



## Weather Forecast

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

## Special Invitation to Chandrababu - In the Presence of Modi!

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu is set to meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Gandhinagar Reinvest 24 conference in Gujarat. Andhra Pradesh has experienced heavy rains and severe flood damage over the past few days. The state government has submitted a report to the central government regarding the flood damage and is awaiting assistance. This meeting between Chandrababu and the Prime Minister is scheduled to take place at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

Chandrababu will travel to Gujarat on the 16th of this month to attend the "Reinvest 24" conference, which will be held from the 16th to the 18th in Gandhinagar. Prime Minister Modi will be the chief guest at this event, and Chandrababu will address



the conference on its opening day. He will highlight the solar, solar-wind, and hydro-pumped storage power generation projects being implemented in Andhra Pradesh, as well as the incentives, priorities, and policy decisions supporting these projects.

Union Minister Prahlad Joshi extended the invitation to CM Chandrababu for the conference. In preparation, Chandrababu has already met with officials from the state energy department to discuss the content of his speech at the event. During the conference, Chandrababu is also expected to have a private

meeting with Prime Minister Modi, where he will brief him on the current situation in Andhra Pradesh, including the damage caused by heavy rains and floods and the relief measures in place.

A team of central officials, led by Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, has already toured the flood-affected areas in the state. Chandrababu is expected to request financial assistance from the central government for flood relief. Additionally, discussions may include a Rs 15,000 crore loan for Amaravati and the advance funds for the Polavaram project, which has received DPR approval from the central government. All eyes are now on what Prime Minister Modi will say regarding flood relief for Andhra Pradesh.

## Mumbai Actress Jatwani Files Complaint at Ibrahimpatnam Police Station

**TPN, V.V.S. Madhu Babu:** The sensational case of Mumbai film actress Kadambari Jatwani has taken a new turn. On Friday, Kadambari, along with her parents and lawyers, filed a formal complaint at the Ibrahimpatnam police station, alleging physical and mental harassment. In her written complaint submitted to Circle Inspector (CI) Chandrasekhar, Jatwani detailed the abuse she endured at the hands of certain police officers and other individuals in Ibrahimpatnam.

This case has garnered significant attention, with earlier allegations that the charges against Jatwani were filed with the involvement of officials from the previous government. Prominent names being associated with the case include IPS officers Sita Ramanjaneyu, Kranti Rana Tata, Vishal Gunni, ADCP Ramana Murthy, along with six CIs and an inspector who played key roles under the former government.

Jatwani had previously raised her concerns with Police Commissioner Rajasekhar Babu, who appointed ACP Sravanti Roy as the investigating officer. The police have reportedly taken this case very seriously and have already initiated an investigation. The involvement of three IPS officers has posed a major challenge for the investigators.

The investigation will also probe the role of Ibrahimpatnam police in the alleged harassment of Jatwani. Sources suggest that there may soon be legal action taken against the IPS officers involved. As part of the ongoing investigation, ACP Sravanti Roy has recorded statements from CI- and SSI-level officers. Meanwhile, several lower-level officers have reportedly switched off their phones and disappeared. Some CIs are believed to be seeking assistance from the DGP's office to avoid being implicated.

The unfolding developments have caused a stir within the police commissionerate, and it remains to be seen whether justice will be served to Kadambari Jatwani or if political influence will lead to a settlement.

This case continues to attract widespread attention, and many are closely watching how the investigation will proceed.



## Supreme Court

### No Action Against YCP Leaders Until Further Orders

- YCP leaders are accused in the case of the attack on the TDP central office and Chandrababu's residence.
- Court orders them to surrender passports to investigating authorities within 48 hours.
- They must attend hearings whenever summoned by the authorities.
- The next hearing is adjourned to November 4.

**TPN, New Delhi:** YCP leaders Devineni Avinash and Jogi Ramesh approached the Supreme Court seeking anticipatory bail in connection with the attack on the TDP central office and Chandrababu Naidu's residence. The Supreme Court heard their petition on Friday.

The court instructed Avinash and Jogi Ramesh to fully cooperate with the investigating officers and stated that no action should be taken against them until further notice. Additionally, the court ordered both leaders to surrender their passports to the investigating authorities within 48 hours.

They were also instructed to cooperate



with the investigation and to attend hearings whenever summoned by the investigating officers. A bench comprising Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice Amanullah made this clear. The Supreme Court will make a decision on their anticipatory bail during the next hearing on November 4.



## Key Decision by Minister Lokesh: Relief for CBSE Students

- State Board Exams this Year for CBSE Students
- Minister Nara Lokesh made the decision based on the results of internal exams.
- Relief for 77,000 tenth-grade students.

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Education Minister Nara Lokesh has taken a key decision to provide relief to the 77,000 tenth-grade students studying in government schools in AP. Class 10 students studying in CBSE-affiliated government schools in the state have been given the opportunity to write the state board exams this year. Minister Lokesh made this decision based on the results of the internal examinations.

The previous YCP government had granted CBSE affiliation to 1,000 schools. There is a difference between state board exams and CBSE exams. To prepare students for the CBSE examinations, changes need to be made in the examination system, along with the training of teachers. However, under the previous government, education department officials

directly implemented the CBSE system.

In this context, the Education Department recently conducted examinations to assess the abilities of students in CBSE-affiliated government schools.

64 percent of the students failed these exams. In 326 schools, not a single student passed. In 556 schools, the pass percentage was less than 25 percent. Only 26 to 50 percent of students passed in 66 schools. Looking at these results, it is clear that students are unlikely to pass if they take the exams under the CBSE system. After bringing this matter to the notice of Minister Lokesh, the officials decided to allow CBSE students to appear for state board exams this year.

## Jagan Blames Eleru Floods as Human Error



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** YSP Chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy today accused the state government of having prior information about the heavy rains that led to the Eleru floods but failing to alert the public. Jagan visited the flood-affected areas in the Eleru region and expressed his concerns after touring the flood-hit parts of Pithapuram constituency. Speaking to the media, Jagan criticized the government for its complete failure in preventing the Eleru floods. He accused the authorities of negligence

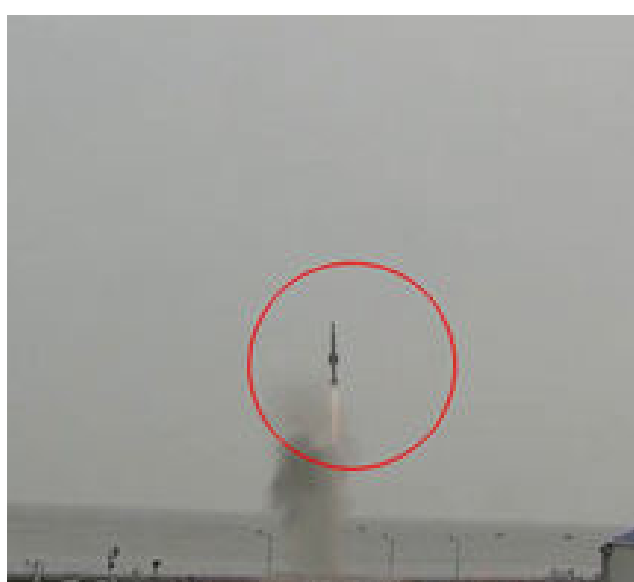
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## India Successfully Test Fires Two Surface-to- air Missiles in Two Days

**TPN, Odisha:** India successfully test-fired the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VLSRSAM) for the second consecutive day from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur on the Odisha coast, defence sources said on Friday.

A statement from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) confirmed that the tests, conducted on September 12 and 13, were successful.

"In both the tests, the missile successfully intercepted a high-speed low-altitude aerial target mimicking a sea-skimming aerial threat," the statement said. The missile demonstrated its precision and capability to neutralize targets effectively.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh praised DRDO, the Indian Navy, and all associated teams for the successful flight tests. He noted that this missile, equipped with modern technologies, would give a further technological boost to the Armed Forces. For safety reasons, the Balasore district administration temporarily relocated 3,100 residents from six villages within a 2.5 km radius of ITR Launch Pad 3. A revenue official stated that these precautions were taken in consultation with ITR authorities.

These consecutive tests not only showcased the weapon system's reliability but also validated recent upgrades to various components of the system. DRDO Chairman and Secretary of the Department of Defence R&D, Dr. Samir V Kamat, also congratulated the teams involved in the successful flight tests of the VLSRSAM system.



## Jagan Blames Eleru Floods as Human Error

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in managing the inflow into the Eleru reservoir, claiming that if CM Chandrababu Naidu had acted with compassion, a special officer could have been appointed to handle the situation and prevent the floods.

Jagan further alleged that despite receiving complete weather information from the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Chandrababu remained careless, resulting in the Eleru floods. He pointed out that even though the Eleru reservoir reached full capacity, officials did not take the necessary precautions.

Jagan explained how water inflow into the Eleru reservoir was mismanaged, accusing the government of failing to release the water in time, which led to the floods being a "human error." He stated that the irresponsible approach of the government showed a blatant disregard for people's lives. He also criticized Chandrababu's propaganda, calling it deceptive, and accused him of spreading lies during his tenure.

Jagan highlighted the government's failure to modernize the Kalavala reservoir, noting that his father, YSR, initiated the modernization efforts during his term, but no further attention has been paid to it since then.

## Eight People Dead in a Fatal Road Accident in Chittoor

**TPN, Chittoor:** A serious road accident occurred in Chittoor district when a bus collided with two lorries, resulting in the tragic death of eight people. Another 30 individuals sustained serious injuries, and the death toll is expected to rise.

The bus was traveling from Tirupati to Bangalore when the accident took place at Mogili Ghat. The injured were immediately shifted to Palamaneru Government Hospital, where they are receiving treatment. The accident caused a massive traffic jam in the area. Police quickly arrived at the scene to clear the traffic and facilitate rescue operations, which are still ongoing at the accident site.



## Pilgrims Stranded in Kedarnath Will Be Brought Safely



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Minister Nara Lokesh has initiated steps to bring approximately 20 pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh, who are stranded in Kedarnath due to heavy rains in Uttarakhand, safely back to their native places. The pilgrims reached out to Minister Lokesh via the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), expressing their difficulties and appealing for help as they were struggling

to find food.

Responding immediately, Minister Lokesh announced that a special team had been formed on behalf of the government to address the situation. He assured the pilgrims that he would personally take responsibility and closely monitor their safe return.

Minister Lokesh stated, "We are taking all necessary measures to bring the Telugu pilgrims stranded in Kedarnath safely back to their native places. We are in communication with central government officials and have sought the cooperation of the Uttarakhand government to ensure they do not face any health issues. I urge the pilgrims and their families to remain brave."

Additionally, TDP MP Kalishetti Appalanaidu also spoke with the stranded pilgrims in Kedarnath. He assured them that authorities are working on their safe evacuation and advised the pilgrims to stay strong. He promised that they will reach their destinations safely under any circumstances.

## Selfie with Jagan Lands Female Constable in Trouble

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Even though the YCP lost power in AP, the admiration for YS Jagan in some circles has not diminished. Many people eagerly sought a selfie with YS Jagan when he recently visited former MP Nandigam Suresh, who is in Guntur Jail. Among them was a female constable. While preparing for Jagan's press meet, the constable approached him and requested a selfie.

Jail, a press meet was arranged. At that time, a constable named Ayesha Banu, along with her daughter, approached Jagan and asked for a selfie. She also requested his blessings. Jagan did not refuse and took the selfie with them, also offering his blessings. However, this gesture did not sit well with members of the ruling coalition.

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to these complaints, and it has been decided to take action against Constable Ayesha Banu for the selfie. Jailer Ravi Babu revealed that a charge memo will soon be issued to her. A committee will

be formed to assess the situation based on her explanation, and further action will be taken. If this happens, it could potentially spark another controversy.

## HYDRA type Action in Guntur – JCBs at Work!

**TPN, Guntur:** HYDRA has been actively targeting illegal constructions in Hyderabad, and this has sparked widespread local demands for the removal of encroachments across the city. As a result, there are now growing calls for similar action in Andhra Pradesh, especially in light of the recent Budameru floods that caused significant damage in Vijayawada. Government sources suggest that a HYDRA-style organization may be established in AP to address such issues. In line with this, authorities have begun a crackdown on encroachments in Guntur city, which falls under the Amaravati capital region. Buildings illegally constructed on ponds and parks are being targeted, with JCBs deployed to remove these unauthorized structures. This action has caused anxiety among those responsible for illegal constructions. Today, illegal buildings near Gandhi Park in Guntur were removed.

