

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

Strategy Behind the Slow Pace of Cases Against YCP Leaders

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: There were high expectations that after coming to power, the Alliance Government would take swift action against YCP leaders accused of crimes, scams, and other anti-social activities. With access to all relevant data on YCP leaders, many believed that action would be immediate. However, the slow pace of action has left the cadres of TDP, Janasena, and others disappointed. Even some media houses, supportive of TDP, have run debates on this issue, indirectly pressuring the government to act swiftly.

Key figures such as Mr. Vasudeva Reddy, implicated in the liquor scam, and Venkata Reddy, involved in mining scams, remain absconding. The question arises: how, with full knowledge of their activities, did the



government fail to prevent them from escaping? The focus has primarily been on cases such as the attack on the TDP office and the attack on Mr. Naidu's residence. Meanwhile, TDP leaders continue to accuse YCP leaders like Roja and Vidadala Rajani of land grabbing and other activities,

but no cases have been filed against them.

One prominent figure, Mr. Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy, who engaged in many illegal activities during the YCP regime, also remains free. His involvement in the burning of the

Tahsildar's office in Madanapalle was exposed, and Mr. Naidu even requested officials to visit the site by helicopter. Yet, no case has been registered against Mr. Peddireddy to date.

According to sources, BJP has granted permission to Mr. Naidu to pursue cases against YCP leaders but with conditions. Currently, Mr. YS Jaganmohan Reddy has 12 Rajya Sabha MPs on his side, two of whom have resigned and are ready to join TDP. The NDA government requires Mr. Jaganmohan Reddy's support in the Rajya Sabha, especially with the upcoming "One Nation, One Election" bill. Additionally, Jagan has a majority in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council. Taking this into account, BJP has reportedly suggested two strategies: first, to demoralize the YCP cadre, and second, to tarnish YS

Jaganmohan Reddy's public image.

The goal is to politically weaken Mr. Jaganmohan Reddy, demoralizing his party's leaders and cadre. Public debates and exposure of Jagan's actions are part of this plan, aimed at creating a lack of confidence in YS Jaganmohan Reddy among his MPs and MLCs, encouraging them to leave YCP. Once a significant number of YCP members have defected, legal cases and arrests will accelerate.

The recent controversy surrounding the Tirumala Laddu episode appears to be a well-timed and planned move, with more such incidents likely to follow until YCP's support base crumbles. Only then will the cases against YCP leaders be pursued more aggressively. This is reportedly the NDA's strategy.

Who Is the IO of the Fake Case Against Jatwani? Who Is Protecting Him?

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In the case of Kadambari Jatwani, it has come to light that a fake case was framed against her, which led to her arrest. The case was initiated based on a complaint filed by Mr. Kukkala Vidyasagar, who has been identified as A1 and was arrested today. According to the police, a fabricated document related to a land transaction was used to frame the case. The allegation against Jatwani and her family was that they attempted to sell this land to Kukkala Vidyasagar, intending to defraud him of Rs. 5 lakhs.

As per the process, after receiving the complaint, an investigating officer (IO) had to be appointed. It was Mr. Kranthi Rana Tata who entrusted the investigation to Inspector Sridhar Babu, reportedly loyal to Mr. Rana according to department sources. Inspector Sridhar Babu, along with Kasi Viswanadham, Valivela Srinivas, and Shariff, allegedly formed a team and, with the help of an advocate from Prakasam District, prepared a fake land document. They then planted this document at Jatwani's home in a carefully orchestrated operation.

The Commissioner of Police's report has revealed these details, yet no action has been taken against the team involved. Speculation is rife that a higher official, reportedly close to Inspector Sridhar Babu, is shielding the team. Although three IPS officers, along with ACPs and Inspectors involved in the operation, have already been suspended, the individuals who prepared the fake document and conducted the investigation based on their fabricated evidence remain untouched. This has sparked a discussion within the department about why these individuals have not yet faced any consequences.



IPS Officer Kanti Rana Tata Seeks Anticipatory Bail in AP High Court



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: IPS officer Kanti Rana Tata has approached the Andhra Pradesh High Court, filing a petition for anticipatory bail in connection with the ongoing case involving actress Kadambari Jethwani. Tata, along with fellow IPS officers PSR Anjaneyulu and Vishal Gunni, has been facing serious allegations related to the illegal detention and harassment of the actress. All three officers

have already been suspended due to the gravity of the charges.

The High Court is scheduled to hear Kanti Rana Tata's anticipatory bail plea on Monday, September 23. The case has drawn significant attention as the officers are accused of misusing their positions during the previous government, with Tata serving as the Commissioner of Police in Vijayawada at the time

of the incident.

Kanti Rana Tata's decision to seek anticipatory bail reflects the increasing tension surrounding the case. His petition is seen as a precautionary move in anticipation of potential legal action. This development marks a significant step in the unfolding investigation into the harassment allegations.

Adulterated Ghee Found in Tirumala Laddu: TTD EO Confirms



TPN, Tirumala: Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer J. Shyamala Rao addressed the media concerning the recent controversy over the use of adulterated ghee, allegedly containing traces of animal fat, in the preparation of the sacred Tirumala Laddu. He confirmed that complaints about the laddu's quality had been received for some time, leading to an investigation into the issue.

Shyamala Rao revealed that the ghee used in the laddu, which should have been of 100-point quality, was found to be only 20 points in quality after lab tests. Samples of the ghee were sent to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) lab in Gujarat on July 6, with the results confirming heavy adulteration. This is the first time in TTD's history

that ghee samples were sent to an external lab for testing. The NDDB lab is known for its credibility and expertise.

The tests revealed that the ghee, supplied by AR Foods from Tamil Nadu, was heavily adulterated, including traces of animal fat. Shyamala Rao noted that the ghee was being supplied at rates ranging from ₹320 to ₹411 per kg, which raised suspicions about its purity, as such low prices typically indicate the possibility of adulteration.

In light of these findings, TTD has formed a committee to decide the course of action to be taken against the suppliers. The EO explained that TTD does not have its own laboratory for testing the quality of ghee, which is why the samples were sent to the Gujarat lab.

Choreographer Jani Remanded for 14 Days, Transferred to Chanchalguda Jail

TPN, Hyderabad: The Upparpally court has sent renowned choreographer Jani Master to judicial remand for 14 days in connection with a sexual assault case. He will remain in custody until October 3, following the court's orders.

Jani Master has been at the center of a controversy after allegations surfaced of him sexually assaulting a dancer, sparking widespread discussion in the film industry. He is facing charges under the POCSO Act, as well as Sections 376, 506, and 323(2) of the IPC. The Cyberabad police apprehended Jani Master in Goa and brought him to Hyderabad for further investigation.

After a private interrogation at the Rajendranagar CCS office, Jani Master was presented before the Upparpally court, where the remand order was issued. Subsequently, he was transferred to Chanchalguda Jail. In a related development, Jani Master has applied for bail at the Ranga Reddy court.

During police questioning, Jani Master reportedly denied the allegations. "I have not committed any sexual harassment. Some people have falsely accused me. I will fight legally and prove my innocence,"



he said, vowing to take legal action against those who he claims framed him.

As part of the investigation, Narsinghi police have already recorded the victim's statement and collected details from her residence. Medical tests have also been conducted. In her statement, the victim alleged that Jani Master raped and assaulted her, forcing his way into her caravan during a shoot. She claimed he harassed her repeatedly to satisfy his sexual desires and threatened to block her career opportunities if she refused. She further stated that he pressured her to marry him.



Former CM Jagan's reaction on Tirumala Laddu case

TPN, Andhra Pradesh : Former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and YSRCP leader YS Jagan Mohan Reddy responded strongly to the ongoing controversy surrounding the use of ghee in the preparation of Tirumala Laddu. He dismissed the claim that animal fat was found in the ghee as a baseless myth. Jagan emphasized that the laddus are still being prepared using the traditional methods that have been followed for decades.

Jagan criticized Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of politicizing religious issues and misleading the public. "Is it dharma to play with the sentiments of devotees?" Jagan asked, condemning Chan-

drababu for allegedly using the issue for political gains. He pointed out that the tendering process for ghee takes place every six months, and samples were also tested during Chandrababu's tenure as Chief Minister. He questioned why Chandrababu remained silent if the report from the NDDDB lab arrived in July but is now raising the issue months later.

Jagan reassured the public that stringent procedures are in place for testing the quality of ghee, with every tanker required to have a certificate and samples tested three times. He accused Chandrababu of spreading lies and damaging the sanctity of Tirumala.

The former CM also expressed his indignation over the 100-day rule of the coalition government led by CM Chandrababu. He described the government's performance as a "fraud," citing the lack of progress in key areas such as healthcare and employee payments. Jagan announced that he would be writing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Chief Justice of India regarding the Tirumala Laddu issue, accusing Chandrababu of diverting public attention from governance failures.

Jagan's Bold Critique of BJP's Understanding of TTD Affairs

Former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy made sensational remarks

regarding the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), questioning their understanding of the procedures and processes associated with the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) board. Jagan expressed skepticism about the BJP's grasp of the intricacies involved, stating, "The BJP knows half, and half doesn't know."

During a recent address, he challenged BJP representatives, particularly those who are senior ministers in the central government, to familiarize themselves with the operational protocols of the TTD board. "Let's find out if they really understand the processes involved," he asserted.

Strong Rural Roads with Quality and Technology: AIIB Bank to Assist in Road Development



TPN, Amaravati : In a significant move towards rural development, Deputy Chief Minister and Panchayat Raj Minister Pawan Kalyan has directed officials to improve road connectivity in villages across Andhra Pradesh. In collaboration with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), a new project is set to provide paved roads to all villages with a population of over 250. The initiative also aims to build roads that can withstand floods and heavy rains.

During a review meeting held at the Deputy CM's camp office on Friday, Mr. Pawan Kalyan discussed the project with AIIB representatives, including Mr. Pawan Karki and Mr. Taushik Rehman, along with officials from the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development departments. The Deputy CM emphasized the need for high-quality construction, urging contractors to adhere to strict guidelines to prevent frequent damage to rural roads.

"Roads should not be washed away by floods or damaged by rains. Use advanced technology to ensure these roads last," Mr. Pawan Kalyan said. He also stressed the importance of continuous monitoring and comprehensive planning to ensure no village is left without proper road connectivity by the project's completion. AIIB representatives expressed their satisfaction with the cooperation from the state government, stating that advanced technology, such as drone surveys, will be utilized to speed up the project. As part of the initiative, a bridge and road construction plan for Udumudilanka village in Konaseema district is underway.

The Deputy CM thanked AIIB for their involvement in the state's rural development and honored their representatives during the meeting. Senior officials from the Panchayat Raj Engineering department were also present.

