with Indian companies like Adani Group to ensure they comply with local laws. The review aims to clarify contract terms and verify the pricing of power supplies.

A senior Bangladeshi government official indicated that the scrutiny will focus on the nature of the contracts and adherence to local regulations. "There will be scrutiny of Indian businesses like the Adani business... what kinds of contracts have been signed, what are the terms and conditions, one cannot have a foreign company not follow the law of the land," the official was quoted as saying.

In addition to Adani Power, other Indian firms involved in power supply to Bangladesh include PTC India, NVVL Ltd, and Semcorp Energy India. The review reflects Bangladesh's efforts to ensure that international business operations align with its regulatory framework and contractual obligations.

Industrial Output Grows to 4.8% in July



India's industrial output rose to 4.8 percent in July, slightly up from 4.7 percent in June, as manufacturing activity picked up and investments gained momentum following the elections. The data, released on September 12, aligned with the median forecast of 4.8 percent in a Moneycontrol poll, which had projected growth between 3.3 and 5.8 percent.

Despite a challenging high base effect,

the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) showed a marginal increase in July 2024 compared to the previous month. The manufacturing sector, the largest component of the IIP, improved significantly to 4.6 percent year-on-year growth from a seven-month low of 3.2 percent in June, according to Paras Jasrai, Senior Analyst at India Ratings and Research.

However, growth in the other two major

sectors, electricity and mining, decelerated. Both sectors experienced a slowdown compared to the previous month, contributing to the overall industrial output growth.

The rise in manufacturing activity signals a rebound in investment and economic activity post-elections, suggesting a positive outlook for industrial production.

SEBI Mulls Tighter Rules for Micro-Cap IPOs Amid Market Concerns

India's securities regulator, SEBI, is contemplating stricter oversight for micro-cap companies going public, aiming to enhance scrutiny and protect investors. Proposed measures include more stringent monitoring of fund usage, enhanced due diligence requirements for merchant bankers, and a longer track record of profitability for companies seeking to list.

These potential changes follow recent fraud incidents in the micro-cap sector. SEBI is also considering stricter examination of financial statements, according to a source familiar with the discussions. However, SEBI is not expected to assume direct control of the listing approval pro-

cess from the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), despite some investor calls for increased regulator oversight.

The micro-cap IPO market in India has surged since the pandemic, fueled by strong investor interest in small businesses with high growth potential. This trend includes a recent \$1.4 million IPO by a small motorcycle dealership that was oversubscribed over 400 times, raising concerns about the quality of such offerings.

The surge in interest and instances of stock-price manipulation have prompted

regulatory action. In August, SEBI halted the IPO of Archit Nuwood Industries Ltd., a plywood maker, due to concerns over its financial statements. Earlier in July, the NSE imposed a 90% cap on listing gains. SEBI has also advised caution to investors regarding SME investments.

A discussion paper detailing proposed stricter listing rules is expected by the end of the year. "SEBI aims to balance investor protection with market growth," said Narinder Wadhwa, managing director at SKI Capital Services Ltd., suggesting additional criteria like extending the lock-in period for anchor investors could be considered.





SITARAM YECHURY: THE PRAGMATIC LEADER WHO SHAPED COALITION POLITICS IN INDIA

Sitaram Yechury, the fifth general secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), who passed away on Thursday at 72, was known for his pragmatic leadership and ability to navigate the complex world of coalition politics. He stood out among his political peers for his eclectic nature, being not only an astute politician but also a conversationalist with interests ranging from old Hindi film songs to books and mythology. A polyglot fluent in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Bangla, and Malayalam, Yechury left an indelible mark on Indian politics, particularly during the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) era.

Rise to Prominence

Born on August 12, 1952, into a Telugu-speaking family in Chennai, Yechury's political journey began during his student days. A top-ranking student in the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) exams, Yechury pursued his undergraduate studies in economics at St. Stephen's College, Delhi, followed by a postgraduate degree at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). It was during his time at JNU that he became deeply involved in politics, joining the Students' Federation of India (SFI) in 1974. By 1975, he had become a member of the CPI(M), and his political rise was swift. Despite being arrested during the Emergency in 1975, Yechury continued to organize resistance and eventually became the SFI's national president in 1978.

