

Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 31° C

L 21° C

VIJAYAWADA

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 33° C

L 24° C

TIRUPATHI

TEMPE RATURE

t°

H 32° C

L 23° C

Political Bombshells to Explode Before Diwali?

- * Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy who made sensational comments
- * No. From 1 to 8 key leaders will come to jail
- * Files are all ready with proper credentials
- * Telangana-wide discussion on Ponguleti's comments



TPN , Hyderabad: Telangana's political landscape is abuzz with excitement and speculation following Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's sensational comments, sparking heated debates and raising questions about the future of several key political figures in the state. Addressing the media, the minister hinted that major political developments are set to unfold before Diwali, potentially leading to a significant shake-up in the

state's political arena. Reddy's remarks have caused a stir as he boldly claimed that "political bombs" are ready to explode and that a group of prominent leaders—numbered from 1 to 8—may find themselves behind bars soon. He further stated that files containing incriminating evidence against these leaders are fully prepared and ready for action. His comments have heightened interest across Telangana, with many wondering about the exact nature of the impending revelations.

Accusations Against Key Leaders

During his media interaction, Reddy specifically mentioned issues like phone tapping, irregularities in the Dharani land record system, and corruption in the Kaleswaram project. He suggested that top political figures involved in these controversies would soon face legal consequences, adding that "even big leaders cannot escape." While the minister refrained from naming specific individuals, it is widely believed that his comments were directed at leaders within the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), colloquially referred to as the "Rose Party."

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KTR Pledges Support for Farmers, Warns Congress of Consequences

- * KTR's Commitment to Farmers' Welfare
- * Critique of Congress Governance
- * Call for Accountability
- * Warning to Officials
- * Concerns About Corporate Interests



TPN , Adilabad: BRS Working President KTR declared that he is prepared to face imprisonment for the welfare of farmers and citizens of Telangana. Speaking at a farmers' dharna in Adilabad district, KTR criticized the Congress party, stating that "the days of strangulation and beating Congress leaders are near." His comments reflect the rising tensions in Telangana politics as the upcoming elections approach.

Critique of Congress Governance KTR recounted his journey from Hyderabad, highlighting traffic chaos attributed to Congress rule.

He shared an incident where the wives of policemen protested against police brutality during a sit-in, underscoring the discontent among citizens under the current governance. He asserted, "If cheating cases are filed, not a single Congress leader will be left." This bold statement aims to rally public sentiment against Congress.

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CM Revanth Reddy Promises Solutions for Employee Issues

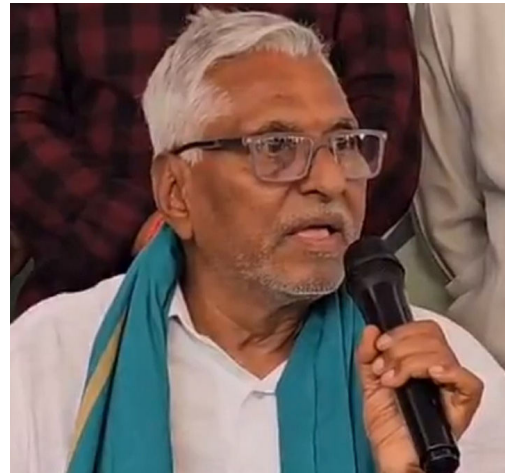
- * Decision on payment of DA by today evening
- * Formation of Cabinet House Committee for solving the problems of employees
- * Formation of committee under Deputy CM Bhatti

TPN , Hyderabad: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has affirmed the government's commitment to resolving employee issues, announcing key measures during a meeting with Joint Action Committee (JAC) representatives at the Command Control Center.

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MLC Jeevan Reddy's Explosive Letter to AICC Chief Sonia Gandhi

- * Unable to digest the quantities happening in the party
- * There is a feeling that those who have joined the party are making demands on the workers
- * The Congress party, which I believed in, is treating me with disrespect
- * Rajiv Gandhi was the only senior leader who fought against defections



TPN , Hyderabad: Reddy Voices His Discontent In a striking letter to AICC Chief Sonia Gandhi, Congress MLC Jeevan Reddy expressed deep distress over the injustices and challenges he faces within the party. Reddy's correspondence reflects his disillusionment, stating, "The Congress party, which I believed in, is treating me with disrespect and shame." He criticized the ongoing developments within the party, noting that new members appear to be making demands on long-standing party workers.

Concerns About Party Conduct

Reddy lamented that the party no longer aligns with the ideals championed by Rahul Gandhi. He expressed concern that the Congress is seemingly rewarding defectors while ignoring the loyalty of long-time members. He condemned a recent meeting held with defecting MLAs at the residence of fellow Congress leader Pocharam Srinivas Reddy, asserting that such actions undermine party unity.

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Singareni Workers to Receive Diwali Bonus of Rs. 358 Crore

- * Compared to last year it is Rs. 50 crores is high
- * Bonus payment of Rs.93,750 per worker
- * Bonus will be deposited in workers' accounts by noon today
- * Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka's revelation

TPN , TELANGANA : In a significant announcement, State Deputy Chief Minister and Revenue and Energy Minister Bhatti Vikramarka revealed that Singareni workers will receive a Diwali bonus totaling Rs. 358 crore. This year's bonus amount

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Singareni Workers to Receive Diwali Bonus of Rs. 358 Crore

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is Rs. 50 crore higher than last year's distribution, highlighting the company's commitment to its workforce. Each worker will receive Rs. 93,750, with the payments expected to be deposited in their accounts by noon today. This bonus is part of the Production Linked Reward Scheme (PLRS), which has been in place for several years to incentivize workers based on production achievements. Approximately 40,000

workers will benefit from this bonus.

This month alone, Singareni has distributed around Rs. 1,250 crore to its employees, including the Diwali bonus. Recently, the company allocated Rs. 796 crore as a 33% profit share, with each worker receiving an average of Rs. 1.90 lakh. Additionally, outsourced staff received Rs. 5,000 each, and another Rs. 90 crore was paid as a festival advance of Rs. 25,000 per worker. This means that Singareni employees

are receiving an average of Rs. 3 lakh each this month. The CMD of Singareni, Mr. N. Balaram, emphasized the importance of managing this bonus wisely. He urged workers not to squander the funds and suggested saving the money in government institutions or spending it thoughtfully to meet family needs. This approach aligns with the government's objective of promoting financial prudence among workers while celebrating the festive season.

Telangana Chit Fund Leaders Urge GST Reduction to 5%



TPN , Telangana : The Telangana Federation of Chit Funds has urged Deputy Chief Minis-

ter Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu to advocate for a reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

on chit fund fees and income from the current 18% to just 5%. Federation leaders met with the Deputy CM at Praja Bhavan on Thursday to discuss their concerns.

They expressed that the high GST rate is driving organized chit fund companies out of business while enabling the rise of private and unauthorized firms. This shift not only increases the risk of fraud but also results in a significant loss of revenue for the government. The federation leaders

emphasized the need for cooperation with the government to apply pressure on the Centre regarding this issue.

Additionally, they reminded the Deputy CM that they have already approached Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to raise this concern in the upcoming GST Council meeting. The delegation included Federation Chairman P. Rajaji, President K. Srinivasa Reddy, Secretary General L. Suman, and Treasurer R. Ramesh, among others.

Union Minister Kishan Reddy Announces MMTS Extension from Ghat Kesar to Yadadri

TPM , Hyderabad : Union Minister Kishan Reddy announced the decision to extend the Multi-Modal Transport System (MMTS) from Ghat Kesar to Yadadri during a press conference at Rail Nilayam following a meeting with Telangana MPs and Railway GM Arun Kumar. He highlighted that 90 percent of the railway lines in the South Central Railway zone have been electrified.



Reddy also revealed plans for a rail manufacturing unit in Warangal, with an investment of ₹650 crore. He noted a significant increase in the South Central Railway budget and mentioned that there are currently 500 trains operating in the region, with more set to be introduced.

The minister provided updates on the ongoing renovation of Secunderabad railway station, stating that the project is underway with an investment of ₹720 crore, expected to be completed by December next year. The extension of MMTS to Yadadri will require ₹650 crore, and Reddy assured that the service will be expanded regardless of cooperation from the Telangana government. Currently, MMTS services operate up to Ghat Kesar.

Telangana Subcommittee to Present Paddy Procurement Report to CM Revanth Reddy



TPN , Hyderabad: Telangana Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced on October 24 that the cabinet subcommittee is prepared to submit its report on paddy procurement to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. This report contains key recommendations related to the Kharif season's procurement and will be discussed at a Cabinet meeting scheduled for October 26.Reddy revealed that the subcommittee's readiness follows a meeting with representatives from the Nizamabad district. Notable attendees included Industries Minister and subcommittee member D. Sridhar Babu, Government Whip Lakshman Kumar, and senior officials like Civil Supplies Principal Secretary D.S. Chauhan.

The cabinet panel, chaired by Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, is tasked with examining various paddy procurement issues, including bank guarantees from millers, milling charges, and the cost of upgrading fine rice for distribution.Inputs indicate that paddy has been cultivated on 60.73 lakh acres, with an estimated production of 146.70 lakh metric tons (LMT). The expected procurement volume is 80 LMT, comprising 30 LMT of coarse paddy and 50 LMT of fine rice.

Additionally, the government will implement an extra benefit of ₹500 per quintal for 'sannarakam' paddy, directly credited to farmers through the finance department's e-Kuber platform.

Thirupatanna Approaches Supreme Court for Bail in Phone Tapping Case

TPN , Telangana : In a significant development, the accused in the phone tapping case, Thirupatanna, has approached the Supreme Court seeking bail. On Thursday, a petition was filed in the Supreme Court, prompting the court to issue a notice to the Telangana government for a counter-response.

The phone tapping scandal has stirred considerable controversy in Telangana, with police officers involved in the case making repeated attempts to secure bail, only to face disappointment each time. Following his arrest, Thirupatanna had initially sought bail from the Telangana High Court, which denied his request and subsequently canceled his bail.



During the Supreme Court hearing, a bench comprising Justice B.V. Nagaratna and Justice N. Koteswar Singh inquired why the High Court had refused bail, especially considering the three-month delay since the filing of the charge sheet. The bench has scheduled the next hearing for October 27.

The High Court had rejected Thirupatanna's bail plea, citing substantial evidence related to the phone tapping. Police officials argued that granting bail at such a critical stage of the investigation could compromise the case. The High Court concurred with this argument and ordered a thorough investigation based on forensic reports, ultimately dismissing Thirupatanna's bail application.

As the legal battle continues, all eyes will be on the upcoming Supreme Court hearing to determine Thirupatanna's fate.

Political Bombshells to Explode Before Diwali?

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This has fueled speculation that major figures from the ruling party could be the targets of these "political bombs." Reddy's warning has led to Telangana-wide discussions, with citizens, political observers, and leaders alike eager to find out who will be implicated.

Political Ramifications Ahead of Elections

Political analysts are predicting that Reddy's comments could have far-reaching consequences, especially with the upcoming local body and Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) elections on the horizon. The anticipation that key leaders may be implicated in major scandals has increased the stakes in the political battle, with many expecting a new wave of allegations to come to light in the coming days.Observers note that these comments may not only disrupt the political status quo but could also impact public trust in leadership. If the allegations come to fruition, it could change the dynamics of upcoming elections and the power balance within Telangana's political landscape.

Public and Political Response

The public is also closely watching these developments, with widespread speculation about who might be the targets of these revelations. Ponguleti's allusions to scandals involving phone tapping, the Dharani land record system, and the Kaleswaram project have intensified curiosity, with political observers believing that the fallout could lead to significant consequences for the leaders involved. Reddy's comments have also created ripples within political circles, with many politicians concerned about the potential impact on their careers and reputations. His statements come at a time when political rivalries are heating up, and the possibility of explosive revelations is causing many to brace for what might come next.Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's bold remarks have injected fresh energy into Telangana politics, creating a climate of uncertainty and anticipation. As the state prepares for Diwali, all eyes are on Reddy's alleged "political bombs" and the files he claims are ready to expose corruption and misconduct among top leaders. With public and political attention now focused on these unfolding events, it remains to be seen how these revelations will shape Telangana's political landscape in the days to come.