Kukkala Vidyasagar Arrested in Mumbai Actress Jethwani Affair

- He was located in another state and arrested
- Recognition with the help of technology that a friend is using a cell phone
- Arrested by the police

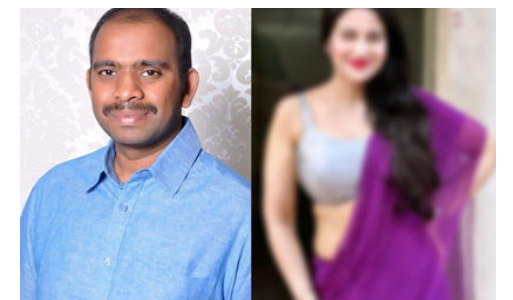
TPN, Andhra Pradesh : YCP leader Kukkala Vidyasagar was arrested today following a complaint by actress Kadambari Jethwani, marking a significant development in the ongoing controversy surrounding her allegations. Vidyasagar, who had been evading authorities, was apprehended in another state after police used technological tools to trace him.

The troubles for Kadambari Jethwani began during the previous government's tenure when she filed a complaint against Vidyasagar. He had initially escaped arrest by using a friend's mobile phone to communicate. However, the police managed to locate him and execute his arrest.

In a twist, Jethwani recently filed a complaint at the Ibrahimpatnam police station, claiming that she had been wrongfully implicated in a false case against Vidyasagar, which involved

forged documents. Following an investigation, police identified Vidyasagar as the main accused and have charged him under various offenses, including the creation of false evidence and forgery.

Key players in this case have been identified as IPS officers PSR Anjaneyu, Kanti Rana, and Vishal Gunni, with several others also named in the investigation. The police have intensified their efforts to uncover the details surrounding the case, aiming to bring all responsible parties to justice.



Every promise made will be fulfilled... There is no way to back down: Minister Nara Lokesh



TPN, Chittoor: Andhra Pradesh Minister for Education, IT, and Electronics Nara Lokesh reaffirmed his commitment to fulfill every promise made during the Yuvagalam Padayatra while inaugurating a Kidney Dialysis Center in Bangurapalayam on Friday. Celebrating the completion of 100 kilometers of the padayatra, he emphasized that he would develop Chittoor district and alleviate its

debt within the next five years. Reflecting on the support he received from the community, Lokesh noted that the Yuvagalam Padayatra, which spanned 3,132 kilometers and touched 2,200 villages, has made a significant impact on state politics. He recalled the challenges faced during the journey, including police interventions aimed at halting the padayatra, which he described as the voice of 5 crore people.

The newly inaugurated dialysis center addresses the urgent need for local treatment, saving residents from the costs and travel associated with distant facilities. Lokesh stated, "This center will relieve kidney patients from the financial burden of traveling to private centers for dialysis."

In addition to the dialysis center, Lokesh inaugurated a newly constructed 30-bed hospital in Bangurapalayam and launched a blood donation camp in collaboration with the Red Cross. He expressed gratitude to the community for their unwavering support, stating, "I will always be here to serve the people of our state."

The event was attended by several prominent leaders, including Chittoor MP Daggumalla Prasada Rao and local MLAs.

Farmers to Receive Payments Within 48 Hours of Grain Sale: Minister Nadendla



TPN, Andhra Pradesh : Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, Mr. Nadendla Manohar, announced that the coalition government plans to deposit payments into farmers' accounts within 48 hours of purchasing grain, starting October 1 for the Kharif season. During a workshop held in Vijayawada with Joint Collectors

and officials from various departments, he emphasized the government's commitment to transparency and efficiency in the procurement process.

Manohar stated that every ginja harvested by farmers would be purchased, giving them complete freedom in choosing mills and selling their grain. He criticized former Chief Minister Jaganmohan Reddy for leaving behind significant dues from previous grain purchases, claiming the alliance government has supported farmers despite financial challenges.

The minister outlined plans to procure about 37 lakh metric tonnes of grain, incorporating technology to streamline processes and ensure the transport data of each bag is trackable via GPS. He highlighted the government's efforts to implement a farmer-friendly approach and assured that compensation would be provided for flood-affected areas.

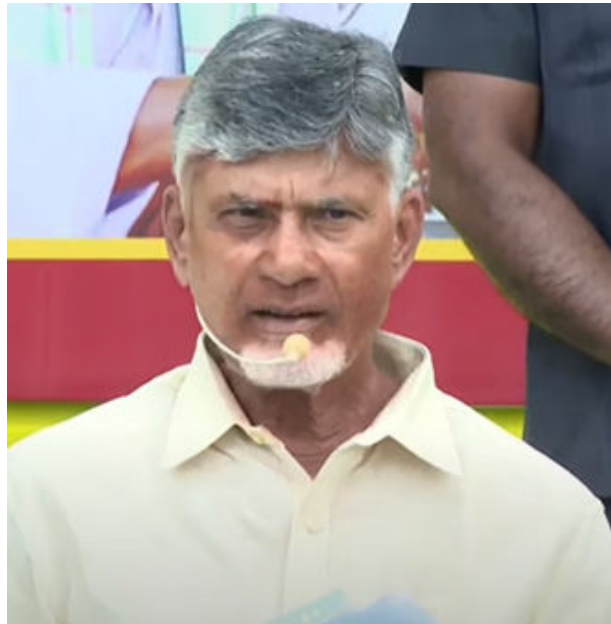
Manohar reiterated the importance of transparency, urging authorities to conduct purchases without errors. The workshop, marking the coalition government's first 100 days in power, aimed to reinforce its commitment to farmers and improve the ease of doing business in agriculture. Attendees included Civil Supplies Department MD Mr. Veera Pandian and Marketing Department Director Mr. Manjir Jilani Samur, along with various district Joint Collectors. The government's proactive measures signal a renewed focus on supporting the agricultural sector amid ongoing challenges.



Tirumala Laddoos Adulterated Due to Low-Cost Ghee: CM Chandrababu

TPN,Prakasam : In a strong reaction to the Tirumala Laddu controversy, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has criticized the YSR Congress Party (YCP) leadership, alleging that the adulteration of the famous Tirumala laddoos occurred due to the use of substandard ghee priced at just Rs. 320 per kilogram during the previous government's tenure. Speaking at the "It's Good Government" program in Maddiralapadu, Chandrababu expressed his outrage, stating that the use of inferior ghee had tarnished the sanctity of the Tirumala offerings. "How can anyone make an offering to Lord Venkateswara with adulterated ghee?" he asked, questioning the integrity of the previous regime's decisions.

"Has anyone ever seen a photo of him with ten people? Are there any records of him addressing the public with a gath-



ering? I was genuinely surprised when I heard the chief minister was coming,"

Chandrababu said, mocking Jagan's approach to public events.

Chandrababu also took aim at the YCP's defense, where they claimed they did nothing wrong and had issued tenders for the procurement of ghee. He argued that if ghee was being sold at such a low price, the government should have carefully considered the quality beforehand. "Doesn't the government need to think ahead when ghee is priced at Rs. 320 per kg?" he said.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the adulteration of the revered Tirumala Laddu had deeply hurt the sentiments of devotees, calling it a significant failure of the previous administration. Chandrababu's comments were made during the government program in Prakasam district, where he addressed local concerns and criticized the handling of the Tirumala Laddu affair.

"Why Didn't Jagan Visit Tirumala with His Wife?" Asks Ramesh Naidu



TPN,Andhra Pradesh : Nagothu Ramesh Naidu, the BJP's Andhra Pradesh State Secretary, has criticized the alleged use of adulterated ghee in the preparation of Tirumala Laddu, raising serious concerns about the management of Tirumala's prasadam under the leadership of Dharma Reddy, the former TTD Executive Officer. Ramesh Naidu questioned why the companies involved in supplying adulterated ghee were not blacklisted, specifically pointing to Alpha Company, which was awarded the ghee supply contract.

He also raised suspicions about potential foreign influence, particularly international Christian organizations, being involved in the improper procedures surrounding the prasadam preparation. Ramesh Naidu further criticized Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy for not visiting Tirumala Srivari along with his wife Bharti, suggesting that this may reflect poorly on the Chief Minister's stance on Hindu sentiments.

Warning against any disrespect to Hindu beliefs, Ramesh Naidu stated that playing with the sentiments of Hindus would not be tolerated. He emphasized that under the NDA rule, governance in the state would be transparent, and the focus would be on bringing Andhra Pradesh onto a path of development, ensuring it becomes a leading state in the country.

Ramana Dixitulu on the Tirumala Laddu Controversy



TPN, Tirumala: Former TTD Chief Priest Ramana Dixitulu has spoken out about the ongoing controversy surrounding the adulteration of ghee used in the preparation of Tirumala's Srivari Laddu. Participating in a media conference organized in Tirumala, Dixitulu revealed that he had raised concerns about the quality of prasadam at Tirumala on numerous occasions over the past five years, but his efforts went largely unnoticed. He stated that he had repeatedly brought the issue to the attention of TTD officials, including the Chairman and Executive Officer (EO), but his fight was a solitary one.

Dixitulu lamented that none of his fellow priests joined his efforts, as they were driven by personal reasons. He expressed dismay that this "great sin" of using adulterated ghee in the sacred prasadam had been allowed to continue for five years without objection. Having reviewed the lab reports on the ghee tests, Dixitulu confirmed that the use of adulterated cow's ghee in the Srivari Laddu was indeed sinful.

He emphasized that pure ghee made from cow's milk should not be mixed with fatty substances, stressing the importance of maintaining the sanctity of offerings at Tirumala. Dixitulu also praised former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu for his efforts to "cleanse" Tirumala, noting that Naidu had implemented several measures to address these issues. He welcomed the government's recent decision to source ghee from Nandini Dairy in Karnataka, calling it a positive step toward ensuring the quality of prasadam at Tirumala.

Sharmila's interesting comments on Chandrababu's 100-day rule

- Sharmila has shown Jagan's mistakes and corruption
- Feeling that YSR's name has been removed wherever possible
- Criticism that Super Six has not been implemented yet
- Highlights Jagan's Failures



TPN,Andhra Pradesh : AP Congress President YS Sharmila has voiced her strong opinions on the performance of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu during his first 100 days in office. In her remarks, she emphasized that the administration has exposed the mistakes and corruption of former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy through detailed white papers, likening it to Sisupalud's calculations. Sharmila expressed concern over the apparent erasure of YS Rajasekhara Reddy's legacy, noting that his name has been removed wherever possible and that idols commemorating him have been destroyed. She criticized the current government for its lack of progress, stating, "If we were to grade Chandrababu's government, I would give it a zero out of 100."

She pointed out that key promises, including the implementation of the "Super Six" program, have yet to materialize. Sharmila remarked that the government had warned of putting the state into a "ditch" within 100 days, but to date, little substantial progress has been made toward that goal.

In summary, Sharmila's comments reflect a strong discontent with both the current administration's performance and the handling of Jagan's legacy. Her criticisms underscore the ongoing political tensions in Andhra Pradesh as the state navigates challenges in governance and public sentiment.