The Guntur Municipal Corporation (GMC) has decided to take down unauthorized buildings and hoardings throughout the city. As part of this, the large-scale illegal constructions that have been increasing in Guntur will be systematically dismantled, starting with the



structures in front of Gandhi Park. Several other buildings across the city are also under scrutiny.

The authorities have issued repeated warnings to property owners, instructing them to remove buildings that violate regulations. However, as illegal construction continued, the city commissioner has now intensified action. The commissioner has made it clear that any structures built outside of approved plans will be demolished without hesitation. He also directed that shops and hoardings within the city's margins must be removed immediately. The commissioner added that they are focusing on illegal structures near ponds under the Guntur Municipal Corporation, and any encroachments in these areas will also be swiftly removed.

## Alert: Another Low Pressure, More Rains Ahead!

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** The Meteorological Department has announced that a low-pressure system is expected to form in the Bay of Bengal within the next 24 hours. It is likely to develop into a significant system in the next two days. Due to its influence, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Bihar are expected to receive heavy rainfall. While Andhra Pradesh will experience only a mild impact, moderate rains are forecast for the next three days. The Meteorological Department predicts light to moderate rainfall during this period. Additionally, from the 20th of this month to the first week of October, heavy rains are expected in the coastal districts. As the monsoon trough continues to move closer to the northern coastal districts, there are chances of more low-pressure systems forming.

As a result, rainfall is expected to intensify in the last week of this month. Weather experts also suggest that there is a possibility that this low-pressure system could strengthen and move toward Andhra Pradesh. If that happens, the state may once again face heavy rainstorms.



## AP Cabinet Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup>: Key Decisions Likely on Flood Control, Amaravati

**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Several cabinet meetings have been held since the coalition government came to power in Andhra Pradesh, but the upcoming cabinet meeting on the 18th of this month is expected to be especially significant. The meeting is likely to focus on many important issues, and the government may take several major decisions. Key topics on the agenda include flood control measures and the development of the Amaravati capital region.

The state has been severely affected by the Vijayawada floods and Eleru floods. In addition to heavy rains, water from upper areas breached

canals, submerging thousands of villages and impacting the city of Vijayawada. In light of this, the government is expected to make crucial decisions regarding the modernization of the Budameru Canal and the removal of encroachments as part of its flood control strategy. A committee of ministers appointed by the government has already met to assess the flood damage and explore measures to prevent future flooding.

Additionally, there is a possibility that the cabinet will decide to resume construction work in Amaravati, the state's capital. Representatives from the World Bank and the Asian Development

Bank (ADB) have already visited Amaravati, where they inquired about the impact of floods. However, officials from the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) assured them that Amaravati is not at risk of flooding. In this context, the World Bank and ADB are expected to provide a loan of ₹15,000 crore soon. The programs to be implemented with this loan will be discussed in the upcoming cabinet meeting.

Apart from these, the cabinet is also expected to make important decisions on several other issues affecting the state.

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# Jagan's Satires on the CM Chandrababu in Pithapuram

**TPN, Pithapuram:** Former Chief Minister and YCP President, Jagan Mohan Reddy, visited the Pithapuram constituency today, where he took the opportunity to criticize the coalition government. He accused the state government of failing to implement its promised schemes. "They said they would give Rs. 20,000 to the farmers... what happened?" he asked. "As part of the 'Salutation to Mother' scheme, Rs. 15,000 was promised for children—what happened to that?" he added.

Jagan also amused the audience with his sarcastic gestures during the event. Mocking Chandrababu Naidu, he said, "Chandrababu used to say, 'Chitti Thalli, come this way... Fifteen thousand for you, fifteen thousand for



your brother, fifteen thousand for your sister... Are you happy?" Jagan further criticized, saying that while he himself

keeps his word, Chandrababu only talks about such promises in his "Super-6" programs. He accused Naidu of deceiving both children and women. During his speech, Jagan also mentioned Pithapuram MLA and AP Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan. He criticized the government for neglecting the flood victims, accusing it of focusing only on photo opportunities rather than real assistance. Jagan then made a cutting remark, saying, "Chandrababu has completely become a drama artist. Pawan Kalyan may be a star in movies, but not here. Unfortunately, he is inexperienced and doesn't know much. However, Chandrababu is more theatrical than Pawan Kalyan. If Pawan is a film artist, then Chandrababu is a drama artist."

## RK Roja's Meeting with YS Jagan: First time After the Defeat



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** Former minister RK Roja, who has been a prominent figure in AP politics for the past five years, disappeared from the scene after losing the Nagari assembly elections. Particularly, during her tenure as an MLA and minister, Roja was often seen praising Jagan or taking selfies with him, but she had stopped visiting Tadepalli Palace for some time. This led to speculation that Roja had distanced herself from the YCP. After staying away from party activities following her defeat, Roja suddenly reappeared in Tadepalli.

After her election loss, RK Roja did not attend the review meetings of party leaders organized by Jagan in Tadepalli. However, yesterday, she participated in the review of YCP leaders from Tirupati district. She shared her views with Jagan on the political situation in the district and discussed the consequences of the last election's defeat. It is reported that they also discussed her differences with other party leaders.

RK Roja posted photos of the meeting of Tirupati YCP leaders with Jagan in Tadepalli. She also took a selfie with Jagan, her first in a long time. By doing so, she offered clarity on her future in politics. Having distanced herself from party activities after the election defeat, Roja has now indicated her readiness to work with the Tirupati district leaders once again. It seems Roja is becoming active in politics just as she was before.

## Buddha Venkanna Extends Support to Flood Victims in Vijayawada Despite Illness

**TPN, Vijayawada:** Thousands of people in Vijayawada have been left homeless due to heavy floods, with many losing their belongings and homes submerged in water. Among the affected are members of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). In response, TDP senior leader and former MLC Buddha Venkanna has once again stepped forward to offer his support, despite currently battling a serious illness and receiving treatment at a hospital in Hyderabad.

Expressing his grief over the devastation caused by the floods, Buddha Venkanna noted that thousands of people, including daily wage laborers, have lost everything. Deeply saddened by the suffering of the city's residents, he recalled his recent donation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund

as part of his responsibility to help those in need. The former MLC emphasized that TDP workers who have fought tirelessly for the party have also been severely affected by the floods, with many losing household items such as televisions, refrigerators, and other appliances. He has now made arrangements to provide these essential items to the affected TDP workers through their families. Though suffering from a viral fever and unable to personally oversee relief efforts, Buddha Venkanna remains committed to supporting those impacted by the floods. He urged others to step up, work for the party, and bring to his attention the details of any TDP workers or residents who have been affected, promising that he will ensure they



receive the help they need.

The recent heavy rains have caused widespread devastation in several areas of Vijayawada, with thousands of homes submerged in water and tens of lives lost. The government, led by Chandrababu Naidu, has been working on a war footing to implement relief measures. At this critical time, Buddha Venkanna has also joined in, offering his support and solidarity with the flood-affected citizens.

## SHOCK FOR YCP IN JAGGAIYAPET

- Jaggaiyapet Municipal Chairman Rangapuram Raghavendra Joins TDP
- Many ward councilors follow Raghavendra in joining TDP
- Minister Nara Lokesh warmly welcomes them to the party



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** The YCP continues to face defections as more leaders express discontent with the party's ideologies and what they describe as the destructive policies of party president Jagan Reddy. In a significant blow to the YCP, Jaggaiyapet Municipal Chairman Rangapuram Raghavendra, along with several ward councilors, has joined the TDP.

Raghavendra, accompanied by his father Rangapuram Narsimha Rao, was welcomed into the TDP by Minister Nara Lokesh. Joining them were 7th ward councilor Pusapati Sitaravamma and her husband, 31st ward council-

or Gijupalli Venkatarao and his son Krishna, and 23rd ward councilor D. Ramadevi and her husband. The group was warmly welcomed at Undavalli's residence, where they were presented with yellow scarves as a symbol of their new affiliation.

On this occasion, Minister Nara Lokesh remarked, "Heavy rains have fallen like never before, but the government acted vigilantly and stood by the victims." He further criticized Jagan Reddy, accusing him of engaging in "mud politics" even during the recent Varada calamity.

## YCP and BRS Singing the Same Tune?

**G. Avinash Prudhvi:** For a long time, the BRS and YCP have maintained a cordial relationship, as evidenced by the occasional meetings between YS Jaganmohan Reddy and KCR. However, with both parties currently out of power, their strategies have shifted accordingly.

If we look at recent political trends in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, it's becoming increasingly clear that the YCP and BRS are echoing each other's rhetoric—or perhaps more accurately, they seem to be living in the same delusional mindset.

On multiple occasions recently, including a press meet outside Guntur jail, Jagan boldly claimed that he will return as Chief Minister and warned TDP leaders of severe consequences. His exact words were, "when we come back, TDP leaders will be in these same jails." Coincidentally, BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, who has been involved in a pub-

lic spat with Arekapudi Gandhi, made a strikingly similar statement. He said, "We will come to power in another four years, and then I will show Arekapudi Gandhi what I can do."

The clear pattern here is that both the BRS and YCP seem to be under the illusion that they will return to power and exact revenge on their political opponents. This mindset is far removed from the actual public sentiment and mandate in the Telugu states.

Instead of focusing on rebuilding their parties and staying relevant over the next few years, both BRS and YCP appear to be throwing empty threats at their opponents, based on hypothetical future power. These "shadow punches" serve no purpose for either party. If BRS and YCP are so confident of their return to power in four years, what's stopping the current ruling parties from taking action against them in the meantime?

## Revanth Reddy fell in Chandrababu's trap: Padi Kaushik Reddy

**TPN, Hyderabad:**

BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy launched a scathing attack on Congress leader and Telangana Chief Minister candidate Revanth Reddy, accusing him of falling into the trap set by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. Speaking at a media conference alongside Shambhupur Raju, Kaushik Reddy alleged that the Congress was conspiring to prevent the development of Hyderabad under the leadership of the ruling BRS government.



He criticized Revanth Reddy and other Congress leaders for spreading false propaganda, claiming that they were creating a rift between Andhra settlers and Telangana residents. Kaushik Reddy dismissed accusations that he had insulted the people of Andhra Pradesh, asserting that his remarks had been twisted for political gain.

The MLA expressed frustration over attempts to revive tensions between Andhra and Telangana for petty political interests, warning that such actions were tarnishing the image of Hyderabad. He also condemned the demolition of buildings in Hyderabad, allegedly under the guise of Hydra, and expressed concerns that these actions could scare away potential investors from the city.

Highlighting the progress Hyderabad has made under BRS rule, Kaushik Reddy praised Chief Minister KCR for transforming the city over the past decade. He accused Congress of trying to divert investments from Hyderabad to Amaravati, suggesting that Revanth Reddy was part of this conspiracy.

Kaushik Reddy boldly declared that Revanth Reddy no longer needed to focus on leaders like KCR, KTR, or Harish Rao, stating that it was now a direct contest between himself and Revanth Reddy. He concluded by affirming his commitment to fighting for Telangana and his refusal to compromise on the state's interests.

## Former Minister Roja's Complaint... Nagari YCP Leaders Suspended



**TPN, Andhra Pradesh:** It is widely known that the YCP suffered a significant defeat in the recently held assembly elections, securing only 11 seats. In response, YCP leader YS Jaganmohan Reddy has focused on cleaning up the party and taking action against those working against its interests. As part of this effort, Nagari YCP leaders were suspended following a complaint from former minister and ex-Nagari MLA, RK Roja.

Roja recently filed a complaint with the party leadership, accusing State YCP Trade Union Secretary KJ Kumar, former Nagari Municipal Chairperson KJ Shanti, and their family members of working against the party and her in the Nagari constituency of Chittoor district.

The YCP leadership confirmed that the allegations against them were found to be true, leading to their removal from the party as part of disciplinary action. The party has also canceled their basic membership. Chittoor District YCP President KRJ Bharat issued a statement clarifying that their actions have no connection with the YCP, and a letter was issued officially suspending these city leaders.





## CM Chandrababu Reviews Compensation Process for Flood Victims

**TPN, Amaravati:** Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu held a comprehensive review with ministers and officials regarding the ongoing enumeration process to assess the damage caused by recent heavy rains and floods. The meeting, held at the Secretariat, focused on ensuring that government assistance reaches every individual affected by the disaster. The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of accurate and thorough enumeration, stating, "It is crucial to ensure that government aid reaches every victim. The enumeration must be done meticulously, and the compensation process must be scientific." He also mentioned that the relief measures implemented so far have satisfied the public, but insisted that the compensation list be



carefully prepared.