As the countdown to Diwali begins, Telangana's political circles are preparing for what could be a game-changing period, with Minister Reddy's comments adding fuel to an already tense political atmosphere.

Political Consequences for Congress

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Call for Accountability

The BRS leader expressed his readiness to spend one or two years in jail to stand up for farmers. He urged farmers and youth to file cases against Congress leaders for failing to honor their promises, including loan waivers under the Rythu Bandhu scheme and job notifications. KTR emphasized that accountability must be demanded from those in power.

Warning to Officials

Addressing concerns over police actions, KTR stated, "No one's power is permanent." He warned officials against overstepping their authority, promising to take action if necessary. He criticized the demolition of houses at Khanapur pond, stating, "Cases should not be filed against the poor."

Concerns About Corporate Interests

In a separate discussion, KTR raised concerns about Adani's interest in Telangana's resources, particularly Singareni. He urged the public to unite under Chief Minister KCR's leadership to protect the state's interests. Highlighting a recent rally in Ramannapet, where thousands opposed Adani's plans for a new cement factory, KTR emphasized the need to safeguard Telangana from external threats. He declared, "KCR is the only power we have to save Telangana from these thieves."

CM Revanth Reddy Promises Solutions for Employee Issues

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The Chief Minister stated that a decision on the payment of Dearness Allowance (DA) for employees will be announced by this evening. He also revealed the formation of a Cabinet House Committee specifically aimed at addressing various employee concerns. Under the leadership of Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, the committee includes Ministers Duddilla Sridhar Babu and Ponnamm Prabhakar as members, with K. Kesha Rao serving as a special invitee. The committee is set to meet after Diwali with representatives from trade unions and various departments.Additionally, a cabinet meeting will review the report submitted by the ministerial sub-committee regarding Government Order 317. General Secretary Shanti Kumari and other senior officials participated in the discussions with JAC representatives, emphasizing the government's proactive stance on employee welfare.

MLC Jeevan Reddy's Explosive Letter to AICC Chief Sonia Gandhi

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Accusations Against MLA Sanjay

The letter also contained sharp criticism directed at Jagitial MLA Sanjay. Reddy questioned Sanjay's commitment to the party, stating, "If the Congress party was born in your house, why did he go to a

foreigner's house?" He accused Sanjay of lacking genuine allegiance to the party, citing a history of disloyalty.

Emotional Toll and Future Aspirations

Jeevan Reddy revealed the emotional toll this situation has taken on him, mentioning sleepless nights and a desire to leave

the party. He expressed loyalty to Congress and a commitment to its values, calling for respect and recognition of the contributions made by dedicated members. Reddy concluded by stating, "Understand my mental state," highlighting the urgency for the party leadership to address the grievances of its workers.

Tammineni Veerabhadram Launches Scathing Attack on BJP and Congress

TPN , Khammam : CPM State Secretary Tammineni Veerabhadram sharply criticized the BJP and Congress during his address at the Muthapuram Mandal Mahasabha in Nelakondapally Mandal. He accused the BJP of fostering divisions between castes and religions and claimed the party has failed to deliver on its promises. He warned that such divisive tactics could lead to the disintegration of the country.

Veerabhadram also targeted the Congress government, stating that it has not fully implemented the loan waiver for farmers and demanding clarity on this issue. He expressed concern over the increasing opposition to Congress, asserting that the party is not fulfilling its commitments due to financial constraints. He called into question whether Congress intends to abolish the Rythu Bandhu scheme.

Additionally, he condemned the demolition of homes in Hyderabad without proper notice, emphasizing that such actions should only be taken after providing adequate housing for the affected families. Veerabhadram also raised alarms about pollution from chemical factories discharging waste into the Musi River, which impacts the livelihoods of around 15,000 families living nearby. He urged that demolitions should not occur until alternative housing is provided for the poor.



Jagadish Reddy Criticizes Revanth Reddy's Government for Neglecting Cotton Farmers

TPN , Suryapet: Former Minister and Suryapet MLA Jagadish Reddy has criticized the Congress government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for neglecting the cotton farmers of Telangana. In a media conference held at the BRS office, Reddy expressed concerns over the absence of clear rules for grain purchases and questioned why the government had not assessed the losses faced by cotton farmers due to recent floods.

Reddy pointed out that while the central government provides support prices for cotton to both Telangana and Gujarat farmers, local farmers are being overlooked. He demanded that both the central and state governments compensate the cotton farmers affected by the rains. He also noted that the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) purchase centers in Telangana have yet to become fully operational.

He criticized the Revanth government for failing to fulfill promises regarding bonuses for paddy grains, claiming it now seeks to limit bonuses to fine grains only. Additionally, he raised concerns about the delays in issuing guidelines for grain distribution to millers and the lack of communication with them regarding custom milling objections. Reddy submitted a petition to Governor Jishnudev Verma, urging immediate discussions to support farmers in distress.

BJP MP Etala Rajender Criticizes Government's Handling of Musi Renaissance



TPN , Hyderabad: BJP MP Etala Rajender has strongly criticized the BRS government regarding its handling of the Musi Renaissance project, accusing BRS leaders of hypocrisy in their response to demolitions related to the initiative.

During a media conference, Rajender claimed that BRS real estate traders sold lands regularized under the Layout Regularization Scheme (LRS) to the poor and are now expressing false concern for them. He questioned Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on how marking would occur without a Detailed Project Report (DPR), expressing frustration at the government's arbitrary actions regarding the Musi River.

Rajender emphasized that while his party supports the cleaning of the Musi, they oppose the mixing of toxic chemicals into the water. He also raised concerns about the lack of cleanliness in Hussain Sagar, asking why it has not been addressed by the previous Chief Minister.

He condemned the government's plans to demolish homes in the name of the Musi project, stating that such actions would not be tolerated. Rajender urged citizens to join the upcoming mahadharna to protest against these government actions, rallying support for those affected by the demolitions.

Former Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy Supports Police Wives in Protest



TPN Telangana : Former Women's Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy expressed her solidarity with the concerns of police wives, highlighting the anguish felt by these women during recent protests. Over the past three days, police constables' wives in Nalgonda, Warangal, Sirisilla, and Ditch Pally have staged demonstrations to voice their distress, alleging that the government has ignored their plight.

Indra Reddy questioned the government's indifference, asking if it truly does not care about the agitation of police constables' wives across various battalions. She emphasized that, in addition to their spouses' police duties, these women are also engaged in labor work, garbage collection, and agricultural tasks, pointing out that it is shameful for the government to neglect their hardships.

She expressed outrage over the treatment of policemen, questioning whether husbands are suspended simply because their wives are protesting. Indra Reddy demanded accountability from the government, criticizing the disparity between promises made, such as the "One Police" slogan advocated by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy before the election, and the current situation. She urged the government to change its approach and address the grievances of the police wives who have taken to the streets.

Bandi Sanjay Opposes Congress Government's Plans for Musi River

TPN , Hyderabad : Union Minister of State Bandi Sanjay has voiced strong opposition to the Congress government's initiatives regarding the Musi River, accusing it of attempting to turn the river into an "ATM." He expressed concerns over the potential demolition of homes belonging to the poor in the catchment area, warning that such actions could lead to unrest.

In a media briefing, Sanjay criticized the previous BRS government for allegedly converting the Kaleshwaram project into an ATM, asserting that the Congress government is now following suit with the Musi River. He argued that demolishing houses in the name of cleansing would not result in peace for the community.

Sanjay condemned the government's decision to take a loan of ₹1.5 crore for the Musi project, calling it an "evil act." He highlighted the state's dire financial condition, stating that ₹60,000 crore has been paid in interest over the past ten months, placing a significant burden on both the state and its residents.

While acknowledging that the Congress government has fulfilled its election promises, including six guarantees, he clarified that the BJP supports the cleanup of the Musi River but opposes the demolition of impoverished residents' homes. Sanjay announced a protest organized by the party, scheduled for tomorrow at Indira Park.



Mahesh Kumar Goud Defends Congress Amid Opposition Criticism

TPN , Telangana : TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud recently defended the Congress party against allegations from opposition leaders, labeling their claims as misleading and unfounded. He asserted that the Congress is fulfilling its promises more effectively than any other party in the country. Goud criticized the BJP and BRS for managing their social media from abroad, complicating local law enforcement's ability to address misinformation.

During his address, Goud accused opposition leaders of spreading false narratives about the Musi and Hydra projects, claiming that the BJP is only aware of issues when they are discussed behind closed



doors. He questioned why there is speculation regarding the costly Kaleshwaram project and argued that both the BJP and BRS essentially share the same agenda.

Goud defended the Metro project, emphasizing that it was built to meet public needs, and expressed confidence that dissenting voices within Congress would soon align with party objectives. He noted that if the Congress party had won 80 seats instead of 63, many current criticisms would likely vanish. Goud reaffirmed the Congress party's commitment to transparency and accountability in governance, dismissing rumors of political instability within the party.

Muslim Leaders Accuse Congress of Betraying Community in Telangana



TPN , Hyderabad: Several Muslim intellectuals and social activists have accused the Congress party of historically targeting the Muslim community and stoking communal tensions,

asserting that this trend is now repeating in Telangana State. During a press conference on Thursday, they declared, "Muslims in Telangana are cheated by the Congress."

The speakers expressed concerns that since the Congress government took power, there has been a deliberate effort to eliminate Muslim leadership and instill fear among community members by orchestrating communal disturbances across the state. SM Abdul Qadeer, president of the Rashtriya Muslim Morcha, emphasized the absence of Muslim representatives in Revanth Reddy's government to advocate for the community's issues.

He accused the Congress government of employing its traditional tactics: inciting communal violence and later seeking votes by pretend-

ing to protect Muslims from communal threats. Citing recent violence in Jainoor, he criticized the police for failing to act despite prior knowledge of potential unrest.

Activists Khalida Parveen and Aleem Khan echoed these sentiments, claiming that the government and police have targeted Muslims, drawing parallels to violence in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh. They called for immediate compensation for victims of the Jainoor violence and accountability for officials who failed to prevent the unrest.



Choreographer Jani Master Granted Bail in POCSO Case



TPN , Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Thursday, October 24, granted interim bail to popular Tollywood choreographer Sheikh Janibasha, also known as Jani Master, who is facing trial under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Jani Master was arrested for allegedly assaulting, raping, and threatening a minor colleague since 2019.

The Cyberabad police arrested the choreographer in Goa on September 19 following a complaint from a 21-year-old female choreographer. She accused Jani Master of repeatedly assaulting and raping her since she was a minor working under his supervision.

The court granted interim bail under strict conditions, including that Jani Master must not interfere with the victim's life or attempt to influence the trial. He is also required to remain available for questioning by the court and investigators whenever needed.

The charges against Jani Master include sexual assault, rape, and criminal intimidation for threatening the victim's life and career if she went public. Following his arrest, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry suspended his National Award for Best Choreography for the song Megham Karukkat from the Dhanush-starrer Thiruchitrambalam. His bail from October 6 to 9 to attend the award ceremony was cancelled after the suspension, leaving him in jail until now.

Real Estate Scam in Hyderabad Owner of Square and Ads Farmhouse Villas Arrested for Rs 24 Crore Fraud

TPN , HYDERABAD : In a significant development, Cyberabad Police have arrested Baira Chandrasekhar, the owner of Square and Ads Farmhouse Villas, along with four accomplices, in connection with a massive real estate fraud. The group is accused of deceiving investors by collecting money for villas in a farmhouse project located on the outskirts of Hyderabad.

The scam came to light when several investors lodged complaints after realizing that their promised villas were never delivered. According to the police, Chandrasekhar and his associates collected a staggering Rs 24 crore from unsuspecting buyers, promising them luxurious farmhouse villas. However, after receiving the money, the accused stopped communicating with the investors and failed to provide any villas.

Authorities have registered a case against the accused, and further investigations are underway. The arrest of Chandrasekhar and his associates highlights the growing concerns over fraudulent practices in the real estate sector, with many investors being duped in similar scams. Cyberabad Police are urging citizens to exercise caution when investing in real estate projects and to verify the legitimacy of the developers before making any payments.

Vintage Cars Exhibition in Secunderabad on Sunday



TPN , Hyderabad: A vintage car and bike exhibition will be held at Imperial Garden, Secunderabad, on Sunday, October 27, from 9 am to 1 pm. Organized by the Hyderabad-based automotive enthusiast group Cars 'n' Coffee, the event will showcase over 125 vintage and classic vehicles, some dating back to 1930, offering a rare glimpse into the evolution of the country's automotive history.

