

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

H 33 °C

L 25 °C

VIJAYAWADA

H 35 °C

L 26 °C

TIRUPATHI

H 36 °C

L 26 °C

Appointment Papers to be Issued to 11,000 People Before Dussehra

BRS filled only 7,857 posts in ten years...
Congress provided 30,000 job appointment letters within 30 days
The Chief Minister stated that DSC results were released in a short time



TPN, Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announced that new teacher recruitment appointment orders will be provided before Dussehra. He released the DSC results today at the Secretariat. Examinations were conducted from July 18 to August 5 to fill 11,062 posts. After releasing the results, the CM said that certificate verification will be completed by Dussehra, and appointment orders will be given at LB Stadium on October 9.

The Chief Minister criticized the previous BRS government for issuing a DSC notification only once in ten years, during which only 7,857 posts were filled. He stated that the previous government had no vision for making quality education accessible to



all. However, after the Congress government came into power, the teacher recruitment process was promptly initiated.

He emphasized that his government is giving priority to the education sector, pointing out that the DSC results were released in a short time. From conducting the exams to issuing appointments, over 11,000 posts will be filled in just 65 days.

The CM also mentioned that it is the government's mission to make education accessible to the poor. He revealed that within 30

days of the Congress coming to power, 30,000 people were provided with job appointment letters. Group 1 exam results will be released soon, and 60,000 vacancies are being filled in the first year as part of the government's goal to address unemployment.

A total of 2.45 lakh candidates appeared for the DSC examination to fill 11,062 teacher posts. 87.61% of the applicants attended the exams. The highest number of candidates (88,000) applied for the Secondary Grade Teacher posts (6,508 posts). Exams were also conducted for 2,629 School Assistants, 727 Language Teachers, 182 Physical Education Teachers, 220 School Assistants (Special Category), and 796 Secondary Grade Teachers.



True Point Unveils a New Era of Integrity in Journalism

Our True Point newspaper print version, along with its website, was officially launched at Bondada Engineering Limited by the esteemed Chairman and Managing Director, Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada.

In his remarks to our team, Dr. Rao emphasized the importance of upholding the highest standards of journalistic integrity. He urged us to be unwavering in addressing the concerns of the people and to remain independent of political pressures. He encouraged the team to champion societal upliftment through honest, courageous reporting, rooted in the core principles of ethical journalism.



Mr. Revanth Reddy... Hydra Office Should be Demolished First: KTR

- KTR calls for the demolition of the GHMC office along with the Hydra office on the Nala
- Questions why the Congress, which ruled for 60 years, did not recognize the ponds
- Revanth Reddy came to power through a "lucky draw"

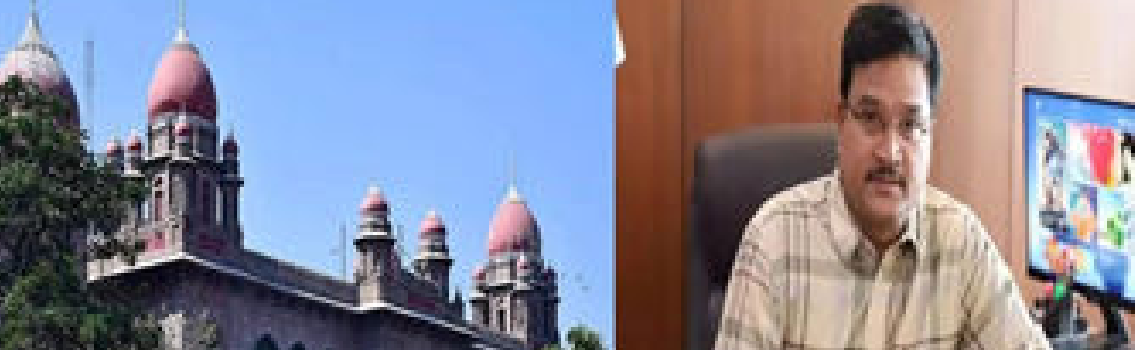


TPN, Telangana: BRS Working President KTR stated that if there is a situation to demolish buildings in the name of HYDRA, the office of the HYDRA Commissioner should be demolished first. He pointed out that while there are calls to demolish structures built on nalas (drainage channels), the Buddha Bhavan, where the Hydra Commissioner sits, is also on a nala. He mentioned that the Election Commissionerate, Hydra Commissionerate, and Women's Commissionerate are all located in this building next to Hussain Sagar. He further suggested that the

GHMC office, which is also situated above a nala and responsible for giving construction permits, should be demolished as well. KTR questioned why the Congress, which ruled for 60 years, failed to recognize the importance of preserving ponds. He also asked why no action has been taken against those who approved construction in FTL (Full Tank Level) areas. According to him, if the Congress had informed the public earlier that they planned to demolish the homes of the poor, they would not have received votes. KTR stated that people should not think Revanth Reddy arrived in the Musi

catchment area as if by a "lucky draw," but rather recognize that families have been residing there for decades. He criticized the Congress government, which had promised to fulfill all of its pledges within 100 days of coming to power, but failed to implement them even after 300 days. He claimed that Congress still hasn't delivered on 420 promises, including Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bima, Tulam Gold, and the Rs. 2,500 financial support for women. KTR also expressed anger that many structures are now being demolished by Hydra, though the majority of these constructions occurred during the Congress regime. He questioned how the government could displace 25,000 families who have been living in the Musi catchment area for decades. He condemned the government's actions, asking who gave the Chief Minister the right to make lakhs of people homeless and who will be punished for these mistakes.

High Court Expresses Anger Over Hydra Demolitions



TPN, Telangana: The Telangana High Court on Monday stated that officials should not act zealously to satisfy political leaders and higher authorities. In relation to the demolitions by HYDRA, the court expressed its anger towards HYDRA Chief Ranganath. The court questioned the necessity of working on holidays and carrying out demolitions over the weekend. Referring to the process before a death penalty, the court asked, "Even a hardened criminal is asked what his last wish is before being hanged—was any last chance given to the homeowners before demolishing their houses?"

The High Court was hearing petitions filed against the HYDRA demolitions on Monday morning. HYDRA Chief Ranganath appeared virtually, while the Amin Tehsildar attended in person. The court posed several questions to Ranganath.

Why Only on Saturdays and Sundays?

The court raised concerns about why demolitions were being conducted on weekends,

especially on Sundays, which is a holiday for all government employees. The High Court asked Ranganath why the demolitions were happening after sunset on Saturdays and Sundays. The court expressed its displeasure, reminding that there are court rulings against carrying out demolitions during weekends. It also warned the Tehsildar that if he did not follow the law, he would face consequences. The court cautioned officials that if they act zealously under political or higher authority pressure, they could face serious repercussions.

Answer the Question Directly

When the High Court asked whether demolitions could be conducted on a Sunday, Ranganath responded by saying that they had provided machinery and personnel for the work. The High Court expressed frustration, insisting that he answer the question directly. "Will the Tehsildar provide machines and staff to demolish the Charminar?"



Mr. Revanth Reddy... Hydra Office Should be Demolished First: KTR

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The affected residents revealed that they were given land titles (pattas) in 1994 when the Congress was in power, houses were built during that time, and registrations were done under their administration. They claimed that they have been living there for 30 to 40 years. They demanded to know why there were no objections raised during registration, when building permits were granted, when property tax was paid, when electricity connections were provided, and when bills were paid for decades. KTR said that Revanth Reddy may not understand the pain of losing a home midway through life, but he and his family do. Once you've lived in a place, you can never forget the memories of that town and that house.

KTR Questions Returns
KTR also questioned the Con-



gress' stance on the Kaleshwaram project, asking them to clarify the "return on investment" from the Musi project. He asserted that the Kaleshwaram project has benefitted farmers and irrigated lakhs of acres. He further questioned why Rs. 1.5 lakh crore has been allocated to the Musi project and labeled it a scam. He compared it to the Rs. 40,000 crore allocated for the 2,400 km long Ganges river project, and demanded transparency on the financial dealings behind the Musi project, asking who stands to benefit from its beautification for commissions.

High Court Expresses Anger Over Hydra Demolitions

the court asked. The court further questioned if demolitions were carried out simply because encroachers did not vacate their homes. It reminded Ranganath that demolitions on Sundays go against a previous High Court ruling, and warned officials to adhere to the law or face dismissal.

Is HYDRA Focused Solely on Demolitions?

The High Court clarified that the removal of encroachments is only one of HYDRA's duties, not its sole responsibility. According to the G.O., HYDRA is also tasked with resolving traffic issues in the city, and the court questioned why no action was being taken on that front. The High Court noted that 20 lunch motion petitions have been filed in cases related to Amin Poor and Musi. The court considered these cases exceptional and called for further investigation. A warning was issued that if rules were not followed, the formation of HYDRA could be stayed.

The court reminded officials that house construction should only commence after completing registration and obtaining the necessary permissions from local bodies, as per the law. It criticized the lack of coordination between government departments, which has caused ordinary citizens to suffer. While the court praised the establishment of HYDRA, it expressed concerns about its performance. The court further remarked that it is unrealistic to expect to transform Hyderabad overnight, and stressed that irregularities in FTL areas must be addressed after thorough verification. The High Court adjourned the case to October 15 and ordered that the status quo be maintained until then.

Harish Rao Demands ₹5 Lakh Ex Gratia for Deceased Auto Drivers

TPN, Siddipet: Former Minister T. Harish Rao has urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to provide an ex gratia payment of ₹5 lakh to the families of auto drivers who have died since the Congress government took power in Telangana, noting that 56 drivers have lost their lives during this period.

Speaking at the Siddipet Auto Credit Cooperative Society meeting, Rao criticized the Chief Minister for prioritizing the ₹1.50 lakh crore Musi riverfront project while auto drivers struggle to secure a mere ₹10,000 in relief. He emphasized that the introduction of free RTC travel for women has severely impacted drivers' incomes, making it difficult for them to meet their monthly EMIs. Rao pointed out that the Congress government had previously promised ₹12,000 to each auto driver but failed to deliver. He condemned plans to demolish about 25,000 houses along the Musi river, which would displace thousands of families, and criticized the government's lack of development.

Rao highlighted the cooperative society's contribution, stating it has disbursed loans totaling ₹2.10 crore and provided ₹2 lakh insurance coverage to drivers, benefiting 26 families after the loss of their primary earners. He also distributed uniforms to the drivers in attendance.

New Revenue Law to Protect Farmers and Public Lands Soon

TPN, Hyderabad: Telangana's Revenue, Housing, and Information and Public Relations Minister, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, announced that the state government is in the final stages of drafting a new revenue law aimed at enhancing transparency and protecting public and farmers' lands. Speaking at a meeting with Tahsildars from 33 districts at NALSAR Law University in Shamirpet, Reddy highlighted that the new law will soon be implemented to address flaws in the previous system.

The minister emphasized the law's focus on preventing encroachments on government land and improving the efficiency of the revenue system. He urged officials to take strict measures to safeguard state property and directed revenue department staff to cooperate fully with citizens and address their concerns promptly.

Reddy also stressed the need for the revenue department to play a crucial role in identifying beneficiaries for various welfare schemes and ensuring their proper implementa-



tion. He called on Tahsildars to bridge the gap between the government and the public and restore trust in the system by prioritizing the needs of farmers and underprivileged citizens.

In addition, Reddy announced plans for a dedicated training center for revenue staff in Hyderabad and assured them that cases against Tahsildars would only be registered with the approval of the District Collector. He criticized the previous administration for expanding mandals without adequate resources and promised to rectify the situation.

Principal Secretary Naveen Mittal also addressed the meeting, highlighting the department's critical role in ensuring public welfare.

Musi Encroachment is Causing Trouble for Everyone: Minister Sitakka

TPN, Telangana: Minister Sitakka stated that everyone is facing difficulties due to the encroachments in the Musi catchment area. Over the past ten years, many illegal constructions have taken place in this area. Speaking to the media today, she emphasized that whatever the Congress does is for the benefit of the people, while accusing the BRS government of covering up mistakes made during its regime.