Jagan does not know the difference between TMC and CUSECS : Somireddy

TPN,Mangalagiri : Senior TDP leader Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy launched a scathing attack on former Chief Minister and YSRCP leader YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of not understanding the basics of water management and conspiring against Amaravati's development. Speaking at a media conference at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri, Somireddy expressed frustration that even after losing power, Jagan continues to undermine Amaravati. Somireddy pointed out that despite a record flood of 11.43 lakh cusecs in the Krishna River, Amaravati remained unaffected, thanks to the efficient planning and governance during Chandrababu Naidu's tenure. He argued that only major cities like Hyderabad, Chennai, and Mumbai are prone to waterlogging during heavy rains, while Amaravati has



proven to be safe, even in extreme conditions. "The Secretariat and the High Court continued functioning without disruption despite the floods," he added. Somireddy criticized Jagan for not having even a basic understanding of the water drainage system, stating that Jagan does not know the difference between TMC (Thousand Million Cubic Feet) and cusecs (Cubic Feet per Second), which are essential terms for water management. He further accused Jagan of deliberately sabotaging investment opportunities in Amaravati to prevent the region's growth and prosperity.

The TDP leader's comments come in the wake of ongoing political tensions over Amaravati's future, with both parties locked in a battle over the state's capital region.

Former Dharmavaram MLA Kethireddy's reaction to the news that he is leaving YCP



- Kethireddy said that they have been with YS family for 35 years
- He commented that he will follow Jagan as long as he is in politics
- Kethireddy said that he did not enter politics for positions

TPN,Andhra Pradesh : Former MLA of Dharmavaram, Kethireddy Venkatrami Reddy, has addressed rumors circulating about his possible departure from the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). Known widely for his program "Good Morning Dharmavaram," Kethireddy responded to the speculation through social media, strongly denying any intention to leave the party.

Kethireddy clarified that there is no truth to the rumors and reaffirmed his loyalty to YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and the YS family. "My family has been associated with the YS family for 35 years, and we will continue to stay with them," he said. Kethireddy added that he will follow Jagan as long as he remains in politics and is committed to the YS family's ideals.

He also addressed speculation about others leaving the party, asserting that while some may choose to depart, he will remain with Jagan. "I did not enter politics for positions or power," Kethireddy emphasized, stating that his political journey is rooted in serving the people who trust and believe in him.

Kethireddy's comments have put to rest rumors of his potential party switch, reaffirming his steadfast support for the YSRCP and its leadership. His statements reflect a strong bond with YS Jagan and a commitment to his political ideology.

Jagan's counter to Balineni – Two key appointments within 24 hours..!

TPN,Andhra Pradesh : The political landscape in Andhra Pradesh is heating up as former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy responds to recent defections from his party, the Yuva Jana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YCP). Alarmed by the departure of prominent leader Balineni Srinivasa Reddy, who left the YCP over differences with YV Subbareddy, Jagan swiftly made two key appointments within 24 hours to reinforce party unity.

Balineni, a significant figure in Prakasam district, departed the YCP amid rising tensions, prompting Jagan to act decisively. He appointed Darshi MLA Buchepalli Sivaprasad Reddy as the new district president



of Prakasam, recognizing Reddy's loyalty to the party. This move is seen as a strong counter to Balineni's exit and aims to stabilize YCP's influence in the district. Additionally, senior party leader Chevired-

dy Bhaskar Reddy was appointed as an observer for the Ongole parliamentary constituency. Having contested for the Ongole MP seat in the last election, Chevireddy's new role is expected to help maintain the YCP's presence and address any concerns following the recent defections.

Despite these strategic appointments, the YCP faces challenges in Prakasam district, where its influence appears to be waning. Jagan's proactive measures indicate that he is likely to implement further significant decisions in the near future to strengthen the party's standing and address internal concerns, ensuring the YCP remains a formidable force in Andhra Pradesh politics.



Pawan Kalyan's sensational decision, government programs should be done like this, Lepakshi



TPN, Vijayawada: In a move aimed at promoting local craftsmanship, Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has decided to honor state guests with souvenirs made by local artisans. He plans to use only 40 percent of the budget allocated for the Deputy CM's office for such gifts, with the remaining 60 percent of the cost being borne by himself personally.

The decision underscores his commitment to popularizing the state's rich artistic heritage while supporting local artisans. Pawan Kalyan inspected various handcrafted items from Lepakshi, a state-run handicrafts organization,

including Srikalahasti Kalamkari fabrics, Narasapuram lace, Kondapalli and Atikoppaka dolls, Dharmavaram puppets, Bobbili Veenas, Savara tribal paintings, and Ratnam pens. His goal is to showcase Andhra Pradesh's cultural wealth through these unique souvenirs, which will also feature the state government's seal and detailed cards explaining the artworks.

In a gesture of personal generosity, Pawan Kalyan instructed his officials to create gift hampers using only 40 percent of the departmental budget and covering the remaining 60 percent from his own funds. This initiative is expected to

encourage artisans and spread awareness about their work at both state and national levels.

During his visit to Lepakshi, Pawan Kalyan was accompanied by his daughter Adya, who was particularly impressed by a Kalamkari cloth bag and stick-figure toys. The Deputy CM personally purchased these items for her, showcasing his appreciation for the local craftsmanship.

This initiative reflects Pawan Kalyan's dedication to promoting the arts and supporting the livelihoods of artisans while adding a personal touch to state diplomacy.

Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Holds Review Meeting on Anna Canteens Management

TPN, Vijayawada: In an effort to improve public services, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC) Commissioner Dhyanchandra conducted a review meeting on Friday at the Command Control Room of the Corporation's main office. The meeting focused on the effective management of Anna Canteens within the city.

Special officers assigned to oversee the 11 Anna Canteens under VMC's jurisdiction participated in the meeting. Key issues discussed included the quality of food, sanitation standards, drinking water supply, food token distribution, and restroom maintenance at each canteen. The objective was to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the canteens to prevent any inconvenience to the public.

During the meeting, a plan was formulated to address issues identified by the special officers. Commissioner Dhyanchandra emphasized the importance of resolving any problems promptly, instructing officials to take corrective measures within 15 minutes of an issue being reported.

The review meeting highlighted the VMC's commitment to improving the quality of services at Anna Canteens, ensuring that the public has access to clean, well-maintained facilities and quality food. The officials were urged to remain vigilant and ensure that no inconvenience is caused to the citizens who rely on these services.



Corruption Allegations Against Junior Assistant Arun Kumar Spark Inquiry in Vijayawada Govt Hospital



TPN, Vijayawada: Superintendent Venkateswara Rao has responded to recent reports by Point News concerning corruption allegations against Junior Assistant Innolu Arun Kumar at the Vijayawada Government Hospital. Following these reports, a committee has been formed to investigate the complaint against Arun Kumar, and action will be taken based on the evidence gathered.

Arun Kumar, however, maintains his innocence, stating, "I am honest and unaware of any wrongdoing. If anything comes up, Superintendent Venkateswara Rao will handle it." Despite his claims, victims accuse him of numerous corrupt activities over the past decade, with suspicions that higher hospital officials are shielding him.

The victims pointed out the disparity between Arun Kumar's official salary of Rs 50,000 and the Rs 1.5 lakh in monthly bank loans he reportedly repays. There are also allegations dating back to 2017, when Arun was in charge of postmortems, that he looted gold from the

bodies of deceased orphans.

Arun has been linked to several scandals, including the alleged collection of large sums from private hospitals during inspections. It is claimed that he receives Rs 90,000 from hospital owners but collects Rs 5 lakh for signing inspection reports.

Additionally, Arun Kumar has been accused of siphoning the stipends of nursing students at the School of Nursing. The victims fear that the committee formed by Superintendent Venkateswara Rao may be biased in Arun's favor. They demand that Arun be removed from his position before a fair investigation can begin.

The inquiry will determine whether Superintendent Venkateswara Rao upholds justice or if he is involved in covering up the corruption, as alleged by Arun Kumar.

The next investigation will focus on allegations of sexual harassment within the hospital's leadership.

Next coming to ggh head sexual erasment story.

Vizianagaram MP Kalishetti Appalanaidu Meets Uttarandhra In-charge Buddha Venkanna in Vijayawada



TPN, Vijayawada: Vizianagaram MP Kalishetti Appalanaidu met with Uttarandhra in-charge Buddha Venkanna during his visit to Vijayawada on Friday. The two leaders engaged in discussions on the latest political developments and the future of the party.

MP Appalanaidu praised Buddha Venkanna for his dedicated service to the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). "Buddha Venkanna has worked tirelessly for the TDP, especially in Uttarandhra, where he played a significant role in strengthening the party. His leadership and guidance have been invaluable to me on many occasions," said Appalanaidu.

Appalanaidu also commended Buddha Venkanna for his relentless stand against the previous government, referring to him as a fierce opponent of what he called the "anarchic regime." He highlighted Venkanna's deep loyalty to TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu, noting that Venkanna treated Naidu like a god and would never tolerate anyone speaking against the Nara family.

Buddha Venkanna is known for his bold stance against the YSR Congress Party (YCP) leaders who criticized Naidu and his family in the past. His unwavering dedication to the party has made him a respected figure within TDP circles.

Appalanaidu expressed his belief that Buddha Venkanna's contributions will continue to be valuable to the party. "His service to the party is unquestionable, and his leadership will surely be used by our leader for the benefit of the party," he said.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both leaders reaffirming their commitment to strengthening the TDP in the coming days.

Jagan Reddy, YV Subbareddy Should Apologize to Srivari Devotees



TPN, Vijayawada: NTR District Brahmana Sadhikara Samiti Convener K. Sivasharma has demanded that Chief Minister Jagan Reddy and former TTD Chairman YV Subbareddy apologize to Srivari devotees for desecrating Tirumala's Laddu Prasadam. He urged the state government to punish those responsible for corrupting the sacred prasad.

Addressing the media at NTR Bhawan in Vijayawada, Sivasharma condemned the alleged use of ghee made from fish oil and pork fat in the preparation of Tirumala's sacred laddu during the previous government. He accused Jagan's government of compromising Hindu religious beliefs for commissions and highlighted corruption in the food donation process as well.

Sivasharma criticized YV Subbareddy, stating that instead of addressing the desecration, they are staging a new drama by calling for an investigation with a sitting judge. He also demanded an apology from both Jagan and Subbareddy for tarnishing the sanctity of Tirumala and warned that they would face the consequences soon. Sivasharma called on the state government to enact strict laws to prevent further harm to Tirumala's reputation. Several TDP leaders, including Nakka Krishna and Nellore Nani, participated in the program.

Andhra Pradesh-Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024 Concludes in Vijayawada



TPN, Vijayawada: The Andhra Pradesh-Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024 concluded successfully at the Novotel Hotel, Vijayawada, with more than 200 tourism representatives in attendance. The event, organized under the auspices of IRA Overseas Studies, aimed at strengthening tourism and cultural exchange between Andhra Pradesh and Vietnam. State Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography, Kandula Durgesh, attended as the Chief Guest on behalf of the Andhra Pradesh government. Represent-

ing Vietnam was H.E. Nguyen Thanh Hai, who also served as the chief guest.

The conclave focused on various initiatives aimed at fostering cooperation in tourism and cultural exchange. Representatives discussed tourism opportunities in both India and Andhra Pradesh, emphasizing mutual growth and development.

Minister Kandula Durgesh highlighted Andhra Pradesh's rich tourism potential, emphasizing the state's plans to develop two major Buddhist circuits. He elaborat-

ed on the state's cultural and tourism offerings, urging collaboration for further development.

A special video showcasing Andhra Pradesh's tourist attractions, cultural heritage, and specialties was presented during the event, leaving the audience highly impressed.