The government aims to complete the damage assessment swiftly, with a target to provide assistance to the victims by the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month.

Officials briefed the CM on the details and procedure of the enumeration process, highlighting the ongoing re-verification to ensure accuracy in assessing the losses.

In a significant move, the government is considering compensating not just those whose houses were completely submerged but also residents of upper floors who suffered damage. "We are planning to provide different amounts of compensation based on the extent of damage to the first-floor and second-floor properties," the CM said. Additionally, compensation for damaged two-wheelers, cars, and autos is also under consideration. For those whose homes were entirely destroyed, the government will offer new housing as per existing norms. CM Chandrababu confirmed that once the enumeration is finalized, a decision on financial assistance will be made. According to government estimates, around 2,13,456 houses were submerged during the floods. So

far, damage assessments have been completed for 84,505 houses, while the rest are in progress. In addition to residential losses, crops over 2,14,698 hectares were damaged, for which compensation will also be provided. Ministers Vangalapudi Anitha, Payyavula Keshav, Angani Sathya Prasad, P. Narayana, and Nadendla Manohar, along with officials from the respective departments, attended the review meeting.

This extensive relief initiative is part of the government's commitment to addressing the massive losses incurred due to the floods and ensuring timely assistance for all affected citizens.

### Tension Erupts in Anumarlapudi Village During Ganesh Idol Immersion, YCP Leaders Accused of Stone Pelting

**TPN, Guntur:** Tension escalated in Anumarlapudi village of Chebrolu Mandal, Guntur district, during the Ganesh idol immersion procession as YCP leaders allegedly pelted stones at members of the TDP faction. The incident occurred despite a police presence, who had been deployed in anticipation of possible clashes.

The conflict arose during the procession led by the Gaudu Sangam, which involved the immersion of a Ganesh idol erected at Bai Center on September 7. The procession, accompanied by a DJ playing songs of MLA Dhulipalla Narendra, was targeted by YCP leaders, who reportedly hurled stones from the roadside. The YCP leaders are said to have taken offense at the procession's route through the village.

As a result of the stone-pelting, five people sustained injuries, with three of them being shifted to the Tenali government hospital for treatment. TDP supporters expressed anger over the attack and demanded immediate action against the perpetrators. They called for stringent punishment for those responsible for the violence.

### Minister Gottipati Distributes Essential Commodities to Flood Victims in Vijayawada



**TPN, Vijayawada:** In a gesture of support to flood-affected families, State Power Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar, along with Vijayawada Central MLA Bonda Uma Maheswara Rao, distributed essential commodities to around 3,500 families in various divisions of Singh Nagar, Vijayawada. The relief materials, sent by Markapuram MLA Kandula Narayana Reddy, were handed over by his son, Vignesh Reddy, to those in need.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar expressed his concern over the unprecedented flooding that had overwhelmed Vijayawada. "Floods have hit the city in a way never seen before in history. However, under the leadership of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, we have faced this disaster with foresight and prompt action," he said.

The Minister commended the efforts of CM Naidu, who has been stationed at the Collectorate, coordinating relief efforts with ministers and officials to ensure that victims receive timely support. He reassured the affected families that the government will stand by them and provide compensation once the damage estimates are completed.

Minister Gottipati also appreciated Kandula Vignesh Reddy for his proactive role in distributing essential commodities to the flood victims, recognizing his efforts as a significant contribution to the ongoing relief operations.

This distribution of essential goods is part of the broader government initiative to help the flood victims recover and rebuild in the wake of the recent calamity.

### Collector Srijana Initiates 'Operation Budameru' to Address Flooding Issues

**TPN, Vijayawada:** In a determined effort to prevent future flooding of the Budameru stream, NTR District Collector Dr. S. Srijana convened a meeting with officials from the Survey, Land Records, Municipal Corporation, and Revenue departments. The focus of the meeting was to take the first steps towards identifying encroachments that have exacerbated the area's flood risks.

Collector Srijana explained that the state government has launched 'Operation Budameru,' a comprehensive initiative aimed at preventing future flooding of the Budameru stream. As part of this operation, the government has ordered an immediate survey of the area to identify illegal encroachments and address the issues at the root of the flooding problem. "Irrigation, VMC, and Revenue officials have been directed to jointly conduct field-level inspections, using survey and land records to identify encroachments," the Collector stated. She emphasized the importance of submitting a complete report, including the encroached survey numbers, as soon as possible.

The Collector pointed out that the low-lying areas around Budameru were inundated after receiving an unprecedented inflow of around 40,000 cusecs of water due to torrential rains in the catchment area. She expressed sorrow over the extensive damage, which saw over two lakh families in Vijayawada suffering severe losses and crop fields submerged. The Collector also lauded the efforts of the Chief Minister, who stayed at the Collectorate for more than ten days, overseeing relief operations, filling potholes, counseling victims, and providing full assistance.

As part of Operation Budameru, the government aims to find a permanent solution to prevent such devastating incidents from recurring. Key officials participating in the meeting included Survey and Land Records AD Srinivas and Municipal Corporation Chief City Planner GVGSV Prasad. The operation marks a significant step towards addressing the long-standing flooding issue in Vijayawada, bringing hope to the affected communities.

### Mangalagiri Court Sentences Nandigam Suresh to Police Custody



**TPN, Vijayawada:** The Mangalagiri court has sent former YCP MP Nandigam Suresh to police custody. Nandigam Suresh was recently arrested by the Mangalagiri police in connection with the attack on the TDP headquarters.

The court has now allowed Nandigam Suresh to be held in police custody from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. Suresh is currently in Guntur District Jail, and according to the court's orders, the police will conduct their interrogation within the jail premises.

In addition to Nandigam Suresh, Vijayawada Deputy Mayor Sailaja's husband, Srinivasa Reddy, has also been arrested in connection with this case. Nandigam Suresh is also facing charges related to the incident involving boats colliding with the barrage gates in Prakasam.

### Two Brothers from Narayanapuram Commit Suicide Over Cricket Betting Harassment

**TPN, Eluru:** In a tragic incident, two brothers from Narayanapuram, P. Lakshminarayana (34) and P. Lok Vinod (32), committed suicide after being harassed by cricket betting bookies. The brothers, unable to escape the grip of their gambling debts, recorded a selfie video before taking their own lives, naming the followers of Buki Dandu Gopalakrishnam Raju of Kaikaram village as responsible for their ordeal.

The brothers had been missing for four months before local police found their bodies hanging in an ashram in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Their deaths are the latest in a string of suicides linked to betting-related harassment.

Kaikaram village, known as a hub for cricket betting in the Ungutur constituency of West Godavari district, is home to around 40 to 50 bookies. Despite large-scale betting operations involving crores of rupees, local authorities have been accused of turning a blind eye, with support from officials and politicians alleged to be shielding the betting mafia.



### Nandamuri Balakrishna Donates ₹50 Lakh to Telangana CM's Relief Fund

**TPN, Hyderabad:** Renowned actor and Hindupuram MLA Nandamuri Balakrishna has generously donated ₹50 lakh to the Telangana Chief Minister's Relief Fund to aid flood victims.

On his behalf, his daughter Tejaswini presented the donation check to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at the Secretariat. During the presentation, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy expressed

gratitude to all who supported the government and contributed to relief efforts. Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Sports Adviser AP Jitender Reddy were also present at the occasion.



### AP Women's Commission has no involvement in Kadambari Jethwani's case

**TPN, Vijayawada:** The case involving actress Kadambari Jethwani has caused a sensation in Andhra Pradesh. The Mumbai actress has accused YCP leader Kukkala Vidyasagar of harassing her after she refused his marriage proposal. She also alleged that under the supervision of the then Vijayawada City Commissioner Kanti Rana Tata, illegal cases were filed against her and that around 15 AP police officers kidnapped her in Mumbai. Kadambari Jethwani recently revealed

the details of the harassment she faced, claiming that the Vijayawada Police Commissioner had falsely charged her. Vijayawada Police Commissioner is now investigating the case thoroughly.

AP Women's Commission Chairperson Gajjala Venkatalakshmi made surprising comments regarding the case of actress Kadambari Jethwani. In light of several allegations about the harassment of an actress from another state and the perceived non-response of the State Women's

Commission, Venkatalakshmi addressed the media on Friday. She clarified that the Andhra Pradesh State Women's Commission has no involvement in Kadambari Jethwani's case. She explained that they did not take up the case suo moto because they cannot interfere in the matters of women from other states. Venkatalakshmi emphasized that Kadambari Jethwani is an educated woman, and it would be better if she directly approached the Women's Commission regarding this issue.

The Chairperson stated that if women from other states come forward and file complaints about harassment, only then can the Commission focus on such cases. She reiterated that the Commission cannot take up harassment cases related to women from other states suo moto. Venkatalakshmi expressed her surprise that Jethwani had not approached the Commission earlier but assured that if the actress files a formal complaint, appropriate action will be taken.

## Congress' Double Standards on PM-CJI Ganesh Puja Row Expose Its Hypocrisy



In the ever-evolving world of Indian politics, the lines between criticism, opportunism, and sheer hypocrisy often blur. The recent controversy surrounding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud's residence for Ganesh Chaturthi is a glaring example of this. While the Congress and other opposition parties have rushed to denounce the visit, accusing the Prime Minister of breaching the separation of powers between the judiciary and the executive, their outrage seems selective and misplaced when viewed in a broader context.

At the heart of the controversy is the claim that a visit by the Prime Minister to the CJI's home for a religious event sends an "uncomfortable message," as stated by RJD leader Manoj Jha. Congress and other parties argue that this private gathering undermines transparency and raises concerns about the impartiality of the judiciary. However, this criticism lacks substance, especially when contrasted with the historical precedent of similar gatherings involving political and judicial leaders.

### Hypocrisy on Full Display

One of the most striking instances of Congress' selective outrage is their failure to recall that in 2009, then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh hosted an Iftar party that was attended by then Chief Justice KG Balakrishnan. This public event, which took place under the full scrutiny of the media and the public, was not criticized for undermining the separation of powers. Yet today, Congress seeks to differentiate between a public event like an Iftar and a private religious ceremony such as Ganesh Puja, arguing that the latter is somehow more problematic.

Congress' Mumbai unit, in its criticism of the Ganesh Puja, tried to draw a distinction between the two by saying that an Iftar party is a transparent, public event, while a private religious ceremony at someone's residence occurs away from public view. The implication here is that private religious gatherings are somehow more insidious or inappropriate when attended by political figures. This line of reasoning is flawed. Both Iftar and Ganesh Puja are religious observances, significant to millions of Indians. If anything, the criticism of the latter while ignoring the former reveals a deep-seated bias and a lack of consistency.



### BJP's Rebuttal: A Lesson in Secularism

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was quick to point out this hypocrisy. BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla rightly highlighted that "attending Ganesh Puja is no crime," emphasizing that the Congress has a long history of engaging in similar practices, but now seeks to demonize the Prime Minister for something as benign as attending a religious function. Union Minister Bhupender Yadav also hit back, stating that the sight of the executive and judiciary praying before Gods revered by millions of Indians reflects the strength of India's secular fabric.

India's brand of secularism is unique. It is not about rejecting religion or denying its place in public life but about respecting and embracing the diverse religious practices of its citizens. The Prime Minister attending Ganesh Puja, just like previous Prime Ministers attending Iftar or Christmas celebrations, exemplifies this inclusive form of secularism. To single out one event while condoning others exposes Congress' hypocrisy and raises questions about its motives.

### A Flawed Argument on Separation of Powers

One of the most bizarre aspects of this controversy is the suggestion by some opposition leaders that the Chief Justice should recuse himself from hearing cases involving the government simply because of this visit. Sanjay Raut, a senior aide to former Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, even questioned how

many homes the Prime Minister has visited and implied that such visits cast doubts on the judiciary's independence.

This argument is not only absurd but undermines the basic principles of trust in the judiciary. The Chief Justice of India, like any other citizen, is free to invite whomever he wishes to his home for religious ceremonies. Attending a Ganesh Puja does not suddenly make the CJI beholden to the Prime Minister, nor does it compromise his ability to adjudicate cases impartially. Such suggestions diminish the respect for the judiciary and create unnecessary distrust.

### Political Opportunism at Its Best

The Congress' attempt to politicize a simple religious observance exposes its desperation and hypocrisy. By selectively criticizing Prime Minister Modi's visit to the CJI's home for Ganesh Puja, while conveniently forgetting similar gatherings during its own tenure, the Congress undermines its credibility. India is a deeply religious country, and political leaders attending religious ceremonies, whether public or private, is not unusual. What is unusual is the opposition's sudden outrage and the inconsistency with which they apply their standards. In the end, this controversy reveals more about Congress' opportunistic politics than it does about any genuine concern for the separation of powers or the integrity of the judiciary. The party would do well to remember its own history before leveling baseless allegations.