In addition to the vintage car display, the event will feature a community meetup, expected to draw over 1,000 enthusiasts from in and around the city. Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with fellow car lovers and share their passion for automobiles.

The event is open to the public and free of charge, aiming to make the experience accessible to everyone. Founded by a small group of friends, Cars 'n' Coffee has grown into a thriving community of over 2,000 members, united by their shared love for automobiles. This exhibition promises to be an exciting event for both car enthusiasts and the general public alike.

Illegal Buildings Sealed in Hyderabad's LB Nagar Zone

TPN , Hyderabad: In a decisive move, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has sealed six illegal multistoried buildings in the city's LB Nagar Zone. This action comes in response to the recent directives issued by newly appointed GHMC Commissioner K. Ilambarithi, aimed at curbing unauthorized constructions in the city.

Officials from the GHMC's Hayathnagar circle took swift action, sealing four G+4 structures and two G+2 structures that were built without the required permissions. These buildings are located in various areas, including Sagar Complex, BN Reddy Complex, Sripuram Colony, and Sa-



chivalaya Nagar.

To ensure public awareness, the GHMC placed flex banners on each of the sealed

buildings. The banners clearly stated, "This premises is sealed U/S 461(A) of GHMC Act 1995," highlighting the legal action taken under the provisions of the GHMC Act.

The GHMC has made it clear that this is just the beginning of a comprehensive drive against illegal constructions in Hyderabad. An official from the LB Nagar zone confirmed, "Similar drives will continue across our zone to tackle unauthorized buildings."

This move signals GHMC's commitment to enforcing building regulations and maintaining urban planning standards in the city.

31 Women, 4 Transgender Persons Rescued from Street Flesh Trade in Kukatpally



KPHB police, 31 women and 4 transgender persons were rescued from street prostitution on Wednesday night. The operation, supervised by ACP K. Srinivas Rao, focused on curbing street prostitution in areas around Bhagyanagar bus stop, KPHB metro station, and Kukatpally.

Responding to complaints from citizens about increasing prostitution in these areas, four special teams were formed for the crackdown. These teams comprised the ACP, three Inspectors, seven Sub-Inspectors, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors, and 36 police constables.

As a result of the operation, the police caught 31 women and 4 transgender in-

dividuals involved in street prostitution. Four cases were registered at the Kukatpally police station and one at KPHB police station under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.

"The individuals caught were produced before the Tahsildar in Kukatpally for binding them over to ensure good behaviour. After completing the bind-over procedure, they will be released with notices issued under Section 35 of the BNSS Act," said ACP Srinivas Rao. Earlier this month, a similar operation led to 22 individuals being caught. The Cyberabad Police reaffirmed their commitment to strictly enforcing laws against prostitution to ensure public safety.

GHMC Commissioner Mandates Trade License for Firecracker Shops



TPN , Hyderabad: Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner K. Ilambarithi announced that all firecracker-selling shops must obtain a valid trade license before setting up operations. No permission will be granted to open a shop without the required license.

The Commissioner outlined the fees for obtaining a trade license: Rs 11,000 for retail

shops and Rs 66,000 for wholesale shops. Traders can apply for a Temporary Trade Identification Number (TTIN) through the Citizen Service Center or the official GHMC website.

This move aims to regulate the sale of firecrackers, ensuring safety and compliance with legal requirements. The GHMC is urging all traders to adhere to the rules to avoid penalties or closure of their businesses.

Demolition Drive in Rajendranagar Town Planning Staff Remove Shops Occupying Footpaths



TPN , Hyderabad: The town planning staff of Rajendranagar Circle undertook a demolition drive in Maduban Colony, located in the outskirts of Hyderabad, targeting shops that were illegally occupying footpaths on both sides of the road. The municipal town planning offi-

cials acted after receiving complaints from locals about daily pedestrian issues and frequent traffic jams caused by these encroachments.

Approximately 200 shops built on footpaths were removed during the operation. The demolition led to heated arguments between the locals and the authorities. Some residents accused the officials of being selective in their actions, alleging that similar structures in other areas were left untouched. The locals protested, arguing that the sheds set up in front of their houses were being unfairly targeted.

The authorities maintained that the operation was necessary to ensure pedestrian safety and smooth traffic flow, and that they were acting within their legal mandate.

Hyderabad Businessman Scammed of Rs 3.17 Lakh in Fake Loan Scheme

TPN , Hyderabad: A local businessman was swindled out of Rs 3.17 lakh by cyber fraudsters under the guise of securing a loan to expand his business. The scammers contacted him via phone, promising to arrange a Rs 50 lakh loan.

After gaining his trust, the fraudsters requested key documents such as his Aadhaar card, PAN card, and Trade Licence. They then asked the victim to pay various fees, including processing and translation charges, amounting to Rs 3,17,207. Realizing he had been duped, the businessman approached the police, who have registered a case.

Police Advisory:
- In case of fraud: Contact the cybercrime helpline at 1930 or file a complaint at cybercrime.gov.in. For emergencies, call or WhatsApp 8712665171.
- Download apps only from official sources and use authorized websites.
- Obtain loans from RBI-regulated entities to ensure legitimacy.
- Verify lender authenticity by checking their association with NBFCs or authorized banks.
- Never share sensitive personal details like passwords or card information over social media.
- Check website and app credibility, looking out for spelling errors or suspicious links.

The police have urged the public to remain vigilant and follow these guidelines to avoid falling victim to similar scams.



"Cabinet Approves Two Major Rail Projects in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Bihar"

Connectivity to Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Nagpur



TPN , New Delhi: The Union Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved two significant rail projects totaling an estimated cost of ₹6,798 crore, enhancing connectivity in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Bihar.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs greenlit the doubling of the 256 km Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhanga and Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur rail sections in Bihar. Additionally, a new 57 km line will be constructed between

Errupalem and Namburu, passing through Amaravati. These projects are expected to benefit the BJP's allies, the TDP in Andhra Pradesh and the JDU in Bihar.

The doubling of the rail sections will improve connectivity to Nepal, Northeast India, and border areas, facilitating the movement of both passenger and goods trains, thus promoting socio-economic growth in the region. The Errupalem-Amaravati-Namburu line will enhance access to approximately 168 villages

and serve a population of about 12 lakh with nine new stations.

These initiatives will expand the Indian Railways network by approximately 313 km, enhance freight operations with an additional capacity of 31 million tonnes per annum, and contribute to environmental goals by reducing CO2 emissions equivalent to the planting of 7 crore trees. The projects align with the Prime Minister's vision for a self-reliant India and support comprehensive regional development.



"Minority Properties Attacked in Zaheerabad During Temple Protest"

TPN , Hyderabad: Properties belonging to the Muslim community were vandalized during a rally organized by right-wing groups in Zaheerabad, Sangareddy district, on Wednesday, October 23. The protest was in response to the alleged vandalism of the Muthyalamma temple in Secunderabad.

As the rally passed through a Muslim-majority area, some individuals attacked a hotel and a shop,

using sticks and throwing stones at the establishments. Police were present at the scene and intervened to prevent further violence.

In light of the incidents, the Zaheerabad police have registered a case and arrested four individuals involved in the attacks. Protests by right-wing groups are ongoing throughout the state, emphasizing their discontent regarding the temple vandalism incident.



"IAS Officer Amoy Kumar Summoned for Second Day of ED Inquiry Over Land Allotment"

TPN , Hyderabad: IAS officer Amoy Kumar, the former collector and current joint secretary of the animal husbandry department, is set to face questioning by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for the second consecutive day regarding the controversial allotment of Bhudan lands valued at hundreds of crores of rupees.

After an eight-hour interrogation on Wednesday, Amoy will return to the ED office on Thursday as part of an ongoing investigation into the alleged irregularities surrounding 42 acres of land in Nagaram, Maheshwaram Mandal. During his tenure as collector of Rangareddy, officials reportedly created false records and issued patta pass books for government land.

The ED's inquiry is rooted in a police case against Maheshwaram Tehsildar Jyoti and several other officials who allegedly facilitated the transfer of government land to a private company.



"Telangana Health Minister Inaugurates New Primary Health Center in Sangareddy"

TPN , Hyderabad: Telangana Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha inaugurated a new Primary Health Center (PHC) in Sangareddy district on Thursday, October 24.

The facility, located in Daultabad of Hatnoor mandal, was constructed at a cost of ₹1.56 crore. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Telangana Forest and Environment Minister Konda Surekha, Sangareddy Collector Kranthi Valluru, and other notable officials.

Among those present were Telangana Infrastructure Corporation Chairman

Nirmala Jaggareddy, Sangareddy District Medical Officer Dr. Gayathri Devi, and district officials from various government departments. Additionally, Narsapur Constituency In-charge Avula Rajireddy and former MLA Madan Reddy, along with key Congress party workers and mandal leaders, participated in the event.

The establishment of this health center is expected to enhance healthcare access for residents in the area, reinforcing the government's commitment to improving public health infrastructure in Telangana.



"Protests by Families of Police Personnel Widen Across Telangana"

TPN , Hyderabad: Protests by family members of police personnel in Telangana are spreading, with demonstrations recently held in Jogulamba Gadwal and Sircilla, following earlier protests in Nalgonda, Dichpally, Mamannoor, and Sircilla. On Thursday, family members—including wives and children—staged a protest at Erravalli crossroads in Jogulamba Gadwal, blocking the highway and demanding the government address their long-standing issues.

Carrying banners and placards, the protestors criticized the Congress government, alleging that police personnel were being treated like bonded labor and were forced to work long hours without adequate leave. "My husband hardly spends any time at home. In the name of duty, he is being made to stay away from us," stated one wife during the protest.

In response to reports of police women manhandling the protestors, former IPS officer and BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar condemned the actions as "absolutely wrong and reprehensible." He urged the government to reinstate suspended TGSP constables and suggested forming a committee to evaluate the 'Ek Police' system, which aims to provide equal opportunities across all police divisions.

The protests, driven by demands for justice and equality, were sparked by the recent imposition of a new duty cycle for Telangana State Special Police (TSSP) personnel, which has drastically reduced their time off. Former Minister P Sabitha Indra Reddy criticized the government's response, stating it was neglecting the needs of police personnel and their families.

"Contract Teachers in Universities Await Government Decision on Regularization"

TPN , Hyderabad: Contract teachers in Telangana's universities are increasingly frustrated as the Congress government has yet to fulfill its promise of regularizing their services, nearly 10 months into its tenure. Despite assurances made during the assembly elections, there has been no progress on this

critical issue. This year alone, five to six contract teachers have retired without regularization, and another 25 assistant professors are set to retire next year. Without regular status, these educators lack essential benefits, including retirement and death benefits.

"Students Protest Against Congress Govt Over Pending Scholarships in Bhuvanagiri"

TPN : Yadadri Bhuvanagiri: Students in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district are protesting against the Congress government, voicing their grievances over pending scholarships and fee reimbursement. Under the auspices of the Student Federation of India (SFI), inter and degree students besieged the MLA camp office, raising slogans critical of the government.

The demonstrators expressed their frustration over the lack of a dedicated education minister in the state, demanding the immediate release of pending dues. "Will the MLA come from Baithain in front of the camp office? Do you give scholarships?" they chanted, highlighting their dissatisfaction with the government's inaction.

In response to the protest, police arrived at the scene and forcibly removed the students from the area. The protests are part of a broader agitation by student unions across the state, as students continue to press for timely financial support and the fulfillment of their educational entitlements.



Fiscal Trends in India: Navigating Challenges and Opportunities



The Union government's recent growth in direct tax collections has sparked celebrations within the finance ministry. An analysis by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) reveals that the share of direct taxes in India's gross domestic product (GDP) reached a 24-year high of 6.64% for 2023-24, a substantial increase from just 3.25% in 2000-01. Conversely, the share of indirect taxes has declined from 5.62% to 5.11% over the same period. Overall, gross tax collections have risen from 8.8% of GDP in 2000-01 to 11.7% in 2023-24, with direct taxes now constituting 57% of total collections, up from about 36%.