The conclave is expected to lead to fruitful partnerships and opportunities, strengthening tourism ties between Andhra Pradesh and Vietnam.



Tirupati Laddoo Controversy: Protecting Religious Sanctity or Political Agenda?

The Tirupati Laddoo, revered as a sacred 'prasada' by millions of devotees, is at the center of a legal and political storm. A petition in the Supreme Court has raised serious concerns about alleged animal fat in the laddoos distributed at the Sri Venkateswara Temple in Tirupati. The allegations, primarily concerning the violation of Hindu religious customs, have struck a deep chord with the sentiments of countless devotees. However, the controversy also raises important questions about the management of religious institutions and the intertwining of faith and politics in the public domain.

Religious Rights and Constitutional Protection

The petition filed by lawyer Satyam Singh is grounded in Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees the right to freedom of religion, including the practice and preservation of religious customs. The claim that animal fat was found in the sacred prasada is seen as a gross violation of these fundamental religious rights. Devotees regard the Tirupati Laddoo as a divine blessing, and any suggestion of contamination with non-vegetarian substances, particularly beef and pork, is seen as a severe affront to Hindu customs.

This issue is more than just a matter of religious sensibilities. If proven, it could indicate larger systemic problems in temple management, suggesting negligence or malpractice by those entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the sanctity of one of the holiest Hindu shrines. The petition calls for reforms in the administration of temples, urging culturally sensitive and transparent management practices. This reflects a broader concern among many devotees, who feel that religious institutions are not being managed with the reverence they deserve.

Chandrababu Naidu's Allegations and Political Fallout

Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's comments have fueled the controversy, with his accusation that the YSR Congress government was responsible for the alleged use of animal fat in the Tirupati Laddoo. According to Naidu, the previous administration had tarnished the sanctity of the temple by allowing such practices. He cited a Gujarat laboratory report which allegedly confirmed traces of beef tallow, fish oil, and lard in the ghee used to make the laddoos.

Naidu's allegations have predictably drawn

sharp political reactions. The BJP, an ally of Naidu's Telugu Desam Party (TDP), has termed the alleged use of animal fat an unforgivable sin, with some leaders hinting that individuals from other religions within the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) board may have been responsible for the lapse. This has further complicated the issue, suggesting a communal angle to the controversy.

YSR Congress' Denial and Charges of Political Diversion

On the other side, the YSR Congress and former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy have dismissed the allegations as baseless and politically motivated. Reddy, along with his party leaders, has accused Naidu of employing diversionary tactics to gain political mileage. Senior YSR Congress leader YV Subba Reddy, who served as the TTD chairman, has gone so far as to accuse Naidu of damaging the sanctity of the temple and playing with the faith of millions of Hindus for political gain.

The political overtones of this controversy cannot be ignored. With both sides trading accusations, the real issue—the religious sanctity of the Tirupati Laddoo—risks becoming a casualty of political brinkmanship. It is essential to separate political rhetoric from the genuine concerns of devotees who are deeply hurt by these allegations.

The Need for Accountability and Transparency

At its core, the Tirupati Laddoo row highlights the need for transparency and accountability in the management of religious institutions. Temples like the Sri Venkateswara Temple are not merely places of worship; they are cultural and spiritual landmarks that hold immense significance for millions of people. Any allegations of malpractice, particularly when it comes to sacred offerings like prasada, must be thoroughly investigated.

The Supreme Court's intervention in this matter is timely and necessary. It must ensure that the religious rights of devotees are upheld while also addressing the systemic issues in temple administration. If the allegations of animal fat being used in the laddoos are proven false, it is important that those responsible for spreading misinformation are held accountable. On the other hand, if there is truth to the claims, immediate corrective measures must be taken to restore the faith of devotees.



Greece's Golden Visa Scheme: A Gateway to European Residency for Wealthy Indians

The Greece Golden Visa Programme has gained significant traction among wealthy Indian investors in recent years, offering an attractive pathway to European residency through real estate investments. This premier residency-by-investment initiative has seen a surge in Indian participation, especially in the wake of major changes to the program introduced in September 2024.

What is the Greece Golden Visa Programme?

Launched to attract non-EU nationals, the Greece Golden Visa Programme provides residency rights to individuals who make substantial financial investments in the country, most commonly through the purchase of real estate. It allows investors and their families to reside in Greece and access the wider Schengen Area, offering visa-free travel across 27 European countries.

Surge in Interest Before 2024 Changes

In July and August 2024, Indian investors moved swiftly to secure Greek properties before the changes to the Golden Visa came into effect on September 1. According to available data, there was a remarkable 37% increase in property purchases by Indian nationals during this period. This rush was driven by the desire to lock in lower investment requirements, as the revised regulations have significantly raised the minimum amount needed for eligibility.

Under the new rules, the minimum investment threshold in Tier I cities such as Athens, Thessaloniki, Mykonos, and Santorini has doubled to €800,000 (approximately ₹7 crore). Meanwhile, in Tier II regions, which encompass all other parts of Greece, the required investment has increased from €250,000 to €400,000. These changes reflect Greece's efforts to streamline its residency-by-investment programme while aligning it with broader economic goals.

Key Features and Benefits of the Programme

The Greece Golden Visa is not just about buying property; it opens doors to a range of benefits for the investor and their family. Some of the major advantages include:

1. Residency Rights: Investors have the right to live in Greece, though there is no mandatory requirement for long-term stays. This flexibility is particularly appealing to those who want European residency without the obligation of residing full-time in the country.

2. Schengen Area Access: The visa grants visa-free travel across the Schengen Zone, allowing investors and their families to move freely within 27 European countries.

3. Family Inclusion: Spouses, partners (including those in legally recognized cohabitation agreements), children under 21, and dependent parents of the primary applicant or spouse are all eligible for residency under the programme.

4. Pathway to Citizenship: After seven years of continuous residency, investors may apply for Greek citizenship, though this process is subject to additional conditions.

Eligibility Criteria and Investment Requirements

To qualify for the Greece Golden Visa, applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- **Non-EU/EEA Citizenship:** The programme is open to non-EU nationals, making it particularly attractive to wealthy investors from countries like India.
- **Age and Character Requirements:** Applicants must be over 18 years of age, have a clean criminal record, and demonstrate good character.
- **Medical Insurance:** Health insurance valid in Greece is mandatory for both the applicant and their family members.

The most common route to securing a visa is through the purchase of real estate. The updated 2024 requirements stipulate that the minimum investment amount varies by location:

- **€800,000 in Tier I regions**** such as major cities and popular tourist destinations.
- **€400,000 in Tier II regions****, covering less developed or rural areas.

Application Process and Legal Requirements

The application process for the Golden Visa is relatively straightforward but requires legal representation from a licensed Greek lawyer. Key documentation includes:

- A valid passport and any previous visas.
- Proof of investment, such as property contracts and bank statements.
- Biometric data for the applicant and family members.
- A clean criminal record, translated into Greek.
- Health insurance valid in Greece.

A lawyer is crucial in facilitating the submission of these documents, ensuring compliance with Greek immigration laws. Many applicants grant their lawyer power of attorney, allowing them to act on their behalf during the process.

Renewal and Permanent Residency

The initial residency permit is valid for five years and can be renewed as long as the investment is maintained. Permanent residency may be granted after seven years of continuous residency, making the Greece Golden Visa an attractive long-term investment option for those looking to secure a stable presence in Europe.

The Appeal to Indian Investors

The Greece Golden Visa Programme has found particular favor with wealthy Indians, who are drawn to the dual benefits of European residency and visa-free travel within the Schengen Area. The recent changes to the investment thresholds have made it even more attractive to those seeking premium properties in Greece's most desirable locations, such as Athens, Mykonos, and Santorini.

As the demand for international real estate continues to rise, the Greece Golden Visa Programme remains a premier choice for Indian investors seeking to diversify their assets, gain European residency, and secure a brighter future for their families. The programme's flexibility, coupled with its wide-ranging benefits, makes it one of the most attractive residency-by-investment schemes in Europe today.

Congress Insults India On Foreign Land": PM Modi's Swipe At Rahul Gandhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a scathing attack on the Congress party during his address at the National PM Vishwakarma Programme in Wardha, Maharashtra, accusing its leaders, particularly Rahul Gandhi, of insulting the nation during their foreign visits. He criticized Congress for its alleged anti-national rhetoric, saying, "The spirit of patriotism has died in today's Congress," and characterized the party as being influenced by elements he referred to as the "Tukde Tukde Gang" and "Urban Naxals."

Modi highlighted Gandhi's recent speech in the United States, suggesting that Congress leaders have an anti-national agenda that undermines India's culture and unity. He referenced specific incidents, such as the Congress government in Karnataka placing a Ganesh idol in a police van, to illustrate his point about Congress's perceived disregard for Indian traditions.

The Prime Minister accused Congress of being synonymous with "lies, deception, and dishonesty," particularly regarding their broken promises to waive farmers' loans in Telangana. He asserted that Congress is the "most dishonest and corrupt party" in the country, with its leadership representing the "most corrupt family" in India.



Modi also addressed the issue of social equity, claiming that the Congress party has historically obstructed the progress of Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC). He stated that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government has eliminated the "anti-Dalit and anti-backward thinking" that he attributed to Congress, allowing vulnerable communities to benefit from schemes like the Vishwakarma Yojana.

The Prime Minister further criticized the previous Maha Vikas Aghadi government in Maharashtra for failing to support cotton farmers, accusing them of indulging in corruption instead of empowering the agricultural sector. He highlighted the initiatives taken by the previous government under Devendra Fadnavis, stating that efforts were made to strengthen the textile industry in Maharashtra.

AAP Demands Govt Accommodation for Arvind Kejriwal

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has formally requested government accommodation for outgoing Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, asserting that he is entitled to it as the convener of a national party. During a press conference on Friday, AAP Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha announced that the party would be writing to the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, hoping for a swift response within one or two days.

Kejriwal, who resigned earlier this week, is expected to vacate his official residence within 15 days. Chadha emphasized that all national party leaders are entitled to two essential resources: an office and accommodation to operate from Delhi. AAP achieved national party status following the Gujarat assembly elections in 2022, where it secured several seats and a notable vote percentage.

The Centre had previously provided AAP with an office after a prolonged struggle and court intervention, allowing the party to relocate to its new office on Ravi Shankar Shukla Lane in Mandi House just last month.