In 1985, Yechury was elected to the Central Committee of the CPI(M), and by 1992, he had ascended to the Politburo, the party's highest decision-making body. His political career took a significant leap when he succeeded Prakash Karat as the general secretary of the CPI(M) in 2015, a position he held until his death.

A Pragmatic Leader in the UPA Era

Yechury was not just a leader within his party; he was also a pivotal figure in national coalition politics. His leadership style was notably different from that of his predecessor, Prakash Karat, who was seen as a hardliner. Yechury's mentor, the late Harkishan Singh Surjeet, had been instrumental in the coalition governments of the 1980s and 1990s. Yechury followed in his mentor's footsteps, becoming a key figure in the UPA era from 2004 to 2014. He played a vital role in drafting the common minimum program for the United Front government and was a trusted ally of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi.

During UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi's decision to turn down the Prime Ministership in 2004, it was Yechury whom she first contacted after meeting

then-President APJ Abdul Kalam. His alliance-building skills helped stabilize the UPA government, even though the CPI(M) withdrew support in 2008 over the Indo-US nuclear deal, a decision that Yechury was heavily involved in negotiating.

Despite this setback, Yechury maintained cordial relations with UPA leaders, including P. Chidambaram, with whom he worked closely. His presence in the Rajya Sabha, where he served for 12 years, earned him a reputation as a skilled parliamentarian and a powerful voice for the working class and farmers.

The Challenges of Leading CPI(M)

Yechury took over the reins of the CPI(M) at a time when the Left was facing a significant decline. In the 2004 general elections, the party had 43 MPs, but by 2014, that number had dwindled to just nine. Despite this, Yechury remained a steady leader, focusing on rebuilding the party's grassroots strength. His speeches in Parliament, where he often used references from Hindu mythology to critique the BJP, were widely regarded for their sharpness and depth.

In an interview with PTI in 2015, Yechury admitted that the CPI(M) should have focused more on issues like price rise in the 2009 general elections, rather than solely opposing the nuclear deal. He believed that this miscalculation had cost the party popular support. Despite the setbacks, Yechury continued to champion Left ideals and played a prominent role in the formation of the INDIA bloc, a united opposition front formed ahead of the 2024 general elections.

Personal Life and Legacy

Yechury's personal life was marked by tragedy when his elder son, Ashish, passed away due to Covid-19 in 2021. He is survived by his wife, Seema Chishti, and two children, Akhila and Danish. Known for his love of old Hindi film songs, his intellectual depth, and his amiability, Yechury leaves behind a legacy as one of the most respected leaders of the Left in India.

Even in his final years, Yechury continued to advocate for the working class and remained a vocal critic of the Narendra Modi government. His vision of a more inclusive and egalitarian India, rooted in Marxist principles but tempered by pragmatism, made him a unique figure in Indian politics.

His death marks the end of an era, but his influence on the CPI(M) and the broader political landscape will be remembered for years to come.

