

Weather Forecast for Hyderabad, Vijayawada, and Tirupathi. Hyderabad: Mostly Sunny, H 26°C, L 23°C. Vijayawada: Mostly Sunny, H 29°C, L 26°C. Tirupathi: Mostly Sunny, H 36°C, L 26°C.

JUST NOW

"Criminals roam free, victims live in fear," says President Droupadi Murmu, amid nationwide outrage over women's safety issues.

Rajasthan Minister says Akbar will not be taught as 'great' in schools, criticizing him for plundering and rejecting praise.

In Manipur's Imphal West district, militants launched a gun-and-bomb attack, killing 31-year-old Ngangbam Surbala Devi and injuring four others.

Since Sheikh Hasina's ouster, nearly 50 Hindu teachers in Bangladesh resigned due to violence, with 200+ attacks and 230+ deaths.

Rajinikanth denied knowledge of the Hema Committee report on Malayalam film industry harassment amid #MeToo wave, citing redacted details.

Telangana on High Alert Amidst Heavy Rains and Rising Floodwaters

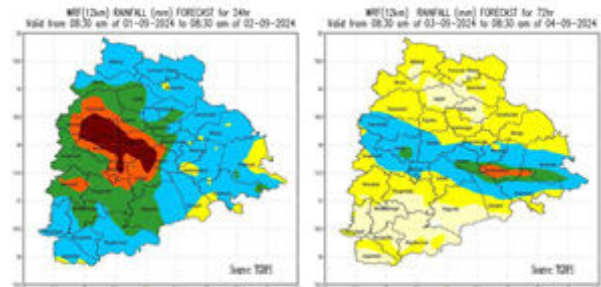
Telangana is on high alert with heavy rains and Red alerts for 11 districts.

Hyderabad faces waterlogging and traffic chaos.

Villages in Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda are cut off by overflowing lakes and streams.

Godavari River and Srisaillam reservoir are nearing critical levels.

TELANGANA ON HIGH ALERT



SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES TO REMAIN SHUT ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 02

TPN, Telangana: Telangana is currently facing severe weather conditions, with heavy rains and rising floodwaters putting the state on high alert. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued multiple warnings, including Red alerts for 11 districts, indicating the severity of the situation.

In Hyderabad, heavy rainfall has resulted in significant waterlogging, with areas like Toli chowki experiencing knee-deep water. This has caused major traffic congestion and disruptions in public transport, adding to the challenges faced by residents.

including Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda, where overflowing lakes and streams have cut off villages. In Warangal district, a Telangana State Road Transport Corporation bus was caught in floodwaters at Topanapalli, forcing passengers to spend the night stranded as the road was submerged.

The state government has responded swiftly by establishing a special control room at the State Secretariat to monitor the ongoing situation. The Disaster Management Department has also activated a control room with a dedicated emergency phone line (040-23454088).

The Godavari River at Bhadrachalam is seeing rising water levels, reaching 27 feet as of Sunday morning, raising concerns about further flooding. Meanwhile, the Srisaillam reservoir, a key water storage facility shared by Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, is nearing its full capacity, with inflows and outflows reaching critical levels.



instructed all government departments to remain on high alert, emphasizing the need for safety measures and the establishment of relief camps in low-lying areas. District collectors have been empowered to declare school holidays if necessary.

The Srisaillam reservoir, a critical water storage facility shared by Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, is currently under severe strain as inflows have surged dramatically. As of

September 1, 2024, the reservoir's inflow stands at 356,472 cusecs, while the outflow has reached 472,390 cusecs. With the reservoir's full capacity at 885 feet, it is nearing its limit at 884.50 feet, indicating a critical situation.

The IMD forecasts that the heavy rainfall will continue for the next few days, with residents advised to stay vigilant and prepared for potential flooding as the monsoon season progresses.

Rains Wreak Havoc in Khammam; Hundreds Await Urgent Evacuation



TPN, Khammam: Heavy rains in Telangana have caused severe flooding in Khammam district, with parts of the area submerged under water after the Munneru River overflowed its banks on Sunday, September 1. The flooding has left hundreds stranded and raised fears of potential casualties.

SOS video messages from residents, who have sought refuge atop multi-storied buildings, have been circulating on social media. These videos urgently request immediate evacuation before water levels rise further.

The situation in Khammam has prompted criticism of the Telangana government for its perceived slow response. Youths took to the streets, expressing frustration over the lack of immediate aid, despite the district being represented by three state ministers.

In the videos, residents are seen pleading for assistance as the waters continue to rise. They are calling for intervention from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) to facilitate their rescue, either through airlifting or boat-based evacuations.

The dire circumstances in Khammam highlight the need for prompt action to address the crisis and provide relief to those affected by the devastating floods.

Amit Shah Assures Support to CM Revanth Reddy

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CM Revanth Reddy Orders High Alert as Heavy Rains Continue

TPN, Telangana: In response to the ongoing heavy rainfall affecting Telangana, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has ordered a high alert for all officials across the state. Reviewing the situation in rain-affected areas, Revanth Reddy spoke with several ministers, including Bhatti Vikramarka, N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Tummala Nageshwar Rao, Damodara Raja Narasimha, and Jupalli Krishna Rao, to discuss relief operations in submerged regions.

The Chief Minister held a teleconference with Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari, DGP Jitender, and top officials from various departments, including Municipal Administration, Energy, Panchayati Raj, HYDRA, and Irrigation. He instructed them to remain on high alert over the next 24 hours. District collectors, SPs, and officials from Revenue, Irrigation, and Municipal departments have been directed to conduct field visits in flood-hit areas.

Revanth Reddy also emphasized the importance of real-time updates on heavy rains, instructing emergency wing officials to provide continuous information to the Chief Minister's Office. The authorities have been directed to implement immediate relief measures in affected areas.



In his appeal to citizens, the Chief Minister urged people to stay indoors unless absolutely necessary and to be vigilant, particularly those in low-lying areas. He encouraged residents to contact authorities for assistance in emergencies. Additionally, Revanth Reddy instructed ministers, MPs, MLAs, and MLCs to remain in their respective areas to oversee relief efforts.



Amit Shah Assures Support to CM Revanth Reddy

Union Home Minister Amit Shah contacted Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to discuss the ongoing heavy rains and floods in the state. The Chief Minister provided a detailed account of the flood damage on the ground, explaining the measures being taken to minimize further loss of life.

Revanth Reddy assured Amit Shah that the state is implementing necessary precautions to safeguard citizens. He is personally reviewing the situation by staying in touch with state officials and district collectors to ensure swift action.

In response, Amit Shah promised immediate assistance from the central government and assured that adequate flood relief measures would be provided to support recovery efforts. The Chief Minister also warned officials to take all necessary precautions to avoid further casualties and assured that families affected by the disaster would receive full government support.

9 Dead Due to Heavy Rains, Relief Efforts Underway: Minister Ponguleti

TPN, Telangana: Telangana Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has announced that nine people have tragically died across the state due to heavy rains and flooding. The minister expressed his condolences to the families of the deceased and assured them of government support.



The minister emphasized that relief and rescue operations are in full swing in the flood-affected areas. Teams are actively working to provide food, shelter, and medical aid to those displaced or impacted by the severe weather conditions. Authorities are coordinating efforts to restore normalcy, with particular focus on evacuating people from high-risk zones and supplying essential goods to flood-hit regions.

The government is also assessing the extent of the damage to property and infrastructure caused by the heavy downpours. Minister Reddy stated that they are closely monitoring the situation and will take all necessary measures to ensure public safety. Additionally, he appealed to the public to stay cautious, follow official directives, and avoid venturing into dangerous areas.

56 Passengers Rescued from Flooded TSRTC Bus in Warangal

TPN, Warangal: In a dramatic rescue operation, 56 passengers aboard a Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) bus were safely evacuated after the vehicle became trapped in floodwaters near Topanpalle village in Warangal district. The incident occurred on the night of Saturday, August 31, as heavy rains continued to batter the region.

The bus, immobilized by rising floodwaters, forced the passengers to spend the night inside. Early the next morning, the Nekkonda police, armed with an earth mover, arrived at the scene and worked diligently to reach the stranded vehicle. Thanks to their efforts, all individuals on board were safely evacuated without any injuries.

The heavy rains in Telangana have severely disrupted transportation, affecting both road and rail services. Along with the bus incident, multiple train operations have been halted or canceled due to flooded tracks, complicating travel across the state.

The swift response by the Nekkonda police underscores the coordinated efforts of emergency services in the region as they continue to deal with the challenges posed by the severe weather.

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Special Control Room Set Up in Secretariat to Monitor Heavy Rains

TPN, Telangana: A special control room has been established in the Telangana Secretariat to oversee the ongoing heavy rains and potential flooding across the state. Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari announced the setup during a teleconference with district collectors, highlighting the need for effective coordination amid the severe weather conditions.

Located in room number 34 on the ground floor of the Secretariat, the control room will function under the Disaster Management department. It is intended to facilitate communication and provide essential assistance to district collectors as they handle the situation on the ground. The control room can be reached at 040 - 2345 4088, according to a press release.

In addition to the central control room, Chief Secretary Kumari has directed the establishment of similar facilities in every district collector's office and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). This multi-tiered approach aims to ensure continuous monitoring and prompt action in response to rainfall and flooding risks, particularly in low-lying areas.



Telangana rains

NAREDCO asks builders to keep workers safe

TPN, Telangana: The National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) has issued a crucial advisory to its members, urging them to ensure the safety of construction workers amid the heavy rains affecting Telangana. This directive follows a request from the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department (MA & UD) to safeguard workers in light of increased structural risks, including wall collapses, soil erosion, and landslides.

Given the adverse weather conditions, NAREDCO has recommended that workers be moved away from retaining walls and the edges of excavated areas to prevent accidents. Additionally, builders are advised to provide adequate shelter and essential supplies, such as food, to workers during this period of disruption.

NAREDCO emphasized that any incidents or injuries involving construction workers will be taken seriously, with strict action to be initiated by the responsible

departments. Builders have been urged to review and enforce preventative measures to ensure site security.

NAREDCO President Vijaya Sai Meka stressed the importance of worker safety, stating, "The safety of our workers is our top priority. We strongly encourage all members to adhere to these guidelines and take prompt action to prevent any potential accidents or incidents during this challenging weather."

Govt Declares Holiday for Schools and Colleges Amid Heavy Rain Forecast

TPN, Telangana: In response to the heavy rain forecast, the Telangana government has announced a holiday for all educational institutions, including schools and colleges, on Monday, September 2. This directive encompasses government, aided, and private institutions across the state, aiming to ensure the safety of students amid adverse weather conditions.

While educational institutions will remain closed, all government officials are required to report for duty on Monday. This decision was communicated by state minister for information and public relations, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy.

Telangana has been on high alert due to continuous rains since Saturday. The forecast predicts heavy downpours extending until September 3, driven by a deep depression formed in the Bay of Bengal. This atmospheric condition has led to moderate to heavy rainfall across Telangana, with significant impacts on Hyderabad and surrounding districts.



The neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh has similarly been affected by heavy rains, with multiple reports of rain-related fatalities emerging from the region.

Several Trains Cancelled as Heavy Rains Damage Railway Tracks

TPN, Telangana: Heavy rains across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have caused significant disruptions to train services, with numerous cancellations, stoppages, and diversions reported.

Due to flooding and track damage, 24 trains on the Vijayawada-Kazipet route were halted, and 30 trains were canceled in the Vijayawada division. The severe weather has impacted several key routes, with floodwaters from lakes and streams inundating railway tracks.

In Mahabubabad district, a breached tank at Ayodhya village resulted in extensive flooding of the railway tracks, prompting the South Central Railway to cancel trains on the Vijayawada-Kazipet route. Further damage was reported between

Kesamudram and Intikanne, where floodwaters washed away the concrete under the tracks.

The Mahabubnagar-Visakhapatnam Express was halted at Pandillapalli for four hours due to track flooding. Other trains affected include the Simhadri Express, Machilipatnam Express, Gautami Express, Sanghamitra Express, Kanga-Kaveri Express, Charminar Express, and Yeshwantpur Express, all of which were stopped at various points.