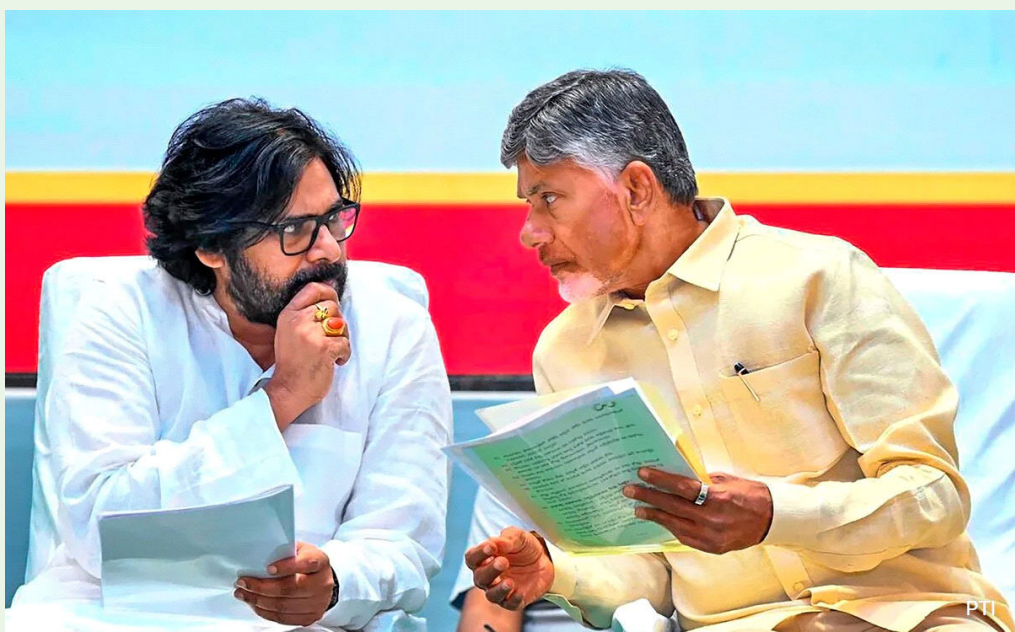
Chadha urged the Centre to act without delay or political bias, asserting that Kejriwal's entitlement to government accommodation is a rightful demand. He pointed out that other leaders of national parties, including BJP President JP Nadda, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, and BSP leader Mayawati, have all been granted government accommodation in the capital.

The party's national secretary will draft the letter to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, with Chadha expressing hope that the request would not require legal action. He noted that Kejriwal would soon relinquish all official privileges following his resignation, emphasizing that he does not own property or a personal residence.

As the leader of a national party, Kejriwal's need for government accommodation is framed as a matter of rights according to existing laws, and AAP remains committed to ensuring that he receives this support from the government.



Time for a Sanatana Dharma Rakshana Board: Pawan Kalyan Amid Tirupati Laddoo Row



Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan has proposed the establishment of a 'Sanatana Dharma Rakshana Board' to address issues related to temples across the country. His comments follow the ongoing controversy surrounding the alleged use of animal fat in the famed Tirupati laddu, a sacred offering at the Tirumala temple.

In a post on X, Kalyan expressed deep concern over findings indicating that substances such as fish oil, pork fat, and beef fat were mixed into the prasadam,

which has sparked widespread outrage among devotees. He criticized the previous YSR Congress government for failing to address these grave concerns and emphasized the need for stringent actions against those responsible.

"This matter sheds light on numerous issues related to temple desecration, land disputes, and other dharmic practices," he stated, asserting that now is the time to consider a national-level board to oversee temple-related issues

across India.

Kalyan called for a comprehensive national debate involving policymakers, religious leaders, the judiciary, and the media to unite against what he termed the "desecration of Sanatana Dharma." He urged all stakeholders to come together to safeguard religious sentiments and ensure respect for Hindu traditions.

The controversy was intensified by comments from Andhra Pradesh Minister Nara Lokesh, who shared a video of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu discussing the use of animal fat in the preparation of Tirupati prasadam. Lokesh expressed shock over the findings, asserting that the use of animal fat disrespects the religious sentiments of countless devotees.

Adding to the allegations, TDP spokesperson Anam Venkata Ramana Reddy claimed that lab reports confirmed the presence of animal fats in the ghee supplied to the temple, which he argued offends the Hindu community.

As the controversy continues to unfold, Kalyan's call for a dedicated board reflects a growing demand for accountability and preservation of religious practices in the state.

Mamata Banerjee's Big Move Against INDIA Ally-Ruled Jharkhand

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has attributed the devastating floods in the state to what she describes as a "man-made disaster," specifically blaming the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for the release of water from Jharkhand reservoirs. In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she criticized the DVC for its "unprecedented, unplanned, and unilateral" discharge of nearly 500,000 cusecs from the Maithon and Panchet dams, resulting in severe flooding across South Bengal.

Banerjee noted that the floods have affected over 1,000 square kilometers, impacting nearly 5 million residents, causing significant damage to crops, infrastructure, and homes. She warned that if this approach continues, the West Bengal government may sever ties with the DVC altogether. The Chief Minister stated that the state is currently experiencing the worst floods since 2009, calling the situation a product of sheer neglect.

On Wednesday, Banerjee claimed that



both the DVC and the Jharkhand government were effectively offloading their water problems onto Bengal, stating that

the release of water was a tactic to protect their own interests. Following her statements, the West Bengal government enacted measures to seal its borders with Jharkhand, halting the entry of heavy vehicles in an attempt to mitigate the impact of the floods.

In response, BJP leaders have criticized Banerjee's actions. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma accused her of deflecting blame from her own government's failures and using the situation for political gain. BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari further alleged that Banerjee is trying to distract from a recent high-profile crime in Kolkata by threatening to cut ties with the DVC.

The Union Power Ministry has stated that all water releases from the dams were made in consultation with the Damodar Valley Reservoir Regulation Committee, which includes representatives from both West Bengal and Jharkhand, and emphasized that the decision to release water was not taken lightly.



PM Should Have Set a Different Example": Priyanka Gandhi on Kharge's Letter

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra expressed her disappointment over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's lack of response to a letter from Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, instead allowing BJP President JP Nadda to issue an "inferior and aggressive" reply. In her remarks, Priyanka highlighted the toxicity in current political discourse, emphasizing that the Prime Minister should have set a more respectful example.

Kharge had written to Modi on Tuesday, urging him to "discipline" BJP leaders for their "objectionable and violent" statements directed at Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The Congress president pointed out specific instances where BJP figures, such as Minister of State for Railways Ravneet Singh Bittu, labeled Gandhi a "number one terrorist." He also cited a comment from Sanjay Gaikwad, an MLA from BJP ally Shiv Sena, who offered ₹1 lakh to anyone who would cut off Gandhi's tongue in response to his remarks about scrapping the reservation system.

In his response, Nadda not only deflected the criticisms but also brought up past insults directed at Modi by Congress leaders. He took a jab at Rahul Gandhi, asserting that the party was attempting to relaunch a "failed product" that voters have repeatedly rejected.

Maldives Expresses Gratitude to India for Budgetary Support

Maldives Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer has expressed his appreciation for India's financial assistance, following the Indian government's decision to extend budgetary support through the rollover of a USD 50 million Treasury Bill. In a post on X, Zameer highlighted that this gesture underscores the strong friendship between the Maldives and India.

The State Bank of India (SBI) subscribed to the USD 50 million Treasury Bills issued by the Maldivian Ministry of Finance for an additional year after the previous subscription matured on September 19. This marks the second such rollover in 2024, following an earlier extension in May.

Zameer thanked External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar for this critical support, noting that it aligns with the Maldives' fiscal consolidation efforts amid ongoing economic challenges. The Maldivian government is reportedly highly appreciative of India's assistance, which was discussed during Zameer's meeting with Jaishankar in August.

The Indian High Commission emphasized the

importance of the Maldives as a key maritime neighbor under India's "Neighbourhood First" policy. The recent financial support reflects India's commitment to aiding the Maldives, particularly in times of need, and aligns with India's broader vision of security and growth for all in the region.

Despite recent tensions following the election of President Mohamed Muizzu—who initially called for the removal of Indian military personnel—the Maldivian government has recently adopted a more conciliatory approach. This shift comes after a series of high-level visits, including Jaishankar's visit in August, where he signed agreements on capacity building and inaugurated six community development projects.

The evolving relationship between the Maldives and India highlights the significance of their partnership, with both nations looking to enhance collaboration for mutual benefit. As diplomatic efforts continue, the Maldives hopes to strengthen ties with India, ensuring continued support for its development and stability.



China and India: Partners for Development, Not Rivals



China's Ambassador to India, Xu Feihong, emphasized the cooperative potential between the two largest developing nations during a recent press conference. He stated that both countries share the responsibility of enhancing the livelihoods of their populations and have reached significant consensus under the leadership of President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Highlighting historical ties, Xu recalled the five principles of peaceful coexistence established in the 1950s, which he described as foundational for international relations. He asserted that China and India should be seen as developmental partners rather than competitors, providing a roadmap for improving bilateral relations.

Xu acknowledged India's initiatives such as "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (Self-Reliant India) and "Make in India," noting that these efforts aim to position India as a global manufacturing hub. He expressed China's commitment to modernizing its economy while offering new opportunities for cooperation, inviting Indian commodities into the Chinese market and encouraging

Indian businesses to invest in China.

The ambassador praised India's economic reforms under Modi, acknowledging the complexities involved in reforming a nation of 1.4 billion people. He reiterated China's desire to share its modernization experiences with India to foster mutual growth.

Recent diplomatic engagements, including meetings between Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Indian officials, signal a desire to improve bilateral relations. The two countries have been addressing border issues, with Jaishankar reporting that 75% of disengagement problems along the Line of Actual Control have been resolved.

While acknowledging past tensions, Xu reaffirmed that both nations can enhance their partnership, citing a shared vision for peace and development. The ongoing dialogue aims to establish a stable and cooperative relationship that benefits both nations and promotes regional stability.

India Joining UN Security Council With Veto Power

For decades, Indian politicians have asserted that the nation deserves a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). As an aspiring superpower, India argues that it has been unfairly excluded from this high table. Despite support from several international dignitaries and coalitions advocating for UNSC reforms, experts remain skeptical about imminent changes.

India faces four major challenges in its pursuit of a UNSC seat. Among the five permanent members—the US, UK, France, and Russia have historically backed India, but China remains a significant obstacle. As India's regional competitor, China is unlikely to endorse New Delhi's candidacy, especially amid ongoing border disputes. Furthermore, China has shown discomfort with Japan's bid for a permanent seat, fearing that

supporting India might bolster Japan's position.

Some factions propose that India could secure UNSC membership without veto power. However, India firmly believes that any new permanent member must possess veto rights, making this proposition unacceptable to New Delhi.

While the US has, in principle, endorsed India's candidacy, doubts linger regarding its actual support. Historical patterns suggest reluctance among permanent members to extend veto powers, fearing a shift in the balance of influence.

India's leadership is challenged by regional dynamics, particularly in South Asia, where tensions with neighbors like Pakistan and China complicate its standing.



Jammu And Kashmir Phase 1 Polling Turnout Didn't Reach 2014 Election Level

In the first phase of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections, voter turnout has not only disappointed but has also failed to match the 2014 assembly election figures. This election marks the first assembly polls in a decade, yet the anticipated surge in participation did not materialize. According to the Election Commission, a voter turnout of 61% was recorded for the 24 seats contested, a drop from the 66% seen in 2014 despite various challenges, including calls for boycott from separatist groups.

Factors such as improved security and the absence of boycott calls were expected to encourage higher voter participation. Notably, the participation of the Jamaat-e-Islami was also seen as a potential boost. However, the results indicate that in several constituencies, especially in South Kashmir, voter turnout has decreased compared to 2014.