This shift towards a greater reliance on direct taxes, which tend to be more equitable, is a positive development. However, understanding the full fiscal landscape requires examining broader trends beyond just tax collections. Notably, the government has successfully reduced its annual expenditure as a percentage of GDP, dropping from over 18% in 1990-91 to around 15% today. This containment is commendable and reflects the efforts of successive governments, with only temporary spikes during crises.

Despite the decline in overall expenditure, concerns have emerged regarding the quality of government spending. Capital expenditure, which is crucial for infrastructure development, has fallen significantly, hitting a low of 1.67%

of GDP by 2019-20. The post-COVID focus on infrastructure led to a rebound, with capital expenditure increasing to 3.2% of GDP in 2023-24. However, this improvement in capital investment was partially offset by a significant reduction in revenue expenditure, primarily through cuts in subsidies.

The fiscal environment reveals that while gross tax revenues have grown, the net gain for the Centre has not kept pace due to higher devolution of taxes to states. The net tax revenue rose from 6.39% to 7.88% of GDP from 2000-01 to 2023-24. This trend indicates that the Centre may face increasing pressure to meet infrastructure demands while managing a tighter budget.

To navigate these fiscal challenges, the finance ministry should explore non-tax revenue sources and revitalize disinvestment efforts in state-controlled enterprises. Non-tax revenues were only 1.36% of GDP last year, down from a peak of 2.93% in 2001-02. Additionally, disinvestment receipts were a mere 0.17% of GDP last year. Both avenues could bolster the Centre's finances without needing to share proceeds with states.

As the government aims to enhance fiscal responsibility while addressing growing infrastructure and climate transition demands, a multifaceted approach to revenue mobilization will be essential.

Navigating New Alliances: India's Position in the Expanded BRICS



The recent inclusion of Iran in the BRICS bloc has sparked intense speculation about the shifting dynamics of global power. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi engages in discussions with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, there's a palpable interest in fostering strategic cooperation, particularly in the Middle East. Both nations find themselves under scrutiny from the West, presenting a potential opportunity for a united front against Western dominance.

However, the effectiveness of global groupings like BRICS often raises questions about their impact on realpolitik. The West perceives this summit as a demonstration of Russia's growing influence, with headlines like "Putin Gathers Allies" highlighting concerns over a possible counterbalance to Western authority.

Iran's geopolitical strategy is complex, influenced by a mix of sectarian interests and regional tensions, especially given its fraught relations with Israel. Following recent events, Iran's economic struggles, exacerbated by sanctions, have intensified its grievances against the US. During the last BRICS summit, former President Ebrahim Raisi emphasized the significance of Iran's membership as a means to challenge American unilateralism.

While India supports Iran's participation in BRICS, it faces a crucial dilemma: will it align itself with Iran's domestic policies in the name of cooperation? Despite ongoing purchases of Iranian oil, bilateral trade has seen a significant drop, underscoring the complicated economic relationship shaped by geopolitical pressures. Iran aims to enhance its trade with BRICS nations, seeking alternatives to dollar transactions.

India's balancing act becomes even more critical amid ongoing tensions involving Israel and Palestine. Notably, India abstained from a UN General Assembly resolution advocating an end to Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories, setting it apart from other BRICS nations. During Modi's talks with Pezeshkian, India was encouraged to take a more active role in the Middle East peace process, raising questions about the feasibility of such a position.



India's Strategic Balancing Act: Navigating a New World Order

A few years ago, an unnamed foreign minister remarked that global relationships have become increasingly transactional, likening nations to divorced parties rather than united entities. Indeed, India appears to embody this shift, focusing on its own interests rather than traditional alliances. The recent diplomatic engagements between Modi and Putin, alongside Modi's embrace of Biden, illustrate India's unique position of engaging with both allies and adversaries.

The expanded BRICS bloc signifies a challenge to U.S. global leadership, as countries outside American influence grow more assertive. This is evident in India's rapid resolution of patrolling rights with China after the 2020 military stand-off, which occurred just before the BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia.

In this polarized landscape, India finds itself in a remarkable yet unprecedented position. As the world edges toward a bifurcated system reminiscent of the Cold War era, India is adeptly straddling both sides. External Affairs Minister S.

Jaishankar confidently asserts that India can "walk and chew gum at the same time," embodying a newfound ease and assertiveness in its foreign policy.

This transformation is evident in India's recent participation at the UN General Assembly, where it asserted its agenda with confidence. The days of overly earnest diplomacy and subservient messaging towards the U.S. have faded, replaced by a more self-assured approach that reflects India's rising economic stature.

While many attribute this confidence to India's robust economic growth, deeper historical factors are at play. For the last 75 years, nations that have aligned with the U.S. against its adversaries have reaped significant benefits. India has traditionally been sidelined, but now finds itself on the same side as the U.S. in its rivalry with China.

Four pivotal decisions have shaped India's global relevance. Nehru's embrace of socialism and the Non-

Aligned Movement, Indira Gandhi's confrontation during the Bangladesh War, and Vajpayee's nuclear ambitions set the stage for a new decision: Modi's choice to purchase Russian oil amid Western sanctions over Ukraine. This move reflects a pragmatic prioritization of national interest over ideological alignment.

However, India's delicate balancing act may soon be tested. Should a U.S. debt crisis unfold, could India pivot towards BRICS' proposed currency alternatives? Conversely, if China threatens global supply chains, how will India respond within the Quad framework?

In a world where alliances are fluid and ideological commitments waver, India's choices in critical moments will reveal its true priorities. While it may not engage in traditional marriages of alliance, India's long-term commitments could redefine its role in the evolving geopolitical landscape. Successfully maintaining neutrality would represent an unprecedented achievement in the post-World War II era.

The Enduring Appeal of Trump: A Complex Legacy

Donald Trump's journey through American politics is marked by a series of unprecedented controversies. As noted by a recent New York Times analysis, he stands out as the only U.S. president impeached twice, indicted on criminal charges, and convicted of felonies—34 counts in total. By 2016, he was embroiled in 4,095 lawsuits, covering issues from unpaid taxes to fraud. Despite his estimated net worth of \$5.5 billion, Trump has managed to pay less income tax than many Americans, a fact he has boasted about.

Psychological insights offer a lens into Trump's character. Tony Schwartz, who ghostwrote *"The Art of the Deal"*, identifies seven traits associated with antisocial personality disorder, including deceitfulness, impulsivity, and lack of remorse. Schwartz argues that Trump exemplifies these traits, particularly the last, which permits him to act without guilt.

Trump's history of alleged sexual misconduct involves numerous accusations from multiple women. His brash comments about women and history of infidelity have only added to his controversial image. Notably, some military leaders have labeled him a "fascist" and a "dangerous man." His calls for violent crackdowns on dissent reflect a troubling embrace of authoritarian rhetoric.



Despite these red flags, Trump's 2024 campaign thrives on a blend of populism and spectacle. His rallies have evolved into performances where he claims to be a savior while launching vitriolic attacks. His provocative remarks about migrants and anti-democratic sentiments resonate with certain voter segments, helping him regain poll support even after past controversies.

To understand Trump's rise, we must consider historical grievances. Many Americans feel left behind, particularly in the wake of economic shifts since the signing of NAFTA in 1993. As manufacturing jobs disappeared, individuals like Chancy Adams faced job losses and economic uncertainty. Trump's narrative taps into their anger and blame, framing himself as a champion for those who feel marginalized.

Trump's appeal also draws from

cultural anxieties. White, non-college-educated men often react strongly to perceived status threats, feeling overshadowed in a changing society. This demographic's resentment towards minorities and immigrants is harnessed by Trump, who portrays them as scapegoats for various societal issues.

Historian Richard Slotkin highlights that Trump's rhetoric aligns with key American myths, such as the 'Myth of the Frontier' and the 'Lost Cause.' These narratives resonate deeply, promoting a vision of America that champions racial exclusivity and traditional values.

As Trump faces multiple legal challenges, he remains defiant, claiming that the American electorate will ultimately decide his fate. The upcoming elections will reveal whether voters prioritize character or are swayed by his populist allure.



Mamata Banerjee to monitor cyclone Dana landfall from Bengal secretariat

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced on Thursday that she would remain at Nabanna, the state secretariat, throughout the night to oversee preparations for the approaching Cyclone Dana. Emphasizing the importance of vigilance, she urged residents to take necessary precautions and cooperate with local authorities.

"I will stay in Nabanna tonight until Cyclone Dana makes landfall," Banerjee stated, expressing her commitment to personally monitor the situation as it develops.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for ten districts in both Odisha and West Bengal, as the cyclone approaches the coast at a speed of 12 km per hour. The storm is expected to make landfall on Thursday night, raising concerns among local residents.

During a press briefing, Banerjee revealed that nearly 160,000 individuals have been evacuated from flood-prone areas throughout the state, with 83,537 relocated to 851 relief camps. She assured that emergency helplines are available 24/7, and officials have been deployed at district and block levels to closely monitor the storm's progress.

The Chief Minister provided emergency contact numbers for those needing assistance: 033-22143526 and 033-22141070. She cautioned the public against spreading misinformation, urging them to remain calm and avoid falling for false information. "Do not panic and be careful. There's a lot of misinformation circulating. Don't be provoked or misled," she advised.

PM greenlights Two new Railway Projects For AP And Telangana

The Narendra Modi government has given the green light to two significant railway projects aimed at enhancing connectivity in eight districts across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Bihar. Among the projects is a new railway line connecting Amravati—the proposed new capital of Andhra Pradesh—with a substantial investment of ₹2,245 crore. Both projects are expected to be completed within five years.

According to an official release from the Press Information Bureau (PIB), the new railway line will provide connectivity to approximately 168 villages, benefiting a population of around 12 lakh. It will feature nine new stations, significantly improving mobility in the region. Additionally, a multi-tracking project is set to enhance connectivity to two 'aspirational districts,' Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur, which together serve about 388 villages with a cumulative population of nine lakh.

The details of the two approved projects include:

Doubling of the Narkatiaganj-Raxaul-Sitamarhi-Darbhangha and Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Sections*: This



project spans a total of 256 km and aims to strengthen connectivity with Nepal, northeastern India, and border areas.

Construction of a New Line Between Errupalem and Namburu**: This 57 km railway line will pass through NTR Vijayawada and Guntur districts of Andhra Pradesh, as well as Khammam district in Telangana. The new route will provide direct access to Amravati, enhancing mobility for local industries and the population.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs noted that these initiatives are expected to deliver a crucial infra-

structural boost to one of Indian Railways' busiest sections. By alleviating operational congestion, the projects aim to enhance the overall efficiency of railway services in the region.

Furthermore, officials estimate that the projects will generate approximately 106 lakh human-days of direct employment, contributing to local economies and improving livelihoods.

In summary, these railway initiatives reflect the Modi government's commitment to infrastructure development, enhancing regional connectivity, and fostering economic growth in key areas of India.



SP govt provided jobs for money, not merit: CM Yogi

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath criticized the previous Samajwadi Party (SP) government on October 24, claiming that job placements prior to 2017 were determined by influence and financial power rather than merit. He highlighted that many qualified candidates were overlooked during the SP's tenure due to a lack of connections or resources.

"Before 2017, jobs were granted based on influence and money, not merit. Many capable candidates were unable to secure positions because their families didn't have the financial resources or connections," Adityanath stated at an event where he distributed appointment letters to newly recruited individuals.

The Chief Minister emphasized the changes that have taken place under his administration, asserting that there has been no discrimination in the selection process since his government took office. He noted, "In the last seven years, recruitments for government, private sector, and contractual jobs have been conducted with complete transparency and integrity. This approach has contributed significantly to Uttar Pradesh's rapid growth in various sectors."

During the event, appointment letters were handed out to 1,950 newly selected youths, which included 1,526 Gram Panchayat Officers, 360 Gram Vikas Officers (Social Welfare), and 64 Social Welfare Supervisors, all selected by the UP Subordinate Services Selection Commission.

Adityanath expressed optimism about the future, suggesting that consistent fairness and transparency in appointments would position Uttar Pradesh as a leading economy in India. He envisions that by 2047, India will achieve development and self-reliance.

Home Minister Amit Shah assures CM Omar Abdullah statehood for J&K soon

The Union government is poised to initiate the process of restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, five years after the region was divided into two Union Territories—Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. This development follows a recent meeting between Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah in Delhi.