## Rahul Gandhi's Responsibilities as LOP: A Caution on Foreign Soil

Each time Rahul Gandhi embarks on a trip abroad, especially to Western nations, his speeches and comments often create ripples back in India. Whether it's his recent visit to the U.S. or previous trips to Europe, Gandhi has developed a reputation for making statements that stir controversy. However, this time there is added gravity to his words. Rahul Gandhi is no longer just a Congress MP or a member of the Gandhi family; he now holds the constitutionally significant position of Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha. This role not only increases the weight of his words but also calls for greater responsibility, especially when addressing international audiences.

### A Global Platform with Serious Implications

While opposition leaders in democratic countries often criticize ruling governments, doing so on foreign soil can have deeper repercussions. Audiences abroad, particularly those unfamiliar with the intricacies of Indian politics, may take his statements at face value. This can create a skewed or negative perception of India, a country that has recently emerged as one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

Rahul Gandhi's tendency to criticize not just Prime Minister Narendra Modi but also India's institutions, its people, and even its development progress on foreign platforms has become a concerning trend. His speeches are often interpreted as disparaging his own country rather than offering constructive criticism of government policies. This becomes problematic, as these platforms do not allow for an Indian domestic audience to fact-check or respond from their lived experiences, leading to a one-sided narrative that risks damaging India's global image.

### Praise for China, Criticism of India

During his recent U.S. visit, Gandhi went so far as to praise China's advancements while simultaneously downplaying India's. He appeared indifferent to whether he wanted India to adopt China's political model or whether his portrayal of China's development was factually accurate. This type of rhetoric sends confusing signals about his vision for India and raises questions about the purpose of such comparisons.

The BJP and its supporters have been quick to capitalize on these statements, often framing Gandhi as a habitual offender of undermining India on foreign soil. When similar comments are made domestically, Indian citizens can form their own judgments. However, on an international platform, where many lack the context to understand the complexities of India's political landscape, these remarks can have unintended consequences.

### Misrepresentation of Minorities

Perhaps the most controversial of Gandhi's recent remarks involved a question posed to a Sikh member of the audience in the U.S. He suggested that Sikhs in India face discrimination when it comes to wearing religious symbols like turbans or the tradi-

tional Kada. Such statements are not only misleading but also invoke painful memories of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots—a dark chapter in India's history, for which Congress itself has faced severe criticism. Ironically, Gandhi's remarks were immediately endorsed by Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, a known Khalistani separatist and anti-India activist. This endorsement should have prompted Gandhi to reconsider the potential ramifications of his comments, yet it was brushed aside.

While it is true that India has faced challenges in its long history with communal harmony, Gandhi's portrayal of the present situation is largely inaccurate. India today is a thriving democracy with an immense diversity of cultures, languages, and religions. His comments on American soil paint a picture of rampant religious persecution, which could not be further from reality.

### Allegations About Indian Elections

Another contentious point raised by Rahul Gandhi was his claim that India's recent elections were "heavily controlled." Such remarks are a repeat of the narrative he pushed during his visit to London last year when he questioned the state of Indian democracy and urged Western nations to take note. Given that India is the world's largest democracy, such statements not only undermine the legitimacy of the election process but also discredit the millions of voters who actively participate in shaping the country's future. It is ironic that the very institution he questions, Indian democracy, has allowed him to hold significant positions of power over the years.

### Ignoring Caste Realities in Jammu and Kashmir

Another topic of his speeches abroad is the ongoing caste survey in India, which he describes as an "x-ray" of Indian society. Gandhi frequently discusses this issue in states like Bihar, but his narrative conspicuously leaves out regions like Jammu and Kashmir, where caste-based reservations were denied until the abrogation of Article 370. This selective omission points to a political agenda that oversimplifies India's complex caste dynamics to suit his messaging.

### Conclusion

As Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi's words carry considerable weight, especially on the global stage. His statements have the potential to influence international perceptions of India, for better or worse. While it is natural for opposition leaders to criticize government policies, doing so in a way that disparages the country and its institutions on foreign platforms is irresponsible. Gandhi must realize that his position demands a more balanced, thoughtful approach—one that criticizes constructively without misrepresenting his country or providing ammunition to forces that seek to harm India's image.

If Gandhi is to live up to the responsibilities of his role, he must exercise caution and mindfulness, particularly when speaking to international audiences unfamiliar with the subtleties of Indian politics.





## Jagdish Tytler Pleads 'Not Guilty' in 1984 Anti-Sikh Riots Case, Trial to Begin in October

Congress leader Jagdish Tytler, accused of murder during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, pleaded 'not guilty' to charges of murder and provocation with intent to cause a riot on Friday. The charges relate to the killing of three men outside Delhi's Pul Bangash gurdwara during the violent riots that followed the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards.

The case, which has seen a delay of nearly four decades, will now move to trial, with the next hearing scheduled for October 3. Tytler, out on bail granted by a sessions court on a bond and surety of ₹1 lakh each, faces multiple charges, including unlawful assembly, rioting, disobedience to orders, and mischief by fire. The court had previously directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to frame charges based on sufficient evidence presented by the federal agency.

During Friday's hearing, Advocate HS Phoolka, representing the victims, expressed his disappointment at the delay in the trial. "It has taken 40 years for this trial to begin. It is very unfortunate and shows how a powerful person can cripple the whole system. Hopefully, the trial will conclude soon, and he will be jailed," he remarked.

The CBI, in its chargesheet filed in May last year, accused Tytler, then a Member of Parliament, of inciting and provoking a mob near the Pul Bangash gurdwara in November 1984, which led to the deaths of three men. Several eyewitnesses have claimed to have seen Tytler at the scene, urging the mob to carry out his instructions.

Tytler, however, has consistently denied the charges, stating there is no evidence against him. "If there is evidence against me, I'm prepared to hang myself," he said in August last year. Jagdish Tytler's involvement in the 1984 riots has long been a point of controversy for the Congress party, with opposition parties accusing the party of shielding its leaders. In 2012, then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh issued a public apology for the riots, followed by apologies from senior Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi.

## Siddaramaiah Calls for 9-State Strategy Session on Central Fund Allocation

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has written to the Chief Ministers of eight states, urging a joint strategy session to negotiate a fairer financial deal for states that contribute more to the Central government's coffers. The states include Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, and Punjab. Siddaramaiah argues that wealthier states are being unfairly penalized for their economic success, which undermines cooperative federalism and threatens the financial autonomy of progressive states.

Siddaramaiah's Kerala counterpart, Pinarayi Vijayan, has expressed support, emphasizing the need for these states to unite and fight for a fairer share, warning that fiscal federalism is under threat.

The appeal comes ahead of the 16th Finance Commission's finalization of the criteria for devolution of Central funds. Finance ministers from Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Punjab have already met in Thiruvananthapuram to form a consensus on their recommendations to the Commission.

Southern states, which contribute 30% of India's GDP but house only 19.6% of its population, have seen their share of tax devolution drop. Karnataka receives just 15 paise for every rupee it contributes to the Union, while Kerala and Tamil Nadu get 25 and 29 paise, respectively. In contrast, Uttar Pradesh receives ₹2.73 and Bihar ₹7.06 for every rupee they contribute.

The states demand an increase in their share of Central taxes, from the current 41% to 50%. They also argue that demographic discipline and good governance should not be punished, and Centrally sponsored schemes should be reduced to allow more local spending.



## Arvind Kejriwal Granted Bail After 6 Months, Restricted from Office and Signing Files

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has been granted bail by the Supreme Court after nearly six months in jail following his arrest by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the alleged liquor excise policy case. The Supreme Court ruled that Kejriwal's prolonged incarceration "amounts to unjust deprivation of liberty."

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader can now leave jail, having already secured bail in a related case filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. However, his release comes with significant restrictions. Kejriwal is barred from going to his office, the Delhi Secretariat, or signing files without the consent of Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena.

In a hearing held on Friday morning, a bench comprising Justice Ujjal Bhuyan and Justice Surya Kant delivered separate verdicts on Kejriwal's pleas but agreed that he must be released from jail. Kejriwal had also challenged the CBI's arrest, terming it an "insurance arrest" as it came shortly after he was granted bail in the ED case. On this matter, the judges differed, with Justice Kant finding no issue with the CBI's arrest, while Justice Bhuyan questioned the timing of the agency's actions.

However, both judges agreed that keeping Kejriwal in jail without a trial was unjust, noting that the completion of the trial was unlikely in the near future. The court's ruling echoed earlier decisions in similar cases, such as those involving former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and Telangana leader K. Kavitha, who were also released on bail under similar circumstances.

Justice Bhuyan strongly emphasized the legal principle that "bail is the rule, jail is the exception," criticizing the CBI's urgency in arresting Kejriwal when he was about to be released in the ED case.

Reacting to the decision, Kejriwal's wife, Sunita Kejriwal, expressed her relief and accused the BJP of attempting to jail opposition leaders to stay in power.



## Kattar Beimaan, Bail Wala...": BJP Criticizes Arvind Kejriwal's Bail

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has been granted bail by the Supreme Court after six months in Tihar Jail, but with significant restrictions. The court ruled that Kejriwal cannot visit his office or the Delhi Secretariat while on bail, nor can he sign off on government files without the Lieutenant Governor's consent. The BJP swiftly reacted to the court's decision with sharp criticism. BJP leader Gaurav Bhatia derided Kejriwal as "kattar beimaan" (outright dishonest) and "bail wala" (bail man), stating, "The Supreme Court has shown a mirror to Arvind Kejriwal. He has now moved from 'jail wala' to 'bail wala.'" The BJP has also reiterated its demand for Kejriwal's resignation, questioning his morality and fitness for office.

Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva echoed these sentiments, arguing that Kejriwal should step down if he cannot perform his duties due to the bail conditions. The court had earlier ruled on the charges against Kejriwal, with differing opinions on the legality of the CBI's arrest. Justice Surya Kant found no issue with the arrest, while Justice Ujjal Bhuyan questioned the timing.

Kejriwal was first arrested by the Enforcement Directorate on March 21, and later by the CBI on June 26. His legal team has criticized the CBI's actions as an "insurance" move to keep him in custody. In contrast, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) celebrated Kejriwal's release, with his wife Sunita Kejriwal and other party leaders expressing joy and relief. AAP MP Raghav Chadha welcomed Kejriwal back, stating, "Welcome back, Arvind Kejriwal, we missed you!"



## Port Blair Renamed as Srivijayapuram, Reflecting India's Freedom Struggle

**TPN, New Delhi:** In a significant move, the capital of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Port Blair, has been renamed Srivijayapuram. Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the decision, stating that the name change is a symbolic move to shed colonial legacies and honor India's freedom struggle.

"Port Blair represented colonial tendencies, while Srivijayapuram signifies the triumph of our freedom movement and the unique role that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands played in it," Amit Shah said. He emphasized the historical importance of the islands, noting their profound contribution to India's independence.

Amit Shah further highlighted that the islands were once a naval base for the Cholas, an empire known for its maritime strength. Today, Andaman and Nicobar Islands have become a strategically significant base for India, strengthening the country's naval capabilities.

The Home Minister also reminded the nation that it was here, in the Andaman Islands, that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose first hoisted the Tricolor flag, marking a pivotal moment in India's independence journey. He also referenced the Cellular Jail in Port Blair, where freedom fighter Veer Savarkar was imprisoned, underscoring the deep historical connection between the islands and the freedom movement.

## Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Travels By Local Train in Mumbai, Engages with Commuters

On Friday, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw took a ride on Mumbai's local train network, engaging with commuters to understand their concerns. Boarding the suburban train at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 2:34 PM, Vaishnaw traveled 27 kilometers, alighting at Bhandup station at 3:18 PM.

Vaishnaw, who was in Mumbai for an awards ceremony, chose a second-class coach on the Ambernath-bound slow local train. During the journey, he interacted with passengers who raised issues regarding the need for increased services and frequent disruptions.

Addressing the media onboard, Vaishnaw highlighted 12 major projects underway in the Mumbai metropolitan region, costing ₹16,240 crore. These projects aim to add 301 kilometers of tracks, including the 5th and 6th lines between CSMT-Kurla, the 6th line between Mumbai Central-Borivali, and several other key expansions. He assured that these developments would enhance the commuter experience by increasing capacity and reducing delays.