For instance, in the Pampore assembly seat, turnout fell from 47% in 2014 to just 42%. Similarly, the Rajpora seat in Pulwama recorded a slight decrease, from 47% to 45%. The DH Pora seat saw a significant drop from 77% in 2014 to 65% this year, while Dooru's turnout declined from 63% to 57%. In Shangus, Anantnag, the voting percentage plummeted from 67% to 52%.

While the recent parliamentary elections in Jammu and Kashmir had witnessed a record-breaking turnout, raising hopes for robust participation in the assembly polls, the first phase's turnout suggests otherwise. Political parties campaigned vigorously, yet their efforts did not translate into increased votes in many areas.

The second phase of polling is scheduled for September 25, followed by the third phase on October 1. Votes will be counted on October 8, as all eyes remain on the future turnout and its implications for the region's political landscape.





Sensex Breaks 84,000 Mark, Nifty Touches New High Amid US Fed Rate Cut Boost

Domestic benchmark indices broke old records on Friday. New ones are created. BSE Sensex broke the 84,000 mark for the first time. And Nifty has touched 25700 level. Positive signals were received from the international markets as the US Fed cut interest rates by 50 basis points. In the morning, indices started running as domestic investors along with foreign institutional investors took up purchases. After reaching lifetime highs, they suddenly fall. European markets rallied well after the opening. With this, the wealth of investors in BSE has increased by Rs.6 lakh crore. In the NSE, all the sector indices were hit.



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The BSE Sensex, which closed at 83,184 in the previous session, opened at 83,603 today. It touched an intraday low of 83,187. The index rose by 1000 points in the afternoon and crossed the 84000 mark for the first time. The index, which had fallen briefly before European markets opened, soon recovered to touch an intraday high of 84,694. Finally ended at 84,544 with a gain of 1359 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 25,525, touched a low of 25,426 and a high of 25,849. The total rose by 375 points to close at 25,790. Bank Nifty jumped 755 points to settle at 53,793.

In Nifty50, 44 companies gained while 6 lost. M&M, ICICI Bank, JSW Steel, LT, Coal India were the top gainers. Gramsim, SBI, NTPC, IndusInd Bank and Heromoto were major losers. Today, except for PSU Bank, all sector indices rose. Bank, auto, finance, FMCG, metal, private bank and realty indices rose more.

Nifty support is at 25550 and resistance is at 25800. Investors can buy shares of JSW Steel, LT, DLF, Escort and Mankind in short term.

Tatasteel commissions largest blast furnace in Odisha. Bharat Forge has transferred 50% stake in Refoo Drive to Kalyani Power Train Limited. Adani Ports and Roriks Holdings have entered into a MoU. Wonderla Holidays has launched an amusement park in Bhubaneswar. Lemon Tree Hotels has signed a license agreement for a 40-room hotel in Jammu and Kashmir. TCS has opened a new office in Warsaw, Poland. Bharti Airtel lost 16.94 lakh users on a monthly basis. But added 12.52 lakh new users. Reliance Jio lost 7.85 lakh people and gained 19.11 lakh people. Banned Axis Capital Limited from debt merchant activities.

1. JSW Steel

JSW Steel is one of India's largest steel producers and has been benefiting from strong domestic and international demand for steel. The company's focus on capacity expansion and improving operational efficiencies has contributed to its solid performance. The company has been ramping up its capacity to meet rising demand, both domestically and internationally. The push for infrastructure development globally, particularly in India, continues to drive steel demand.



2. Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

L&T is a major player in the infrastructure and construction space, with a diversified business model that spans multiple sectors including heavy engineering, defense, and IT services. The company has been benefiting from India's infrastructure boom and increased government spending on projects. L&T's order book remains robust, and the company's ongoing focus on executing large infrastructure projects both domestically and internationally bodes well for its growth prospects.



3. DLF

DLF, a leader in India's real estate sector, has been benefiting from strong demand in both residential and commercial properties. The company's financial performance has improved significantly as the real estate sector recovers from past slowdowns. DLF has seen a revival in demand for luxury housing and commercial spaces, particularly in metro cities. The company's ongoing projects and a positive outlook for the real estate sector add to its attractiveness.



4. Escorts Kubota

Escorts Kubota is a leading manufacturer of agricultural and construction equipment in India. The company has been showing steady growth due to rising demand for farm equipment, driven by favorable monsoon conditions and strong rural income growth. Escorts has been expanding its product portfolio and focusing on innovation in its farm equipment, which has supported its growth. The company's strategic tie-up with Kubota also adds to its international growth potential.



5. Mankind Pharma

Mankind Pharma is a major pharmaceutical company in India, with a strong presence in domestic healthcare and FMCG markets. The company's focus on expanding its product offerings and geographical reach supports its long-term growth prospects. Mankind's efforts to grow its portfolio, particularly in high-growth therapeutic segments such as cardiovascular and anti-diabetic drugs, make it a key player in the pharmaceutical space. Additionally, its foray into over-the-counter (OTC) healthcare products boosts its revenue diversification.



SEBI Bans Axis Capital from Debt Assignments Over Violations

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed restrictions on Axis Capital Limited (ACL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Axis Bank, barring it from accepting new assignments as a merchant banker, arranger, or underwriter in the debt segment. This action comes in response to alleged violations of regulatory norms related to non-convertible debentures (NCDs) issued by Sojo Infotel, for which ACL served as the merchant banker.



According to SEBI's findings, ACL was accused of providing guarantees or indemnities concerning the redemption of NCDs, disguising these actions as underwriting. Such practices are prohibited under existing regulations, as they pose significant risks to the financial system and could disrupt the orderly functioning of the market.

SEBI's investigation highlighted concerns about the integrity of the underwriting process and the potential for such violations to undermine investor confidence and market stability. By acting outside its permitted scope, ACL risked not only its reputation but also the broader integrity of the financial markets.

The regulator's order emphasizes the need for strict adherence to established guidelines in the capital markets. By restricting ACL's activ-

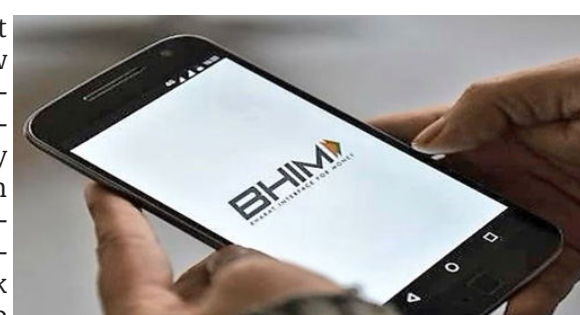
ities, SEBI aims to reinforce compliance and maintain a level playing field for all market participants.

As a result of this ruling, ACL is currently prohibited from engaging in any new assignments until further notice. The implications of this restriction could affect the company's operations and its ability to participate in future debt offerings.

SEBI's actions underscore its commitment to upholding regulatory standards and ensuring that financial institutions operate within the legal framework designed to protect investors and maintain market order. The ongoing scrutiny of merchant banking practices reflects the regulator's proactive approach to safeguarding the financial system against potential risks.

RuPay BOBCARD Users Can Convert Purchases to EMIs via UPI

RuPay BOBCARD credit card holders can now easily convert their purchases into equated monthly installments (EMIs) by scanning a QR code through UPI (Unified Payments Interface) apps. This new feature allows users to link their RuPay credit cards to popular platforms such as Amazon Pay, BHIM, CRED, Google Pay, Paytm, and PhonePe.



card users.

With this option, users can convert any UPI transaction into EMIs at both online and offline merchants that accept UPI payments. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced this feature in April 2024, aiming to enhance the payment flexibility for RuPay credit

BOBCARD Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda, is one of the first entities to implement this feature for its credit card users, paving the way for other banks to adopt similar functionalities. As more institutions follow suit, RuPay credit card holders can expect increased convenience in managing their purchases.

Adani Group Set to Acquire 46.64% Stake in ITD Cementation India

The Adani Group is poised to acquire a 46.64% promoter stake in ITD Cementation India, as reported by the Economic Times. This strategic move, valued at ₹5,888.57 crore (approximately \$700 million), aims to bolster Adani's in-house civil engineering capabilities and expand its extensive portfolio, which includes airports, highways, ports, power plants, and real estate projects.



An agreement between the involved parties was reportedly reached earlier this week, with an official announcement anticipated soon. However, the details remain unverified. ITD Cementation India, a well-established engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) company, has a history dating back to pre-independence India. As of the June quarter, its current promoter, Italian-Thai Development Public Co, held a 46.64% stake in the company.

In July, ITD Cementation informed stock exchanges of the promoters' intentions to divest their stakes, although they were still in the preliminary stages without definitive agreements in place.

This acquisition reflects Adani Group's ongoing expansion efforts and commitment to enhancing its capabilities in the infrastructure sector. The company has not yet responded to requests for comments regarding this deal. Similarly, Italian-Thai Development and ITD Cementation have remained silent on the matter.

With the infrastructure sector in India experiencing significant growth, this acquisition could position the Adani Group favorably to leverage new opportunities. As infrastructure development continues to be a priority for the Indian government, the synergies gained from this acquisition could prove valuable in fulfilling various project requirements and expanding the Adani Group's operational footprint in the EPC domain.

Government Aims to Reduce Logistics Costs to Single Digits by 2030

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari announced the government's ambitious plan to reduce logistics costs to single digits by 2030. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to enhance India's logistics performance, which has seen significant improvements over the past decade.

India's position in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) has notably advanced, climbing 15 ranks to reach 39 in 2023. This upward trajectory reflects the government's efforts to streamline logistics and transportation systems across the country. An analysis of LPI data highlights that India has excelled in international shipments, now ranking 22 out of 139 economies, a significant improvement from its previous rank of 44 a decade ago.

Despite these advancements, high logistics costs continue to pose a challenge for the Indian economy. The government recognizes that reducing these costs is crucial for enhancing competitiveness and attracting investment. Minister Gadkari emphasized that achieving lower logistics costs will not only benefit businesses but also contribute to overall economic growth.

The government's approach to achieving this goal includes investing in infrastructure development, promoting multimodal transportation, and leveraging technology to optimize logistics operations. Initiatives such as the National Logistics Policy aim to create a more efficient logistics ecosystem by integrating various modes of transport and improving connectivity.



By addressing logistical inefficiencies and reducing costs, the government aims to bolster India's standing in global trade and support the nation's economic ambitions. As logistics costs are a key factor in determining the competitiveness of industries, the government's commitment to this goal is expected to have far-reaching implications for businesses across the country.

With a focus on sustainable practices and innovative solutions, the government seeks to transform India's logistics sector, making it a vital component of the nation's economic framework. The successful implementation of these plans will be crucial in determining the future trajectory of India's logistics performance and overall economic health.

SRI LANKA ELECTIONS 2024: A CLOSE LOOK AT THE 5 KEY CANDIDATES AND THEIR STANCES



Sri Lanka is set to hold a pivotal presidential election on Saturday, marking a critical moment in the country's efforts to recover from its worst-ever economic crisis. The island nation is currently under the leadership of President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who is seeking re-election. The election will determine the nation's future path as it grapples with reforms aimed at stabilizing its fragile economy.