During the meeting, which lasted approximately half an hour, Shah assured Abdullah of the central government's full support for the newly elected administration. According to NDTV sources, the atmosphere of the discussion was cordial, and Shah confirmed the intention to begin the restoration process for statehood.

In the first cabinet meeting held last week, Abdullah's government passed a resolution calling for the restoration of statehood. This resolution underscores the government's commitment to protecting the identity



and constitutional rights of the people in Jammu and Kashmir.

Following his meeting with Shah, Abdullah is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday to present the resolution directly. This move reflects the administration's determination to advocate for the rights and interests of the region's residents.

The call for restoring statehood gained momentum after the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019, which led to Jammu and Kashmir's transition to Union Territory status. The recent elections for the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, held in three phases from September 18 to October 1, culminated in the formation of a government led by the National Conference-Congress alliance.

Sri Lanka Navy Detains 16 Tamil Fishermen; MK Stalin Calls for Diplomatic Action

Sixteen fishermen from Rameswaram have been arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy for allegedly crossing into Sri Lankan waters, sparking calls for their immediate release. The fishermen, part of a larger group of 400 who set out from the Rameswaram fishing port, were apprehended while anchored between Katchatheevu and Neduntheevu islands. Their boats, owned by two individuals, Mahendran and Ramasundaram, were seized and taken to Mayilatti Fishing Port, where they were handed over to the Jaffna Fisheries Department.

The incident has intensified existing tensions between Indian fishermen and the Sri Lankan Navy, which has faced accusations of aggressive behavior toward their Indian counterparts. In recent weeks, fishermen from Rameswaram had staged a month-long strike to protest escalating incidents, including arrests, boat seizures, and violent confrontations.

In light of these developments, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin



has reached out to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, urging immediate diplomatic intervention to secure the release of the detained fishermen. Stalin highlighted the rising number of detentions by the Sri Lankan Navy, emphasizing the emotional and economic distress this causes for the fishermen's families. He has called on the central government to take swift action to prevent further arrests and to facilitate the release of 128 Indian fisher-

men and 199 boats currently held by Sri Lanka.

Families of the detained fishermen have expressed growing concern over their well-being and the potential impact on their livelihoods, particularly as the festive season of Diwali approaches. They are calling for the immediate return of their loved ones, underscoring the precarious nature of their fishing livelihoods amid ongoing tensions.

Uttar Pradesh bypolls: BSP announces candidates for eight seats

Lucknow: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has officially announced its candidates for eight of the nine assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh that will be contested in the bypolls scheduled for November 13. Under the leadership of Mayawati, the BSP is aiming to strengthen its position in the state with a strategic lineup of candidates.

Among the candidates, Amit Verma has been selected to represent the party in the Katehari constituency, which is part of Ambedkar Nagar. The BSP's decision to field Verma reflects its strategy to capitalize on local issues and grassroots support in the region.

The assembly bypolls present a crucial opportunity for the BSP to regain ground in Uttar Pradesh, where it has faced challenges in recent elections. Mayawati's party, historically a key player in the state's politics, is focusing on re-establishing its presence by nominating candidates who have strong local connections and can resonate with the electorate.

The remaining constituencies where the BSP has announced candidates include prominent seats where the party previously held influence. The BSP is expected to leverage its core voter base, primarily from the Scheduled Castes and other marginalized communities, to garner support in these elections.

Political analysts are closely watching the BSP's performance in the bypolls, as they could serve as an indicator of the party's resurgence in Uttar Pradesh. With the political landscape evolving rapidly, the BSP aims to present a united front against its rivals, primarily the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Samajwadi Party (SP).

Xi-Modi breakthrough followed months of pressure by Indian CEOs

In the wake of a deadly border clash in 2020 that resulted in the loss of at least 20 Indian soldiers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi implemented a series of stringent measures aimed at curbing Chinese investments in India. These actions were part of a broader strategy to counter perceived threats from China, and, in many respects, Modi's approach has gone further than that of the United States in certain areas.

Initially, these restrictions were welcomed as a necessary response to security concerns. The Indian government swiftly moved to scrutinize and block foreign direct investments from Chinese firms, citing national security as a primary justification. This included tightening regulations for investments in sectors deemed sensitive, such as technology and telecommunications.

However, recent developments have prompted a reassessment of this hardline stance. With the global economic landscape rapidly evolving and the need for foreign investments becoming increasingly critical for India's growth, there is now a growing recognition in New Delhi that the blanket



ban on Chinese investments may be overly restrictive. As the world shifts toward greater economic collaboration, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Indian government faces mounting pressure to strike a balance between security and economic necessity.

Critics argue that while safeguarding na-

tional interests is crucial, an outright ban on Chinese investments could hinder India's potential for economic growth and technological advancement. They emphasize the importance of fostering an open and competitive market that attracts diverse foreign investments, which can ultimately contribute to job creation and innovation.



S Jaishankar Pushes For India Seat At UN Body

At the 16th BRICS Summit held in Kazan, Russia, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar made a compelling case for India's permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). He stressed the need for reforming established institutions to foster a more equitable global order, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assertion that this is not an era of war, and that international disputes should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy.

Dr. Jaishankar highlighted that the BRICS alliance signifies a profound shift in the global order, while also acknowledging that many historical inequities persist. He pointed out that access to developmental resources and modern technology remains uneven, exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing conflicts that disproportionately affect the Global South. "Concerns of health, food, and fuel security are particularly acute," he noted.

To address these challenges, Dr. Jaishankar outlined several key strategies. First, he called for strengthening independent platforms that provide alternatives to existing mechanisms, reducing reliance on those that can be manipulated. He emphasized that BRICS can play a vital role in supporting the Global South.

Second, he reiterated the necessity of reforming the UNSC and multilateral development banks, which he described as outdated. India's push for a permanent seat on the UNSC has garnered support from major powers, including the US, UK, and France.

Furthermore, Dr. Jaishankar advocated for democratizing the global economy by establishing more production hubs to create resilient supply chains. He urged the need to address historical distortions in global infrastructure, advocating for connectivity that respects territorial integrity and sovereignty.

He also discussed various initiatives like the International Solar Alliance and the Global Biofuel Alliance, aimed at fostering cooperation on shared interests. In light of the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine, he reaffirmed India's stance that disputes should be settled through dialogue, respecting international law, and maintaining zero tolerance for terrorism.



Germany Seeks Strategic Partnership with India Amidst China Concerns

Germany is aiming to strengthen its economic and geopolitical ties with India as relations with China worsen. Chancellor Olaf Scholz is set to embark on a three-day visit to India, accompanied by a significant delegation of ministers and business leaders, to establish a strategic partnership with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The two leaders will meet on Friday and co-chair a joint cabinet meeting.

This visit comes at a critical juncture for Scholz, who is working to revitalize the German economy, which has faced challenges due to the war in Ukraine and increasing competition from China. Modi recently returned from the BRICS summit in Russia, where he met with President Vladimir Putin, and India has just signed a border agreement with China to reduce tensions following a prolonged standoff.

One of the key issues on the agenda is India's plan to acquire six new submarines to enhance its naval capabilities against

China's expanding presence in the Indo-Pacific. Germany's Thyssenkrupp AG is vying for this lucrative contract worth approximately \$4.8 billion. However, German officials have not confirmed if a decision will be reached during the visit.

Germany has been encouraging its companies to diversify their reliance on Chinese trade, positioning India, as the world's fifth-largest economy, as a potential alternative. Yet, India's close ties with Russia and its recent resolution of a border dispute with China suggest it may not fully align with Germany's strategic goals.

Currently, Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe, with bilateral trade reaching \$22 billion in 2020-21. Scholz is expected to address challenges that German small and medium-sized enterprises face in India, as many cite bureaucratic hurdles as significant obstacles to operating there.

Hezbollah Confirms Death of Key Leader Hashem Safieddine in Israeli Airstrike

Hezbollah has confirmed the death of Hashem Safieddine, a significant figure within the organization and cousin of former chief Hassan Nasrallah, who was killed in an Israeli airstrike nearly three weeks ago. The Israeli military reported that Safieddine was targeted in a strike on the southern suburbs of Beirut.

In a statement mourning his loss, Hezbollah hailed Safieddine as a "great leader and martyr" who lived an "honorable life." Although the organization did not formally name him as a leader, he had been serving as the head of the group's executive council and was viewed as a potential successor to Nasrallah.

Following Nasrallah's death, Safieddine had taken on a more prominent leadership role within Hezbollah and was expected to be officially elected as the next secretary general, although no such announcement had been made prior to his passing. The Israeli airstrikes on October 4 targeted locations near Beirut's airport, leading to the loss of contact with Safied-



dine, who was reported to be the intended target. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) confirmed that Safieddine was killed alongside Ali Hussein Hazima, identified as the commander of Hezbollah's Intelligence Headquarters. The IDF accused Safieddine of orchestrating "terrorist attacks against the State of Israel" for years and noted his involvement in the group's central decision-making processes. In 2017, both the US and Saudi Arabia labeled him a "global terrorist." Having completed religious studies in Iran, Safieddine had close ties to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, with family connections to General Qasem Soleimani, who was killed in a 2020 US airstrike in Iraq.



Middle East On Verge Of Full-Scale War: Russian President Putin

At a recent BRICS summit in Kazan, Russian President Vladimir Putin issued a stark warning about the escalating tensions in the Middle East, stating that the region is on the brink of full-scale war. Speaking to a gathering of global leaders, Putin highlighted how the military actions that began in Gaza a year ago have now spread to Lebanon and are affecting neighboring countries.

"The level of confrontation between Israel and Iran has sharply risen," Putin noted, describing the current situation as reminiscent of a "chain reaction" that threatens to engulf the entire region. His comments come amid ongoing violence and unrest, which he believes will only worsen if not addressed properly.

Putin emphasized that lasting peace in the Middle East hinges on the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. He asserted that the key to restoring peace and stability in Palestinian territories lies in implementing the two-state solution, which has been endorsed by both the UN Security Council and General Assembly.

"Until this question is resolved, it will not be possible to break the vicious circle of violence," he stated, underscoring the urgency of addressing what he described as a historical injustice toward the Palestinian people. The Russian president's remarks resonate strongly in light of the recent escalations in conflict and the broader implications for regional stability.

The summit was also attended by Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, who has been an advocate for the two-state solution. Putin's call for a renewed focus on diplomatic efforts reflects a growing concern among world leaders about the potential for wider conflict in the Middle East.

Canada MPs Call For Justin Trudeau's Resignation



Internal dissent within the Liberal Party of Canada has escalated, with calls for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's resignation as Liberal leader becoming more vocal during a recent caucus meeting on Parliament Hill. This gathering provided a platform for dissatisfied MPs to directly express their grievances to Trudeau, reflecting the growing unease among party members.

Reports indicate that Trudeau is facing mounting pressure, with a group of dissident Liberal MPs issuing an ultimatum for him to clarify his future by October 28. During the closed-door meeting, a document advocating for Trudeau's resignation was presented, although it did not outline any specific repercussions should he fail to act on the demand. Notably, 24 MPs have reportedly signed a petition urging Trudeau to step down.

British Columbia MP Patrick Weiler took the floor to present the resignation argument, drawing parallels to the Democratic Party's resurgence in the U.S. following President Joe Biden's decision not to seek re-election. Over the course of the three-hour meeting, which allowed each MP two minutes to speak, approximately 20 members—none from the cabinet—urged Trudeau to consider stepping aside ahead of the next election. However, there were also voices of support for the prime minister from other MPs.

Immigration Minister Marc Miller acknowledged the frustrations among some Liberal MPs, emphasizing the importance of open dialogue and respect for those who voiced concerns directly to Trudeau. "This isn't a code red situation. The prime minister can handle the truth," he remarked.

The political tension in Canada has been exacerbated by escalating diplomatic issues between India and Canada. The rift was sparked by Trudeau's allegations in Parliament last year that India was involved in the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. India has vehemently denied these claims, labeling them "absurd" and accusing Canada of providing a safe haven for extremist elements.

