

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
H 26° C L 23° C	H 29° C L 26° C	H 36° C L 26° C

Owaisi Stands Up for the Poor, Not an Enemy to Congress: CM Revanth

TPN, Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy expressed on Saturday, September 14, that despite AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi's criticisms of the Congress party, he does not view Owaisi as an adversary. He praised Owaisi, referring to him as the "voice of poor people."

At the launch of the book Prophet for the World, Revanth Reddy addressed the pollution issues affecting the Rivers Esa and Musi, stating that efforts are underway to tackle these problems. Additionally, he noted that the state government is compiling a list of individuals affected by the pollution for the purpose of allocating double-bedroom houses to them. He mentioned that the support

of AIMIM has been sought for these initiatives, and the party has responded positively.

Revanth Reddy stated that pursuing different plans and ideas could negatively impact Hyderabad's image. He emphasized that the state government has taken AIMIM's suggestions seriously.

Owaisi Raises Important Issues Affecting the Poor

He remarked that Owaisi raises important issues affecting the poor, particularly among minorities, adivasis, and Dalits in the Lok Sabha. Reddy expressed appreciation for seeing a "fellow Hyderabad" advocate for the underprivileged, noting that

when Owaisi criticizes the Congress, it is seen positively as he is voicing concerns for the community.

Revanth Reddy stated that criticism does not equate to enmity, highlighting the rarity of voices in Parliament that represent the poor, with Owaisi being a notable exception among the 17 MPs. He remarked that there are few representatives who 'genuinely' advocate for the people, noting that an increasing number of business and corporate figures are entering Parliament. He pointed out that these individuals rarely address the concerns of the impoverished. Among the 17 MPs, he highlighted that only Asaduddin Owaisi has emerged as a true voice for the poor.



Telangana Floods Breach 773 Water Tanks Urgent Repairs Estimated at ₹560 Crore



TPN, Telangana: Recent floods and heavy rains in Telangana have caused extensive damage, with the state's irrigation department reporting breaches in 773 water tanks and canals. An estimated ₹560 crore is required for immediate repairs, including ₹75 crore for temporary fixes and ₹483 crore for permanent restoration of damaged water bodies and canals.

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy has directed officials to prioritize repairs of breached water tanks, lakes, pump houses, and check dams to ensure the water supply for farmers during the ongoing Kharif season. He emphasized that urgent measures are needed to protect irrigation infrastructure from further damage.

The department noted that the left canal of Nagarjuna Sagar at Kagitham Ramachandrapuram was breached due to backwaters from the Palair reservoir. Additionally, 285 minor irrigation sources have also suffered damage.

During a recent review meeting, Minister Reddy highlighted several deficiencies observed during his inspections, particularly the lack of consistent monitoring of regulators and shutters at key irrigation projects. He also reported that a shutter of an irrigation project had been swept away during the lifting of the gates, raising concerns about the safety of these structures.

The minister issued a stern warning, stating that chief engineers would be held accountable for any future incidents related to the failure of irrigation infrastructure. Urgent tenders for repairs have been called to expedite the process.

"Don't think that only you know how to govern" - Minister Ponnam

TPN, Telangana: Minister Ponnam Prabhakar responded to BRS Party Working President KTR's concerns over the law and order situation in Hyderabad. Speaking in Karimnagar, he questioned KTR, asking, "Does KTR want there to be no law and order in Telangana?"

He further stated, "Don't we know what has happened in the last ten years? We know how to handle law and order in Telangana. Don't think that only you have the ability to govern. We can govern better than you."

Minister Prabhakar assured that all arrangements for the Ganesh Maha Nimajjanam in Hyderabad have been completed, and that everything has been organized to ensure the immersion takes place in a satisfactory and peaceful atmosphere. He also mentioned that the secretariat would function at full capacity on the immersion day, clarifying that unlike in the past when the secretariat was closed on the immersion day, this time, it would remain open. He criticized the BRS leaders for raising unnecessary concerns about the event.

He urged the opposition to wait until after the Ganesh Nimajjanam if they had any issues to discuss. He called for refraining from political comments until the 18th and stressed that everyone should focus on making the Ganesh Nimajjanam program a success, urging political restraint until then.

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar made these comments while inspecting the arrangements at the Manakondur pond in Karimnagar, in preparation for tomorrow's (September 16) Ganesh immersion.



'I Nominate Best Supporting Actor to...' KTR Mocks MLA Defections



TPN, Hyderabad: In a jibe at state IT Minister Sridhar Babu, Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) working president KT Rama Rao (KTR) on Sunday, September 15, mocked the latter, suggesting he should be nominated for the "Best Actor in a Supporting Role" award for disowning turncoat MLAs.

KTR sarcastically referred to Sridhar Babu as "Mr. Over Smart Minister" and questioned his logic, asking, "Is your 'Chittanaidu' (Chief Minister Revanth Reddy) still in TDP or has he fully crossed over to Congress? Even if we assume you are right, who is the fool who went to our BRS MLA's

homes and welcomed them into his party with Congress scarves? Why such shameless politics?" he asked in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

The Congress has distanced itself from the ongoing tensions between Public Affairs Committee chairperson Arekapudi Gandhi and BRS Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy. KTR mocked the Congress's stance and questioned its integrity.

Highlighting the party's double standards, KTR asked why the Congress was desperate to poach BRS MLAs and then deny the same. "Why all this drama?

Are you afraid of losing posts?" he questioned, ridiculing the Congress's inability to claim the defected MLAs as their own. "I pity the Congress leaders for not being able to embrace the defected leaders and call them their own party members," he said.

KTR also accused the Congress of attempting to deceive the judiciary as the deadline for the disqualification of defected BRS MLAs was set for just four weeks. He cautioned that while the Congress might try to deceive the Telangana High Court, they would not be able to fool the people of Telangana.



TPN, Telangana: Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, accompanied by IT Minister Sridhar Babu, inaugurated the foundation for 33/11 KV substations in Medaram and Katke npalli villages on Saturday, September 14.

During a public meeting in Dharmaram Mandal, Vikramarka announced that Telangana is targeting the generation of 20,000 MW of green power by 2029-30. He emphasized that the government's achievements serve as a rebuttal to those who claimed that power supply would diminish if Congress regained power in the state.

Vikramarka also highlighted a pilot initiative providing solar power panels to farmers for their pump sets, which is being rolled out in 25-30 villages. "This program will allow farmers to sell any excess solar energy produced back to the government, integrating it into the state grid. Additionally, households in selected

villages will receive solar panels, with similar arrangements for surplus energy generation," he added.

Vikramarka revealed plans to revive the Ramagundam thermal power plant using supercritical technology, a project that had been stalled by the previous administration. He announced that the foundation for an 800 MW plant at Ramagundam, with an investment of Rs 10,000 crore, will be laid soon.

The Deputy Chief Minister emphasized the Congress government's achievement of crediting Rs 18,000 crore for farm loan waivers, contrasting it with what he described as "massive corruption" under the BRS government. Additionally, Vikramarka mentioned that the Congress government had released Rs 18 crore for the long-awaited R&R package for Dharmaram and nearby areas.

Dy CM Announces 20,000 MW Power Generation Target



HC Grants Relief to Medchal Officials Facing HYDRA Complaint

TPN, Hyderabad: Justice K. Sujana of the Telangana High Court has ordered the state government and HYDRA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath to refrain from arresting K. Srinivasulu, an assistant director in the Survey and Land Records Department of Medchal district, and another employee, Phool Singh.

Both individuals are facing FIRs filed by the Cyberabad police following a complaint from HYDRA.

During the hearings, the judge noted that the charges against them fall under Section 316(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which pertains to criminal breach of trust. This section stipulates that individuals who commit such offenses while in possession of or having control over property may face imprisonment for life or up to ten years, along with a potential fine. The law applies to those entrusted with property in the course of their business or as public servants.

The judge noted that the complaint filed by HYDRA lacked sufficient evidence to establish a case under the specified section. The other charges against the accused carry lesser penalties, which can be addressed under Section 41-A of the CrPC.

Consequently, the judge instructed the authorities to summon the accused and document their statements, directing them to appear before the authorities. The accused are alleged to have permitted illegal constructions in the floodplain and buffer zones.



Government Deposits Rs 10,000 into Farmers' Accounts..!!

TPN, Telangana: The Telangana government has taken a crucial decision to provide financial assistance to farmers affected by the recent floods. Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy announced that cash will be deposited in the farmers' bank accounts within the next two days. He noted that the floods have caused damage exceeding Rs 10,000 crores, and the government is committed to supporting everyone affected.

State Revenue Minister Ponguleti stated that Rs 10,000 will be given as immediate

aid to farmers whose crops were destroyed due to the heavy rains. He added that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will soon meet with central government leaders to explain the flood damage and seek additional financial assistance. Additionally, special disaster management training will be provided to 100 people from each police battalion as part of efforts to find a permanent solution to flood disasters.

The state government is also providing immediate assistance of Rs 16,500 to each household affected by

the floods. This money is being directly deposited into the beneficiaries' accounts. Khammam district has been the worst affected by the floods, and officials are already in the process of depositing the relief money. Those who have not yet received assistance need not worry, as the government has assured that compensation will be given to everyone. Reports on the flood damage have already been submitted to the central government.

In addition to financial losses,

many flood victims have lost important documents such as land and property papers, Aadhaar cards, and ration cards. To address this, the government has set up special counters at local police stations where people can apply for replacement documents. The government has assured that applications will be processed and duplicate documents will be provided. Furthermore, damaged grain will be purchased by the Civil Supplies Corporation at the minimum support price.

Ganesh Immersion Preparations in Full Swing in Hyderabad

TPN, Hyderabad: Preparations are in full swing for the grand Ganesh idol immersion set to take place on September 17 in Hyderabad. While the city eagerly anticipates the main event, many devotees have already begun immersing their idols, with smaller processions filling the streets over the past few days.

Water bodies such as Hussain Sagar, Safilguda, Saroornagar, NTR Ghat, Sunnam Cheruvu, IDL, and Kapra have seen increased immersion activities as families and communities bid farewell to Lord Ganesha.

The civic body and police have assured that all necessary arrangements are in place at the immersion points and along the routes of the processions. Efforts include filling potholes, removing trees and wires from major roads, and providing baby ponds and portable ponds for nearby locations.

Cranes and specialized vehicles have been stationed at Hussain Sagar and other water bodies to handle larger idols.

To ensure a smooth celebration, the Hyderabad Traffic Police have planned diversions to manage the influx of devotees. Major roads are expected to be busy as families gather to bid adieu to their beloved Ganesha. The Khairatabad Ganesh will make its grand journey to the waters on Tuesday morning, drawing thousands of spectators.



Police Arrest 32 Persons in Connection with Jainoor Violence

TPN, Telangana: The K.M. Asifabad police arrested 32 individuals from two communities in connection with the violence reported on September 4. This violence followed an alleged incident of sexual assault on a tribal woman by an auto driver from another community.

A detailed joint survey was conducted by the district administration, which included officials from the Commercial Tax, Roads and Buildings, Police, Revenue, and Road Transport Authority departments, to assess the extent of the damage during the violence. Officials found that 115 shops were damaged or burned, and 15 vehicles were damaged in arson by rioters.

Advisor to the Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir and Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Mahesh Kumar Goud, who met with a delegation of affected people, assured strict action against those responsible

for the communal violence. They also promised adequate compensation for those affected by the riots.

Jainoor residents submitted a representation to Congress leaders detailing the events of September 4, when violence broke out and caused widespread damage to shops, homes, and religious sites.

In light of the Ganesh immersion, tight security arrangements have been made in Jainoor and surrounding villages to prevent any further communal trouble.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Feroz Khan and his brother Rasheed Khan met Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Dr. Jitender on Sunday, September 15, and requested an impartial probe into the violence. They demanded that the police take stern action against those responsible for the violence and identify the main perpetrator.





Telangana Cabinet Meeting on September 20

Key Decisions Expected, Including HYDRA

TPN, Telangana: A state cabinet meeting is scheduled for September 20 under the chairmanship of Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. The meeting, which will be held at the state secretariat, is expected to approve key ordinances related to the full implementation of farm loan waivers, crop insurance, farmer assurance schemes, and the legalization of HYDRA. Several important decisions on other issues are also likely to be made.