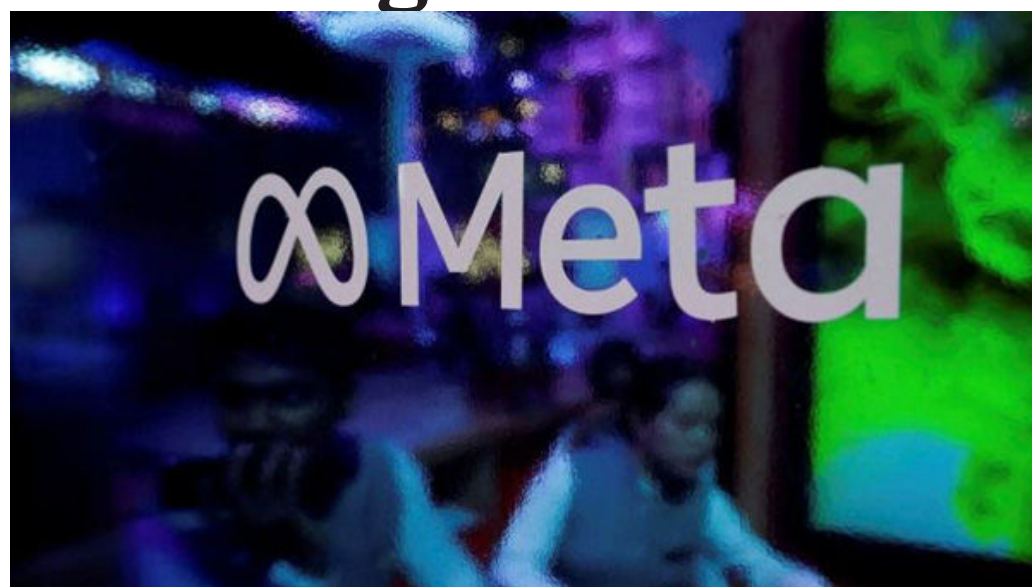


Meta Faces Criticism in Australia Over AI Training Practices

Meta is under scrutiny in Australia for its use of public posts on Facebook and Instagram to train its AI models. During a session with an Australian parliamentary committee, Melinda Claybaugh, Meta's privacy policy director, revealed that the company scrapes photos and posts made public by users over the age of 18 without obtaining their explicit consent.

Claybaugh clarified that while users can prevent future scraping by setting their posts to private, this measure does little to address the issue if the content has already been collected. This disclosure has raised concerns among regulators and users alike about the ethical implications and privacy considerations of Meta's data practices.

The revelation has intensified scrutiny



over how tech giants like Meta handle user data and obtain consent for data usage, particularly in the context of training AI models. As discussions continue, the focus remains on how these practices align with privacy expectations and regulatory standards.

Video of Elderly Woman Shaming Instagram Influencer Sparks Social Media Debate



A video shared by Instagram influencer Tanny Bhattacharjee, showing an elderly woman publicly criticizing her for wearing shorts in Bengaluru, has triggered a heated debate on social media. The footage captures the elderly woman shouting at Bhattacharjee in her native language, sparking discussions about societal norms and individual freedom.

The video, posted by Bhattacharjee—a yoga instructor with over 120,000 followers—features a caption reading, "Woman against Woman," and questions the appropriateness of her attire with the phrase, "Shorts not allowed in Bengaluru?" The caption also criticizes societal pressures on

women regarding their clothing choices.

In the video, Bhattacharjee, visibly puzzled by the reaction, addresses her followers, saying, "What do you think is the problem? I don't know what's happening." Her post has ignited polarized responses online. Some social media users condemn the elderly woman's behavior as an overreach into personal freedom, while others support her stance, reflecting diverse opinions on cultural and societal expectations.

The incident highlights ongoing debates about women's rights, freedom of expression, and societal norms, especially in the context of traditional versus modern values.

Man's Viral Post Celebrates Quitting Smoking After 24 Years

A man's inspiring achievement of quitting smoking after 24 years has gone viral on X, formerly known as Twitter. Rohit Kulkarni, a retail and channel sales professional, shared his journey in a heartfelt post that has resonated with many.

Kulkarni detailed his smoking history, revealing he had been consuming 10 cigarettes a day for over two decades. "I don't want to do the math on how many cigarettes that adds up to; it's frightening," he admitted. However, on Janmashtami this year, he made a life-changing decision to quit smoking. As of his post, it had been 17 days since he last touched a cigarette, and he expressed immense satisfaction with his progress.

His post has received a wave of congratulatory messages and support from the online community. Users have praised Kulkarni for his determination and resilience, with many sharing their own stories of overcoming similar challenges.

The positive response highlights how personal achievements and health victories can connect with and inspire others, reinforcing the power of community support in making significant lifestyle changes.



