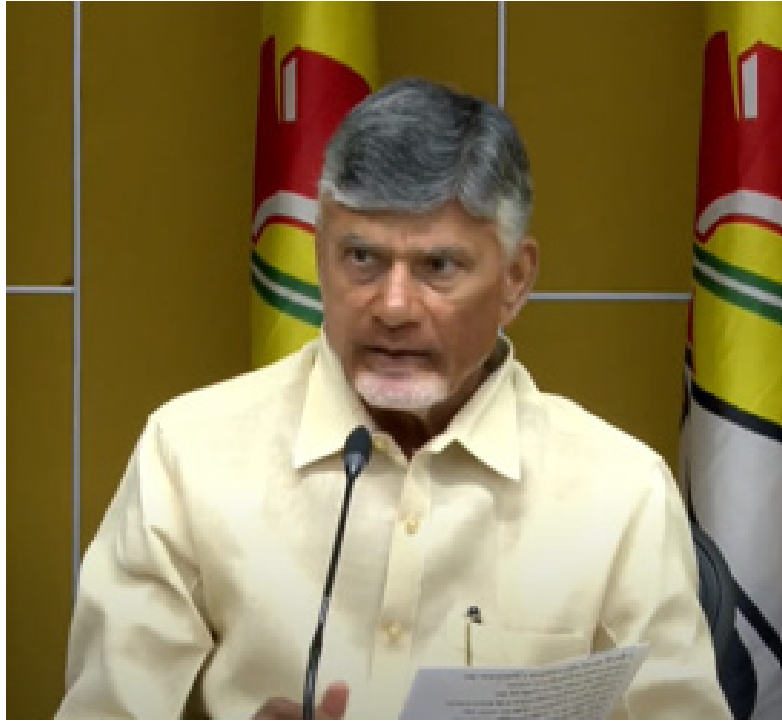


Weather Forecast

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	TIRUPATHI
H 33°C L 25°C	H 35°C L 26°C	H 36°C L 26°C

CM Chandrababu Warns TDP MLA's & Leaders to Avoid Involvement in Sand and Alcohol Issues

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and TDP Chief Nara Chandrababu Naidu issued a strong warning to TDP leaders and activists as he launched the party's membership registration drive at the TDP headquarters in Mangalagiri. Naidu emphasized that no party member should interfere in matters related to sand and alcohol, urging them to maintain transparency and refrain from engaging in any illegal activities.



In his address, Naidu cautioned members against any involvement in "sand danda" (illegal sand mining), noting that the opposition, YSR Congress Party (YCP), was attempting to tarnish the government's reputation by influencing the sand policy. He instructed activists to protest if any irregularities are found and ordered that alcohol should only be sold at Maximum Retail Price (MRP), promising strict action against anyone selling it at inflated rates.

Naidu also acknowledged the hardships endured by TDP members during the previous YCP administration and assured them of appropriate recognition for their sacrifices. He added that only those who have demonstrated loyalty and hard work for the party would be considered for posts.

Describing recent political struggles as a battle against adversity, Naidu highlighted the TDP's extensive organizational structure, which spans from village to state level. He reaffirmed the party's long-standing commitment to the welfare and development of the poor, stating that TDP has consistently worked towards uplifting marginalized communities throughout its 40-year history.

YS Sharmila Criticizes YV Subbareddy's Loyalty to Jagan in Family Property Dispute

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: In a strong rebuttal to YSR Congress MP YV Subbareddy's remarks regarding her ongoing property dispute with brother and Andhra Pradesh Former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy, APCC Chief Sharmila criticized Subbareddy for his unwavering loyalty to Jagan, alleging that he and his family have financially benefited from their alliance with the Chief Minister.



Subbareddy had previously remarked that if Sharmila's claims of entitlement to a share in Jagan's assets were valid, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) would have already filed cases against her. Reacting to this, Sharmila questioned Subbareddy's sincerity, suggesting that he take an oath on his children and grandchildren to validate his statements. She alleged that his loyalty to Jagan compromised his integrity, describing him as someone who "drinks water from Jagan's elbow," alluding to blind allegiance.

Sharmila refuted the notion that her late father, YS Rajasekhara Reddy, had intended to deny her a share in family assets, asserting instead that he had envisioned an equitable division between Jagan's children and her own. "Before his passing, my father asked Jagan if my share was secure, and Jagan assured him that he would protect my rights," Sharmila recounted, emphasizing that her father had a clear vision of fairness in property matters.

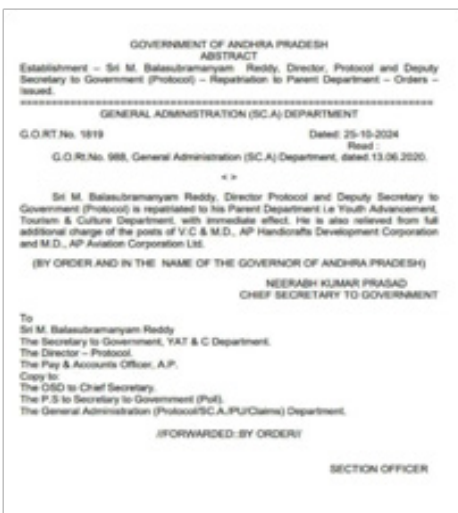
She also highlighted her contributions to Jagan's political campaigns, reminding YSR Congress Party members that she had walked over 3,200 kilometers in two election campaigns. Sharmila expressed dismay that Jagan would allow their mother, Vijayamma, to be dragged into a legal dispute. "Is there any wretch who drags his mother to court?" she asked, questioning Jagan's character.

In conclusion, Sharmila called on YSR Congress supporters to scrutinize the truth behind the family dispute and the loyalty displayed by leaders like Subbareddy and Vijayasai Reddy, whom she accused of undermining her father's vision.

AP Govt Relieves Protocol Director M. Balasubramaniam Reddy from Key Positions



TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh government has officially relieved M. Balasubramaniam Reddy, the Director of Protocol, from his role with immediate effect. According to the orders issued on Saturday, Reddy has been directed to report back to his parent department, the Youth Advancement, Tourism and Culture (YAT&C) department.



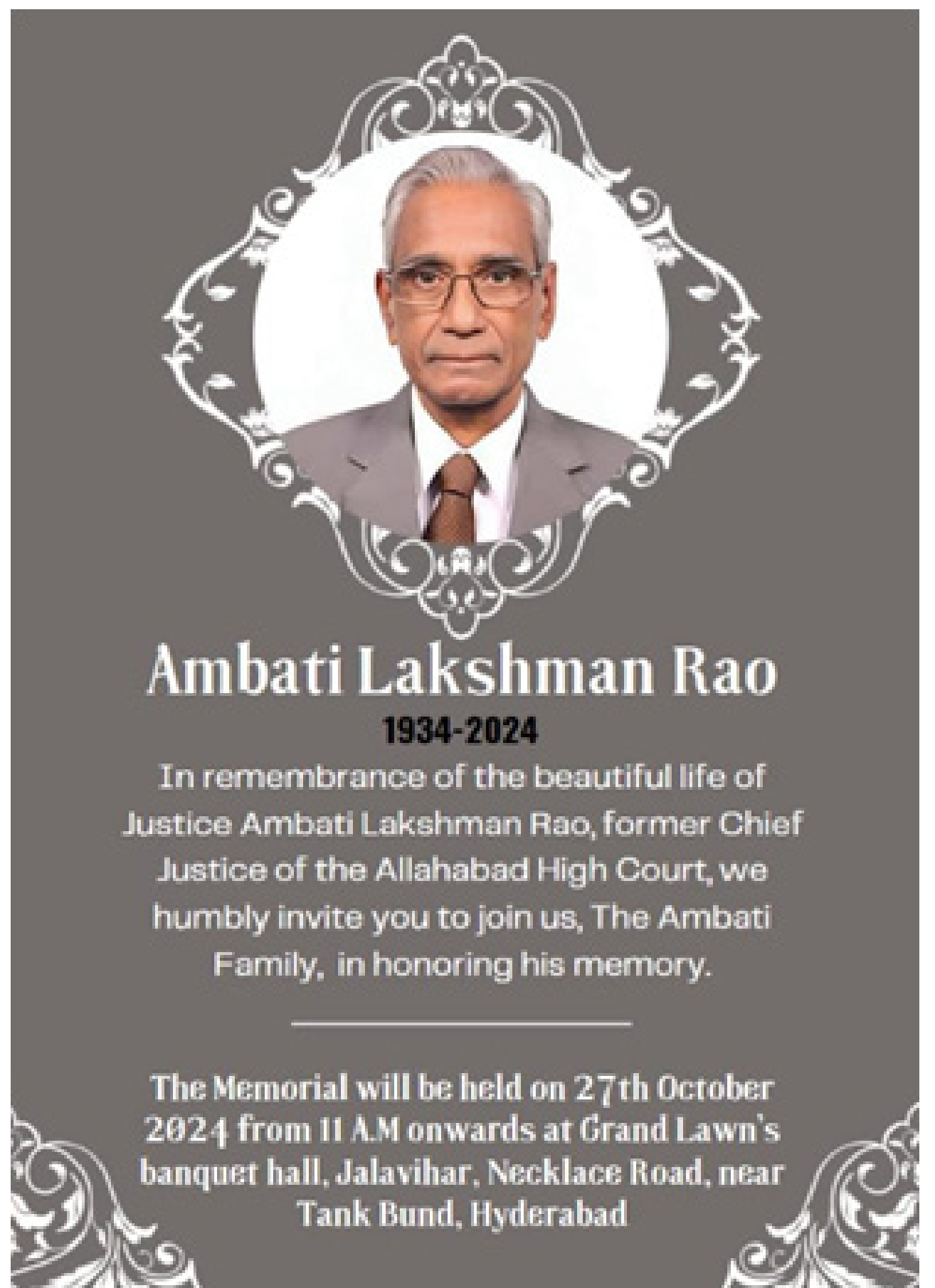
smoothly without disruption.

The official order emphasized a swift handover of responsibilities to ensure continuity in operations across the Protocol, Handicrafts, and Aviation sectors, which are essential in the government's cultural and tourism development agenda. New appointments to fill these roles are expected shortly as the state government moves to streamline administrative processes.

Additionally, he has been relieved from the additional responsibilities he was handling as Vice Chairman and Managing Director (VC&MD) of AP Handicrafts and Managing Director of AP Aviation. The government's decision is part of an ongoing administrative restructuring, ensuring that these departments continue their operations



significant impact on tourism, cultural promotion, and public services.





DCM Pawan Kalyan Orders Survey of Saraswati Power Company Lands Amid Asset Transfer Controversy

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The name of Saraswati Power Company has emerged in the ongoing asset transfer case involving Jagan Mohan Reddy and Sharmila, prompting State Deputy Chief Minister and Forest Minister Pawan Kalyan to take action. Reports suggest that the company's holdings include 1,515 acres of land in Dhagepalli, Palnadu district, some of which may consist of forest land.

In response to the situation, Minister Pawan Kalyan ordered officials to conduct a thorough investigation to determine the extent of forest land within the properties owned by Saraswati Power Company. His directive aims to shed light on potential irregularities surrounding the asset transfer and the use of forest resources.

Following Pawan's orders, local authorities mobilized to carry out the survey. Officials from the forest department, under the supervision of the Dhagepalli Divisional Revenue Officer (DRO), visited the lands belonging to Saraswati Power Company in Dhagepalli and Machavaram mandals.

Once the survey is completed, forest officials will compile a comprehensive report detailing their findings, which will then be submitted to Minister



Pawan Kalyan for further action. This initiative reflects the government's commitment to transparency and accountability, particularly in matters concerning land use and environmental protection.

TDP Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu Comments on Jagan Family Dispute

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has stated that his party will not interfere in the family dispute involving YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and leader of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). During a press conference, Ramanaidu raised questions about Jagan's ability to govern, emphasizing that if Jagan cannot resolve issues within his own family, he is unlikely to do justice for the people of the state.



Ramanaidu highlighted the unusual circumstances surrounding Jagan's family, noting, "It is known for the first time in the country that there is a property Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between mother and son." He criticized Jagan for dragging his mother into court, suggesting that this reflects poorly on his character.

On the topic of governance, Ramanaidu mentioned issues related to the implementation of free sand supply and outlined steps being taken to address them. He revealed that problems concerning sand mining in various districts were discussed in a recent meeting with officials, with plans to make sand mining available

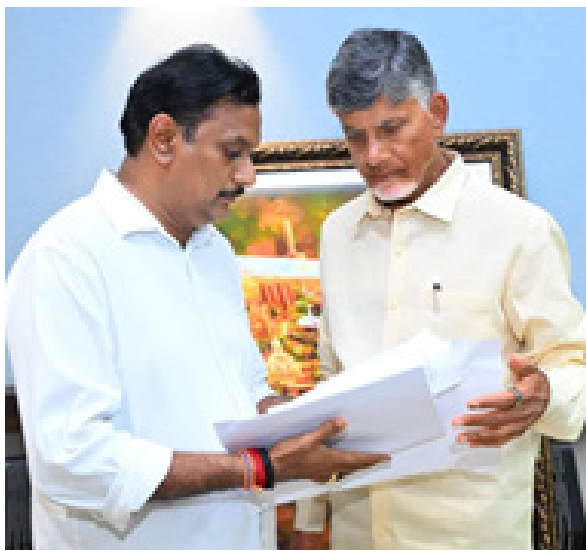
in open reaches within a week.