HYDRA, which was established for the conservation of ponds and canals, has so far been operating under just 99 government orders (GOs). However, when HYDRA attempts to remove encroachments in Full Tank Level (FTL) areas, some individuals have blocked its actions by approaching the High Court, arguing that HYDRA lacks the authority to carry out demolitions. In light of this, the cabinet will discuss an ordinance to give HYDRA full legal authority.

On another front, the Telangana government has waived crop loans up to Rs. 2 lakh, but loans exceeding this amount have not yet been cleared. The government is reportedly considering a phased waiver for these larger loans, a plan that will need the cabinet's approval. Addi-



tionally, the government plans to introduce "Rythu Bharosa" to replace "Rythu Bandhu" as a scheme for providing crop investment support. District-wise consultations will be conducted regarding the implementation and any restrictions of this new scheme. As the monsoon harvest season nears its end, the Revanth Reddy-led government is under pressure to implement these measures swiftly. Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has already clarified that only those who have planted crops will be eligible for assistance. The cabinet will discuss this further before making a decision. The state government has also

announced its intention to implement the central government's crop insurance scheme in Telangana.

In addition to these issues, the recent heavy rains and floods have caused severe damage to crops and affected both rural and urban areas. The state government has preliminarily estimated the damage to be over Rs. 10,000 crores. A central team has already visited the flood-affected areas to assess the damage. The cabinet is expected to pass a resolution seeking substantial assistance from the central government to help with flood recovery efforts.

Harish Rao Responds to Revanth Reddy's Comments

TPN, Hyderabad: Former Minister and Sidipet MLA Harish Rao has sharply criticized Congress Chief Minister Revanth Reddy following remarks about his height. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, Harish Rao retorted, "I have grown tall like a palm tree, but you haven't even grown like a betel tree."



Harish Rao expressed frustration over what he perceives as Revanth Reddy's harsh comments. He described the current situation as suffering from two types of floods: the natural floods caused by untimely rains and the "flood of lies" from the Chief Minister. He argued that while natural calamities can be addressed, Revanth Reddy's lies have become overwhelming.

Harish Rao also commented on Revanth Reddy's recent behavior, stating, "If you speak lies and falsehoods, you cannot be polite. Courtesy comes with respectful language and behavior." Harish Rao asserted that no amount of criticism could diminish his stature. He remarked, "No matter how much you curse or criticize, you cannot rise as high as me. Stop focusing on my height and start thinking about the farmers and the state." Harish Rao emphasized that while he has grown "like a palm tree," Revanth Reddy has not achieved comparable growth. He urged the Chief Minister to focus on the well-being of the people rather than personal attacks.

Bandi Sanjay Criticizes Telangana Public Governance Day

TPN, Telangana: Bandi Sanjay, Union Minister of State for Home, has criticized the celebration of Telangana Public Governance Day, calling it instead Telangana Public Deception Day. He expressed strong disapproval of the contrasting behavior of Congress and BRS depending on whether they are in power or not.



Sanjay stated that if Telangana Liberation Day were organized, his party would be willing to participate. He questioned whether people would continue to support parties like Congress and BRS, which, according to him, have not honored the legacy of Telangana's struggle for independence.

He challenged supporters of these parties to reassess their allegiance, especially questioning the admiration for leaders who have made controversial statements, such as Owaisi's comments about Pakistan and Palestine.

Sanjay labeled Congress as the epitome of corruption and misdeeds, contrasting its legacy with that of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who played a crucial role in liberating Telangana through Operation Polo. He argued that if Patel was associated with Congress, then there should be a more substantial celebration of Telangana Liberation Day.

He also highlighted the absence of such celebrations and urged everyone to visit a photo exhibition that he claims will provide insight into the historical context and contributions of various leaders to Telangana's history.

Mahesh takes Responsibilities as TPCC Chief - Key Taks Ahead...

TPN, Telangana: The newly appointed Telangana Congress chief, Mahesh Kumar Goud, has officially taken charge. Revanth Reddy handed over the responsibilities to Mahesh at a ceremony held at Gandhi Bhavan. The All India Congress Committee (AICC) appointed Mahesh after prolonged internal discussions. Now, Mahesh faces several challenges as he prepares to lead the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) alongside Revanth. This has sparked discussions about Mahesh's leadership style and approach.



Several party leaders attended Mahesh Kumar's assumption of office. He arrived at Gandhi Bhavan in a grand rally from his home. AICC in-charge Deepadas Munshi, AICC in-charge secretaries, ministers, and key leaders were present at the event. With the Congress returning to power in Telangana after ten years, Mahesh now holds a critical position as the TPCC chief. One of his major chal-

lenges will be to maintain coordination between the party and the state government, working closely with CM Revanth. Additionally, local body elections are on the horizon, adding pressure to his role.

The AICC is focusing on strengthening the Congress party in the state after its victory in the assembly elections. Every key decision made at the state level must first be approved by the AICC. Despite nine months passing since the elections, many nominated posts have yet to be filled. Furthermore, the high command has not yet permitted the expansion

of the state cabinet. Mahesh will also need to form a new working group for the TPCC. As party president, he faces the difficult task of coordinating with those who were passed over for ministerial positions or PCC leadership roles.

The upcoming local body elections will also be a significant test for both CM Revanth and Mahesh.

Although Mahesh maintains good relations with party leaders, managing senior leaders who are vying for positions will be a challenge. Every step—from candidate selection to securing victory in the local body elections—will be critical for the Congress party's future. Meanwhile, both the BRS and BJP have ramped up their political attacks on Congress, adding further pressure. As Mahesh takes on the task of coordinating the party and countering opposition, his leadership in the run-up to the 2028 elections will be closely watched.

KTR Slams Telangana CM's Rs 10K Cr Loan Plan

TPN, Hyderabad: On Sunday, September 15, Bharat Rashtra Samithi Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) criticized Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's plan to secure a Rs 10,000 crore loan. He accused the administration of neglecting public welfare while implementing disastrous policies.

KTR highlighted that common people suffer due to the state government's indifference. He took to X to criticize the government, accusing it of leaving people homeless due to recent heavy rains and demolitions carried out in the name of encroachments.

"One is a natural disaster, while the other is a Revanth Reddy-mark disaster. What's common? Ordinary people are left on the streets. While those in need are abandoned, this government is busy throwing other voiceless citizens onto the roads. Is this what you call people's governance? Shame!" he remarked.

KTR also raised concerns over reports that the Congress government plans to obtain a Rs 10,000 crore loan by mortgaging 400 acres of land meant for IT and allied industries in Hyderabad.

He warned that such a move could jeopardize the future of Telangana's youth by restricting land availability for new industries and job creation, undermining long-term economic development and opportunities in the state.

"I demand the immediate withdrawal of this dangerous proposal," KTR asserted. He urged the government to rethink its priorities and focus on development rather than mortgaging Telangana's future for short-term financial gains.

MP Etala Rajender Calls for Comprehensive Caste Census Nationwide

TPN, Hyderabad: BJP Malkajiri MP Etala Rajender has called for all states across India to conduct a comprehensive caste census. He emphasized that justice for backward classes (BCs) can only be achieved if all states, including Telangana, participate in this important task.

During an all-party meeting held at the Bashirbagh Press Club on Saturday, chaired by Erra Satyanarayana, President of the Telangana BC Welfare Association, Rajender voiced his concerns. The meeting was convened to urge the state government to announce a schedule for the comprehensive caste census, aligning with manifesto promises.

Rajender highlighted that BCs will only receive fair representation in local body elections if a caste census is conducted. Rajya Sabha member R. Krishnaiah added that a comprehensive caste census is crucial for advocating an increase in BC reservation in local bodies to 42 percent. He also mentioned the possibility of organizing a state bandh if necessary to push for this cause.

Former MP V. Hanumantha Rao expressed that completing the caste census promptly would enhance Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's reputation in the state. He stressed the need to finish the census within three months and announced his intention to write to the Chief Minister about implementing the Right to Education Act in the state.

The meeting saw participation from various leaders, including Dr. Vinaykumar, CPI ML leader K. Govardhan, CPM leader Abbas, TDP leader Rameshwar, and other BC union leaders.

Jainoor Violence: Shabbir Ali Assure Justice

TPN, Telangana: Telangana government advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir and TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud assured on Saturday, September 14, that strict measures would be taken against those responsible for the communal violence that occurred in Jainoor, Asifabad district. They also committed to providing adequate compensation for the victims of the riots. These assurances were made during a meeting with a group of Jainoor residents who visited Shabbir Ali's home.



During the meeting, Goud, who paid a courtesy visit to Shabbir Ali following his recent appointment as TPCC president, also interacted with the victims affected by the violence.

The Congress leaders conducted a phone call with the district collector and superintendent of police to assess the progress of the investigation into the violence. They learned that 110 shops were burned during the riots and that 28 individuals linked to the violence had been identified.

Goud reaffirmed the Congress government's commitment to secularism and stated that the state would not tolerate any form of violence. He also stressed that measures would be implemented to restore peace and rebuild trust in the affected communities.

Residents of Jainoor presented a report to Congress leaders outlining the events of September 4, when violence erupted, resulting in extensive damage to shops, homes, and religious sites.

Prophet Muhammad Showed Path for Entire World: Telangana CM Revanth

TPN, Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy stated that the path shown by Prophet Muhammad is meant not only for Muslims but also for all those striving for peace worldwide. He urged people to be vigilant and counter efforts by those spreading venom and hatred between communities to advance their own political agendas.

Addressing a gathering during the release of the book Prophet for the World by Moulana Khalid Safiullah Rahmani, President of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, on Saturday, Revanth Reddy emphasized the need for a strong opposition to represent the people's voice in the legislature. He praised Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi as one of the rare leaders in the Lok Sabha who consistently voices concerns for the poor.

"I have always been proud of



Asaduddin Owaisi, even when he spoke against Congress. However, few leaders like him now address the issues of the poor. Most MPs come from the business and corporate sectors and neglect the representation of the poor in Parliament," Revanth observed.

He noted that while political parties criticize each other before elections and run their own campaigns, it is crucial for them to cooperate afterward. Revanth expressed his satisfaction with AIMIM's cooperation in efforts to rejuvenate the Esa and Musi Rivers, which have

been polluted. He assured that the Telangana government would allocate 2BHK houses to poor individuals who might need to be relocated due to the Musi River rejuvenation project.

"The people of this state have given two terms each to Chandrababu Naidu, YSR, and KCR, and now they have elected the Congress government. Let us work together over the next ten years to uplift and develop the poor. Whether it is the Bhagavad Gita, the Quran, or the Bible, all religious texts preach the same values. Let us unite, advance the country, and maintain peace in the world," he said.

Moulana Khalid Safiullah Rahmani termed the Prophet's life as the "best model for humanity," stating that the Prophet preached that all humans are children of one God and share a common lineage.

"The Prophet Muhammad said that paradise lies at the feet of the mother and that a wife is a touchstone for a man. If a man does not treat his wife well, he is not a good human. He also preached that the life and blood of non-Muslims are as valuable as that of Muslims, and that Muslims who commit murder or rape against non-Muslims should receive the same punishment as they would for such crimes against their own kind. The Prophet taught respect for the faith of other communities," Rahmani said.

He also highlighted the Prophet's teachings on the humane treatment of animals and plants, noting that the Prophet advocated for kindness towards animals and opposed the burning of trees. Rahmani emphasized that even on the Day of Judgment, if one is holding a plant or tree, they should plant it in the soil.

Telangana: Rs 2.5 Cr Ganja Unearthed After Ambulance Tyre Falls Flat

TPN, Hyderabad: The Kothagudem police intercepted an ambulance and seized ganja valued at Rs 2.5 crore on Sunday, September 15.

The ganja was discovered accidentally when one of the ambulance's tyres got punctured on the Kothagudem-Vijayawada highway. Local youths who noticed the flat tyre stopped to help the driver change it, inadvertently leading to the seizure of the ganja.

The vehicle's registration plate indicated that the ambulance was from Tamil Nadu. When locals inquired about the patient, the driver was unable to provide satisfactory answers. Suspicious, they checked inside the vehicle and discovered ganja packets hidden under a bedsheet. The windows of the vehicle were also covered with black cloth.