EU Court Rules Against Apple and Google in Landmark Cases

Apple and Google are facing intensified legal scrutiny following major rulings by the European Union's highest court. On Tuesday, the Court of Justice of the European Union issued significant decisions in two landmark cases against the tech giants, marking a crucial victory for the EU's regulatory efforts.

These rulings represent a critical step in the EU's ongoing campaign to impose stricter regulations on the world's largest technology companies. Both Apple and Google have been frequent targets of EU scrutiny, and the recent judgments underscore the bloc's commitment to holding major tech firms accountable.

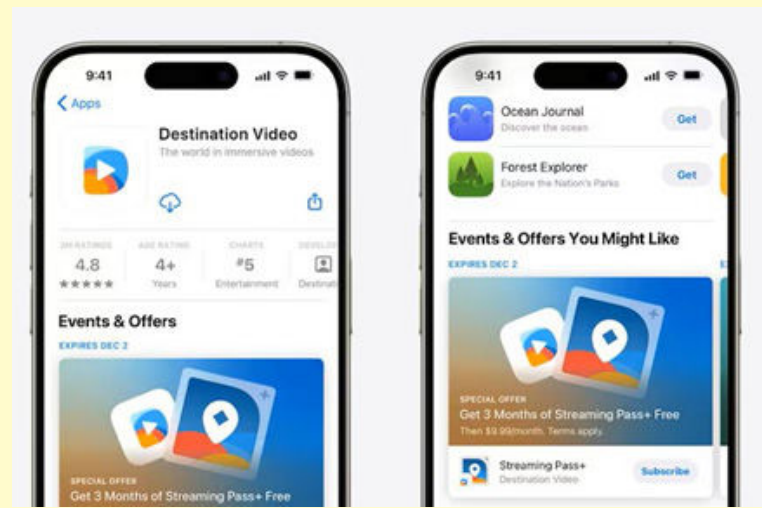
The Court's decisions are seen as pivotal moments in Europe's regulatory landscape, challenging the companies'



practices and potentially setting new precedents for the tech industry. Both Apple and Google have fought these cases with appeals, but the rulings reflect Europe's determination to enforce its regulations more rigorously.

The outcomes of these cases are expected to have broader implications for how technology companies operate within the EU, further influencing global tech regulatory standards.

Apple Introduces 'Win-Back Offers' for Subscription Apps



Apple has announced a new feature for the App Store that enables developers to entice former users to re-subscribe to their apps. The new 'win-back offers' will allow developers to provide discounts to users who have previously canceled their subscriptions, aiming to encourage them to re-engage with the service. This feature is exclusively available for auto-renewing subscriptions.

The 'win-back offers' can be set up by developers through App Store Connect. Apple provides options for developers to define eligibility criteria, set discount amounts, and select regional availability for these promotions. Once configured, users who have canceled their subscriptions might receive a special offer, such as a reduced price for a six-month subscription followed by a regular annual fee.

For example, a developer might offer a six-month subscription for \$9.99, followed by an annual renewal at \$39.99. These promotional offers can be presented to former users through various methods, including in-app prompts, App Store product pages, and subscription settings. Developers can also send direct links to these offers via email or messages.

The new feature aims to help developers regain users who have left their service by offering them a cost-effective way to return. The offers will appear as a special promotion for users who previously unsubscribed, potentially increasing the chances of re-engagement.

This move underscores Apple's ongoing efforts to provide developers with tools to maximize subscription revenue and customer retention.

South African Farmers Grow World's Heaviest Plum at 464 Gram



Two South African farmers, Dean and Deon Barnard, have set a new world record by growing the heaviest plum ever recorded. Their plum, weighing an impressive 464.15 grams (16.3 ounces), surpasses the previous record by nearly 110 grams (3.8 ounces). The record-breaking plum, harvested at 480 grams, lost some weight over time due to moisture loss.

Previously, the heaviest plum record was held by a Kiyo variety grown in Japan in 2021. The Barnards' plum is of the Autumn Treat variety, known for its crisp and sweet flavor. The Barnards, who run a seven-hectare plum orchard, did not specifically cultivate the plum to break a record. Instead, the record-setting plum came from a standard commercial tree with around 150 plums.