He noted a significant drop in the price of sand, stating that while it was priced at ₹625 per tonne during YSRCP's rule, it is now available for ₹215 per tonne. Ramanaidu also announced plans to complete road repairs within three months and allocate ₹980 crores for irrigation maintenance, contrasting it with the mere ₹275 crores spent under the current administration. He expressed confidence that lift irrigation systems will be restored to their former effectiveness, reaffirming TDP's commitment to improving infrastructure and services in the state.

MP Kesineni Shivnath (Chinni) Met CM Chandrababu On Local Issues

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Accompanied by MP Kesineni Shivnath, met Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu at the TDP central office on Saturday to present a series of petitions addressing pressing concerns in Vijayawada. They highlighted specific issues affecting the residents of Old Rajarajeshwari Peta, as well as land allocation challenges for a logistics park near Kondapalli railway station.

The residents of Old Rajarajeshwari Peta, located in the western constituency, face eviction after railway officials issued notices to vacate railway-owned land within fifteen days. With demolition looming, residents



infrastructure development in the region. Shivnath requested the CM's intervention to halt the evictions and explore a lasting solution for the affected families.

Another critical issue discussed was the National Highway Authority of India's (NHAI) plan to establish a logistics park near Kondapalli railway station. Shivnath and MP Keshin urged the state to expedite the transfer of land from APGENCO to APCRDA for NHAI's use. Responding positively, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu pledged to review both matters, aiming to provide timely solutions for the concerned residents and facilitate

AP Govt to Reintroduce Smart Cards for Vehicle Registration and Driving Licenses

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: The Andhra Pradesh government is set to reintroduce smart cards for new vehicle registration certificates (RCs) and driving licenses (DLs), a move expected to provide convenience and relief to motorists. From the first week of November, new vehicle owners and license holders will have the option to receive smart cards, which will be available for request on the Vahan and Sarathi portals. This decision, aimed at enhancing service efficiency and transparency, revives a policy sidelined by the previous administration.

For each smart card, a fee of Rs.200 along with a speed post charge of Rs.35 will be collected online. The Transport Department has prepared and submitted a tender file to the government, and once approved, a contractor will be selected to oversee the card issuance. It is estimated that around 36 lakh smart cards will be needed annually to meet demand across the state, with an average of 10,000 to 12,000 registrations processed daily.

Previously, the contractor handled the card supply, while RTO offices printed and dispatched them direct-



ly to the owners' addresses. However, there were complaints of delayed card deliveries, and unpaid bills led the previous contractor to halt services. This interruption forced vehicle owners to rely on downloadable RC and DL copies, which often posed challenges during interstate travel, as the physical smart cards were not available for inspection.

The reintroduction of smart cards is being welcomed by motorists, who believe it will ease travel and administrative processes. The initiative is part of the government's broader focus on improving transport services and digital accessibility, providing AP's drivers with secure, durable, and officially recognized documentation.

Johnny Master Reflects on Difficult Ordeal After Release on Bail

TPN, Hyderabad: Popular choreographer Johnny Master, who was arrested over allegations of sexual harassment, shared an emotional post on social media following his release from jail. Johnny Master was detained over a month ago on charges involving the alleged sexual assault of an assistant choreographer but was granted bail and released yesterday. Reflecting on his time in detention, he expressed his pain and gratitude for the support of his family and well-wishers.



feels he "lost a lot" during this time. He conveyed a sense of optimism, stating his belief that "the truth will come out one day." He also shared the ongoing emotional struggle he feels due to the hardships his family has endured, writing that their suffering will "continue to torment him forever."

The choreographer's message has resonated with many of his fans and followers, who have shown their support during this challenging period.

In his post, Johnny Master noted the significant toll his 37-day ordeal has taken on him, mentioning that he

Minister Gottipati Blames Jagan Reddy for AP's Mounting Power Charges

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Power Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar has accused former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy of leaving the people of Andhra Pradesh burdened with exorbitant electricity charges due to his flawed policies in the power sector. In a scathing statement, Minister Ravi Kumar alleged that Jagan's decisions over the past five years have caused the current spike in electricity costs, saddling citizens with an additional Rs.11,826.42 crore in 2023-24 alone.

Minister Ravi Kumar pointed out that the

Jagan administration canceled previous Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and weakened AP Genco, instead opting to buy power from private entities at inflated prices. He criticized this approach as lacking transparency, alleging that funds from these costly power deals were diverted to private interests through a "quid pro quo" system. The minister further stated that coal and power purchases were managed in secrecy under Jagan's rule, intensifying the financial strain on the public through frequent adjustments in power charges.

The minister claimed that electricity charges were raised nine times during Jagan's tenure, resulting in substantial financial hardship for residents. He alleged that the government deferred payments strategically, leaving the burden for future administrations to manage.

Minister Ravi Kumar also criticized the media coverage by 'Sakshi' magazine, accusing it of publishing misleading information to defend Jagan's policies while obscuring the alliance government's welfare initiatives.



TDP President PallaSrinivasa Rao Criticizes Jagan Alleged Corruption

TPN, Mangalagiri: During the launch of the TDP's membership registration program led by TDP National President and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, TDP State President PallaSrinivasa Rao criticized former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy, accusing him of unethical politics and extensive corruption. The event was held at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri, where PallaSrinivasa Rao delivered a strong speech targeting the YSR Congress Party (YCP) leader.



crores. He asked how Jagan could sustain such wealth while on bail for years and demanded transparency regarding the sources of his assets.

In his remarks, Palla claimed that Jagan's alleged financial malpractices date back to his father's tenure, during which Jagan reportedly misappropriated funds amounting to ₹43,000 crores. He described the YCP as a party deeply rooted in corruption, predicting that such practices would inevitably lead to its downfall. Referring to a statement in Sakshi, Palla said, "Problems are not caused by Jagan's honesty, as claimed, but by his greed for wealth and power. He has built his political career on dirty politics."

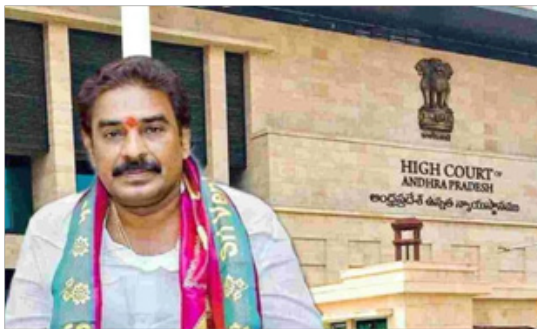
The TDP leader argued that political parties should focus on serving people and developing the state rather than prioritizing personal wealth. Criticizing Jagan's past controversies, Palla accused him of manipulating social media and spreading misinformation to gain power.

Concluding his address, Palla stated that the 2024 elections would serve as proof that the people of Andhra Pradesh would no longer be deceived, highlighting the importance of ethical governance and public service over personal gains.

Palla further questioned the dramatic increase in Jagan's assets, noting that while they were valued at ₹73 crores in 2004, they have allegedly soared to nearly ₹8,000

Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy Requests High Court to Relax Bail Conditions for Singapore Trip

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YSR Congress Party (YCP) leader Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy has filed a petition in the Andhra Pradesh High Court seeking relaxation of his bail conditions to allow him to travel abroad. The conditions, imposed during the assembly elections in connection with cases registered against him, currently include the surrender of his passport.



the Magistrate order the return of his passport for the trip.

Appearing for Pinnelli, Advocate Ramalakshmana Reddy explained that his client's son is set to pursue higher studies in Singapore, and Pinnelli wishes to accompany him to complete necessary formalities. In the petition, he requested that

Representing the police, Advocate N. Ashwani Kumar presented arguments on behalf of the state. After hearing both sides, Judge VRK Kripasagar adjourned the case to October 28 for further proceedings.

Minister Sandhyarani Criticizes Jagan for Family Disputes and Governance Failures

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Minister Gummadi Sandhyarani launched a scathing attack on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, questioning his character and governance amid ongoing family disputes. In her remarks, Sandhyarani asked, "Are you a man, Jagan, who put his own mother and sister in court for property?" She highlighted the irony of Jagan's current wealth, noting that he did not even have a house when his father contested for the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). She challenged how many properties Jagan has accumulated since those days, implying unethical acquisition methods.



Additionally, Sandhyarani criticized Jagan's remarks about TDP leaders, including former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh. She noted that Jagan, who reportedly received no acknowledgment during the COVID-19 pandemic, now feigns concern for political gain.

The Minister also responded to former Minister Roja's claim that 74 women were wronged under the current administration, challenging her to name at least seven of those women. She expressed frustration over the government's failure to protect even a single girl child in five years.

Sandhyarani further accused Jagan of hypocrisy, pointing out that while he claims to treat all people in Andhra Pradesh as his sisters, he has mistreated his own family. She stated, "He threw out his own mother and dragged his sister to court," emphasizing the contradiction in Jagan's public persona versus his private actions.

Sandhyarani urged the public not to forget the ongoing criticism directed at the YSRCP and questioned why Jagan had yet to distribute checks to flood victims, despite previously announcing significant financial aid. Her comments underscore growing discontent among TDP leaders regarding the governance of Jagan and the handling of various crises in the state.

Gudivada Amarnath Criticizes Sharmila's Comments on Jagan, Defends YCP Leadership

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Former Andhra Pradesh Minister Gudivada Amarnath expressed strong disapproval of APCC chief YS Sharmila's recent comments against former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, condemning her statements as disrespectful. Addressing the media in Visakhapatnam on Saturday, Amarnath questioned Sharmila's motivations, alleging that she was aligning herself with YCP's opponents. He warned that YCP leaders and supporters would not remain silent if Sharmila continued to "talk about Jagan as she likes."



Amarnath also criticized Sharmila's recent alliance with Congress, a party that had once included her father, the late CM YS Rajasekhara Reddy, in a charge sheet. He questioned her loy-

alty, accusing her of attempting to undermine the YCP. YV Subbareddy, a close associate of Jagan, joined the media interaction, emphasizing that Rajasekhara Reddy had distributed his assets among his children prior to his passing. Subbareddy outlined that Jagan Mohan Reddy currently holds major stakes in Bharti Cements, Sakshi Media, and Saraswati Power.

Subbareddy further clarified that Jagan had entrusted some of his properties, previously attached by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), to Sharmila after the 2019 elections. He concluded by affirming that Sharmila was never a shareholder in Jagan's companies, dismissing her recent claims over family assets.

Former Minister Meruga Accuses Chandrababu of Prioritizing Politics Over Public Welfare

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: Former minister and YSRCP leader MerugaNagarjuna criticized TDP National President Chandrababu Naidu, accusing him of prioritizing politics over fulfilling promises to the people. Speaking at a recent press meet, Meruga claimed that Naidu's government is delaying the implementation of previously announced welfare measures, which he says reflects a lack of commitment to public welfare.



Meruga alleged that under Naidu's leadership, citizens are being burdened with rising electricity charges. He further criticized

the government's response to public health issues, questioning, "Does the CM care if people are dying of diarrhea and dengue?"

Highlighting what he described as a double standard, Meruga recalled past reports of Naidu complaining about prison conditions, including mosquito problems, yet he feels Naidu's administration has failed to address the same issues affecting common citizens. "There's one rule for the CM and another for the people," he remarked, urging the administration to act on its promises and prioritize the welfare of all citizens.

CPI Leader Narayana Urges Action on Kolleru Encroachments to Prevent Future Floods

TPN, Andhra Pradesh: CPI National Secretary Narayana has urged the Andhra Pradesh government to take immediate action against encroachments in the Kolleru Lake area, linking the illegal activities to last month's Budameru River floods in Vijayawada. In a letter addressed to Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister PawanKalyan, Narayana emphasized the need to clear fish ponds and restore Kolleru's wetlands to prevent further environmental degradation and flooding.



According to Narayana, Kolleru Lake, once covering an area of 100 square miles, has now been reduced to just 20-25 square miles due to increasing encroachments, including the takeover of its wetlands and bird sanctuary. He urged immediate government action to dismantle fish ponds and illegal constructions in and around Kolleru to restore the lake's natural ecosystem.

Narayana also reminded officials of the Supreme Court's previous contempt notices regarding the conservation of Kolleru, underscoring the legal mandate to protect the lake. He added that Deputy CM PawanKalyan, who has shown an interest in environmental protection, now has a significant opportunity to make a lasting impact by restoring Kolleru Lake.

Recalling past efforts, Narayana mentioned that he had previously campaigned against Kolleru encroachments, even filing a complaint with then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. This led to then Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy taking action against illegal activities in the region. During that period, West Godavari District Collector Love Agarwal faced threats from the fish mafia due to his efforts to enforce these orders, but Narayana and others stood by him, defending the protection of the lake.

In his appeal, Narayana called for immediate and decisive action to prevent further damage to one of the region's most critical ecosystems and to mitigate future flood risks.