Central Railway General Manager Dharam Veer Meena and other officials accompanied Vaishnaw during the trip. The minister is also set to visit a Ganesh mandal as part of the ongoing Ganesh festival celebrations.

## Conspiracy Theories Spark as Kamala Harris's Debate Earrings Attract Attention

In the wake of the fiercely contested US presidential debate between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump, conspiracy theories have emerged regarding Harris's choice of earrings. The debate, which drew an audience of 67.1 million television viewers according to Nielsen data, generated widespread reactions on social media from notable figures such as Taylor Swift and Elon Musk. However, a claim made by Trump supporters has since taken center stage.

The controversy revolves around speculation that Harris wore clip-on audio headphones disguised as her pearl earrings during the debate. Some claimed that the earrings were in fact Nova HI Audio Earrings, a Bluetooth device designed to resemble jewelry, made by Icebach Sound



Solutions. The company's managing director, Malte Iversen, added fuel to the rumor when he told tech outlet *\*Tom's Guide\**, "We do not know

whether Mrs Harris wore one of our products. The resemblance is striking," while humorously suggesting the creation of a male version for

Trump, with the color orange posing a design challenge.

Despite the viral claims, experts and fact-checkers have clarified that Harris's earrings were not Bluetooth devices but the Double Pearl Hinged Earrings from Tiffany & Co., priced at around \$800. In contrast, Icebach's audio earrings retail for approximately \$625. Harris, who has previously criticized Bluetooth earpieces as security risks, was often seen using wired earbuds during her campaign. This incident is reminiscent of similar conspiracy theories that surfaced during the 2020 and 2016 election cycles, where allegations were made that Joe Biden and Hillary Clinton used earpieces during debates against Trump. The heightened scrutiny surrounding Harris's appearance in the debate highlights the growing

mistrust and speculation in political arenas.

In a surprising twist, Icebach Sound Solutions has embraced the media frenzy, announcing plans to address the rumors in a forthcoming interview on *\*The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon\**. The company revealed that they had received numerous interview requests and chose Fallon, describing him as a "trusted Bavarian in heart," for their live appearance.

Meanwhile, Trump appears to have rejected any further debate with Harris, taking to Truth Social to announce, "THERE WILL BE NO THIRD DEBATE!" For now, the viral speculation surrounding Harris's earrings seems destined to remain a humorous footnote in an otherwise heated political landscape.



### Taylor Swift Endorses Kamala Harris for 2024 Presidential Election, JD Vance Responds

Pop icon Taylor Swift has publicly endorsed Kamala Harris for the 2024 Presidential Election, voicing her support for the Democratic Vice President in an Instagram post on Tuesday. Swift praised Harris as a "steady-handed, gifted leader," adding that Harris embodies the calm and leadership the country needs. Swift's endorsement has gained widespread attention, drawing nearly 10 million likes.

In her post, Swift urged her followers to research candidates before making their decisions, sharing that she had done her own research and concluded that Kamala Harris was the leader she believed in. She also took the opportunity to endorse Minnesota Governor Tim Walz for reelection.

Swift signed off her post by dubbing herself a "childless cat lady," a direct jab at Republican JD Vance, who once sarcastically referred to Democrats as a "bunch of childless cat ladies" in a 2021 interview.

Vance, now Donald Trump's running mate for the 2024 election, responded during a Fox News appearance. While acknowledging Swift's musical success, Vance dismissed her political influence, calling her a "disconnected billionaire" whose endorsements do not reflect the struggles of middle-class Americans. He argued that economic issues, such as rising grocery and housing prices, don't impact Swift the way they do most Americans.

Donald Trump also weighed in, stating simply, "I'm not her fan."

Swift's endorsement marks her continued activism in U.S. politics, encouraging her massive following to make informed decisions in the upcoming election.



### Biden to Host Fourth In-Person Quad Summit in Delaware on September 21

President Joe Biden is set to host the fourth in-person Quad Leaders Summit in Wilmington, Delaware, on September 21, focusing on strengthening strategic cooperation and advancing a shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific region. The White House confirmed the attendance of key Quad leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, and Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan.

"This will be President Biden's first time hosting foreign leaders in Wilmington as president—a reflection of his deep personal relationships with each of the Quad Leaders, and the importance of the Quad to all of our countries," White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement on Thursday. The Quad, a diplomatic partnership among the United States, Australia, India, and Japan, has become a cornerstone of the Biden administration's strategy in the Indo-Pacific region. Since its inaugural leaders' summit at the

White House in 2021, the group has held annual summits and frequent meetings at various levels, including eight gatherings of the Quad Foreign Ministers.

According to the White House, the upcoming summit will highlight "bolstering the strategic convergence among our countries" while addressing key issues such as health security, maritime security, disaster response, infrastructure, emerging technologies, climate change, clean energy, and cybersecurity.

By hosting this summit, President Biden continues to emphasize the administration's priority of elevating and institutionalizing the Quad partnership. The meeting also underscores the shared commitment of Quad nations to upholding a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific, countering growing regional challenges. The next Quad Summit will be hosted by India, further strengthening collaboration between the four nations in key areas affecting the Indo-Pacific region.

## Brazilian Aircraft Maker Embraer Seeks Indian Suppliers for Defence



Brazilian aircraft manufacturer Embraer is looking to expand its supply chain by partnering with suppliers from India across its defence, commercial aviation, and executive jet businesses. The company, which already has a significant presence in the Indian market with 44 aircraft in operation, views India as a strategic hub for its growth.

A high-level delegation from Embraer is concluding its visit to India this week, exploring potential Indian suppliers for various critical areas, including aerostructures, machining, sheet metal, composites, forgings, wire harnesses, and hardware and software development, according to a company release on Thursday.

"India has a robust aviation and defense industry, and we see strong viability for manufacturers and systems developers in India to be key suppliers to Embraer," said Roberto Chaves, Executive Vice-President of Global Procurement and Supply Chain at Embraer.

The move comes as Embraer seeks to tap into India's growing expertise in aviation and defense manufacturing. The company also hinted at a potential collaboration with Indian conglomerate Mahindra for the local supply chain program, which could involve the assembly of Embraer's C-390 aircraft in India, should the aircraft be selected for future defense programs.

The visit underscores Embraer's commitment to deepening its ties with Indian industries across its commercial, executive, and defense segments, as it continues to identify key partners in India to enhance its global supply chain.



## Markets End with Modest Losses Amid Global Uncertainty

### IT, Metal, and PSU Banks Shine Despite FMCG Decline

Indices, which touched lifetime highs in the previous session, ended with moderate losses on Friday. International markets have received mixed signals. Investors have acted with caution. Not inclined to buy. As a result, Sensex fell by 71 points and Nifty by 32 points. The market in BSE is in favor of buyers. 2483 stocks rose and 1473 fell. The rupee gained 7 paise to settle at 83.90 against the dollar.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 82,962 in the previous session, opened at 83,091 today. It touched an intraday low of 82,653, peaked at 83,092. It eventually closed down 71 points at 82,890. The NSE Nifty opened at 25,430 and touched a low of 25,292 and a high of 25,430. A total loss of 32 points closed at 25,356. Bank Nifty rose 165 points to settle at 51,938.

In Nifty50, 18 companies gained while 32 lost. Wipro, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, Grasim, Indus Ind Bank were the top gainers. SBI Life, Adani Ports, HDFC Life, ITC, Coal India are the top losers. FMCG, Healthcare, Oil and Gas indices turned red today. IT, Media, Metal, PSU Bank, Realty and Consumer Durables indices were upbeat.



Thermax Ltd has entered into an agreement with Thermax Babcock for a loan of Rs.250 crore. The board approved the expansion of M&M Financial's mortgage business. The Nifty Pharma index touched a lifetime high at 23,495. Axis AMC said it has seen consumption momentum in the FMCG business. Max Healthcare partners with Lakshadweep Group to revive Jaypee Healthcare. Ford Motors is ready to set up a plant in Chennai for exports. 114 crore orders for transformer and rectifiers have been received from RRVPL. The FMCG index touched a lifetime high and the respective shares fell. GE Shipping will sell Suagemax crude tanker built in 2005. Shares of Patanjali Foods fell 3% in heavy trade. Shares of Tata Power hit a one-month high on Tata Motors' fast charging deal. IRCTC shares touched a one-month high as LIC increased its stake to 9.3 percent.

## RBI Governor Comments on CPI Inflation Trends

On Friday, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das addressed the current state of consumer price index (CPI) inflation, noting that despite its recent moderation, there remains significant progress to be made. The Governor's remarks follow a report from the National Statistical Office (NSO) which indicated a slight increase in CPI inflation to 3.65% in August, up from July's five-year low of 3.60%.

Governor Das acknowledged the CPI inflation rate has softened and is now within the RBI's tolerance band of 2-6%. However, he emphasized that while this is a positive development, the inflation rate still has some distance to cover before it aligns with the central bank's comfort zone.

The marginal rise in CPI inflation from July to August suggests a subtle shift, but it remains well within the acceptable range set by the RBI. The RBI continues to monitor inflationary trends closely, considering both domestic and



global economic factors that could influence future adjustments in monetary policy.

Das's comments reflect the RBI's cautious stance as it balances the need to support economic growth while keeping inflationary pressures in check. The central bank's ongoing assessment of inflation trends will play a crucial role in shaping its policy decisions moving forward.

## FORD TO RESUME OPERATIONS IN TAMIL NADU WITH FOCUS ON EXPORTS

Ford Motor Company is set to resume operations in Tamil Nadu, signaling a significant shift after a brief hiatus. The American automaker has submitted a 'Letter of Intent' to the Tamil Nadu Government, marking a positive development following its cessation of sales in India in 2021 and halt of exports in 2022.



This decision follows a fruitful discussion between Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin and Ford's leadership in the U.S. Ford announced that it will re-purpose its Chennai plant to focus primarily on exporting to global markets. While specific details on manufacturing activities remain undisclosed, this move represents a strategic adjustment in Ford's India operations.

Ford's presence in Tamil Nadu has been significant, with over 12,000 employees. The company's plan to restart operations is anticipated to create an additional 3,000 jobs over the next three years, boosting the local economy.

Sources from the industries department revealed that Tamil Nadu's proactive engagement with Ford's leadership played a crucial role in this decision. Industries Minister T.R.B. Rajaa's visits to the U.S. since 2023 showcased the state's advancements in automotive and electric vehicle sectors, which helped persuade Ford. The Tamil Nadu government's assurances of a smooth reintegration into the Indian market were pivotal in finalizing the deal.

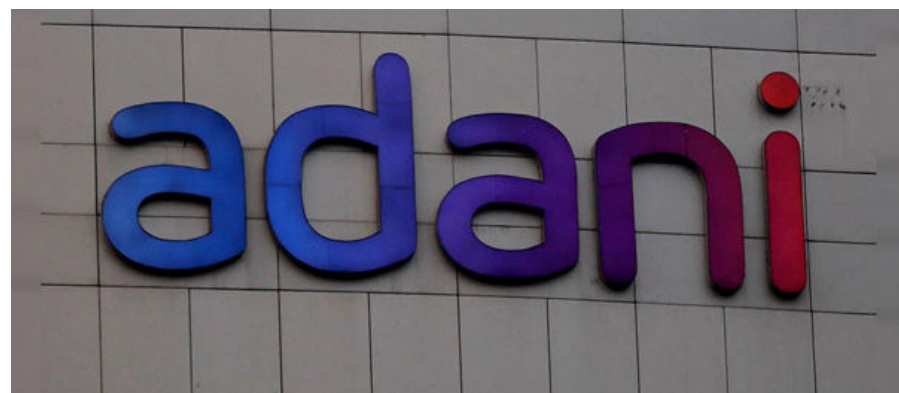
Ford had requested six months to decide on its return to India, and the recent developments reflect the success of Tamil Nadu's efforts in attracting major automotive investments.

## Adani Group Recognized in TIME's World's Best Companies 2024 List

The Adani Group has been honored in TIME's World's Best Companies of 2024 list, created in partnership with Statista, a leading global industry ranking and statistics platform. This recognition underscores the Adani Group's dedication to employee satisfaction, revenue growth, and sustainability, reflecting the company's ongoing efforts to excel and innovate across its various businesses.

The World's Best Companies 2024 list is compiled based on three key criteria: employee satisfaction, revenue growth, and sustainability. Of the 11 Adani Group companies listed, eight were evaluated for this accolade. The remaining three are subsidiaries of these eight, according to the conglomerate's announcement.