Several trains were diverted to avoid affected areas, including the Visakhapatnam-Nanded route, which skipped all stoppages between Eluru and Secunderabad. The Visakhapatnam-Tirupati train also bypassed Vijayawada

and Secunderabad.

In response to the disruptions, South Central Railway has established additional helpline numbers at major railway stations to assist passengers with real-time train running information. The helplines are as follows: Hyderabad (27781500), Secunderabad (27786140, 27786170), Kazipet (27782660, 8702576430), Warangal (27782751), Khammam (27782985, 08742-224541), Vijayawada (7569305697), Rajahmundry (08832420541), Tenali (08644-227600), Tuni (7815909479), Nellore (7815909469), Gudur (08624-250795), Ongole (7815909489), Gudivada (7815909462), and Bhimavaram Town (7815909402).



Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka Urges Preparedness for Heavy Rains



TPN, Telangana: In response to the severe weather conditions affecting the state, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has emphasized the need for readiness to tackle any situation. Addressing the power issues arising from the heavy rains caused by low pressure in the Bay of Bengal, Bhatti held a video conference with electricity officials from the Madhira Tehsildar's office.

During the meeting, Bhatti directed the officials to coordinate with collectors, police, revenue, and district department personnel to promptly restore electricity in areas experiencing outages due to the rains. He also instructed that alternative power supply from neighboring substations be provided until repairs are completed at the flooded and lightning-damaged substations.

aged substations.

The Deputy CM stressed that officials must remain on high alert around the clock and follow directives from the control room. He advised the public to report power-related issues by calling the toll-free number 1912 set up by the electricity department.

Additionally, Roads and Buildings Minister Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy has called on district authorities to stay vigilant following a Red Alert issued by the Meteorological Department for 11 districts in Telangana. He conducted a review with District Collectors and R&B Department officials, urging them to be prepared to handle any emergency situations to prevent loss of life and property.

Daughters of Telangana fight for dignity while CM planning new zoo: KTR

TPN, Telangana: The BRS Party has expressed serious concerns over the recent protests by female students at Palamakula Gurukula in Shamshabad Mandal, Rangareddy District, where allegations of contaminated meals have sparked outrage. K.T. Rama Rao, Working President of the BRS Party, has sharply criticized the Congress government and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for their handling of the situation.



students protest for basic dignity, the CM plans a second zoo in Hyderabad. CM Garu, please reassess your priorities. Why are students in government institutions facing such difficulties? When will the focus shift to improving their future rather than political manoeuvring? I commend our leaders, @BRSHarish, @BRSabithaIndra, and @KarthikIndraAnna for their support of the Palamakula school students."

KTR emphasized that this incident reflects the government's neglect of student welfare, questioning the priorities of a Chief Minister more focused on launching projects like a new zoo in Hyderabad rather than addressing critical issues in the state's educational system. He highlighted the stark contrast between the students' struggles and the government's project priorities, challenging the

CM's focus.

A BRS Party delegation, including MLAs Harish Rao and Sabitha Indira Reddy, visited the affected Gurukula to support the protesting students and their families. The delegation offered their contact information and pledged continued support. KTR commended the leaders for their timely intervention and support.

In a tweet, KTR called on CM Revanth Reddy to reassess his priorities, stating, "While Telangana's

and @KarthikIndraAnna for their support of the Palamakula school students."

KTR demanded accountability from the Congress government and called for a comprehensive review of all Gurukuls and state-run educational facilities to ensure they meet safety and health standards. He stressed the need for immediate corrective measures to address the ongoing issues in the educational sector.

Harish Rao Urges Govt to Enhance Emergency Services Amid Heavy Rain

TPN, Telangana: On Sunday, September 1, Bharat Rastra Samithi (BRS) MLA T. Harish Rao called on the Telangana government to ramp up emergency services in response to the heavy rains affecting the state. Speaking at a press conference, Rao emphasized the need for increased preparedness as the state is expected to experience heavy rainfall

for two more days.

Rao recommended the establishment of dedicated emergency response teams throughout Telangana and suggested enlisting the army if necessary. He also proposed deploying special helicopters to aid in the response efforts. Additionally, Rao urged irrigation authorities to implement mea-

sures to prevent the overflow of filled ponds.

In his address, the former health minister encouraged BRS cadre to assist people in distress due to the heavy rains. He advised the public to remain vigilant and avoid areas with flooding ponds and canals to ensure their safety.

Kutbullapur MLA Criticizes Govt Response to Heavy Rains and HYDRA Mismanagement

TPN, Telangana: K.P. Vivekananda Goud, MLA from Kutbullapur, has sharply criticized the state government's handling of the recent heavy rains and the HYDRA project. Goud's comments come amid widespread flooding and infrastructure damage across Telangana, despite advance warnings from the weather department.

Goud contends that the government has been ineffective in its response to the severe weather conditions. He expressed frustration over what he perceives as a lack of proactive measures, despite a week of weather advisories. He highlighted issues such as students in hostels being injured due to rat attacks and criticized the government's perceived negligence in addressing these concerns.

He further accused Congress ministers of prioritizing their positions over addressing public suffering, suggesting that their focus is more on protecting their own status rather than effectively managing the crisis. Goud also alleged that Congress leaders are more concerned about the political implications of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR)'s visits than ad-

ressing the issues at hand.

Goud questioned the legitimacy of the HYDRA project, which is intended to manage water resources and flood risks in Hyderabad. He challenged the Congress party's claims about the project, asking whether it is based on scientific principles or just political rhetoric. He also criticized the lack of clarity regarding the number of ponds and buffer zones in the city, implying that the project is more about real estate development than effective flood management.

He pointed out that during Congress rule, Hyderabad did not see significant development, contrasting this with the progress made under the TDP and BRS parties. Goud accused Congress leaders of misusing their positions for personal gain, including occupying pond areas for real estate purposes. He suggested that if Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is committed to integrity, he should ensure that HYDRA is implemented legally and effectively.

Goud's comments reflect broader dissatisfaction with the government's handling of the recent heavy rains and infrastructure management in Hyderabad.

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy Issues Urgent Advisory Amid Heavy Rains

TPN, Telangana: Union Minister of Coal and Mines and BJP State President G. Kishan Reddy issued an urgent advisory today regarding the severe weather conditions affecting Telangana.

In light of the heavy rains battering the state, Reddy urged citizens to avoid leaving their homes unless absolutely necessary. He emphasized the importance of keeping elderly individuals and children indoors to prevent any potential hazards associated with the ongoing weather.

Reddy called on all authorities to implement measures to prevent loss of life, citing the critical need for coordinated relief efforts. He highlighted the current challenges, including severed power lines, overflowing drains, and water ingress into homes, which have compounded the situation.

"The drainage systems are overwhelmed, and in some areas, ponds have breached their limits," Reddy noted. He stressed that authorities must act promptly and effectively to address these issues and mitigate any risks.

Additionally, Reddy urged BJP workers, leaders, and



public representatives to stay vigilant and actively participate in relief and rehabilitation efforts. He emphasized the importance of cooperation with local authorities to support affected communities during this challenging time.

As the Meteorological Department has warned of continued heavy rainfall over the next 24 hours, Reddy's advisory underscores the need for heightened awareness and proactive measures to safeguard lives and property.

Khammam Floods: Union Home Minister Amit Shah Takes Action

TPN, Telangana: Heavy rains have severely impacted Telangana, particularly Khammam district, where extensive flooding has caused significant distress. Bandi Sanjay, in a bid to address the crisis, took his concerns directly to Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

During a crucial meeting with Amit Shah, Bandi Sanjay reported that 110 villages in Khammam district were inundated. He highlighted urgent situations, including 9 individuals trapped in the Prakash Nagar dam, 68 people stranded in the Ajmiratanda dam in Paleru constituency, and 42 individuals stuck in buildings affected by the floods.

In response to the dire situation, Amit Shah immediately ordered the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) to take all necessary measures to prevent any loss of life in Telangana. A total of 9 NDRF teams have been deployed to the state, with 3 teams each from Chennai, Vizag, and Assam.

Bandi Sanjay subsequently coordinated with NDRF



officials, advising them to work closely with state authorities to streamline relief operations. The NDRF teams have mobilized swiftly under central directives to assist in rescue and relief efforts.

The swift response from both state and central authorities aims to mitigate the impact of the floods and provide much-needed support to the affected communities in Khammam district.

Nagababu Supports CM Revanth Reddy's HYDRA

TPN, Telangana: Film actor and Janasena Party General Secretary Konidela Nagababu has voiced strong support for Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's initiative to tackle illegal constructions in Hyderabad. In light of recent heavy rains causing severe damage, including overflowing ponds and canals, which have led to water entering apartments and loss of lives, Nagababu emphasized that these

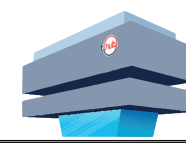
issues stem from unauthorized building activities.

On social media, Nagababu praised Revanth Reddy's decision to address these illegal constructions, describing it as both courageous and necessary. He highlighted the impact of these constructions on the city's infrastructure and underscored the importance of sup-

porting Reddy's measures.

Nagababu's tweet conveyed his full support for the Chief Minister's actions, urging everyone to appreciate and endorse the bold steps being taken. He expressed a commitment to collaborate with Revanth Reddy in ensuring the success of this crucial initiative.





Telangana Reports 163 New Dengue Cases in Single Day

TPN, Telangana: On Saturday, August 31, Telangana recorded 163 new cases of dengue from 5,294 samples tested, reflecting a positivity rate of 3 percent. Hyderabad emerged as the highest-risk district for dengue, followed by Suryapet, Medchal Malkajgiri, Khammam, Nizamabad, Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy, Jagtial, Sangareddy, and Warangal. The total number of dengue cases in the state has now reached 6,405.

In addition to dengue, 275 samples were tested for Chikungunya, with 11 testing positive. This represents a 1 percent positivity rate, bringing the total number of Chikungunya cases to 178.

On the same day, Telangana reported three new cases of malaria, raising the total number of cases for the year to 200. As part of an ongoing fever survey, health teams visited 417,433 households, screened

12,77,284 individuals, and identified 6,192 cases of fever.

The Director of Public Health (DPH) stated that the government is actively working to control vector-borne diseases through an action plan and continuous monitoring, addressing the seasonal increase in cases during the August-September period due to rains and heightened vector density.



Osmania University Postpones September 2 Exams Due to Heavy Rains

TPN Hyderabad: Osmania University has postponed all examinations scheduled for September 2 due to ongoing heavy rains and in adherence to directives from the Government of Telangana. The university's Controller of Examinations released an official statement informing students of the changes.

The decision to reschedule was made in response to the severe weather conditions that have impacted the region. The exams initially set for September 2 will now be conducted at a later date, which will be announced once the revised schedule is finalized.

Despite this postponement, exams scheduled from September 3 will be held as planned according to the original timetable. The university has assured students that they will be updated with the new dates for the affected exams as soon as possible. The university's move aims to ensure

the safety of students and staff amidst the challenging weather conditions. The decision reflects the university's commitment to maintaining the well-being of its community while managing academic schedules under unforeseen circumstances.

Students are advised to stay informed through the university's official communication channels for updates on the rescheduled examination dates and any additional instructions. The postponement is expected to allow students adequate time to prepare and participate in the exams once the weather conditions improve.

The university appreciates the understanding and cooperation of students and their families during this period and remains dedicated to ensuring that academic processes continue smoothly despite the current disruptions.

Hyderabad Beats to New Heights at 2024 Beat-box Championship



TPN Hyderabad: Hyderabad's beat-boxing scene took center stage at the Hyderabad Beat-box Championship 2024, a landmark event celebrated as the largest of its kind in the city. Held at the Moon Shine Project and organized by the Hyderabad Beat-box Community in partnership with beat-boxers SphereFx and Kevin Noel Sequeira, the competition featured 20 beat-boxers from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The championship was divided into Solo and Tag Team categories, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity within the beat-boxing community. Founded in 2022, the Hyderabad Beat-box Community, which now comprises 30 members, demonstrated its growth and dedication through this high-energy event.