Dean Barnard shared with Guinness World Records (GWR) that no special preparations were made for this achievement. "It hasn't been bred to set records. I didn't do anything special," he said. The Barnards also reported finding other large plums weighing between 400-450 grams in this year's harvest.

The fruit took about seven months to grow, with flowering beginning in September. Dean attributes the success to the unique microclimates of their area and the expertise of a top plum specialist. "I'm so proud and excited. It's a big privilege to have the record," he added.

In recent news, an onion weighing more than a bowling ball also made headlines. For more updates on food news and records, follow us on social media.

India Triumphs Over Korea 3-1 in Hero Asian Champions Trophy

Defending champions India continued their dominant performance at the Hero Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament with a 3-1 victory over Korea on Thursday, securing their fourth consecutive win. The Paris Olympics bronze medallists have been in formidable form, having previously defeated China 3-0, Japan 5-0, and last year's runner-up Malaysia with an impressive 8-1 scoreline.

In their match against Korea, India's Arajeet Singh Hundal opened the scoring in the 8th minute, followed by two goals from captain Harmanpreet Singh in the 9th and 43rd minutes. Korea's sole response came from Jihun Yang, who converted a penalty corner in the 30th minute.

India's commanding performance underscores their strong campaign in the tournament, and they will look to maintain their unbeaten streak as they face Pakistan in their final group match on Saturday.



BCCI Sent Bold Dhruv Jurel For Australia Test Series

India announced its squad for the first Test against Bangladesh on Sunday, with the match set to commence on September 19 in Chennai. This announcement brought some notable surprises, including the return of wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, who is back in Test cricket after a severe road accident in December 2022. Additionally, young pacer Yash Dayal has received his maiden Test call-up for this series.

In discussing potential team compositions, former cricketer Dasgupta shared his thoughts on the lineup. He suggested that Yashasvi Jaiswal and Rohit Sharma could open the batting, followed by Shubman Gill at No. 3 and Virat Kohli at No. 4. KL Rahul could take the No. 5 spot, with Rishabh Pant at No. 6. Dasgupta also mentioned the pos-



sibility of including another batter to strengthen the lineup.

For the lower middle-order, he proposed that Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran

Ashwin should occupy the 8 and 9 positions. The final two slots could be filled by seamers, with the option of part-time bowlers providing additional overs if needed.

Dasgupta also considered the potential inclusion of Sarfaraz Khan in the middle order and praised Dhruv Jurel's impressive batting performance. He speculated that Jurel's technique and composure could make him a strong contender for the Australian series. Dasgupta suggested that it wouldn't be surprising if Rishabh Pant, Dhruv Jurel, and KL Rahul all featured in the playing XI.

As the team prepares for the Bangladesh series, these insights and speculations add an intriguing dimension to the upcoming Test matches.

Carlos Alcaraz Leads Spain to Davis Cup Victory Despite US Open Setback



Carlos Alcaraz made a strong comeback in the Davis Cup Finals Group Stage, helping Spain secure a winning start against an injury-stricken Czechia team. The world No. 3 had a shaky start, committing 21 unforced errors in the opening set, but bounced back to deliver a crucial performance.

In singles, Roberto Bautista Agut put Spain ahead with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Jiri Lehecka. Alcaraz was set to clinch the match, but Czechia's Tomas Machac, who had won the first-set tiebreak, was forced to retire in the third set due to injury. Despite Alcaraz's struggles early on, including a dramatic baseline rally, he was unable to fully capitalize on Machac's physical woes until the Czech player was unable to continue.

Alcaraz, who was playing his first Davis Cup match since 2022, showed resilience by winning the next four games to force a decider, only for Machac to retire in the opening game of the third set with a score of 6-7(3), 6-1.

After securing Spain's victory, Alcaraz teamed up with Marcel Granollers in the doubles match, where they faced Jakub Mensik and Adam Pavlásek. In a closely contested match, Alcaraz and Granollers won 6-7(2), 6-3, 7-6(2), securing a 3-0 overall result for Spain.