Markets End Flat Amid Global Uncertainty; FMCG, Auto, and Realty Drag Indices, Bank Stocks Show Resilience”



Stock markets rose for the fourth consecutive session. Thursday ended with moderate losses. Negative sentiment coupled with negative signals from Asian and European markets is hurting investor confidence. They are dealing with rapidly changing geopolitical equations and US elections approaching. Not aggressively buying. Nifty 36 and Sensex ended flat with a loss of 16 points, analysts expect a turnaround. Bank and finance shares are gradually recovering. NSE market breadth is favorable to sellers. 1740 stocks lost and 1032 stocks declined.

The BSE Sensex, which closed at 80,081 in the previous session, opened at 80,098 today. 80,259 reached the maximum. It soon touched an intraday low of 79,813. After that it recovered a bit but did not reach the maximum level. It eventually closed at 80,065, a loss of 16 points. The NSE Nifty opened at 24,412 and touched a high of 24,480 and a low of 24,341. The total fell by 36 points to close at 24,399. Bank Nifty jumped 292 points to settle at 51,531.

In Nifty, 26 companies gained while 24 lost. Ultratech Sem, Shriram Finance, M&M, Titan, Grasim were the top gainers. Hindustan Unilever, SBI Life, Hindalco, Nestlé India and Bajaj Auto were the biggest losers. Today FMCG, Auto, Realty and Metal indices turned red. Bank, Finance, PSU Bank and Pharma indices soared.

Nifty support is at 24,350 and resistance is at 24,500. Investors can buy shares of Hindustan Zinc, ICICI Prudential, Piramal Pharma, Aster DM and Bank of Baroda in the short term.

Godrej Consumer Q2 Results are out. The company's net profit jumped 13% to Rs 491 crore. The income was recorded at Rs.3,647 crore. Food aggregator Swiggy has cut its IPO valuation to \$12.5 billion from \$13.6 billion. Westlife Foodworld's profit down 98%. CSB Bank's profit was flat at Rs 138 crore. Harley-Davidson cuts 2024 revenue forecast Ujjevan Small Finance Bank's net profit was 29% at Rs 233 crore. The rupee settled flat at 84.07 against the dollar. IndusInd Bank's non-tax income is Rs.1325 crore and net interest income is Rs.5347 crore. Shares of Adani Total Gas jumped 8%. Crude oil prices rose 1% on supply woes. LT Foods' revenue rose 6.6% to Rs 2108 crore. Profit was down 4.9%. Adani Wilmar posted a net profit of Rs 311 crore against a loss of Rs 131 crore. Shares of Paytm rallied 11% within the week.

Hindustan Zinc (HINDZINC):

Hindustan Zinc is trading under pressure due to weakness in metal stocks and fluctuations in global commodity prices. The stock has key support around ₹530 levels, while resistance lies near ₹550. Global metal prices and demand from China could influence the movement. If the stock holds the support level, expect a short-term rebound. Otherwise, it may continue its downtrend.



ICICI Prudential (ICICIPRU):



The stock has shown stability, benefitting from strength in insurance and financial sectors. Strong support around ₹750, resistance at ₹780. With improving growth prospects in the insurance sector and favorable market conditions, ICICI Prudential could see a steady upward trend. Short-term buying opportunities are possible if the market remains positive.

Piramal Pharma (PIRAMALPHARMA):

Piramal Pharma has been experiencing volatility. Pharma stocks are seeing some pressure but also potential recovery due to healthcare sector developments. The stock is seeing support near ₹240, with resistance around ₹260. Investors could consider entering if it consolidates near support levels, particularly if market sentiment for pharma improves.



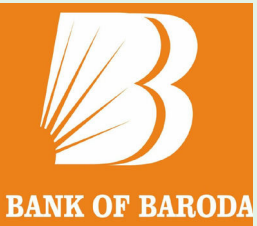
Aster DM Healthcare (ASTERDM):



Aster DM has been relatively stable with slight upside potential due to its healthcare business. The stock holds support around ₹430 and faces resistance near ₹460. Positive for the healthcare sector and any announcements related to earnings or expansion could drive upside momentum. A sustained break above ₹460 could see further upward movement.

Bank of Baroda (BANKBARODA):

Bank of Baroda has shown strength in the financial sector, driven by robust earnings and strong banking sector performance. Key support at ₹235, resistance at ₹250. The stock has positive momentum, with continued buying interest expected. It may continue its upward trajectory if it holds above ₹250.



Rapid decline in cash transactions as digital payments surge: RBI economist

In a significant shift towards digitalization, a recent paper by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) economist Pradip Bhuyan reveals that cash usage in India is rapidly declining, despite still accounting for 60 percent of consumer expenditure as of March 2024. The study highlights a remarkable surge in digital transactions, with the share of digital payments more than doubling from 14-19 percent in March 2021 to 40-48 percent in March 2024, primarily driven by the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

The paper elaborates on the definitions of cash in circulation (CIC) and currency with the public (CWP), noting that CWP comprises approximately 95-97 percent of CIC, representing the total notes and coins circulating in the economy minus cash held by banks.

Significant growth has been observed in retail digital payments (RDP), which exclude payments made through re-



al-time gross settlement. Since its launch in 2016, UPI has dominated RDP in volume over the past five years. The growth in UPI transactions has outpaced the increase in transaction value, with the average size of UPI transactions decreasing from ₹1,838 in 2020-21 to ₹1,525 in 2023-24.

The report also highlights a notable rise in person-to-merchant (P2M) payments, which grew from 16.6 percent to 26.2 percent in value and from 45.2

percent to 61.7 percent in volume between April 2021 and March 2024. Over this period, P2M payments saw a nearly six-fold increase in volume and over five-fold growth in value, significantly outpacing person-to-person (P2P) payments.

UPI transactions have shown extraordinary growth, with the volume surging by 52 percent to 78.97 billion in the first half of 2024, compared to 51.9 billion during the same period last year. The value of these transactions also saw a substantial increase, rising by 40 percent from ₹83.16 lakh crore to ₹116.63 lakh crore in the first six months of this year.

This rapid transition towards digital payments suggests a transformative change in India's financial landscape, indicating a future where cash transactions may become increasingly rare.

Reliance Infra to set up Rs 10,000 crore arms, ammunition project

Reliance Infrastructure Ltd, part of the Anil Ambani group, has announced an ambitious plan to establish an integrated project for the manufacturing of explosives, ammunition, and small arms in Maharashtra. The company will invest over ₹10,000 crore over the next decade in this venture, signaling a significant commitment to the defense sector.

The project will be developed on a sprawling 1,000 acres of land located in the Watad Industrial Area of Ratnagiri. The facility, named Dhirubhai Ambani Defence City (DADC), is set to become the largest greenfield defense project in India undertaken by a private sector company. This initiative not only aims to enhance India's defense capabilities but also to contribute to the local economy by creating jobs and fostering technological advancements.

Reliance Infrastructure has a track record in the defense industry, having exported defense equipment worth more than ₹1,000 crore through its subsidiaries over time. The establishment of DADC is expected to further bolster the company's position in the defense market, as it aligns with the Indian government's push for self-reliance in defense manufacturing.

The announcement highlights Reliance Infrastructure's strategic move into a sector that is increasingly critical for national security and economic development. By investing in local manufacturing, the company aims to reduce reliance on imports and support India's defense modernization efforts.

With the growing emphasis on indigenous defense production, the DADC project is poised to play a crucial role in strengthening India's defense in-



frastructure. This development comes at a time when the country is actively seeking to enhance its manufacturing capabilities and support the 'Make in India' initiative.

As Reliance Infrastructure embarks on this substantial investment, it is likely to attract attention from global defense companies looking to collaborate and contribute to this burgeoning sector in India. The DADC project represents a significant step towards achieving greater autonomy in defense manufacturing and reinforcing the country's strategic capabilities.

Adani Total Gas Reports 7.5% Rise in Q2 Profit Amid Gas Allocation Cuts

Adani Total Gas has announced a consolidated net profit of ₹186 crore for the quarter ending September 30, 2024, reflecting a 7.5% increase from ₹173 crore in the same period last year. The company's revenue from operations also saw a significant rise, climbing 12% to ₹1,318 crore in Q2 FY25, compared to ₹1,179 crore in Q2 FY24. On October 24, shares of Adani Total Gas were trading at ₹757.55 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), marking an 8% increase in value at 3:10 PM. The company reported an EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization) of ₹313 crore for the quarter, which is an 8% year-on-year increase. However, the firm is navigating challenges following the recent government decision to reduce the allocation of cheaper gas for city gas distribution (CGD) players. On October 17, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG) announced a 20% cut in the allocation of administered price mechanism (APM) gas for compressed natural gas (CNG) to CGD companies.

Suresh P. Manglani, Executive Director and CEO of Adani Total Gas, addressed the situation, stating, "Following the recent reduction in APM gas allocation, which caters to auto CNG and home PNG consumers, we are closely monitoring the situation. Given our diversified gas sourcing portfolio, we will ensure a calibrated pricing approach to balance the interest of our consumers."

In Q2, Adani Total Gas expanded its network, increasing the number of CNG stations to 577 by adding 18 new stations during the quarter. The total sales volume for the company reached 242 million metric tonnes (MMT) in Q2, representing a 15% year-on-year growth. CNG volumes stood at 162 MMT, while PNG volumes accounted for 80 MMT.

This robust performance, despite regulatory challenges, underscores Adani Total Gas's commitment to growth and adaptability in the evolving energy market.



Surge in Piracy in India The Economic Impact and Industry Response

India's piracy economy has reached a staggering ₹224 billion in 2023, according to a report by EY and the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). Titled 'The Rob Report', the study reveals that ₹137 billion originated from pirated movie theater content, while ₹87 billion came from unauthorized OTT platform content. This alarming rise in piracy poses significant challenges for the Media and Entertainment industry.

Trends in Piracy and Viewer Preferences

The increasing appetite for pirated content among Indian consumers is evident, with individuals averaging nine hours per week on pirated media. Streaming platforms are the primary source of illegal content, accounting for 63% of piracy, followed by mobile apps at 16%. Torrent sites and social media platforms contribute to the remaining 21%. Notably, 51% of Indian media consumers utilize pirated sources, with 76% of this demographic being between 19 and 34 years old. Consumer preferences reveal distinct trends: men tend to gravitate toward older films, while women show a preference for OTT content. Hindi and English dominate the piracy landscape, making up 40% and 31% of pirated material, respectively.

Several factors drive this trend, including high subscription fees, the inconvenience of managing multiple accounts, and the lack of availability for specific content online. Many consumers also avoid the cost of movie tickets or subscriptions to legal OTT services.

Industry Concerns and Calls for Action

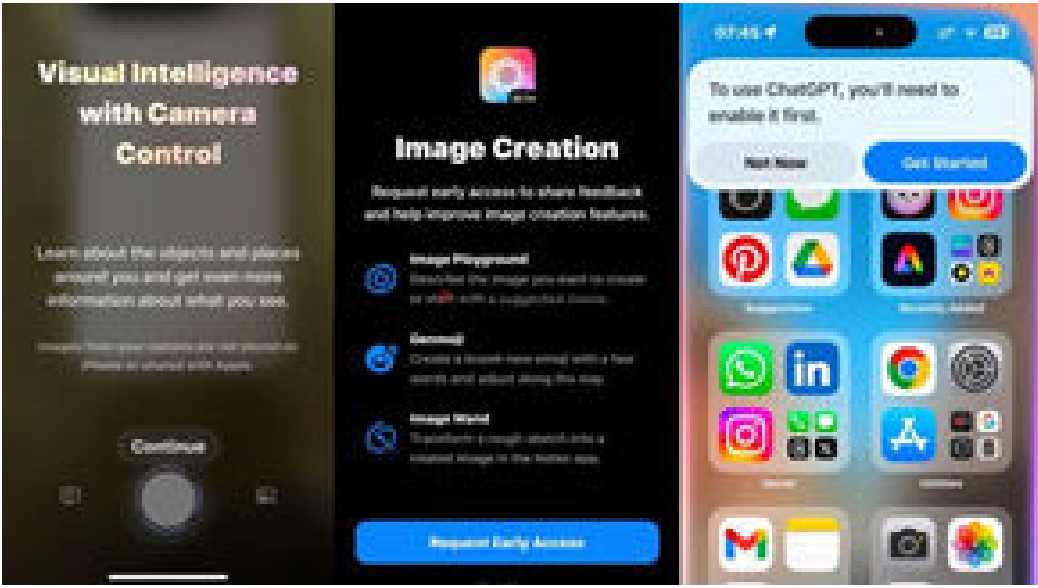
Industry leaders express urgent concern over the impact of piracy on the entertainment sector. Rohit Jain, Chairman of the Digital Entertainment Committee at IAMA, emphasized that piracy undermines the industry's potential for growth, which is projected to reach ₹146 crores. Mukul Shrivastava, Partner at EY Forensic and Integrity Services, called for enhanced enforcement measures and technological solutions to combat piracy, urging industry stakeholders to collaborate in this fight. Additionally, the consumption of pirated content is notably high in Tier II cities, where income disparities and limited access to authorized content exacerbate the issue. As the industry grapples with these challenges, concerted efforts will be essential to curtail piracy and safeguard the future of India's entertainment landscape.