"This is the first time we've hosted such a large-scale event in Hyderabad. It's a milestone for the beat-boxing culture here," said SphereFx, highlighting the significance of the event. Performers competed in elimination rounds, with the top 16 advancing to intense battles featuring 45-second and one-minute rounds. The final showdown between the top two competitors was a gripping 1 minute 30-second face-off.

The Tag Team category added an extra layer of excitement with spontaneous battle decisions by the judges. In the Solo category, Piku claimed victory, with Tej finishing as the runner-up. In the Tag Team division, Xyku (Xyren and Piku) emerged as champions, while SNX (SphereFx and Xboy) took second place.

As the Solo champion, Piku will advance to Colossal 5.0, a major beatboxing festival in December where top performers from across India will compete for the Colossal Champion title and participate in the 'Seven to Smoke' battles, aiming to crown the first-ever 'Seven to Smoke King of India.'

Hussain Sagar Lake Floodgates Opened Amid Heavy Rainfall

TPN Hyderabad: Following continuous heavy rainfall, Hussain Sagar Lake exceeded its full tank level on September 1, prompting the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to open the floodgates to manage the excess water and avert potential flooding.

The GHMC has initiated measures to control the overflow by raising the floodgates at Hussain Sagar Lake. This step was taken due to the lake's water level reaching 513.60 meters, slightly above the Full Tank Level (FTL) of 513.41 meters but below the Maximum Water Level (MWL) of 514.75 meters. The excess water is being directed into the Musi River to manage the lake's rising levels and reduce the risk of flooding.

The situation is being closely monitored by GHMC officials, who are keeping an eye on water levels across other lakes and ponds in the city as they also approach full capacity. The persistent downpours have contributed to the increased water levels, prompting these precautionary actions.

Residents are advised to remain cautious as the inflow of water could lead to further rises in water levels, raising concerns about potential flash floods. The GHMC has issued a safety advisory urging people to stay indoors due to the ongoing heavy rains, which have also significantly

increased the Musi River's flow at the Chaderghat bridge.

GHMC Commissioner Amrapali Kata has stressed the importance of avoiding unnecessary travel to ensure safety. Citizens are encouraged to report any rain-related issues or seek assistance through the GHMC's official social media channels or by calling the hotline numbers 91 90001 13667 or 040-29555500.

The GHMC continues to monitor the situation and will provide updates as necessary to ensure public safety.



Hyderabad rains: Collector declares Monday holiday for schools

TPN Hyderabad: In response to a heavy rain forecast, the Telangana government has declared a holiday for all educational institutions on Monday, September 2. This closure applies to government, aided, and private schools and colleges across the state to ensure the safety of students amid adverse weather conditions.



The decision to shut down educational institutions comes as Telangana braces for significant rainfall. The state has been under a high alert since Saturday due to a deep depression forming in the Bay of Bengal, which has intensified and caused moderate to heavy rainfall, especially in Hyderabad and nearby districts. The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red

alert for various parts of Telangana, indicating the possibility of severe weather.

State Minister for Information and Public Relations, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, confirmed that while schools and colleges will be closed, all

Telangana government officials are required to report for duty on Monday. This measure ensures that essential services and government functions continue to operate despite the adverse weather conditions.

In Hyderabad, the district collector has mandated the closure of all schools and colleges as a precautionary measure in light of the ongoing heavy rains. The forecast predicts that the intense rainfall will persist until September 3.

Neighboring Andhra Pradesh is also experiencing heavy rains, resulting in several rain-related fatalities. The situation in both states highlights the need for vigilance and preparedness as severe weather continues to impact the region.

HYDRA Commissioner Reviews Flood Preparedness Amid Heavy Rains

TPN Hyderabad: AV Ranganath, the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring Protection (HYDRA) commissioner, conducted a field visit to the Tolichowki and Shaikpet neighborhoods. His inspection focused on assessing potential flash flood risks and waterlogging in the city's low-lying areas.

The visit came in response to severe waterlogging and flood-like conditions exacerbated by continuous heavy rainfall. Many parts of Hyderabad, especially in low-lying regions, have been struggling with inadequate drainage systems, leading to significant water accumulation.

In addition to evaluating the current situation, Ranganath reviewed the city's preparedness measures for managing the adverse effects of the ongoing heavy rains. The city has been



grappling with severe waterlogging issues due to insufficient floodwater drainage in many areas.

HYDRA has recently intensified efforts to address illegal constructions around Hyderabad's lakes, which have significantly impacted the city's water retention capabilities. These encroachments not only obstruct natural rainwater flows into the

lakes but also contribute to increased flash floods and waterlogging during the rainy season, as well as water shortages during the dry months.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has directed officials to explore ways to channel the collected rainwater for future use, aiming to utilize these resources effectively. Proper management of the city's lakes could enhance water availability during the dry seasons, provided that rainwater can be successfully directed into these reservoirs.

Ranganath's visit underscores the importance of addressing both immediate flood risks and long-term water management strategies, ensuring that Hyderabad is better prepared to handle severe weather conditions and optimize its water resources.

India's Emergence as a Major Geopolitical Actor

Insights from Former Singapore Diplomat on PM Modi's Russia-Ukraine Visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent diplomatic engagements, particularly his visits to both Russia and Ukraine, have drawn significant international attention, showcasing India's evolving role as a key player in global geopolitics. The visits, which occurred within weeks of each other, underscore India's unique position in a world increasingly divided by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Former Singaporean diplomat Kishore Mahbubani has praised India's diplomatic acumen, noting that India's ability to engage with both nations is a clear sign of its arrival as a major geopolitical actor on the global stage.

In July, Prime Minister Modi visited Russia, where he held discussions with President Vladimir Putin aimed at strengthening bilateral ties between the two countries. During the visit, PM Modi reiterated India's long-standing position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, emphasizing the need for a peaceful resolution through dialogue and diplomacy. He stressed the importance of direct engagement between the conflicting parties, reflecting India's consistent advocacy for peace and stability in the region.

What followed was a historic first: within weeks of his Russia visit, Prime Minister Modi made a groundbreaking trip to Ukraine, becoming the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the country since its independence following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. The visit was hailed as a significant diplomatic achievement, with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky warmly receiving PM Modi and signing four key agreements covering a wide range of issues. This visit not only marked a milestone in India-Ukraine relations but also underscored India's balanced and independent approach to international diplomacy.



Kishore Mahbubani, a seasoned diplomat and scholar, highlighted the significance of PM Modi's ability to engage with both Russia and Ukraine amid the ongoing conflict. "How many leaders in the world can comfortably visit both Russia and Ukraine and be received warmly by both countries? Very few. And the fact that Prime Minister Modi can do that is a sign of how India has arrived as a major geopolitical actor," Mahbubani remarked. His observation reflects the broader global perception that India's foreign policy is increasingly seen as one that prioritizes peace and stability, while maintaining strong relations with a diverse array of nations.

During his visit to Ukraine, PM Modi articulated India's stance with clarity and conviction. "We are not neutral. From the very beginning, we have taken a side. And we have chosen the side of peace. We have come from the land of Buddha where there is no place for war," PM Modi said during his talks with President Zelensky. This statement encapsulates India's foreign

policy ethos, which is deeply rooted in its cultural and philosophical heritage, advocating for non-violence and peaceful coexistence.

Mahbubani further emphasized that India's growing influence on the global stage is evident not just in its diplomatic engagements, but also in its potential role within international institutions. He argued that India could play an even larger role in shaping global affairs if it were to secure a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). "The greatest hope for India to play a role globally, for example, giving it a permanent membership in the UN Security Council will enable India to do much more in terms of creating a better world," he stated.

India's bid for a permanent seat at the UNSC has gained significant support from several major powers, including Russia, France, the United States, and the United Kingdom. However, China remains a notable obstacle, resisting India's inclusion in the council's permanent membership. Despite this, India's consistent contributions to global peacekeeping efforts, its role as a voice for the Global South, and its growing economic and military prowess make a compelling case for its inclusion as a permanent member.

In conclusion, Prime Minister Modi's visits to Russia and Ukraine highlight India's emerging role as a major geopolitical actor, capable of navigating complex international relations with poise and diplomacy. As India continues to assert its influence on the global stage, its potential inclusion as a permanent member of the UNSC could further enhance its ability to contribute to global peace and stability. With its commitment to peace, as articulated by PM Modi, India is well-positioned to play a crucial role in shaping a more just and harmonious world order.

Why Election Commission Changed Haryana Voting Date?

The Election Commission of India recently made a significant decision to defer the Haryana Assembly election voting date from October 1 to October 5. This change was made to ensure that the Bishnoi community, a group with deep historical and cultural roots in the region, could fully participate in a centuries-old festival without being disenfranchised. The decision also led to the postponement of the vote-counting date for both Haryana and the Jammu and Kashmir elections from October 4 to October 8.

The Bishnoi community has a longstanding tradition of observing the Asoj Amavasya festival in honor of their revered Guru Jambheshwar. This festival, which falls on October 1 this year, involves a mass movement of community members from Haryana to the Mukam village in Rajasthan. The All India Bishnoi Mahasabha, representing the community, had communicated to the Election Commission that a significant number of Bishnoi families would be traveling to Rajasthan during this period, as they have done for generations.

The earlier voting date would have posed a challenge for these community members, many of whom might have been unable to cast their votes due to their participation in the festival. The Election Commission, recognizing the potential impact on voter turnout and respecting the cultural practices of the Bishnoi community, decided to reschedule the election date.

This is not the first time the Election Commission has adjusted election schedules to accommodate the religious or cultural practices of communities. The Commission's decision reflects its commitment to ensuring that all eligible voters have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote without having to choose between civic duty and cultural obligations.

By shifting the voting date, the Election Commission has allowed the Bishnoi community to maintain their tradition while also participating in the democratic process. This move is seen as a thoughtful and inclusive approach to election management, ensuring that the cultural practices of various communities are respected and that the electoral process remains fair and accessible to all.

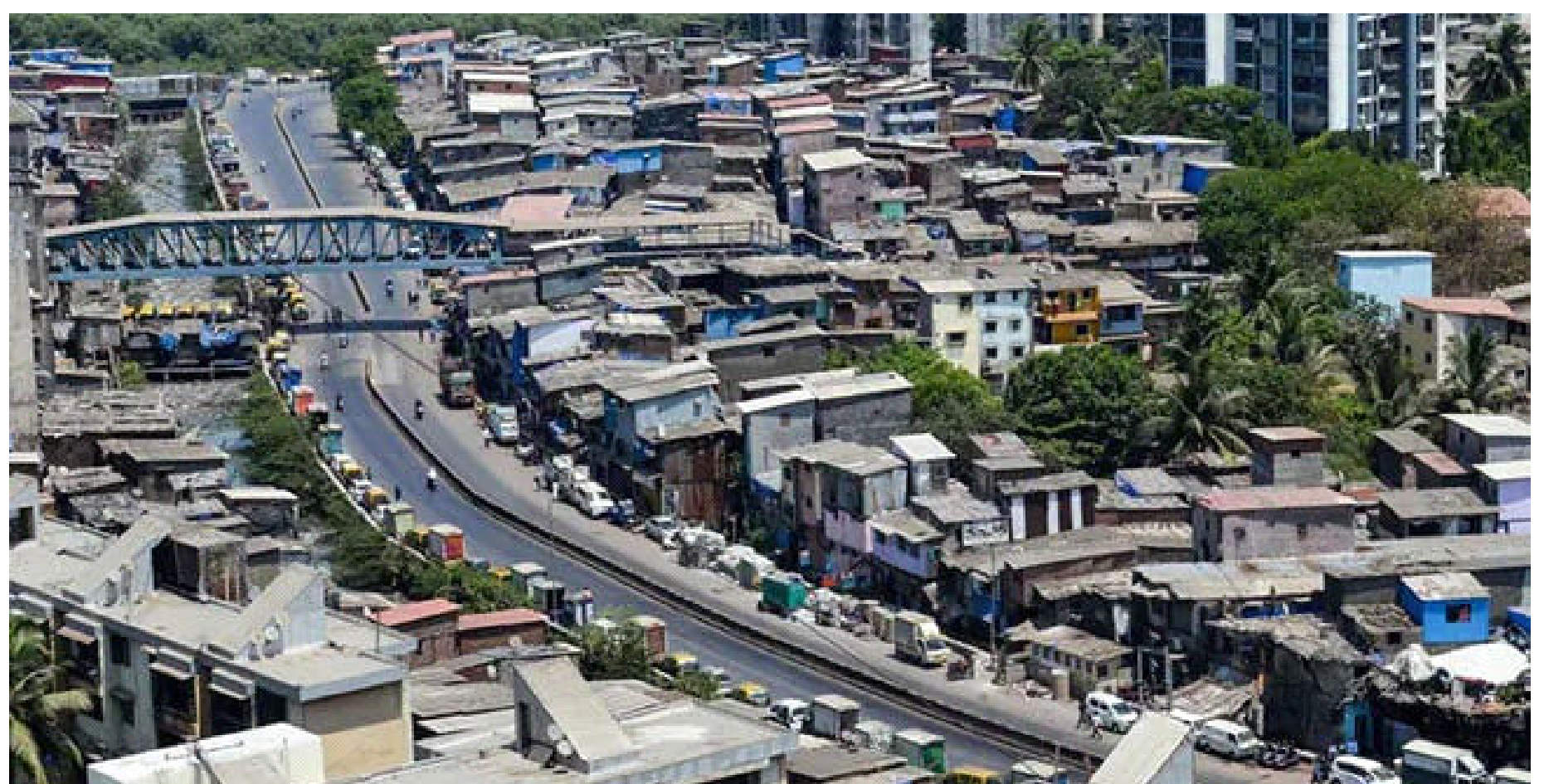
Dharavi NGOs Back Redevelopment Survey, Condemn Opposition by Non-Locals