The Adani Group companies recognized in the list include Adani Enterprises, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Adani Green Ener-



gy, Adani Energy Solutions, Adani Total Gas, Ambuja Cements, Adani Power, and Adani Wilmar Limited.

The survey for this list was conducted in over 50 countries, involving around 170,000 participants who assessed companies based on direct and indirect recommendations, work conditions, salary, equality, and overall company image. The evaluation focused on companies with revenues surpassing \$100 million in 2023 and demonstrated growth from 2021 to 2023.

The sustainability aspect was measured using standardized ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) from Statista's ESG Database, along with targeted research.

The final ranking score was calculated by combining the scores from all three dimensions equally, resulting in a maximum of 100 points. The top 1,000 companies with the highest scores were named among the World's Best Companies 2024 by TIME and Statista.

## SEBI Introduces Centralised Fee Collection Mechanism for IAs and Ras

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has announced the launch of a Centralised Fee Collection Mechanism (CeFCoM) for registered investment advisors (IAs) and research analysts (RAs), which will be optional for clients. This new system allows clients to pay fees to IAs or RAs through a designated platform or portal managed by a recognized administration and supervisory body (ASB).



become operational from October 1, 2024.

SEBI's circular highlights that the CeFCoM has been developed in collaboration with BSE Ltd and various stakeholders. This centralized system aims to streamline fee payments and enhance transparency in transactions between clients and financial advisors.

According to a circular issued on September 13, 2024, the operational framework for this mechanism will be specified by BSE Ltd before September 23, 2024. The mechanism is set to

## Crude Prices Hit Near Three-Year Low, Impact on Inflation and Economy

Brent crude oil prices are bearing a three-year low, trading around \$70 per barrel. This decline has led to a 6 percent drop in the Indian crude basket in September compared to the previous month, and prices are now 21 percent lower than last year's levels. While the decrease in crude oil prices is expected to help control wholesale inflation, its ultimate effect on consumer inflation will depend on how much of the savings are passed on to consumers.

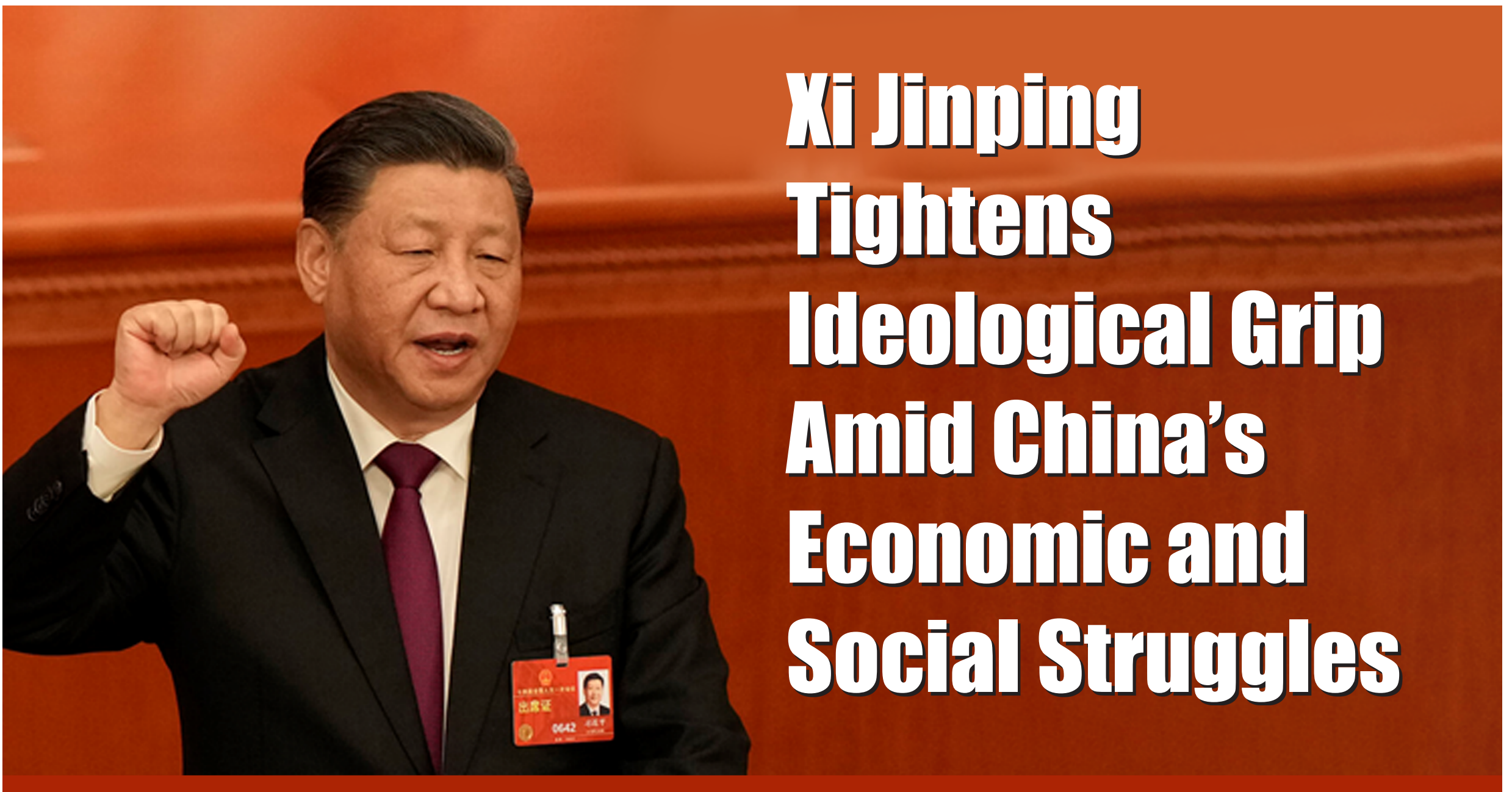
The current low prices of crude oil are likely to benefit the government by reducing the current account deficit and boosting revenues. However, there are potential downsides. Lower crude oil prices could impact fiscal mathematics by



reducing nominal growth, which in turn could affect the fiscal deficit, as it is calculated as a percentage of nominal GDP.

Moneycontrol explores these dynamics through four key charts, providing insight into how the decline in oil prices could influence various aspects of the economy, including inflationary pressures and fiscal policy.





# Xi Jinping Tightens Ideological Grip Amid China's Economic and Social Struggles

In a series of sweeping initiatives, China under President Xi Jinping is moving to tighten its ideological grip over civil society, education, and even the military, signaling a shift towards more intense state control. From introducing digital identification for internet users to reshaping the education system and solidifying military discipline, Xi's policies reflect his vision of "national rejuvenation" and the preservation of the Communist Party of China's (CPC) dominance.

## Digital Identification: Strengthening Online Control

One of the most notable developments is the proposal to introduce digital identification for Chinese netizens. Spearheaded by China's Cyberspace Administration and the Ministry of Public Security, this initiative aims to replace real identities with digital IDs for online profiles. While authorities argue this move is intended to protect users' personal data from being stored by private platforms, concerns have emerged about the potential for increased state surveillance and control over online activities.

## Education as an Ideological Battlefield



The education sector is a crucial arena for Xi's ideological ambitions. In recent months, the CPC has rolled out new regulations aimed at improving the status of teachers while ensuring their alignment with Party principles. With over 18 million educators in China, the new guidelines not only seek to enhance their skills but also ensure they adhere to the Party's line, pushing educators to instill a strong sense of nationalism in students. This drive coincides with Xi's broader project of "national rejuvenation," in which education is seen as a tool for molding a workforce that fits his vision of a modern Chinese economy.

Xi's speeches, particularly his Teachers' Day address, stressed the need for political training in classrooms. His focus on fostering a "sense of community" for the Chinese nation, through the use of official language

and symbols, is a clear attempt to align education with his ideological objectives. By emphasizing the importance of ideological guidance, Xi seeks to cement the Party's influence over future generations, ensuring that students become "socialist successors" loyal to the CPC.



## Protecting China from "Hostile Forces"

Xi has also framed his ideological tightening as a defensive measure against external threats. In an article published in the CPC journal "Qiushi", Xi warned of Western efforts to destabilize China through a "color revolution"—a term used to describe uprisings aimed at overthrowing authoritarian regimes. He argued that China's youth are particularly vulnerable to such threats, especially through pop culture and social media, which he believes could be used by foreign intelligence agencies for recruitment and infiltration.

In response, China has introduced new textbooks focused on national security, aimed at weaning students away from potentially subversive influences. These moves are part of a broader strategy to maintain control over public discourse and prevent any form of dissent that could undermine the Party's authority.

## The PLA Under Xi: Restoring Discipline and Loyalty

Xi's ideological oversight extends to the People's Liberation Army (PLA) as well. As chairperson of the Central Military Commission (CMC), Xi has called for a rectification of the PLA, citing "lax discipline" as a persistent problem under his predecessors. Drawing parallels to Mao Zedong's Yan'an Rectification campaign of the 1940s, Xi seeks to strengthen the Party's control over the military by ensuring that only those loyal to the CPC rise through the ranks.

This ideological purification of the PLA underscores Xi's belief that the Party's strength is inextricably

linked to the military's loyalty. The appointment of figures like He Hongjun, who has taken a leading role in political work within the CMC, reflects Xi's determination to staff the PLA with individuals who are not only capable but also ideologically aligned with the CPC.

## An Economy in Decline: The Real Trigger for Control

Xi's tightening grip comes at a time when China's economic fortunes are faltering. The country's GDP growth has struggled to meet targets, with factory output stagnating and real estate sales hitting an 18-year low. Unemployment has risen sharply, particularly among the youth, prompting the government to stop publishing unemployment statistics altogether. Labour unrest has also increased, with strikes and protests becoming more frequent.

The economic slowdown, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, has led to growing social unrest, as seen in the widespread demonstrations in December 2022 against harsh COVID restrictions. In response, the Party has doubled down on control, seeking to preempt any further challenges to its authority.



## A Bid for Survival

Xi Jinping's ideological tightening across various sectors of Chinese society is a calculated response to the growing economic and social challenges facing the nation. By increasing control over the internet, education, and the military, Xi is ensuring that the Party remains the central force in Chinese life, even as discontent rises. His fear of a "color revolution" and the collapse of Party authority, as seen in the Soviet Union, drives these efforts. As China's economy continues to struggle, Xi's grip on power is likely to become even firmer, with ideological control playing a key role in the Party's survival.



## Meta Rolls Out Verified Badges and AI Tools for WhatsApp Business



Meta has unveiled new features aimed at boosting credibility and efficiency for small businesses on the WhatsApp Business app. Key updates include the full rollout of verified badges and advanced AI tools designed to enhance customer interactions.

The introduction of verified badges will help small businesses establish trust and authenticity with their customers. This feature, which is now fully available, allows businesses to gain credibility and stand out in the crowded digital marketplace. In addition, Meta has spotlighted its AI tools that simplify customer engagement by enabling businesses to automate interactions and streamline messaging.

Meta is also enhancing the WhatsApp Business app with customized messaging capabilities. Businesses can now send personalized messages using customers' names and include customizable call-to-action buttons. The new tools also offer scheduling options for message delivery, allowing businesses to plan communications more effectively.

In a significant move, Meta is launching the WhatsApp Bharat Yatra initiative, aimed at reaching tier 2 and 3 cities across India. This outreach program will provide in-person training for small businesses, covering account setup, catalogue creation, and ad management to help them maximize their use of WhatsApp for business purposes.

Sandhya Devanathan, Vice President of Meta India, highlighted the growing importance of WhatsApp for business communications in India. "The way we WhatsApp a business has only continued to grow. The manner in which Indians are WhatsApping businesses is second to none," she noted.

## Bangkok's World Gourmet Festival: A Fusion of Culinary and Mixology Excellence



Bangkok, a city where spiritual traditions harmoniously coexist with vibrant modernity, is gearing up for the 24th edition of the World Gourmet Festival. This year's event, running from September 24 to September 29 at the Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel, promises to showcase a blend of high culinary art and innovative mixology, reflecting the city's commitment to both spiritual depth and enjoyment.

The festival will feature 16 world-renowned chefs, who collectively hold 30 Michelin stars, bringing their exceptional culinary skills to the forefront. Alongside these culinary masters, the event will highlight an enhanced mixology program, featuring guest bartenders from Asia's and the World's 50 Best Bars. This addition is set to enrich the festival experience, offering a vibrant fusion of gastronomy and cocktail craftsmanship.