In the Musi catchment area, some

people have complained that buildings have been constructed in the middle of the pond. It has been pointed out that many of these buildings belong to political leaders but are rented out to the poor. Minister Sitakka assured that they will proceed without causing harm or inconvenience to ordinary people. She also promised that the poor, who are losing their homes due to these demolitions, will be provided with permanent housing.



Sahitya Infra MD in ED Custody

TPN, Telangana: The Hyderabad CCS police are continuing their investigation into the Sahitya Infra case, where approximately ₹1,500 crore was fraudulently collected before the company's bid collapsed. The CCS police have conducted searches at Sahitya Infra's offices and attached its properties. On September 30, Sahitya Infra's Managing Director, Laxminarayana, who defrauded thousands of people in the name of real estate, was detained by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). He is currently

being interrogated by ED officials. Over 50 cases have been registered against Sahitya Infra, which deceived around 3,000 people through a pre-launch real estate offer, collecting crores of rupees. Based on complaints from victims, the Hyderabad CCS police registered a case and attached ₹200 crore worth of properties. Laxminarayana absconded after collecting over ₹3,000 crore.

Sahitya Infra collected large sums under

nine projects, including ₹65 crore for Sahitya Swad, ₹79 crore for SistaAdobe, and ₹135 crore for Sahitya Sitara. The money was used for personal purposes, and collections were made even without purchasing the land.

In Andhra Pradesh, a case was also registered against Laxminarayana, leading to the attachment of more properties. The ED has taken him into custody for further investigation.

Khammam Police Destroys 624 kg of Seized Ganja



tional DCP Naresh Kumar.

The seized ganja was linked to seven cases involving the Khammam One-Town, Two-Town, and Three-Town police stations, as well as those in Nelakondapalli, Vemsoor, Tirumalayapalem, and Kallur.

The destruction of the drug stock was conducted in compliance with directives from senior police officials, following the

TPN, Khammam: In a significant operation, the Khammam police burned 624 kilograms of ganja that had been seized across various cases within the Khammam Police Commissionerate limits. The incineration took place at the police firing range in the Manchukonda forest area under the supervision of Addi-

gazette notifications issued by both Central and State governments regarding the disposal of illegal substances. The operation was attended by Circle Inspectors Uday Kumar, Ramesh, Janardhan, Usman Sharif, and other officials, emphasizing the police's commitment to tackling drug-related issues in the region.

TS DSC Results 2024 Announced

Over 2.45 Lakh Candidates Appeared

TPN, Telangana: The Telangana government has officially released the TS DSC Results 2024. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy announced the results on Monday during a press conference at the state secretariat. Candidates can now check their scores online through the Telangana State District Selection Committee's (TS DSC) official website.

The District Selection Committee (DSC) examination, conducted by the Telangana Education Department, took place between July 18 and August 5, 2024. The goal of the exam was to fill 11,062 vacant government teaching positions across the state. Out of the 2,79,957 candidates who

registered, 2,45,263 appeared for the exam.

Steps to Check TS DSC Results 2024

1. Visit the official TS DSC website.
2. Enter your login credentials.
3. Download and print your result for future use.

The release of these results has been highly anticipated, with thousands of candidates awaiting the outcome to secure government teaching jobs in Telangana. The government is taking measures to ensure the smooth release of results and to assist candidates in accessing their scores online.

TGSRTC to Operate 6,000 Special Buses for Dasara Festival



TPN, Telangana: To accommodate the high demand during the Dasara festival, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has announced the operation of 6,000 special buses from October 1 to 15, 2024. Passengers can avail themselves of advance reservations for these services. In an effort to reduce traffic congestion, special buses will be running from various Hyderabad suburbs, including MGBS, JBS, LB Nagar, and Uppal. Additionally, TGSRTC plans to provide

services for IT corridor employees traveling to destinations like Vijayawada and Bengaluru via Gachibowli ORR.

Managing Director VC Sajjanar highlighted that this year may see increased traffic due to the 'Mahalakshmi Scheme.' He stated that peak travel is expected on October 9, 10, and 11, and additional buses will be deployed as needed. Sajjanar also mentioned the intention to collaborate with NHAI for special lanes at toll plazas to facilitate

smoother travel.

The special buses will operate across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Maharashtra. TGSRTC is also introducing electric buses on the Karimnagar and Nizamabad routes. Coordination with police, transport, and municipal authorities is underway to ensure hassle-free travel. For more information, visit www.tgsrbus.in or contact 040-69440000 or 040-23450033.

Harish Rao’s Open Letter to Rahul Gandhi on Telangana’s “Bulldozer Regime”

TPN, Telangana: Former minister Harish Rao has written an open letter to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, condemning the Telangana government’s actions under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Rao accused the state government of running a “bulldozer regime” that disregards the Constitution, trampling civil rights and justice. He pointed to the High Court’s recent comments on the Hydra and Musi Riverfront projects as evidence of unconstitutional governance.



Rao criticized the government’s use of bulldozers to displace poor and middle-class families, many of whom have legal ownership of their homes. He stated that these demolitions, conducted under the guise of development, have become a symbol of brutality and oppression. Rao further accused the Congress government in Telangana of following in the footsteps of the BJP, which has employed similar tactics in states like Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Assam, and Maharashtra.

Despite the Supreme Court’s recent verdict regarding the misuse of bulldozers in demolitions, Rao claimed that the Telangana government continues to disregard

proper procedures, failing to conduct adequate surveys before uprooting communities.

In his letter, Harish Rao urged Rahul Gandhi to intervene and advise Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to respect the principles of natural justice and the laws enshrined in the Constitution. He called on the Congress leadership to protect democracy in Telangana, which he believes is being undermined by the current government’s oppressive actions.

Bandi Sanjay Accuses Congress, BRS of Fraud in Musi and Kaleshwaram Projects

TPN, Hyderabad: Union Minister of State for Home, Bandi Sanjay Kumar, on Monday, September 30, accused the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and Congress of corruption in the Kaleshwaram and Musi development projects.

Kumar alleged that the Congress committed a fraud of ₹1.5 lakh crore in the name of Musi Riverfront development. “The people in Hyderabad are fed up with the Congress. I see videos of people in distress due to demolitions carried out by HYDRA,” he stated. He criticized the government for displacing residents with valid documents and questioned the short notice given to vacate their homes.

The Karimnagar MP further accused the

Telangana government of using development as a guise to displace people. He reiterated that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is preparing for a rally against the Hyderabad Disaster Response Asset Protection Agency (HYDRA), which he claimed was causing harm to the public.

Kumar urged the government to reconsider its “destructive” plans and address public concerns with compassion. He also accused the BRS of corruption amounting to ₹1 lakh crore in the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation project.

On another note, Kumar criticized the appointment of Udhayanidhi Stalin as Tamil Nadu’s Deputy Chief Minister, calling for political positions to be given to party workers, not family members.

Revanth’s Government Failed to Solve Farmers’ Problems

TPN, Hyderabad: Medak MP Raghunandan Rao has alleged that KCR has cheated farmers by making numerous promises over the past ten years. He expressed anger over BRS leaders who did not visit the families of deceased farmers, accusing them of being indifferent to their plight. Rao stated that the KCR government has not conducted soil tests in the last decade.

During a Rythu Diksha held under the leadership of the BJP at Indira Park, Rao criticized the Revanth Reddy government for its failure to address farmers’ issues effectively. He questioned why KCR did not implement crop insurance measures introduced by the central government to assist farmers in case of crop loss. Rao pointed out that in just ten months, the Congress has gained as much notoriety

as the BRS did in ten years.

He challenged KCR, asking if he plans to dedicate the farmhouse to the race. Rao demanded justice for the farmers, warning that KCR’s alleged corruption of ₹1 lakh crores would be investigated by a sitting judge, and he would be held accountable.

Rao recalled that when Revanth was the Chief of the PCC, he called for an investigation by a sitting judge, yet now a retired judge has been appointed to the case. He criticized Revanth for starting a new drama in the name of beautification and asserted that only the BJP can solve the problems faced by farmers in Telangana. Additionally, he accused Congress of being deceptive, labeling them as “420,” a term implying fraud.

Congress Working President Jagga Reddy “Bans” HYDRAA Demolitions in Sangareddy

TPN, Telangana: In a surprising move, Congress Working President T. Jagga Reddy publicly stated that the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring Agency (HYDRAA) will not be permitted to carry out any demolition work in the Sangareddy constituency. This declaration comes amid rising concerns and panic among local residents following rumors of HYDRAA’s impending actions in the area.

Jagga Reddy urged HYDRAA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath to notify him of any plans to demolish structures in Sangareddy.



He reassured the public that he would raise the matter with Chief

Minister A. Revanth Reddy to prevent any demolition efforts.

The former Sangareddy MLA emphasized that Chief Minister Reddy had previously assured that demolitions by HYDRAA would be limited to areas within the Outer Ring Road (ORR), suggesting that residents outside this zone, including those in Sangareddy, should not be overly concerned about such actions. Reddy’s statement aims to alleviate fears among constituents and reinforce his commitment to protecting their interests amid government initiatives.

BJP’s Protest on farmers’ Crop Loan Waiver..!

TPN, Hyderabad: During the Rythu Deeksha at Indira Park, several leaders, including Etala Rajender and Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, expressed strong criticism against Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Congress government. They highlighted the alarming rate of farmer suicides since Congress took power, with over 1,000 reported deaths, and accused Reddy of failing to fulfill his promises made during the election campaign.

Rajender questioned Reddy’s credibility, labeling him as a fraud and asserting that he had misled even prominent leaders like Rahul Gandhi. He demanded transparency regarding loan waivers and condemned the government’s decision to demolish houses in the Musi river catchment areas. “If Revanth Reddy is so confident, he should publicly debate these issues,” Rajender stated, emphasizing the urgent need for accountability.

Konda Vishweshwar Reddy echoed these sentiments, asserting that the state treasury is empty and that the current government mir-



rors the policies of KCR. He claimed that the chief minister’s chair has become synonymous with corruption, likening it to an epidemic. “We need a sanitized leadership to address these issues,” he urged.

DK Aruna also joined the fray, criticizing the Congress for not delivering on its promises regarding loans and unemployment benefits. She pointed out that the government had failed to honor its commitments made during the assembly election campaign, such as unconditional loan waivers for farmers.

Raghunandan Rao lamented the distress caused to farmers, stating that many had suffered due to the government’s inaction. He called for justice and support for those affected by these policies.

The Rythu Deeksha concluded with leaders calling for the government to fulfill its commitments and to provide meaningful support to farmers, urging a change in the approach towards rural welfare and governance.

Goud Defends HYDRA and Criticizes BRS Leadership at Gandhi Bhavan

TPN, Hyderabad: Mahesh Kumar Goud, the TPCC chief, addressed the media at Gandhi Bhavan, criticizing BRS and BJP leaders for their social media activities regarding the Musi River and HYDRA. He accused them of promoting misleading narratives without any grounding in social science.

Goud emphasized that the government has not removed any huts in the closed catchment area, asserting that the Musi River is intrinsically linked to the lives of 25 lakh people living around it. He pointed out that Musi tops the list of polluted rivers as released by the NGT. He expressed that if there were garbage in KCR and KTR’s homes, they would ensure its removal, just as they are now focused on cleaning up the closed catchment area.

He acknowledged that while some ponds may have been encroached upon during Congress rule, many more were encroached during the BRS era. Goud questioned the state of Hyderabad if it were to experi-



ence heavy rains similar to those recently seen in Wayanad. He recalled KCR’s 2016 promise to demolish illegal constructions, emphasizing that the BRS leaders seem unaware of the implications of global warming.

Goud criticized the ongoing false propaganda against the Chief Minister and his cabinet, alleging that paid artists are being used to tarnish their image on social media. He called for police action against those spreading false information and highlighted the health issues faced by those living in the closed river basin.