The locals apprehended the driver and notified the local police, who quickly arrived at the scene, inspected the vehicle, and took the driver into custody. Reports indicate that the driver attempted to bribe the locals with cash to secure his release, but they chose to inform the police instead.

Based on the preliminary investigation, the ganja is estimated to weigh about four quintals. The police have yet to release an official statement on the incident. It is suspected that the ganja was being transported from Odisha to Tamil Nadu.



Ganesh Pandal Set on Fire in Siddipet; 2 Arrested

TPN, Hyderabad: Two individuals were arrested on Sunday, September 15, for allegedly setting a Ganesh pandal on fire on Saturday night in Siddipet's Dasarlapally village.

The incident occurred in Mulug mandal, causing chaos as people rushed to the scene to find the Ganesh pandal engulfed in flames. Despite their efforts to extinguish the fire, a significant portion of the pandal and the idol was destroyed.

Following a complaint, the police arrived at the village and initiated an investigation. The two suspects have been taken into custody.

In a related tragedy on September 9 in Nizamabad district, a 16-year-old boy, Bhukya Sanjeev, died of electrocution near a Ganesh pandal. The incident occurred while he was helping pack up and carrying the sound system. He suffered an electric shock and was rushed to a hospital in Kamareddy, where he was declared dead on arrival.



Khairatabad IMAX Road Stampede

TPN, Hyderabad: As Ganesh immersion processions continue with grandeur across the country, Hyderabad is experiencing intense immersion activities. Devotees are transporting idols in large numbers to various immersion points. However, the Khairatabad IMAX route is facing a severe stampede as crowds gather to view the massive Ganesh idol.

The scene at Khairatabad is chaotic, with devotees struggling in long queues, and elderly individuals facing severe discomfort. The removal of barricades has made it challenging for the police to manage the crowd effectively. As the midnight hour approaches, lakhs of devotees continue to converge on the area to see the Mahaganapati idol.

In response to the worsening situation, the Utsava Samiti has urged devotees to avoid coming to Khairatabad to help alleviate the crowding issues.



All Eyes on Balapur Ganesh Laddu Auction as Festivities Conclude on Tuesday

TPN, Hyderabad: The annual Balapur Ganesh laddu auction, a much-anticipated event during the Vinayaka Chavithi festivities, is set to take place on Tuesday morning. This year's auction is expected to surpass last year's record bid of Rs. 27 lakh, which was won by Dasari Dayananda Reddy of Turkayamjal. The 21-kg 'Bangaru Laddu' (Golden Laddu) has already sparked interest among devotees and prospective bidders.

Balapur Ganesh Utsav Samithi President, Kallem Niranjana Reddy, confirmed that five new participants had registered by Sunday, with more expected to join by Tuesday morning.

Changes have been made to the bidding process this year, requiring both locals and non-locals to deposit the previous year's successful bid amount as the base amount to participate. Previously,

locals had one year to pay the bid amount. Before the auction, the Balapur Ganesh idol will be offered a grand puja and taken in a procession around the area.

The tradition of auctioning the laddu began in 1994, with local farmer Kolan Mohan Reddy winning the first bid at Rs. 450. His belief that the laddu brought prosperity, after sprinkling it on

his farm and seeing an increase in yield, has made the auction a significant event.

Proceeds from the auction are used for charitable causes, including temple development, infrastructure improvements in local schools, and the installation of CCTV cameras. This year's auction is expected to be another milestone in this long-standing tradition.

Year	Bidder	Balapur Laddu auction: Amount (Rs.)	Year	Bidder	Balapur Laddu auction: Amount (Rs.)
1994	Kolan Mohan Reddy	450	2001	G Raghunandan Chary	85,000
1995	Kolan Mohan Reddy	4,500	2002	Kandada Madhava Reddy	1,05,000
1996	Kolan Krishna Reddy	18,000	2003	Chigirintha Bala Reddy	1,55,000
1997	Kolan Krishna Reddy	28,000	2004	Kolan Mohan Reddy	2,01,000
1998	Kolan Mohan Reddy	51,000	2005	Ibram Shekar	2,08,000
1999	Kallem Anji Reddy	65,000	2006	Chigirinta Tirupati Reddy	3,00,000
2000	Kallem Pratap Reddy	66,000	2007	G Raghunandan Chary	4,15,000
			2008	Kolan Mohan Reddy	5,07,000
			2009	Saritha	5,10,000
			2010	Kodali Sridhar Babu	5,35,000
			2011	Kolan Brothers	5,45,000
			2012	Pannala Goverdhan Reddy	7,50,000
			2013	Teegala Krishna Reddy	9,26,000
			2014	Singi Reddy Jaihind Reddy	9,50,000
			2015	Kallem Madhan Mohan Reddy	10,32,000
			2016	Kandhadi Skylab Reddy	14,65,000
			2017	Nagam Thirupathi Reddy	15,60,000
			2018	Teretipalli Srinivas Guptha	16,60,000
			2019	Kolan Ram Reddy	17,60,000
			2020	Presented to CM	—
			2021	Ramesh Yadav & Marri Shashank Reddy	18,90,000
			2022	Vangeti Lakshma Reddy	24,60,000
			2023	Dasari Dayananda Reddy	27,00,000



Old Classics Make a Big-Screen Comeback: Theatres Bet on Nostalgia

Theatres across India are witnessing an unexpected trend in 2024 – the re-release of old superhit films. In cities like Chennai, films such as *Vaaranam Aayiram*, *Vettaiyadu Vilaiyaadu*, *Kushi*, *Vinnaithandi Varuvaayaa*, and *Ghilli* have drawn large crowds, often outperforming some of the newer releases. This wave of nostalgia has even reached Bollywood, with classics like *Maine Pyar Kiya*, *Gangs of Wasseypur*, *Rehnaa Hai Terre Dil Mein* (RHTDM), and *Jab We Met* creating a buzz once again at the box office.

One of the driving forces behind this trend is the power of nostalgia. Many of these films were released over a decade ago, with fans from Gen Z, who were school children at the time, now eager to relive these cinematic experiences on the big screen. The memories these films evoke, coupled with iconic soundtracks that continue to be popular, create an emotional connection for viewers.

An example of this is *Rehnaa Hai Terre Dil Mein*, which, though not a box-office hit upon its release, has since become a cult classic. Actor R. Madhavan, who starred in the film, recently spoke about the surprising response to its re-release, noting how fans flocked to theatres



despite the movie being widely available on digital platforms. The success of *RHTDM* speaks to the enduring appeal of such films and how they resonate with new and old audiences alike.

The film industry has seen significant changes in recent years, especially post-pandemic, with shifting audience preferences. Big-budget films that were once guaranteed hits are now

struggling, leading producers and distributors to explore new strategies to fill theatres. Nitin Datar, President of the Cinema Owners and Exhibitors Association of India, highlighted how re-released films have been helping theatres engage audiences differently, especially as newly released films fail to draw crowds. This has become an effective way to keep the exhibition industry afloat amidst fewer new films in the pipeline.

Another reason for the resurgence of these old hits is that many films were ahead of their time when they were originally released. *Gangs of Wasseypur*, for instance, did not perform as expected at the box office, possibly due to its raw content and language. However, over time, it has gained recognition as a cinematic masterpiece, particularly for its innovative storytelling and soundtrack. Now, its re-release is garnering the kind of attention it originally missed.

While the re-release trend is doing well, it seems to be largely limited to multiplexes in urban areas rather than rural cinemas. Nevertheless, the big screen experience offers something irreplaceable – a sense of collective enjoyment. Despite the convenience of watching films at home, there is something magical about sitting in a theatre, enjoying a classic film, singing along to the songs, and indulging in popcorn.

With fewer new films in production and audiences eager for nostalgic experiences, theatres are betting on this trend to continue, providing both an opportunity for box office success and a chance for audiences to reconnect with the movies that defined their past.

Clean Air And Blue Skies Still Far For India

India continues to grapple with one of the highest levels of air pollution globally, with its capital, Delhi, frequently ranking among the most polluted cities. This poses significant risks to both public health and the country's economy. According to a World Bank report, all of India's 1.4 billion people are exposed to harmful levels of particulate matter (PM2.5), a dangerous pollutant emitted from various sources. As India marks the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on 7 September, the day serves as a reminder of the urgent need for decisive action to address this critical issue.

Delhi's winter season, historically marked by hazardous air quality, looms on the horizon. However, this year, the state government seems more prepared. Last week, the Supreme Court (SC) criticised pollution control boards in Delhi, Punjab, and Haryana for their ineffectiveness. The SC asked the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), the body responsible for managing pollution in the region, for a concrete plan to address the issue, including controlling stubble burning—a significant contributor to air quality deterioration during winter months.

For over four decades, the SC has been at the forefront of efforts to mitigate air pollution in Delhi, with varying degrees of success. Landmark decisions, such as the switch to compressed natural gas (CNG) for public transport, have helped reduce pollution. However, the number of private vehicles has surged, contributing to worsening air quality. Meanwhile, measures like the installation of smog towers, mandated by the SC, have failed to produce significant results.

On 31 August, the CAQM submitted its action plan for 2024 in an affidavit to the SC. The states of Punjab and Haryana, both major contributors to air pollution due to stubble burning, also submitted their targets for achieving "zero paddy residue burning." However, recent data shows a slight increase in paddy cultivation in Punjab, from 3.1 million hectares in 2023 to 3.154 million hectares in 2024, resulting in a corresponding rise in paddy straw production. As these states prepare for the winter season, their ability to manage the additional stubble will be a key factor in determining whether air quality will improve.

One of the SC's more controversial directives was its recommendation to withhold Minimum Support Price (MSP) benefits from farmers who engage in stubble burning. This has become a sensitive issue, particularly in politically significant regions like Punjab, Haryana, and Delhi, where elections are scheduled. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi, which has historically pointed fingers at neighbouring states for the city's pollution problems, faces a challenging test ahead. The annual smog in Delhi-NCR is likely to become a major election issue, with both political parties and the public demanding solutions.

Delhi's Environment Minister, Gopal Rai, recently claimed that pollution in the city had decreased by 30% over the last nine years. Citing a report by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Rai noted that only 31% of the pollution is generated within Delhi, with the rest



coming from neighbouring states. Despite this claim, the AAP government was criticised last year for its failure to effectively address the issue of stubble burning.

Data from Punjab and Haryana indicates a reduction in stubble burning incidents, with Punjab reporting 36,663 cases in 2023, a 27% decrease from 2022, and Haryana showing a 37% reduction. However, these improvements did not translate into better air quality in Delhi-NCR, which remained among the worst in the country last year.

Another major source of pollution in Delhi is vehicular emissions. Recent data from the Delhi Transport Department reveals that out of 8.29 million registered vehicles in the city, 2.62 million vehicles are operating without valid Pollution Under Control Certificates (PUCs). This is concerning, especially given a study by the Delhi government and IIT-Kanpur, which found that vehicle emissions accounted for nearly 38% of Delhi's air pollution in November 2023.

During the winter months, air quality plummets further due to a combination of adverse weather conditions, vehicular emissions, firecrackers, and paddy straw burning. Exposure to air pollution has been linked to numerous health problems, including asthma, bronchitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lung cancer, and cardiovascular diseases. A 2019 study found that air pollution contributed to 1.67 million deaths in India, or 17.8% of the country's total mortality that year.

In response, the Indian government launched the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019, aiming to reduce PM levels through targeted mitigation strategies. However, the programme has not been particularly effective, with many states lacking sufficient air quality monitoring stations and relying on outdated technology. The situation is exacerbated in rural and remote areas, where a lack of awareness leads to poor monitoring and data collection, resulting in significant gaps in AQI measurements.

Elections 2024

The Influence of 'Others' Looms Large Once Again

As India gears up for the 2024 state elections, 'Others'—comprising smaller parties and independent candidates—are once again positioned to play a decisive role in shaping the political landscape. With key states like Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra heading to the polls, the impact of these candidates could be pivotal, particularly in the context of hung assemblies and internal dissent within major parties.

The upcoming elections are set to unfold in phases, beginning with Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana, where the campaigning has intensified. Smaller parties and independents, who have historically influenced election outcomes, are expected to exert considerable influence once more, especially given the recent history of hung assemblies in these regions.