SV Satish Reddy Accuses Chandrababu of Exploiting Family Disputes for Political Gain

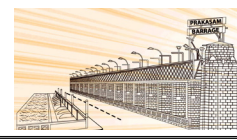
TPN, Andhra Pradesh: YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) State Secretary SV Satish Reddy has accused TDP leader and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu of leveraging family disputes for political advantage rather than focusing on fulfilling promises made to the people. In a statement, Satish Reddy alleged that Chandrababu, despite his considerable assets, has failed to share any benefits with those who were promised support.



ing and in need," Satish Reddy remarked, criticizing Naidu for not delivering on commitments made to the public. He described Chandrababu's tactics as part of a "bad culture" where personal and family issues are politicized to distract from the unfulfilled promises of his leadership.

"Yesterday, he is at the helm of assets worth thousands of crores, yet he hasn't distributed any part of it to those deserv-

Satish Reddy called on Chandrababu to shift his focus to meaningful governance and prioritize the welfare of the people. According to Reddy, such actions would reflect true leadership rather than politicizing private matters for short-term gains.



Devineni Uma Takes Permanent Party Membership with Rs. 1 Lakh Fee



TPN, Mangalagiri: Former Minister and State General Secretary of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Devineni Umamaheswara Rao, renewed her party membership at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri, taking a significant step by opting for a lifetime membership. She accepted the permanent membership from TDP National President and Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, contributing a membership fee of Rs. 1 lakh.

This permanent membership reflects Rao's deep commitment to the party and its vision under Naidu's leadership. TDP's membership drive, which commenced in 1982 when the party was established, has grown significantly over the years, with millions of members across the state. This enduring program is a testament to TDP's steady popularity and strong grassroots base. With Rao's decision to become a lifetime member, she joins a notable list of dedicated leaders actively involved in furthering TDP's mission and strengthening the party's outreach in Andhra Pradesh.

MLA Vasantha Krishna Prasad Launches TDP Membership Drive

Takes Permanent Membership with ₹1 Lakh Fee



TPN, Vijayawada: Mylavaram MLA Vasantha Venkata Krishna Prasad launched the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) membership registration program on Saturday at the TDP office in Gollapudi, Vijayawada Rural Mandal. MLA Krishna Prasad began the initiative by taking a permanent membership in the TDP, paying Rs. 1 lakh for his registration through the online process.

The program began with a tribute to TDP founder N.T. Rama Rao, with Krishna Prasad offering respects at NTR's statue in Gollapudi One Center before inaugurating the registration drive. MLA Krishna Prasad himself registered the membership of several notable leaders in the Mylavaram constituency, underscoring the importance of active participation in the party's future.

Speaking on the occasion, Krishna Prasad expressed his pride in joining the TDP permanently on the day of statewide membership registration. "The Telugu Desam Party remains essential for the welfare and progress of Andhra Pradesh. Under the visionary leadership of our Honorable Chief Minister, Mr. Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the state is poised for remarkable development," he stated. He encouraged the people of the Mylavaram constituency to support the TDP and become members.

MLA Krishna Prasad highlighted TDP's membership benefits, including accident insurance coverage of Rs. 5 lakh and assistance for education, healthcare, and employment. He expressed confidence that the Mylavaram constituency would achieve record membership levels, surpassing previous registrations. "All TDP family members should approach this registration with the spirit of our movement," he added.

The event was attended by TDP State Secretary Ganne Prasad, NDA Grand Alliance leaders, and other prominent figures, who emphasized the party's commitment to serving the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Vijayawada Police Under Scrutiny Following Allegations by Local Couple



TPN, Vijayawada: A couple from Vijayawada has come forward alleging harassment by police officials from the Patamata Police Station. In a video shared online, the couple, identified as Prasad and Amani, claimed distress over alleged mistreatment by local officers, including CI Pawan Kishore, Crime Branch Head Constable Pratap, and Constable Arif.

The couple has appealed for intervention from prominent figures, including CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan, Minister Nara Lokesh, Home Minister

Anita, and members of the judiciary, urging them to investigate the police officials' actions and provide protection. They described the situation as a state of "anarchy" and expressed fears for their safety.

This case has sparked widespread interest and raised concerns over accountability and transparency within local law enforcement. Public officials have yet to respond to the couple's appeal, but the video is rapidly gaining traction, prompting calls for an inquiry into the allegations.

Guntur Government Hospital Superintendent Faces Alleged Pressure Following Incident



TPN, Guntur: Questions surround the recent handling of a tragic case at Guntur Government Hospital involving the death of Sahana, a resident from Tenali. Sources report that Dr. Kiran Kumar, the Superintendent of Guntur Government Hospital, has faced scrutiny regarding the postmortem procedures.

Reports indicate that before Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's scheduled visit to the hospital, alliance leaders allegedly instructed Dr. Kiran Kumar to conduct Sahana's postmortem and have the body sent to Tenali by 6 a.m. However, Dr. Kumar reportedly explained that the postmortem could not be conducted without the necessary signatures from Sahana's family, who were unavailable at the time.

It is also alleged that following CM Jagan's arrival and visit to Sahana's body, tensions escalated, resulting in pressure and a purported assault on Dr. Kumar. Further speculation suggests that certain leaders within the alliance are planning to replace him due to perceived shortcomings, possibly as a consequence of his original appointment during the YCP administration. Dr. Ramana SSV has reportedly emerged as a potential candidate for the role.

This unfolding situation has garnered attention, highlighting challenges in the administration of public health services in Guntur.

N.T.R. District Police Crack Down on Illegal Sand Storage

TPN, Vijayawada: The N.T.R. District Police have taken decisive action against illegal sand storage, registering cases against individuals found hoarding sand without authorization. This move comes in response to reports that the free sand provided by the state government is being diverted for unlawful purposes.

City Police Commissioner S.V. Raja Shekhara Babu, I.P.S., announced the formation of a Task Force, alongside several special teams composed of law enforcement officers and staff, to tackle this issue. Raids were conducted in the jurisdictions of Nandigama, Chillakallu, and Pengranchiprolu police stations, resulting in the seizure of six illegally stored sand dumps.

According to Government Order No. 66, free sand is strictly designated for personal use and cannot be transported, sold, or dumped for commercial purposes. The Commissioner emphasized that individuals caught illegally storing or selling sand will face legal action, reiterating the commitment of the police to uphold the law and ensure that state resources are used appropriately.



Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Aims for Swift Solutions to Public Issues



TPN, Vijayawada: Commissioner Dhyanchandra of the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation has emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts among engineering, public health, and town planning officials to expedite the resolution of citizens' problems. During a teleconference with department heads on Saturday morning, he underscored that joint inspections are crucial for

addressing issues effectively.

Dhyanchandra stated that daily joint inspections, coordinated by departmental heads, will enable the swift handling of problems such as garbage disposal, construction and demolition waste management, and repairs of drinking water pipelines. He believes this approach will lead to timely solutions for the challenges faced by the community.

Furthermore, he directed Urban Planning, Sanitary, and Amenities Secretaries within each Secretariat to conduct daily joint inspections and continuously monitor public issues, ensuring that they are addressed promptly. This proactive strategy aims to enhance the quality of life for residents in Vijayawada by fostering effective communication and collaboration among municipal departments.

AYUSH Department Conducts Site Inspection for Proposed Research Institute in Gannavaram

TPN, Gannavaram: In a significant step towards establishing a Central Research Institute of Yoga and Naturopathy (CRIYN), officials from the AYUSH Department conducted a site inspection in Kondapavulur, Gannavaram Mandal. The inspection involved AYUSH Commissioner Rajendra Kumar, Collector DK Balaji, and representatives from various departments, including Revenue, Public Relations, Roads &

Buildings (R&B), and Power. The 25 acres of land in survey number 6 had been allotted to the AYUSH department during the previous TDP regime. However, the subsequent YCP government had not taken any action regarding this land. Now, with the coalition government back in power, steps are being taken to utilize the allocated land for CRIYN, which aims to promote research and education in Yoga and

Naturopathy.

Officials expressed hope that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would virtually lay the foundation stone for the institute on Yoga and Naturopathy Day, scheduled for October 29. During the inspection, it was noted that while the total area in Pataligattu is 35 acres, 25 acres are specifically designated for AYUSH. Discussions revolved around the

feasibility of the virtual foundation stone ceremony, considering whether it should be conducted in Vijayawada or at the site itself. State Health Minister Sathya Kumar is expected to visit the site on Saturday to make a final announcement regarding the project's progression. The inspection team included various department heads, including Tehsildar Sivaiah, R&B EE Surishetti Lokeswara Rao, and others.



Comprehensive Plan Launched to Preserve Handicraft Traditions in AP – DCM Pawan Kalyan



TPN, Amaravati: The Deputy Chief Minister has unveiled a significant initiative aimed at preserving the unique handicrafts associated with Kondapalli, Atikoppaka, and Bobbili dolls. Addressing the challenges faced by artisans, the Deputy Chief Minister emphasized the importance of these traditional arts and the urgent steps required to protect them.

During a recent meeting, he highlighted a critical issue: the drastic decline of traditional resources such as Ankudu and White Poliki (*Givotia moluccana*) wood, which are essential for artisans. This decline, attributed to over-exploitation and mismanagement, poses a severe threat to the livelihoods of many artisans and endangers the continued production of these art forms.

In response, the Deputy Chief Minister announced a comprehensive resource management plan. This initiative will be implemented

in collaboration with the Forest Department and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). The plan includes extensive plantation programs designed to reintroduce Ankudu, White Poliki, and other locally significant species in forests and government nurseries across the state.

Furthermore, the Deputy Chief Minister urged local communities, artisans, and voluntary organizations to engage actively in efforts to preserve Andhra Pradesh's handicrafts. He reiterated the government's commitment to establishing the state as a model for the protection of traditional art forms.

This proactive approach aims not only to sustain artisans' livelihoods but also to foster a renewed appreciation for Andhra Pradesh's rich handicraft heritage, ensuring that these unique traditions continue to thrive for future generations.

Victory of Alliance Candidates is the Goal in MLC Elections - Minister Nimmala

TPN, East Godavari: AP Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu has called on officials to implement strict measures for the upcoming MLC elections in Andhra Pradesh. During a recent meeting, he emphasized the importance of completing the voter registration process by November 6, setting clear instructions for the election preparations.

Minister Ramanaidu stated, "This time, MLC elections will be held in 70 constituencies across the state. The alliance ranks must work diligently to ensure the victory of NDA candidates. It is crucial that government programs are effectively communicated to the public at the grassroots level." He urged all party leaders to coordinate with their workers to secure wins for the alliance candidates in the elections.

In addition to the MLC elections, the Minister expressed the need for victory in the irrigation union elections. He mentioned that the authorities had already been instructed to supply sand for free during the upcoming AP assembly elections, stressing that "no local leaders should interfere in the distribution of free sand." He warned that strict action would be taken against any leaders found committing irregularities in this regard.

Minister Ramanaidu criticized the previous YCP



regime for allegedly prioritizing commissions and burdening the public with high electricity rates. He highlighted that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has consistently supported TDP workers and launched a membership registration program at the party's central office in Mangalagiri. The program offers accident insurance ranging from ₹2 lakhs to ₹5 lakhs for a nominal fee of ₹100. He encouraged efforts to increase party membership across the state, emphasizing the importance of this initiative for the party's success.

Minister Kandula Durgesh Launches Spiritual Bus Yatra in East Godavari



TPN, Rajamahendravaram: State Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography Minister Kandula Durgesh inaugurated a one-day pilgrimage bus tour aimed at promoting spiritual tourism across Andhra Pradesh. The event took place on Saturday at the Tourism Camp Office near Saraswati Ghat.

Minister Durgesh, along with public representatives from the alliance, kicked off the spiritual bus journey by waving flags, marking the beginning of a new initiative to enhance tourism in the state. This tour will cover six renowned shrines in the joint East Godavari district, en-

couraging devotees to explore these sacred sites.

The launch signifies a commitment to boosting spiritual tourism in the region, with plans for similar trips across the state in the coming days. Minister Durgesh expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative, highlighting its potential to attract visitors and promote the rich cultural heritage of Andhra Pradesh.

The initiative is part of the government's broader efforts to develop tourism and enhance the state's appeal as a spiritual destination.

A Tragic Road Accident in Anantapur Dist



TPN, Anantapur: A tragic road accident in Anantapur district has resulted in the deaths of six individuals. The incident occurred at Nayanapally Cross in Singanamala mandal

when a speeding car collided with a lorry. The impact was severe, causing the car to be crushed beneath the lorry.

The victims were identified as devotees of the ISKCON prayer hall in Anantapur, who were returning from a Sankirtana program in Tadipatri Nagar at the time of the accident.

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu expressed his shock and sorrow over the incident, extending his deepest condolences to the families of the deceased. He assured them that the government would provide support to the affected families during this difficult time.

District Collector Emphasizes Parental Involvement in Education

TPN, Visakhapatnam: District Collector MN Harendhiraprasad has stressed the importance of parental involvement in the academic lives of students. During a review meeting with education officials at the Collectorate, he emphasized that parents should regularly observe their children's studies and habits. He urged that the upcoming mega parents and teachers meetings, scheduled for November 14, be made a resounding success.