He stated that 90% of the population supports HYDRA, asserting that true development in Hyderabad should encompass all regions, not just those surrounding KTR’s and Harish Rao’s farmhouses. Goud issued a challenge to Harish Rao to discuss the loan waivers issued under KCR’s regime versus those enacted in his own tenure.

Concluding his remarks, he denounced the unjust treatment of marginalized communities on social media and reiterated that his party would not hesitate to hold accountable those who had encroached upon public resources, including ponds.

Former Minister Jogu Ramanna’s Scathing Attack Against Congress

TPN, Adilabad: Former minister Jogu Ramanna has expressed strong opposition to the Telangana State government’s efforts to demolish the homes of the poor, asserting that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) will fight against such actions until justice is served for the affected families.



During a recent tour of Khanapur, Ambedkarnagar, Kolipura, and Terpelli, Ramanna observed that residents were anxious after a municipal and revenue department team attempted to survey boundaries and assess full tank levels. He emphasized that the BRS would not tolerate any attempts to demolish houses belonging to the underprivileged, vowing to thwart the government’s

plans.

Locals conveyed their emotional distress to Ramanna, highlighting the fear and anxiety that the

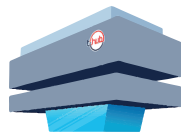
officials’ presence had caused in their communities. The former MLA reassured the residents that he would stand by them and urged them not to worry. He criticized the idea of registering cases against individuals expressing concerns about Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, stating that their distress was justified.

Ramanna pointed out that the poor have lived in their homes for decades and criticized the government’s lack of compassion. He recalled that the Indiramma houses were constructed during the Congress government’s tenure, emphasizing the unfairness of targeting the poor. He expressed concern for the elderly residents, many of whom

were particularly anxious about the survey.

The former minister reiterated that the BRS would not remain silent if the government proceeded with demolitions. He questioned the rationale behind targeting the homes of the poor while neglecting development initiatives. Ramanna assured the affected residents that they could contact him or party members at any time, and assistance would be provided promptly.

He accused the Congress government of abandoning its promises and creating hardships for the public in pursuit of profit.



Konda Surekha Gets Emotional Responding to Offensive BRS Tweets



TPN, Hyderabad: On Monday, Telangana Minister for Forest, Environment, and Endowments, Konda Surekha, became emotional during a press conference as she condemned offensive social media posts spread by Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) workers. The posts, which targeted her modesty as a woman, deeply hurt the Congress leader, especially as they included manipulated images of her being garlanded with captions implying she was getting "married."

Surekha, who represents the Warangal East constituency, expressed her anguish at the derogatory posts, calling them an attack on her dignity. She criticized the BRS IT cell and workers for spreading such false information that undermined her integrity as a public figure and a woman.

Earlier in the day, a confrontation took place in front of the BRS headquarters, Telangana Bhavan, in Banjara Hills. Congress workers stormed the building to protest against the offensive social media posts. The situation escalated when Congress members attempted to burn an effigy in front of the BRS office, leading to a standoff between members of both parties.

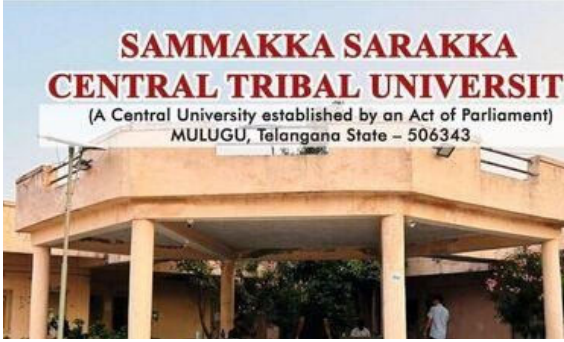
The incident highlighted the growing tensions between the BRS and Congress in Telangana, particularly over the misuse of social media to spread defamatory content.

Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University Announces Spot Admissions

TPN, Hyderabad: Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University (SSCTU) in Mulugu will conduct spot admissions for vacant seats in the BA (Hons) English and BA (Hons) Economics programs on Thursday, October 3. The university operates under the mentorship of the University of Hyderabad.

Candidates will be selected based on two preferences:

- 1. First Preference:** Students who have qualified in the CUET UG 2024 examination and meet the eligibility criteria.
- 2. Second Preference:** Students who have passed Class 12 with at least 60% marks for General/OBC/EWS candidates or pass marks



for SC/ST candidates.

Admissions will be granted to students from the first preference in order of merit, with remaining seats allocated to candidates from the second preference.

HYDRA denies role in Musi riverbed demarcations

TPN, Hyderabad: Amid rising concerns over the government's decision to demolish houses in the Musi river catchment areas for beautification, HYDRA Commissioner Ranganath issued a key statement to clarify the agency's role. He emphasized that HYDRA is not involved in the ongoing surveys or any evacuation of residents along the Musi River.



Ranganath stated that HYDRA will not be conducting demolitions and is not responsible for marking houses in the catchment area. He noted that the Musi beautification initiative is a special project managed by the Musi Riverfront Development Corporation, separate from HYDRA's objectives.

The Commissioner reassured residents that HYDRA's mission does not include demolishing homes of the poor and middle-class. He urged the public not to succumb to misinformation or panic spread through social media. Ranganath pointed out that not all demolitions reported in the state are related to HYDRA, and he expressed regret over the confusion causing distress

among residents.

He reiterated that HYDRA's focus is on conserving natural resources and preventing flooding in urban areas rather than carrying out demolitions.

Hyderabad Police Issues Advisory for Enhanced Security During Dasara Festival

TPN, Hyderabad: Hyderabad Police have issued an advisory for the Dasara festival, urging citizens to take precautions to prevent thefts and burglaries while they are away on vacation. Residents are encouraged to inform their local police station about any long trips, which will help increase patrols in the area. The advisory also recommends that citizens report any suspicious individuals in their neighborhoods.

To enhance home security, the police suggest installing a central locking system, as conventional locks can easily indicate when a family is not at home. Homeowners should also notify local relatives or friends to keep an eye on their property during their absence. Installing surveillance cameras and keeping



the DVR in a secure location can help monitor activities around the house.

Additionally, the police advise temporarily stopping newspaper and milk deliveries, as unattended items can signal that residents are away. Before leaving, ensure all doors and windows are locked and check the quality of latches. Any ladders or tools that could assist burglars should be removed from the premises.

Residents are cautioned not to share on social media their plans to leave the city. With increased visible policing during the festival, the police encourage anyone needing assistance to contact them via Dial 100.

Metro Passengers Express Outrage Over Parking Fee Reinstatement



TPN, Hyderabad: The management of L&T Hyderabad Metro has once again shocked its passengers by deciding to reintroduce parking fees at the Nagole and Miyapur metro stations. From October 6, passen-

gers will have to pay for parking, a move that has sparked widespread dissatisfaction.

Earlier, when the authorities attempted to impose parking fees

starting from August 14, it faced strong opposition from passengers and political parties. The protests were so intense that the metro authorities were forced to withdraw the decision temporarily, much to the relief of commuters.

However, the recent announcement to collect parking fees again has reignited frustration among passengers. Many view this as an act of exploitation and are expressing concern over the financial burden it imposes.

Parking Charges:

- Two-wheeler: Rs. 10 for 2 hours, Rs. 25 for 8 hours, Rs. 40 for 12 hours.
- Car: Rs. 30 for 2 hours, Rs. 75 for 8 hours, Rs. 120 for 12 hours, with an additional Rs. 5 per hour thereafter.

The metro authorities are also of-

fering monthly parking passes at a 40% discount, but passengers remain upset. They are particularly frustrated that despite paying these fees, the safety of vehicles is not guaranteed, with signs clearly stating that the management is not responsible for any theft, damage, or loss of belongings.

The cost of parking, especially for those working in areas like Jubilee Hills, has been a significant concern. Commuters pointed out that a daily parking fee of Rs. 40 translates to Rs. 1,200 per month, placing additional financial strain on families.

With the reintroduction of these parking fees, it remains to be seen how passengers will respond this time around.

Musi Oustees Protest at Hyderabad Collector Office

TPN, Hyderabad: In a show of defiance, hundreds of oustees affected by the Musi River Development Project staged a massive protest outside the Hyderabad District Collector's office on Monday. Holding placards and shouting anti-government slogans, the demonstrators called on the state government to revisit its plans and provide justice to those displaced by the project.

The protesters traveled from their homes to the collector office in Lakdikapul, expressing their frustration over the government's proposal to relocate them to 2BHK houses situated far from the city. Srilatha, a middle-aged resident from Langer Houz, voiced her strong opposition to being uprooted from her home. "Nobody has any right to remove us from our houses. We don't want any 2BHK; it is of no use to us," she stated emphatically.

Another protester, Madhavi, highlighted the project's disregard for human factors, especially regarding her son, who is physically challenged. She remarked, "I cannot move away from this place. He has to be taken care of properly and cannot adjust to a 2BHK flat."

To maintain order, police were deployed in large numbers at the collector's office to prevent the situation from escalating. The oustees squatted in front of the gates, firmly demonstrating their dissent against the development project.

BJP Protests for Protection of MLA T. Raja Singh



TPN, Hyderabad: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers from the Goshamahal constituency staged a protest at Puranapul in Hyderabad, demanding that the government address alleged threats against Goshamahal MLA T. Raja Singh and ensure his security.

The protestors accused the Telangana police, particularly the intelligence department, of failing to properly assess the threat to Singh. They claimed that the police did not gather prior information about potential terrorist activities, including a reconnaissance mission conducted near the MLA's residence in Dhoolpet. BJP members expressed concern that two young men were seen taking photographs near Singh's house.

On Friday night, these individuals, identified as Mohd Ismail and Khaja, were detained by local residents and handed over to the Mangalhat police after acting suspiciously. The police found that both men, residents of Borabanda, had no prior criminal records.

This incident heightened concerns regarding the safety of political figures in the region, prompting the BJP to call for improved security measures for Raja Singh. The protest underscores the need for a proactive approach to ensure the safety of elected officials in light of potential threats.

In the dynamic world of business, few stories inspire as much as the remarkable journey of Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada, the Chairman and Managing Director of Bondada Engineering Ltd. (BEL), a public-listed company headquartered in Hyderabad. From humble beginnings in a small village in Andhra Pradesh to building a multi-billion-dollar company, Dr. Rao's success exemplifies the triumph of ambition, hard work, and a commitment to excellence.

Early Life and Education

Born on November 29, 1974, in Parrachivara village, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Raghavendra Rao, affectionately known as BRR in the industry, comes from modest roots. His parents, Shri Bondada Pitchaiah and Smt. Late Bondada Nirmalavathi, instilled in him the values of perseverance and discipline. Dr. Rao pursued a degree in Civil Engineering from Acharya Nagarjuna University and later earned an Honorary Doctorate in Business Administration from California Public University, USA, marking the beginning of a journey that would soon transform industries.

Professional Journey

Dr. Rao's career spans over 28 years, during which he has gained extensive experience in various sectors, including telecom, power, renewable energy, pre-engineering buildings, and industrial infrastructure. His professional trajectory saw him holding significant roles, including COO and Executive Director at Aster Pvt. Ltd., and directorships in overseas joint ventures. However, his entrepreneurial spirit was ignited by a quote from the iconic Dhirubhai Ambani: "If you are born poor, it's not your fault, but if you die poor, it's your fault." Inspired by these words, Dr. Rao left behind a stable corporate career to forge his path.

In 2012, Bondada Engineering Ltd. was born, with Hyderabad as its base. Initially operating on a small scale, BEL quickly established itself in industries like telecom and renewable energy, with a growing presence across India and internationally. By the fiscal year 2023, BEL had crossed a revenue of ₹800 crores, a staggering growth from its humble beginnings, fueled by a landmark ₹1,500 crore BSNL 4G order for the construction of mobile towers across South India and Lakshadweep.