In Jammu & Kashmir, the past three elections (2002, 2008, and 2014) have all resulted in fragmented verdicts, with 'Others' consistently securing a significant portion of the vote share. The upcoming election is no different, with 458 candidates contesting 50 seats, signalling fierce competition. Independents have made notable inroads in the region, and with 25% of the vote share in the last general elections, they remain a force that could tip the balance in a tightly contested race.

Meanwhile, in Haryana, 'Others' have also played a significant role in previous elections, with two of the past five state elections (2009 and 2019) resulting in hung assemblies. While 'Others' won eight seats in the 2019 assembly polls, the local nature of state elections suggests that they could perform better in 2024, despite a reduced presence in the general elections. The potential alliance between smaller parties like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), and the rising number of independents dissatisfied with the major parties, could fracture the vote and disrupt expected outcomes.

Jharkhand, known for producing unpredictable electoral outcomes, has also seen 'Others' take center stage in past elections. In the 2005 and 2009 elections, independents and smaller parties commanded around half of the vote share, and despite their diminishing presence in the 2014 and 2019 elections, they still secured a third of the vote. The state even elected an independent, Madhu Koda, as Chief Minister in 2006, showcasing the potential of 'Others' to rise in a fragmented political environment. With key alliances shifting in 2024, their influence may either diminish or disrupt the plans of the major parties.

Maharashtra, too, has seen the 'Others' leave a mark, with a 25% vote share and significant influence in 86 constituencies in 2019. Regional parties such as the Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi (BVA), All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), and the Vanchit Bahujan Aaghadi (VBA) have the ability to alter the course of elections in several seats, making the 2024 elections a complex affair.

In all these states, 'Others' could once again be kingmakers or spoilers, depending on how the vote splits. With rebellion within major parties and the rise of multi-cornered contests, the 2024 state elections are set to see these smaller players and independents flex their political muscles, potentially influencing the formation of new governments in key states.



PM Slams Congress, Accuses Gandhi Family of Anti-Reservation Agenda

In a rally held in Kurukshetra, Haryana, ahead of the state Assembly elections on October 5, Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the Congress party, specifically the Gandhi family, of opposing reservations for Dalits, Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and tribals. He alleged that the Congress leadership has historically sought to do away with the reservation system. Modi emphasized that as long as he remains in power, he will protect the quota system established by B. R. Ambedkar, stating, "I will not allow a fraction of the reservations to be looted or removed." Modi criticized former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, claiming that he referred to those who received reservations as "fools" and that Congress has always been opposed to the Mandal Commission and other reservation policies. The prime minister also highlighted past incidents of violence against Dalits in Haryana, such as the Gohana (2005) and Mirchpur (2010) incidents, accusing the Congress of remaining silent during these events. He urged the Dalit community to remain vigilant against Congress's



alleged anti-Dalit stance. Modi reiterated his commitment to development and transparency, stating that under the BJP government, over 1.5 lakh jobs were provided in a fair manner, contrasting it with the Congress era of alleged

favoritism. He concluded by promising that the BJP would continue working for "sabka vikas, tez vikas" (development for all, rapid development). Haryana will go to polls on October 5, with results to be announced on October 8.



Opposition Offered To Back Me For PM, But I Asked...': Nitin Gadkari

Nitin Gadkari, however, did not name the Opposition leader.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Saturday revealed that an Opposition leader approached him before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, offering support to make him the Prime Minister. However, he declined the offer, stating that he did not have such an ambition.

"There was a surprising incident. I will not name anyone — that person said, 'If you are going to become Prime Minister, we will support you'," Mr. Gadkari, a senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, said at a journalism awards function in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

"But I asked why you should support me, and why should I take your support? Becoming the Prime Minister is not the aim of my life. I am loyal to my conviction and my organisation, and I am not going to compromise for any post because my conviction is foremost for me," he said.

The 67-year-old leader, who scored a hat-trick by winning the Nagpur seat in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, said he believes that "this conviction is the biggest strength of Indian democracy." In his address, he also emphasized the importance of ethics in both journalism and politics.

Nitin Gadkari has often received praise from the Opposition. He retained the road transport and highways portfolio in the third Narendra Modi government after his stellar work in expanding road connectivity in the country during the first two terms.

Mr. Gadkari entered politics as a student leader in the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) and later joined the Janata Yuva Morcha, the youth wing of the BJP.

He also headed the Maharashtra BJP until 2009, before being elevated as the BJP National President, becoming the youngest-ever party president.

Kejriwal to Resign in 48 Hours, BJP Questions "Why Not Today?"

Responding to Arvind Kejriwal's announcement of resignation, BJP's Harish Khurana questioned why the AAP leader is creating a drama by delaying his resignation.

Two days after being granted bail and released from prison following six months of incarceration, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal made a shocking announcement during a party meeting, stating that he will resign from the top post in 48 hours. "I will not sit on that chair until the people announce their verdict. Elections in Delhi are months away. I got justice from the legal court; now I will seek justice from the people's court," Kejriwal said. He emphasized that he would sit in the Chief Minister's chair only with the people's approval.

Kejriwal also announced that a new Chief Minister from the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) would be chosen within the next two days. He expressed his intent to go to the people to seek their support and called for Delhi's elections, scheduled for February,



to be held in November alongside the Maharashtra polls.

In his address to AAP workers, Kejriwal criticized the Modi government, accusing it of being more dictatorial than the British. He claimed he did not resign earlier to protect democracy. The BJP's Harish Khurana criticized the timing of the resignation, saying, "Why after 48 hours? He

should resign today." Meanwhile, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva noted that the people had already given their verdict during the Lok Sabha elections.

Delhi Congress welcomed Kejriwal's decision, stating it was better late than never and hoping for a new Chief Minister who can effectively handle the city's administration.

"There May Be Nexus": CBI to Court After Cop's Arrest in Kolkata Horror

Dr. Sandip Ghosh and Abhijit Mondal were produced in court today and remanded in CBI custody for two days.

Dr. Sandip Ghosh, former principal of Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College, spoke to Tala Police station's officer-in-charge, Abhijit Mondal, in the hours after a 31-year-old doctor was found dead on the hospital premises. The CBI told a Kolkata court today that there may be a nexus, which needs to be uncovered.

The central agency arrested Mr. Mondal last night on charges of tampering with evidence in the rape-murder case that has shocked the nation. Dr. Ghosh, who was earlier arrested in a financial irregularities case, also faces

charges of evidence tampering.

The two were produced in court today and remanded in CBI custody for two days. The case will be heard again on September 17.

"The FIR was registered at night. We have call records showing communication between the OC and Sandip Ghosh. There may be a nexus, and we need to uncover the case. We want to confront both of them," the CBI's counsel told the court.

"There is no clash between the CBI and the police. We want to get to the truth. For us, he is not a police officer; he is a suspect," the counsel added.

Both the Calcutta High Court and the Supreme Court have questioned the

delay in registering the FIR, which was filed over 14 hours after the doctor's body was found. The courts have asked why the hospital administration, then led by Dr. Ghosh, did not register a police complaint that would have ensured the filing of an FIR.

"He was under an obligation to register the FIR. They tried to downplay it as suicide. There was a lapse on his part. It was a case of sexual assault, and he should have handled it cautiously. He was in conspiracy with other people," the CBI told the court today.

The lawyer for Mr. Mondal responded, "They allege there was a delay. They don't say whether I am an accused or a witness. There is no ground for arrest



here. This is, at best, a case of alleged dereliction of duty. For that, a departmental inquiry could have been done." The CBI clarified that Mr. Mondal is not an accused in the rape and murder case but may have played a role in a larger conspiracy related to an alleged cover-up.

These are the CBI's first two arrests in the rape and murder case following their month-long investigation. Earlier, Kolkata Police had arrested civic volunteer Sanjoy Roy in the case. The CBI took Roy into custody after the High Court transferred the probe to the central agency.

"Will End Bihar Liquor Ban Within One Hour If Elected": Prashant Kishor

Prashant Kishor stated that if the Jan Suraj government is formed, the liquor ban will be ended within one hour.

Ahead of his party's foundation day on October 2, Jan Suraj chief Prashant Kishor vowed on Saturday to immediately end the liquor ban in Bihar if elected to power. While speaking to ANI, Mr. Kishor said, "There is no need for any special preparation for the 2nd. We have been preparing for the last two years... If the Jan Suraj government is formed, we will end the liquor ban within one hour."

When asked about Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav's yatra, he remarked, "My best wishes to him. At least he has come out of the house and is going among the public."

Commenting on the ongoing war of words between the RJD and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, following Tejashwi Yadav's claim that Nitish Kumar had apologized with folded hands for joining the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), Mr. Kishor said both leaders have harmed Bihar. "This issue is between Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav, and it doesn't matter who apologized with folded hands to whom; both have caused damage to Bihar. The people of Bihar have witnessed both

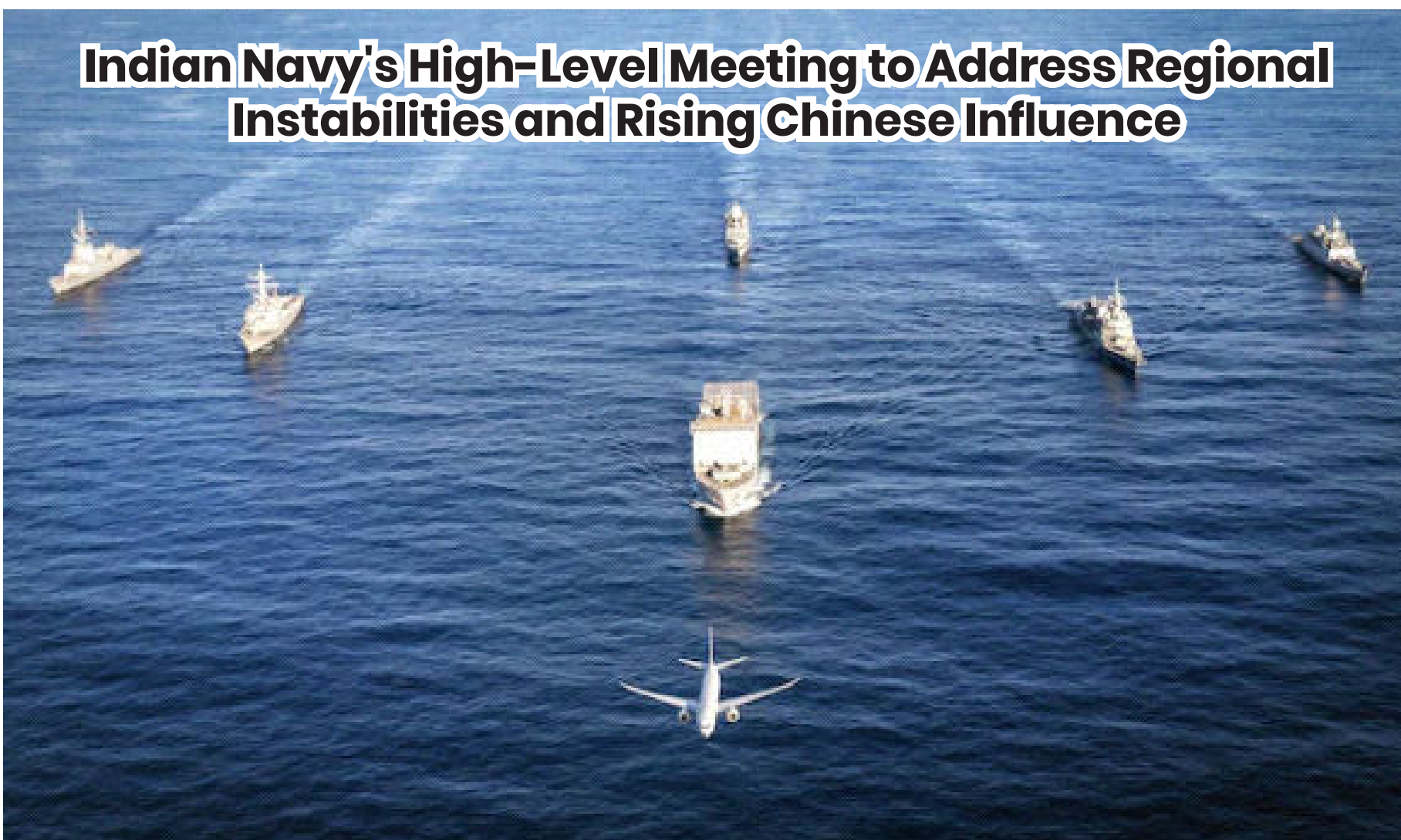
of them for 30 years. We are urging them both to leave Bihar," said Prashant Kishor.