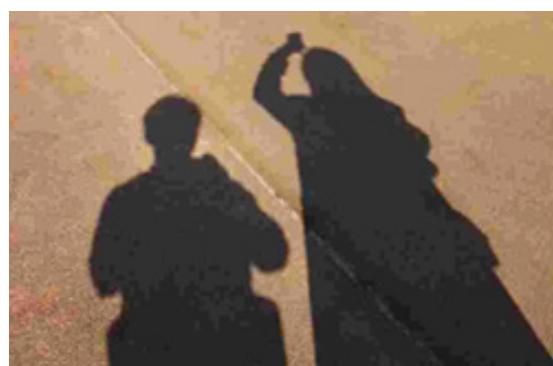
Collector Harendhiraprasad ordered the creation of an Aakar (Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry) identification number for every student and its linkage to their Aadhaar cards. He instructed all teachers to prepare for the statewide meetings and to ensure parents are well-informed about the significance of these gatherings. Details about the meetings should be communicated during school prayer sessions.

The Collector also encouraged local public representatives and school management committees to participate in these meetings. He highlighted the need for schools to prepare detailed reports covering achievements, results, admissions, and pedagogical aspects.

Harendhiraprasad pointed out that while economically disadvantaged students are enrolled in schools, their parents often require guidance regarding the education system. He called for efforts to educate them about various government programs aimed at supporting their children.

Additionally, he underscored the necessity for teachers to monitor students' behavior, attendance, and any negative habits. He noted that steps should be taken to update Aadhaar information, especially by establishing Aadhaar centers for students. The review meeting was attended by DEO N. Premkumar, In-charge Deputy Education Officer Ravindra Babu, along with numerous principals and teachers.

Shocking Murder Case, Women Kills Husband to Pursue Affair



TPN, Anantapur: In a disturbing turn of events, a woman named Saroja has been arrested for the brutal murder of her husband, Ramesh, in Parigi. The incident, which has left the local community in shock, unfolded after years of marital strife fueled by Ramesh's alcohol addiction.

Ramesh, 40, a painter by profession, had a tumultuous relationship with his wife due to his alcoholism, leading Saroja to return to her birthplace. While working in a garment factory at Tumukunta check post in Hindupuram Mandal, Saroja began an extramarital affair with her relative, Chakali Raju. Together, they hatched a plan to eliminate Ramesh, believing that his absence would allow them to be together without hindrance.

On the night of September 19, Ramesh was lured to LGB Nagar in Roddam Mandal by Chakali Raju's uncle, Subbarayappa. After consuming alcohol with Ramesh and another accomplice, they executed their plan. The trio stabbed Ramesh in the neck and

then attempted to destroy evidence by setting his body on fire using petrol.

On September 20, locals discovered Ramesh's charred body and alerted the authorities. Police, upon investigating, found painting coupons in his possession, which led them to identify him. The investigation quickly pointed to Saroja, Chakali Raju, and Subbarayappa as the main suspects. They have since been arrested, and the knife used in the murder, along with two bikes, has been seized.

Ramesh leaves behind two sons, who are now left to grapple with the aftermath of this horrific crime.

Peddireddy Accuses Sharmila of Conspiracy Against Jagan

TPN, Punganur: YCP leader Peddireddy Ramachandra Reddy has made provocative remarks against APCC chief YS Sharmila Reddy, claiming she is acting on a script aimed at undermining Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy politically. This comment comes in response to Sharmila's recent statements concerning property transfers within the YSR family, which have sparked significant debate in the state. During a media briefing on Saturday, Peddireddy criticized Sharmila for allegedly conspiring against Jagan. He accused her of being a pawn in Chandrababu

Naidu's political maneuvers, suggesting that her criticisms serve to weaken Jagan's position rather than strengthen her party.

Peddireddy further claimed that Sharmila's comments on Jagan's meetings with the electricity department were misleading, asserting that she was attempting to portray those discussions as merely a pretext for raising electricity tariffs. He emphasized that any necessary increases in charges were a result of mistakes made by Jagan, which should not be unfairly attributed to

him alone. Expressing his frustration, Peddireddy argued that the current trend of blaming Jagan for all issues in the state is toxic. He also highlighted a perceived hypocrisy in Chandrababu Naidu's stance on agriculture, implying that Naidu, who once championed farmers, now only pretends to support them.

Peddireddy's comments reflect the ongoing political tensions in Andhra Pradesh as parties navigate the challenges of governance and public perception.

BRICS Challenges Dollar Dominance at Kazan Summit



Ahead of the recent BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia, the Ministry of Finance released a significant document titled "Improvement of The International Monetary System." This document aimed to spark discussions among the leaders of the five original BRICS nations—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—alongside representatives from over 20 other countries.

The document asserted that the current International Monetary and Financial System (IMFS) has reached its peak and requires improvements to better address the evolving global economy. It highlighted Russia's struggles against Western sanctions, arguing that the existing system poses destabilizing risks due to excessive reliance on a single currency and centralized financial infrastructure. The proposed future model should prioritize security, independence, inclusion, and sustainability, suggesting the exploration of a multilateral settlement platform based on modern technologies.

In the lead-up to the summit, President Vladimir Putin emphasized BRICS as key drivers of global economic growth. He argued that this coalition could generate the majority of the world's GDP growth in the foreseeable future. During his speech at the BRICS Business Forum, he introduced initiatives like a joint cross-border payments system and a SWIFT-like financial messaging service designed to withstand Western sanctions. He urged BRICS nations to reconsider holding sovereign reserves in US dollars, aligning with his broader agenda to challenge the dollar's supremacy.

Last year's summit in Johannesburg had already set the stage for a potential challenge to dollar dominance, with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva questioning why trade couldn't be conducted using member countries' own currencies. His remarks stirred discussions about the legitimacy of the dollar as the default currency since the abandonment of the gold

standard.

Despite BRICS not being the first group to challenge dollar hegemony—France initiated such discussions in the 1950s—the recent sentiment suggests that "de-dollarisation" could gain momentum post-Kazan. Historical context shows that France's resistance included calls for dethroning the dollar, with President Charles de Gaulle expressing discontent over America's privileged position in the global monetary system.

The formation of the European Economic Union and the introduction of the Euro as a common currency were also strategic moves against dollar dominance. Over the past two decades, the Euro has successfully captured approximately 21% of global forex reserves.

As BRICS continues to navigate these complex economic waters, its ability to challenge the dollar's dominance will be closely

Elon Musk's Shift to Conservatism: Understanding the Surprising Pivot



Elon Musk's recent support for Donald Trump at political rallies has raised eyebrows, particularly within the traditionally liberal landscape of Silicon Valley. While Musk is often labeled as a libertarian, he has described himself as a centrist or "politically moderate." This apparent shift toward conservatism prompts the question: why is it perceived as such a radical departure?

Three primary factors contribute to this surprise. First, Musk has cultivated an image as a futuristic techno-optimist and maverick, which has obscured some of his more unconventional personal beliefs. This persona has led many to overlook the complexities of his political views, framing him as an innovator rather than a traditional political figure. His enthusiastic embrace of cutting-edge technologies and bold ventures like SpaceX and Tesla has distracted from his underlying ideological shifts.

Second, despite his current leanings, Musk has a history of supporting Democratic candidates, including Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, and even Joe Biden in the 2020 election. This prior affiliation with the Democratic Party has created a sense of cognitive dissonance among observers who now see him aligning with the Right. His past support for progressive policies and candidates adds another layer of complexity to his current positioning, making his pivot seem abrupt and contradictory.

The third factor is the magnitude of his ideological shift and the financial resources he has directed toward right-wing causes. Musk's opposition to what he describes as the "woke" Left has manifested in a notable endorsement of the Dark MAGA movement, which advocates for a return to Trumpism characterized by a vengeful and dystopian outlook. This alignment with fringe elements of the conservative movement has shocked many who view it as an extreme transformation rather than a simple political evolution. However, beneath the sensationalism lies a more straightforward reality. Musk's conservatism appears to stem from a profit motive and a contrarian desire for recognition and validation. His pivot may be less about deep ideological convictions and more about aligning with narratives that challenge the status quo, appealing to a segment of the population that feels marginalized by contemporary liberalism.

Congress (I) Pursues Alliances Amid Challenges

In light of increasing electoral challenges, the Congress (I) party has intensified efforts to forge alliances with various regional parties ahead of the upcoming elections. Recognizing the need for a broader coalition to enhance their chances at the polls, Congress (I) leaders are actively engaging with over a dozen regional factions, some of which have controversial communal affiliations. This strategy places the party in a precarious position, relying heavily on a diverse array of partners for electoral success.

As Congress (I) negotiates with these regional parties, the discussions underscore the urgency to consolidate support in the face of anticipated difficulties during the elections. By reaching out to parties across the spectrum, Congress (I) aims to bolster its electoral base and increase its influence in key states. The party's emissaries are navigating a complex political landscape, seeking to align with groups that may not traditionally share their values but are crucial for building a viable coalition.

In the context of regional politics, the Congress (I) faces competition from various state-based parties, each with their unique agendas and voter bases. As alliances form, the party must carefully manage its relationships to avoid alienating its core supporters while appealing to new constituencies. This balancing act is critical as Congress (I) looks to re-establish its prominence in the political arena.

Supreme Court Critiques Government Response to Stubble Burning



On Wednesday, the Supreme Court criticized the Central and state governments of Delhi and its neighboring regions for their inadequate response to the issue of crop stubble burning. The Court emphasized the significance of Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to a pollution-free environment. Despite a reported decline in the number of farm-fire incidents in recent years, the Court highlighted that punitive measures against farmers remain the primary approach, overlooking the underlying reasons for their actions.

The issue of stubble burning is often met with swift blame directed at farmers, yet this perspective fails to consider the economic and logistical pressures they face. Many farmers resort to burning crop residue as a cost-effective method to clear fields for the next planting season. This practice is compounded by a lack of efficient alternatives for managing agricultural

waste, such as proper disposal or utilization of stubble for bioenergy or composting. The governments' emphasis on penalties does little to address these root causes, perpetuating a cycle of blame without offering real solutions.

The Supreme Court also pointed out that pollution in the Delhi-NCR region arises from multiple sources beyond stubble burning. Key contributors include local traffic, industrial emissions, construction activities, road dust, and biomass burning. According to government data, stubble burning accounts for only 5 to 30 percent of the pollution load in the National Capital Region (NCR) during peak pollution periods. This statistic highlights the necessity for a more comprehensive approach to tackling air quality issues, rather than fixating solely on agricultural practices.

While the reduction in stubble burning in-

cidents is commendable, it is essential for the governments to engage with farmers to understand their challenges and to facilitate better agricultural practices. Solutions might involve providing subsidies for machinery that helps in stubble management, promoting awareness about sustainable practices, and investing in research for alternative uses of crop residue.

The Supreme Court's strong stance calls for a reevaluation of strategies employed by the government. It advocates for a balanced approach that incorporates both regulatory measures and supportive initiatives aimed at fostering environmental responsibility among farmers. Addressing the multifaceted nature of pollution will require collaboration among various stakeholders, including the government, agricultural communities, and environmental organizations, to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for all.



PM Modi to Inaugurate Tata Aircraft Complex in Gujarat

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez are set to inaugurate the Tata aircraft complex in Vadodara, Gujarat, on Monday, marking a significant milestone in India's defense manufacturing capabilities. This facility will be dedicated to the production of C-295 aircraft by Tata Advanced Systems and represents the first private sector final assembly line (FAL) for military aircraft in India.

In a statement released by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Saturday, it was announced that Modi's visit to his home state will also include the launch of various development projects worth over ₹4,900 crore in Amreli.

Under the agreement, the Vadodara facility is expected to manufacture 40 aircraft, while aerospace giant Airbus will deliver an additional 16 aircraft directly. This collaboration underscores the growing partnership between Tata Advanced Systems and Airbus, further strengthening India's defense manufacturing landscape.

The Tata facility will encompass a comprehensive ecosystem that includes the manufacture, assembly, testing, qualification, and maintenance of the air-

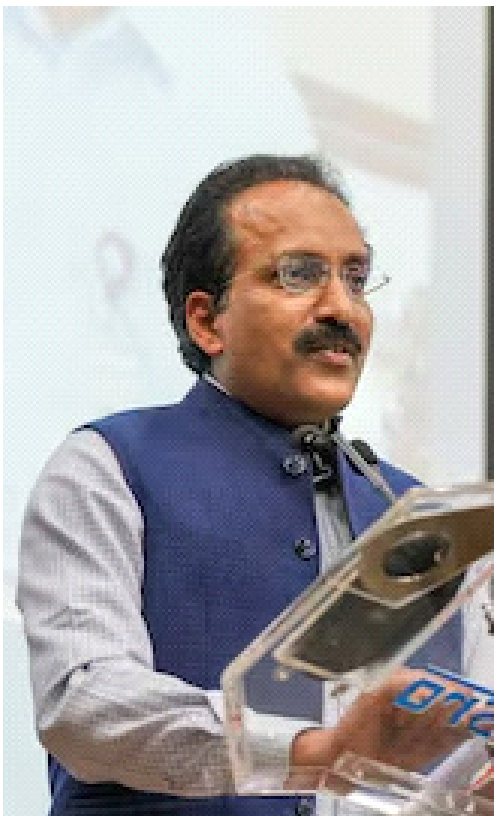


craft throughout its lifecycle. The PMO highlighted that this initiative will not only enhance India's defense capabilities but also promote self-reliance in military aircraft production.