IPO Success and Market Expansion

The major turning point for BEL came on August 30, 2023, when it successfully listed on the BSE SME platform. The company's IPO witnessed an oversubscription of 112 times, making it the highest in both Telugu states. This unprecedented interest, including international subscriptions from countries like the USA, Australia, and Singapore, underscored BEL's global appeal. On its first day of listing, the issue price doubled, and the company's market capitalization skyrocketed from ₹168 crores to nearly ₹8,000 crores. This momentous IPO opened new doors for the company, pushing it to the forefront of India's renewable energy and infrastructure sectors.



Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada

The Visionary Behind Bondada Engineering Ltd's Meteoric Rise



Entrepreneurial Vision and Achievements

Dr. Rao's entrepreneurial journey has earned him significant recognition, including his feature in the prestigious Hurun India Rich List 2024, where he ranked 649th. He has also been the recipient of numerous awards, including the AP Governor's Gold Medal for CSR in 2022, the Telangana Business Award in 2023 for Telecom and Renewable Energy, and the ET Excellence Award in 2021 for Telecom Services.



Known for his punctuality and financial prudence, Dr. Rao has cultivated a company culture that values efficiency and accessibility. His leadership style emphasizes open communication, enabling employees at every level to approach him for guidance. This approach has fostered a cohesive work environment that is one of BEL's core strengths.

Impact Beyond Business: CSR and Social Contributions

Dr. Rao's influence extends beyond the business world. A firm believer in "Manava Seva e Madhava Seva" (Service to Humanity is Service to God), he has spearheaded numerous CSR initiatives. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he donated med-



ical equipment, including oxygen concentrators, to surrounding villages and completed the installation of solar streetlights in Parrachivara village, his birthplace.



Other notable CSR activities include renovating the local cremation ground, supporting government school students with educational materials, and funding scholarships for underprivileged students. Dr. Rao has also provided financial aid for health and education, sponsored medical camps, and adopted para-badminton player Ms. Rupala Devi for lifetime support. His personal contributions and the company's initiatives have positively impacted thousands of families, particularly in rural Andhra Pradesh.



Vision for the Future

Dr. Rao's vision for Bondada Engineering Ltd. is both ambitious and inspiring. In the short term, he aims to push the company's market capitalization to \$1 billion, aligning with his personal goal of achieving a net worth of \$1 billion. His long-term vision, however, is even more expansive. He envisions BEL becoming one of the top five EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) companies in India, with a global reputation in renewable energy and infrastructure development.



Through his focus on adopting cutting-edge technologies and creating large-scale employment opportunities, Dr. Rao hopes to not only lead BEL to greater success but also make a lasting impact on India's economy and the global renewable energy landscape.

Conclusion

Dr. Raghavendra Rao Bondada's journey from a small village in Andhra Pradesh to the helm of a multi-billion-dollar company is a testament to the power of determination and vision. Under his leadership, Bondada Engineering Ltd. has not only become a major player in its industry but has also set a benchmark for corporate responsibility and social impact. As he continues to lead the company towards new heights, Dr. Rao remains committed to his values, driven by the belief that success is not just about personal gain but about making a difference in the lives of others.



PM Modi Congratulates Mithun Chakraborty On Dadasaheb Phalke Honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his joy at veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty being honored with the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award. In a post on X, PM Modi highlighted Chakraborty's significant contributions to Indian cinema, stating, "Delighted that Shri Mithun Chakraborty Ji has been conferred the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Award, recognizing his unparalleled contributions to Indian cinema." He described Chakraborty as a cultural icon admired across generations for his versatile performances and extended his congratulations and best wishes.

Chakraborty, known for his iconic roles in films such as "Mrigayaa," "Surakshaa," "Disco Dancer," and "Dance Dance," has been a prominent figure in Indian cinema for decades. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award, which is the highest recog-



nitition in the field of cinema in India, reflects his enduring impact on the industry.

The announcement of Chakraborty's award comes as a significant acknowledgment of his work, spanning various genres and styles. His

performances have left a lasting impression on audiences and have contributed to the rich tapestry of Indian film culture.

In addition to his cinematic achievements, Chakraborty's legacy includes his influence on popular music and dance, making him a multifaceted artist in the entertainment world. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award not only honors his past contributions but also inspires future generations of filmmakers and actors to aspire for excellence in their craft.

As the film community celebrates this recognition, Mithun Chakraborty stands as a testament to the power of storytelling through cinema. His journey continues to resonate with fans and aspiring artists alike, reinforcing the importance of dedication and creativity in the arts.

Absolutely distasteful, disgraceful: Amit Shah reacts to Kharge's comments on PM Modi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah condemned Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge's comments regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi, labeling them as "absolutely distasteful and disgraceful." Shah's remarks followed Kharge's statement during a rally in Jammu and Kashmir, where he suggested he would not die until Modi was removed from power.



Kharge, who is 83 years old, suffered a "syncopal attack" during his speech but quickly resumed, emphasizing his intent to outlive Modi's tenure. "I am 83 years old. I am not going to die so early. I will stay alive till PM Modi is removed from power," he stated, requesting forgiveness for his brief pause due to dizziness.

Amit Shah responded strongly to Kharge's comments, accusing him of engaging in "a bitter display of spite" by dragging Modi into his personal health matters. In a post on X, Shah expressed his concern over the negativity within Congress, stating that Kharge's remarks reflect the party's deep-seated fear and hatred towards Modi.

Shah added that while Kharge's health is a matter of concern, Modi and the entire nation wish him a long and healthy life. He expressed hope that Kharge would witness the realization of a "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047.

The exchange highlights the escalating tensions between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the opposition Congress as the election season heats up. Shah's comments underscore the BJP's strategy of portraying Congress leaders as out of touch and driven by animosity rather than constructive politics.

With the upcoming elections, such remarks are likely to intensify the political discourse as both parties vie for public support in a highly competitive environment.

Delhi Chief Minister Atishi Leads Initiative to Inspect Roads



Delhi Chief Minister Atishi and her cabinet ministers took to the streets today to assess the condition of roads across the national capital. This effort is part of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government's initiative to make Delhi pothole-free ahead of Diwali.

Starting early at 6 AM, the entire cabinet was deployed to various locations to conduct on-ground inspections of public works department (PWD) roads. Atishi emphasized the government's commitment to improving road conditions, stating, "The whole cabinet has been on Ground Zero to ensure that all PWD roads in Delhi are made pothole-free."

During her inspection, Atishi highlighted several key areas that are receiving attention, including NSIC Okhla, Modi Mill flyover, Chirag Delhi, Tughlakabad extension, Mathura Road, Ashram Chowk, and various underpasses. The initiative aims not only to address the imme-

diate concerns of road safety and accessibility but also to enhance the overall infrastructure of the city.

The Chief Minister's hands-on approach reflects the government's determination to tackle the long-standing issue of potholes that have plagued Delhi's roads, especially during the monsoon season. By committing to a deadline before Diwali, the AAP government aims to reassure residents and improve their daily commuting experience.

As part of the broader initiative, the government is also seeking to engage with citizens, encouraging feedback on road conditions and maintenance efforts. This approach aligns with AAP's vision of responsive governance and community involvement. Atishi's leadership in this project showcases her proactive stance in addressing infrastructure challenges while also demonstrating the AAP's commitment to making tangible improvements in the lives of Delhi residents.

Money Laundering Case Filed Against Siddaramaiah In Land Scam-Linked Probe

On September 30, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) initiated a money-laundering case against Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and several others in connection with the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scandal. This action follows a recent FIR lodged by the state's Lokayukta police.

The ED has filed an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR), effectively booking Siddaramaiah, his wife B. M. Parvathi, and others involved, including brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy. Swamy allegedly purchased land from Devaraju, which was then gifted to Parvathi. This FIR was prompted by a special court's order for a Lokayukta investigation into the matter.

This development comes after the Karnataka High Court upheld the Governor's sanction to investigate Siddaramaiah regarding accusations of irregularities in the allotment of 14 plots to his wife by MUDA. The ED is invoking the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in this case.

Siddaramaiah, 76, has claimed that these allegations are politically motivated, stating that the opposition is "scared" of him. He has expressed his intention to fight the charges legally and confirmed that he will not resign, asserting his innocence in the MUDA matter.

The allegations suggest that compensatory plots were unlawfully allocated to Siddaramaiah's wife in a prime area of Mysuru, allegedly of higher value than the land acquired by MUDA. The Lokayukta FIR includes serious charges under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), such as criminal conspiracy, misappropriation of property, and forgery, among others.

BJP disrespected Haryana on every front: Priyanka

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addressed a vibrant rally in Naraingarh, Haryana, on Monday, urging voters to oust the BJP government for what she termed their consistent disrespect towards the people. She called for a new Congress-led wave in the state.

"Haryana is the land of Mahabharata, where Lord Krishna imparted the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita—a message of justice that has influenced our religion, nation, and constitution," she stated, captivating the large crowd of supporters.

Gandhi praised the contributions of Haryana's farmers, soldiers, and athletes, asserting that they have always defended the nation's honor. She criticized the BJP's decade-long rule, questioning what the party has given in return for the sacrifices made by the citizens. "Instead of respect, they have disrespected you on every front," she said.

Highlighting the struggles of Haryana's farmers during the protests against the three controversial farm laws, she pointed out the brutal measures they faced, such as tear gas and lathi charges. "Despite the announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various crops, many of those are not cultivated here. They have betrayed your trust," she emphasized.

Gandhi also addressed the issue of high unemployment in the state, lamenting that young people are forced to migrate to cities like Delhi for job opportunities. She criticized the Agnipath scheme, stating, "The youth are asked to guard the borders for four years with no job security afterward, only to return to unemployment."

The rally also focused on the plight of athletes who, despite their contributions to national pride, have felt ignored. "Our sportspersons were protesting on the streets, but the Prime Minister didn't even take a moment to meet them," she remarked.

Kumari Selja Stands with Rahul Gandhi Dismissing BJP Switch Rumors

Congress leader Kumari Selja publicly reaffirmed her loyalty to the party by sharing the stage with Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Rahul Gandhi in Haryana, dispelling speculation about a potential switch to the BJP. The event featured Selja standing hand-in-hand with the Gandhis, alongside other senior leaders, including former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

This show of unity comes amid ongoing concerns about infighting within the Haryana Congress, highlighting the party's efforts to present a united front. In a symbolic gesture, Rahul Gandhi joined the hands of Selja and Hooda, reinforcing their collective commitment to the party and its agenda.

Selja's presence with the Gandhis serves to reassure party supporters of her dedication to Congress, especially as tensions have flared within the Haryana unit. The event was seen as an important step in quelling rumors and strengthening party cohesion in a critical political landscape.



Hezbollah confirms death of senior leader Ali Karaki in Israeli airstrikes

Hezbollah has confirmed the deaths of senior leaders, including Ali Karaki and Secretary-General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, in recent Israeli airstrikes targeting Beirut's southern suburbs. In a statement released on Sunday, the group announced that Karaki, who led Hezbollah's southern front, was "martyred with a group of his jihadist brothers" during the air raid on Haret Hreik.

The airstrikes occurred on Friday evening, with Israeli warplanes targeting Hezbollah's main headquarters in Dahieh. Reports indicate that multiple commanders, including Nasrallah, were killed during these operations, significantly impacting the group's leadership.

In addition to Karaki's and Nasrallah's deaths, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) reported on Sunday that they had killed Nabil Qaouk, commander of Hezbollah's Preventive Security Unit and a member of its central council. The IDF did not specify the location of this airstrike but stated that Qaouk was involved in promoting terrorist activities against Israel, labeling him a close associate within Hezbollah. The U.S. designated him a global terrorist in October 2020.