These matches marked Alcaraz's return to form following a surprising second-round exit at the US Open. Reflecting on his performance, Alcaraz expressed his determination to learn from past mistakes and contribute positively to the Spanish team. "I'm here with a lot of energy, excited, and motivated to keep going and be the best No. 1 possible for Team Spain," he said.

Neeraj Chopra and Avinash Sable Set for Diamond League Finale



The Diamond League season finale kicks off on Friday, featuring top global athletes, with high expectations for javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra and steeplechaser Avinash Sable. The event, which spans two days for the first time, will showcase 32 disciplines and include a record number of Olympic medalists competing for top honors at King Baudouin Stadium.

Pole vault world record holder Armand Duplantis, American sprinter Sha'Carri Richardson, and hurdling star Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone are among the standout competitors. For Avinash Sable, this will be his first appearance in the Diamond League finale following a disappointing Olympic performance where he finished 11th. Sable, who holds the national record for the 3000m steeplechase, is looking to make a strong comeback after finishing 14th in the overall Diamond League standings.

Neeraj Chopra, who secured a silver medal at the Paris Olympics following his historic gold

in Tokyo, will aim to conclude his season on a high note. Chopra qualified for the finale by finishing fourth in the overall standings, accumulating 14 points from two second-place finishes in Doha and Lausanne. Despite struggling with fitness issues and a persistent groin injury, Chopra has been a dominant force in the javelin throw and is eager to perform well.

In the Diamond League, the season finale winner receives a 'Diamond Trophy', USD 30,000 in prize money, and a wildcard for the World Athletics Championships. The runner-up will earn USD 12,000. Chopra, who skipped the Zurich meet last week, had a standout 2022 and 2023 seasons but faced challenges this year. His main competitors include Grenada's Anderson Peters and Germany's Julian Weber.

Sable's inclusion in the top 12 was aided by withdrawals from higher-ranked athletes, offering him a chance to shine in this prestigious event.

Afghanistan ODI Squad Announced: Ibrahim Zadran Out, New Faces Included

Ibrahim Zadran has been ruled out of Afghanistan's ODI squad for their upcoming three-match series against South Africa in Sharjah due to a left ankle sprain. The announcement was made by the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) on Thursday. Additionally, Mujeeb ur Rahman remains unavailable as he continues to recover from a right phalanx sprain.

To address these absences, the selectors have turned to domestic talent, including top-order batter Abdul Malik and recalling Darwish Rasooli, who has previously represented Afghanistan in seven T20I matches. ACB chief selector Ahmad Shah Sulimankhil confirmed, "Mujeeb ur Rahman is still recovering and Ibrahim Zadran will miss the series due to an ankle injury sustained during the New Zealand Test. We have included Abdul Malik and Darwish Rasooli based on their recent performances, and Allah Mohammad Ghazanfar will fill Mujeeb's spot."

Rashid Khan, who missed Afghanistan's last ODI series against Ireland, returns to the squad

for this historic series. It will mark the first bilateral ODI series between Afghanistan and South Africa. The rest of the squad remains unchanged from the team that won 2-0 against Ireland in March.

ACB CEO Naseeb Khan expressed enthusiasm about the series, stating, "Hosting South Africa for the first time in our cricketing history is a significant milestone for Afghanistan Cricket. We are thrilled about this opportunity to play against a top-quality side and aim to make our team competitive in bilateral cricket as we have in ICC events."

The squad for the series includes: Hashmatullah Shahidi (captain), Rahmat Shah (vice-captain), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (wk), Ikram Alikhil (wk), Abdul Malik, Riaz Hassan, Darwish Rasooli, Azmatullah Omarzai, Mohammad Nabi, Gulbadin Naib, Rashid Khan, Nangyal Kharoti, Allah Mohammad Ghazanfar, Fazal Haq Farooqi, Bilal Sami, Naveed Zadran, and Farid Ahmad Malik.