Mark O'Sullivan, Vice President of F&B Asia for Minor Hotels, expressed enthusiasm about this year's lineup, noting, "We're excited to elevate this year's festival by welcoming world-class mixologists alongside our extraordinary lineup of Michelin-starred chefs. It not only enriches the experience for our guests but also highlights Bangkok's rise as a top-tier global destination for fine dining and innovative mixology."

The Aqua Bar at the Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel will be a focal point, featuring guest shift bartenders who will take over the bar each night of the event, offering unique and creative cocktails. This integration of fine dining and mixology underscores Bangkok's status as a hub of creativity and culinary excellence.

## Foods That May Increase Your Risk of Diabetes

Diabetes is a chronic condition where the body either doesn't produce enough insulin or can't use it effectively, leading to high blood sugar levels. Certain foods can raise the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes by causing blood sugar spikes and increasing insulin resistance. Here are some foods to watch out for:

Drinks like sodas, fruit juices, and energy drinks are loaded with added sugars and calories but offer little nutritional benefit. Regularly consuming these beverages can cause rapid increases in blood sugar, boost insulin resistance, and contribute to weight gain, all of which heighten the risk of Type 2 diabetes.

Products made with refined grains, such as white bread, white rice, and pastries, lack fiber and essential nutrients due to processing. These foods have a high glycemic index and cause quick blood sugar spikes. Frequent consumption can lead to insulin resistance and increase diabetes risk over time.

Sausages, hot dogs, and bacon are high in saturated fats, sodium, and preservatives. These elements can lead to weight gain and inflammation, potentially impairing insulin function and



affecting blood sugar regulation.

French fries, fried chicken, and doughnuts are high in unhealthy trans fats and saturated fats, which contribute to inflammation and elevated cholesterol levels. These factors can increase insulin resistance and raise diabetes risk.

Candies, cookies, and cakes are packed with refined sugars and unhealthy fats. Regular consumption can lead to blood sugar spikes, insulin resistance, and weight gain, all of which are risk factors for diabetes.

Flavored yogurts, ice creams, and

sweetened milk drinks contain added sugars and artificial sweeteners that can elevate blood sugar levels. Regular intake can lead to insulin resistance and weight gain.

White potatoes, particularly when mashed or fried, have a high glycemic index. Consuming them often can cause blood sugar spikes and increase insulin resistance.

Chips and crackers are high in refined carbs, unhealthy fats, and added sugars. Frequent consumption can cause blood sugar spikes and weight gain, increasing diabetes risk. To lower

## CCI Report Accuses Amazon and Flipkart of Anti-Competitive Practices



India's Competition Commission (CCI) has released extensive reports accusing Amazon and Flipkart of breaching local competition laws. The investigations, which span over 2,700 pages, assert that both e-commerce giants engaged in practices that unfairly favored select sellers on their platforms, thus disadvantaging others.

According to the reports, Amazon and Flipkart promoted specific sellers with whom they had business agreements, allowing these sellers to appear higher in search results. This preferential treatment, the CCI found, led to an "ecosystem" where other sellers were pushed out of the spotlight.

The findings, dated August 9, conclude that ordinary sellers were relegated to "mere database entries" while preferred sellers enjoyed advantages such as enhanced visibility and lower costs for marketing and delivery services. The reports also highlight the impact of these practices on competition, noting that deep discounting—particularly in the sale of mobile phones—constituted "predatory pricing" and harmed market dynamics.

The CCI's investigation was spurred by a complaint from the Delhi Vyapar Mahasangh, an affiliate of the Confederation of All India Traders, which represents millions of retailers. CAIT has welcomed the findings and plans to escalate the matter to the federal government.

## Swiggy's Nostalgic Late-Night Snack Post Takes You Back

Swiggy has recently struck a nostalgic chord with food lovers by revisiting a beloved late-night snack. In a playful nod to childhood cravings, the food delivery platform shared a recipe that's sure to spark fond memories. The snack in question? A simple yet delightful combination of salty crackers and cheese.

Swiggy's latest post features a mouthwatering creation that harks back to pre-delivery days when late-night food enthusiasts had to get creative in their kitchens. The snack is crafted by layering cheese between two crackers, then topping it with a dollop of tomato ketchup. The result is a treat reminiscent of Jim Jam biscuits, but with a savory twist.

The image, posted on Swiggy's X (formerly Twitter) page, showcases a plate of these snackable delights, perfectly arranged to entice late-night snackers. The accompanying caption humorously reads, "My red flag is saying 'aaj dinner nahi karna mummy,'" which translates to "My red flag is saying 'I'm not having dinner tonight, Mom.'" This playful message captures the essence of late-night indulgence and the joy of creating simple, comforting snacks from everyday ingredients.



## Excitement Surrounds Launch of iPhone 16 in Malaysia

Apple's unveiling of the iPhone 16 series has once again captivated global attention. Fans worldwide eagerly flock to Apple stores for the latest models, often waiting for hours. The recent launch event at Apple's Cupertino headquarters and their new Kuala Lumpur store in Malaysia was no exception. The new lineup includes the iPhone 16, iPhone 16 Plus, iPhone 16 Pro, and iPhone 16 Pro Max.

A viral video highlights the fervor surrounding the event at Apple's first Malaysian retail location in the Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) business district. The video, which has garnered over 5 million views, shows hundreds of custom-



ers waiting eagerly outside the store. The caption reads, "This is the line for Apple The Exchange TRX. Doors opening at 10 am," emphasizing the anticipation.

The special "Jom Discover" event celebrating the store's opening featured

various attractions, such as photo ops with Smashpop, a live performance by De Fam, drawing tutorials on iPads, and creative sessions with Internet personality Adam Lobo using Macs. These activities likely contributed to the lengthy queues.

The long wait times generated mixed reactions online. One user questioned, "Why can't they just wait for 2 days and get a phone without standing in line for hours?" Another user joked, "Android users laughing in the corner while eating an apple." Some expressed frustration with the wait, with one comment stating, "Look I like iPhone also. It's reliable. But I can wait for availability online. This is crazy."



# India start preparation for home Test series in Chennai

Following a well-deserved month-long break, Rohit Sharma's Indian cricket team has resumed training in Chennai, gearing up for the upcoming two-Test series against Bangladesh. The team gathered at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Friday to commence their preparations under the guidance of head coach Gautam Gambhir.

The first Test of the series is set to begin on September 19. The squad, which includes key players Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, has reunited for the start of this crucial series. Joining them are new additions to the coaching staff: South African fast bowling legend Morne Morkel, who has been appointed as the new bowling coach, and assistant coach Abhishek Nayyar.

The team's focus will be on fine-tuning their strategies and skills as they prepare to face Bangladesh. The integration of

Morkel into the coaching setup is anticipated to bring valuable insights and expertise, particularly in enhancing the team's bowling attack. Morkel's experience and success as an international bowler are expected to provide significant benefits as India seeks to assert dominance in the upcoming series.

With the squad now assembled and the coaching staff in place, India is set to embark on an intensive preparation period leading up to the series opener. The training sessions at the MA Chidambaram Stadium will be crucial for the players to acclimate themselves and strategize for the challenges ahead.

As anticipation builds for the series against Bangladesh, the focus will be on ensuring that the team is well-prepared and in peak condition to deliver strong performances and secure victory in the Tests.



## Cristiano Ronaldo Surpasses 1 Billion Social Media Followers

Cristiano Ronaldo has set a new social media record by becoming the first individual to surpass 1 billion followers across various platforms. The football legend, currently playing for Al-Nassr in Saudi Arabia, achieved this milestone on September 13, 2024.

Ronaldo's popularity has surged with the launch of his new Instagram channel, contributing significantly to this record. As of Thursday, the 39-year-old's total follower count on social media platforms reached an unprecedented 1 billion, a feat unmatched in history. His YouTube channel, a recent addition, has also made waves, crossing 50 million subscribers within just one week.

Among his social media achievements, Ronaldo boasts over 639 million followers on Instagram, the largest portion of his total count. He also has 170.5 million followers on Facebook and 113 million on X (formerly Twitter).

In a heartfelt message celebrating this landmark, Ronaldo expressed his gratitude to his fans. "We've made history - 1 BILLION followers!" he wrote. "This is more than just a number; it's a testament to our shared passion, drive, and love for the game and beyond."

Reflecting on his journey from Madeira to global football stages, Ronaldo acknowledged the unwavering support of his followers. "From the streets of Madeira to the biggest stages in the world, I've always played for my family and for you, and now 1 billion of us stand together," he continued. "You've been with me every step of the way, through all the highs and lows. This journey is our journey, and together, we've shown that there are no limits to what we can achieve."

Ronaldo concluded with optimism about the future, promising more successes and milestones ahead.

## India on Verge of Historic Test Cricket Milestone



India's cricket team is on the cusp of a historic achievement as they prepare to face Bangladesh in the first Test of their two-match series in Chennai next week. A win would secure India's 179th Test victory, surpassing their number of losses in Test history for the first time since their debut in 1932.

Currently leading the World Test Championship (WTC) standings with 68.52 percentage points, India's success in this series could cement their position at the top. Australia is close behind with 62.50 percentage points. Bangladesh, having recently climbed to fourth place with 45.83 percentage points, will be a formidable opponent, especially following their impressive performance against Pakistan.

The Indian squad, led by Rohit Sharma and recently overseen by new head coach Gautam Gambhir, convened in Chennai for their preparations. Gambhir, who took over from Rahul Dravid in July, will lead the

team in his first Test series in the role.

India's current Test record stands at 178 wins and 178 losses, with 222 matches drawn out of 579 played since their Test debut. Securing a victory against Bangladesh would mark a significant milestone for Indian cricket, demonstrating their progress and consistency in the sport.

The second Test of the series will take place at Green Park in Kanpur on September 27. The series is crucial not only for historical reasons but also for accumulating vital WTC points as India navigates a demanding 10-match Test season, which includes series against New Zealand and a five-match Border-Gavaskar series in Australia.

The Indian squad for the first Test includes key players like Rohit Sharma (C), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant (WK), and Jasprit Bumrah, among others.

## Hockey Rivals Face Off in Asian Champions Trophy

India and Pakistan, renowned for their intense cricket rivalry, are set to renew their competitive spirit on the hockey field. Their last encounter saw India triumph over Pakistan with a decisive 10-2 victory. Now, just three months after their cricket clash in the T20 World Cup, the two teams will face each other again in the Asian Champions Trophy.

This highly anticipated match will serve as the final round-robin game of the tournament, adding to the rich history of their hockey rivalries. Historically, India has had the upper hand in recent encounters, and they are expected to start as favorites. However, Pakistan, known for their resilience and skill, is in strong form and poised to challenge the Indian team, led by captain Harmanpreet Singh.

As the teams prepare for this showdown, fans can expect another memorable chapter in this storied hockey rivalry.



## Rohan Bopanna to Make Tennis Premier League Debut in Season 6

Grand Slam champion Rohan Bopanna is set to make his debut in the Tennis Premier League (TPL) for its sixth season, scheduled to take place in Mumbai this December. Bopanna, currently ranked World No. 6 in men's doubles, will bring his extensive experience and impressive credentials to the league, which aims to transform the sport with its innovative format.

At 44, Bopanna joins the TPL after a distinguished career that includes two Grand Slam titles—the 2024 Australian Open in men's doubles and the 2017 French Open in mixed doubles. He has also represented India in three Olympic Games, achieving his best finish of fourth place in Rio 2016. Notably, Bopanna is the oldest player to have reached World No. 1, a title he claimed earlier this year. He joins a select group of Indian tennis legends including Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi, and Sania Mirza, who are also supporters of the league.