The Israeli airstrikes have resulted in considerable casualties, with local media reporting at least six deaths and 91 injuries, along with extensive damage to infrastructure in the targeted neighborhoods. The attacks reflect a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, which intensified on October 8, 2023, when Hezbollah began launching rockets into Israel in solidarity with Hamas in Gaza.

This prompted Israeli retaliatory actions, including artillery fire and airstrikes in southeastern Lebanon.

The recent developments highlight the ongoing volatility in the region, raising concerns about further escalations and the humanitarian impact on local populations amid the conflict.

Saudi Arabia Voices Concern Over Lebanon Conflict

Saudi Arabia has expressed significant concern regarding the escalating conflict in Lebanon, emphasizing the need for the country's "sovereignty and territorial integrity" to be respected. In a statement released by the foreign ministry, Riyadh stated, "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is following with great concern the developments taking place in the Republic of Lebanon."

This announcement comes in the wake of severe violence, with Lebanon's health ministry reporting over a hundred fatalities from Israeli airstrikes on various targets throughout the country on Sunday. The Saudi statement urged the international community to take action in safeguarding regional peace and security, calling for efforts to prevent further dangers and tragedies associated with warfare.

Israel's recent military operations have resulted in numerous casualties, including the killing of senior figures in the Iran-backed Hezbollah group, which has heightened tensions in the region. The strikes included the death of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah on Friday, prompting international calls for restraint as fears mount over a potential ground offensive by Israel against Hezbollah in Lebanon.

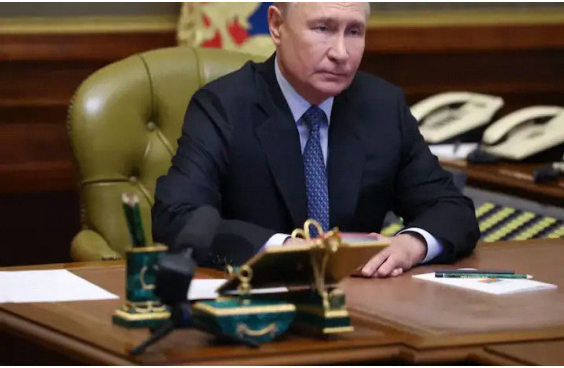
The situation has sparked widespread concern about the possibility of an all-out war in the Middle East, with various nations urging for a diplomatic resolution to avoid further escalation. As the conflict unfolds, Saudi Arabia's emphasis on respecting Lebanon's sovereignty reflects a broader anxiety about regional stability and the humanitarian consequences of continued violence.

SpaceX Crew-9 Successfully Docks with ISS to Retrieve Stranded Astronauts

The SpaceX crew tasked with rescuing two astronauts stranded on the International Space Station (ISS) successfully docked with the orbiting laboratory on Sunday. The Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, at 1:17 PM (1717 GMT) on Saturday, with the Crew-9 mission aboard a Dragon spacecraft making contact with the ISS at 5:30 PM Sunday. Following the docking, NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Russian cosmonaut Alexander Gorbunov boarded the ISS around 7:00 PM, warmly embracing their floating colleagues. "What a fabulous day it was today," NASA Deputy Administrator Pam Melroy remarked at a news conference. Hague and Gorbunov's mission is set to bring back two seasoned astronauts, Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams,

when they return from the ISS in February. Wilmore and Williams have had their stay extended for several months due to issues with their Boeing-designed Starliner spacecraft. The Starliner, which was making its first crewed flight, successfully delivered Wilmore and Williams to the ISS in June. However, technical challenges have delayed their planned return, leading to the current rescue mission.

This successful docking underscores SpaceX's crucial role in transporting astronauts to and from the ISS, especially as NASA relies on commercial partners for space travel. The Crew-9 mission highlights the ongoing collaboration between NASA and SpaceX, ensuring continuous support for the ISS and its crew members.



All Goals Set For Ukraine Will Be Achieved, Says Russian President Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin pledged on Monday that Moscow will achieve all objectives set for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, marking the third year since the invasion began. In a video message commemorating the second anniversary of what Russia refers to as "Reunification Day"—the date of its annexation of four Ukrainian regions—Putin asserted, "The truth is on our side. All goals set will be achieved."

Following the military intervention that began in February 2022, Russia annexed the regions of Lugansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, and Kherson. However, it does not maintain full control over all areas within these regions.

In his address, Putin reiterated his rationale for the invasion, claiming it was necessary to protect Russian speakers from a "neo-Nazi dictatorship" that aimed to sever their ties to Russia, their historical homeland. He criticized "Western elites," accusing them of transforming Ukraine into a "colony" and a military base directed against Russia, while also promoting "hate" and "radical nationalism."

"Our fight today is for a secure, prosperous future for our children and grandchildren," he stated, framing the conflict in terms of national security and familial legacy.

Putin's remarks come amid ongoing military actions and a complex geopolitical landscape, as Ukraine continues to resist Russian advances. The conflict has drawn widespread international condemnation and has resulted in significant humanitarian and economic challenges for both nations.

Ukraine Claims Over 650,000 Russian Soldiers Killed Since 2022 Invasion

Since the beginning of its full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Russia has reportedly lost 651,810 troops, according to the General Staff of Ukraine's Armed Forces. This figure, announced on September 29, includes 1,170 casualties recorded in just one day.

In addition to troop losses, the report details significant losses of military equipment: 8,869 tanks, 17,476 armored fighting vehicles, and 25,495 vehicles and fuel tanks have been destroyed. Other critical losses include 18,795 artillery systems, 1,204 multiple launch rocket systems, 962 air defense systems, 369 aircraft, 328 helicopters, 16,186 drones, 28 ships, and one submarine.

On the same day, Russian strikes on Zaporizhzhia in southern Ukraine resulted in at least 16 injuries, including two children aged eight and 17. The attacks involved multiple "massive aerial strikes" early in the morning, which destroyed a multi-story building and several homes. Reports indicate that Ukrainian emergency services are working to rescue individuals trapped under the rubble in the neighbor-

ing Donetsk region, where three fatalities and additional injuries occurred due to Russian attacks on Pokrovsk.

Regional officials noted extensive damage from the strikes, with Governor Ivan Fedorov confirming that a train station in Zaporizhzhia was also targeted. Andriy Yermak, head of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's office, condemned the assaults, accusing Russia of attempting to "terrorize" civilians. He reiterated calls for increased military support from Western allies, including advanced weaponry to help intercept Russian missile strikes.

In response to the ongoing conflict, Denmark has pledged \$194 million to support Ukraine's military efforts, while Norway is considering measures to enhance border security.

Meanwhile, former US President Donald Trump met with President Zelensky at Trump Tower, emphasizing the need to end the war. Zelensky extended an invitation for Trump to visit Ukraine, while Trump claimed he could swiftly resolve the conflict if re-elected.



Trump Urges Violent Police Crackdown, Calls Harris Mentally Impaired

Donald Trump delivered a fiery speech in Pennsylvania on Sunday, urging a "violent" crackdown on crime as he campaigned for the upcoming presidential election. Speaking in a crucial swing state, Trump echoed his previous rally in Wisconsin, portraying the United States as a nation under siege from violent migrants and criminals.

During his address, Trump recounted highly publicized incidents of brazen thefts in major cities, eliciting cheers from the crowd when he suggested that police should be "extraordinarily rough." He claimed that a single "violent day" of policing would send a strong message to criminals, stating, "The word would get out, and it would end immediately." Trump argued that law enforcement is hindered by "the liberal left," which he accused of preventing police from doing their jobs effectively.

In contrast, Vice President Kamala Harris addressed supporters at a rally in Nevada, focusing on the need for comprehensive immigration reform and better border security. She criticized Trump's record on immigration, asserting, "We know Donald Trump won't solve them. When he was president, he did nothing to fix our immigration system." Harris promised to double funding for the Department of Justice to combat transnational cartels. Trump's rhetoric continued to heighten as he described a nation inundated with what he called "savagely criminal aliens," blaming Harris for allowing this "invasion." He alleged that terrorists were entering the country and even referenced a prison in the Congo as a source of criminals.

Markets Plummet Amid Global Concerns and Profit Booking, Worst Losses in Two Months

The domestic stock market experienced a significant downturn, marking the worst losses in two months on the last day of September. The Sensex dropped 1,272 points, closing at 85,299, while the Nifty fell by 368 points to settle at 25,810. Factors contributing to this decline include profit booking by investors, negative global cues, concerns over China's economy, and uncertainty surrounding potential updates from the US Federal Reserve. The Nifty's psychological support level of 26,000 also played a role.



Market breadth favored sellers, with 2,201 stocks declining and 1,837 advancing on the BSE. India VIX, a measure of market volatility, rose by 11%, while the rupee weakened by 10 paise, settling at 83.80 against the dollar. Bank Nifty also tumbled, losing 856 points to close at 52,978.

In the Nifty50, only nine companies gained, including JSW Steel, NTPC, Hindalco, and Britannia, while 41 companies, such as Heromoto, Axis Bank, and Reliance, saw losses. Except for media and metal, all sector indices



recorded losses, with banks, autos, and financials among the hardest hit.

On the corporate front, Bharti Airtel repaid loans early, Mahindra & Mahindra Logistics signed a joint venture agreement with Japan's Seino Holdings, and Tata Power announced an MoU with the Rajasthan government. Meanwhile, Paras Defense received orders worth ₹305 crore from IT, and NMDC shares rose due to positive de-

velopments in China's property sector.

Investors are advised to consider JSW Steel, Kalyani Jewellers, Crisil, BDL, and IGL for short-term investments.

1. JSW Steel
JSW Steel has been performing well in recent sessions due to a recovery in global steel prices and



positive demand outlooks. It's one of the top gainers in the Nifty50 index. The stock is showing strength above its 50-day moving average, indicating bullish momentum. With strong support around ₹1000 levels, the stock could target ₹1260 in the near term.

2. Kalyani Jewellers

The stock has shown steady gains amid improving consumer demand in the retail sector. Festive season sentiment and strong quarterly results have driven recent buying. The stock has been trading in a consolidation phase, with resistance around ₹700. Breakout above this level could signal further upside.



3. Crisil

Crisil, a leading credit rating and research agency, is benefiting from stable revenue growth from its research and advisory services. Its financial health is solid, and investors are positive on long-term prospects. The stock has support at ₹4550, with resistance



at ₹4650. It is currently trading near its correct levels, which could make it attractive for entry.

4. BDL (Bharat Dynamics Ltd.)

BDL, engaged in manufacturing missiles and ammunition, is witnessing increased demand with defense spending on the rise. It has secured new orders recently, boosting investor confidence. The stock has seen a breakout from the ₹1155 level, with continued bullish momentum. It is trading well above its moving averages.



5. IGL (Indraprastha Gas Ltd.)

IGL has been under pressure due to rising natural gas prices and regulatory challenges. However, the long-term outlook remains positive due to growth in the clean energy sector. The stock is near its support level of ₹540 and could face resistance at ₹560.



India's Fiscal Deficit Hits ₹4.35 Trillion in April-August



India's fiscal deficit for the period from April to August reached 4.35 trillion rupees (approximately \$51.93 billion), accounting for 27% of the annual target set for the financial year, according to government data released on Monday.

During this period, net tax receipts amounted to 8.74 trillion rupees, representing 34% of the projected annual goal. This figure marks an increase compared to 8.04 trillion rupees recorded in the same timeframe last year. Government spending, however, totaled 16.52 trillion rupees, which is also about 34% of the annual budget but slightly lower than the 16.72 trillion rupees spent in the previous year.

The decline in spending can largely be attributed to the ongoing general elections, which have influenced the government's expenditure patterns.

Capital expenditure, specifically for building physical infrastructure, reached 3.01 trillion rupees during the first five months, or 27% of the annual target. This figure is a decrease from 3.74 trillion rupees for the same period in the previous year.

The Indian government has set its fiscal deficit target at 4.9% of GDP in its latest budget, a reduction from 5.6% in the previous fiscal year. This target aims to strengthen fiscal discipline while accommodating necessary spending for growth and development.