Earlier, Mr. Kishor launched a scathing attack on Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, questioning his ability to lead the state's development. Addressing a gathering in Bhojpur, Bihar, Mr. Kishor said, "If someone could not get educated due to a lack of resources, it is understandable. But if someone's parents were Chief Ministers and he couldn't pass the 10th class, it reflects their approach towards education."

Criticizing Tejashwi Yadav's educational background, Mr. Kishor highlighted the irony, saying, "A 9th-class dropout is showing the way to Bihar's development. He (Tejashwi Yadav) doesn't know the difference between GDP and GDP growth, yet he claims to know how Bihar will improve." Mr. Kishor further questioned Tejashwi Yadav's credentials, pointing out that his only claim to leadership is being the son of former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Yadav and a leader in the RJD due to family ties.

Mr. Kishor argued that Mr. Yadav needs to work hard and prove himself through his actions if he wants to build a reputation beyond being Lalu Yadav's son.





Indian Navy's High-Level Meeting to Address Regional Instabilities and Rising Chinese Influence

Starting Tuesday, the Indian Navy's top commanders will convene at the new Naval Headquarters in Delhi for a critical four-day meeting to assess and respond to emerging security challenges. This high-level conference, the first since Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi assumed the role of Chief of Naval Staff in April, aims to address several pressing concerns, including the recent regime change in Bangladesh and escalating Chinese military activities.

A key agenda item will be the shifting political landscape in Bangladesh, where an in-

crease in extremist radical groups is raising regional security concerns. The meeting will also focus on the growing Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean region and its military support to Pakistan, which has been a point of increasing anxiety for Indian defense officials. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's recent call for heightened readiness in the face of unexpected challenges at the Joint Commanders' Conference in Lucknow underscores the urgency of this gathering. The Navy's strategic review will include discussions on the creation of new theatre commands to enhance

operational efficiency and responsiveness. Admiral Tripathi has directed all naval commanders to ensure peak operational preparedness. The Navy will also evaluate its successful operations in the Gulf of Aden, where it has effectively countered piracy and drone threats earlier this year.

The outcomes of this meeting are expected to shape India's naval strategy and operational focus in the coming months, reflecting the country's commitment to safeguarding its maritime interests amid a complex and evolving regional security environment.



Punjab Police Bust Scam Involving 25 Travel Agencies Offering Fake Jobs Abroad

In a significant crackdown on fraudulent travel agencies, the Punjab Police have lodged FIRs against 25 travel agencies across the state for duping young people with fake job opportunities abroad. The operation, spearheaded by the NRI and Cyber Crime wings of the Punjab Police in coordination with the Protectorate of Emigrants, Chandigarh, has uncovered widespread deceit involving bogus job offers in Western countries and Russia.

The authorities have filed a total of 20 FIRs under Sections 24/25 of the Emigration Act at various NRI police stations in Amritsar, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Sangrur, and SAS Nagar. These agencies were found to be illegally advertising job opportunities on social media platforms, including Instagram and Facebook, promising "guaranteed" employment with questionable or non-existent documentation processes.

Assistant Director General of Police (ADGP) Praveen K. Sinha explained that the agencies involved operated without the necessary licenses and permissions required for legal employment services. "Our investigation involved monitoring online platforms and verifying the credentials of these agencies. Upon confirming their illicit activities, FIRs were registered against them," ADGP Sinha said, according to the Tribune.

The crackdown comes amid increasing incidents of travel agencies facilitating illegal migration to Western nations or even sending youths to Russia for involvement in the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. ADGP Sinha has urged the public to exercise caution and thoroughly verify the credentials of travel agents before sharing personal documents or money.

Missile Fired from Yemen Falls into Central Israel, Escalating Regional Tensions

On Sunday, a missile launched from Yemen fell into central Israel, adding to the already heightened regional tensions amid ongoing conflicts. The Israeli military confirmed that the missile, a surface-to-surface projectile, crossed into central Israel and landed in an open area, causing no injuries. The incident marks a significant escalation as the Gaza conflict continues to draw in various regional actors.

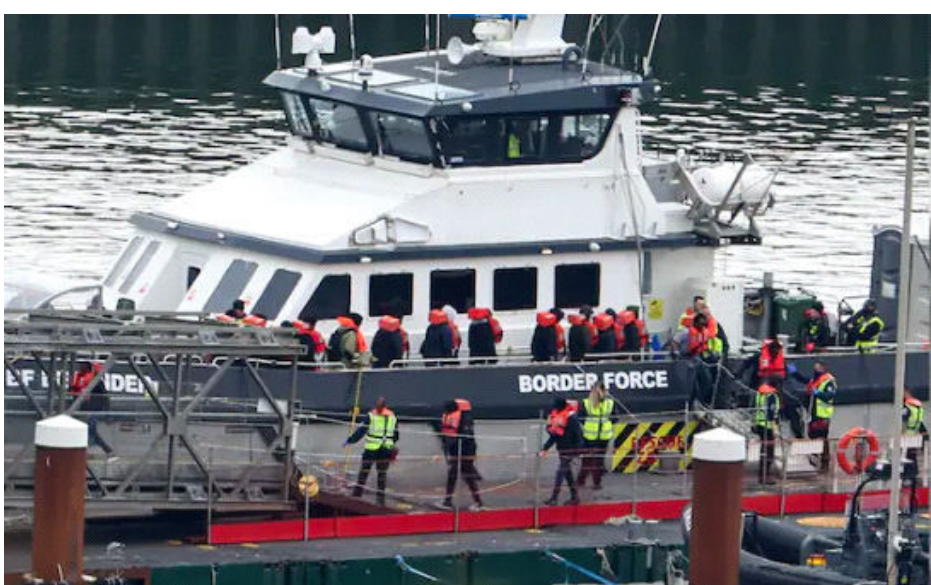
The missile landed near Lod and Modin, both southeast of Tel Aviv. AFP photographers reported that firefighters were seen addressing a brush fire caused by the missile, and broken glass was observed at a nearby train station. While Yemen's Huthi rebels have not officially claimed responsibility for this attack, they have previously engaged in similar actions in solidarity with Palestinian militants. The Huthis, backed by Iran and part of the broader "axis of resistance," have been involved in vari-

ous regional conflicts and attacks on shipping routes, particularly in the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

In response to the missile attack, Israel's military noted that explosions heard were related to air-defense interceptors attempting to address the incoming threat. The situation is under review, and further details about the missile's trajectory and impact are being assessed. The recent escalation comes after a July attack by the Huthis that reached Tel Aviv, leading to Israeli airstrikes on Huthi-controlled facilities in Yemen. This retaliatory strike marked Israel's first direct military action in Yemen. Meanwhile, on Israel's northern front, tensions with Lebanon's Hezbollah continue to escalate. Hezbollah has been involved in regular cross-border exchanges with Israeli forces, and recent incidents have displaced thousands on both sides of the border.



As the conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza persists, with significant casualties reported on both sides, efforts by international mediators to secure a truce and address humanitarian concerns have so far failed. The ongoing violence has intensified calls for a resolution and heightened scrutiny of the Israeli government's handling of the crisis.



Eight Migrants Die in Channel Crossing as Crisis Continues

French maritime authorities have confirmed that eight migrants lost their lives early Sunday when their overcrowded vessel capsized while attempting to cross the English Channel from France to England. The tragic incident occurred shortly after the boat set sail, highlighting the ongoing dangers faced by those making the perilous journey in small, unseaworthy crafts. The disaster comes less than two weeks after the deadliest Channel crossing of the year, which resulted in the deaths of 12 migrants, mostly from Eritrea. This brings the total number of migrant deaths in the Channel this year to 37, a sharp increase from 12 deaths recorded in 2023.

French and British governments have been grappling with the issue of migrant crossings for years, as thousands of people pay smugglers exorbitant fees to make the dangerous journey from France to England. Despite efforts to curb the flow, the perilous crossings continue. Over the past 24 hours, maritime authorities rescued around 200 people attempting similar crossings.

In response to the ongoing crisis, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and French President Emmanuel Macron have pledged to enhance cooperation to manage the surge in undocumented migrants.

Authorities in France have indicated that they are focusing on rescue operations and have refrained from intervening with migrants once they are afloat due to safety concerns.

India Launches Operation Sadbhav, Sends Relief Supplies to Typhoon-Hit Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam

In response to the devastating impact of Typhoon Yagi, described as Asia's most powerful storm this year, India has initiated a major relief operation named 'Operation Sadbhav.' The operation aims to provide crucial aid to Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam, which have been severely affected by the massive floods caused by the typhoon.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar announced the dispatch of relief materials via various means. A total of 10 tonnes of aid, including dry rations, clothing, and medicines, was sent to Myanmar aboard the Indian naval ship INS Satpura. This shipment is part of India's commitment to support its neighbors in their time of need.

For Vietnam, an Indian Air Force (IAF) military transport aircraft has delivered 35 tonnes of aid. This shipment includes essential items such as water purification supplies, water containers, blankets, kitchen utensils, and solar lanterns.

The aid aims to address both immediate and long-term needs of the affected populations. Additionally, another IAF aircraft has transported 10 tonnes of relief materials to Laos. This includes generators, water purification items, hygiene supplies, mosquito nets, blankets, and sleeping bags, which are critical for ensuring basic needs and health standards in the flood-stricken areas.

Minister Jaishankar highlighted India's solidarity with the affected countries on social media, stating, "India launches #OperationSadbhav. Demonstrating our solidarity with the people affected by Typhoon Yagi, India is dispatching aid to Myanmar, Vietnam, and Laos."

Operation Sadbhav underscores India's readiness to extend humanitarian assistance to its neighbors in times of crisis, reinforcing regional cooperation and solidarity in the face of natural disasters.





Mixed Market Sentiment Ahead

FII's Buying, Rate Cut Prospects, and Weak Dollar Drive Optimism in Large Caps

Domestic stock market indices may move mixed this week. A good sign is that foreign institutional investors have resumed buying. Decline in crude oil prices, weakness in the dollar index and chances of central banks across the world to follow the path of interest rate cuts are showing momentum in the equity markets. Nifty may hover in the 25,000 range for some years. Consumer durables, FMCG, IT, metal and media sectors gained last week.

Bullishness is seen in the banking and finance sectors again with FIIs buying. There is interest in largecap shares.

Stock recommendations

LIC Housing Finance:

These shares, which hit a lifetime high in August, plunged 23% on headline supply. Currently, the key support level stands at Rs.700. The up trend started again with increasing relative strength and demand from investors. Investors should take a position in the range of Rs.720/700 with a target price of Rs.770/805 in this counter which closed at Rs.723 with a gain of 2.79% on Friday. Stoploss should be placed at Rs.685.



Piramal Enterprises:

A golden crossover is in sight in this stock which has been in a downtrend for two years. The uptrend has started again. This counter, which took support at Rs.800 level, has now reached the crucial resistance level of Rs.1120. Exceeding this will strengthen the uptrend. Investors can invest at Rs.1100 level with a target price of Rs.1250/1310 in this counter which closed at 1119 with a gain of 4.69% on Friday. Stoploss is mandatory at Rs.1070.



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Bandhan Bank: A base is forming in these stocks which have been in a downtrend for a long time.

Once again strength is seen at the key support level of Rs.170. Institutional investors are investing after better results and dividend announcement in the last quarter. EPS also increased by 1841%. Investors can take a position at Rs.205/200 level with a target price of Rs.245 in this counter which closed at Rs.207 with a gain of Rs.5.41% on Friday. Stoploss should be set at Rs.190.



Godrej Properties: These shares saw a 16% correction as profit taking hit a lifetime high.

Consolidation is currently underway. Support was found at Rs.2850 level. Investors should take a position in the range of Rs.2940/2920 with a target price of Rs.3250 in this counter which closed at Rs.2950 with a gain of 2.46% on Friday. Stoploss is mandatory at Rs.2880.