Several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and citizen welfare associations in Dharavi have voiced their support for the ongoing state government-led survey of informal tenants in the sprawling slum, accusing non-locals of attempting to derail the redevelopment project through misinformation. The NGOs have formally expressed their backing through letters addressed to the Dharavi Redevelopment Project/Slum Rehabilitation Authority (DRP/SRA), a Maharashtra government body overseeing the \$3-billion redevelopment initiative spearheaded by the Adani Group.

The survey, which commenced on March 18, 2024, has already covered over 11,000 tenements through door-to-door visits, with numbering completed for more than 30,000 tenements, including residential, commercial, and religious structures. This effort is a critical component of the larger redevelopment project, which aims to rehabilitate Dharavi's informal tenants by providing them with new homes.

Eight NGOs involved in various welfare activities such as health, education, and women empowerment have met with DRPPL CEO and conveyed their support for the survey. Noor Mohammed Khan of Global Giving Foundation and All India Police Jan Seva Sangathna, while extending support, posed several questions to the authorities regarding the redevelopment plan, including inquiries about the maintenance period to be provided by the Adani Group and the fate of residents who moved to Dharavi after the January 2000 cutoff date for eligibility.

Rajeshkumar Panirselvam, founder of Enlighten Foundation, noted that the opposition to the survey is limited to a small group of people with vested interests, most



of whom are non-locals with no direct connection to Dharavi's living conditions. He emphasized that the residents and commercial property owners within Dharavi are generally in favor of the redevelopment.

Supporting the initiative, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj CHS, a local resident association, expressed its eagerness to see the survey and redevelopment progress after decades of delay. Similarly, Thevar Samajam, representing Dharavi's largest Tamil

community, reaffirmed its enthusiasm for the redevelopment, stating that local businesses are keen to operate in a rejuvenated Dharavi.

Local youth groups, including Dharavikar Iron Group and Om Shri Gauri Mitra Mandal, have also offered to volunteer as facilitators for the survey, highlighting the importance of redevelopment for future generations. Meanwhile, the All India Police Jan Seva Sanghatana called for direct dialogue between authorities and residents to dispel false

propaganda against the project. The survey teams, braving heavy rains and challenging conditions, are mapping the roughly 600-acre slum to ensure no tenement is overlooked. The project, which is expected to take seven years to complete, promises 350 sq ft flats to eligible residents, with ineligible residents being rehoused elsewhere in Mumbai. This is the first policy of its kind by the Maharashtra government, ensuring that all residents, regardless of eligibility, will receive housing.



President Murmu Calls for Reform in Court Adjournments to Ensure Swift Justice

President Droupadi Murmu underscored the urgent need to address the "culture of adjournments" within the Indian judiciary to expedite justice, during her address at the National Conference of the District Judiciary on Sunday. The two-day event, held at Bharat Mandapam, focused on the pressing issue of case pendency in courts. Addressing attendees, including Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud and Union Minister of State for Law and Justice (Independent charge) Arjun Ram Meghwal, President Murmu emphasized that the delay in court proceedings poses a significant challenge. "All possible efforts need to be made to change the culture of adjournments in courts," she stated, highlighting the impact of such delays on justice delivery.

The President also introduced the concept of "Black court syndrome," a term she used to describe the heightened stress experienced by individuals in courtroom settings. She suggested that further research be conducted to understand and mitigate this phenomenon.

In her speech, President Murmu expressed her satisfaction with the increasing number of women entering the judiciary, acknowledging the positive shift towards greater gender inclusivity in the



legal field.

The conference concluded with President Murmu unveiling a new flag and insignia for the Supreme Court, symbolizing the ongoing evolution and modernization of

the Indian judicial system. The event was marked by discussions on enhancing efficiency in the legal system and addressing the challenges faced by the judiciary in delivering timely justice.

Uddhav Thackeray Slams Eknath Shinde Government Over Collapsed Shivaji Statue

Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray has launched a scathing attack on the Eknath Shinde government in Maharashtra following the collapse of a 35-foot statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Speaking during the Maha Vikas Aghadi's "jode maro" protest in Mumbai, Thackeray criticized Prime Minister Narendra Modi's apology for the incident, describing it as "arrogant" and expressing that the people of Maharashtra had rejected it. The protest, which saw participation from top leaders including Sharad Pawar and Nana Patole, drew parallels between the statue's collapse and other controversial incidents like water dripping into the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and the new Parliament complex. Thackeray argued that the statue's collapse was not merely an accident but an "insult to the soul of Maharashtra." "The apology from the Prime Minister is laced with arrogance," Thackeray declared. "Is he apologizing for inaugurating the statue or for the corruption surrounding it? The collapse is a direct insult to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj."

Prime Minister Modi had earlier apologized for the statue collapse, which occurred just eight months after its inauguration. "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is not just a name or a king; he is our deity. I bow my head at his feet and apologize to those hurt by this incident," Modi stated.

The BJP and its ally, Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena, have condemned the opposition's protest, accusing them of politicizing the issue. Chief Minister Shinde emphasized that Shivaji Maharaj should not be used for political gain and criticized the opposition for their actions. Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis also accused the opposition of exploiting the situation for electoral purposes, noting a long history of Congress and NCP leaders failing to honor Shivaji Maharaj.

BJP Questions Delay in Hema Committee Report, Accuses Kerala Government of Complicity



The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has intensified its critique of the Kerala government's handling of the Hema Committee report on sexual harassment in the Malayalam film industry, with party chief J.P. Nadda suggesting possible complicity. Speaking at an internal meeting in Palakkad, Nadda questioned the delays surrounding the release of the report and the subsequent response from the Left-ruled state government.

"Why is there a delay in giving justice based on the Hema Committee report? What is stopping them? What is holding you (up)? Because you are part and parcel of it," Nadda remarked, implying that the Kerala government might be involved in obstructing justice.

The Hema Committee report, released earlier this month, has exposed serious allegations of

harassment, exploitation, and ill-treatment of women in the Malayalam film industry. The report's revelations have triggered a flood of accusations from female artistes and other workers, leading to a crisis within the industry.

In response to the escalating controversy, the Kerala government has formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the allegations detailed in the report. The Kerala Police have announced that the SIT, which now includes additional women officers, will oversee all related cases previously registered at local police stations.

The BJP's criticism highlights ongoing tensions and scrutiny surrounding the report and its impact, placing additional pressure on the Kerala government to address the issue promptly and transparently.

Veteran Politician Shyam Rajak Returns to JD(U), Eyes Assembly Seat in 2025



Veteran politician Shyam Rajak made a significant political comeback on Sunday by rejoining the Nitish Kumar-led Janata Dal (United) (JD(U)). Rajak, a former Minister in the Bihar government, was welcomed back into the party by JD(U)'s Working National President Sanjay Kumar Jha. This marks Rajak's return to JD(U) after a stint with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). He previously served the JD(U) before shifting allegiance to RJD several years ago. His return is seen as a major political move ahead of the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections.

Upon rejoining JD(U), Rajak expressed his intention to contest the Assembly elections from the Phulwari Sharif constituency, a seat he was denied during his tenure with RJD in the 2020 elections. Rajak had hoped to run for this seat but was edged out due to a seat-sharing arrangement within the INDIA bloc alliance, which allocated the seat to the Communist Party of India

(Marxist-Leninist) Liberation (CPI-ML). The seat was won by Gopal Ravidas, who represented the INDIA bloc.

Rajak, who resigned from his position as RJD National General Secretary and left the party on August 22, 2024, described his previous political experience as "cheating and dejecting." Reflecting on his political journey, he cited former leader Chandra Shekhar's philosophy of focusing on the "last person in the row" as a guiding principle.

Rajak's reentry into JD(U) coincides with a period of internal changes within the party. Senior leader KC Tyagi recently resigned as JD(U) National Spokesperson, citing age-related reasons, which has sparked speculation about potential internal disagreements.

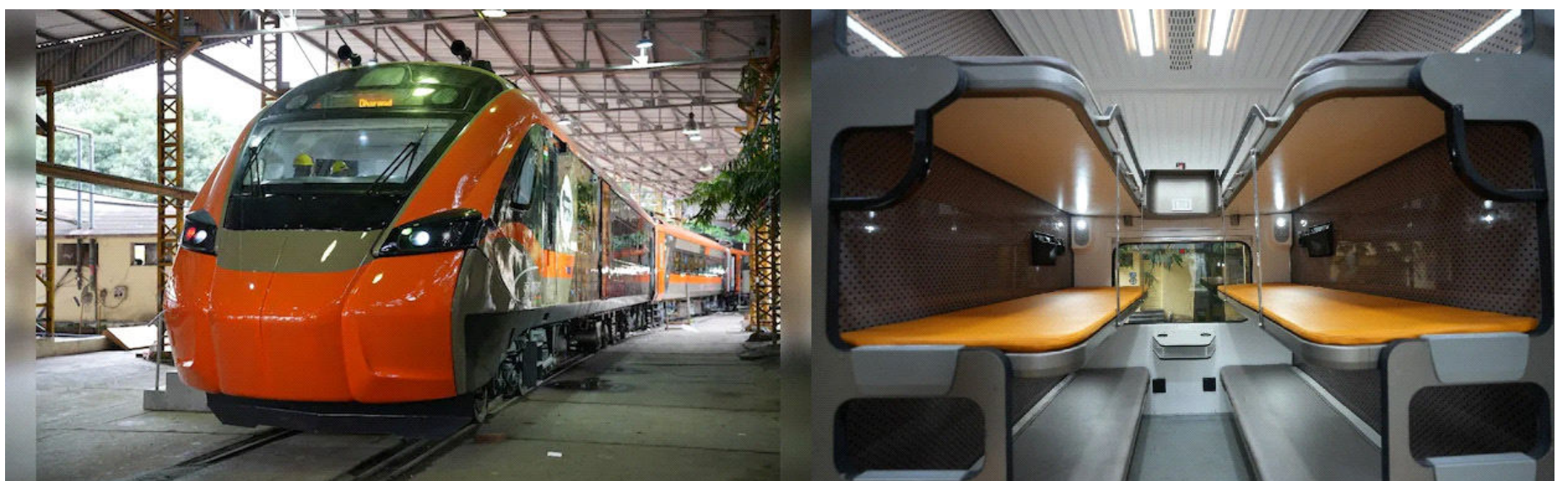
Rajak's return is expected to strengthen JD(U) ahead of the upcoming elections and reinvigorate the party's campaign strategies.

Vaishnav Inspects Vande Bharat Sleeper Coach; Launch in 3 Months

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav visited the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) facility in Bengaluru today to inspect the production of the Vande Bharat sleeper coach. Vaishnav announced that the new train is expected to be ready for passenger operation within the next three months.