As the government navigates the implications of the elections and strives to meet its fiscal goals, these figures will be closely monitored. The performance of tax revenues and expenditure trends will play a crucial role in shaping India's economic landscape in the months to come.

RBI Urges Small Finance Banks appointing more whole-time directors

During a keynote address at the Conference of Directors of Small Finance Banks in Bengaluru on September 27, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor Swaminathan J emphasized the importance of robust leadership structures in small finance banks. He noted that some of these banks still lack the requisite presence of at least two Whole Time Directors (WTDs) and urged them to expedite the appointment of additional WTDs.

Swaminathan highlighted that having only one WTD can lead to vulnerabilities, particularly during times of transition or unexpected events. A lack of effective succession planning can result in leadership gaps that might disrupt operations and hinder strategic decision-making. "A broader pool of experienced leaders also contributes to better



governance and more resilient management structures," he stated.

Small finance banks have seen remarkable growth since their establishment, now representing 1.18% of total banking

assets as of March 2024, a significant increase from just 0.44% in March 2018. Over the past five years, the deposit base has expanded at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 32%, while net advances recorded a CAGR of 26%.

Swaminathan's remarks underscore the need for these banks to focus on solid governance frameworks as they continue to grow and evolve in the competitive banking landscape. Strengthening the leadership team with more WTDs not only enhances stability but also fosters better strategic planning and risk management.

As small finance banks play an increasingly vital role in the Indian banking sector, ensuring they have the right governance structures in place will be crucial for their sustained success and the overall health of the financial system.

SEBI Approves IPO Plans for Swiggy, Hyundai Motor India

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has granted approval for several companies, including Swiggy, Hyundai Motor India, Acme Solar Holdings, Vishal Mega Mart, and Mamata Machinery, to proceed with their initial public offerings (IPOs). The approval marks a significant step for these firms as they prepare to enter the capital markets.

SEBI issued observation letters to Swiggy and Hyundai Motor India on September 24, followed by Vishal Mega Mart on September 25. Acme Solar Holdings and Mamata Machinery received their letters on September 27. In SEBI terminology, an observation letter signifies that a company can launch its IPO within a year from the



date of receipt.

Swiggy, which is backed by Prosus and SoftBank, is the second-largest food delivery service in India. The company sub-

mitted confidential papers for its IPO in April 2023 and recently updated its draft red herring prospectus on September 26. Swiggy's IPO plan includes a fresh issue of equity shares worth up to ₹3,750 crore, alongside an offer-for-sale of 18.52 crore equity shares from existing shareholders.

As these companies gear up for their market debuts, the approvals from SEBI indicate a growing interest in the Indian IPO market, which has seen a mix of established firms and newer entrants seeking to capitalize on investor appetite. The upcoming offerings are expected to attract significant attention from investors, as they navigate the evolving landscape of the Indian economy.

Adani Group Firms Join WEF's Decarbonisation Initiative with Green Hydrogen Hub

Three companies from the Adani Group—Adani Enterprises Ltd (AEL), Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ), and Ambuja Cements Ltd—have joined the World Economic Forum's 'Transitioning Industrial Clusters' initiative, forming the 'Adani Mundra Cluster.' This initiative aims to establish one of the largest integrated green hydrogen hubs in the world, with a planned production capacity of 1 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) by 2030, potentially expanding to 3 MMTPA by 2040.

The World Economic Forum's initiative seeks to harness the economic

and energy potential of industrial clusters through structured financing, policy support, technology, and partnerships. This collaborative approach aims to foster cooperation and develop a unified vision for energy transition, job creation, and economic growth.

Karan Adani, Managing Director of APSEZ and Director of Ambuja Cements, highlighted the opportunity for collaboration with global industry peers, policymakers, and experts to drive innovative decarbonisation strategies. He stated that the Adani Mundra Cluster aims to decarbonise hard-to-abate sectors in India and decrease reliance



on energy imports.

The initiative is seen as a vital step towards economic growth and decarbonisation, supported by the World

Economic Forum's efforts in facilitating collaboration among stakeholders. Roberto Bocca, Head of the Centre for Energy and Materials at the WEF, welcomed the Adani Mundra Cluster

as one of the first two clusters in India and emphasized Gujarat's renewable energy potential.

The Adani Group's strategy includes a fully integrated value chain featuring 10 GW of solar modules, 5 GW of wind turbines, and 5 GW of electrolyser manufacturing. The cluster will also produce green hydrogen derivatives like ammonia, enhancing its role in the green energy transition. APSEZ aims to power its operations with renewable electricity by 2025, while Ambuja Cements targets net-zero emissions by 2050.



Jammu & Kashmir Elections: A Decade Later, Which Direction Will the Tide Turn?

After a gap of 10 years, Jammu and Kashmir is gearing up for the third and final phase of assembly elections, scheduled for October 1. This marks the first assembly election since 2014 in the region, which has witnessed transformative political and constitutional changes over the past decade.

The landscape of Jammu & Kashmir has changed dramatically since the last assembly elections. The most significant shift came in 2019, when Article 370 — the constitutional provision that granted special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir — was abrogated. The erstwhile state was then bifurcated into two Union Territories: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

As the polls unfold, political parties are vying for influence in a region that remains a focal point of both national and international attention. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has promised to restore Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, while regional players like the National Conference (NC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) are calling for the restoration of Article 370. The Congress, meanwhile, remains vague on the matter, not committing fully to either stance.

Lok Sabha Elections Set the Stage

The assembly elections follow on the heels of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, where the BJP claimed two seats in Jammu, strengthening its foothold in the region. In contrast, the National Conference dominated the Kashmir valley, securing two out of three seats, while an independent candidate clinched the remaining one. The PDP, once a formidable force, failed to secure any wins.

In a surprising turn of events, two prominent regional leaders—Omar Abdullah of the NC and Mehbooba Mufti of the PDP—both suffered defeats. Abdullah lost to an independent candidate, Engineer Rashid, who was in jail at the time of the election, while Mufti was ousted by NC's Mian Altaf Ahmed Larvi. Both faced significant margins, falling behind by over 200,000 votes.

Had the Lok Sabha results been translated into assembly seats, the NC would have led in 36 out of 90 assembly segments, with its ally, the Congress, leading in seven, bringing the alliance close to a majority. Meanwhile, the BJP led in 29 segments, while the PDP only held a lead in five. Independents and smaller parties filled the remaining 13 segments. This represents a marked improvement for the NC and the BJP compared to 2014, while the Congress and PDP have seen their influence wane considerably.

Why This Election Matters

Three key factors make the 2024 Jammu & Kashmir assembly election particularly significant. First and foremost is the turnout, widely regarded as a measure of the people's engagement with the democratic process post-Article 370. The first two phases of voting saw a respectable 61% and 57% turnout, respectively. While this

is slightly lower than the 65% turnout seen in 2014—despite a boycott call at the time—it still signifies a strong voter response, particularly as both phases were largely free from violence and disruptions.

The second reason this election is so pivotal lies in the emerging generation of voters. With a decade having passed since the last assembly election, a new cohort of voters, aged 18-28, will be casting their ballots for the first time. For these young voters, pressing issues such as development, employment, inflation, and peace are key factors driving their decisions at the polls. This election represents their first opportunity to voice their priorities and influence the future of the region.

Lastly, this election will be a test of whether traditional political forces like the NC, PDP, Congress, and BJP maintain their grip on power or if new players will emerge to reshape the political landscape. In recent years, several new local parties and independent candidates have entered the fray, adding an unpredictable element to the election outcome. Whether these new players can make inroads or if the established parties will hold on to their influence remains a key question. This dynamic could signal a shift in the balance of power and provide insight into the evolving political scene in Jammu & Kashmir.

Old Guard Faces New Challenges

The political dynamics of Jammu and Kashmir have always been marked by the stark contrast between the Jammu region and the Kashmir valley. The BJP has long held sway in the Hindu-majority Jammu region, while the NC and PDP have historically dominated the Muslim-majority Kashmir valley. As these elections unfold, the results will offer a clearer picture of whether these traditional political allegiances hold firm or if newer forces are beginning to erode the old order.

The BJP's promise of restoring Jammu & Kashmir's statehood remains a central plank of its campaign, but its electoral dominance in the Jammu region will be closely scrutinized. In contrast, the NC and PDP are doubling down on their demand for the reinstatement of Article 370 and statehood, focusing on rallying support from the valley. Meanwhile, the Congress faces the challenge of regaining lost ground while maintaining a delicate balancing act between national policy and local sensitivities.

As the dust settles on the 2024 Jammu & Kashmir elections, the results will not only provide a snapshot of the current political climate but also serve as a referendum on the major political shifts that have taken place in the last decade. With new voters, new parties, and a region that has experienced significant change, this election promises to be a critical moment in Jammu & Kashmir's history.

Counting is scheduled for October 8, when the political winds of the region will become clear.

Moon's Temperature Dropped During COVID-19 Lockdown Due to Reduced Human Activity

A groundbreaking study conducted by Indian researchers has revealed an unexpected consequence of the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020: a significant reduction in lunar surface temperatures. The research, published in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society: Letters*, found that the Moon's nighttime temperatures decreased by 8-10 Kelvin, pointing to a surprising link between human activities on Earth and the Moon's climate.

Unveiling the Earth-Moon Connection

The study, spearheaded by K. Durga Prasad and G. Ambily from India's Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), analyzed data from NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO). The researchers focused on lunar surface temperature data collected from six different locations on the Moon between 2017 and 2023. The temperature dip observed in 2020 was unprecedented and coincided with the global COVID-19 lockdowns, during which human activities and industrial emissions were significantly reduced.

As the world shut down to curb the spread of the virus, a dramatic decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, aerosols, and other pollutants was recorded across the globe. This reduction altered the radiation balance between Earth and space, influencing the amount of energy emitted from Earth into the atmosphere and beyond. The study suggests that this shift may have led to a cooling effect on the Moon's surface, highlighting an intricate and previously unnoticed connection between Earth's atmosphere and its closest celestial neighbor.

Significant Findings and Implications

Anil Bharadwaj, director of PRL, emphasized the importance of the study in further understanding the dynamic relationship between Earth and the Moon. According to Bharadwaj, the temperature drop in 2020 provides a unique opportunity to study how changes in human activity on Earth can extend beyond the planet and influence the lunar environment. This research opens up new avenues for exploring the broader cosmic effects of global human actions.

What makes this discovery even more remarkable is that lunar temperatures returned to their pre-lockdown levels as human activities resumed in 2021 and beyond. This fluctuation suggests that human activity on Earth may have a measurable impact on the lunar environment, offering a fresh perspective on the interconnectedness of our planet and the Moon.

Methodology and Data Analysis

The research team utilized thermal data from the LRO to track temperature changes across

six different lunar sites. The team observed a significant drop in nighttime temperatures during 2020, which corresponded with the sharp decrease in Earth's industrial activities, transportation, and energy consumption. The study demonstrates a correlation between reduced emissions and the Moon's thermal behavior, although the exact mechanisms behind this connection are still under investigation.

The research raises important questions about how Earth's atmospheric changes, influenced by human behavior, might extend their reach to other celestial bodies. It also underscores the necessity for further exploration of how human activities may influence the broader cosmos.

A New Horizon for Lunar Exploration

This study, while offering compelling evidence of the Earth-Moon link, also highlights the need for continued research to fully understand this dynamic. While the findings are based on robust data, more extensive observations and data from future lunar missions will be crucial in determining the precise relationship between Earth's environmental changes and their effects on the Moon.

Future lunar observatories and spacecraft may play a key role in deepening our understanding of how human-induced changes on Earth could affect the solar system. This research serves as a reminder that the consequences of our actions on Earth might not be confined to our planet alone, but could ripple outward into space, impacting other celestial bodies in ways we are only beginning to comprehend.