Swayambhu Unveils Samyuktha's First Look



In an exciting update for fans, the upcoming Pan India film "Swayambhu" has just released the first look of Samyuktha, celebrating her birthday with a special reveal. Known for her lucky charm status in Tollywood, Samyuktha is set to make a striking impression as a warrior in this high-budget film.

The poster showcases her in a fierce, combat-ready pose, highlighting her transformation into a brave combatant. This role marks a significant departure from her previous on-screen avatars, indicating a dramatic makeover tailored for the film's intense action sequences.

"Swayambhu," directed by Bharat Krishnamachari, features Nikhil as the lead hero, stepping into the shoes of a warrior himself. The film's grandeur and scale are underscored by its considerable budget, making it Nikhil's most ambitious project to date.

Produced by Bhuvan and Sreekar, and presented by Tagore Madhu, "Swayambhu" promises to be a visual spectacle, blending epic storytelling with high-octane action. Fans eagerly anticipate more updates as the film progresses towards its release.

Jawan to Release in Japan on November 29

Shah Rukh Khan's blockbuster film "Jawan" is set to make its debut in Japan on November 29, 2024. The announcement came from the superstar himself via social media, where he excitedly shared the news, saying, "Ek kahani justice ki...vengeance ki...villain aur hero ki... Ek kahani Jawan ki... Aa rahi hai Japan ke theatres mein pehli baar! Toh ab reh gaya bas ek sawaal- Ready-ah?" He added, "The fire and action you all loved is making a massy massy massy arrival in Japan."

"Jawan" features an impressive cast including Shah Rukh Khan, Vijay Sethupathi, Nayanthara, Deep-

ika Padukone, and several others. The film, produced by Red Chillies Entertainment and directed by Atlee, has already achieved significant success, grossing over Rs 1,100 crore worldwide. It was initially released in Tamil and Telugu, receiving widespread acclaim for its high-octane action and gripping storyline.

In the film, Shah Rukh Khan plays dual roles as Vikram Rathore and his son Azad. Vijay Sethupathi portrays the antagonist, while Nayanthara plays a pivotal role in supporting Azad's battle against corruption. The film has been praised for its dynamic action se-



quences and engaging narrative.

Film critic Saibal Chatterjee described "Jawan" as a "strikingly

meta vehicle" that resonates deeply with its audience, drawing comparisons to Atlee's earlier work, "Mersal."

Director Prem Kumar Announces Sequel to Cult Classic 96



The beloved film "96," featuring Vijay Sethupathi and Trisha in standout roles, has achieved cult classic status, captivating audiences with its heartfelt storytelling. Director Prem Kumar, inspired by the overwhelming positive response to the original film, has confirmed plans for a sequel.

Prem Kumar shared that he has nearly finished the script for the sequel and is eager to present it to Vijay Sethupathi and Trisha. If both actors agree, the project will commence once their schedules align. Fans of the original film are eagerly anticipating whether the

sequel will capture the same magic and emotional depth.

"96" was well-received for its unique concept and execution, and the news of a sequel has stirred excitement among its loyal fanbase. Prem Kumar also directed a Telugu remake of "96," starring Sharwanand and Samantha, which added to his reputation as a skilled storyteller.

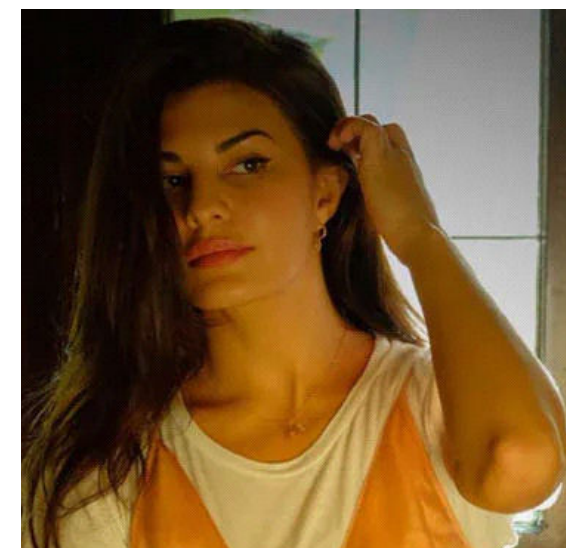
Additionally, Prem Kumar's upcoming film "Meiyazhagan," featuring Karthi, is set to release on September 27, further fueling anticipation around his creative projects.