During his visit, Vaishnav revealed that the Vande Bharat sleeper coach will undergo a ten-day trial and testing phase before it is officially rolled out. This follows the successful introduction of the Vande Bharat chair cars, with the new sleeper variant designed for overnight journeys. The Vande Bharat sleeper train will feature 16 coaches and is capable of reaching speeds up to 160 kilometers per hour. It is intended for longer routes, covering distances between 800 km to 1,200 km. The train will incorporate several advanced features aimed at enhancing passenger comfort and safety, including improved oxygen levels, virus protection, and amenities informed by lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This train is designed with the middle class in mind, and the fares will be comparable to those



of the Rajdhani Express," Vaishnav stated. Notable features include GFRP panels for the interiors, modular pantries, specialized berths and toilets for differently-abled passengers, and automatic exterior passenger doors. Additional amenities will include showers with

hot water in the 1st AC car, remotely operated fire barrier doors, sensor-based interiors, an odor-free toilet system, integrated reading lights with USB charging, and spacious luggage rooms. Once the prototypes are tested and validated, series production is expected to commence in about

a year and a half, with plans to roll out two to three trains per month, according to Vaishnav. The new Vande Bharat sleeper coach aims to enhance the Indian Railways' overnight travel experience, combining speed, comfort, and modern features.

Brazil Top Court's "Fake" Judge Deliberately Interfered In Election: Elon Musk

Tech billionaire Elon Musk has launched a scathing attack on Brazilian Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes, accusing him of deliberate election interference in Brazil's last presidential election. Musk's comments came after de Moraes ordered a nationwide ban on Musk's social media platform, X (formerly Twitter), in Brazil. The ban followed X's refusal to appoint a legal representative in the country, leading to a broader conflict between the platform and Brazilian authorities.

In a post on X, Musk referred to de Moraes as a "fake judge" and alleged that there is growing evidence of the justice's involvement in election interference. "There is growing evidence that fake judge Alexandre engaged in serious, repeated, and deliberate election interference in Brazil's last presidential election," Musk stated. Musk also claimed that former Twitter employees might have been complicit in these actions. He urged individuals with evidence or examples of such involvement to come forward, adding that under Brazilian law, such interference could carry a prison sentence of up to 20 years. "Anyone with examples or evidence to this effect, please reply to this post," Musk urged.

Brazil is a significant market for X, with over 22 million users. The platform has been embroiled in legal battles with de Moraes for months. The conflict centers on X's alleged failure to comply with court orders to remove accounts promoting coup-related content and undermining democracy.



In addition to the nationwide ban, de Moraes has imposed a fine of 18 million reais (approximately \$3.2 million) on X for non-compliance. The Supreme Federal Court has accused the platform of facilitating extremist content and enabling the spread of hateful and anti-democratic speech, especially in the lead-up to upcoming elections.

De Moraes has also instructed Brazil's National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel) to block access to X within 24 hours and has given Apple and Google five days to remove the X app from their app stores. Musk's comments reflect his broader criticism of Brazilian authorities, which he has previously described as an "oppressive regime" intent on stifling free speech.

On Saturday, Musk cautioned investors against engaging with Brazil, suggesting that the government is attempting to suppress the truth and potentially bankrupting those who challenge its narrative. The escalating dispute between Musk and Brazilian authorities highlights ongoing tensions between global tech giants and national regulatory bodies, as debates over online content moderation and political influence continue to unfold on the world stage.



Netanyahu Vows Retribution After Bodies of Six Hostages Found in Gaza Tunnel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed retribution on Sunday following the discovery of six hostages' bodies in a Gaza tunnel, a grim development that has intensified the conflict between Israel and Hamas. Netanyahu's strong statements came in response to Hamas's ambiguous acknowledgment of the attack, described as a "heroic operation by the resistance" in their statement, though they have not directly claimed responsibility.

Netanyahu asserted that those responsible for killing hostages are not interested in a truce, declaring, "We will hunt you down, we will catch you and we will settle the score." His comments underscore Israel's determination to confront Hamas amid ongoing hostilities, including a recent shooting attack near Hebron in the West Bank that resulted in the deaths of three police officers.

The discovery of the hostages' remains, including US-Israeli citizen Hersh Goldberg-Polin and two others—Carmel Gat and Eden Yerushalmi—has complicated ongoing efforts to negotiate a truce. According to a senior Hamas official, these individuals had been approved for release in a potential truce deal, raising questions about the negotiation process. However, Israeli authorities have dismissed Hamas's claims that the hostages were killed by Israeli forces, with Lieutenant Colonel Nadav Shoshani stating that the hostages were "brutally murdered by Hamas terrorists" and that there was no active fire in the tunnel at the time.

The bodies were found in a tunnel in the southern city of Rafah, approximately one kilometer from where another hostage, Kaid Farhan Alkadi, was rescued earlier in the week. This latest development is a stark reminder of the brutal nature of the conflict and the complexities involved in reaching a peaceful resolution.

Far-Right AfD Poised to Win State Election in Germany's East, A Historic First

As voting begins in the east German states of Thuringia and Saxony, the far-right party Alternative for Germany (AfD) is on track to achieve a historic milestone. If successful, AfD would become the first far-right party to secure the most seats in a German state parliament in nearly a century.

The elections are unfolding against a backdrop of heightened foreign policy tensions, including the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. Opinion polls suggest AfD is leading in Thuringia and is a close second in Saxony. The far-left Sahra Wagenknecht Alliance (BSW), a new political force, is also gaining traction according to recent surveys.

This electoral shift comes in the wake of a tragic event in Solingen, where three people were killed in a suspected Islamist attack. The attack has intensified anti-immigration sentiments across Germany, which the AfD has capitalized on. "Our freedoms are being increasingly restricted because people are being allowed into the country who don't fit in," said Bjoern Hoecke, AfD's leader in Thuringia, as reported by Reuters.

Both AfD and BSW, critical of the European Union and staunchly anti-immigration, have found strong support in the former Communist-run East Germany. The parties have also criticized the Ger-



man government's military support for Ukraine, reflecting broader discontent with the current administration. In the polling for these state elections, Chancellor Olaf Scholz's Social Democrats are struggling with around 6 percent support, while coalition partners, the Greens and the liberal FDP, are even further behind.

AfD, founded in 2013 originally as an anti-euro party before pivoting to an anti-immigration stance, achieved a record 15.9 percent in the European Parliament elections held in June. BSW, created earlier this year by former Die Linke member Sahra Wagenknecht, has also gained significant traction. Wagenknecht's par-

ty, which supports Russia in the Ukraine conflict, is expected to capture between 12 and 20 percent of the vote in today's elections, potentially positioning it as a key player in both states.

"I especially like her stance on the Ukraine war; we can't simply keep delivering weapons," said BSW supporter Carola Gustavus. "One has to negotiate even with the worst opponent," she added. The results from today's elections could signal a major shift in German politics, with the rise of far-right and far-left parties challenging the traditional political landscape and reflecting deep-seated anxieties over immigration and international relations.

Hamas Official Claims Dead Israeli Hostages Were Approved for Release in Proposed Truce Deal



In a startling revelation, a senior Hamas official stated on Sunday that several of the six Israeli hostages recently discovered dead in a Gaza tunnel had been approved for release under a proposed truce deal. According to the official, the names of these captives were included in a list of hostages that Hamas had agreed to release in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

The official, speaking anonymously to AFP due to restrictions on public commentary, alleged that the Israeli authorities had announced the discovery of these hostages' remains, despite their inclusion in a potential release agreement. The statement highlights the complexity and volatility of the ongoing negotiations and the broader conflict.

The revelation comes amid heightened tensions and ongoing negotiations aimed at securing a truce between Israel and Hamas. The discovery of the hostages' bodies and the associated claims by Hamas underscore the fragile nature of the peace process and the challenges in reaching a resolution that addresses the grievances of both sides.

The situation remains fluid as international observers and negotiators continue to work towards a possible ceasefire and resolution to the long-standing conflict.

Venezuela Transfers Over 700 Protest Detainees to Notorious Prisons Amid Election Turmoil



In a troubling development, over 700 detainees arrested during the protests following Venezuela's disputed presidential election have been transferred to maximum security prisons, according to the Venezuelan Prisons Observatory. The transfers, which took place over the past week, have moved individuals from police stations across the country to the notorious Tocuyito and Tocarón prisons, previously under gang control.

The human rights group reported significant irregularities in the transfer process, noting that many detainees' families were not informed about the relocations. These moves come in the wake of widespread protests triggered by the controversial outcome of the July 28 election, where President Nicolás Maduro was declared the winner. The opposition, claiming a landslide victory, has presented evidence challenging the official results. The international community, including the United States, the European Union, and several Latin American nations, has refused to recognize Maduro's victory without access to detailed voting results, intensifying pressure on his government. The protests, which erupted over allegations of election fraud, resulted in 27 deaths and 192 injuries.

The Venezuelan Prisons Observatory highlighted that none of the detainees transferred to the maximum security facilities have been permitted to contact their families or legal representatives. Of the more than 2,400 people arrested, 1,581 have been classified as political prisoners by the advocacy group Penal Forum. This includes 114 adolescents, with 18 released on bail recently, bringing the total number of freed youths to 34. Opposition leader María Corina Machado condemned the government's actions, describing the treatment of detainees, including minors as young as 13, as "brutal." Machado criticized the Maduro administration for sending young prisoners to facilities housing older, common criminals. The human rights violations and ongoing unrest reflect the deepening crisis in Venezuela, with increasing international scrutiny and condemnation of the government's handling of both the election and subsequent protests.



Mixed Market Outlook: Caution Advised Amid Potential Corrections, Selective Stock Picking Recommended

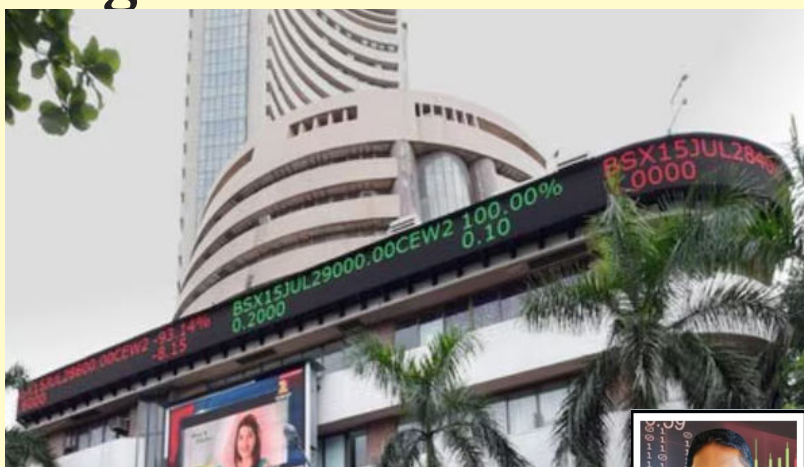
Domestic stock markets may move mixed this week. There is scope for slight correction in the indices which have already reached the maximums. Investments should be made only in selected stocks as the market breadth is not in favor of buyers. Beware of losses. From August 22, foreign institutional investors took up purchases. Strength is seen in pharma and IT sectors. Shares in healthcare and auto sectors did not fare well.

Stock recommendations

JINDAL STAINLESS STEEL: These shares have seen a slight correction after hitting a lifetime high in July. The uptrend started again at the key support level of Rs.655. These shares closed at Rs 793 with a gain of 7.78% on Friday after the dividend was declared. Investors can buy at this counter in the range of Rs.750/780 with a target price of Rs.850/890. Stoploss should be placed at Rs.720.

AU Bank: These shares, which have been in a downtrend for a long time, are now recovering. Relative strength is increasing. It crossed the 200-day moving average. Investors should take a position in the Rs.660 range with a target price of Rs.770/810 in this counter which closed at Rs.688 with a gain of 7.55% on Friday. Stoploss should be chosen at Rs.640.