Broader Implications

The study not only sheds light on the Earth-Moon relationship but also offers a fresh perspective on the global impact of human activities. It highlights the far-reaching effects of reduced pollution and emissions, suggesting that Earth's atmospheric changes could have unanticipated consequences on other celestial bodies in the solar system.

As researchers continue to examine this newly discovered connection, the findings may also contribute to broader discussions about the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution for the sake of preserving both Earth's environment and potentially influencing the space around us.

In conclusion, the study underscores the interconnectedness of Earth and the Moon, revealing that even minor changes on our planet can have significant effects beyond its boundaries. The COVID-19 lockdowns provided a rare glimpse into the potential cosmic consequences of global human activity, offering valuable insights for future lunar research and exploration.



Spotify Resumes Service After Three-Hour Outage Affecting Thousands



Spotify faced a significant outage on Sunday, lasting approximately three hours and impacting over 40,000 users in the United States at its peak, according to Downtetector.com. By 3 p.m. ET, fewer than 600 users were still experiencing issues.

In a post on social media platform X, Spotify reassured users, stating, “Everything’s looking much better now!” However, the company has not yet provided an explanation for the outage.

During the downtime, users reported various streaming difficulties. Many were unable to access their playlists, with some stating they could only play songs they had recently listened to. Others experienced random interruptions in playback, leading to frustration and confusion among listeners.

Downtetector tracks outages through various sources, including user reports, and the spike in reports during the outage indicated widespread disruption. While Spotify’s service has since been restored,

the incident highlights the challenges streaming platforms face in maintaining consistent availability.

This outage follows a trend seen in recent months, where streaming services have occasionally faced technical difficulties, affecting user experience. As Spotify continues to grow its user base and expand its services, ensuring reliable performance remains a top priority for the company.

Spotify’s ability to quickly resolve the issue likely helped mitigate further user dissatisfaction, but the lack of immediate communication regarding the cause of the outage left many users seeking answers. In a digital age where streaming services are integral to daily life, maintaining smooth and uninterrupted service is crucial for user retention and satisfaction.

As of now, users are back to enjoying their music, but they remain hopeful that such outages will be addressed proactively in the future.

OpenAI to Increase ChatGPT Subscription Prices for Users



OpenAI is reportedly set to raise the subscription fee for ChatGPT Plus users by \$2 per month, bringing the total to \$22 by the end of 2024. According to a report from The New York Times, this price hike is part of a larger strategy that could see the monthly cost escalate to \$44 by 2029. This planned increase aligns with OpenAI’s ambitious revenue goals, aiming to generate \$100 billion by that year, predominantly through subscription services.

Currently, ChatGPT Plus subscriptions cost \$20 per month in the U.S. and approximately ₹1,950 in India. The potential rise in fees reflects OpenAI’s need to cover operational expenses, which are reportedly significant. The company is projected to lose about \$5 billion this year due to high costs associated with AI services, employee salaries, and office rent.

OpenAI has around 10 million ChatGPT

Plus subscribers, and the revenue from this user base is critical to achieving its financial targets. The company aims to mirror the annual revenue of major corporations like Reliance Industries and Nestlé if it meets its projections.

In the meantime, OpenAI is closing a funding round and has already secured about \$13 billion annually through its partnership with Microsoft for cloud computing services. However, much of that income is funneled back into the costs of running its AI-powered services.

The recent discussions around pricing come amid a backdrop of regulatory scrutiny, as exemplified by California Governor Gavin Newsom’s veto of a contentious AI safety bill. OpenAI’s financial strategies and potential price increases could significantly influence the landscape of AI service subscriptions in the coming years.

80-Year-Old Model Makes History as Miss Universe Korea Finalist

Choi Soon-hwa, an 80-year-old South Korean model, has made history by becoming the oldest participant in the Miss Universe Korea pageant. Standing proudly among contestants young enough to be her grandchildren, Choi is determined to challenge perceptions about aging and showcase that age is just a number.

“I want to stun the world, like, ‘How is an 80-year-old lady so healthy? How did she maintain that body? What’s your diet?’” she shared with CNN ahead of the grand finale on September 30. Choi aims to demonstrate that healthy living is possible at any age, countering the common belief that aging leads to inevitable weight gain.

Born nearly a decade before the first Miss Universe contest in 1952, Choi Soon-hwa now has the chance to represent South Korea on the international stage. If she succeeds against 31 other finalists, she could become the oldest contestant ever at the Miss Universe pageant, set to take place in Mexico City this November.



ico City this November.

This year marks a significant shift for the Miss Universe Organization, which has lifted age restrictions on contestants. Previously, only women aged 18 to 24 were eligible to compete. In a move to modernize the pageant, the organization also removed bans on pregnant, married, and divorced women.

“Now that the age restriction has been lifted, I said, ‘I should give it a try,’” Choi explained. She began her modeling career at the age of 72 to help pay off debts, showing that it’s never too late to pursue one’s dreams. Choi’s participation is not just about winning; it’s about inspiring others to embrace healthy aging and break stereotypes surrounding beauty and age.

Beat Hangovers with Zebra Striping: The Smart Drinking Trend

Feeling rough after a night of partying? Say goodbye to hangovers with the hottest new trend: zebra striping! This clever drinking method involves alternating between your favorite alcoholic beverages and non-alcoholic ones, like water. It’s a hydration hack that lets you sip responsibly while still enjoying the vibes.

Clinical dietician Simrat Kaur Bhui explains that this method helps reduce excessive alcohol consumption and its negative effects on the body. “Alternate drinking doesn’t stress the liver and improves hydration,” she notes, adding that the dehydration caused by alcohol can impair decision-making and lead to dizziness and headaches.

Dietician Mariyam Bano from Shalby Hospital in Indore emphasizes that switching between alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks aids hydration, slows alcohol absorption, and can help prevent typical hangover symptoms. She advocates for a mindful drinking



approach, allowing you to enjoy social events without overindulging.

Plan Ahead Before heading out, decide how many drinks you’ll have and commit to alternating between alcoholic and non-alcoholic options.

Choose Fun Alternatives Opt for enjoyable non-alcoholic drinks, such as mocktails or flavored water, to

avoid the pressure of continuous alcohol consumption.

Pace Yourself Take your time, pay attention to how you’re feeling, and don’t rush through your drinks. By adopting the zebra striping technique, you can enjoy your nights out while minimizing the risk of hangovers and feeling your best the next day. Cheers to responsible sipping!

Bengaluru Woman Wins ₹ 9 Lakh Just By Sleeping

Saishwari Patil, a Bengaluru-based investment banker, turned her passion for sleep into a lucrative opportunity, winning ₹9 lakh as the ‘Sleep Champion’ in Wakefit’s sleep internship program. This unique initiative encourages individuals to prioritize their sleep, emphasizing the importance of getting eight to nine hours of rest each night.

Patil was one of 12 selected ‘sleep interns’ in the program, which provides participants with premium mattresses and contactless sleep trackers to monitor their sleep quality. The interns also attended workshops led by sleep experts, designed to enhance their sleeping habits and improve their chances of claiming the coveted title.

Wakefit’s initiative has attracted over 1 million applicants across three seasons, engaging 51 interns and distributing a total of ₹63 lakh in stipends. The 2024 edition of Wakefit’s Great Indian Sleep Scorecard revealed that nearly 50% of Indians wake up feeling tired, with contributing factors including long



work hours, poor sleep environments, and stress.

Patil emphasized the need for discipline in sleep management. “To maintain a good score, you have to be consistent with your sleep and wake-up times,” she explained, highlighting the challenge of cutting down on late-night distractions like binge-watching and so-

cial media. She admitted that the pressure of the competition sometimes added stress, affecting her ability to sleep well.

Reflecting on her journey, Patil noted how the pandemic disrupted her sleep routine, with her demanding job as an auditor contributing to irregular sleep patterns. “This internship taught me how to become a disciplined sleeper,” she stated.

Patil humorously recalled her reason for applying: “I think I’m a good sleeper. I can sleep anywhere—even on a bike ride!” She initially applied with a friend for fun, intrigued by the program’s unusual concept.

Throughout the internship, she gained valuable insights into sleep science, learning about the importance of different sleep cycles for overall well-being. “This experience has sparked my interest in advocating for better sleep,” she concluded, eager to continue her journey into the fascinating world of sleep.



Bumrah takes three wickets as India bowls out Bangladesh for 233

The Day 4 of the second Test between India and Bangladesh saw Indian bowlers reassert control after two rain-affected days at the Green Park Stadium in Kanpur as the host dismissed Bangladesh's first innings for 233 in 73.2 overs in the second session.

Bumrah struck early after the lunch session when he removed Mehidy Hasan Miraz (20) after a brief cameo. Hasan played some aggressive shots, including a boundary off Siraj, but soon fell to Bumrah, who induced an edge that was comfortably taken in the slip cordon by Shubman Gill. Bumrah's dominance continued as he clean-bowled Taijul Islam (5) with a superb delivery that jagged back into the batter, crashing into the stumps.

Earlier, Bumrah, who went wicketless on Day 1, was back in action with a fiery spell on Monday. He soon found success in the first session when he bowled Mushfiquur Rahim (16), who had survived some early scares, leaving Bangladesh at 112/4, with a peach of a delivery that clipped the top of the off stump.

Despite a defiant unbeaten century from Mominul Haque, the Bangladeshi batters were unable to mount a significant challenge as the hosts wrapped up the innings swiftly.

Resuming the second session on 205/6, Bangladesh relied heavily on Haque, who played a determined knock of 107 off 194 balls. His resilient innings was the only notable resistance, as skipper Najmul Hossain

Shanto's 31 from Day 1 remained the second-highest scorer in the innings. Jasprit Bumrah was the standout performer for India, finishing with the figures of 3/50.

Mohammed Siraj then picked up two wickets, including Hasan Mahmud, who was trapped LBW on a sharp in-swing. Bangladesh's review didn't change the outcome, leaving the visitors with just one wicket remaining.

Ravindra Jadeja claimed his 300th Test wicket when he bowled Khaled Ahmed, sealing India's dominance. The left-arm spinner joined an elite club of Indian bowlers, becoming the seventh and second fastest to reach the milestone, and doing so in just 17,428 balls – the second fastest after

R Ashwin.

India's disciplined bowling, backed by sharp fielding, left Bangladesh with no room to accelerate. Mominul Haque, despite his excellent century, was starved of strikes in the final stages of the innings, as India's bowlers tightened their lines and lengths. His valiant effort allowed them to reach 233.

After the rain washed out two days, play finally resumed on Day 4 at 9:30 am with Bangladesh at 107/3. Akash Deep and Bumrah started with tight maiden overs, continuing India's grip over the proceedings. Brief scores: Bangladesh 233 all out in 74.2 overs (Mominul Haque 107 not out, Najmul Hossain Shanto 31; Jasprit Bumrah 3-50, Akash Deep 2-43) against India.

Indian Shooters Claim Two Bronze Medals at Junior World Championships



Indian rifle and pistol shooters made a strong impact at the ISSF Junior World Championship in Lima, Peru, securing two bronze medals in the 10m mixed team events. This achievement on day two of the competition raised India's overall medal tally to five, comprising two gold and three bronze medals.

The rifle event featured the talented duo of Gautami Bhanot and Ajay Malik, who showcased impressive skills throughout the competition. They shot a combined score of 628.9 after 30 shots each, placing them third among a competitive field of 34 pairs. Their performance secured a spot in the bronze medal match against the Croatian team of Anamarija Turk and Darko Tomasevic, which they won decisively with a score of 17-9.

The success of Bhanot and Malik reflects the growing strength of Indian shooters on the international stage. Their ability to perform under pressure in the mixed team event highlights their potential for future competitions.

In addition to the rifle team, Indian pistol shooters also made their mark by clinching a bronze medal in their respective mixed team event. This ongoing success is a testament to the rigorous training and preparation undertaken by these young athletes, contributing to India's rising profile in the shooting sports arena.