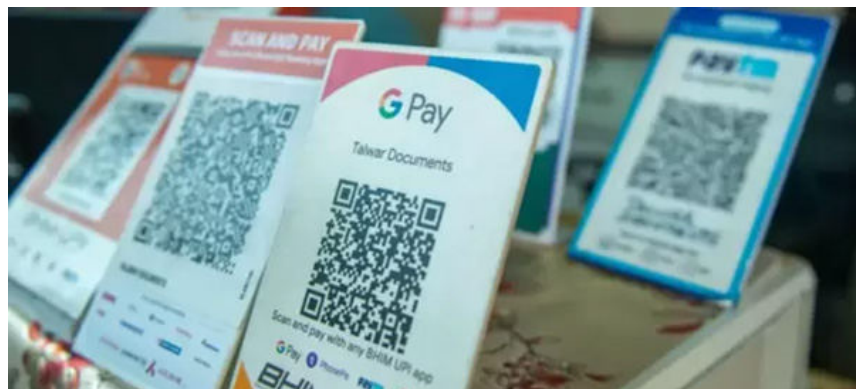
Apollo Tire: These shares are currently in the final stages of consolidation.

Moving towards lifetime highs once again. Demand is increasing as supply is low. In this counter which closed at Rs.526 on Friday, investors should take a position in the range of Rs.520/500 with a target price of Rs.570. Stoploss should be set at Rs.480.



UPI Transaction Limit May Increase to ₹5 Lakh for Specific Payments

Starting Monday, September 16, 2024, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions for certain purposes may have an enhanced limit of up to ₹5 lakh per transaction. This change, reported by the Economic Times, reflects an update from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) aimed at accommodating larger transactions for specific categories.



Currently, the general UPI transaction limit is ₹1 lakh, with a higher limit of ₹2 lakh per day for transactions related to capital markets, insurance, collections, and foreign inward remittances. The NPCI's circular dated August 24, 2024, highlights the need to boost this limit to better support the growing preference for UPI as a payment method.

- Tax payments
- Payments to hospitals and educational institutions
- Investments in IPOs and RBI retail direct schemes

This enhancement aims to facilitate higher-value transactions in these crucial sectors, making it easier for users to manage large payments efficiently through UPI.

The new ₹5 lakh transaction limit will apply to:

Oil India Plans Expansion of Assam Refinery to 180,000 BPD by 2027

Oil India Ltd aims to boost the capacity of its Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) in Assam to 180,000 barrels per day (bpd) by March 2027, according to Chairman Ranjit Rath. Currently, the refinery operates at 60,000 bpd, and the expansion includes a new crude oil pipeline linking the facility to Paradip Port in Odisha.



oping a 50,000 tons per year biorefinery in Assam to produce ethanol from bamboo, with production anticipated to start by the end of September.

NRL also exports diesel to Bangladesh via a pipeline with a capacity of 1 million tons per year. Rath assured that diesel supplies to Bangladesh have not been affected by the ongoing political crisis in the region, as a letter of credit is in place.

Rath confirmed that both the refinery expansion and pipeline projects are on track and expected to be completed by December 2025. The expanded refinery will process approximately 110,000 bpd of imported crude oil.

The company plans to invest ₹250 billion (\$3 billion) by 2030 across various initiatives, including clean energy projects. Additionally, NRL is devel-

Furthermore, Oil India holds stakes in two upstream projects in Russia—Vankorneft and Tass-Yuryakh. The company's \$250 million dividend from these projects remains in an Indian Bank's Moscow branch, pending repatriation. Overall, Indian companies are awaiting approximately \$600 billion in dividends from these ventures.

India's Forex Reserves Near \$700 Billion Amid Economic Uncertainty

Despite global economic challenges and rising geopolitical tensions, India's foreign exchange reserves are at a record high and are expected to surpass \$700 billion in FY25 sooner than anticipated.

Jefferies, a global investment firm, projects that the RBI's forex reserves will increase by \$53 billion, reaching \$700 billion within the current fiscal year. This surge is attributed to the rupee's stability, which has become the most stable among major currencies.

India's forex reserves recently hit a new peak of \$689.24 billion as of September 6, up by \$5.2 billion. Foreign currency assets (FCAs) also rose by \$5.10 billion to \$604.1 billion.

The country is experiencing robust domestic financial flows, with foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) significantly boosting the market. FPIs invested Rs 16,800 crore in Indian equities last week, bringing their total investment to Rs 27,856 crore by Sep-

tember 13. For 2024, FPIs have invested Rs 70,737 crore to date.



These positive FPI inflows are contributing to record forex levels, enhancing India's external sector resilience and supporting economic growth across various sectors. The substantial reserves provide the RBI with greater flexibility in monetary policy and currency management. India's reserve position with the IMF has increased by \$9 million to \$4.631 billion.

Market experts suggest that India's strong forex reserves will bolster its international economic standing, attract foreign investments, and support domestic trade and industry. With inflation likely to remain below the RBI's 4.4 percent forecast due to easing food prices, the central bank might consider rate cuts in upcoming Monetary Policy Committee meetings. Jefferies notes that a global trend toward lower interest rates could provide room for the RBI to adjust benchmark rates in the near future.

Adani Group Wins Bid to Supply 6,600 MW of Power to Maharashtra

Adani Group has secured a long-term contract to supply Maharashtra with 6,600 MW of bundled renewable and thermal power, outbidding competitors like JSW Energy and Torrent Power. Adani's bid of Rs 4.08 per unit was nearly a rupee less than the current procurement cost and will support the state's future electricity needs.



The contract, set to begin in 48 months, includes a fixed solar power tariff of Rs 2.70 per unit for the entire 25-year period, with coal power prices indexed to coal costs. Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company (MSEDCL) had issued a tender in March for 5,000 MW of solar power and 1,600 MW of coal-generated power.

The tender was awarded to Adani before the announcement of state assembly elections. The unique bid combined solar and thermal power to balance peak and off-peak energy demands, with equal energy weight given to both sources. Adani's winning bid was significantly lower than the Rs 4.70 per unit average cost of power in Maharashtra last year and the Rs 4.36 per unit bid from JSW Energy.

This bundled approach aims to achieve a lower effective power tariff. Separate Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) will be executed for solar and thermal projects, but the combined procurement will meet the state's future needs, which are projected to exceed current contracted capacities by 2028-29.

Currently, Maharashtra meets 12 percent of its power demand from solar sources, with a regulatory target of 32 percent by 2028. Adani Power, already India's largest private-sector thermal power generator with a capacity of over 17 GW, is expected to reach 31 GW by 2030.

SEBI Clears NSE Executives of High-Frequency Trading Charges

Five years after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed severe penalties on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) over alleged lapses in its high-frequency trading system through the co-location (colo) facility, the market regulator has now disposed of the charges against the NSE and its former top officials.

In 2019, SEBI had directed the NSE to disgorge Rs 624.89 crore and imposed a five-year ban on seven senior officials, including Ravi Narain and Chitra Ramakrishna, who were former managing directors and CEOs. Other banned individuals included Anand Subramanian (former group operating officer), Ravindra Apte and Umesh Jain (former chief technical officers), Mahesh Soparkar (former senior vice president - special projects), and Deviprasad Singh (former head of IT operations).

The latest SEBI order clears these individ-



uals and the NSE from the charges, which is a significant relief for them, particularly as the NSE is preparing for its large initial public offering (IPO). The decision comes as a major boost for the NSE and its former executives, who had faced scrutiny over the alleged preferential access to high-frequency trading systems provided through its colo facility.



MODI 3.0 STRENGTHENS TIES WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA: A STRATEGIC FOCUS



As Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarks on his third consecutive term, Southeast Asia has emerged as a central focus of India's foreign policy. The region is vital to India's strategic, economic, and diplomatic interests, particularly within the Indo-Pacific framework. High-level visits, growing economic partnerships, and strategic collaborations demonstrate Modi 3.0's emphasis on fostering deeper relationships with Southeast Asian nations.

India's recent engagements, including Modi's visits to Singapore and Brunei, discussions on the South China Sea, and the visits of Vietnamese and Malaysian leaders to India, underscore the region's importance in India's foreign policy. These moves not only aim to bolster economic cooperation but also counterbalance China's increasing influence in the region.

From 'Look East' to 'Act East'

India's "Act East Policy" has been a key component of its Indo-Pacific strategy, evolving from the earlier "Look East Policy" to signify a more proactive engagement with Southeast Asia. Under Prime Minister Modi, this policy has become a cornerstone of India's efforts to promote a free, open, and rules-based order in the region.

Southeast Asia holds strategic significance due to its proximity to India and its position as a gateway to the South China Sea, one of the world's busiest maritime corridors. The region has become crucial to India's broader Indo-Pacific strategy, which seeks to balance China's expanding influence and ensure stability in the area. With this in mind, Modi 3.0 aims to deepen India's role as a reliable partner in Southeast Asia, ensuring its presence in regional and global discussions.

A key focus has been on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a regional bloc comprising ten Southeast Asian countries. India's trade with ASEAN nations surpassed \$100 billion in 2023, demonstrating the growing economic ties between the two. Beyond trade, India's strategic interests in the region—particularly in maritime security and defence cooperation—have also expanded significantly.

Strengthening Relations with Singapore and Brunei

Prime Minister Modi's recent visit to Singapore resulted in several important agreements, notably in the semiconductor sector. The "India-Singapore Semiconductor Ecosystem Partnership" is a key initiative that will enable Singaporean companies to enter India's growing semiconductor industry. This partnership aligns with New Delhi's ambitions to become a global semiconductor hub, enhancing the resilience of the global supply chain.



Modi's visit to Brunei was equally significant, marking the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the small but strategically located nation. Situated in the South China Sea, Brunei plays an important role in India's broader Indo-Pacific vision. The visit, which coincided with the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties between India and Brunei, underscored India's commitment to strengthening partnerships with even the smaller nations of Southeast Asia.

Vietnam: A Crucial Partner in the South China Sea

In Modi 3.0, Vietnam has emerged as one of India's most critical partners in Southeast Asia. Both countries share strategic concerns over China's assertiveness in the South China Sea, where India and Vietnam have interests in oil exploration and ensuring freedom of navigation.



Vietnamese Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính's recent visit to India highlighted the growing defence and maritime cooperation between the two nations. Several agreements were signed, including those focusing on defence, energy security, and economic collaboration. Vietnam's importance to India's Act East Policy cannot be overstated, as the two nations have deepened their naval ties, ensuring they can uphold international law and freedom of navigation in the region.

Beyond defence, the bilateral relationship between India and Vietnam has expanded into areas like renewable energy, information technology, and infrastructure development. India's role in supporting Vietnam's development agenda has further solidified their strategic partnership, with both countries aligned in promoting peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Resetting Relations with Malaysia

The visit of Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim to India marked a reset in bilateral relations that had experienced a dip in recent years. Malaysia is strategically important to India due to its location along key maritime routes and its role as a significant trading partner. The two countries discussed enhancing cooperation in areas such as technology, renewable energy, and digital connectivity.



Malaysia's support for India's Act East Policy, coupled with its leadership role in ASEAN, makes it a valuable partner as India seeks to expand its presence in Southeast Asia. The visit helped to address past diplomatic challenges and set the stage for a stronger relationship moving forward.

India's Evolving Stance on the South China Sea

India's position on the South China Sea has shifted over time, with the country taking a clearer stance in recent years. In Modi 3.0, India has expressed support for the sovereign maritime claims of Southeast Asian nations, such as the Philippines, in line with international law. This more assertive stance signals India's intent to counter China's unilateral actions in the region, ensuring freedom of navigation and security in the Indo-Pacific.



India's nuanced approach to the South China Sea is informed by its own tensions with China along their northern land border. By aligning itself with Southeast Asian nations, India seeks to deter any unilateral advances by China, while also safeguarding its own strategic interests in the region.

A Strategic Future for Southeast Asia in Modi 3.0

As Modi enters his third term, India's engagement with Southeast Asia continues to deepen. The Modi administration has steadily expanded its relationships in the region over the past decade, with trade, defence, and strategic partnerships flourishing. Southeast Asia's role in the Indo-Pacific, combined with the geopolitical challenges posed by China, ensures that India's focus on the region will only grow stronger.