Ranil Wickremesinghe: The Incumbent Leader



At 75 years old, Ranil Wickremesinghe is looking for a fresh mandate after taking office in July 2022, following the resignation of his predecessor, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, amid widespread protests. Wickremesinghe, a seasoned politician and leader of the United National Party (UNP), is running as an independent candidate. His leadership is credited with restoring calm in a country reeling from severe shortages of food, fuel, and medicine, as well as helping stabilize the economy through tough decisions and international support.

Wickremesinghe has emphasized the need for continued economic reforms, positioning himself as the leader who can maintain law and order, strengthen democracy, and push Sri Lanka towards a stronger export economy. However, he faces a significant challenge in this election, where 38 candidates are vying for the presidency.

Sajith Premadasa: The Opposition Leader

Sajith Premadasa, 57, heads the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), a centrist party that broke away from Wickremesinghe's UNP in 2020. Premadasa, the son of former President Ranasinghe Premadasa, has been a vocal critic of the current government's approach to the IMF bailout programme. He advocates for adjustments to the \$2.9 billion deal, proposing tax reforms to ease the burden of the cost of living on the public.

His platform includes a blend of interventionist policies and



free-market reforms, aimed at reducing poverty and economic inequality in Sri Lanka.

Anura Kumara Dissanayake: The Rising Marxist

At 55, Anura Kumara Dissanayake has gained momentum with his anti-corruption stance and pro-poor policies. He leads the People's Liberation Front (PLF) and is contesting under the National People's Power (NPP) coalition. Though his party holds only three seats in parliament, Dissanayake has garnered significant support, with pre-election surveys showing him leading with 36% of voter preference.

Dissanayake advocates for stronger state intervention and a more closed-market approach to protect local industries and workers, positioning himself as the candidate for those disillusioned by mainstream politics.

Namal Rajapaksa: The Rajapaksa Dynasty's New Face

Namal Rajapaksa, 38, represents the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), the party founded by his uncle Basil and associated with the powerful Rajapaksa family. As the son of former President Mahinda Ra-



japaksa and nephew of Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Namal's entry into the race is seen as an attempt to unite the SLPP and challenge Wickremesinghe's bid for re-election.

However, Namal faces an uphill battle, as the Rajapaksa family's legacy has been marred by public dissatisfaction following the 2022 crisis that saw Gotabaya Rajapaksa flee the country.

Nuwan Bopage: The People's Candidate

Nuwan Bopage, 40, is the candidate of the Peoples' Struggle Alliance (PSA) and hopes to tap into the public anger that toppled Gotabaya Rajapaksa two years ago. With a strong anti-corruption platform, Bopage is focused on pro-poor policies and opposes Sri Lanka's current alignment with the IMF programme.



As a relatively new face in national politics, Bopage aims to represent the aspirations of ordinary Sri Lankans, especially those who participated in the massive protests that changed the country's leadership in 2022.

The Road Ahead

The 2024 presidential election will shape the future of Sri Lanka's economic and political landscape. With voters set to choose between continuity under Wickremesinghe or a new direction from a range of opposition candidates, the outcome will determine whether the country remains on its current reform path or moves towards a different approach to recovery.



In the coming days, all eyes will be on these key candidates as Sri Lanka prepares for one of its most consequential elections in recent history.

Amazon Launches AI Video Generator for Ads



Amazon has unveiled a new artificial intelligence (AI) video generator tool designed to create advertisements, allowing advertisers to produce engaging video content using just a single product image. Announced on Thursday, this tool aims to simplify the ad creation process by generating "content-rich" videos that highlight the product's unique selling propositions and features. Currently, these AI tools are available to select advertisers in the U.S. on a beta basis.

The AI Video Generator, part of Amazon Ads, is touted for its ability to create visually appealing video ads that can capture customer interest. The videos can range from six to nine seconds in length, produced at a resolution of 720p and 24 frames per second. Each video takes up to five minutes to generate and provides users with four variations to choose from.

In addition to the video generator, Amazon has introduced a new live image capability for its existing

AI image generator, aimed at enterprise clients. This feature allows users to create short, animated campaign images, reminiscent of looping GIFs that often appear in online advertisements.

While Amazon demonstrated the live image feature, specific details about the video generator remain sparse. An Amazon spokesperson indicated that the generated ads follow a structured template consisting of two scenes, complete with headlines, background music, and a call to action. Advertisers can also customize the soundtrack, and the brand logo appears in the upper-right corner of the frame.

However, it remains unclear whether users can provide natural language prompts for specific instructions or if there are options for editing generated videos. As Amazon continues to innovate in the advertising space, these tools could provide a significant advantage for brands looking to enhance their marketing efforts.

Blinkit to already cross 300 Apple iPhone 16 deliveries, CEO says

As Apple enthusiasts flocked to the flagship stores in Delhi and Mumbai this morning for the eagerly awaited iPhone 16 series, many customers were relieved to discover that they could skip the long lines. Quick commerce apps like Blinkit and BigBasket are providing fast delivery options for the new devices, with Blinkit promising deliveries in about 10 minutes.

Blinkit is particularly making waves, nearing 300 deliveries across India. Co-founder and CEO Albinder Dhindsa announced this milestone on X, stating, "We started delivering iPhones at 8 AM - and we're going to cross the 300 mark in a couple of minutes. Today is going to be one crazy day!"

Customers inquired about financing options, and Dhindsa confirmed that EMI options are available, making it even easier for buyers to secure the latest iPhone.

The iPhone 16 series, available in select cities including Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Pune, and Bengaluru, starts at ₹79,900 for the base model. Blinkit has partnered with Unicorn Stores, an authorized Ap-



ple retailer, for these quick deliveries, marking their third consecutive year of collaboration for launch day sales.

This innovative approach allows customers to avoid the hassle of physical queues while still accessing the latest technology promptly. With rapid delivery options gaining traction, the convenience factor for tech enthusiasts continues to rise, reflecting a broader trend in consumer behavior favoring speed and efficiency.

TikTok Users Controversial Trend of Eating Dirt for Health Benefits



A surprising trend has emerged within the health and wellness community, with TikTok users advocating for the consumption of dirt as a remedy for various ailments. This peculiar practice, dubbed "geophagy," claims to improve gut health, skin conditions, and even aid in weight management. Fertility and hormone coach Stephanie Adler is a prominent voice in this movement, encouraging her followers to explore the potential benefits of eating organic soil. In a viral TikTok video, she asserted that just one teaspoon of biodynamic soil contains more microorganisms than there are humans on Earth.

In tandem with this trend, e-commerce platforms like Amazon and Etsy have started selling edible clay and soil products, ranging in price from ₹900 to ₹2,200. These products, which come in forms like powders and clay chunks, are marketed with promises of anti-aging benefits, enhanced skin health, and balanced oil production. One vendor on Amazon markets edible red clay for \$11.99 (about ₹1,002), touting its ability to unclog pores, tighten skin, and promote a healthy complexion.

Interestingly, some recent research supports the idea that consuming dirt could have genuine health benefits. A 2019 study highlighted the role of soil in shaping the human gut microbiome, which is essential for overall health. Historically, humans have consumed soil as a supplement to their diets, and certain types of soil have been used for detoxification and medicinal purposes.

Moreover, studies suggest that certain compounds found in dirt may help absorb body fat, offering potential weight loss benefits. Experts from the University of Helsinki noted that direct contact with natural soil can alter skin microbiota, fostering a healthier balance of microorganisms and possibly preventing immune system disorders.

Social media users lack control over data used by AI

A recent report from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has raised significant alarms about the data management practices of major social media companies, including Meta Platforms, TikTok, and Twitch. The report, released on Thursday, critiques these platforms for their lack of transparency and inadequate user data controls, particularly regarding the use of artificial intelligence systems.

The FTC's analysis scrutinized how companies manage user data, concluding that many have "woefully inadequate" data retention and management policies. Notable platforms such as YouTube, X (formerly Twitter), Snap, Discord, and Reddit were also evaluated, although specific practices were not disclosed in the report.

In response, Discord argued that the report inaccurately conflates various busi-



ness models. Chair Lina Khan emphasized that while these practices are profitable, they pose serious risks to user privacy and safety, exposing individuals to threats such as identity theft and stalking.

Data privacy, especially concerning minors, remains a critical issue in legislative discussions. The U.S. House of Representatives is currently reviewing bills aimed at mitigating social media's impact on younger audiences.

In a proactive step, Meta has introduced enhanced parental controls for teen accounts.

The report also noted that social media companies not only gather information on active users but also collect data on individuals who do not use their services. This includes age, gender, income, and other personal information, often without clear consent or awareness from the users.

Similarly, a spokesperson for X noted that the report reflects practices from 2020 and emphasized that the platform has since improved its data privacy measures. They claimed X takes user data privacy seriously and provides options for users to control their data sharing.

The FTC highlighted how social media companies collect data through various tracking technologies and data broker

How Ultra-Processed Foods Impact Heart Health

Emerging research indicates that ultra-processed foods can have detrimental effects on heart health. These highly manufactured products often contain numerous ingredients and additives such as artificial flavors, colors, preservatives, and sweeteners, along with unhealthy fats, sugars, and salt. Regular consumption of these foods is linked to increased LDL (bad) cholesterol levels, high blood pressure, and obesity—major risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

Ultra-processed foods are typically rich in trans fats and saturated fats, which can raise LDL cholesterol and lower HDL (good) cholesterol. This imbalance contributes to plaque buildup in arteries, increasing the risk of atherosclerosis, a condition that narrows arteries and restricts blood flow. The high sugar content



commonly found in these foods further exacerbates obesity and inflammation, increasing the likelihood of heart disease.

Many ultra-processed foods, such as packaged snacks and ready-to-eat meals, contain excessive sodium. A diet high in salt is strongly associated with hypertension (high blood pressure), which can damage arteries and elevate the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Additionally, high salt intake can cause fluid reten-

tion, further stressing the heart and increasing the risk of heart failure.

Ultra-processed foods are calorie-dense and nutrient-poor, leading to weight gain and a higher risk of obesity. Obesity is a significant risk factor for heart disease and is closely linked to metabolic syndrome—a cluster of conditions that includes high blood pressure, high blood sugar, and abnormal cholesterol levels.

These foods often contain artificial additives that can trigger chronic inflammation and oxidative stress in the body, damaging blood vessel linings and promoting arterial plaque buildup.

Recent studies suggest that ultra-processed foods negatively affect gut health, which is increasingly recognized as vital for heart health. Disruptions in gut bacteria can lead to systemic inflammation, further linked to heart disease.

Vikram Rathour Joins Rajasthan Royals as Batting Coach

Rajasthan Royals have announced the appointment of Vikram Rathour as their new batting coach, further strengthening their coaching staff. This move follows the arrival of cricketing legend Rahul Dravid as head coach, marking a significant development for the franchise. Dravid, who recently concluded a successful tenure with the India men's team culminating in T20 World Cup victory, will reunite with Rathour, who previously served as a batting coach under Dravid in the Indian setup.