In addition to Tata Advanced Systems, the project will engage prominent de-

fense public sector units, including Bharat Electronics and Bharat Dynamics, along with numerous private micro, small, and medium enterprises. This collaborative approach aims to foster innovation and support the broader defense manufacturing ecosystem in India.

India Needs Revolutionary Growth To Become Developed Economy': ISRO Chief Somanath



Somanathan's remarks were particularly directed at India's aspirations to rank among the world's largest economies. He stated, "If India aims to become the third, second, or even the largest global economy, a revolutionary change is imperative. Growth cannot rely solely on trade and resources; we need to create value through technology that fuels product development."

In his address, he also commended visionary Elon Musk for his groundbreaking work in the space sector, noting that Musk's accomplishments have inspired global efforts, including those within ISRO. "Elon Musk is making heads turn with his rockets. Everyone, from Europe to Russia to China, is looking at what he is doing. He is a great man doing fantastic work, and we are all inspired by his achievements," Somanathan said.

While acknowledging India's significant achievements in space exploration, including recent successful lunar missions, he stressed the importance of ongoing innovation and effort to maintain momentum. "We have reached a level where we are the fifth-largest global economy, but to ascend further, we must enhance our technology. We need to develop expertise in areas such as propulsion, material sciences, and orbital dynamics," he added.

ISRO Chairman S. Somanathan emphasized the need for India to undergo a revolutionary transformation to emerge as a developed economy. Speaking at the 13th convocation ceremony of the Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Delhi, he highlighted that technological advancements and product development are crucial for driving economic growth.

Restoration of statehood policy matter, not political issue: J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina

Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina emphasized on Saturday that the restoration of statehood to the Union Territory is a matter of policy rather than a political issue. He urged against any rush in making decisions, highlighting that Jammu and Kashmir has already endured significant challenges in recent years.

Raina's comments come in the context of ongoing discussions about the political status of Jammu and Kashmir following its reorganization in 2019, when it was converted from a state into a Union Territory. He stressed the importance of taking a careful and measured approach to the statehood debate, considering the region's complex history and ongoing challenges.

"Restoring statehood is not merely a political agenda; it is a matter of policy that requires thoughtful consideration," Raina stated. He pointed out that hasty decisions could exacerbate existing issues and that the government should prioritize stability and development in the region. The BJP leader acknowledged the sentiments of various stakeholders in Jammu and Kashmir who advocate for the restoration of statehood. However, he emphasized the need for a comprehensive assessment of the situation before proceeding.

Aam Aadmi Party to Support Maha Vikas Aghadi in Maharashtra Elections



Singh confirmed this decision on Saturday via a post on X.

Singh, a Rajya Sabha MP, stated, "In the Maharashtra elections, the party's National Convener, Arvind Kejriwal, will campaign for the MVA candidates. Aam Aadmi Party will not contest elections in Maharashtra." According to AAP sources, the Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP-SP reached out to the party to request Kejriwal's involvement in the campaign.

In addition to his efforts in Maharashtra, Kejriwal is also set to campaign for Hemant Soren's ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in the upcoming Jharkhand assembly polls. The political landscape in Maharashtra is critical, with 288 assembly seats up for grabs in the elec-

tions scheduled for November 20.

The Jharkhand polls will occur in two phases on November 13 and 20, with the counting of votes for both states set for November 23. AAP, along with the MVA constituents, is part of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), a coalition formed to challenge the BJP ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

While AAP has allied with Congress, the largest member of the INDIA bloc, in Delhi, Gujarat, and Haryana for the Lok Sabha elections, it contested independently in Punjab. In the recent assembly elections in Haryana, AAP also ran on its own but did not secure any seats.

Tribal community integral to India's development: President Murmu



President Droupadi Murmu emphasized the vital contribution of the tribal community to India's progress during her address at the third and fourth joint convocation of IIT Bhilai in Chhattisgarh on October 26. She asserted that the nation's development would remain incomplete without the active participation of these communities.

In her speech, President Murmu praised the innovative thinking and far-reaching vision of IIT graduates, noting their significant impact on advancing both India and the global landscape. She commended IIT Bhilai for its state-of-the-art facilities and its commitment to integrating natural resources into its educational framework. "This first convocation at the newly-developed campus showcases advanced teaching and research amenities that embody a forward-thinking design," she remarked.

Highlighting the knowledge-rich, nature-centered lifestyle of the tribal community, President Murmu stated, "Our tribal brothers and sisters are a reservoir of knowledge. Their natural way of life offers invaluable insights for sustainable development." She emphasized that understanding and learning from this community could significantly contribute to India's growth trajectory.

The President lauded IIT Bhilai's initiatives in agri-tech, health-tech, and fintech aimed at tribal development. She specifically mentioned a mobile health app developed in collaboration with AIIMS-Raipur, designed to provide health advice directly to villagers in their homes, thereby enhancing healthcare access.

Reflecting on the legacy of IITs over the past six decades, President Murmu noted, "IITians have carved a unique identity globally, leading major corporations and influencing the technology landscape." She expressed confidence that IIT Bhilai, along with its students, would play a crucial role in enhancing India's international standing.



Jaishankar credits military, diplomacy for India-China LAC breakthrough

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar credited the recent breakthrough agreement with China regarding patrolling along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to the efforts of the military and effective diplomacy, achieved under "very unimaginable" conditions. Speaking to students in Pune, he acknowledged that while progress has been made, it is still too early for a full normalization of relations, which will take time to rebuild.

Jaishankar referenced a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping during the BRICS summit in Kazan, where it was agreed that the foreign ministers and National Security Advisors of both countries would convene to discuss future steps. He emphasized that the current situation was the result of India's determined stance and the military's role in defending the nation under challenging circumstances.

The minister highlighted significant improvements in India's border infrastructure over the past decade, noting, "We have put in five times more resources annually than we did ten years ago, which is showing results." This enhancement has allowed the military to be effectively deployed, contributing to the recent diplomatic progress.

Earlier this week, India announced an agreement with China that would enable patrolling along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, marking a major step toward resolving a military standoff that has persisted for over four years. Jaishankar pointed out that the situation along the border has been tense since 2020, which has adversely affected the overall relationship between the two nations.

He outlined the various aspects of the ongoing negotiations, highlighting three key components: disengagement, de-escalation, and the broader issue of border management and boundary settlement. Currently, the focus is primarily on disengagement, as troops are positioned very close to one another, raising the risk of conflicts.

Germany Strengthens Ties with India: Focus on Skilled Labor and Education

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's recent visit to India, accompanied by a high-profile delegation of eight ministers, marks a significant milestone in the Indo-German relationship. This trip aims to enhance economic collaboration, particularly in response to Germany's urgent need for skilled labor, opening new migration pathways for Indian professionals.

The visit aligns with the release of Germany's "India Focus Paper," which outlines its goals to deepen strategic partnerships with India. As the world's most populous democracy and a rapidly growing economy, India is poised to play a critical role for Germany, especially in sectors like education, technology, and skill development.

A key focus of the delegation's discussions is the anticipated expansion of the Migration and Mobility Agreement, which will facilitate the movement of skilled Indian workers to Germany. This agreement is crucial in addressing Germany's skill shortages in digital, engineering, and healthcare sectors. German Finance Minister Robert Habeck emphasized the alignment between Germany's needs and India's youthful workforce, stating, "India is a young, growing society."

In addition to easing migration pathways, Germany is committed to investing in India's educational ecosystem. The German Embassy hosted its fifth Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP) Conversation Series at IIT Delhi, bringing together leaders from various sectors to discuss building a workforce prepared for



the digital and green economies. Germany has a history of supporting India's skill development initiatives, particularly in high-demand areas like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and renewable energy.

One notable initiative is "Experimento India," launched by Siemens Stiftung and other partners. This project aims to provide Open Educational Resources (OER) to underserved communities, focusing on STEM skills and promoting educational equity in India.

Chancellor Scholz's visit emphasizes India's strategic importance to Germany's long-term vision, which encompasses cooperation in skill development, sustainable energy, and trade. The ongoing discussions and initiatives symbolize a robust partnership aimed at cultivating a skilled, interconnected workforce, ready to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving global economy. This collaboration not only benefits both nations but also fosters a deeper understanding and exchange of expertise that is crucial for future growth.



US Sends Back Illegal Indian Immigrants On Chartered Flight Ahead Of Polls

The United States has initiated the deportation of Indian nationals residing illegally in the country by hiring a chartered flight, according to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This operation was carried out in coordination with the Indian government, highlighting ongoing efforts to manage immigration effectively.

On October 22, the charter flight departed for India, with DHS officials emphasizing the seriousness of unlawful immigration. "Indian nationals without a legal basis to remain in the United States are subject to swift removal," stated Kristie A. Canegallo, a senior official performing the duties of Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. She further warned potential migrants against falling prey to smugglers who propagate misleading information about immigration.

The DHS has reiterated its commitment to enforcing U.S. immigration laws and implementing strict measures for those who enter the country unlawfully. The agency encourages individuals to pursue legal pathways for immigration rather than resorting to dangerous and illegal methods.

Since the implementation of the Securing the Border Presidential Proclamation and the accompanying Interim Final Rule in June 2024, the DHS reports a significant decrease in encounters at the southwest border. Specifically, there has been a 55 percent reduction in such encounters, indicating the effectiveness of these new policies.

In fiscal year 2024 alone, the DHS removed or returned over 160,000 individuals and facilitated more than 495 international repatriation flights to over 145 countries, including India. This underscores the DHS's ongoing engagement with foreign governments to ensure the repatriation of nationals without legal status in the U.S.

The department noted that this charter flight is just one of many tools employed to reduce irregular migration, encourage safe and lawful immigration pathways, and hold transnational criminal networks accountable for smuggling operations that exploit vulnerable individuals.

Over the past year, the DHS has also removed individuals from various countries, including Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Egypt, Mauritania, Senegal, Uzbekistan, China, and India, reflecting a comprehensive approach to immigration enforcement and international cooperation.



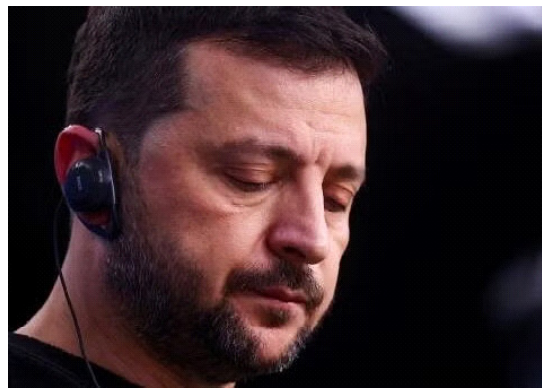
Justice Yahya Afridi Sworn in as 30th Chief Justice of Pakistan

Justice Yahya Afridi was sworn in as the 30th Chief Justice of Pakistan on Saturday, marking a significant transition in the country's judiciary. The oath-taking ceremony took place in Islamabad and was attended by top government officials and dignitaries, reflecting the importance of this judicial appointment.

Justice Afridi succeeds Qazi Faez Isa, who retired on Friday upon reaching the mandatory retirement age of 65. Afridi's elevation to the highest judicial position in the country comes at a crucial time, as Pakistan continues to navigate various legal and constitutional challenges.

Born in Peshawar, Justice Afridi has had a distinguished career in law. He has served on the Supreme Court since 2018 and has been involved in numerous landmark judgments that have shaped the legal landscape of Pakistan. His extensive experience and commitment to justice have garnered respect from his peers and the legal community.

During the ceremony, officials expressed confidence in Justice Afridi's ability to uphold the rule of law and deliver justice impartially. He takes the helm at a time when the judiciary is under scrutiny, and public expectations for transparency and accountability are high. Justice Afridi's appointment comes amid ongoing discussions about judicial reforms and the judiciary's role in safeguarding the constitution. His leadership will be pivotal in addressing these issues, as well as maintaining the independence of the judiciary in Pakistan.



G7 Leaders Agree on \$50 Billion Loan Package for Ukraine

Leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) wealthy democracies reached a significant agreement on Friday, approving a loan package of approximately \$50 billion for Ukraine. This financial support will be backed by the revenue generated from frozen Russian sovereign assets, with the aim of beginning disbursement as early as December.

The consensus among G7 nations underscores their commitment to supporting Ukraine amidst its ongoing challenges. As the conflict with Russia continues to strain the Ukrainian economy, this loan package is seen as a crucial lifeline to help stabilize the country's financial situation and facilitate recovery efforts.