Dhanuka Agritech: Continuing a nice uptrend, these shares are consolidating sideways. Support was taken at the trendline. It closed at Rs.1825 with a gain of 4.50% on Friday. Momentum investors can consider taking a position in the Rs.1800 range



with a target price of Rs.1880/1950. Stoploss should be set at Rs.1740.

Lux Industries: After two years of downtrend, this counter turned around in May this year. It bounced back strongly and hit a 52-week high. A slight pullback was seen after that. Investors should take positions in these shares which closed at 2376 with a gain of 4.06% in the previous session at Rs 2350 with a target price of Rs 2455/2500. Rs. Stoploss should be kept at 2310.

HomeFirst: A slight pullback was seen in these shares which hit lifetime highs. It rallied strongly at the key support level of Rs.1000 as investors did not want to give up. In this counter which closed at Rs.1153 with a gain of 4% on Friday, investors can consider taking a position at the level of Rs.1140/1120 with a target price of Rs.1255/1300. Stoploss should be kept at Rs.1090.



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IPO Rush Continues: 6 New Issues and 11 Listings Next Week

The Indian IPO market is poised for a busy week ahead, with six new public issues scheduled to launch—one on the mainboard and five in the SME segment. This follows a surge in market enthusiasm and a robust economic backdrop. Keep an eye on these upcoming IPOs and listings for potential investment opportunities.

Gold prices typically decline in September, with an average drop of 3.2% since 2017, making it the worst-performing month for the metal. Experts are analyzing how recent Federal Reserve rate cuts might influence short-term gold prices amid this historical trend.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections surged by 10% year-on-year in August, totaling ₹1.75 lakh crore. This increase reflects a positive trend in economic activity and consumer spending, according to an official statement.

Bangladeshi Hindu Teachers Forced to Resign Following the ouster of the Sheikh Hasina-led government on August 5, nearly 50 Hindu teachers in Bangladesh have reportedly been forced to resign. This move has raised concerns among minority organizations about the treatment of minority communities.

Severe Rains in Andhra Pradesh Exceptional rainfall continues in coastal Andhra Pradesh and Telanga-



na, with nine fatalities and over 13,000 people evacuated. The IMD has issued a five-day weather alert as cyclonic depression Asna is expected to move west-northwest away from the Indian coast.

Top 10 Companies Market Cap Update Eight out of the top ten most valuable companies in India saw their market capitalization increase last week, led by Bharti Airtel, Infosys, and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). This reflects a strong rally in the equity markets, although ITC and Hindustan Unilever experienced declines.

Vande Bharat Sleeper Coach Prototype Unveiled Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw introduced the prototype of the Vande Bharat sleeper coach at BEML's facility. The coach will undergo rigorous testing over the next 10 days before further trials on the tracks. Vaishnaw highlighted the coach's affordability for the middle-class.

Hinduja Group Denies Delays in Reliance Capital Resolution Amid Lender Allegations

Lenders of Reliance Capital Ltd (RCAP) have accused IndusInd International Holdings Ltd (IIHL) of employing delaying tactics, which they claim are hindering the implementation of the resolution plan. However, IIHL, the Hinduja Group firm that successfully bid for the acquisition of RCAP, has refuted these claims, stating that they are unfounded and aim to disrupt the process.

IIHL, which won the bid to acquire Reliance Capital, has deposited ₹2,750 crore with the Committee of Creditors (CoC) as part of its resolution plan. IIHL sources assert that the allegations are baseless and intended to obstruct the resolution process. They argue that accelerating the implementation of the plan is in IIHL's interest to prevent further depletion of the company's value and to focus on growth.

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) Mumbai approved IIHL's ₹9,861-crore resolution plan on February 27, 2024. Despite this, lenders have criticized IIHL for seeking additional approval from the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), arguing that it was not a condition set by the NCLT at the time of approval.

IIHL has countered that obtaining DIPP approval is



part of the resolution plan approved by 99.96% of the CoC. This approval is necessary due to some IIHL shareholders being residents of Hong Kong, which is subject to specific regulatory requirements under Press Note 3. The note mandates that investments from countries sharing a land border with India, or their residents, must be approved by the government.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) allows for a year to obtain necessary approvals, including those from the DIPP. The NCLT had previously directed the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and DIPP to expedite the approval process for IIHL's resolution plan to facilitate its swift implementation.

Commercial LPG Cylinder Prices Increased by Rs 39

Oil marketing companies have raised the price of 19 kg commercial LPG cylinders by Rs 39, effective from Sunday. In Delhi, the new retail price is now Rs 1,691.50.



This price hike comes after a series of reductions earlier this year. On July 1, oil companies had previously lowered the price by Rs 30, setting it at Rs 1,646. Before that, on June 1, the price had been reduced by Rs 69.50, bringing the cost to Rs 1,676. Additionally, on May 1, the price was cut by Rs 19.

The frequent adjustments in LPG cylinder prices reflect the dynamic nature of the market, influenced by various factors such as international oil prices, taxation policies, and supply-demand dynamics. Although the exact reasons for the recent increase have not been specified, these changes indicate that oil marketing companies are responding to broader economic conditions and fluctuations in the market.

Earlier reductions were aimed at provid-

ing relief to businesses and commercial enterprises, showing a pattern of responsiveness to market conditions. The current increase in price suggests a shift in economic conditions or market pressures that necessitated the adjustment.

The fluctuations in LPG prices highlight the ongoing volatility in the energy sector and the impact of global economic factors on local markets. As a result, businesses and consumers must stay informed about these changes to manage their expenses effectively.

Adani Power Seeks ₹280 Crore Refund from Himachal Pradesh in Supreme Court

Adani Power Ltd has approached the Supreme Court to recover ₹280 crore from the Himachal Pradesh government related to the 969-mega-watt Jangi Thopan Power Project in Kinnaur district. A bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Aravind Kumar is set to hear the plea on Monday.



The company's petition challenges a recent Himachal Pradesh High Court decision that reversed a prior single-bench ruling in favor of the refund. On July 18, a division bench of Justices Vivek Singh Thakur and Bipin Chandra Negi overturned the earlier decision, providing relief to the financially strained state government led by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu.

The dispute traces back to 2005 when Himachal Pradesh invited global bids for two hydropower projects—Jangi Thopan and Thopan Powari, each with a capacity of 480 MW. Brakel Corporation NV emerged as the highest bidder. However, after Brakel failed to pay the upfront premium, Reliance Infrastructure Ltd matched the bid, leading to legal complications.

The state government issued a show-cause notice to Brakel, prompting its sub-

sidary to deposit ₹173.43 crore. Reliance Infra challenged this payment, arguing that Brakel missed the deadline. It was later found that Brakel Kinnaur Pvt. Ltd, a Brakel subsidiary, received ₹173.43 crore from Adani Group to cover the premium.

On July 7, 2008, the Himachal Pradesh Cabinet issued another notice to Brakel for misrepresentation, leading to the project's cancellation and forfeiture of the premium. By September 4, 2015, the state law department advised that the upfront premium could not be retained from two parties for the same project, suggesting a refund to Adani Power.

Adani Power, initially not part of the bidding, filed a writ petition in 2019 seeking a refund of ₹280.06 crore plus interest.

India's Trade Balance: Surplus with 151 Countries, Deficit with 75

India recorded a trade surplus with 151 countries and a deficit with 75 during the first half of 2024, according to the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI). The trade surplus amounted to USD 72.1 billion, driven primarily by significant surpluses with the USA (USD 21 billion) and the Netherlands (USD 11.6 billion).



Conversely, India's trade deficit with 75 nations totaled USD 185.4 billion, highlighting a need to address imbalances, particularly with countries like China and Russia. The deficit with China reached USD 41.88 billion, and with Russia, USD 31.98 billion. Other notable deficits included Iraq (USD 15.07 billion), Indonesia (USD 9.89 billion), and the UAE (USD 9.47 billion).

India's trade deficit with 23 of these countries surpassed USD 1 billion each. This group represents 32.9% of India's exports and 73.5% of its imports. Additionally, the report points out significant deficits with Saudi Arabia (USD 9.43 billion), Switzerland (USD 8.46 billion), and South Korea (USD 6.93 billion), among others.

While the trade deficit with countries exporting crude oil and coal is deemed less concerning, the GTRI suggests India should focus on reducing imports of industrial goods from nations like China to protect economic sovereignty. It also warns of potential increases in imports of gold, silver, and diamonds due to recent tariff cuts, which could exacerbate trade deficits with those exporting these commodities.

The GTRI emphasizes the need for India to strengthen domestic production and reduce reliance on imports from specific countries to address the trade deficit effectively.



Chandrababu @30

From an Ordinary Farmer to an Extraordinary Politician



Chandrababu Naidu, a name that has become synonymous with political acumen and visionary leadership, has completed 30 remarkable years since he first took oath as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on September 1, 1995. His journey from a simple farmer's family to one of the most influential politicians in the country is a testament to his determination, innovative ideas, and relentless pursuit of excellence.

Early Life and Political Beginnings:



Born in 1950 in Naravaripalle, a small village in the Chittoor district, Chandrababu Naidu hails from a modest farmer's family. His early life was shaped by the values of hard work and perseverance, which later became the cornerstone of his political career. After completing his post-graduation from Sri Venkateswara University in Tirupati, Naidu entered the political arena, winning his first election as an MLA from Chandragiri constituency in 1978. At the young age of 28, he became an MLA, and by 30, he was a minister in the Congress government, serving as the Cinematography Minister.

Rise in the Telugu Desam Party:



Chandrababu's political career took a significant turn when he married NTR's second daughter, Bhuvaneshwari, in 1981. This alliance brought him closer to NTR, the founder of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). After TDP's landslide victory in the 1983 elections, Naidu joined the party at NTR's request, marking the beginning of his rise in the party ranks. His political acumen was evident during the 1984 political crisis when he played a crucial role in stabilizing the TDP government.

By 1986, NTR appointed Naidu as the General Secretary of the TDP, a position from which he significantly contributed to the party's victory in the 1994 elections.

However, as internal strife grew within the party, Chandrababu, along with 160 MLAs, declared no confidence in NTR. This led to Naidu taking over as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on September 1, 1995, a position he held with distinction.

Innovative Leadership and National Influence:

Chandrababu Naidu is often credited with transforming Andhra Pradesh through his innovative governance and emphasis on technology. His vision to integrate technology with governance led to radical changes, particularly in



empowering the youth and women. He is celebrated for his efforts in developing the IT sector, which paved the way for many Telugu youths to establish themselves in the global IT industry.

Naidu's influence extended beyond the state, playing a key role in national politics. He was instrumental in the appointment of two Prime Ministers and played a pivotal role in Abdul Kalam's election as the President of India. His leadership style, often likened to that of a corporate CEO, earned him widespread acclaim.

Challenges and Resilience:



Despite his successes, Chandrababu faced significant challenges, including consecutive defeats in the 2004 and 2009 elections. However, his resilience and strategic vision kept the party intact, and he continued to inspire confidence among his supporters. His 2,817-kilometer-long padayatra, spanning 208 days, was a testament to his commitment to strengthening the TDP.

The bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in 2014 marked a new chapter in Naidu's political career. As the first Chief Minister of the newly formed Andhra Pradesh (Navandhra), he faced the daunting task of rebuilding a state with a revenue deficit. Undeterred, he initiated the construction of the new capital, Amaravati, and the Polavaram irrigation project, while implementing several welfare schemes to drive the state's development.

Legacy and Continued Relevance:



Chandrababu Naidu's political journey is one of perseverance, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to public service. Even at 74, his enthusiasm remains undiminished. After a brief setback in 2019, he returned to power in the 2024 elections, once again taking the reins as Chief Minister with the support of the people. His continued influence in central politics, particularly in the Modi 3.0 government, underscores his enduring relevance in Indian politics.

Chandrababu Naidu's 30-year journey as a political leader is a story of transformation, both for himself and for the state he has tirelessly served. From a small village in Chittoor to the corridors of power in Andhra Pradesh and beyond, Naidu's legacy as a visionary leader and an astute politician will continue to inspire generations to come. His journey, marked by innovation, resilience, and a deep commitment to the welfare of the people, is a remarkable chapter in the annals of Indian politics.