In Modi 3.0, India's partnerships with ASEAN nations, along with key countries like Singapore, Vietnam, Brunei, and Malaysia, will be critical to shaping the future of the Indo-Pacific. The Modi government's proactive diplomacy in the region highlights its commitment to ensuring peace, stability, and prosperity in Southeast Asia, solidifying its place as a key player on the global stage.



Marrow Martini: The \$13,000 Luxury Cocktail

The trend for extravagant and visually stunning food continues to captivate, and the latest sensation is the Marrow Martini, a cocktail priced at \$13,000 (around ₹1.90 lakh). This opulent drink is available at Adalina, a Chicago restaurant, and is designed to offer a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Crafted by Colin Hofer, named Michelin Guide's 2022 Sommelier of the Year, the Marrow Martini is a smoked heirloom tomato mezcal cocktail. What makes this drink extraordinary is its inclusion of a tennis necklace from Marrow Fine, a prestigious jewelry store on the Gold Coast. The necklace features 150 diamonds set in 14-karat gold, adding an unparalleled touch of luxury, according to CBS News.



The cocktail itself combines Clase Azul Mezcal, clarified heirloom tomato water, and lemon basil olive oil. It is presented

under a smoke-filled cloche, adding an element of mystery and grandeur.

Hofer shared with Fox News Digital that the Marrow Martini stands out due to its blend of fine jewelry and high-end dining. "It's not just about the cocktail—it's about creating an elevated experience," he said. He chose Mezcal over traditional spirits like gin or vodka, believing it to be an underappreciated luxury spirit. The Mezcal used in this cocktail is a rare, highly sought-after brand made from Green Agave, native to the deserts of San Luis Potosí, Mexico.

This lavish drink highlights a growing trend where luxury and artistry intersect in the culinary world, pushing the boundaries of what defines a high-end dining experience.

Netflix to Drop Support for Older iPhones and iPads



Netflix has announced that it will soon discontinue support for several older iPhones and iPads running iOS 16 and iPadOS 16. This change will affect users who have not updated their devices to the latest operating systems.

Upon updating Netflix to the newest version on these older devices, users will see a message stating, "We've updated the Netflix app! To use the latest version, install iOS 17 or later." This notification indicates that users must upgrade their operating systems to continue using the app.

The decision to drop support for these older iOS versions reflects Netflix's focus on maintaining optimal performance and security for its users. As technology evolves, app developers often phase out support for outdated systems to ensure a consistent and high-quality experience for users with the latest devices and software.

For those affected, upgrading to iOS 17 or later will be necessary to access the latest features and improvements offered by Netflix. Users with older iPhones and iPads may need to consider updating their devices or exploring other ways to enjoy Netflix content.

This move aligns with broader industry trends where software and apps increasingly require the latest operating systems to function properly. It also highlights the ongoing need for users to keep their devices updated to maintain compatibility with modern apps and services.

Taxidermist Creates Unusual Items from Frozen Animals

A man's unconventional business has stirred both shock and fascination on social media. In a viral Instagram video, Jack Devaney reveals how he transforms dead frozen animals into everyday items, sparking a mix of reactions from viewers.

The video showcases items like a pencil case made from a dead rat and a toaster adorned with the exterior of a deceased rabbit. Devaney, a taxidermist, explains that he enjoys making these unusual creations, despite the initial confusion and surprise from people when he first started. "I just like making things out of frozen animals," he says. "When I started, people were like, 'What did you do this for?'"

Devaney's process involves taking frozen animals out of the freezer in the morning and crafting them into various objects. He assures viewers that all the animals he uses are "ethically sourced," and emphasizes that he is an animal lover who has no issue with working with deceased creatures.

His motivation? Devaney finds joy in making people laugh through his work. "It feels nice—almost therapeutic," he explains. "I love what I do. It's the best thing in the world that I could be doing." He clarifies that his creations are not meant to convey any deeper meaning but are intended to bring humor and amusement.

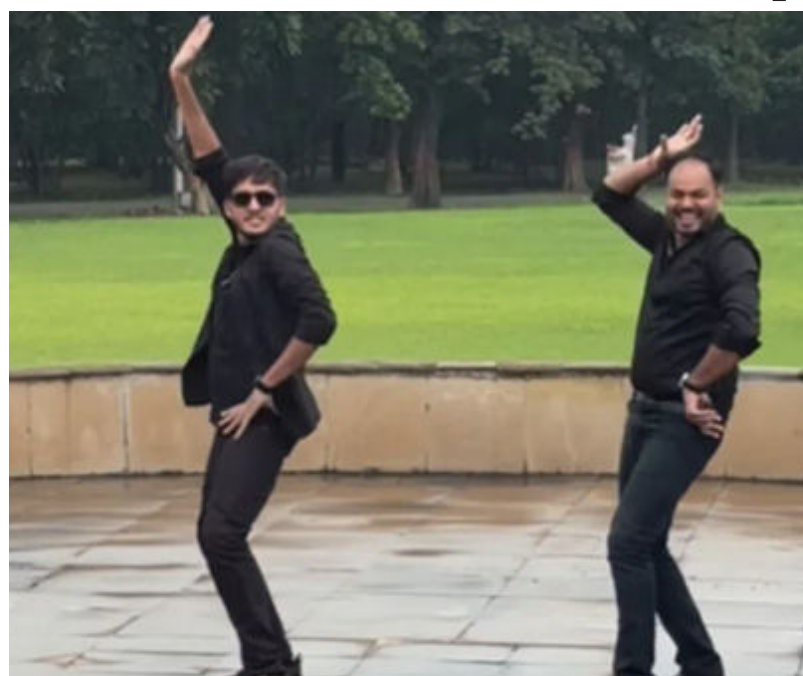
The video's caption humorously describes Devaney as a "bad taxidermist from Plymouth" and highlights some of his quirky creations, including the "Rat Butt Pencil Sharpener," "Rabbit Toaster," "Marge Simpson Rat," and "Rat Pencil Case." Despite the mixed reactions, Devaney's work continues to intrigue and entertain, showing that art can take many unexpected forms.



Teacher and Student Dance to Bollywood Hit, Steal the Spotlight

A viral video featuring a student and his teacher dancing to the Bollywood classic "UP Wala Thumka" by Govinda has taken social media by storm. The clip, shared by Adarsh Ag on Instagram, showcases a high-energy performance from OP Jindal University in Chhattisgarh. With 8.4 million views and over 1 million likes, it's clear this dance has captured widespread attention.

In the video, the student starts off with impressive dance moves, captivating the audience with his rhythm and flair. Mid-performance, the teacher joins him on stage, both wearing matching black shirts and trousers. The duo's synchronized dance steps and lively energy draw cheers from



the crowd. The highlight of the performance comes when the teacher adds a touch of style by slipping on black sunglasses,

further electrifying the atmosphere.

Social media users have been quick to praise the duo. Comments include, "The teacher literally nailed it," and "He stole the show with his control and swagger." Many have expressed their admiration for the engaging teacher-student interaction, with one viewer noting, "Ek aisa college toh main bhi deserve karti hoon" (I also deserve a college like this).

The video has not only highlighted the fun and dynamic relationship between the teacher and student but has also sparked a broader appreciation for spirited and supportive educational environments.

Truecaller to Improve iPhone Integration

truecaller

Truecaller, the popular caller ID service used by millions globally, is set to enhance its functionality on iPhones. Although the app has been available for Apple devices for some time, it has not performed as efficiently as it does on Android smartphones.

Currently, the Truecaller app on iOS devices lacks real-time caller ID capabilities. This limitation requires users to manually open the app and search for the caller's number to identify incoming calls. This process is less convenient compared to the seamless integration available on Android, where caller ID is displayed in real time.

Truecaller's improvement for iPhones aims to address this gap, ensuring that users can benefit from real-time caller identification similar to their Android counterparts. This update is expected to streamline the user experience, making it easier to identify callers without needing to manually check the app.

India remains Truecaller's largest market, highlighting the importance of optimizing the app's performance for iOS users in the region. The planned updates are anticipated to enhance the app's functionality and user satisfaction on Apple devices, aligning it more closely with the efficient performance seen on Android phones.

Human Tooth Found in Mooncake: Sam's Club Investigates



Sam's Club is under scrutiny following a disturbing incident at its Changzhou location in Jiangsu province, China. A customer discovered a human tooth embedded in a meat-filled mooncake, sparking an investigation by the supermarket chain. The South China Morning Post reported that the woman, who posted a video of the unsettling find on Douyin, revealed the tooth in the 30-yuan (\$4) pastry. The footage shows a molar covered in meat filling, found next to a partially eaten mooncake. The woman confirmed the tooth was not from her family and reported the issue to the police.

Sam's Club has launched an investigation into the incident, while the mooncake manufacturer, Liu, has denied any possibility of contamination. Liu stated that the manufacturing process includes mincing meat and scanning it with X-ray machines to detect bone fragments. He emphasized the company's decade-long record of incident-free production and provided surveillance footage to Sam's Club and the local market regulatory department for review.

Reactions online ranged from disgust to dark humor, with one user sarcastically commenting, "Mooncake: now with meat and a side of calcium!" Another user suggested the possibility that the tooth might have come from a family member who lost it unknowingly.

This isn't the first time Sam's Club has faced food safety issues in China. In 2022, a Fujian province resident reported finding three artificial human teeth in Swiss rolls purchased from a Sam's Club store, though no conclusive findings were released following the promised investigation.



Anmol Kharb Clinches First Title at Belgian International Challenge

Anmol Kharb, India's rising badminton star who played a pivotal role in securing the Asian Team gold medal earlier this year, has had a rollercoaster eight months. The 17-year-old made headlines in February with her decisive performances, but her journey hit a rough patch when she collapsed in tears with a severely swollen ankle at the Uber Cup in May.

Despite this setback, Kharb has made a triumphant return to form. In September, she secured her first individual title by winning the Belgian International Challenge in Leuven. The victory was hard-fought, with Kharb overcoming World No. 80 Amalie Schulz of Denmark in a thrilling final. Kharb won with scores of 24-22, 12-21, 21-10.

Reflecting on her win, Kharb expressed her deep emotional connection to the title. "This title is very special to me and will remain close to my heart," she said. "But there's no time to celebrate right now. I'm heading to Poland next week and have many more challenges ahead."



Kharb's victory at the Belgian International Challenge marks a significant milestone in her career, showcasing her resilience and determination. The Faridabad teenager's remarkable comeback is a testament to her skill and perseverance as she continues to rise in the badminton world.

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Harry Brook to Lead England in ODI Series Against Australia

Harry Brook will captain England in the upcoming ODI series against Australia, stepping in for the injured Jos Buttler, the team announced on Sunday. Buttler, who has been sidelined since England's loss to India in the T20 World Cup semi-final in June, continues to struggle with a persistent calf injury. As a result, the 34-year-old has been unable to participate in the recent T20 series and will miss the upcoming five-match ODI series.

Brook, 25, will take on the captaincy role despite having only 15 ODI caps. He had previously remarked during last year's World Cup campaign in India that he was still "trying to figure out the format." Nonetheless, England sees the Yorkshire batsman as a future leader, and his appointment follows a season of changes in captaincy across all formats. Ollie Pope took over Test captaincy from Ben Stokes due to the latter's hamstring injury, and Phil Salt led the T20 team in Buttler's absence.

Additionally, 20-year-old left-arm fast bowler Josh Hull, who made his Test debut earlier this month, will not be part of the ODI squad due to a quad injury. He will rest and prepare for the upcoming tour to Pakistan. Liam Livingstone, who was initially dropped from the ODI squad, has been recalled following impressive performances in the T20 series against Australia.

The ODI series, which begins on Thursday at Trent Bridge in Nottingham, will see Brook lead England against the reigning 50-over world champions.



India Falls 0-4 to Sweden in Davis Cup World Group I Tie

In a disappointing Davis Cup World Group I tie held in Stockholm, India was defeated 0-4 by Sweden on Sunday. The Indian team, featuring Ramkumar Ramanathan and N. Sriram

Balaji in the doubles match, struggled to find their rhythm and fell short in crucial moments.