The G7 leaders highlighted the importance of utilizing Russian assets that have been frozen as a result of sanctions imposed in response to the invasion of Ukraine. By leveraging these resources, the G7 aims to provide significant financial assistance while also sending a strong message to Russia regarding the consequences of its actions.

During the discussions, the leaders emphasized the need for a coordinated approach to aid Ukraine, not only through financial support but also through humanitarian assistance and military aid. The agreement signals a united front among the G7 countries in their resolve to bolster Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The \$50 billion loan package is expected to play a vital role in helping Ukraine address immediate economic needs, including funding for essential services and infrastructure repair. Ukrainian officials have expressed gratitude for the ongoing support from G7 nations, recognizing its importance in the country's efforts to rebuild and strengthen its economy.



Send them to a small rally: Kamala Harris To Trump supporters

Vice President Kamala Harris encountered disruptions from alleged Donald Trump supporters during her rally in Houston, Texas, on Friday, just ten days before the presidential election. Despite the heckling and boos, Harris remained composed, attempting to calm the crowd as she addressed her supporters.

In a light-hearted jab at the disruptions, Harris suggested to the crowd, "Just send them to do a small rally down the street. It'll be fun. Some people don't have a great sense of direction. That's okay." Her supporters quickly rallied behind her, breaking into chants of encouragement, while security escorted one disruptive individual from the venue.

Amidst the charged atmosphere, pop star Beyonce made her first public political appearance this election cycle, joining Harris at the abortion rights-themed rally. Instead of performing, she took the opportunity to address the audience, stating, "I'm not here as a celebrity. I'm not here as a politician. I'm here as a mother... Your freedom is your God-given right, your human right." Beyonce emphasized the urgency of their cause, declaring, "It's time to sing a new song... The old notes of downfall, discord, despair no longer resonate."

Following Beyonce's impassioned speech, Harris expressed optimism about her campaign, asserting, "Momentum is on our side." She acknowledged the challenges in Texas, historically a Republican stronghold, and urged her supporters to stay committed. "So to all the friends here, let us remember: momentum is on our side. I know sometimes in Texas folks are like, 'Is it worth it? Is it? Does it make a difference?' Yes, it does," Harris affirmed.



US warns Iran against retaliation to Israeli strikes

The White House has indicated that Israel's recent military strikes on Iran should bring an end to direct hostilities between the two nations, while also cautioning Tehran about potential consequences if it retaliates. A senior official emphasized that the administration views the Israeli operation as a significant step in reducing military exchanges between Israel and Iran, aligning with perspectives shared by other allied nations.

As the situation unfolded, President Joe Biden was kept informed throughout the day on Friday, receiving updates from his National Security Adviser, Jake Sullivan. The official, who spoke to reporters under the condition of anonymity, described the Israeli operation as "extensive, targeted, and precise," highlighting the strategic nature of the strikes.

The administration clarified that the United States had no direct involvement in the operation, reinforcing its stance of supporting Israel's right to defend itself against perceived threats. The White House's comments reflect ongoing tensions in the region, with Iran's military capabilities and activities being closely monitored by both Israeli and American officials.

While the Israeli strikes aim to disrupt Iranian operations that pose threats to Israel, the potential for escalation remains a concern. The official reiterated the U.S. commitment to Israel's security, while also urging Iran to refrain from any retaliatory actions that could further destabilize the already volatile situation in the region.

As the global community watches closely, the ramifications of this military engagement could have significant implications for U.S.-Iran relations and broader geopolitical dynamics.

Strengthening Trade Ties: SBI and India Exim Bank Support African Businesses



The State Bank of India (SBI) and India Exim Bank are stepping up efforts to bridge the trade finance gap for businesses in African countries, as highlighted by their leadership during the recent India Entrepreneurs Forum (IEF) in South Africa. This initiative, launched by the Indian Consul General, Mahesh Kumar, aims to provide ongoing support for companies engaged in trade and business relations with India.

Kumar emphasized the importance of this engagement, particularly for smaller businesses that often struggle to navigate the complexities of trade finance. "Larger companies typically manage their financing needs effectively, but for smaller enterprises, the challenges can seem daunting," he explained. The fo-

rum is designed to enhance the capacity of these businesses, equipping them with the tools and knowledge necessary for successful international trade.

During the event, SBI CEO Ashutosh Kumar and Shyamashish Acharya, the Resident Representative at the Johannesburg office of India Exim Bank, shared insights into how their institutions can facilitate import and export activities between India and Africa. They underscored the significant advantages of leveraging their services, which can help mitigate the obstacles many businesses face in accessing financing.

"SBI is committed to expanding India's presence in Africa and plays a vital role in enhancing trade through

strategic funding to South African banks via syndications," Ashutosh Kumar stated. He also noted that SBI has consistently reinvested in South Africa, maintaining a strong financial presence there for the past 27 years.

The collaboration between SBI and India Exim Bank represents a pivotal step toward empowering African businesses, fostering a more inclusive trading environment. As these banks continue to provide essential resources and support, they are not only contributing to individual business success but also strengthening the overall economic ties between India and the African continent. This partnership signals a promising future for trade relations, paving the way for growth and innovation in both regions.

Inflation to moderate from last quarter of FY2025: RBI Governor



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has indicated that the trajectory of consumer price-based inflation (CPI) is expected to moderate starting in the last quarter of the current fiscal year. However, he also highlighted significant upside risks to this outlook, stemming from erratic weather patterns and escalating geopolitical tensions.

Speaking at the Macro Week event organized by the Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE) in Washington, Das stated, "The headline inflation trajectory is projected to sequentially moderate from the last quarter of this financial year." He emphasized that while there are optimistic projections for inflation rates, unpredictable weather events and the worsening of geopolitical conflicts could complicate this forecast.

Das's remarks come at a time when various factors are influencing inflation trends globally, including supply chain disruptions and fluctuating energy prices. He underscored the importance of monitoring these potential risks closely, as they could significantly impact both domestic and international economic stability.

The RBI has been actively managing monetary policy to curb inflation, aiming to strike a balance between supporting economic growth and maintaining price stability. Das reiterated that any shifts in inflation dynamics require vigilant attention, especially as the global economic landscape continues to evolve.

The potential for erratic weather, which could affect agricultural output and food prices, remains a crucial concern for policymakers. Additionally, ongoing geopolitical conflicts can lead to volatility in global markets, influencing inflationary pressures in India and beyond.

As the RBI navigates these challenges, the focus will be on ensuring that inflation remains within acceptable limits while fostering sustainable economic growth. Das's comments reflect a proactive approach to managing the complexities of the current economic environment, emphasizing the need for flexibility in policy responses to emerging risks.

ICICI Bank Reports Strong Q2 Performance with Significant Profit Growth

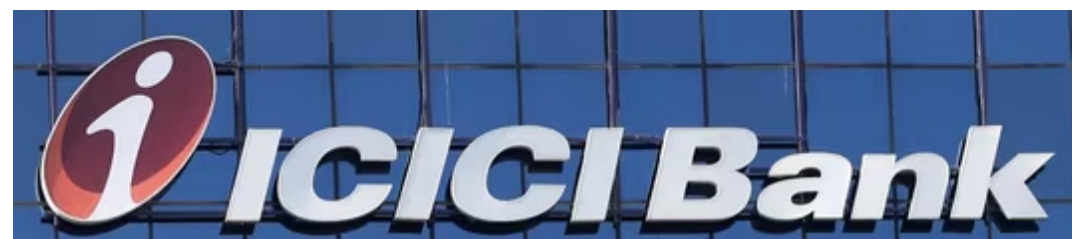
ICICI Bank Ltd, India's second-largest private sector lender, has released its financial results for the second quarter of the fiscal year 2024-25, showing impressive growth in profitability and income. The announcement was made on Saturday, October 26, 2024.

The bank reported a standalone net profit of ₹11,745.88 crore, reflecting a 14.47% increase, or ₹1,484.88 crore, compared to the same quarter last year, where profits stood at ₹10,261 crore. This growth underscores ICICI Bank's robust performance in a competitive banking landscape.

Interest income saw a significant rise, reaching ₹40,537.38 crore, marking a 16.08% increase, or ₹5,616.99 crore, from the ₹34,920.39 crore recorded in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. This surge is indicative of the bank's effective lending strategies and strong demand for loans.

Renew Exim DMCC, a subsidiary of the Adani Group, has announced a significant move to strengthen its engineering and construction capabilities by acquiring a 46.64% stake in ITD Cementation India. The deal, valued at ₹3,204 crore at ₹400 per share, was revealed in a stock exchange notification.

This acquisition is coupled with an open offer from Renew Exim to purchase an additional 26% stake in ITD Cementation from public shareholders at ₹571.68 per share, which could amount to ₹2,553 crore if fully subscribed. The initiative aligns with the Adani Group's strategic expansion plans, particularly in civil engineering, as it seeks to enhance its involvement in infrastructure projects, including airports, highways, and metro systems.



Additionally, the bank's income from investments increased to ₹8,311.33 crore, up by 18.38% or ₹1,291.02 crore compared to ₹7,020.31 crore in the previous year's second quarter. This rise in investment income highlights ICICI Bank's strategic asset management and favorable market conditions.

On the asset quality front, ICICI Bank reported gross non-performing assets (NPAs) of ₹27,121.15 crore, which is a notable decline of 9.10% or ₹2,715.79 crore from ₹29,836.94 crore in the same quarter last year. This reduction in gross NPAs signals improved credit quality and effective risk management practices.

However, the bank's net NPAs increased to ₹5,685.14 crore, a rise of 12.65% or ₹638.67 crore compared to ₹5,046.47 crore during the corresponding quarter last year. This increase warrants attention, as it reflects some challenges in asset recovery, despite the overall positive trajectory in other financial metrics.

Overall, ICICI Bank's Q2 results demonstrate its strong financial health and commitment to growth, positioning it well for future opportunities in India's evolving banking sector. The bank's strategic focus on enhancing profitability while managing risks continues to yield positive results, contributing to its reputation as a leading player in the industry.

Adani Group Expands Its Portfolio with ITD Cementation Acquisition

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ITD Cementation specializes in a wide range of engineering and construction projects, boasting a portfolio that includes metro systems, maritime structures, mass rapid transit systems, airports, hydroelectric power projects, tunnels, dams, irrigation, highways, bridges, flyovers, and industrial structures. For the fiscal year 2024, the company reported revenues of ₹7,542 crore and a profit of ₹274 crore, indicating a solid financial foundation.

The move to acquire a stake in ITD Cementation comes after its promoter, Italian-Thai Development Public Company Ltd, announced in July 2024 that it was exploring the sale of its stake in the company. This initial exploration was reported to be in the preliminary stages, setting the groundwork for the current acquisition.

tion.

In addition to the ITD Cementation deal, the Adani Group is also making waves in the cement industry. On October 22, 2024, the group announced plans to acquire Orient Cement Ltd, a CK Birla Group firm, for ₹8,100 crore. Ambuja Cements, part of the Adani Cement division, will acquire a 46.8% stake in Orient Cement from its current promoters and certain public shareholders, with the acquisition fully funded through internal accruals.

These strategic acquisitions reflect the Adani Group's commitment to expanding its footprint in crucial sectors and enhancing its capabilities in engineering and construction, further solidifying its position in India's rapidly growing infrastructure landscape.

India's business activity grows at faster clip in October

Growth in India's business activity experienced a modest uptick in October, reversing a trend of softening observed in the previous month. This positive shift is primarily driven by a surge in demand within the manufacturing sector, according to a recent survey. Notably, the data indicates that job creation also accelerated, reaching its highest level since February 2006.

The survey reflects a growing optimism among businesses, as they respond to increased demand with expanded production capabilities. The manufacturing sector, in particular, has shown resilience, contributing significantly to the overall growth. Factors such as improved consumer sentiment and a revival in orders have propelled manufacturers to ramp up out-



put, resulting in enhanced business confidence.

In addition to manufacturing, service sector activity has also seen growth, although it remains somewhat subdued compared to manufactur-

ing. The overall business environment has benefited from this dual boost, leading to a broader recovery in economic activity. Businesses are reporting increased orders, which has prompted many to invest in expanding their workforce to meet rising demands.

The job creation figures are particularly noteworthy, as they signify a strengthening labor market. Employers are hiring at rates not seen in nearly two decades, which bodes well for consumer spending and economic stability. This growth in employment is expected to further support demand, creating a positive feedback loop that can stimulate additional economic activity.