Despite a brief international playing career, Rathour has been instrumental in shaping the future of Indian cricket, particularly in nurturing emerging batting talent. Dravid expressed his enthusiasm for Rathour's appointment, highlighting the duo's shared history and mutual understanding. "Having worked closely with Vikram for many years, I can confidently say that his technical expertise, calm demeanor, and deep understanding of Indian conditions make him a perfect fit for the Royals," Dravid stated. He emphasized their strong rapport and past successes, hoping to replicate that at Rajasthan Royals.

The objectives for Rathour and Dravid mirror those they pursued in their coaching roles for India. Since India's last T20 World Cup win in 2007 and the end of an ICC Trophy drought in 2013,



both men have faced challenges. Similarly, the Royals, having claimed their only IPL title in 2008, have also underperformed over the years. However, under captain Sanju Samson, the team has shown promise, coming close to their second title in 2022 when they finished as runners-up to the Gujarat Titans.

Rathour expressed his excitement

about joining the Royals, stating, "It's a privilege to be part of the Royals family. The opportunity to work again with Rahul and alongside a talented group of young cricketers is hugely exciting. I look forward to contributing to the team's vision and working toward developing top-class players for the Royals." With this new coaching partnership, the Royals aim to build a formidable team for future IPL seasons.

Travis Head's Century Leads Australia to Victory Over England in 1st ODI

Travis Head's outstanding performance, featuring a career-best 154 not out, propelled Australia to a seven-wicket victory over England in the first one-day international at Trent Bridge. Chasing a target of 316 runs, Australia reached 317-3 with six overs to spare, marking their 13th consecutive ODI win against all opponents and taking a 1-0 lead in the five-match series.

Australia's victory was aided by Marnus Labuschagne's surprising success with the ball after losing the toss. England appeared set for a huge total at 201-2, with Ben Duckett nearing a century at 95. However, Labuschagne, bowling as a part-time leg-spinner, caught Duckett off his own bowling and quickly dismissed Harry Brook for 39, who was captaining England for the first time. Labuschagne finished with impressive figures of 3-39, helping to dismantle England's batting line-up, which lost its last six wickets for just 59 runs.

Adam Zampa, marking his 100th ODI appearance, also contributed signifi-



cantly, taking 3-49 in his full quota of overs. Labuschagne later showcased his batting prowess, partnering with Head for an unbroken 148-run stand, scoring 77 not out off 61 balls.

Despite nearly getting caught early in his innings, Head went on to achieve his sixth ODI century from 129 balls, featuring 20 fours and five sixes. He surpassed his previous highest ODI score of 152 against England in Melbourne two years ago, reaching 150 with a spectacular six off Liam Livingstone.

After winning the toss, England had strong contributions from Duckett and Will Jacks, who scored brisk fifties. However, after Jacks was dismissed for 62, England's innings fell apart. Captain Brook admitted their total was below par, while Australia's captain, Mitchell Marsh, praised the team's resilience amid illness affecting several players, including fast bowlers Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood. The series continues at Headingley on Saturday.

Bumrah Shines as India Dominates Bangladesh in Opening Test

Jasprit Bumrah's exceptional bowling left Bangladesh's batting lineup in disarray, as India established a commanding 308-run lead by the end of the second day's play in the opening Test. Bumrah took 4 wickets for 50 runs, partnering effectively with Mohammed Siraj, Akash Deep (2/19), and Ravindra Jadeja (2/19) to dismiss Bangladesh for just 149 in their first innings, in response to India's 376.

After securing a 227-run lead, India faced a rocky start in their second innings, losing skipper Rohit Sharma (5) and Yashasvi Jaiswal (10) early, with the score at 28. Rohit edged a delivery from Taskin Ahmed to gully, while Jaiswal fell to an expansive drive off Nahid Rana.

Despite the early wickets, Shubman Gill stabilized the innings alongside



Virat Kohli, adding 39 runs for the third wicket. Gill showcased impressive stroke play, including a standout boundary through covers. However, Kohli's leg-before dismissal to spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz late in the day slightly dampened India's progress.

Bumrah's incisive bowling was the

highlight, as he claimed the first breakthrough by dismissing Shadman Islam, who fell victim to an in-cutter. This set the tone for the Bangladesh innings, with Bumrah also taking the wickets of Mushfiqur Rahim, Taskin Ahmed, and Hasan Mahmud.

Bangladesh's middle-order struggled, with Litton Das (22) and Shakib Al-Hasan (32) forming a brief partnership before their dismissals. Litton's unnecessary slog sweep off Jadeja was caught by substitute fielder Dhruv Jurel, while Shakib's reverse sweep deflected off his boots to Rishabh Pant.

Akash Deep quickly added two more wickets, hastening Bangladesh's collapse. Despite a few moments of resistance, they ultimately faltered, with India's bowlers capitalizing on their timid approach.



Yuzvendra Chahal Shines With Successive Five-Wicket Haul For Northamptonshire

Indian leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal showcased his exceptional bowling skills by taking a five-wicket haul in his second consecutive match for Northamptonshire, leading the team to a convincing nine-wicket victory over Leicestershire in the English County Championship. Chahal's performance was pivotal, as he followed up his earlier figures of 4/82 with an impressive 5/134, totaling a remarkable nine-wicket match haul.

After bowling Leicestershire out for 316, Northamptonshire was set a modest target of 137 runs. The team comfortably chased this down in just 30.3 overs, losing only the wicket of Gus Miller, who scored 11 runs. Skipper Luke Procter anchored the innings with an unbeaten 68, while George Bartlett contributed a solid 54 not out to secure the win.

Leicestershire resumed play on the final day at 69/4, and Scott Currie and Tom Scriven fought back with a strong partnership. Currie notably reached a century, scoring 120 runs before Chahal ended his innings, marking his fifth wicket of the match. Chahal's bowling proved crucial in dismantling Leicestershire's middle and lower order, with key dismissals including that of captain Lewis Hill, who managed just 14 runs, and Liam Treadwell for 2 runs.

Despite conceding runs during a challenging 110-run partnership between Currie and Scriven, Chahal remained determined and eventually claimed Currie's wicket, leaving Leicestershire reeling at 303/9. The innings concluded shortly after, with Saif Zaib adding to the bowling success by dismissing Louis Kimber.

In his previous outing, Chahal had delivered another stellar performance with figures of 5/45 and 4/45 against Derbyshire, contributing significantly to Northamptonshire's 133-run victory. With these back-to-back stellar performances, Chahal continues to prove his value in the County Championship and remains a key player for his team.



Inoka Ranaweera Named in Sri Lanka's T20 World Cup Squad

Sri Lanka has included experienced spinner Inoka Ranaweera in their 15-member squad for the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024. The 38-year-old left-arm orthodox spinner last represented Sri Lanka during their unbeaten run in the T20 World Cup Qualifier earlier this year.

Ranaweera replaces pace bowler Kawya Kavindi in a squad that largely maintains the core that led to their Asia Cup triumph. Veteran Chamari Athapaththu continues as captain, steering a team that has shown impressive form recently, including series victories in England and South Africa.

The selectors have placed their trust in 18-year-old opener Vishmi Gunaratne, who demonstrated remarkable maturity during the South Africa tour. Middle-order batter Kavisha Dilhari, also noteworthy for her performances in that series, joins the squad alongside Harshitha Samarawickrama, who was named Player of the Match in the Asia Cup final against India.

Sri Lanka is placed in Group A alongside cricketing giants India, Australia, Pakistan, and New Zealand. They will begin their World Cup journey on October 3 against Pakistan, aiming to build on their recent successes and make a strong impact in the tournament.



Grand ANR Centenary Celebrations Under Akkineni Family



- **Akkineni Nageswara Rao's postal stamp released on the occasion of his centenary.**

- **600 fans gifted clothes.**
- **Megastar Chiranjeevi received the ANR Award from Amitabh Bachchan on October 28.**

- **Akkineni Nagarjuna expressed his pleasure in celebrating the ANR-100 Film Festival in 31 cities.**

On the centenary of Natasamrat, Padma Vibhushan Akkineni Nageswara Rao, the Film Heritage Foundation organized the "ANR 100 - King of the Silver Screen" film festival in association with the NFDC-National Film Archive of India. The festival commenced grandly with the screening of ANR's iconic film *Devadasu* in the presence of fans and family members. The festival includes screenings of *Devadasu* (1953), *Missamma* (1955), *Mayabazaar* (1957), *Bharya Bhartulu* (1961), *Gundamma Katha* (1962), *Doctor Chakraborty* (1964), *Sudigundalu* (1968), *Prem Nagar* (1971), *Premabhishekam* (1981), and *Manam* (2014) across the country. The Film Heritage Foundation and Annapurna Studios have jointly taken the initiative to restore these 10 masterpiece movie prints in 4K. Audiences are enjoying these classics in excellent quality.

Today (Friday), Akkineni Nageswara Rao's centenary celebrations were grandly organized by the Akkineni family. Tributes were paid to the statue of ANR at Annapurna Studios. Akkineni's fans from both Telugu states thronged Annapurna Studios to pay their respects to the legendary actor. Akkineni's family members had lunch with the fans. On this occasion, 600 fans were given clothes. Akkineni Nagarjuna spoke at a media conference organized for the occasion. He said, "Father laughed and taught us life. That's why we keep smiling when we think of his name. Thanks to Shivendra. They are going to watch some more films along with *Devadasu*. The black and white prints they make are amazing. The audience will have a wonderful experience. This festival is being held in 31 cities. Shivendra mentioned there is fantastic response in the North, which brings me great joy. The Goa International Film Festival is doing a chapter in my father's name, and I am very happy about this



Nagarjuna expressed his gratitude, saying, "Thanks to Postmaster General BS Reddy. It is a great pleasure to release my father's stamp on this centenary day. Thank you so much to everyone who came to this celebration. In celebration of his centenary, my father's senior fans in the two Telugu states have organized good programs like blood donation and food donation. Thank you very much to all of them. Your love will never be forgotten. We give the ANR Award every two years. This year, we have decided to give the ANR Award to Chiranjeevi. Chiranjeevi became very emotional upon hearing this. He said it was a great honor to receive the award during the year of ANR's centenary. He added that there is no greater award than this. Amitabh Bachchan will present the award at the function we are hosting on October 28. Thank you all."

Murali Mohan expressed his gratitude and said, "I thank Akkineni's family members for giving us the opportunity to participate in ANR's centenary celebrations. I have been a fan of Akkineni since childhood and am lucky to have had the opportunity to act with him. Nageswara Rao was a very dedicated actor, and I am fortunate to have acted in the first film produced under their banner. He is credited with bringing the film industry to Hyderabad, and his legacy will stay with us forever."

Venkat Akkineni said, "On the day of my father's centenary, the government released a postal stamp. Bapu drew that photo, and it perfectly captures my father's essence. We are grateful for this honor. Cabinet Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Chandrasekhar have planned the release today. Thank you very much to them."

Shivendra Singh Dungarpur expressed his gratitude, saying, "Thanks to Nagarjuna and the Akkineni family for giving me this great opportunity. The festival is being celebrated in 31 cities across the country, and today is a historic day. Akkineni's 10 classic films will be seen by audiences across the country over these three days. It is our collective responsibility to preserve this rich heritage."

This year's ANR Award goes to Megastar Chiranjeevi



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