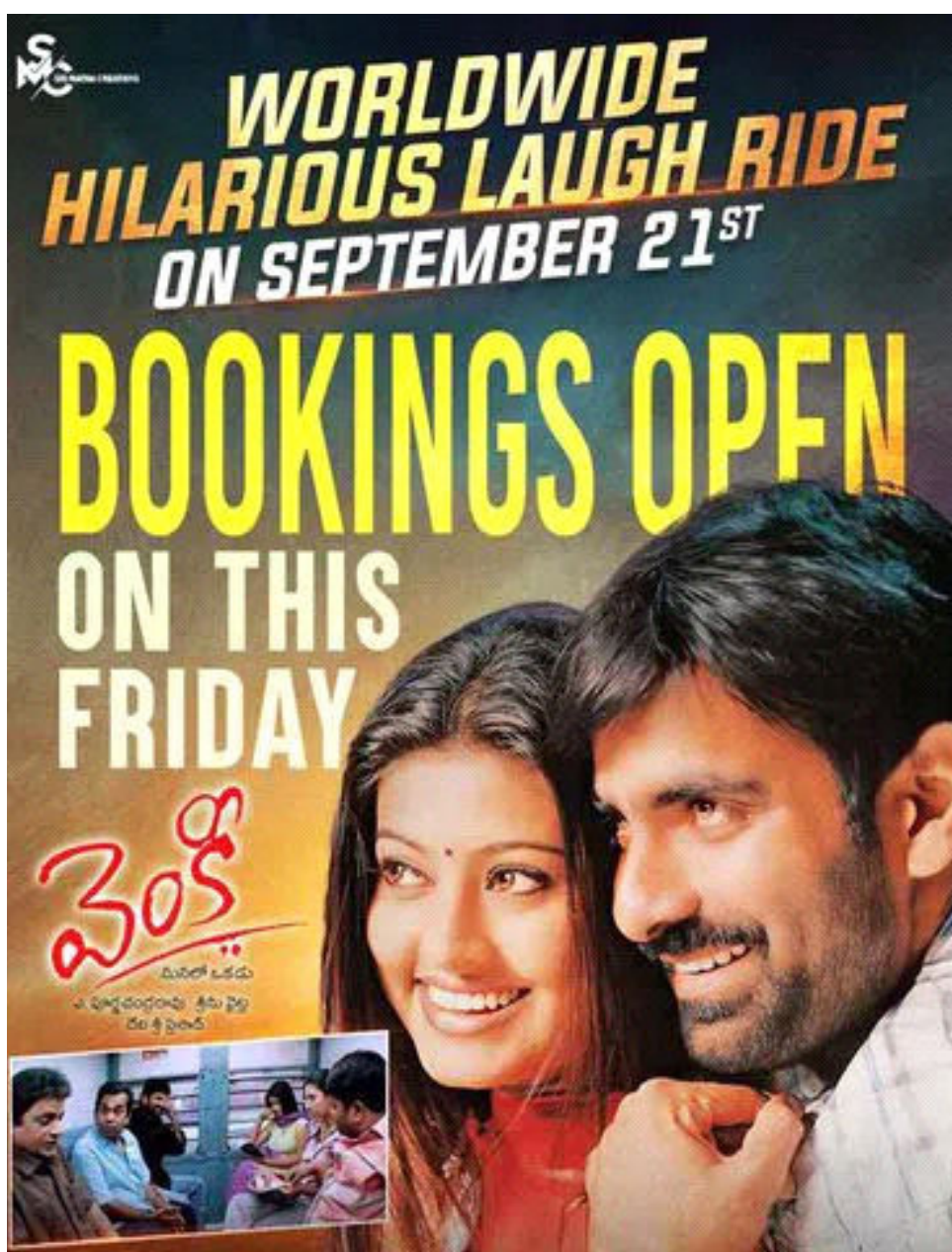
The TPL, which has completed five successful seasons, will feature a revamped 25-point format this year. Each franchise will play five matches in the league stage, with points awarded across different categories—Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Mixed Doubles, and Men's Doubles. A total of 100 points are at stake in each match, contributing to a maximum of 500



points during the league phase. The top four teams will advance to the semi-finals.

Bopanna will compete alongside players like Sumit Nagal, France's Hugo Gaston, and Armenia's Elina Avanesyan at the Cricket Club of India. "I'm thrilled to join the Tennis Premier League and its unique 25-point format. It's a fantastic way to end the year," said Bopanna, emphasizing his belief in the league's role in inspiring young players.

Kunal Thakur, Co-Founder of the TPL, expressed excitement about Bopanna's participation, noting that his presence will elevate the league's profile and inspire other players. Mrunal Jain, also a Co-Founder, added that Bopanna's involvement would attract significant attention both in Mumbai and globally.



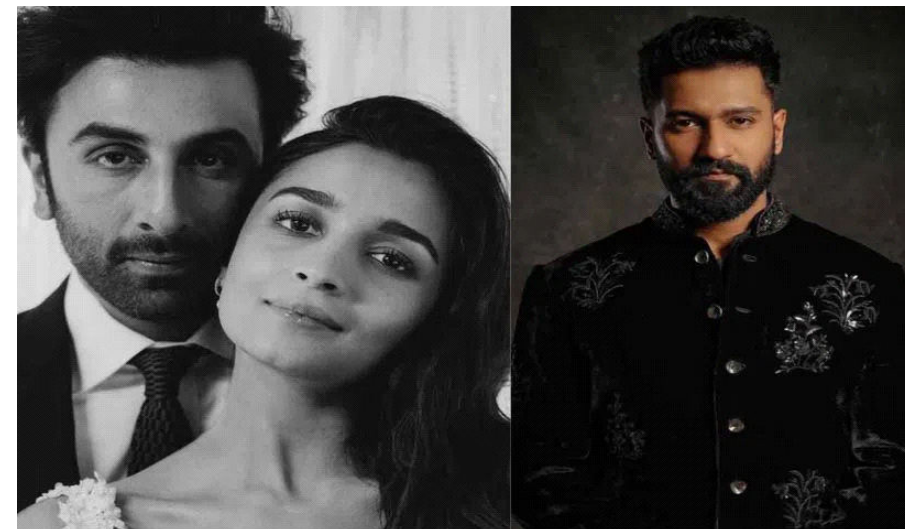
## Ravi Teja's Venky Returns to Theaters on September 21

Ravi Teja fans are in for a treat as his 2004 hit *\*Venky\** is set to make a grand return to theaters on September 21. Celebrated as one of the most entertaining films in Teja's career, *\*Venky\** remains a favorite among his admirers, renowned for its successful mix of action and comedy.

Sri Matha Creations, the film's production house, confirmed the re-release through their social media channels. Directed by Sreenu Vaitla, *\*Venky\** features a captivating screenplay crafted by the renowned writing duo Kona Venkat and Gopi Mohan. Their work was instrumental in the film's original success and continues to endear it to audiences.

The film's previous re-release in December was met with a fantastic reception, underscoring its lasting appeal. Given the continued enthusiasm from fans, *\*Venky\** is set to hit the big screen again, offering a fresh opportunity for both new viewers and long-time fans to experience its action-packed adventure once more.

The re-release of *\*Venky\** is expected to revive the excitement and nostalgia associated with the film, providing a new generation of moviegoers with a chance to enjoy this cult classic.



## Epic Saga 'Love and War' Sets Release Date for March 2026

The highly anticipated epic saga *\*Love and War\**, starring Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, and Vicky Kaushal, has officially set its release date for March 20, 2026. Directed by the renowned Sanjay Leela Bhansali, the film is scheduled to debut during a peak holiday period, coinciding with major festivals such as Ramzan, Ram Navmi, and Gudi Padwa.

This strategic release date aims to capitalize on the extended holiday season, offering audiences an ideal opportunity to experience Bhansali's latest cinematic venture. Known for his grand and opulent filmmaking style, Bhansali's projects are celebrated for their visual splendor and emotional depth. His films typically feature elaborate set designs, intricate costumes, and sweeping camera movements that transport viewers into immersive worlds.

Bhansali's previous work includes the critically acclaimed *\*Gangubai Kathiawadi\**, a biographical crime drama starring Alia Bhatt, and the period drama series *\*Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar\**, which explores the lives of tawaifs in Lahore during the Indian independence movement. *\*Heeramandi\** features a star-studded cast, including Manisha Koirala, Sonakshi Sinha, and Aditi Rao Hydari.

*\*Love and War\** marks the second collaboration between Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor, following their 2022 action-adventure film *\*Brahmastra: Part One-Shiva\**. Alia Bhatt was recently seen in the romantic comedy *\*Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani\**, directed by Karan Johar.

With Bhansali at the helm and a stellar cast, *\*Love and War\** promises to be a cinematic spectacle that will likely be one of the major highlights of 2026. Fans eagerly await more details about this epic saga as the release date approaches.

## Nani Kicks Off Shoot for HIT 3

Natural Star Nani is diving straight into work with no breaks. After a vigorous promotion campaign for his recent film, *\*Saripodhaa Sanivaaram\**, Nani has begun filming for his new project, *\*HIT: The 3rd Case\**, directed by Sailesh Kolanu.

It was confirmed in *\*HIT 2\** that Nani would headline the third installment of the HIT franchise. The official announcement was recently made with a teaser that showcased Nani in an intense and dramatic role.

The filming for *\*HIT: The 3rd Case\** commenced today in Hyderabad, with the team capturing crucial scenes featuring Nani and the rest of the cast in the initial schedule. The movie is produced by Prashanti Tipirneni under Wall Poster Cinema and Nani's Unanimous Productions. The cinematography is handled by Sanu John Varghese, while the music is composed by Mickey J Meyer.

Fans can anticipate the film's release on May 1, 2025.



## Devara: Part 1 Receives U/A Certification Ahead of Release

Kangana Ranaut's solo directorial, *\*Emergency\**, is still awaiting its release, but excitement is building for another highly anticipated film. *\*Devara: Part 1\**, directed by Koratala Siva and starring Jr NTR, has officially been granted a U/A certificate by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) after making four required cuts.

According to Bollywood Hungama, *\*Devara: Part 1\** received its U/A certification following modifications to the film. The changes primarily involved scenes with intense violence. The film had to alter a scene where a character kicks his wife, another where a character kicks his mother, and a sequence featuring a character sliding down a sword. Additionally, the makers were required to add a CGI disclaimer to a popular scene where Jr NTR is shown riding a shark to clarify that the shark was computer-generated. The film now has a runtime of 2 hours and 58 minutes.

The press release from the film's team highlighted the excitement surrounding *\*Devara: Part 1\**, describing it as a high-octane action drama set in the coastal regions of India. The film is slated for release on September 27. It features Jr NTR in the lead role, with Jahnvi Kapoor and Saif Ali Khan playing pivotal parts. Jr NTR stars as Devara, with Jahnvi Kapoor as Thangam, an island woman, and Saif Ali Khan as the antagonist Bhaira.

Produced by Yuvasudha Arts and NTR Arts, and presented by Nandamuri Kalyana Ram, *\*Devara: Part 1\** has already made headlines for its ticket sales, becoming the fastest Indian movie to sell over 35,000 tickets in North America, including more than 30,000 in the US. This marks a significant achievement for the film and its team, adding to the anticipation for its upcoming release.



## Alia Bhatt and Diljit Dosanjh Reunite for New Song "Jigra"

Actor Alia Bhatt and singer Diljit Dosanjh are set to collaborate once again, eight years after their successful pairing in the 2016 film *\*Udta Punjab\**. On Friday, Alia Bhatt took to Instagram to share a teaser about their new project, *\*Jigra\**, which will feature the duo lending their voices to a song for the film.

The Instagram post included a photo of Alia and Diljit sitting on chairs, their backs facing the camera. The word "JIGRA" was prominently illuminated in front of them. Diljit's chair had the phrase "Sings about kudi (girl)" written on the back, while Alia's chair displayed the words "the said kudi." In the photo, Alia gazed forward, while Diljit turned slightly towards her.

This new collaboration has excited fans who remember their previous work together. Alia and Diljit's dynamic on-screen chemistry in *\*Udta Punjab\** was widely appreciated, and their reunion in *\*Jigra\** is highly anticipated.

In addition to this announcement, there have been other recent promotions related to Alia Bhatt's film, *\*Devara\**, where she and Jr NTR engaged in conversations with Karan Johar to promote their movie.

## Tamil Remake of Panchayat Thalaivettiyaan Paalayam Unveils Trailer

The trailer for *\*Thalaivettiyaan Paalayam\**, the Tamil remake of the popular series *\*Panchayat\**, has just been released. Directed by Naga, known for his work on *\*Marmadesam\** and *\*Ramany vs Ramany\**, this comedy-drama is set to premiere on September 20.

The trailer introduces Siddharth, portrayed by Abishek Kumar, a young man who is reluctantly appointed as the Panchayat Secretary in the remote village of Thalaivettiyaan Paalayam. As he moves to the village, it becomes evident that the area is underdeveloped and far from the comforts of city life. Despite having a female chairperson, her husband is the real power

behind the village's affairs.

Siddharth's initial frustration with the lack of entertainment and social interaction in the village is evident, and the trailer hints at the humorous situations he encounters. The comedy-drama explores the quirky dynamics and power struggles of rural life, showcasing the emotional range of ambition, empathy, and jealousy within this setting. The official synopsis describes the series as follows: "The comedy-drama follows Siddharth (Abishek Kumar), an engineering graduate from Chennai, who is thrust into the role of a village secretary in the remote Thalaivettiyaan Paalayam.