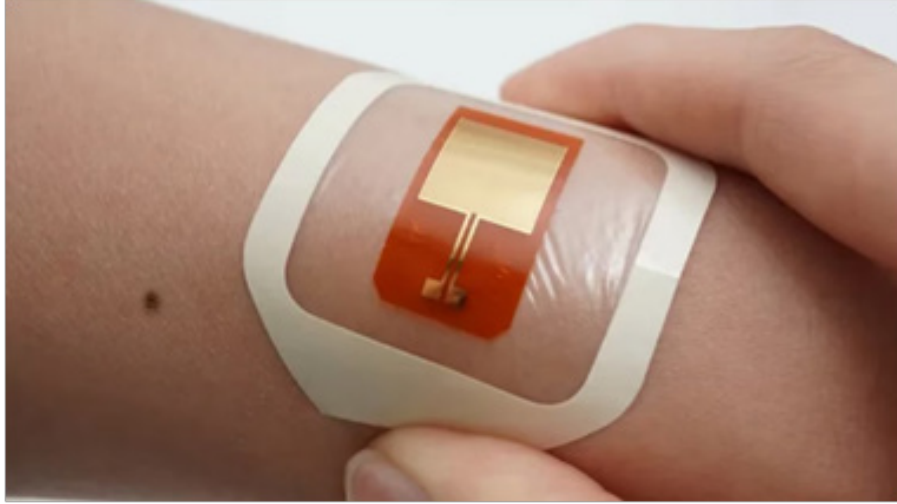
Despite these positive signs, some challenges re-

main. Businesses are keeping a close watch on inflationary pressures, which could impact their operational costs. Additionally, geopolitical uncertainties and fluctuating raw material prices may pose risks to sustained growth. Nevertheless, the current data indicates a resilient economy that is adapting to challenges while capitalizing on opportunities for growth.

Overall, the improved business activity in October suggests a recovery trajectory for the Indian economy, underpinned by strong manufacturing demand and significant job creation. As businesses navigate the coming months, continued focus on productivity and efficiency will be essential to maintain this momentum and support broader economic recovery.

New Patch Device Uses Electricity To Combat Harmful Skin Bacteria

Scientists have unveiled a groundbreaking patch designed to combat harmful bacteria on the skin using mild electric pulses. Dubbed the Bioelectronic Localized Antimicrobial Stimulation Therapy (BLAST) patch, this innovative device emits a harmless electrical current specifically targeting skin bacteria that could potentially lead to infections if they enter the bloodstream.



mildly acidic conditions, similar to the natural pH of human skin. To enhance this effect, researchers incorporated an acidifying hydrogel into the BLAST patch. The acidic environment is crucial for curtailing bacterial biofilm formation, a common challenge in infection management within medical settings.

The BLAST patch has undergone successful testing on pig skin, which shares important structural similarities with human skin and is frequently used in preclinical studies. Researchers applied *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, a common skin bacterium, to the skin. While this bacterium typically coexists harmlessly on human skin, it can cause serious infections if introduced into the body via medical devices, such as catheters.

When the BLAST patch was applied to the infected pig skin, it emitted electric pulses every ten minutes over an 18-hour duration. The electric charge was comparable to that used in pacemakers, resulting in a nearly tenfold reduction in bacterial levels on the treated skin and significantly minimizing the formation of biofilms—dense clusters of bacteria that can adhere to surfaces and resist treatments.

Laboratory studies revealed that *S. epidermidis* reacted to the electric currents only under

Published on October 24 in the journal *Device*, the study suggests that the BLAST patch could also be utilized for sterilizing medical device surfaces, providing an additional layer of protection against bacterial infections. Bozhi Tian, a professor of chemistry at the University of Chicago and one of the study's authors, emphasized that this innovation could reduce the need for preventive antibiotics, addressing growing concerns around antibiotic resistance.

Further research is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of the BLAST patch against various bacterial strains and in future animal and human trials. If successful, this device may become a valuable tool for infection prevention in medical facilities within the next five years.

The Importance of Hydration: Finding the Balance

Hydration is often hailed as the secret behind glowing skin, optimal health, and fitness. From social media influencers to health experts, the message is clear: drink plenty of water. However, while staying hydrated is crucial, it's equally important to understand that excessive water consumption can be dangerous.



Water intoxication, or hyponatremia, occurs when an individual consumes an excessive amount of water in a short period, diluting the sodium levels in the bloodstream. Dr. Tushar Tayal, a consultant in internal medicine, explains that sodium is a vital electrolyte that helps regulate fluid balance within and outside cells. When the kidneys struggle to expel excess water, it seeps into cells, causing them to swell.

Dr. P. Venkata Krishnan adds that sodium is essential for nerve signaling, muscle function, and maintaining fluid balance. The kidneys can filter about 0.8 to 1 liter of water per hour, and exceeding this can lead to water retention and a dilution of blood electrolytes.

As blood volume increases with excessive water intake, electrolyte concentration decreases, leading to cellular swelling. While swelling may not pose immediate risks in most tissues, it becomes critical when it affects the brain, leading to cerebral edema. This condition increases pressure within the skull, resulting in severe complications like headaches, confusion, seizures, and even death.

In extreme cases, untreated water intoxication can be life-threatening, as it may cause herniation of the brain. Recognizing the symptoms of

water intoxication is crucial

To avoid the risks associated with excessive water consumption, individuals should be mindful of signs that they may be overhydrated. These include frequent urination, clear urine, headaches, and swelling in extremities. If symptoms of water intoxication arise, it is essential to stop drinking water immediately and seek medical attention.

While hydration is essential, knowing how much water you actually need is key. General guidelines suggest that men should aim for about 3.7 liters (125 ounces) of total fluids daily, while women should target around 2.7 liters (91 ounces). These recommendations include fluids from all sources, not just drinking water.

Ultimately, listening to your body—paying attention to thirst cues and the color of your urine—can help maintain the right balance. Keeping hydrated is crucial, but moderation is the key to preventing potential health risks.

Octopus Arms Move Independently Without Constant Brain Signals

Octopuses are celebrated for their extraordinary mobility, flexibility, and intelligence, yet many aspects of their arm movements have puzzled scientists for years. A groundbreaking study published in *Current Biology* has uncovered new insights into the nervous networks that allow octopus arms to move independently and flexibly, without the need for constant signals from the brain.



Led by Robyn Crook, an Associate Professor and Associate Chair of the Biology Department at San Francisco State University, this research focuses on the kinematics of *Octopus bimaculoides*. The study explores how each of the eight limbs contributes to the octopus's remarkable abilities, utilizing advanced 3D visualization technology to analyze the arms' intricate movements.

One of the key questions addressed in this study is how octopus limbs can execute complex motions autonomously. The researchers found that the octopus possesses a decentralized nervous system, with a significant number of neurons located in its arms. This unique arrangement allows the arms to process sensory information and coordinate movements independently from the brain, enabling them to perform tasks without needing direct oversight.

The study highlights the remarkable capabilities of octopus arms, which can move in various directions, adapt to different tasks, and even exhibit fine motor skills. This flexibility is crucial for survival, allowing them to navigate complex environments, hunt for prey, and interact with their surroundings.

Using state-of-the-art equipment, the research team visualized the arms of *Octopus bimaculoides* in three dimensions, providing a detailed look at their movement mechanics. This advanced analysis reveals how the arms work together and independently to execute intricate maneuvers, shedding light on the evolutionary advantages of such a sophisticated system.

The findings not only enhance our understanding of octopus biology but also raise intriguing questions about the nature of intelligence and autonomy in other species. As researchers continue to explore the complexities of octopus movement, this study marks a significant step in unraveling the mysteries surrounding one of the ocean's most enigmatic creatures.

Poop-emoji statue near US Capitol evokes stain

A provocative sign beneath a desk captures attention with its bold statement: "This memorial honors the brave men and women who broke into the United States Capitol on January 6th, 2021, to loot, urinate, and defecate throughout those hallowed halls in order to overturn an election." The wording is stark and unapologetic, inviting reflection on a day that has become emblematic of division and unrest in the United States.



January 6th was a watershed moment in American history, marked by a violent assault on the Capitol as supporters of then-President Donald Trump sought to overturn the results of the 2020 election. The event shocked the nation and the world, raising questions about democracy, civil discourse, and the boundaries of protest. This memorial, situated in an unexpected location, serves as a stark reminder of the chaos that ensued and the actions taken by individuals that day.

The choice of words—"brave" juxtaposed with references to looting and desecration—underscores the deep polarization surrounding the event. For some, the individuals who stormed the Capitol are seen as patriots standing up for their beliefs; for others, they are labeled insurrectionists undermining the democratic process. This memorial forces viewers to confront their own interpretations of that day and the broader

implications for American democracy.

The act of placing a memorial in such a context invites dialogue and debate. It challenges the traditional narratives of heroism and valor, prompting individuals to question what it means to honor someone in a democratic society. Is bravery defined by the willingness to fight for one's beliefs, or is it found in the commitment to uphold democratic principles, even in the face of adversity?

As visitors engage with this memorial, they are encouraged to reflect on the complexity of the events of January 6th and their lasting impact on the nation's political landscape. It stands not only as a reminder of a tumultuous moment but also as a call to examine the values that underpin American democracy and the actions taken in its name.

Swiggy Launches Feature for NRIs to Send Food and Gifts to India

Food delivery giant Swiggy, renowned for its efficient service and timely deliveries, has taken a significant step towards enhancing its global presence. The company has launched an International Login feature, allowing users from 27 countries—including the US, Canada, UK, Germany, Australia, and the UAE—to order food and products from its quick commerce service, Instamart, and even make restaurant reservations in India.



In a press release dated October 25, 2024, Swiggy announced that this feature enables international users to log in using their respective phone numbers and make payments via international credit cards or available UPI options. This move aims to broaden Swiggy's customer base and cater to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) who wish to

stay connected with their loved ones back home, especially during the festive season.

"Food and gifts are essential to family gatherings, particularly during festivals. With International Login, those living abroad can now surprise their loved ones on special occasions," stated Phani Kishan, Co-founder and Chief Growth Officer of Swiggy. The feature addresses long-standing requests from NRIs, providing a user-friendly gifting layout that simplifies sending festive gifts or making dinner reservations.

Founded in 2014 and based in Bengaluru, Swiggy has built partnerships with nearly 200,000 restaurants across over 600 cities in India. Its quick commerce platform, Instamart, operates in 43 cities and offers delivery of groceries and essentials in approximately 10 minutes, covering more than 20 categories.

Additionally, Swiggy is currently preparing for its Initial Public Offering (IPO), having filed draft papers for a ₹3,750 crore offering on September 26, 2024. The IPO includes a fresh issue of 37.5 million equity shares and an offer for sale (OFS) of over 185 million equity shares. However, due to market volatility, Swiggy has reportedly reduced its valuation estimates for the upcoming IPO by 10-16%.

As Swiggy continues to innovate and expand its services, the International Login feature is poised to strengthen its connection with the global Indian diaspora, making it easier than ever for them to share experiences and celebrate traditions with family and friends back home.



Manika Batra Shocks World No. 14 to Reach WTT Champions Quarter-Finals

Indian table tennis star Manika Batra delivered a stunning performance by defeating world No. 14 Bernadette Szocs of Romania, advancing to the quarter-finals of the WTT Champions event in Montpellier, France. The world No. 30 player showcased her skills in a tense round of 16 match, winning 3-1 with scores of 11-9, 6-11, 13-11, and 11-9 in just 29 minutes.

Batra's victory was particularly impressive, as she saved two game points in the third game, which proved crucial in maintaining her momentum. After securing the third game, she went on to clinch the match by converting her second match point in the fourth game, demonstrating her ability to handle pressure in critical moments.

With this win, Batra now holds a 6-5 advantage in her head-to-head record against Szocs, having previously defeated her during India's 3-2 victory over Romania in the pre-quarterfinals of the Paris Olympics. This latest triumph underscores Batra's growing stature in the sport and her capacity to compete against higher-ranked

players.

Looking ahead, Batra is set to face China's Qian Tianyi in the quarter-finals on Saturday. Qian, currently ranked No. 21 in the world, also made headlines by stunning top seed Wang Yidi, another Chinese player, with a commanding 3-0 victory in her round of 16 match. This upcoming clash promises to be an exciting contest between two formidable opponents.

In contrast, fellow Indian paddler Sreeja Akula faced a challenging first-round exit, losing 2-3 against world No. 13 Adriana Diaz of Puerto Rico. Despite the setback for Akula, Batra's remarkable run at the WTT Champions continues to inspire fans and showcase the talent of Indian athletes on the global stage.

As Batra prepares for her next match, the table tennis community will be eagerly watching to see if she can continue her impressive form and secure a spot in the semi-finals.

Chris Wood Shines with Brace as Nottingham Forest Defeats Leicester

Chris Wood delivered a standout performance, scoring twice in Nottingham Forest's 3-1 victory over Leicester City, a result that left Foxes manager Steve Cooper facing defeat against his former club. The match, held at the King Power Stadium, showcased Wood's impact as he helped guide Forest to their second consecutive win and pushed them into fifth place in the Premier League standings.



The match kicked off with Ryan Yates putting Forest ahead in the 16th minute. Taking advantage of a defensive error from Leicester, Wood's deflected shot led to a chaotic clearance attempt by James Justin, allowing Yates to curl a precise strike from 20 yards into the bottom corner.

Leicester responded swiftly, leveling the score just seven minutes later. Jamie Vardy showcased his trademark poaching ability, getting on the end of a well-delivered cross from Harry Winks to poke the ball home from close range.

Despite Leicester's efforts, Nottingham Forest regained control shortly after halftime. Wood put the visitors back in front in the 47th minute, demonstrating his skill by deftly controlling a pass from Elliot Anderson before firing a precise shot into the bottom corner from 12 yards.