After losing both singles matches on

Saturday, India needed a win in the doubles rubber to keep their hopes alive. However, Ramanathan and Balaji were unable to deliver, losing 3-6, 4-6 to the Swedish pair of Andre Goransson and Filip Bergevi in just 79 minutes. With this loss, India conceded an unassailable 0-3 lead in the tie.

India's ongoing struggles against Sweden continued, marking their sixth consecutive defeat in Davis Cup ties against the Scandinavian team.



Neeraj Chopra Reveals Fracture During Diamond League Final

Neeraj Chopra, the double Olympic gold medallist in javelin throw, revealed that he competed in the Diamond League final despite suffering a hand injury. In an intense finale on Saturday in Brussels, Chopra narrowly missed winning the Diamond League title, finishing as runner-up for the second consecutive year with a throw of 87.86 meters.

Chopra shared the news on social media, explaining that he sustained the injury during a training session earlier in the week. "On Monday, I injured myself in practice, and X-rays showed that I had a fracture in the fourth metacarpal of my left hand," the 26-year-old athlete said. He described the injury as a significant challenge but expressed gratitude for the support of his team, which enabled him to compete despite the pain.

The javelin star's revelation adds context to his impressive performance in Brussels, where he fell just a single centimeter short of the top spot. Chopra's determination to participate under such conditions highlights his resilience and commitment to the sport.

As he continues to recover, Chopra's remarkable effort in the Diamond League final underscores his status as one of the leading athletes in javelin throw. The close finish and his injury reveal further emphasize his exceptional performance and dedication to his athletic career.



Anshul Kamboj Claims Eight Wickets as India C Tops Duleep Trophy Standings

Pacer Anshul Kamboj delivered a stand-out performance with an eight-wicket haul, leading India C to a commanding position in the Duleep Trophy standings. The match, held in Anantapur, saw India C take the lead over India B based on the first innings.

Starting day four at 309 for seven, India B was all out for 332 in 108 overs, with Kamboj taking three more wickets to add to his overnight tally of five. India B's captain, Abhimanyu Easwaran, remained unbeaten on 157 from 286 balls. India C, having scored 525 in their first innings, reached 128 for four in their second innings before the match was declared a draw.

India C secured three points for their first innings lead, placing them at the top of the table with nine points from

two matches. India B earned one point for the draw.

In addition to Kamboj's exceptional bowling, India C's captain Rituraj Gaikwad scored 62, marking his second fifty of the match, while Rajat Patidar fell in the 40s for the second time in the game. Kamboj's eight-wicket haul is only the third instance of a pacer achieving such a feat in Duleep Trophy history, and he was named Player of the Match for his efforts. This was Kamboj's first five-wicket haul in his 15-match first-class career. He has also played for Mumbai Indians in the IPL this season.

Another notable performance came from Ishan Kishan, who made a strong return to red-ball cricket with a 111 off 126 balls.

The reverse singles matches, which followed, were rendered inconsequential. Indian captain Rohit Rajpal took this opportunity to test debutant Siddharth Vishwakarma, who also fell short, losing 2-6, 2-6 to Elias Ymer.

Despite fielding a depleted squad, this was seen as India's best chance to secure a win against Sweden, but the team could not capitalize on their opportunities. As a result, India will need to compete in the Play-offs next year to retain their place in World

Group I.

In the doubles match, India had a glimmer of hope when they earned a breakpoint in the third game of the first set, but the Swedes managed to hold off the challenge. Sweden quickly took control, with Ramkumar being broken and the team slipping to a 2-5 deficit. The Swedes wrapped up the first set comfortably and managed to close out the match in the second set, despite a valiant effort from the Indian pair.



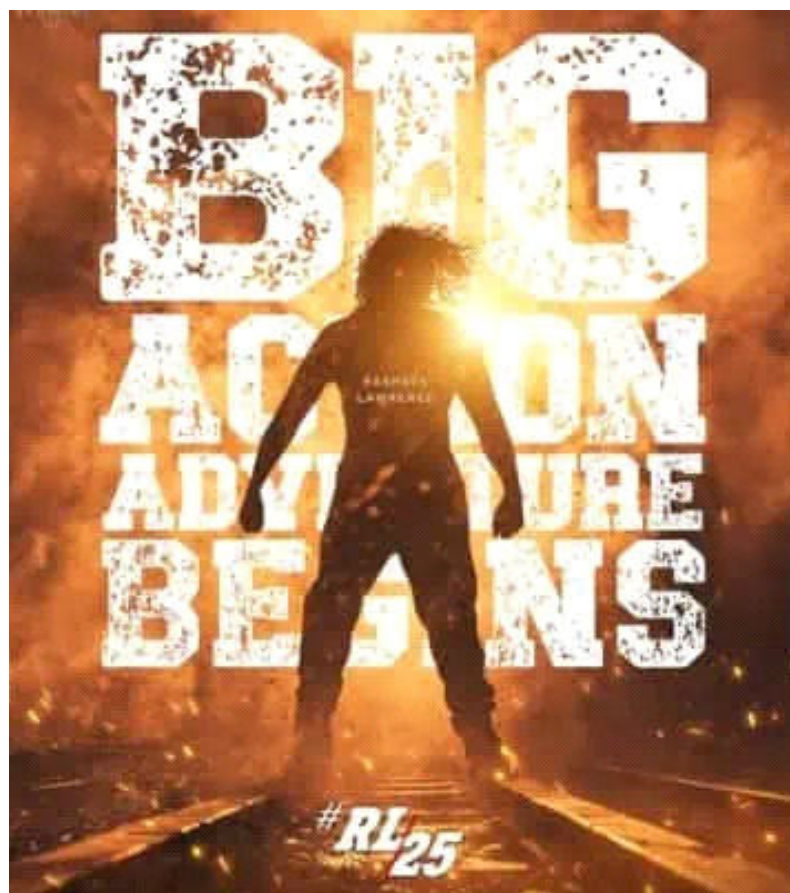
Raghava Lawrence's Next Film: Not a Remake, but an Original Script

Raghava Lawrence, currently focused on his next project in the *Kanchana* franchise, has signed on for a new film directed by Ramesh Varma. This action-adventure film, produced in partnership with Koneru Satyanarayana, has stirred rumors about being a remake of the Hindi film *Kill*. However, these rumors are unfounded.

While the production house did acquire the remake rights to the Hindi hit *Kill*, the upcoming film is not a remake. Instead, it will feature an original script and will mark Lawrence's 25th film milestone. The script work has been completed, and pre-production is nearing its end.

The film is scheduled to start shooting in November 2024, with a grand release planned for Summer 2025. As of now, details about the cast and crew are not finalized and will be announced at a later date.

Fans can look forward to an exciting new project from Lawrence, distinct from any existing Bollywood remakes.



Nani's Hat-Trick: Dasara, Hi Nanna Shine at SIIMA Awards

Natural Star Nani is celebrating a successful streak with his recent films *Dasara*, *Hi Nanna*, and *Saripodhaa Sanivaaram*, which are all performing well. Both *Dasara* and *Hi Nanna* have been particularly notable, winning several accolades at the Filmfare Awards and making a strong impact at the SIIMA Awards.

At the SIIMA Awards, *Dasara* clinched four awards, including Best Actor for Nani. The film's other winners included Keerthy Suresh (Best Actress), Srikanth Odela (Best Director), and Deekshit Shetty (Best Supporting Role).

Hi Nanna, on the other hand, dominated the awards scene with a total of five wins. The film's accolades included Mrunal Thakur for Best Actress (Critics), Shouryuv for Best Debutant Director, Hesham Abdul Wahab for Best Music Director, and Dr. Vijender Reddy Teegala of Vyra Entertainments for Best Debutant Producer. Baby Kiara also won Best Supporting Actress for her role in the film.

Nani's success continues with the recent commencement of his new project, *HIT: The 3rd Case*, directed by Sailesh Kolanu. This film marks another exciting chapter in Nani's career as he builds on his recent accomplishments.



Diljit Dosanjh and Alia Bhatt Reunite for 'Chal Kudiye' in Upcoming Film Jigra



After their memorable collaboration on the song "Ikk Kudi" from *Udta Punjab*, singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh and Alia Bhatt are reuniting for a new track in her upcoming film, *Jigra*. The much-anticipated song, titled "Chal Kudiye," is performed by Diljit and marks their return to the music scene together after eight years.

On Sunday, Alia Bhatt took to Instagram to share a teaser of the new song. The short clip features both Alia and Diljit, with Alia seen facing away from the camera wearing a t-shirt that reads 'Ghar' (Home). Diljit makes a stylish appearance in an all-white outfit, while the word "Jigra" is prominently displayed in the background.

Alia's Instagram post announcing the teaser read, "It's yours soon 📺 #ChalKudiye @diljitdosanjh #Jigra in cinemas 11th October." This message builds excitement for the film's release and the new song, which is expected to be a significant highlight of the movie.

The release of "Chal Kudiye" and *Jigra* is eagerly anticipated by fans, who are looking forward to experiencing the latest collaboration between Alia Bhatt and Diljit Dosanjh. With its release date set for October 11, the film promises to offer both a compelling story and memorable music.

Sohum Shah Announces 'Tumbbad' Sequel After Theatrical Re-release



On Saturday, actor Sohum Shah revealed plans for a sequel to his critically acclaimed 2018 film, *Tumbbad*. This announcement came just a day after the film was re-released in theaters. Directed by Rahi Anil Barve, *Tumbbad* initially garnered praise for its atmospheric horror and compelling narrative. Sohum Shah, who produced the film under his banner Sohum Shah Films, expressed his excitement about the project.

Shah shared his enthusiasm for the sequel, promising it will explore the theme of greed even more deeply. He remarked, "Tumbbad has been a special journey and a labor of love for us. The continued affection from audiences is overwhelming and reaffirms our belief at Sohum Shah Films that content is king." The original film, known for its unique storytelling and rich visual style, had a significant impact upon its release and continues to resonate with viewers. With the sequel, Shah aims to build on the success of the first film, delving further into the dark and intriguing themes that made *Tumbbad* a standout.

Thalapathy Vijay's Next Film Announced: 'Thalapathy 69' Directed by H Vinoth

KVN Productions has officially announced that Thalapathy Vijay's upcoming film, tentatively titled *Thalapathy 69*, will be directed by H Vinoth. This highly anticipated project will see Vijay reuniting with the acclaimed music sensation Anirudh Ravichander.



The announcement was made on Instagram, where the production house unveiled an intriguing poster for the film. The poster features a striking bluish background with Thalapathy Vijay depicted as a torchbearer, holding a blazing torch. The caption reads, "The Torch bearer of democracy... Arriving soon," hinting at a significant and impactful narrative.

The film is expected to be a major event in Vijay's career, particularly as it is poised to be his farewell film before he transitions into politics. The choice of H Vinoth as director and Anirudh Ravichander for the music indicates a high level of creative collaboration and anticipation surrounding the project.

Fans are eagerly awaiting further details about the film, including its plot and additional cast members, as the production gears up for what promises to be a grand cinematic experience.



Deepika Padukone Updates Instagram Bio After Welcoming Baby

New mom Deepika Padukone has updated her Instagram bio to reflect her new routine of "feeding, burping, and sleeping," replacing her previous quote, "Follow your bliss." This change comes after Deepika and her husband, Ranveer Singh, recently brought their baby girl home. The couple was spotted leaving the hospital in a video that surfaced earlier today, marking their first public appearance since the birth of their daughter.

Deepika and Ranveer announced the arrival of their first child on September 8 with a social media post that simply read, "Welcome baby girl. 8.09.2024. Deepika and Ranveer." The announcement was met with an outpouring of congratulations from their celebrity friends. Priyanka Chopra, who co-starred with them in *Bajirao Mastani*, commented with heart emojis, while Alia Bhatt and Masaba Gupta also filled the comments section with red heart emojis. Kareena Kapoor, who referred to the couple as "mommy and daddy," sent her blessings from Saif and herself. Arjun Kapoor playfully commented, "Laxmi aayi hai. The queen is here."

Deepika and Ranveer, who began their relationship during the filming of *Ram Leela* in 2013 and married in 2018, announced their pregnancy earlier this year.