Apple Unveils Apple Intelligence with ChatGPT Integration

On Thursday, Apple announced the rollout of a beta version of its latest software, showcasing new capabilities under the banner of Apple Intelligence. Among the most anticipated features is the integration of ChatGPT, which has garnered significant attention. However, it's important to note that this is currently a developer preview and not yet available for public release.

Apple Intelligence has been in testing for several months, and the company is expected to launch the first set of features to the public soon, potentially as early as next week with the release of iOS 18.1. This upcoming version promises to introduce a variety of innovative tools that leverage generative artificial intelligence, reflecting the advancements Apple has been working on since its annual developer conference earlier this year.

The beta version includes several exciting features, such as Genmoji, Image Playground, and Visual Intelligence with Camera Control. Genmoji and Image Playground are particularly noteworthy, allowing users to generate images directly on their devices. This functionality enables users to create unique visuals and easily share them with friends via Messages, enhancing communication through creative expression.



Additionally, the integration with OpenAI's ChatGPT aims to enhance user interactions, offering intelligent responses and improving overall user experience. This move aligns with Apple's commitment to incorporating cutting-edge technology into its products, ensuring they remain competitive in the rapidly evolving tech landscape.

In a recent statement, Apple's senior vice president, Craig Federighi, addressed the delays in the rollout of Apple Intelligence features, emphasizing the company's dedication to delivering a polished and reliable product. As the tech community eagerly awaits the public release, developers are encouraged to explore the beta version and provide feedback to help refine the features.

With Apple Intelligence on the horizon, the anticipation for its capabilities continues to grow, promising to redefine user experiences across Apple's ecosystem.

Zomato, Swiggy Face Backlash After Raising Platform Fee To Rs 10

Food lovers across the country are expressing their frustration after Zomato and Swiggy announced an increase in their platform fee to ₹10 per order during the festive season. As the two leading food delivery apps look to capitalize on the surge in orders that typically accompanies this time of year, the decision has sparked considerable backlash among consumers.



Zomato, which initially introduced the platform fee in August 2023 at ₹2 per order, had already raised it to ₹4 by January 2024. Now, the fee stands at ₹10, which applies to all users, including Gold members. This fee is in addition to the existing delivery charges, further inflating the cost of ordering food through the platform.

The announcement has led to a wave of outrage on social media, particularly on X, where users have criticized the growing expenses associated with food delivery. Many have highlighted how the costs have escalated, making it increasingly unsustainable to order in. One user lamented, "Food ordering started with free delivery, now GST, delivery and packing charges, platform fee."

Others echoed similar sentiments, calling

for a boycott of these services. User Snehil stated, "I strongly feel that it is the right time to say goodbye to Zomato, Swiggy, Flipkart, Blinkit, and similar frauds as it has become common for them to loot customers in the name of platform fees and handling charges."

Aditya Shah added to the chorus of discontent, pointing out the irony of paying inflated food costs while also covering platform fees, suggesting that even restaurants bear additional charges to use these platforms. "And finally, pay with your health by eating outside food," he remarked, emphasizing the broader implications of these rising costs.

As complaints mount, the festive season promises to be a challenging time for food delivery apps, with many customers reconsidering their loyalty amid rising expenses.

Blinkit Introduces EMI Payment Option for Orders Over ₹2,999

Zomato-owned Blinkit has launched an exciting new feature, offering an EMI (Equated Monthly Installment) payment facility for its customers starting Thursday. This option is available for orders exceeding ₹2,999, aiming to enhance affordability and assist customers in better financial planning.



The announcement was made by Blinkit CEO Albinder Dhindsa on social media platform X, where he shared the details of the new payment feature. "We have introduced buying with EMI on Blinkit! EMI options will be applicable on all orders above ₹2,999 (except orders that contain gold and silver coins)," Dhindsa posted.

By implementing this EMI option, Blinkit aims to provide its users with more flexible payment solutions, making it easier for them to purchase items without a hefty upfront cost. This move reflects a growing trend among e-commerce platforms to offer varied payment methods, especially as consumers seek more accessible ways to shop during challenging economic times.

However, it's important to note that the EMI facility will not be applicable for orders that include gold and silver coins,

which may be due to regulatory reasons or the nature of those products. This limitation has raised some questions among customers, but overall, the response to the new payment option has been positive.

The introduction of this feature aligns with Blinkit's commitment to enhancing the shopping experience for its users. By allowing customers to split their payments over time, the platform hopes to encourage larger purchases and foster customer loyalty.

As online shopping continues to evolve, services like Blinkit's EMI payment option are becoming increasingly vital in meeting customer needs. With this initiative, Blinkit is positioning itself as a customer-centric platform that prioritizes financial flexibility, setting itself apart in the competitive landscape of quick-commerce.

And UK Will Ban Disposable Vapes To Crack Down On Teen Use

The UK government has announced plans to ban single-use vapes starting next year, aiming to address the growing concerns over environmental damage and rising usage rates among children. This decision comes as health authorities raise alarms about the increasing prevalence of vaping among young adults, exacerbated by the vibrant designs and enticing fruity flavors that attract young consumers.



A 2024 survey conducted by the health charity Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) revealed that approximately one in five children aged 11 to 17 have experimented with vaping. Currently, it is illegal to sell nicotine-containing e-cigarettes to anyone under the age of 18, and adults are prohibited from purchasing these products on behalf of minors.

The initiative to ban disposable vapes was initially proposed by the previous Conservative government in January but was sidelined following the July elections, which resulted in a Labour Party victory. Labour's culture minister emphasized the alarming statistic that the number of children engaging in vaping has tripled in the last three years, attributing part of the problem to the environmental issues caused by disposable vapes.

"We have been increasingly concerned about this trend," she stated during an interview with Sky News. "Our hope is that this ban will help break the cycle of children adopting vaping at younger ages."

While the government's Department for Environ-

ment, Food, and Rural Affairs (Defra) has not yet provided specific details regarding the implementation of the ban, media reports suggest that it is expected to take effect in June.

Interestingly, a separate study by ASH this year indicated that vaping remains the most popular method for quitting smoking among tobacco users, with nearly 3 million people in Britain reportedly having successfully quit smoking using e-cigarettes over the past five years. The upcoming ban on single-use vapes aims to strike a balance between public health and environmental sustainability, while also protecting younger generations from the risks associated with vaping.

Viral Video Highlights Innovative "Palm Payment" Method in China

A viral video showcasing an intriguing "palm payment" method has taken Instagram by storm, drawing attention to China's cutting-edge technology in cashless transactions. The clip, shared by Pakistani influencer Rana Hamza Saif, captures a group of friends exploring this unique payment system at a grocery store in Zhuzhou, China.

In the video, Rana and his friends discuss the various cashless payment options available in the store. While traditional methods like scanning a phone or using a QR code are mentioned, the standout feature is the ability to pay simply by scanning one's palm. The demonstration unfolds at the billing counter, where one of the friends illustrates the process. With just a quick gesture of placing their palm in front of a scanner, the transaction is completed instantly, much to the group's amazement.



This seamless transaction method not only highlights the convenience of cashless payments but also raises discussions about the implications of such technology in other countries striving

for digital payment advancements. The video has sparked widespread curiosity and debate, with viewers contemplating the po-

tential benefits and drawbacks of implementing similar systems elsewhere.

As technological innovations continue to shape the way we conduct transactions, the "palm payment" system exemplifies the rapid evolution of payment methods. It reflects China's commitment to embracing cutting-edge technology and enhancing consumer experiences. The speed and efficiency of this payment method could set a precedent for other nations exploring cashless solutions.

The viral nature of the video underscores the global fascination with China's advancements in technology, as people from various backgrounds engage in conversations about the future of payment systems. As cashless transactions gain popularity worldwide, this eye-catching method could inspire other nations to adopt similar innovations, potentially revolutionizing the way we shop and pay for goods.

Rani Rampal Announces Retirement from Hockey

On October 24, 2024, Rani Rampal, the former captain of the Indian women's hockey team, officially announced her retirement, concluding a remarkable 16-year career that has left an indelible mark on the sport. Rampal, who hails from a small town in Haryana, has been a beacon of hope and inspiration, rising from humble beginnings where her father worked as a cart-puller to become one of India's most celebrated hockey players.



At just 29 years old, Rani Rampal exits the game as a decorated athlete, having led the Indian women's hockey team to its best-ever Olympic performance—a historic fourth-place finish at the Tokyo 2021 Games. Reflecting on her journey, she expressed gratitude, stating, "It's been an outstanding journey. I never thought I would play for so long for India. Despite facing poverty in my childhood, my focus was always to do something significant and represent my country."

Rampal made her international debut at the tender age of 14 during the Olympic qualifiers in 2008 and went on to become a formidable forward, netting an impressive 205 goals in 254 matches for India. Her

achievements have not gone unnoticed; she was awarded the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in 2020 and was honored with the Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian award, in the same year.

In her post-retirement phase, Rani has been appointed as the national coach for sub-junior women players, demonstrating her commitment to nurturing the next generation of talent in Indian hockey. Her transition from player to mentor highlights her dedication to the sport and her desire to give back to the community that supported her journey.

As Rani Rampal steps away from the field, her legacy as a trailblazer for women's sports in India will undoubtedly inspire many young athletes to chase their dreams, just as she did.

Women's T20 World Cup 2024 Sees Record with 30% Increase



The International Cricket Council (ICC) has reported that the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 attracted a remarkable total of 91,030 fans, marking a significant 30% increase compared to the previous edition. This surge in attendance highlights the growing popularity of women's cricket on a global scale.

A standout moment of the tournament was the highly anticipated clash between India and Pakistan on October 6, which set a new record for attendance at a women's T20 match. The rivalry between these two cricketing powerhouses drew immense interest, underscoring the excitement surrounding women's cricket and its ability to captivate audiences.

The 2024 edition of the tournament not only showcased thrilling matches but also served as a platform for talented female cricketers to shine on an international stage. With increased fan engagement and support, the event has further solidified its position in the cricketing calendar.

The ICC's efforts to promote wom-

en's cricket have paid off, as evidenced by the impressive turnout and the enthusiasm displayed by fans throughout the tournament. The rise in attendance reflects a broader trend of increasing visibility and investment in women's sports, driving greater participation and interest at all levels.

As the Women's T20 World Cup continues to evolve, it is expected to foster even more talent and provide opportunities for future generations of female cricketers. The success of this tournament sets a positive precedent for upcoming editions and signifies a promising future for women's cricket.

In summary, the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 not only achieved record attendance figures but also reinforced the importance of supporting and promoting women's sports. With events like this, the ICC aims to inspire young girls around the world to take up cricket and pursue their sporting dreams, paving the way for a more inclusive and diverse future in the realm of sports.

Botafogo Dominates Peñarol with 5-0 Victory in Libertadores Semi-Final

In a stunning display of football, Botafogo of Brazil dismantled Uruguay's Peñarol with a commanding 5-0 victory in the first leg of their Copa Libertadores semi-final on Wednesday. All five goals came in a sensational second-half performance that left Botafogo on the brink of their first Libertadores final appearance.

Despite a strong start, Botafogo struggled to penetrate Peñarol's organized defense in the first half. Luiz Henrique squandered a promising chance, shooting high and wide, but soon forced Peñarol's goalkeeper, Washington Aguerre, into action with a powerful drive that required a diving save.