Leicester's hopes for a penalty were dashed when Vardy went down in the box after a light tug from Nikola Milenkovic, a deci-

sion that went unheeded by the officials. Instead, Wood would capitalize on Leicester's defensive lapses, scoring his second goal in the 60th minute. A long kick from Forest's goalkeeper, Matz Sels, was misjudged by Leicester's Wout Faes, allowing Wood to loop a header over goalkeeper Mads Hermansen from close range.

Cooper, who was managing against his former team for the first time since his dismissal from Forest, expressed frustration at his team's mistakes. "It's self-inflicted, no doubt about that. We all have to take responsibility for how the game panned out," he said, acknowledging the setbacks following a string of recent victories.

Meanwhile, Nuno Espirito Santo, who watched the match from the press box due to suspension, praised Wood's performance, emphasizing the importance of teamwork and the desire to entertain their fans. Nottingham Forest's victory marked their first win at Leicester since 2013, highlighting a promising turnaround under Nuno's management.

Lorenzo Musetti Shocks Top Seed Alexander Zverev in Vienna Quarter-Finals

Lorenzo Musetti delivered a stunning upset in Vienna on Friday, defeating world number three Alexander Zverev to secure his spot in the semi-finals. The 22-year-old Italian, currently ranked 17th in the world, described his comeback victory as "a pretty big win." Musetti triumphed with a scoreline of 2-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 after a grueling two hours and 36 minutes of play, knocking out the 2021 champion in the process.

The match did not start in Musetti's favor; he struggled to find his rhythm early on, particularly with his forehand and backhand variations. "It didn't start how we planned," he admitted. However, after the first round, he felt increasingly confident, and his performance reflected that belief as he fought back to claim victory. "Sascha really loves to play here, on this court, in these conditions," Musetti noted, highlighting the significance of the win.

With this victory, Musetti moves on to face world number 18 Jack Draper, who advanced after defeating Tomas Machac from the Czech Republic in a closely contested quarter-final match, finishing 6-3, 3-6, 6-1. Draper acknowledged the challenge posed by Machac, describing their match as physically demanding due to Machac's solid groundstrokes.

In other matches, Australian second seed Alex de Minaur also faced adversity, battling back from a set down to defeat Czech teenager Jakub Mensik 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, 6-4. De Minaur's victory keeps his hopes



alive for a spot in the season-ending ATP Finals in Turin, as he prepares to face Russia's Karen Khachanov in the semi-finals. Khachanov eased past Italy's Matteo Berrettini with a convincing 6-1, 6-4 performance.

As the tournament progresses, all eyes will be on Musetti as he aims to continue his impressive run and challenge for the title in Vienna. The stage is set for an exciting semi-final showdown, with Musetti and Draper both eager to capitalize on their momentum.

MS Dhoni Hints at Continued IPL Presence Beyond 2025

Legendary cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni, captain of the Chennai Super Kings (CSK), has dropped a significant hint about his future in the Indian Premier League (IPL), suggesting he plans to play in 2025 and potentially beyond. At 43, Dhoni's comments have quelled speculation regarding his retirement, as he expressed his desire to remain in peak physical condition to continue playing cricket for the "next few years."



Speaking at a promotional event for the software brand Rigi, where he serves as a brand ambassador, Dhoni emphasized the importance of enjoying the final years of his cricketing career. "I just want to enjoy whatever last few years of cricket I am able to play," he stated, reflecting on the challenges of maintaining joy in professional sports amidst emotional and commitment-driven pressures.

His comments further indicated a clear intention to participate in the IPL. "I have to keep myself fit for nine months, so that I can play two and a half months of IPL," Dhoni elaborated. This statement reveals his commitment to planning his fitness

around the tournament, indicating that he is not only focused on the upcoming season but also on the long-term.

In a significant transition for CSK, Dhoni handed over the captaincy to Rituraj Gaikwad ahead of IPL 2024. However, his status as a five-time IPL-winning captain and one of the tournament's most iconic figures means that his continued presence would be a boon for the league.

Moreover, Dhoni's eligibility as an uncapped player allows CSK to retain him at a minimal price of Rs 4 crore, thanks to a rule revival that reintroduces this option for players who have not appeared for the national team in recent years. This regulation, removed in 2021, now provides CSK with a financial advantage while keeping Dhoni in their squad.

As the cricketing world eagerly awaits the next season, Dhoni's potential participation in IPL 2025 and beyond is set to thrill fans and add to the tournament's allure. His unwavering commitment and strategic planning ensure that he remains a key figure in Indian cricket, both on and off the field.

New Zealand Ends India's Home Test Series Win Streak with 2-0 Victory

India's remarkable 12-year streak of winning Test series at home has come to an unexpected halt, as New Zealand clinched the three-match series 2-0 following a decisive 113-run victory in the second Test held in Pune. The New Zealand team showcased their prowess, with Mitchell Santner delivering a standout performance that proved crucial in sealing the series.

In the second Test, India was set a challenging target of 359 runs. However, the home team's chase got off to a rocky start, with skipper Rohit Sharma dismissed for a mere 8 runs. Despite this early setback, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill formed a promising partnership, providing hope for the Indian side as they fought to stay in the game. Their collaboration was a brief respite from the mounting pressure, as New Zealand's bowlers were relentless.

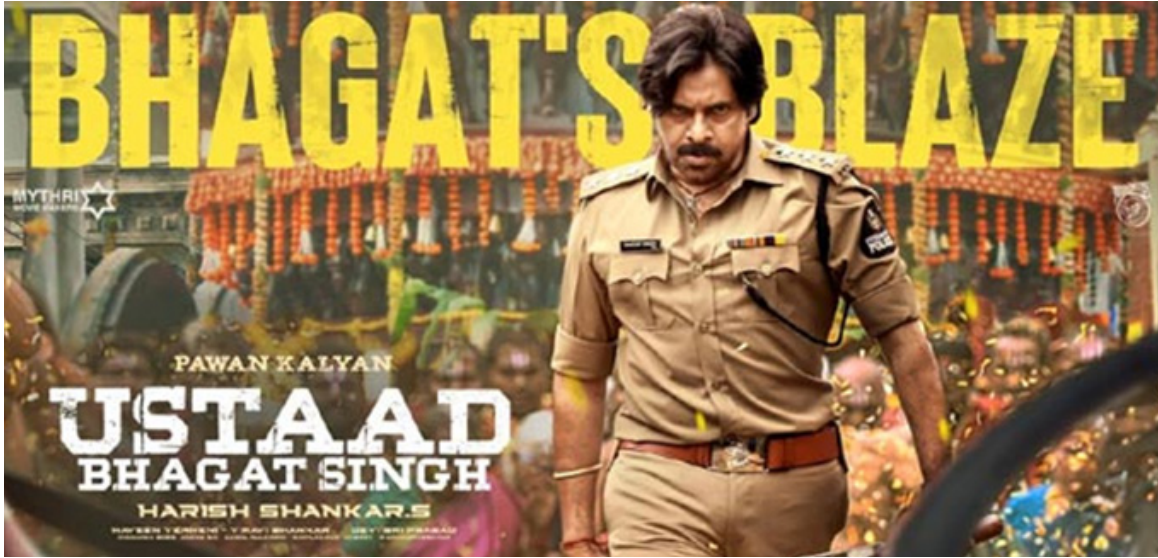
Mitchell Santner's exceptional bowling spell was pivotal, as he consistently struck at critical moments, dismantling India's batting order. Santner finished the match with impressive figures of seven wickets for 79 runs in the first innings and six wickets for 55 runs in the second, demonstrating his dominance over the Indian batsmen. Ajaz Patel also contributed significantly with two wickets, further restricting India's scoring opportunities.



Ultimately, India was bowled out for 245 runs, falling well short of the target and succumbing to a comprehensive defeat. Yashasvi Jaiswal emerged as the top scorer for India with a commendable 77 runs, while Ravindra Jadeja added a valuable 42 runs, but their efforts were insufficient to counter the relentless New Zealand attack.

This series defeat marks a significant moment in Indian cricket history, ending a long-standing home dominance and raising questions about the team's future performance. New Zealand's triumph is a testament to their resilience and skill, positioning them as formidable opponents in the Test arena. As India reflects on this loss, they will undoubtedly be looking to regroup and come back stronger in future series.

Ustaad Bhagat Singh: Not a Remake, But a Celebration of Pawan Kalyan



Since the announcement of Pawan Kalyan's highly anticipated cop action drama, *Ustaad Bhagat Singh*, directed by Harish Shankar, speculation has been rampant regarding its connection to Kollywood star Vijay's hit film, *Theri*. The film's team has largely remained silent, which has only fueled the rumors surrounding its plot similarities.

This has left many of Pawan Kalyan's fans disheartened, especially given the ongoing trend of remaking Tamil films in Telugu cinema. Fans have expressed their frustration over their beloved star potentially revisiting a story that already enjoyed success in the twin Telugu states. However, recent statements from Dasarath, the film's screenplay writer, have brought some much-needed clarity to the situation.

In a recent interview, Dasarath emphasized that *Ustaad Bhagat Singh* is not a remake of *Theri*. "There has been a lot of miscommunication regarding UBS and Theri due to some similarities," he stated. "However, UBS will

feature all the elements that Pawan Kalyan fans cherish—his unique attitude, captivating dance moves, and sharp wit. This film is designed to be a true fan moment."

Dasarath further assured fans that director Harish Shankar has crafted Pawan Kalyan's character with great care, ensuring it resonates with his audience. The film is being produced under the banner of Mythri Movie Makers, promising high production values and a captivating narrative.

Additionally, *Ustaad Bhagat Singh* will star young actress Sreeleela alongside veteran actor Ashutosh Rana, adding to the film's dynamic appeal. The soundtrack, composed by the talented Devi Sri Prasad, is expected to elevate the film's energetic vibe even further.

In summary, while rumors have surrounded *Ustaad Bhagat Singh*, both the director and screenplay writer have made it clear that the film is not a remake of *Theri*, but rather an original project that aims to showcase Pawan Kalyan in a manner that his fans will love.

Lokesh Kanagaraj Cinematic Universe with Chapter Zero

Filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj has captured the imagination of movie enthusiasts with his innovative Lokesh Kanagaraj Cinematic Universe (LCU), which includes hit films like *Kaithi*, *Vikram*, and *Leo*. This unique cinematic universe has generated significant buzz, particularly as such concepts are relatively rare in Indian cinema, contributing to the immense anticipation surrounding the LCU.

Recently, Lokesh announced an exciting addition to this universe: a short film titled *Chapter Zero*, which will delve into the origins of the LCU. This prelude, lasting just 10 minutes, promises to shed light on key events that have shaped the universe as fans know it. The first look of the film was unveiled on social media, accompanied by the intriguing tagline: "1 shot 2 stories 24 hours."

The short film is set to feature notable actors Arjun Das, Nara-in, and Kalidas Jayaram, each of whom has made a mark in their respective roles in the LCU. Fans are eager to see how this project will tie into the larger narrative and address some lingering questions from previous films.

While the short film's release date has yet to be announced, speculation is rife regarding the potential appearances of major stars such as Thalapathy Vijay, Suriya, Karthi, and Kamal Haasan. The possibility of their involvement adds another layer of excitement and intrigue to the project.

As movie lovers await further details, *Chapter Zero* is anticipated to enhance the depth of the



LCU, providing fans with a richer understanding of the interconnected stories and characters. With Lokesh Kanagaraj at the helm, the cinematic universe continues to expand, capturing the interest of audiences across the country. The addition of this short film is sure to elevate the anticipation for future projects within the LCU, making it a thrilling time for fans of Indian cinema.

Sujith with Exciting Updates on Pawan Kalyan's OG



Sujith Sain, renowned for his work in *Run Raja Run* and *Saaho*, has solidified his reputation as a star director in the Telugu film industry. His latest project, *Oji* (Original Gangster), featuring Pawan Kalyan, is generating significant buzz with its intriguing gangster storyline set against the backdrop of Japan. Recently, the film's shooting resumed, and fans are eagerly anticipating what's in store.

As part of the film's promotional campaign, the production team has already released the first look and several glimpses that have successfully captured the attention of Pawan Kalyan's dedicated fanbase. Today marks Sujith's birthday, and to celebrate, DVV Entertainments shared a special video from *Oji* wishing him well. The video has quickly gone viral, further heightening excitement around the film.

Currently, filming is taking place at Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad, a popular location for many major

productions. The cast features Bollywood actor Emraan Hashmi, who takes on the role of the film's antagonist, a gangster named Omi Bhavu. His inclusion adds a layer of intrigue, as fans are curious to see how he will complement Pawan Kalyan's character.

Joining them is Priyanka Arul Mohan, who will portray the female lead opposite Pawan. Additionally, Arjun Das and Shriya Reddy are also part of the cast, playing significant roles that are expected to add depth to the storyline.

As the film progresses, the anticipation continues to build, with fans eager to see how Sujith Sain's vision will come to life on screen. With its unique premise and a star-studded cast, *Oji* is shaping up to be one of the most awaited releases in Telugu cinema. As Sujith celebrates his birthday, the excitement surrounding *Oji* serves as a fitting tribute to his directorial talents and the promising future of this high-octane film.