Amazon's New Alexa to Feature Anthropic's Claude AI, Launching in October

Amazon's upcoming Alexa overhaul, set for release in October, will prominently utilize Anthropic's Claude AI models instead of Amazon's in-house technology, according to sources familiar with the matter. This new version, dubbed "Remarkable," will be available through a subscription model costing between \$5 and \$10 per month. It aims to leverage advanced generative AI to handle complex queries more effectively than the existing system, which has faced performance issues such as delayed responses.



The decision to integrate Claude, developed by AI start-up Anthropic, comes after internal tests revealed shortcomings in Amazon's own AI models. Claude demonstrated superior performance in generating quicker and more accurate responses, prompting Amazon to pivot to this external solution.

Despite the revamped Alexa being marketed as a premium upgrade, Amazon will continue to offer the "Classic" version of Alexa for free. This move is part of a broader strategy to revitalize Alexa's revenue generation capabilities, as the device's efforts to drive sales through voice interactions have yet to prove profitable. Senior management sees 2024 as a critical year for Alexa to achieve significant commercial success, with the new paid version serving as a key component of this strategy.

Amazon has historically preferred to develop its own technologies to maintain control over user experience and data. However, it joins other tech giants like Microsoft and Apple in leveraging external AI expertise, as both have incorporated OpenAI's ChatGPT into their products.

The Remarkable Alexa's debut is expected to be previewed at Amazon's annual devices and services event, usually held in September. This event will mark the first major appearance of Panos Panay, Amazon's new devices chief. Despite the promising advancements, some Amazon employees question whether consumers will be willing to pay extra for a service that was previously free, especially given the additional cost on top of existing Prime memberships.

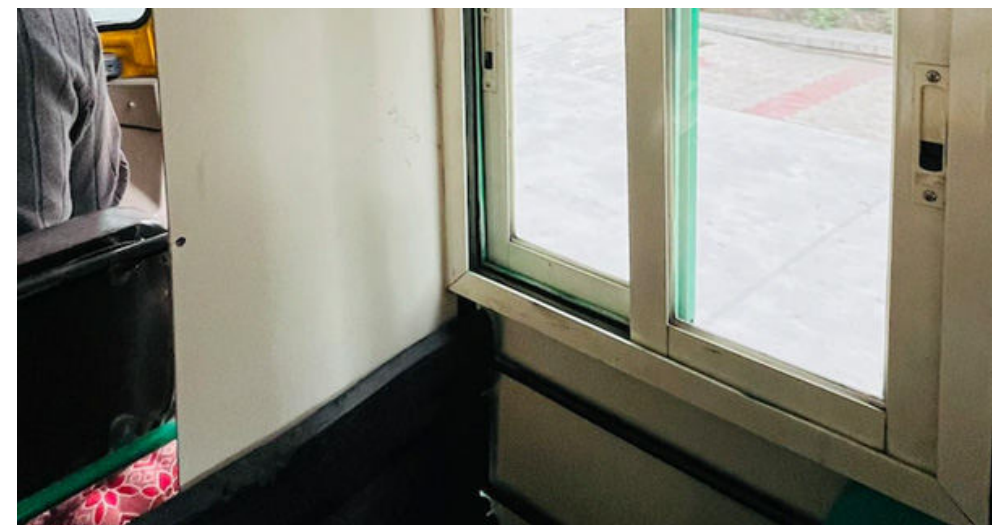
Auto Rickshaw with a Window Surprises Netizens

Auto rickshaws are a staple of Indian urban transport, known for their affordability and colorful decor. Recently, an unusual auto rickshaw spotted in Bengaluru caught the attention of X user Tanvi Gaikwad. She shared an image of the rickshaw, which featured a distinctive glass window on one side, contrasting with the open, passenger-friendly design on the other. The sight left her and many others intrigued, prompting a flurry of reactions online.

Tanvi Gaikwad's post, shared on August 29, has gained substantial traction, amassing over 514,000 views and numerous comments. The quirky design of the auto rickshaw prompted a variety of humorous and curious responses from users. Some compared the rickshaw's unique feature to com-

pact Mumbai apartments, with one user exclaiming, "This is peak Bengaluru," and another jokingly referring to it as "autos in south Bombay." A third user humorously likened it to "a 1BHK in Mumbai," while another compared it to a "Pushpak Vimana," a nod to the mythical flying chariot from Indian epics. One comment playfully suggested, "Let's just say windows running in Auto mode haha."

The comments section revealed that the rickshaw was indeed spotted in Bengaluru, adding a touch of local charm to the conversation. The blend of traditional auto rickshaw elements with an unconventional glass window has certainly made this vehicle stand out, earning it the title of possibly the "coolest auto ever" in the eyes of many.



Asian Bird Saliva Soup: The Unique and Expensive Delicacy

Food enthusiasts often embrace a wide range of flavors, from exotic seafood to unconventional desserts. For those with a taste for Pan-Asian cuisine, there's a unique culinary experience that stands out: Asian Bird Saliva Soup, also known as bird's nest soup. Despite its unusual name, this dish is one of the most expensive and intriguing culinary experiences worldwide.

Asian Bird Saliva Soup is made from the nests of swiftlet birds, which are constructed from their hardened saliva. The process of preparing this soup is labor-intensive; the nests must be carefully cleaned and soaked before being simmered in a flavorful broth. The result is a delicately gelatinous texture and a subtle umami flavor that has captivated food lovers for centuries.

Chef Manoj Pandey, partner chef at The Piano Man, explains the allure of this dish: "Bird's nest soup has always fascinated me. Its unique preparation and high cost make it a truly remarkable culinary journey. The nests, created from the birds' saliva, are meticulously cleaned and then simmered to produce a soup with a delicate texture and rich flavor."



The high cost of bird's nest soup is due to the rarity and labor involved in harvesting and preparing the nests. Historically, this dish was reserved for royalty and symbolized wealth and prestige in Chinese culture. Its continued association with luxury and status contributes to its high price tag.

If you're intrigued by unique culinary experiences, bird's nest soup offers a glimpse into a rare and esteemed tradition in Asian cuisine.

Flipkart Teases Big Billion Days Sale Starting September

Flipkart has officially announced its highly anticipated Big Billion Days 2024 sale, set to begin on September 29 for Plus members and on September 30 for all other users. This annual event, known for its extensive discounts and deals across various categories, will kick off earlier this year compared to previous sales, which typically started in October and coincided with the Diwali/Deepavali festival.

The Big Billion Days sale is renowned for offering substantial savings on a wide range of products, including consumer electronics, fashion, and home appliances. This year, the sale will feature notable promotions such as up to five percent off for Flipkart Axis Bank credit card users,

a credit line of up to Rs 1,00,000 through Flipkart Pay Later, and additional discounts on select items using Super Coin.

While specific deals and discounts have not yet been disclosed, users who have previewed the upcoming sale on the Flipkart app report significant savings opportunities. Historically, the sale has included major discounts on flagship smartphones

from top brands like Apple, Samsung, and Google. If you're in the market for a new smartphone, waiting for the Big Billion Days 2024 could be a smart move to secure the best deals.

As Flipkart gears up for this major sale event, shoppers can expect more details and official announcements about the offers as the date approaches.



Zomato Customer's Heartwarming Birthday Surprise for Delivery Agent Goes Viral

A touching video of a Zomato delivery agent's unexpected birthday celebration in Ahmedabad has captured hearts across the internet. The video, shared by Yash Shah on Instagram, has garnered nearly two million views, highlighting the kindness of customers who went the extra mile to make the agent's day special.

In the video, the delivery agent, who was working in heavy rain on his birthday, is seen receiving a heartfelt surprise from customers. Despite being soaked and braving the adverse weather, he continued his duties with dedication. The customers, noticing his predicament, decided to make his day brighter. As he arrived to deliver their order, they greeted him with a spirited rendition of "Happy Birthday" and presented him with a small gift.

The agent's reaction was one of genuine surprise and joy. His beaming smile reflected his deep appreciation for the thoughtful gesture. The video captures the emotional moment, showcasing how a simple act of kindness can have a profound impact.

The caption of the post reads, "Spread happiness by whatever means you can. Thank you Zomato for giving us the opportunity." This sentiment resonates with many, reflecting the power of small acts of kindness and the positive impact they can have on individuals.

The viral video serves as a reminder of the importance of compassion and the joy that can come from making someone's day a little brighter, no matter the circumstances.





Haaland's Hat Trick Keeps City on Top; Arsenal Held to Draw by Brighton

Erling Haaland continued his impressive form with a second consecutive hat trick as Manchester City defeated West Ham 3-1, maintaining their perfect start to the English Premier League season. Haaland now has seven goals in three games, bringing his total to 70 in 69 league appearances for City. This performance puts City two points ahead of Arsenal, who were held to a 1-1 draw by Brighton on Saturday.

Arsenal, playing at home, were reduced to 10 men when Declan Rice was sent off early in the second half. The decision followed an incident where Rice was penalized for a second yellow card after a scuffle with Brighton's Joel Veltman during a quick free kick. The red card shifted the momentum in Brighton's favor, and Joao Pedro equalized in the 58th minute after David Raya saved a previous attempt from Yankuba Minteh.

Earlier, Kai Havertz had given Arsenal the



lead with a lob over Brighton goalkeeper Bart Verbruggen in the 38th minute. Havertz also had a chance to regain Arsenal's lead in the 74th minute but was denied by Verbruggen.

The draw for Arsenal allows Manchester City the opportunity to move to the top of the Premier League standings, provided they secure a win against West Ham in the weekend's late kickoff.

Litton Das' 138 Boosts Bangladesh; Pakistan 9/2 at Stumps in Rawalpindi Test



Litton Das' impressive 138 lifted Bangladesh on Day 3 of the second Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi. Das' innings, alongside Mehidy Hasan Miraz's 78, helped Bangladesh recover from a precarious position to post a total of 262. The pair formed a crucial 165-run partnership for the seventh wicket after Bangladesh had been reduced to 6-26 by Pakistan's bowlers, including Shahzad and pacer Mir Hamza. At stumps on Day 3, Pakistan made early breakthroughs, reducing the hosts to 9/2. Abdullah Shafique and nightwatchman Khurram Shahzad were dismissed, leaving Pakistan with a slender lead of 21 runs.

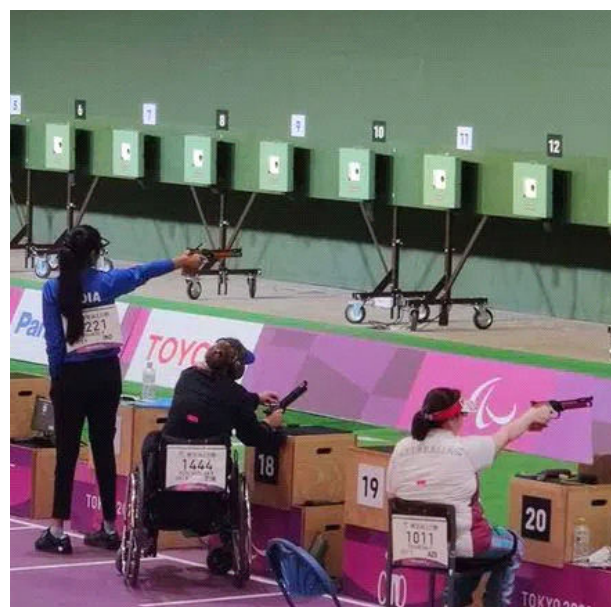
Rubina Francis Wins Bronze in Women's 10m Air Pistol at Paralympics

Indian para-shooter Rubina Francis claimed the bronze medal in the women's 10m air pistol SH1 final at the Chateauroux Paralympics, scoring 211.1. She finished behind gold medalist Sareh Javanmardi of Iran and silver medalist Aysel Ozgan of Turkey.

Francis began strongly, securing second place with 50 points after Stage 1, just 0.1 points behind Javanmardi. However, a drop in performance during Stage 2 saw her slip from the podium positions. Despite the pressure, Francis did not shoot below nine points from her 14th to 21st attempts, allowing her to recover and eventually clinch the bronze. She also defeated Turkey's Aysegul Pehlivanlar in a sudden death round to secure her final position.