Napoli Jump To Top Of Serie A With Win Over Monza

Napoli secured a decisive 2-0 victory against lowly Monza at home on Sunday, propelling them to the top of the Serie A table. Goals from Matteo Politano and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia sealed the win, marking a significant turnaround for the team this season.

After a lackluster finish last year, where they ended up in a disappointing 10th place despite starting as champions, Napoli has shown remarkable improvement under the guidance of coach Antonio Conte. With four wins in their last six matches, the team is looking to reclaim its status among Italy's elite.

Politano opened the scoring in the 22nd minute, showcasing his skill as he drove in from the right flank and expertly slotted the ball past the Monza goalkeeper from a tight angle. His goal set the tone for the match, as Napoli dominated possession and created numerous scoring opportunities.

Khvicha Kvaratskhelia added to the scoreline later in the game, further solidifying Napoli's control over the match. The Georgian winger's performance has been a highlight of the season, demonstrating his play-making abilities and goal-scoring prowess.

Monza struggled to mount a serious challenge throughout the match, failing to convert their limited chances into meaningful threats. The loss leaves them in a precarious position at the bottom of the table,



raising concerns about their survival in the top flight.

With this victory, Napoli not only climbs to the top of the Serie A standings but also builds momentum as they continue their quest for a strong season. The team's resurgence has reignited the hopes of their fans, who are eager to see them compete for the title once again.

As the season progresses, Napoli's blend of experienced players and emerging talent will be crucial in maintaining their form and challenging for honors. With their current trajectory, the team looks poised for a successful campaign ahead.

Antoine Griezmann Announces Retirement from International Football

Antoine Griezmann, a key player in France's 2018 World Cup victory, has announced his retirement from international football, concluding a remarkable 10-year career with the national team. The 33-year-old forward shared the news on X, expressing his gratitude and nostalgia: "It is with a heart full of memories that I am closing this chapter of my life."

Griezmann made his debut for France in March 2014 and accumulated an impressive 137 caps, ranking third in the team's history, surpassed only by goalkeeper Hugo Lloris and 1998 World Cup hero Lilian Thuram. Throughout his

tenure, he became known for his significant contributions on the pitch, scoring 44 goals and establishing himself as one of France's all-time leading scorers, behind only Olivier Giroud, Thierry Henry, and current captain Kylian Mbappé.

His decision to retire marks the end of an era for French football, as Griezmann leaves behind a legacy defined by key performances in major tournaments and a steadfast commitment to his country. As he transitions away from international play, fans and teammates alike will remember his skill, dedication, and the memorable moments he created on the field.



Marseille Stumble as Lyon Snatch Last-Minute Victory

Marseille missed a golden opportunity to level points with Ligue 1 leaders Paris Saint-Germain on Sunday, suffering a disappointing defeat at Strasbourg. Meanwhile, Lyon secured a thrilling 2-1 win at Toulouse with a dramatic goal in the 95th minute, further complicating Marseille's title ambitions.

Under the guidance of new Italian coach Roberto De Zerbi, Marseille had shown signs of resurgence this season, but their momentum was halted by a well-timed strike from Diego Moreira just before halftime. This goal marked Strasbourg's first victory over Marseille in 17 attempts, adding to the disappointment for the visitors who were



eager to keep pace with the leaders PSG and Monaco, both sitting at 16 points.

Despite controlling much of the play, Marseille struggled to convert their

chances into goals. Their failure to capitalize on opportunities allowed Strasbourg to maintain their defensive shape and strike when it mattered most. The loss was a wake-up call for Marseille, highlighting the need for consistency as they navigate the competitive landscape of Ligue 1.

In contrast, Lyon's late heroics at Toulouse underscored their determination to challenge for the title this season. After falling behind early, Lyon rallied to secure all three points with a late winner that sent their fans into a frenzy. This result not only boosted Lyon's confidence but also put them in a strong position in the standings.



Thandel Shivaratri Song To Offer Goosebumps

Naga Chaitanya's upcoming film, **Thandel**, is shaping up to be a monumental project, showcasing his dedication through a remarkable transformation for the role of a fisherman from Srikakulam. The actor is meticulously adjusting his body language and dialect to authentically portray this character, which speaks volumes about his commitment to the project.

Directed by Chandoo Mondeti, **Thandel** draws inspiration from real events, aiming to capture the essence of Srikakulam's rich cultural heritage. The production team is leaving no stone unturned, with resources dedicated to ensuring an authentic and impactful narrative. A key highlight is the

incorporation of the ancient Sri Mukhalin-gam Shiva temple, which serves as a pivotal backdrop for the film's depiction of the Maha Shivaratri festival.

The festival scenes are being crafted to reflect the traditional rituals and grandeur of the celebrations, promising a visually stunning experience. Recently, the team completed filming a massive Shivaratri song featuring thousands of dancers, capturing the festival's vibrant spirit on a grand scale. This devotional number, composed by the renowned Devi Sri Prasad, is not only the film's most expensive song, with a budget of ₹4 crore, but it also holds special significance for Chaitanya.

Choreographed by Sekhar Master, the song is expected to provide audiences with an exhilarating and fresh experience, blending spiritual themes with visual opulence. Stills from the shoot showcase Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi striking the Shiva Thandavam pose, surrounded by dancers and a depiction of Lord Shiva, all while clad in traditional attire.

Produced by Bunny Vas under the Geetha Arts banner and presented by Allu Aravind, **Thandel** is nearing the completion of its shoot, and anticipation is building for this extraordinary cinematic tribute to Srikakulam's heritage.



Kangana Ranaut Agrees To Censor Board's Cuts On 'Emergency'

Amid the ongoing controversy surrounding the release of **Emergency**, the film about former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, lead actress and co-producer Kangana Ranaut has agreed to make cuts suggested by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). This information was relayed to the Bombay High Court on September 30.

According to legal news platform Bar and Bench, the CBFC informed the court that Ranaut accepted the proposed edits following a hearing in the case of Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited vs. Central Board of Film Certification. Senior Advocate Sharan Jagtiani, representing Zee, communicated the actress's agreement to the court, indicating a willingness to address the concerns raised.

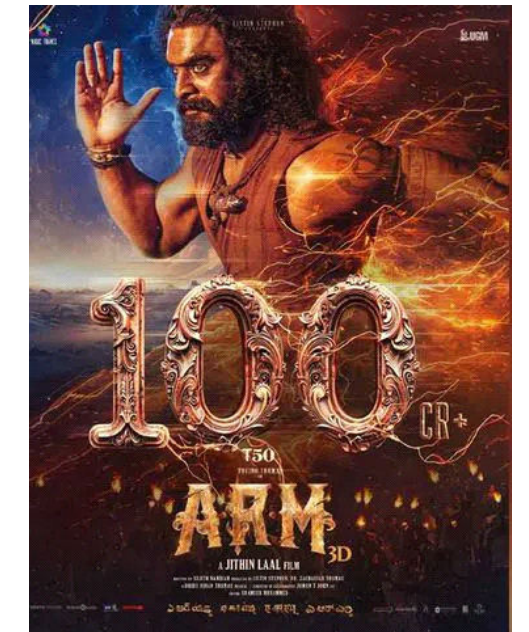
The Bombay High Court, presided over by Justices BP Colabawalla and Firdosh Pooniwalla, has adjourned the case until October 3 to allow both parties to finalize instructions. Following Ranaut's agreement, the filmmakers are expected to submit a format detailing how the suggested changes will be implemented.

The controversy began when the CBFC initially proposed nearly 13 cuts to the film, which included removing certain violent scenes and altering a reference to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, labeled as 'saint' in a dialogue. The film faced backlash from various Sikh organizations, including the Shiromani Akali Dal, which accused it of misrepresenting the community and distorting historical facts.

Tovino Thomas' fantasy action movie 'ARM' grosses Rs 100 crore worldwide

Tovino Thomas, who captured hearts with his performance in **Minnal Murali**, has solidified his star status with his latest release, **Ajayante Randam Moshanam (ARM)**. This Fantasy-Action-Adventure-Romantic-Sci-Fi film, directed by Jithin Lal and written by Sujith Nambiar, hit theaters on September 12 and has been a massive hit across all languages.

The film has not only emerged as the Onam winner but has also rejuvenated the Bollywood box office, proving the strength of compelling content. As it nears the ₹100 crore mark, **ARM** underscores Tovino Thomas's appeal and versatility, with him portraying three distinct characters: Kunjikkelu, Maniyan, and Ajayan. Featuring a talented ensemble cast including Krithi Shetty, Surabhi Lakshmi, Aishwarya Rajesh, and more, **ARM** delivers a thrilling cinematic experience enhanced by the evocative music of Dhibu Ninan Thomas.



Rooted in Kerala's rich fantasy and folklore, the film has garnered positive word of mouth, ensuring its continued success at the box office.

Sree Vishnu's Swag Trailer: Offers A Whole New Experience

Sree Vishnu and director Hasith Goli are back with their intriguing film **Swag**, set for theatrical release on October 4th. The makers have recently unveiled a trailer that offers a deeper insight into the film's compelling narrative.

Swag explores the evolution of gender dynamics across centuries. The story begins in 1551, where a Swaganika king is determined to uphold male dominance. This ambition faces challenges in the 1970s through Yayathi, a descendant struggling to bear a son despite repeated efforts. In the present day, SI Bhavabhuthi emerges as a determined character who discovers that Singa, another descendant of the Swaganika lineage, could be crucial to the future of the dynasty.

Hasith Goli deserves commendation for crafting such a complex



storyline while ensuring it remains accessible to audiences. The writing and characterization showcase a special skill, bringing depth to each role. Sree Vishnu shines in multiple

Satya Dev, Dhananjaya's Zebra Teaser



Hero Satya Dev is set to take the spotlight alongside Daali Dhananjaya in the highly anticipated crime and action thriller **Zebra**, directed by Eashvar Karthic. The film's release date was recently unveiled through a captivating motion poster, with Natural Star Nani introducing the teaser, which has already generated buzz among fans.

One of the standout features of the teaser is its innovative approach to introducing the lead characters, providing a glimpse into the intriguing world of **Zebra**. Satya Dev portrays a seemingly sly white-collar worker whose life takes unexpected turns. His love interest is played by Priya Bhavani Shankar, adding an emotional layer to the narrative. Dhananjaya takes on the role of the menacing antagonist, while veteran actors Sunil and Sathyaraj infuse humor into their characters as cunning villains, creating a dynamic balance of tension and wit.

The teaser is visually engaging, showcasing elements like a chess game, various vehicles, and even a ship and airplane, all of which contribute to the film's suspenseful atmosphere. A humorous exchange of a Wi-Fi password between Sathyaraj, Satya Dev, and Satya serves as a memorable highlight, adding a light-hearted touch amidst the action.

Produced by Padmaja Films Private Ltd and Old Town Pictures, **Zebra** features cinematography by Satya Ponmar, ensuring a visually striking experience. The music, composed by Ravi Basrur, adds depth and intensity to the film's tone, further enhancing its appeal.

With its fresh narrative style and gripping storyline, **Zebra** is poised to leave a lasting impression on audiences. The film is set for release on October 31st, just in time for Diwali, promising an exciting cinematic experience for the festive season. Fans eagerly await this thrilling venture, anticipating the action and drama it will bring.

Ritu Varma seizes the opportunity to demonstrate her acting prowess in a varied role, while Meera Jasmine and Daksha Nagarkar deliver impactful performances in significant parts. The film's visual aesthetic is elevated by cinematographer Vedaraman Sankaran, with music by Vivek Sagar perfectly complementing the storytelling.

Produced by TG Vishwa Prasad under the People Media Factory banner, **Swag** boasts high production values, enhancing the film's overall appeal and scale. Overall, the trailer sets high expectations for **Swag**, promising a unique cinematic experience that thoughtfully addresses shifting gender dynamics across time. Audiences are eagerly anticipating the film's release, looking forward to how these themes unfold on screen.