Bhushan Kumar Confirms "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3" Release on Diwali

At the trailer launch of "Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video," featuring Rajkumar Rao and Triptii Dimri, T-Series head Bhushan Kumar announced that his highly anticipated film "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3," starring Kartik Aaryan, Triptii Dimri, Vidya Balan, and Madhuri Dixit, will be released in cinemas on November 1, coinciding with Diwali.

Kumar addressed concerns about the film's release date potentially clashing with Rohit Shetty's "Singham Again," which boasts an ensemble cast including Ajay Devgn, Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor, Deepika Padukone, Ranveer Singh, Tiger Shroff, and Arjun Kapoor. Although he chose not to delve deeply into the potential conflict, Kumar confirmed that "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3" is set to hit theaters on the planned Diwali date. The decision underscores Kumar's confidence in the film's prospects and its appeal to audiences despite the competitive release period.



Housefull 5 Unveils Star-Studded Cast and Release Date

Sajid Nadiadwala and Akshay Kumar are gearing up for "Housefull 5," the latest installment in the popular comedy franchise. The film boasts an impressive ensemble cast that includes Akshay Kumar, Riteish Deshmukh, Abhishek Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, Fardeen Khan, Nana Patekar, Chunky Pandey, Jackie Shroff, and Dino Morea, among others.

According to a report by Pinkvilla, the film will also feature a stellar lineup of five leading actresses: Jacqueline Fernandez, Nargis Fakhri, Sonam Bajwa, Chitrangada Singh, and Soundarya Sharma. A source revealed, "It's a cruise full of characters, and every character is a part of the film for a reason. Sajid Nadiadwala has ensured the casting is spot-on, making this the biggest ensemble set-up ever achieved by a producer. The team is thrilled to start this exciting journey."

Filming for "Housefull 5" will begin in London, with the crew later returning to Mumbai for additional shooting later in the year. The film is scheduled for release on June 6, 2025. The source added, "The crew will shoot some sequences in London before moving to a cruise setting, where the chaos and comedy of the film will unfold. In addition to the main cast, there will be numerous supporting roles to enhance the film's humor and pandemonium."

Directed by Tarun Mansukhani, "Housefull 5" is shaping up to be the grandest installment of the franchise, promising to deliver a blend of star power and comedy that fans have come to expect.

Sudheer Babu's 'Maa Nanna Superhero' Teaser Unveiled

The teaser for Sudheer Babu's highly anticipated film "Maa Nanna Superhero" has generated significant buzz following its release, presented by Natural Star Nani. The film's initial look has already made a strong impact, and the teaser continues to intrigue audiences with its unique storyline.

"Maa Nanna Superhero" revolves around a heartwarming and complex narrative where Sudheer Babu's character regards both Sayaji Shinde and Sai Chand as his father figures. Sayaji Shinde portrays a fiery and intense

role, while Sai Chand's character is calm and composed. This duality in father figures raises intriguing questions about the true identity of Sudheer Babu's character's real father and the reasons behind his equal affection for both men.

Sudheer Babu brings a serene charm to his role as an innocent youth, while Sayaji Shinde and Sai Chand deliver compelling performances in their contrasting roles. Raju Sundaram also makes a notable brief appearance in the film.

Directed by Abhilash Reddy Kankara, "Maa Nanna Superhero" promises a unique narrative and impressive writing. The film is produced jointly by V Celluloids and CAM Entertainment, with Sameer Kalyani handling cinematography and Jay Krish composing the music. The teaser sets the stage for what appears to be a touching and thought-provoking film, set to release during the Dussehra festival on October 11th. The blend of curiosity and confusion stirred by the teaser hints at an engaging story that is sure to captivate audiences upon its release.