In the qualification round, Javanmardi led with a score of 570, followed by Hungary's Krisztina David with 567-17x and France's Gaelle Edon with 567-16x. Earlier, Swaroop Unhalkar missed out on the final in the men's 10m air rifle standing (SH1), finishing 14th with a score of 613.4.

Francis' achievement adds to India's impressive



Paralympic tally, marking the country's fourth medal in shooting at these games. Avni Lekhara and Mona Agarwal secured gold and bronze in the women's 10m air rifle SH1, while Manish Narwal won silver in the men's 10m air pistol SH1. Preethi Pal also contributed with a bronze in the Women's 100m T35 event.

Shuttler Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan Eases Into Badminton SH6 Semis



India's athletes are poised for more medal chances on Day 4 of the Paris Paralympics 2024. On Sunday, para shuttlers Mandeep Kaur and Palak Kohli began the country's campaign but both were eliminated in the

quarter-finals. However, Manisha advanced to the semi-finals, securing India's place in the medal round. Manisha will face compatriot Thulasimathi Murugesan in the semi-finals, ensuring at least one medal in the event.

In shooting, Avani Lekhara, who previously won a gold medal in the individual round, and Sidhartha Babu both faced elimination in the Mixed 10m Air Rifle Prone SH1 event.

Track and field athlete Preethi Pal, who clinched a silver medal in the Women's 100m T35 event, is expected to continue her strong performance in the Women's 200m T35 event.

India remains hopeful as the competition progresses, with several athletes vying for podium finishes.

Sukant Kadam and Nitesh Kumar Advance; Krishna Nagar's Campaign Ends in Injury



India's Sukant Kadam has set up an SL4 men's singles semifinal clash against compatriot Suhas Yathiraj at the Paris Paralympics, ensuring a medal for the nation. Kadam's impressive performance saw him defeat Thailand's Teamarrom Siripong 21-12, 21-12, topping Group B. The semifinal match against Tokyo silver medalist Suhas promises an exciting showdown.

In contrast, defending champion Krishna Nagar's campaign ended in heartbreak. During a crucial SH6 group B match against Thailand's Meechai Natthapong, Nagar twisted his ankle and was forced to retire while trailing 20-22, 3-11. Nagar, who needed a win to advance, expressed his disappointment but vowed to return stronger in future competitions.

The mixed doubles pair of Sivarajan Solaimalai and Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan also faced a setback. The second-seeded duo lost their SH6 semifinals match to the USA's Miles Krajewski and Jayci Simon with scores of 21-17, 14-21, 13-21.

They will now compete in the bronze medal playoff.

In other notable performances, Nitesh Kumar, who won a silver medal at the Asian Para Games, advanced to the semifinals of the men's singles SL3 category. Kumar secured his spot by topping Group A with a straight-game victory over Thailand's Mongkhon Bunsun, winning 21-13, 21-14.

In the SL4 category, only the top finisher from each group advances to the semifinals. Tarun Dhillon did not make the cut, finishing second in Group D after a loss to France's Lucas Mazur.

On the women's side, Mandeep Kaur secured a quarterfinal berth in the women's singles SL3 category by defeating Australia's Vinot Celine Aurelie 21-23, 21-10, 21-17. Kaur finished second in Group B after losing her opening match to Nigeria's Bolaji Mariam, who topped the group. The quarterfinals will see Kaur compete for one of the remaining semifinal spots.

Rohan Bopanna and Aldila Sutjiadi Reach US Open Mixed Doubles Quarterfinals

India's Rohan Bopanna and his Indonesian partner Aldila Sutjiadi have advanced to the mixed doubles quarterfinals at the US Open in New York. The eighth-seeded duo secured their place with a hard-fought victory over Australia's John Peers and the Czech Republic's Katerina Siniakova, winning 0-6, 7-6(5), 10-7. The match, which lasted one hour and 13 minutes, saw Bopanna and Sutjiadi battle back from a set down to clinch the win.

In their opening round, Bopanna and Sutjiadi had previously defeated Germany's Tim Puetz and Dutch player Demi Schuurs with a scoreline of 7-6(7), 7-6(5). The pair's resilience and strong performances have set them up for a challenging quarterfinal match against the fourth seeds, Matthew Ebden and Barbora Krejickova.

Additionally, Bopanna has also advanced to the third round of the men's doubles competition. Partnering with Matthew Ebden, Bopanna secured a win over Spain's Roberto Carballes Baena and Argentina's Federico Coria with a decisive 6-2, 6-4 score. This progression in both doubles events highlights Bopanna's strong performance at this year's US Open.





35-Chinna Katha Kaadu Trailer Unveiled: Family Drama Set for September 6 Release



Since its teaser debut, "35-Chinna Katha Kaadu" has become one of the most anticipated films for family audiences, with its impactful songs further piquing interest. Today, the film's theatrical trailer was unveiled by Nagarjuna, adding to the excitement.

The narrative of "35-Chinna Katha Kaadu" follows a boy struggling with academics, particularly in mathematics, leading him to lose hope in his abilities. However, his mother remains steadfast in her belief that he can overcome his difficulties and succeed. This relatable storyline resonates deeply with parents, capturing the essence of parental support and perseverance.

Director Nanda Kishore Emani has skillfully blended emotional depth with entertainment, creating a compelling film. The cast, including Vishwadev and Nivetha Thomas as the parents, Priyadarshi as a teacher, Bhagyaraj as the school principal, and Gautami in a pivotal role, delivers strong performances that enhance the film's appeal.

The movie features music by Vivek Sagar and impressive cinematography by Niketh Bommi, both of which contribute to the film's high production value. The trailer sets a promising tone for the movie, suggesting a heartfelt and engaging experience.

Produced by Rana Daggubati's Suresh Productions in collaboration with S Originals and Waltair Productions, "35-Chinna Katha Kaadu" is slated for release in Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam on September 6. The film is expected to attract a broad audience, especially families looking for a touching and relatable story.

SJ Suryah's Era: It's Happening Now Cementing His Status as a Versatile Actor

SJ Suryah began his film career as a director before transitioning into acting, but it's only in the last decade that he has fully embraced acting, making a significant mark in both Telugu and Tamil cinema. His latest release, "Saripodha Sanivaram," has once again put him in the spotlight for his explosive performance as CI Daya. Fans are celebrating his success, declaring that we are currently witnessing SJ Suryah's era.

Suryah possesses a remarkable ability to bring freshness to similar roles, thanks to his unique mannerisms and compelling performances. His acting talent is a testament to his directorial background, which has undoubtedly influenced his ability to captivate audiences. Each of his performances, whether in positive or negative roles, showcases his versatility and deep understanding of the craft.

In recent years, Suryah has earned acclaim for his roles in notable films such as "Monster," "Nenjam Marappathillai," "Maanaadu," "Don," the "Vadhandhi" series, "Mark Antony," "Jigarhanda Double X," "Raayan," and now, "Saripodha Sanivaram." His ability to seamlessly transition between various characters—be they heroic or villainous—demonstrates his exceptional range and conviction.

Suryah's talent extends to portraying complex negative roles with a perfect balance, neither underperforming nor overacting. This nuanced approach has solidified his reputation as a top-



tier actor. With his rising popularity and increasing demand, Suryah's remuneration has also seen a significant boost. Audiences and critics alike are eager to see him continue to take on

diverse and challenging roles in the future. His ongoing evolution as an actor promises even more impressive performances ahead.

Rajinikanth Dubs for Upcoming Pan-Indian Film 'Vettaiyan' Ahead of October Release

Rajinikanth's unwavering dedication to his craft continues to impress fans as he prepares for the release of his highly anticipated pan-Indian film, "Vettaiyan." Although the filming for the project has been completed, Rajinikanth is currently occupied with dubbing his parts. On Saturday, Lyca Productions, the film's producers, shared a video on X (formerly Twitter) showcasing the superstar in the recording studio.

The video captures Rajinikanth arriving at the studio, where he is greeted warmly by the staff. He then proceeds to the dubbing session, donning headphones and sitting in front of the microphone. After finishing his dubbing work, Rajinikanth expresses his satisfaction with the process, saying, "This is super, very nice." The studio team celebrates the completion of his dubbing by presenting him with a bouquet.

The video post from Lyca Productions includes a note that reads, "Kuri Vechha... Erai Vizhanum. Superstar Rajinikanth at the dubbing session. Watch out VETTAIYAN is on its way." Directed and written by TJ Gnanavel, "Vettaiyan" is set to release on October 10. The film will be available in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, and Kannada, marking a significant pan-Indian release for the veteran star.



Rajinikanth and Sathyaraj Reunite After 38 Years for Lokesh Kanagaraj's Coolie



Before becoming a lead hero in 1986, actor Sathyaraj was a prominent antagonist in numerous films featuring Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan. Sathyaraj and Rajinikanth, who acted together in six films, last shared the screen in "Mr. Bharath" in 1986. Now, after 38 years, the two iconic stars will reunite for Lokesh Kanagaraj's highly anticipated action film, "Coolie." The makers recently revealed this exciting update through their social media character announcements.

In "Coolie," Sathyaraj will portray Rajasekhar, marking a significant shift from his typical villainous roles in Rajinikanth's films of the 1980s. It is speculated that Sathyaraj's character will be a friend of Rajinikanth's in the film. Alongside Sathyaraj and Rajinikanth, "Coolie" will feature Nagarjuna, Shruti Haasan, and Soubin Shahir. The film, which represents Rajinikanth's first collaboration with director Lokesh Kanagaraj, is also rumored to include Kannada superstar Upenndra, with an official announcement expected later today.

Mammootty Breaks Silence on Hema Committee Report, Calls for Industry Unity

Superstar Mammootty has addressed the recent Hema Committee report on the Malayalam film industry, breaking his silence following public criticism. The report, which was made public on August 19, mentions a 15-member power group within the industry. Mammootty's comments come after fellow superstar Mohanlal spoke on the matter, expressing support for the report.

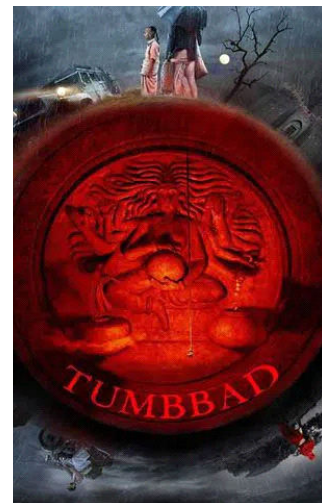
In a social media post, Mammootty welcomed the report and emphasized that he had been waiting for the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA) and its leadership to respond before sharing his views. He acknowledged that cinema, like any other sector, reflects societal issues and urged the industry to be vigilant to prevent any adverse occurrences.



Sohum Shah's "Tumbbad" to Re-Release in Theatres on September 13

The acclaimed folk horror film "Tumbbad," starring Sohum Shah, is making a return to theatres on September 13, 2024. First released in 2018, the film has since gained a cult following for its eerie atmosphere and captivating storyline.

Sohum Shah, along with the film's team, shared the news on Instagram, unveiling a new poster that highlights the film's dark and mysterious essence. The poster features Shah's character, Vinayak Rao, and his young son navigating a foreboding night with a lantern, encapsulating the film's haunting ambiance.



Directed by Rahi Anil Barve and with Anand Gandhi serving as the creative director, "Tumbbad" follows Rao's quest for a hidden treasure in the village of Tumbbad, Maharashtra. The film explores themes of greed and obsession as Rao seeks out a mythical treasure protected by the malevolent entity Hastar.

Rings of Power Season 2 Cast and Director Share Insights on New Season

The first three episodes of "The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power" Season 2 premiered on Prime Video on August 29, and fans are eagerly tuning in. Cast members Cynthia Addai-Robinson, Trystan Gravelle, and director Charlotte Brändström recently spoke with NDTV's Arun Singh in an exclusive interview about the new season's creative direction and their experiences.

Director Charlotte Brändström discussed the collaborative process of the "all-female slate" of directors for the season. She emphasized the importance of constant communication to ensure that each episode maintains cohesion and stays true to the characters' journeys. Brändström, who was also part of Season 1, shared insights with the new directors on the visual style and thematic continuity. "We aimed for a darker, more dramatic look for Season 2," she said, noting the effort to give each world its distinct personality and color.