The tide turned dramatically early in the second half, with three goals in just eight minutes. Venezuelan forward Jefferson Savarino opened the scoring in the 51st minute, expertly timing his run to meet a precise through ball from Luiz Henrique, before deftly lifting it over Aguerre.

Just four minutes later, Botafogo doubled their lead when Peñarol failed

to clear a corner, allowing Argentine defender Alexander Barboza to scoop the ball into the net. The Brazilian side made it 3-0 shortly thereafter, with Henrique again proving instrumental. He set up Vitorino, whose pull-back found Savarino, whose shot slipped through Aguerre's grasp.



Henrique capped off his stellar performance with Botafogo's fourth goal, chipping the ball over Aguerre in a delicate finish. The fifth and final goal came in the 79th minute when Argentine midfielder Thiago Almada's effort was parried, only for Igor Jesus to head in the rebound.

"We have to keep our feet on the ground; this is just one game," Barboza stated after the match. However, with this decisive win, an all-Brazilian final on November 30 in Buenos Aires seems increasingly likely. Brazilian teams have dominated the tournament, winning every edition since River Plate's last triumph in 2018.

Amidst the excitement, tensions escalated prior to the match as Brazilian police arrested over 250 Peñarol fans for rioting, which included vandalism and looting in Rio de Janeiro. The clashes highlighted the intense atmosphere surrounding this prestigious tournament.

Jordan Cox and Rehan Ahmed Join England Squad for Caribbean Tour

Wicketkeeper batter Jordan Cox and bowling allrounder Rehan Ahmed have been added to England's white-ball squads for their upcoming Caribbean tour, which kicks off on October 31 in Antigua. This addition comes as England prepares for a series of One Day Internationals (ODIs) and T20 Internationals against the West Indies.



Cox, who made his international debut during England's recent T20I series against Australia, will return to the UK following the first day of the ongoing third Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi. He is expected to participate in all three ODIs but will miss the subsequent T20I matches as he prepares for the upcoming Test series in New Zealand.

Rehan Ahmed, currently part of the playing XI in the Test against Pakistan, will join the white-ball squad after the

conclusion of that match. His versatility as a bowling allrounder is seen as a valuable asset for the team.

With regular captain Jos Buttler sidelined due to a minor setback in his recovery from a calf injury, allrounder Liam Livingstone will lead the ODI squad against the West Indies. This change in leadership adds a layer of

challenge as England aims to build momentum ahead of the series.

The England ODI and T20I squads include a mix of seasoned players and emerging talents, with the following members confirmed: Jos Buttler (captain for T20Is), Rehan Ahmed, Jofra Archer, Jacob Bethell, Jafer Chohan, Jordan Cox, Sam Curran, Will Jacks, Liam Livingstone (ODI captain), Saqib Mahmood, Dan Mousley, Jamie Overton, Adil Rashid, Phil Salt, and Reece Topley, alongside newcomer John Turner.

As the team gears up for this crucial tour, fans and analysts alike will be watching closely to see how the new additions, Cox and Ahmed, perform in the Caribbean conditions and contribute to England's campaign. The series promises to be an exciting showcase of talent and competition in international cricket.

South Africa Ascends in World Test Championship After Dominating Bangladesh

South Africa has surged to fourth place in the World Test Championship (WTC) standings following a commanding seven-wicket victory over Bangladesh in the first Test. This win, secured on Thursday, has boosted South Africa's point percentage to 47.62, allowing them to leapfrog New Zealand and England in the rankings. Conversely, Bangladesh's defeat has seen their point percentage drop to 30.56, keeping them firmly in seventh place, while India and Australia continue to dominate the top two positions.



In the match, Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto opted to bat first after winning the toss, a decision that quickly backfired. The South African bowlers thrived in the conditions, with Kagiso Rabada, Wiaan Mulder, and Keshav Maharaj each claiming three wickets, dismissing Bangladesh for a mere 106 runs. The hosts struggled against the South African attack, which displayed both pace and spin dominance.

Despite a poor start, Bangladesh's

spinners, led by Taijul Islam and Mehidy Hasan, retaliated effectively. They shared seven wickets between them, attempting to keep South Africa in check. However, a resilient century from Kyle Verreynne, coupled with valuable contributions from Mulder (54) and Dane Piedt (32), helped South Africa establish a substantial 202-run lead.

In the third innings, the South African bowlers once again showcased their prowess. Led by Rabada, they reduced Bangladesh to a precarious

Chasing a target of 106 runs, South Africa faced minimal resistance. Tony de Zorzi (41) and Tristan Stubbs (30*) guided the team to victory with relative ease, sealing a convincing win that reflects their current form and strategy.

Looking ahead, the second Test between Bangladesh and South Africa is scheduled to take place on October 29 in Chattogram. As both teams prepare for the next clash, South Africa will aim to maintain their momentum in the WTC, while Bangladesh seeks to rebound and improve their standing in the competition. The outcome of this upcoming match will be pivotal for both sides as they navigate the challenges of the Test cricket landscape.



Pushpa 2 locks new release date

Pushpa 2: The Rule is gearing up to be one of the most anticipated releases in Indian cinema, featuring the immensely talented Allu Arjun, known as the Icon Star of Tollywood. With high expectations, the filmmakers are ensuring that this sequel makes a grand entrance, planning to release it in a record number of theaters nationwide.

In a thrilling development, the release date has been moved up by one day. Fans can now mark their calendars for December 5, 2024, when ****Pushpa 2**** will arrive in cinemas across India, showcasing the film in multiple languages to cater to a diverse audience.

Rashmika Mandanna is set to reprise her role as the female lead, adding to the film's star-studded lineup. The cast also features prominent actors such as Fahadh Faasil, Sunil, Ajay, and Anasuya Bharadwaj, all of whom are expected to deliver powerful performances that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats.

Produced by the renowned Mythri Movie Makers, ****Pushpa 2**** promises to be a cinematic spectacle. Fans can look forward to an exhilarating soundtrack composed by



the talented Devi Sri Prasad, whose work has consistently resonated with audiences and amplified the impact of the films he collaborates on.

As anticipation builds, the excitement surrounding ****Pushpa 2: The Rule**** is palpable, with fans eager to see how the story unfolds and what new heights Allu Arjun will reach in this sequel. With its impressive cast, engaging storyline, and high production values, this film is poised to make waves not just in India, but internationally as well. Don't miss the chance to experience this cinematic event when it hits theaters!

Salman Khan Resumes Shooting for 'Sikandar'

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has officially resumed shooting for his much-anticipated film, ****Sikandar****, directed by A.R. Murugadoss, known for his blockbuster ****Ghajini****. This upcoming project also stars the talented Rashmika Mandanna, and is generating considerable excitement in the industry due to its promising storyline and Salman's signature charisma.

A source close to the production revealed, "As per the planned schedule, Salman Khan is shooting for 'Sikandar.'" This commitment to a timely production process highlights the team's dedication to delivering a high-quality film despite recent challenges.

Salman had taken a brief hiatus from his commitments following the tragic assassination of his close friend, politician Baba Siddique, near his office in Bandra, Mumbai. The emotional toll of this event has been significant for the actor, leading to heightened security measures due to threats from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, which claimed responsibility for Siddique's murder.

Despite these personal challenges, ****Sikandar**** aims to combine engaging storytelling with dynamic performances, setting the stage for yet another memorable portrayal by Salman Khan. The film marks the first col-



laboration between him and Rashmika Mandanna, which has only increased anticipation among fans.

Produced by Sajid Nadiadwala of Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment, ****Sikandar**** is a reunion for Salman and Sajid, who last worked together on the hit film ****Kick**** released in 2014. The makers have scheduled the film's release for Eid 2025, a festival that has traditionally been associated with Salman Khan's major releases.

As fans eagerly await further updates, it is clear that Salman Khan is poised to deliver the entertainment and drama that his audience has come to expect. The excitement surrounding ****Sikandar**** underscores Salman's enduring appeal and the significant impact he continues to have on the Bollywood film industry.

Jr NTR Set to Dazzle in War 2 Alongside Hrithik Roshan

Following the monumental success of **Devara Part 1**, Jr NTR is all set to captivate audiences once again in the highly anticipated action thriller **War 2**. Directed by the acclaimed Ayan Mukherjee, this film pairs NTR with Bollywood superstar Hrithik Roshan in a dynamic lead role. After a brief hiatus, both actors have returned to the sets, igniting excitement among their fans.

According to industry insiders, director Ayan Mukherjee has crafted two exhilarating introduction sequences that promise to leave a lasting impression. Hrithik Roshan's entry will unfold dramatically in a Shaolin Temple, where he will be showcased in an intense sword-fighting scene, showcasing his character's skills and setting the tone for the film.

In contrast, Jr NTR's introduction will be equally thrilling, featuring a hand-to-hand combat sequence with pirates aboard a ship. This action-packed scene is expected to be a major highlight of the film, setting the stage for NTR's formidable character and his journey throughout the story.

The production of ****War 2**** is progressing swiftly, with the filmmakers announcing



that the movie is scheduled for release during the Independence Day weekend in 2025. This strategic timing aims to maximize audience attendance, further fueling the excitement surrounding the project.

Adding to the film's appeal, Kiara Advani will play a pivotal role, contributing to a well-rounded cast that promises to deliver a captivating narrative. With its blend of high-octane action, stellar performances,

and a gripping storyline, ****War 2**** is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about films of 2025.

Fans can hardly wait to see how Ayan Mukherjee brings this ambitious project to life, especially with such a talented ensemble. As the countdown to release begins, the anticipation for ****War 2**** continues to soar.

Anticipation Builds for Akkineni's "Tandel" as Release Date Approaches

The Akkineni family is generating buzz with their latest film, **"Tandel"**, featuring the talented Naga Chaitanya alongside Sai Pallavi. As the second collaboration between this popular pair, expectations are high, especially with the film being helmed by the promising young director Chandu Mondeti.

Fans of the Akkineni clan have been eagerly awaiting the film's release, which has been in production for an extended period. Recent discussions suggest that **"Tandel"** is set for release in December, but there's growing speculation about a potential debut during the Sankranti festival season. With Sankranti being a lucrative time for film releases, Akkineni fans are keen for the film to hit theaters around this festive period.

The Akkineni family has enjoyed a successful track record during the Sankranti season, and there's a collective desire for **"Tandel"** to be part



of that legacy. Fans are clamoring for an official announcement regarding the release date, along with a promotional poster that would clarify the film's launch plans.

Produced by Bunny Vasu under the Geetha Arts 2 banner, **"Tandel"** promises to be a significant entry in the filmography of both Naga Chaitanya and Sai Pallavi. The film's production team is expected to provide updates soon, which will undoubtedly heighten anticipation among viewers.

As the release date draws near, the excitement surrounding **"Tandel"** continues to grow. With its promising cast and crew, the film has the potential to make a substantial impact at the box office, especially if it aligns with the festive spirit of Sankranti. Fans are hopeful for an official announcement soon, confirming their wishes for a timely release that coincides with this vibrant celebration.

Nandamuri Kalyan Ram Gears Up for 21st Film

Nandamuri Kalyan Ram is making waves not just as a hero but also as a producer involved in multiple high-profile projects. Currently riding high on the success of his brother Jr. NTR's blockbuster **"Devara,"** Kalyan Ram is set to star in another major film that marks the 21st entry in his illustrious career. Directed by Pradeep Chilukuri, this action-packed venture is generating significant excitement among fans.

Recent updates reveal that the production team has relocated to Vizag for a crucial filming schedule. This segment is vital for the film's storyline, and it will feature key action sequences that are expected to elevate the film's overall appeal. The Vizag schedule will last for 15 days, allowing the cast and crew to focus on delivering some thrilling moments on screen.

Sai Manjrekar has been cast as the female lead alongside Kalyan Ram, adding to the film's allure. With Ajanish Loknath handling the music, expectations are high for a compelling soundtrack that complements the intense action sequences.

As the production progresses, fans are eager for more updates on this ambitious project. The combination of Kalyan Ram's talent, a promising director, and a solid supporting cast positions this film as a noteworthy addition to the action genre in Telugu cinema.

With this Vizag schedule underway, Kaly-



an Ram's upcoming film is poised to create a significant impact upon its release, further establishing him as a versatile actor and producer in the industry. Enthusiasts are anticipating more announcements, including trailers and teasers, to get a glimpse of what this exciting new film has to offer.